

HAKOL

February • March 2023 • Greater Knoxville Jewish Community News

HESKA AMUNA SYNAGOGUE
YOU ARE INVITED TO A FAMILY SECOND SEDER



TEMPLE BETH EL
TIME TO CELEBRATE PURIM

KNOXVILLE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL
JOY, COMMUNITY & EXPLORATION

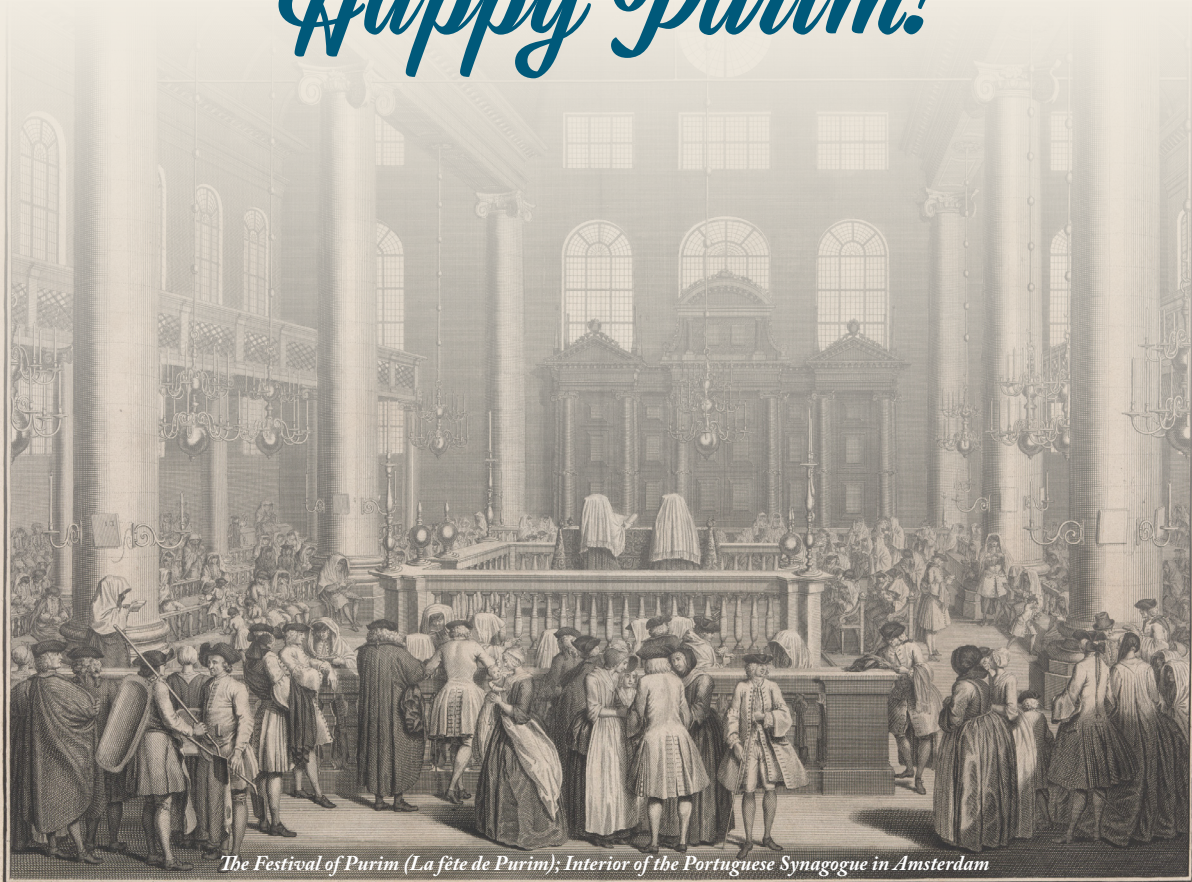
KNOXVILLE JEWISH ALLIANCE
FOCUS ON JEWISH ENRICHMENT



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

JUDAIC STUDIES

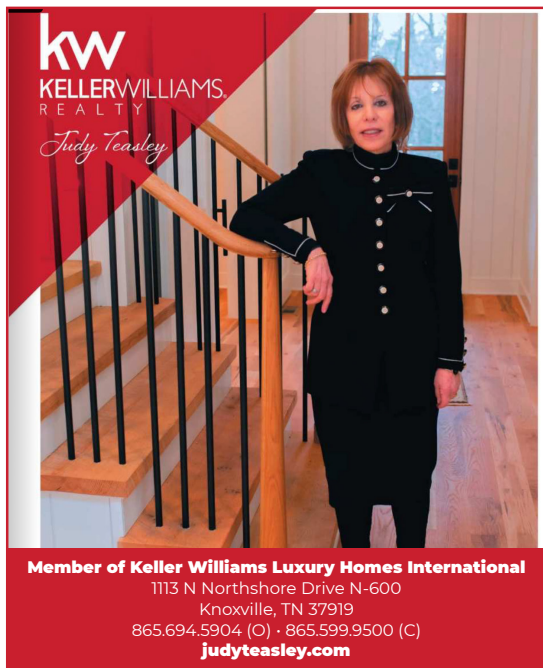
*Wishing the
Jewish community of Knoxville a
Happy Purim!*



The Festival of Purim (La fête de Purim); Interior of the Portuguese Synagogue in Amsterdam

La fête de PURIM.

Etching by Balthasar Bernaerts (1737) from the collection of the The Metropolitan Museum of Art.



HaKOL Monthly Publication
<p>Tara Bain KJA Director of Community Engagement</p> <p>Sabatani Jones Layout Designer</p> <p>HaKol is produced through a partnership of Knoxville Jewish Alliance, Heska Amuna Synagogue, Temple Beth El, and Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School.</p>
<p>For advertising opportunities: hakol@jewishknoxville.org 865-690-6343</p>

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February 2023 Community Calendar

KEY: HA = Heska Amuna, JCOR = Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge, KJA = Knoxville Jewish Alliance, KJDS = Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School, JFS = Jewish Family Services, TBE = Temple Beth El

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

12:00P Executive Mifgash Manhigim - TBE
4:30P Midweek Hebrew - TBE
6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

10:00A Torah Study/Adult Education - TBE
11:30A Lunch & Learn with Rabbi - TBE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

5:46P *Candle Lighting*
4:30P JFS Shabbat at Sherrill Hills - KJA
6:00P Hillel Shabbat & Dinner - KJA
6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA
7:00P KJA Shabbat Service - TBE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

6:45P *Havdalah*
9:45A KJA Shabbat Service - HA

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

9:30A Religious School - TBE
10:00A Pick Up Basketball - KJA
10:00A Yoga at the J - KJA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Tu B'Shevat

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

8:00P Minyan - HA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

4:30P Midweek Hebrew - TBE
6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA
6:30P Board Mifgash Manhigim - TBE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

10:00A Torah Study/Adult Education - TBE
11:30A Lunch & Learn with Rabbi - TBE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

5:53P *Candle Lighting*
5:30P PJ Library Shabbat & Play - KJA
6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA
7:00P Shabbat Service - TBE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

6:52P *Havdalah*
9:45A Shabbat Service - HA

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

9:30A Religious School - TBE
10:00A Pick Up Basketball - KJA
10:00A Yoga at the J - KJA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

7:30P Book Club on Zoom - Hadassah
8:00P Minyan - HA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

4:30P Midweek Hebrew - TBE
6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA
6:30P Ritual & Worship Meeting - TBE
7:00P Board Meeting - Hadassah

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

10:00A Torah Study/Adult Education - TBE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

6:01P *Candle Lighting*
6:00P Hillel Movie Night
6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA
7:00P Shabbat Service - TBE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

6:59P *Havdalah*
9:45A Shabbat Service - HA

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

9:30A Religious School - TBE
10:00A Hamantaschen Bake - TBE
10:00A Pick Up Basketball - KJA
10:00A Yoga at the J - KJA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

All Day - Closed - Preschool at AJCC

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

6:00P Ways & Means Meeting - TBE
7:30P Sonja DuBois "Finding Schifrah" - Hadassah
7:00P KJCF Board Meeting
8:00P Minyan - HA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

4:30P Midweek Hebrew - TBE
6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study - HA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

10:00A Torah Study/Adult Education - TBE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

6:07P *Candle Lighting*
6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA
7:00P Shabbat Service - TBE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

7:05P *Havdalah*
9:45A Shabbat Service - HA

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

9:30A Religious School - TBE
10:00A Pick Up Basketball - KJA
10:00A Yoga at the J - KJA
4:30P The Muse Knoxville - KJDS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

8:00P Minyan - HA

Scan for the latest calendar updates!



UNDER THE STARS

at The Muse with PJ Library & KJDS

February 26

4:30-6:30P

Watch social media for more details!

March 2023 Community Calendar

KEY: HA = Heska Amuna, JCOR = Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge, KJA = Knoxville Jewish Alliance, KJDS = Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School, JFS = Jewish Family Services, TBE = Temple Beth El

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

12:00P Executive Mifgash Manhigim – TBE
4:30P Midweek Hebrew – TBE
6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study – HA

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

10:00A Torah Study/Adult Education – TBE
11:30A Lunch & Learn with Rabbi - TBE

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

6:14P *Candle Lighting*
4:30P JFS Shabbat at Sherrill Hills – KJA
6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat – HA
7:00P Purim Shabbat Service – TBE

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

7:11P *Havdalah*
9:45A Shabbat Service – HA
7:00P Hillel Purim Havdalah - KJA

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

9:30A Purim Festival – TBE
10:00A Hamentaschen Bake - Hadassah
10:00A Hamentaschen Bake - TBE

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

Purim
8:00P Minyan - HA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

4:30P Midweek Hebrew – TBE
6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study – HA
6:30P Board Mifgash Manhigim - TBE

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

10:00A Torah Study/Adult Education – TBE

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

6:20P *Candle Lighting*
5:30P PJ Library Shabbat & Play – KJA
6:00P Sisterhood Dinner - TBE
6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat – HA
7:00P Sisterhood Shabbat Service – TBE

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

7:17P *Havdalah*
9:45A Shabbat Service – HA

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

No Religious School – TBE

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

7:30P Book Club on Zoom - Hadassah
8:00P Minyan - HA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study – HA
6:30P Ritual & Worship Meeting – TBE
7:00P Board Meeting - Hadassah

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

10:00A Torah Study/Adult Education – TBE

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

7:26P *Candle Lighting*
6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat – HA
7:00P Shabbat Service – TBE

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

8:24P *Havdalah*
9:45A Shabbat Service – HA

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

No Religious School – TBE

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

6:00P Ways & Means Meeting – TBE
8:00P Minyan - HA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

4:30P Midweek Hebrew – TBE
6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study – HA

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

10:00A Torah Study/Adult Education – TBE

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

7:32P *Candle Lighting*
5:00P Hillel Shabbaton in the Smokies - KJA
6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA
7:00P Shabbat Service – TBE

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

8:30P *Havdalah*
9:45A Shabbat Service – HA

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

9:30A Religious School - TBE

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

8:00P Minyan - HA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

4:30P Midweek Hebrew – TBE
6:30P Minyan & Talmud Study – HA

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

10:00A Torah Study/Adult Education – TBE
11:30A Lunch & Learn with Rabbi - TBE

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

7:38P *Candle Lighting*
6:30P Kabbalat Shabbat - HA
7:00P Appreciation Shabbat Service – TBE

Get the latest calendar updates by scanning here!



You are all invited to...

OUTDOOR PURIM FESTIVAL at TBE!

Sunday, March 5
9:30A-12:00P
Temple Beth El, 3037 Kingston Pike

COMMUNITY EVENTS



recharge your soul

A year-long journey to becoming your best self

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JFS SHABBAT

FIRST FRIDAYS
4:30 PM

Sherrill Hills
271 Moss Grove Blvd

Questions?
LSadler@jewishknoxville.org





A Family Shabbat Experience

**February 10 &
March 10**

5:30 pm at AJCC
6800 Deane Hill Dr.

Songs, Books, and Fun!
Potluck Dinner - vegetarian only

RSVP at
jewishknoxville.org



Questions? Contact Anna Iroff-Bailey, pj@jewishknoxville.org

SAVE THE DATE

Chabad of Knoxville
PRESENTS

PURIM FIESTA

**TUESDAY
MARCH 7TH
5:00 PM**

chabadknoxville.org/purim2023

Taco Dinner With All the Trimmings
Guacomole Bar
Margarita Bar
Mexican Themed Activities
Mariachi Band

The poster is vibrant and colorful, featuring a dark background with various Mexican-themed illustrations such as sombrero, maracas, guitar, and colorful patterns. The text is bold and white, making it stand out against the busy background.

President's Thoughts

By: Markus Eisenbach, President

In March we will celebrate Purim. It is a rather unusual celebration when compared to our other holidays. Using noise to blot out the name of Haman during the reading of Megillat Esther seems to lack respect for the text. Yet it is this participatory nature of Purim that allows it to engage the whole family.

A curious fact about Megillat Esther is that it does not mention God in the whole book. This is something it shares only with the Song of Songs. The Greek translations of Esther are uncomfortable with this and add prayers from Mordechai and Esther as well as stressing their Jewishness, including "O Lord, God of Abraham, O God who has power over all things, hear the voice of those who despair and save us from the hand of evildoers. And save me from my fear!" But these additions might be trying to fix a problem that does not exist. Our traditional Hebrew text is a highly humorous farce full of improbabilities and exaggerations with, at best, a passing acquaintance with history. (The Persian empire did exist and ruled a multitude of peoples.) Indeed, in the Talmud (Chullin 139b) a connection is made between the name of Esther

(אסתר) and the Hebrew "I will hide" (ארתסת). I suspect that this connection, like many of the Talmud's attempts at etymology, might not be tolerated by present day linguists, but it works as a tool for understanding the story.

Thus, Rabbi Yoel Ben Nun says: "If we had in our possession the Tanakh without the Megillah, we would know God only in every place and situation where God can be directly named. The Megillah comes to complement this deficit and to teach us that God is found secretly also in those places where God cannot be named." The roller-coaster of events in this farce at the royal court of ancient Persia teaches us that we cannot discount the presence of God in the world even if hidden. But even more, Purim is a call to action – while the Megillah leaves out the involvement of God in the events of the story, it is Mordechai's and especially Esther's actions that prevent disaster and give the story a good outcome.

With this, I wish all a Happy Purim!

Traditions for Purim

By: Dr. Miriam Weinstein

Purim has a lot of traditions for a minor holiday. There are the costumes, mishloach manot goody gift bags, noise makers (to drown out the name of Haman when the Megilla is read), and L'chaims to celebrate not getting annihilated again. Everyone knows about Hamentashen but recently I found out about a midrash that Queen Esther ate beans while she was in the palace to keep from eating non-kosher meat. Some Sephardim eat bean dishes on Purim in her honor.

Another Purim tradition is the Purim spiel, a chance to tease the rabbi and community leaders. These plays, loosely based on the Purim story, can include songs, juggling, mime and even puppets. They have been presented in Europe for at least a thousand years, becoming the only genuine folk plays that have been performed so long. In 2015 the French Ministry of Culture named them a part of the French cultural heritage. At the beginning of Covid, Heska Amuna

performed a spiel on Zoom, which had been written by Mark Littmann years ago for the Religious School. Shuls that don't have talented people can buy one. Some titles on sale include "Men Persians," "Reality Bites the Megillah," and "A Very Frozen Megillah."

Happy Purim!



Hamentashen baked by Betty Golub



Wendy Besmann in Purim Spiel in 2020

Heska Amuna 130th Anniversary

By: Josh Hedrick, Chair of Board

I would like to thank the Heska Amuna 130th Celebration Committee for their hard work in putting together one of the finest evenings our community has had out in a long time. It was good to see our community together as a family, and nice to see so many familiar faces together. This would never have been possible without the hard work of Abraham Brietstein, Jeff Becker, Frank Floyd, Anna Iroff-Bailey, Mary Ann Merrell, Jenny Wood, and of course our intrepid committee chair Ted Besmann. We are also indebted to Wendy Besmann and to Brian Salesky for the evening's entertainment. A few 130th Anniversary Commemorative Booklets - with history and photos of Chairs, Presidents, and Sponsors - are still available.



More than 125 attended the 130th Anniversary Celebration at the Lighthouse



The committee worked for months to produce a classic event

Heska Amuna Synagogue 130th Sponsors

Presenting Sponsors

- The Bernard E. & Barbara W. Bernstein Charitable Fund of the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds (KJCFF)
- The Mark & Carol Harris Family Fund of KJCFF

Foundational Sponsors

- The Stephen & Kim Rosen Donor Advised Fund of KJCFF
- The Merrell Family Fund of KJCFF in memory of Bryan Merrell; the Merrell Family also sponsored the wine & beer served at the event

Lead Sponsors

- The Sylvia Robinson Memorial Fund of KJCFF (Karen & Pace Robinson)
- The Jeff & Nancy Becker Community Enrichment Fund of KJCFF
- The Besmann Family Fund for Social Justice and Spiritual Enrichment of KJCFF

Sponsors

- Allen, Leibowitz, Pearson Family Fund of KJCFF (Heidi & Barry Allen)
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- Ken & Susan Brown
- Floyd Family
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Other Generous Sponsors

- Knoxville Jewish Alliance
- Knoxville Jewish Day School
- Bill Jones Music
- Crowne Plaza Hotel
- BELFOR Property Restoration

Toast Sponsors

- Dr. Richard Adlin • Steven Beber & Sandy Parker • Bill & Ellen Berez • Abraham & Judy Brietstein • Janet S. Gurwitch & Family • Shelley and Jeff Hecht & Family • Josh & Kimberly Hedrick • The Iroff Family • Carole & Robert Martin • Harvey & Marilyn Liberman • Alexandra Rosen • Susan & Harold Silber

Rabbi Greenspan Shabbaton Weekend

By: Abraham Brietstein, Adult Education Vice-Chair

On December 15-18, Heska Amuna Synagogue celebrated the return of much beloved Rabbi Mark Greenspan for a Shabbaton weekend. Rabbi Greenspan first came to Knoxville as Heska Amuna’s Rabbi from 1980 to 1986 fresh out of the Jewish Theological Seminary. While here, he was instrumental in helping Heska Amuna transition into an egalitarian synagogue, allowing women to be called to the Torah and allowing girls to be called to the Torah for their B’not Mitzvah.

On Saturday morning, Rabbi Greenspan offered a D’var Torah entitled, Ma Nish Tanah: 10 things that make Sephardic traditions, which was followed by a Sephardic themed kiddish. That afternoon, Rabbi Greenspan led a discussion entitled, “Rocky Top Judaism: How Heska Amuna has changed and can change our lives.” On Sunday, the venue changed to the Arnstein Jewish Community Center where Rabbi Greenspan offered his final talk entitled A Hidden Legacy: Was Conservative Judaism really meant to be Sephardic Jewry? Last, but not least, Rabbi Greenspan participated in the community-wide Hanukkah Celebration at the Knoxville Jewish Alliance where he helped light the Giant Menorah.

All in all, it was a fabulous weekend in which Heska Amuna members rekindled their love and appreciation for Rabbi Mark and Marilyn Greenspan after a 40-year absence, while at the same time expanding their knowledge and appreciation for Sephardic Judaism, which is often overlooked and under-appreciated. Many thanks go to the Sam and Esther Rosen Heska Amuna Fund of the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds for supporting this event.



Rabbi Greenspan speaking at KJA



Shabbaton Committee Thanked



Sephardic Kasher Cooking Class



Shabbaton Togetherness

Giving and Getting Opportunities for the Spring Holidays

By Laura Floyd, Vice-Chair of Youth Education

- Purim is March 7th! The Education Committee will again be offering the mitzvah of Mishloach Manot to the entire Heska Amuna Community. See Heska Amuna website to order for all of your friends and family.
- Pesach begins Wednesday, April 5th! Before then, the Education Committee will be selling Miss Chocolate Kosher for Passover candy.

Proceeds from both of these will go towards providing youth and family programs. Check Nu News and our website for more information.

Contributions

by Caring People Through December 26, 2022

BIKKUR CHOLIM

In recognition of the great and unselfish services provided and continue to offer my family

Susette & Raphael Panitz

EDUCATOR'S SUPPLEMENT FUND (BECKER)

Marian Jay

DIRECTORY/CALENDAR

Jenny Pfeffer & Carlos Rodriguez

GENERAL FUND

Robin Brown

In Memory of Hanna Hahn

Heather O'Brien & Jan Hahn

In Memory of David Oleshansky

Margy & Mitchell Goldman

In Honor of Judith & Jack Benhayon

Gilya Schmidt

Happy 130th Anniversary, Heska Amuna!

Kenneth Levine

HESKA AMUNA BUILDING FUND

Melissa Sturm

In honor of Rachel Brown for being the High Holiday Hazan

Judith & Jack Benhayon

HIGH HOLIDAYS

Mary Linda Schwarzbart

KIDDUSH

Judy & Abraham Brietstein

In Honor of Michael Burnett's birthday

Marilyn Burnett

In Memory of Eugene Gross

Pamela & Ernie Gross

In Honor of her birthday

Gilya Schmidt

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Priscilla & Victor Skallet

In honor of Alon & Karen Ferency's 13 years of service

Judith & Jack Benhayon

Yahrzeit

In Memory of Bruce Kingsley, Myra Weinstein, Jacob Corkland, Isaac Corkland, Mattie Corkland and Rose Levy

Jill & Doug Weinstein

In Memory of C.B. Brown

Robin Zalkin Brown

In Memory of Roslyn Cohn and Bernard Cohn

Sue Koller

In Memory of Rachel Perelman, Libbye Perelman

Marie & Charles Perelman

In Memory of Carmen Pfeffer

Jenny Pfeffer & Carlos Rodriguez

In Memory of Earl Mazur

Jill & Doug Weinstein

In Memory of Nathan Rattner

Mary Ann & Jenye Merrell

In Memory of Rose Eisner

Sandra Parker & Steven Beber

In Memory of Gerson Corkland

Jill & Doug Weinstein

In Memory of David Eisenberg

Catherine Eisenberg

In Memory of James Lowe

Wendy & Ted Besmann

In Memory of Bertha Kraus

Brenda & Sigmund Mosko

In Memory of Morris Panitz

Barbara Leeds

In Memory of Toba Davis

Brenda & Sigmund Mosko

In Memory of Meyer Miller

Anita & Jeffrey Miller

In Memory of Rebecca Benbenisty

Marth & Marty Iroff

In Memory of Carol Harris

Mark Harris

In Memory of Fanny Diamond, Bernard Diamond and Edna Cohen

Marie & Charles Perelman

In Memory of Calvin Hahn

Heather O'Brien & Jan Hahn

In Memory of Bernard Simon

Susan & Harold Silber

In Memory of David & Lillian Liberman

Marilyn & Harvey Liberman

In Memory of Mark Hahn

Susan & Thomas Hahn

In Memory of Ben & Rose Diftler

Joyce Diftler

In Memory of Irving Bayer & Lillian Kanter

Marion & Laurence Bayer

In Memory of Thomas H. & Margaret Miner

Marion & Laurence Bayer

In Memory of Adrian Harris, Idell Harris, and Mae Stern

Mark Harris

In Memory of Lottie Mottsmann

Susette & Raphael Panitz

In Memory of Gil Levison

Alexia & Charles Poe

In Memory of Edith Brown

Robin Brown

In Memory of Stanley Webster

Esther Webster

Family-Friendly Second Night Passover Seder

Heska Amuna Synagogue will host a family-friendly Passover Seder for the second night of Passover on Thursday, April 6, 5:30-7:30 pm, led by Jeff and Nancy Becker. The seder will incorporate a kid-friendly Haggadah, lots of fun activities to illustrate the meanings conveyed by the Seder, great food, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere. Please visit our website www.HeskaAmuna.org or Nu News for details.

Hands on, Hearts on, Minds on Learning

By: Norma James, Temple Beth El Religious School Director

Looking Back on 2022:

Welcoming the children of Heska Amuna into our school has been such a wonderful experience. We are one big family, and there is truly a spirit of Kahilla Kedosha every Sunday. Our students are fabulous! We have always had a wonderful group of parents, and this year is even better. Our parents are as excited and engaged as their children and willing to help in any way. I give most of the credit for our success to our incredible staff: Tara, Gina, Leah, Sebastian, Justen, Jesse, Troy, Sarah, Lilly, Asher, and Rabbi Schiftan!

Last fall Rabbi Yossi shared his Shofar Factory with our students and presented us with a Shofar for TBE and one for HA. High Holy Days brought over 50 parents and children to our service for older students and 30 parents and children to our Tot service. Our parents and students prepared Grab 'n Go bags for the congregation after Rosh Hashanah. Our families came during school break to decorate our Temple Sukkah. We lived up to

our TBE motto: To Be Engaged.

We ended the year in spectacular fashion with over 140 people in our sanctuary enjoying a Pre-Chanukah Shabbat. Rabbi Schiftan had our students participate in every aspect of the service, which was topped off by their spectacular singing. Many of our more seasoned congregants said it was one of the best services they had ever attended. On Sunday Rabbi Mark and our many new students learned what our crazy Maccabiah is all about. It was a blast for all, even the teachers who covered their faces in shaving cream so that students could throw cheese balls at them! Congratulations to Team Gimel for winning the dreidel trophy this year. But wait, there's more! Our students sang with the KJDS students to open Light Up Knoxville Sunday evening. The KJA event was wonderful for our entire community. Temple Beth El's Religious School and Ritual and Worship committee were proud to provide funds to sponsor Light Up Knoxville.



What our teachers do for our kids!



Teamwork is needed to create something representing Chanukah with only foil and pipe cleaners. Latkes in a frying pan!



Parents treat students with a Maccabiah luncheon with latkes and donuts.

Looking Forward to 2023:

January was a very busy month for us with two visits from prospective Rabbis and two weekends with Rabbi Schiffan. There is never a dull moment at our Religious School. We continue to grow with new students joining our school frequently. It's never too late to become a part of our Religious School. Contact Norma James by email, text, or phone. normajames@tbeknox.org 865-719-2614. I would love to discuss our program with you!

We start **February** off with a visit from Rabbi Schiffan. Rabbi will spend the day with our Religious School students. Rabbi Schiffan will be at Religious School February 5th and 12th. He will lead an adult education program on the 12th. Parents will find it fascinating.

Family Shabbat February 10th

We hope to fill our sanctuary once again with families like we did at Chanukah. This evening has something for everyone. Our congregation absolutely loved seeing the children in December.

Schedule for Family Shabbat: (Note earlier times)

- 5:30 Tot Shabbat w/ Rabbi and Norma
- 6:00 Spaghetti dinner for all (No Charge but MUST RSVP)
- 6:30 Shabbat service with students participating*
- *Babysitting will be provided during the 6:30 Shabbat service

March keeps the fun rolling with Purim and Spring Break. Rabbi Schiffan will be at TBE March 2-5 for Purim.

Purim Festival March 5th will be bigger and better than ever!

Last year we moved outside for health and safety. We loved it so much; we won't go back inside unless rain forces us to. We will be on the TBE patio and parking lots. We will have even more booths this year and there even are rumors of a bounce house. The festival will start off with a special outdoor Megillah experience with Rabbi Schiffan. With safety protocols relaxed, we have invited the "Ad Hoc Brotherhood" back to set up their kosher hotdog cafe on the patio. The Sisterhood will sell Hamantaschen. This year we will invite tots and children from TBE, HA, JCOR, KJDS, PJ Library, and AJCC Preschool. Parents, if you want to volunteer to help plan this event, contact Norma James.

Spring Break is Sunday, March 12, Wednesday, March 15, and Sunday, March 19.

Have a wonderful and safe spring break. We return with Midweek on Wednesday, March 22nd. It will be time to learn about Passover.

Religious School Family Seder Sunday, April 2nd. Parents are invited to join us for our Seder to make it a Family event. Look for our Seder food and volunteer sign up.

Save these B'nai Mitzvah Dates:

Karl James - April 15
 Jason Pasternak - April 29
 Michael Fox - May 6

Zach Rosenbaum - June 17
 Maya Sadovnik - Aug 19 or 26

Welcome New Members

By: Tara Dunn

Hello, we are the Dunn family, Zachary, Tara, and our children Lorelai(8), and Colt(6). We currently reside in Clinton, TN with our 3 dogs, 2 cats, and 1 bird, and have been married for almost 10 years. Zachary works in Telecommunications Operations/Engineering, and Tara works in Education. Lorelai loves Art, and Colt is a fan of Music and singing. As a family we love to travel as much as possible, often bringing one of our dogs with us. So far New York and Japan are our favorite destinations. We try to instill in our children a duty to leave a positive impact on the community and world around them through service, as well as their daily interactions with those around them. We sincerely hope that the legacy we leave behind is one of compassion and kindness.



Things are Hopping at TBE

By: Kathy Young, TBE President

I hope everyone is finding 2023 off to a great start. Things are hopping, as usual, at Temple Beth El. There are many events in both February and March that are coming up. Please be sure to check our web page to get all the latest events on your calendar.

From Social Justice, Sisterhood, Religious School, and other committees, you can get a pretty full calendar if you choose. Watch for information on the 2nd night Seder, April 6, in the weekly Blast soon.

As always, volunteers are always needed. Please let me know what you are interested in doing, and I am certain we will have a place for you.

Social Justice “Off to a Flying Start”

By: Steve Lewis, Social Justice chair

Your Social Justice Committee has hit the ground running at the end of 2022 and the beginning of 2023. In late December, we continued our partnership with Interfaith Pride, as they joined with Knox Pride to protest new legislation being introduced this year to put legal restrictions on drag shows and medical care for trans youth. Kathy Young and Steve Lewis joined faith leaders from more than a dozen Knoxville congregations in creating a video to spread our message: “We Proclaim Love!”

Then, on January 20th, we held our second Social Justice Shabbat. The theme of the service was immigration, in honor of our special guests, Bridge Refugee Services, Inc. “Bridge” became the first organization to receive a grant from the committee, made possible by the Emma Gerson Community Fund. The service was filled with music, including a beautiful setting of the Emma Lazarus poem, “Give Me Your Tired,” sung by our choir, and members of the committee shared readings of our Tanach reminding us to “Welcome the stranger.”

And this month, we will be having our second annual Workday with the Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding (date was not yet determined as of this writing). As many of you will recall, a group of nearly 25 of us got together last year to help this fantastic organization prepare for its annual fundraiser. With a year’s practice, we should be even more productive this year!

Contributions to the Funds of Temple Beth El

Donations listed were received as of December 30, 2022

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Rob and Beth Heller

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In memory of Edith Hecht

CLARENCE STRASBURGER MUSIC FUND

Nancy Jane Richer

In loving memory of my father, Sol Richer

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In memory of my father, William Rockmaker

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In honor of Norma James
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In memory of Russell Cyzick and all the service men & women who lost their lives in the Beirut bombing in 1983
 Marcie Gross
In memory of Ann Lieberman
 Louis Hecht
In memory of Edith Hecht
 Donna Wolff
In memory of my sister, Barbara Watters AND In honor of your hospitality in allowing me to attend Yom Kippur Services
 Howard and Janice Pollock
In memory of Louis Pollock
 Maria Shusterman
In memory of Boris & Basia Shusterman
 Tammy and Eric Stone
In memory of Stan Perlmutter
 Jeff and Ruth Weinstein
In memory of Myra Weinstein
 Wilma Weinstein-Lomax and John Lomax
In memory of Murray Weinstein
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In memory of Dr. Harold & Becky Winston AND Charles Robinson
 Larry and Barbara Winston
In memory of Harold Winston
 Geoff and Pat Wolpert
In memory of Lois & Raphael Wolpert
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In honor of Dr. Ray Pais – Mazel Tov on a well deserved honor
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 Wilma Weinstein-Lomax and John Lomax
In honor of The Dunn Family
 Richard Licht and Shirley McGuire
In memory of Elise H. Levy

LESTER POPKIN CAMPERSHIP FUND

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 Stephen and Christina Cox
In memory of Leona Popkin Spritz
 Irv and Myrna Russotto
In memory of Leona Spritz AND for a speedy recovery for Larry Leibowitz
 Joanna Levine
In memory of Leona Popkin
 Lia and William Poorvu

In memory of Leona Spritz
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In memory of Sheila Belenson

Highlights from the School Year

By: Miriam Esther Wilhelm, Head of School

Only halfway through the school year, and we've already packed in lots of JOY, COMMUNITY, and EXPLORATION! Enjoy some highlights from the first half of our school year at KJDS:

- We celebrated Rosh Hashana and Chanukah with our Special Friends in person
- Mrs. Ehrenclou's 4-5 class studied the Civil War and enjoyed learning expeditions to TN civil war landmarks in the Knoxville and Chattanooga areas bringing their learning to life.
- We got to once again Sukkah Hop around town visiting Sukkot and building Community all along.
- Enjoyed a visit from a Beekeeper and Rabbi Yossi and his Shofar Factory in preparation of Rosh Hashana
- Welcomed Alumni for some aftercare fun days - we are eagerly waiting for the next ones.
- Mrs. Ehrenclou's 4-5 learners engineered and built "crumple cars" with safety features to reduce the force of a crash on their car's passenger (a fragile egg) as they explored the Essential Question, "What happens when objects with different masses collide?"



STEAM Club students explored coding, rocketry, aviation and circuits, along with other fun STEAM projects. We enjoyed watching them blast their rockets during recess.



Mrs. Ehrenclou's 4-5 class electrified the tenements students built using parallel circuits with the help of Mr. Lev as they study the inventions of the 1800's.



Israeli Lunches are back, and students and staff enjoyed the delicious meal together!



2nd-5th graders spent the day packing over 700 meals for Mobile Meals! They were congratulated for their mitzvot with a visit from Mayor Kincannon.



We welcomed our first team of Hebrew Interns from Israel and they have been a great gift to our Hebrew program. Morah Dina and Morah Tzila will be returning to Israel at the beginning of February and Morah Mushky and Morah Chanie will be replacing them as our KJDS Hebrew Teaching Interns.



Our K-1 Classrooms have dedicated time to purposeful play and the students have loved creating with the Maker Spaces in both K-1 classrooms.

What Parents Are Saying: The Naparstek Family

By: Michael Naparstek, KJDS parent

My daughter is a great person. I already knew that well before we all moved to Knoxville this past summer. But I had never before seen her fully express herself with such confidence, intellectual curiosity, and self-awareness than we've seen now in these past five months at KJDS.

I had already moved to Knoxville last year for work while the rest of the family stayed back in the Midwest. Even as I was finding myself more and more in love with the people of Knoxville, the distance was long and the separation difficult for all of us, and I was hoping to get everyone to all move down together. Everything seemed to be falling into place to make this move this past summer, but with two children—one about to be 10 and one not quite old enough for kindergarten—finding where to go to school was the most important and most anxious deciding factor in taking the plunge.



Ilsa Naparstek, far left, with friends, Halen Presser, and Adeline DiSalvo-Tinley

I began looking around at schools for my fourth-grader before I even knew where we'd be living. You see, my daughter had been attending an AMI Montessori school since she was two. And she was thriving. Montessori education was all she had ever formally known. So it was critical to all of us that she would be able to continue her growth in a familiar environment that encouraged self-motivation and exploration. I had heard many mixed experiences from friends and colleagues with children at other local schools. Soon, a friend introduced me to KJDS, literally taking me by the hand to show me around and showcase her children's school. I was immediately impressed. I poked my head into every classroom, and at every turn I found the student-based pedagogy and the kind of care for the overall person that we were looking for. KJDS seemed immediately familiar, but with innovative pedagogy and academic rigor and with so many extra-curricular opportunities to round out her education in ways beyond what was available to her before. I knew right away that this was the environment we were looking for.

However, I had reservations enrolling my child in a Jewish day school. We are a multi-faith family. We celebrate Jewish holidays at home along with Christian holidays and family events and the like throughout the year. From my own perspective growing up Jewish myself, I am acutely aware of the pressures that come with Jewish identity from both within and without Jewish communities. And being Jewish is indeed part of my daughter's self-identity, but it is not the totality of it. Keeping that balance is something our family cares deeply about and works conscientiously to maintain.

So to be frank, I was the one most concerned about having Judaism forced upon my daughter at school. Happily, that absolutely has not been the case. My daughter's exposure and interactions with Judaism as it is broadly construed at KJDS has been enriching and not overbearing. Her sense of Judaism and Jewish identity has broadened without taking over. She's learning Hebrew for the first time, she taught herself how to blow her own shofar that she made in school, she's becoming a Civil War history buff, she's preparing for her leading role in the school play, she's coming to terms with basketball, and she is still doing all the great things she was doing before all that, too. Only somehow with even more confidence and self-pride than ever before.

It's amazing to think that it has only been five months since we all came down here. Throughout, my family has felt overwhelmingly welcomed here in Knoxville, and KJDS has been an important part of that. And for my daughter, well, she's growing with confidence and caring and doing so within a wonderfully welcoming community that's already become her own.

Chanukah Celebrations at KJDS

By: Miriam Esther Wilhelm, Head of School

Special Friends, teachers, admin, students, and alumni all contributed to the Chanukah Celebrations at KJDS. Watching our extended KJDS community come together singing Chanukah songs, playing dreidel, making donuts reminded me of one of the greatest gifts a KJDS education gives our children: A strong and warm community where they belong to grow and develop in their foundational years.

As alumni parent Gary Sturm shared, "I love that my kids can thrive in their elementary, foundational years in a school that strengthens their Jewish identity. **Growing up in Knoxville being the 'token Jew' all my life felt lonely and isolating at times. I am so happy that my kids' association with Judaism was only wonderful and joyous. At KJDS, my kids were grounded in a vibrant and warm Jewish community.** In middle and high school, they were confident and knowledgeable in their Judaism thanks to their amazing KJDS education and proudly shared with their friends all they knew!"

The gift we give our children in their foundational years is that they can grow and thrive in a Jewish setting where they **belong**, where they gain **confidence** in their identity, where they have a **strong community**, they also feel at home in, and where they have the safety and security to **take risks** and challenge themselves to be the best version of themselves, they can be.



K/1 students pose with their Hebrew teachers in their handmade Chanukah t-shirts



2nd grade student, Claire Rosenbaum, shows off the Chanukah she made in Hebrew class



We loved having alumni join for the Chanukah Aftercare Party



Songs were song and fun was had with our Special Friends



Kathy Franzel and Ella Ben-Ishai show off their 3-D dreidels they made together



The KJDS Choir performed songs for their Special Friends to end their celebration together

Math is More Than Memorizing at KJDS

By: Miriam Esther Wilhelm, Head of School

Imagine if math felt like an exploration or a mystery to solve. At KJDS it does! Our math curriculum, think! Mathematics, helps students eagerly engage in mathematical learning by starting each lesson with an anchor task specifically designed to challenge and open their minds. Students work together in discussion to craft possible solving methods and solutions to the complex and open-ended tasks. This primes their brains for focused lessons to come.

In order to add new math skills and concepts to their toolkits, students approach learning first through the tactile use of manipulatives, then through a pictorial look at the new skill or concept, and finally, students see the abstract algorithm to solve the problem numerically. This learning sequence encourages students to visualize the mathematical concept versus just seeing the numbers.

A strong foundation in number sense and conceptual visualization allows students to approach novel (never seen before) problems and find solutions, instead of just memorizing an algorithm and repeatedly plugging into identical types of problems. It also encourages students to understand that there are multiple methods for problem-solving, and then select the one that is most efficient or works best for them. The classes are fun for students because they delight in figuring things out, and think! Mathematics asks that of them every day.

KJDS Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Katie Lusk, shares, "Instead of me dumping information into student's brains, students are now developing such a strong number sense that they are adding and subtracting before we even introduce the

skill in class because they manipulate numbers, see parts of numbers, and organize numbers. We have so much fun playing and exploring numbers that the kids often don't even know they are learning. The sequence of the curriculum is brilliant. The skills build sequentially in a way that the students practice and apply skills as the content challenges them to think deeper and deeper. I don't think any of my students will think of math as something that belongs in a textbook; but rather as skills they need in life due to the strong real-world connections that are part of every unit."

ב"יה

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WWW.KJDS.ORG



Max McClain jumps on the number line. Learning math at KJDS is fun and active!



K/1 students, Sasha Anderson and Laine Leavy, work together to find multiple ways to build teens numbers

The Challenges of Our Times

By: Bryan Goldberg, KJA President

This year we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the State of Israel. This time has been a period of immense political achievements, a renaissance of Jewish culture and religion and a rise in the respect and standing of world Jewry. Nevertheless, find ourselves in a moment of anxiety, maybe even fear. In both American and Israel, our Democratic and constitutional norms are being threatened. Since Jews have made their greatest gains under democracy, and have found more respect and safety in Liberal cultures, we should be concerned for the overall society, as well as for our position in it. We are also facing violent antisemitism, and the other cultural type which we thought we had escaped here in the United States. While the latter is still marginal in America, it's bleeding into our main stream. The Kanye West outburst demonstrated both the scourge and how we can fight it with all the tools at our disposal. Going forward, we have to make **our common vulnerability and our common destiny as Jews**, the primary principle in fighting back. That means the Jews on the right must not white wash the bad actors on their side while highlighting the antisemitism on the left. Jews on the left must call out antisemitism in radical circles, rather than dodging the issue by focusing on the right. A new emerging area of antisemitism is anti-Zionism. This takes the form of denying the Jewish rite to sovereignty or trying to paint Zionism as colonialism in blatant denial of the Millennia of Jewish ties and presence in the holy land. Israel is an imperfect democracy, but it has a remarkable record by any standard of an honest ethical power. For 74 years since its inception Israel has faced terror and assaults on its civilian life, yet it has steadily expanded the rights, opportunities and privileges of Israeli Arabs. This is a country which twice offered a Palestinian state. It was the Palestinians who rejected it, because they were not yet ready to live in peace with Israel, and when Israel has treated the Palestinians harshly, it has been primarily a matter of security protection against terrorism.

Now... while fighting antisemitism, and anti-Zionism are top action priorities, we cannot allow our enemies to set our agenda or to distract us from the primary challenge of American Jewish life. The central challenge facing our communities is that of continuity. Many Jewish institutions are **in danger, in danger from**

a lack of participation. The question we must ask ourselves today... "how do Jews, who don't do Jewish the way I do Jewish or my parents do Jewish, how do they feel welcome in the communities that are currently instantiated today?" What is the thing that switches from one to the other either to help institutions wrap themselves around the next generation or to have the next generation find themselves in the current institutions. The recent Pew research on American Jewry showed a continuing trend of disaffiliation and assimilation. American society is so welcoming to Jews, the values of liberal democracy and of Tikkun Olam are so similar, that it's easy for many Jews to simply drift into full integration into the American non-Jewish majority. In Israel, identity is transmitted through a Jewish environment and demographic majority, in America where we are less than 2% of the population, Jewish identity and culture must be transmitted through **high-impact Jewish experiences** and having Jewish friends in one's social circles. We have to communicate values and memory through multiple channels and with enough Jewish components so that Jewish identity remains even as people integrate and participate actively in the American life.

How do we this? We need to focus our investment in Jewish day schools and in Jewish camps and group trips. We have achieved significant results in these areas in the last 30 years, but while we have, the general society opened up even further, so I suggest a doubling down on all these proven Jewish identity enrichment programs. Research shows the outcomes of all these experiences are heightened Jewish identity, greater priority to staying Jewish and family and community, stronger connections to Israel and the Jewish people. We know that the most powerful Jewish impact comes from a total immersion experience and completely Jewish environments, because the participants bond in close friendship as a mini Jewish community. They internalize the Jewish experience, not as a marginal or a sideline to American culture, but as a center of their lives. We should also offer intensive retreat experiences to the 25 to 40 year age cohort. I believe the best approach to this is to start regionally within America. National programs exist, such as National Young Leadership Cabinet, but are out of the finical or time commitment reach for many in this

age group. There is ample proof in the past record of Federation Missions and leadership education programs that a few days of rich experience, can set people on a lifetime Jewish journey. There are so many benefits for providing such experiences, but I believe we should act on this based on the fundamental Jewish teaching that saving a life, or for that matter.... **saving a life for the Jewish people is more valuable than any amount of money.**

The Pew study of American Jewry also shows a troubling shrinking of the Jewish middle. Those between the Haredim on one side and the nominally Jewish on the other side of the spectrum; and since the middle has been the backbone of Jewish communal and organizational life, including Federations; such a drop, could have a major negative effect in the life and influence of American Jewry. This reality needs to become a central concern of communal planning and a critical focus of our outreach work. Federations, synagogue movements and community organizational leaders must come together to strengthen the center. We need an injection of greater intensity of programs and policies. We need to incorporate distinctive and particular Jewish elements and observances in all the groups. This effort has to be approached in a spirit of **pluralism**, realizing that the benefit of strengthening each group is that it will strengthen all the other groups on the spectrum. **Jews with religious commitments and peoplehood commitments give more tzedakah to Jewish causes and charities, then Jews of no religion.** Federations and foundations then, in funding revitalization program for synagogues and organizations will be helping themselves. We should bring people together, across all lines of Jewry for joint Jewish learning and experience, so that together we will see and experience that we are in this for the greater good of all Jewry. If we can offer richer Jewish experiences, with stronger family lives filled with joyful celebration, many people will want to join in our journey.

Let me conclude by saying that we need to go forward in the spirit of optimism and expectation. 80 years ago in the holocaust, as a People, we learned that powerlessness is incompatible with survival. So we chose to live, our people overwhelmingly became

Zionist. We determined to take power so that we will have a substantial say in our own Fate. I believe that in this generation, God has called on us to take full responsibility for Jewish destiny as part of the task of repairing the whole world.

In these past 75 years our people have done well with the use of power. The greatest attack of death on our people, and of hatred on our religion of life and love; has been met with the **greatest outburst of life and creativity in our long and storied history.** We have risen to challenge after challenge. Starting from an immigrant marginal minority, American Jews rose to be one of the most respected ethnics group, with the highest educational, and income achievement in the United States. American Jews have also played a major role in persuading the United States to become Israel's strongest ally and international protector. The response to the outrageous Russian invasion of Ukraine, offers an illustration of our achievement, in a way, we have reversed Jewish history. For 2000 years, and especially less than a century ago, If you were Jewish, you were most likely to be denied rescue and excluded from help. In the Russian Ukraine crisis, Jews have been offered haven and direct aid almost more than any other group at risk. So, we, the living generation of the Jewish covenant of Tikkun Olam, must take responsibility for it and continue to rise to the challenges of this moment. We all need to increase our commitment level and take whatever action is necessary. Together we can join to sustain democracy, we can reverse the trend of assimilation and turn our present into a Jewish renaissance. As a community lets us pledge to commit to pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend and oppose any foe to assure the survival and renewal of the Jewish people.

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Knoxville JEWISH ALLIANCE

P2G and Teen Summer Experience in Knoxville

By: Marc Forman, P2G Chairman, marcforman@hotmail.com



Tikun Olam in 2010

As we prepare to celebrate the holiday of Tu B'Shevat we should look at how the seeds we have planted in Israel have grown. Many years ago, the KJA helped to start the P2G program. We had a strong root system, and the tree grew strong and mighty. As years went by, our roots weakened. Thanks to the leadership of the KJA and many others we are fertilizing our roots once again.

We will have the privilege of hosting a group of 10th-12th grade Israeli teens during the last week of July for the Teen Summer Experience. This opportunity is strengthening our roots to the State of Israel. We look forward to local teens participating in the Summer Teen Experience in 2024.

We are hopeful in bringing many of the other programs back into Knoxville. If you are a teacher, you can teach over the summer in Israel! If you are a young professional, you can partner with an Israeli young professional! If you would like to teach English from your living room to Israeli students, you can! If you are interested in creating a connection with the State of Israel, let me know!

As a youth I planted many trees in Israel. Now as an adult I am trying to make those trees grow even stronger. Let's plant the seeds of connection in our youth together.

Thank YOU for 2022 and Looking Forward to 2023

By: Renee' Hyatt, KJA Vice President of Campaign

Our 2023 KJA Annual Campaign starts this February, but I want to take this opportunity to thank our awesome 2022 volunteer solicitors: Barbara Bernstein, Judy Brietstein, Adam Brown, Arnold Cohen, Marcus Eisenbach, Scott Hahn, Dick Jacobstein, Marilyn Liberman, Eric Mayer, Susan Millis, Valeria Rosenbaum, Judith Rosenberg, Larry Silverstein, and Marilyn Wohl. Todah rabbah!

Speaking of our 2023 Annual Campaign, I hope many of you have already heard from your solicitor and made your pledge. If not, please answer their call, respond to their voicemail, or text, or reply to their email when they do try to contact you. Not only do we want to reach our goal of \$300,000, but we also want **every one of YOU** to be a part of sustaining our vibrant Jewish community.

And remember, you can keep the phone from ringing and keep your inbox clear by going ahead and making a pledge in any of these ways:

- click DONATE on any weekly KJA connection or on www.jewishknoxville.org
- mail a check to KJA 6800 Deane Hill Dr Knoxville TN 37919
- call the KJA office 865-690-6343

With everyone participating and working together, we can ensure that we will continue to thrive in the present as well as in the future.

Contributions

Donations listed were received as of November 4, 2022.

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UKRAINE SUPPORT
The Ashe Fund

Letter from the Editor

By: Tara Bain, KJA Director of Community Engagement

Dear Readers,

Last year, we successfully launched our redesigned HaKol with wonderful feedback! It has been a pleasure to share with each of you month after month our Jewish community's stories. 2022 also brought about a paper shortage and labor costs, which greatly impacted an increase in the cost of our magazine. We also faced and continue to face production delays, which impacts HaKol arriving in your mailboxes by the first of the month, as is always our hope. As we reviewed all these challenges, the HaKol partners decided to move to six issues a year. This means, you will continue to get the same beautiful

stories and community news and in an every other month production.

In 2023, issues will launch as February/March, April/May, June/July, August/September, October/November, December/January. Additionally, we add our issues to our website at www.jewishknoxville.org on the first day of a month so you do not have to wait to read it. We wish to thank each of you for your continued support and readership. We are grateful to bring you our Jewish community in print (and digitally) and hope you enjoy our 2023 issues!

Light Up Knoxville 2022

Our entire Jewish community celebrated the first night of Chanukah at Light Up Knoxville 2022! Over 300 people came together at the AJCC to light the 12 foot menorah, enjoy potato latkes and kosher shawarma, dance, play, schmooze, and spread the light and joy of the holiday. A big thank you to presenting sponsors Chabad of Knoxville, Knoxville Jewish Alliance, and Temple Beth El as well as supporting sponsors Heska Amuna Synagogue, Knoxville Jewish Day School, and PJ Library. Photo Credit: Juicebeats Photography



Lighting of the first candle of Chanukah led by Rabbi Mark Greenspan, Rabbi Yossi Wilhelm, and Rabbi Mark Schifftan.



Children from KJDS, TBE, and HA came together to lead the community in song.



A choir of children performed joyful Chanukah songs with Norma James and Miriam Esther Wilhelm.



The weather was cold but the community was warm and smiling!



Nice hot potato latkes donated by Trader Joe's



Rocking out at the silent disco from Born & Raised Productions!



Signature Chanukah cocktails like the Gelt Martini by Vital Event Services



The gym really glowed with Chanukah light thanks to Party On! Event Rentals.



Delicious kosher shawarma catered by Yasmin Ben Ishai of Yasmin's Kitchen



Check the KJA website and Facebook page for more pictures from our photo booth!



The teens of Gert Weinstein BBG served hot apple cider by the firepit.



Thanks to Peter Rosenbaum and Virginia Kessler for our Chanukah Trivia - and congrats to Team Hadassah for their win!



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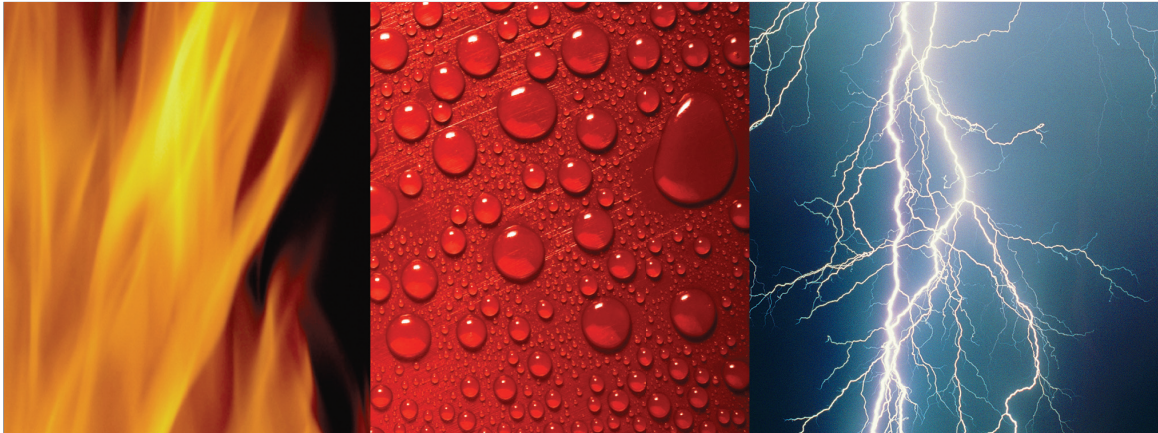
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KJCFF Grants Support Heska Amuna's Salute to Its History

December was a blowout celebration month for KJCFF's partner Heska Amuna Synagogue. First, Heska Amuna celebrated its 130th anniversary (it doesn't look a day older than 125) with a gala dinner. KJCFF supported the event with significant grants from the following donor advised funds: Mark & Carol Harris Family Fund, Bernard E. & Barbara W. Bernstein Charitable Fund, Jeff & Nancy Becker Community Enrichment Fund, Besmann Family Fund for Social Justice and Spiritual Enrichment, Ferency Family Fund, Stephen & Kim Rosen Donor Advised Fund, Merrell Family Fund, Allen, Leibowitz, Pearson Family Fund and the Sylvia Robinson Memorial Fund of HA (thanks Karen and Pace). As if the Gala wasn't enough, HA followed up with a full weekend of programming lead by our old friend Rabbi Mark Greenspan and his wife, Marilyn. The Greenspans lead dinners, a cooking lesson, Shabbat services, lectures and group discussions with Sephardic Judaism being the running theme. The Back to the Future weekend was supported by a grant from the Sam & Esther Rosen Community Enrichment Synagogue Fund. If you were wondering, leg warmers and mullets were optional.

KJCFF mourns the loss of Lesley Rosenblatt and David Oleshansky

KJCFF recently lost two great friends and fundholders. David Oleshansky passed away in Nashville in November and Lesley Rosenblatt left us in December in Sacramento. David was a fixture in Knoxville Jewish community leadership in the 90s and 2000s. He was a longtime officer of the AJCC when it ran a leadership track process. This culminated in his presidency in the late 90s. One of David's most significant acts was joining with Knoxville Jewish Federation president Mary Linda Schwarzbart to form a feasibility committee to research the idea of merging the federation and JCC. This effort resulted in the founding of KJA in 2001. Regardless of his accomplishments, David was always destined to walk in the shadows of his wife, Deborah, and he would be the first to say this. Lesley Rosenblatt was the beloved wife of former KJA executive director Bernie Rosenblatt. Though she preferred to be in the background, Lesley was an active volunteer with Jewish Family Services and was quite the elegant homemaker and family matriarch. Those of us who had the good fortune to spend time with the Rosenblatts during her funeral were regaled with stories of her marvelous cooking, sewing, and parenting.

Tu B'Shevat Reminds us that in the Spring There will be Growth

After a year like 2022 where basically all investments had awful losses, we can use a positive mental attitude. Who is a better philosopher for these times than Chauncey Gardner? His famous quote "in the spring there will be growth" could be the tag line for Tu B'Shevat and KJCFF. What do we do on Jewish Arbor Day...we plant trees! What could be a more dramatic display of optimism than planting a sapling where you literally may never see fruition? While you dig, standing right next to you is Chauncey who is promising growth. Even in a loser year for asset returns, KJCFF kvells in the difference we made in our community with our grants for programming and organizational support. We have the patience of a gardener and know that our efforts will be rewarded in the long run as the important part is just us being there.

If you would like to plant a seed in our community, contact Laura or Stephen who will be happy to help

How to make out a check for a KJCFF donation

If making a donation to a KJCFF fund by check, it should be made out to KJCFF with the fund name in the memo line on the check or in an accompanying memo. Need DTC instructions for a stock transfer? Please contact Stephen or Laura.

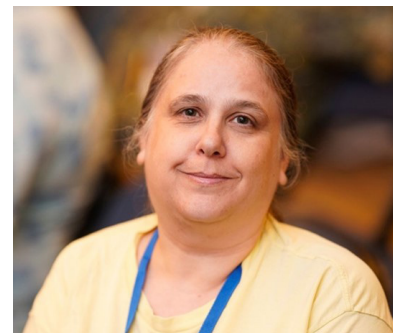
JCOR News & Notes

By: Sarah Stuart

The end of 2022 was eventful for the JCOR family.



We said goodbye to Rabbi Cantor Jacqueline Marx with a dinner at Fire & Salt restaurant in Oak Ridge. Rabbi Marx served as our High Holiday Cantor and then as our Interim Spiritual Leader. Rabbi Marx recently received her ordination from the Pluralistic Rabbinical Seminary. She now begins a year as a chaplaincy resident at Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital in Greensboro, NC. We thank her for her dedication, friendship, and leadership. She will be missed.



Rebecca Badurina assumed new duties as President of JCOR Sisterhood. Rebecca replaces Becky Charles who served as Sisterhood president for over a decade. Becky Charles was recently elected to become the new facilities chair on the JCOR Board of directors.



The JCOR Hanukkah party was a bright spot during the frigid December temps. Sponsored by Sisterhood, the party featured gourmet latkes with unique toppings and special wine pairings prepared by JCOR member and chef Mark Kaye. Other foods were prepared under the direction of Becky Charles. With plenty of music and songs led by Rabbi Marx, we had a surprise visit by Alex Shor of Nashville who added a new dimension to our music with his fantastic accordion arrangements.

<p>CONTACT JEWISH CONGREGATION OF OAK RIDGE</p>
<p>Rabbi Emeritus, Victor Rashkovsky vicrash@yahoo.com</p> <p>President, Jim Bogard bogardjs@comcast.net</p> <p>Sisterhood President, Rebecca Badurina rbadurina@gmail.com</p>
<p>101 W. Madison Lane Oak Ridge, TN 37830 865-483-3581 • office@jcor.info www.jcortn.org</p>

President's Thoughts

By: Barbara Mintz: Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge President

I will be beginning my term as Chapter President in January 2023. I would like to introduce myself and I will start by saying I am "From Away" and in fact from nowhere in the south! I was born and raised in New Jersey attending Rutgers University/Douglass College. It was the summer after I graduated from Rutgers that I met Seth, my future husband, who was on leave from the Israeli military serving 12 years of service including the liberation of Jerusalem (oh yes I am incredibly proud). He was taking a summer course that was scheduled at the same time as one that I was taking. That fall I moved to Pennsylvania to earn my Master of Science Degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology at Penn State University and yes I remain a Nittany Lion fan.

After I earned my degrees, I worked for Temple University in Philadelphia on a special grant working with individuals with severe physical and emotional challenges and that has always been a specialty area of great importance to me. We then got married, and as my husband could not tolerate living anywhere near any big city as he had been on tiny kibbutzim on the Golan Heights and Gaza strip, we moved to northern Maine. We lived at the Canadian border and stayed in Maine for 28 years. Life was isolated as far as the number of shops and restaurants but it was overflowing with people filled with unique skills, love of nature, and an ongoing willingness to help others. I share this because life in Maine shaped me. I acquired the hobbies of gardening, cooking and canning, knitting and crewel work, recycling, and even basket weaving. I worked at a small, yet nationally acclaimed mental health agency with other skilled professionals from around the country. I had twice the quality of professional experiences that I ever could have obtained had I stayed in the New Jersey area. There was no Hadassah Chapter nearby and it was a long ride to any congregation for services though gracious congregants always fed us meals and put us up for the night. My most important organizational work and leadership training was with the American Association of University Women (AAUW). I held every office at the branch level and I later became the State of Maine President. I was on the ballot to be the New England Regional President but my husband's hands began causing him considerable pain from the cold so we had to move south. That was in 2003 and I became employed, still as a speech/language pathologist, first by Anderson County Schools (and we resided in Clinton),

then by the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in a collaborative with Knox County Schools (moving to Knoxville in 2009) and then I stayed with KCS until I retired in 2019 giving notice three months before Covid-19 appeared.

So, how did I get involved with Hadassah? I had been a life-member through family ties. I mentioned to someone I met that I really wanted to get to know other Jewish women rather than just be introduced to them. She gave my name to the local Hadassah Chapter President in 2011 who invited me to a board meeting. I attended and the short of it is.. I became the VP-Membership that night before I had ever gone to a single Hadassah meeting of any sort! I remained the Membership Chair for eight years and yes I certainly met many Jewish women. After that I have served as Book Club Chair and Records Administrator.

I am committed to Hadassah for several critical reasons. Hadassah provides for the health and treatment of so many people and has saved countless lives all over the world including treating my husband's military wounds on several occasions at our hospitals in Israel! Secondly, it is a very high priority for me that Hadassah works hard to support women's health including learning about their different symptoms for even common diseases as well as the need for medical and pharmaceutical research to be carried out also on women rather than mostly men. If I limit myself to only three reasons here, I would have to say my third critical reason is the strength, vibrancy, and sense of dedication of the Hadassah Women across every Jewish community in this local region, in this state, and in Israel. **We are...WOMEN WHO DO ...and WE MAKE IT COUNT!**





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purchase for
\$15.00**

Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge Invites You to Meet the Author

Sonja DuBois

Join us for an enlightening discussion with Sonja DuBois, whose Jewish parents gave her to a friend to save her in 1942. She didn't learn of her Jewish history until age 60!

Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 7:00 PM

Arnstein Jewish Community Center (AJCC) Gym
6800 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville TN 37919

Event is free of charge, donations appreciated.
Registration is required. Refreshments will be served.

"Finding Schifrah: The Journey of a Dutch Child Holocaust Survivor" by Sonja DuBois

- Born in 1940 in Rotterdam, she was separated from her Jewish parents at age two when they reported for the first Jewish transport headed for Auschwitz.
- She was put in the care of a family friend and then taken in by a Dutch Christian couple. She remained in their care and was given the name Sonja.
- The family moved to the United States in 1952 and she was told to forget her past. She graduated from college, married, and raised two children while only learning little pieces of her past.
- It was not until around age 60 that she was able to overcome her reluctance to fully probe into her past and discover her Jewish roots and write this book.
- She currently resides in Knoxville and she says she speaks about her experiences to continue to honor her Jewish parents. This is her first presentation to our local Jewish Community.

Sonja is a part of the Tennessee Holocaust Commission's Living-On Exhibit. She has donated artifacts to the US Holocaust Museum in Washington DC. She will be talking about her life experiences and then opening the floor for questions and discussions as a Holocaust survivor.

Register: <https://hadassahsupersouth.org/Meet-the-Author>

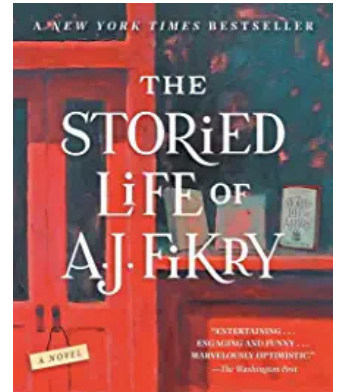
March Book Club News

By: Rhonda Sternfels, Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge member

We welcome you to participate in our March Hadassah Book Club meeting. On March 21, we will be discussing **The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry** by Gabrielle Zein. We will be using a zoom only format for this book club meeting and we will start at 7:30p.m.

The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zein.

A.J. Fikry's life is not at all what he expected it to be. He lives alone, his bookstore is experiencing the worst sales in its history, and now his prized possession, a rare collection of Poe poems, has been stolen. But when a mysterious package appears at the bookstore, its unexpected arrival gives Fikry the chance to make his life over--and



see everything anew.

This novel has humor, romance, a touch of suspense, but most of all the love of books and bookish people. This book is "Marvelously optimistic about the future of books and bookstores and the people who love both."—The Washington Post

Future Book Selections:

April 18:
A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

May 16:
Fifty Words for Rain by Asha Lemmie

Please contact resternfels@comcast.net if you have any questions or feedback. Also let her know if you have any changes in your email address or if you want to be removed from the master mailing list.

Did you know? Hadassah Happens!

By: Shuli Mesa, Education Vice President

Hadassah Hospitals are known for their outstanding medical care and advancements. A recent example is when scientists at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem have become the first in the world to create male and female stem cells from the same person, with the exact same genetic code, a breakthrough that will allow researchers to study how gender differences affect health. This breakthrough may change how medical research is conducted throughout the world. And that began with us, with Hadassah.

But did you know that Hadassah Hospitals not only focus on research and medical care but also education. A key component to health.

This past summer 45 Arab women from East Jerusalem gathered at the Linda Joy Pollin Cardiovascular Wellness Center for Women at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem to celebrate their graduation from the center's Health Promotion program. The program offers a unique approach for promoting heart-healthy behavior for Arab women who are at risk of heart disease. It meets a critical need: The incidence of diabetes and heart disease is 60 percent higher in Arab women than in Jewish women. The group-based healthy lifestyle intervention program, adapted from the US Diabetes Prevention Program, was tailored by the Pollin Center to meet the cultural, language and religious sensitivities of Arab women. The graduates said that they were excited to introduce healthy living activities in their communities as health promotion leaders. As part of the program, the women received leadership training, promotion of resiliency, and empowering women to lead change. And now you know.

Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge Art Sale November 20,2022

By: Harriet Glasman/ Chair of Art Program

Around 11:00 a.m. the artists arrived and set up their tables, and it was showtime. The art was beautiful!!

We thank all the talented artists for their participation including Charles and Marie Pearlman, Peggy Littmann representing Jack and Judith Benhayon who generously donated all proceeds from their amazing photography to Hadassah, Karen Ferency, Jeanne Kidd, Adam Rowe, Susan Watson Arbital, Cheri Pollock, Sidney Pitchford, and Mary Linda Schwarzbart selling several of Arnold's sketches, paintings, and beautiful Judaica plus valuable art books.

We gratefully thank Beverly Wilcox for sharing her beautiful silver jewelry with us and all of her help with arranging for Hadassah to have the sale at Heska Amuna, help with so much: coffee, showing us where everything was located, facts and figures, arranging for security and leaving the craft fair at her church to help us.

I thank Peggy Littmann for rushing to turn off the alarm and open the front door on her way to yoga and then rushing back to sell the Benhayon's photographs.

Special thanks to Mary Evars-Goan and John Goan for providing music, laughter, wine and taking charge of the food. Thanks to the support of Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge.



Mary Linda Schwarzbart brought beautiful hand drawn sketches and several pieces of Judaica made by Arnold Schwarzbart. She also brought various valuable art books.



Cheri Pollock sold her super cool clay and ceramic Menorahs and small items



CHABAD OF KNOXVILLE



Chabad Chanukah Trivia

Can you match the caption to the correct pictures?

- Mayor Kincannon lights the Shamash on the Menorah at World's Fair
- Rabbi Yossi, Rabbi Shifan and Rabbi Greenspan lead Maoz Tzur at the Community Chanukah Celebration.
- Participants enjoy donuts with Ms. Dreidel at World's Fair Park.
- Teens compete against Fire Fighter Kevin to finish the donut first at the Cteen Donut Showdown..
- Car Top Menorahs being places in preparation for the Car Menorah Parade.
- Pre-Chanukah Mezuzahs and Mimosas Women's Event.
- Israeli Chanukah Party at Chabad.
- Chanukah Cookie Decorating.
- 7 boxes of freshly decorated donuts shared with First Responders
- Book Reading and Latke Making.
- Popcorn at the Chanukah Movie Night.

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Ev Bornes • Gustave Dreyfuss • Mike Evans • BettyAnn Feldblum • Dr. Richard Hahn • Dr. David Lee • Paul Lee • Lillian Leimsidor • Abraham Lewis • Selda Lewis • Regina W. Lippner • Bobby Mintz • Morris Reich • Sela Rose Ringuette • Bernard Silverstein • Oscar Sisman • Fannie Spiro • Jeanne Daily Vogelfang • Tom Watson • Carolyn S. Ziegler

February 10

David Bessel • Mathis Bush • Isaac Cohen • Clarence Cole • Helen Dolgonos • Julius Glassman • George Gudis • Helen Hyman • Rose Imbrey • James H Lees • Lela Lippner • Harold Markman • Bettie Bloom Reich • Phillip Herbert Robinson • Morris Leonard Shagan • Abe Slovis • Frances Sturm • Samuel A. Wender

February 17

Evelyn Adelman • CW4 Fred H. H. Caylor • Gussie Dresner • Deborah Rabin Freeman • Rose Friedman • Diana Harris • Robert Hyatt • Ira M. Jacobs • Bertram H. Joseph Jr. • Yetta M. Konigsberg • Yetti Liebman • Mariya Luchanskaya • Blume bat Malkah • Ellen Markel • Isadore Misner • Dorothy Scott Moiger • Harry I. Moskowitz • Roy Mostov • Mr. Kenneth Palmer • Sam Pollack • Eleanor Radoff • Inez Rayman • Peggy June Sachs • Randall Schwartz • Dennis Silver • Anne Simon • Joan Berna Tumpson-Rivlin

February 24

Abram Badalov • Jack Balaban • Della Mae Childress • Daniel Davis • Herbert Davis • Rabbi Matthew Derby • Benjamin Epstein • Yvonne Fribourg • Jacob Joseph Gelber • Erma Gerson Jerome S. Gerson • Riva Golden • Rose Greenberg • Lucas Helm • Samuel G. Herrmann • Blanche K. Jacobs • Gussie Kligman • Hyman Kligman • Sylvia Miller • Sarah Nechamkin • Bertha Oleinik • Dr. Arthur B. Pardee • Mrs. Celia Polasky • Henrietta H. Samuel • Annie Rebecca Striner

March 3

Lalla Block Arnstein • John Baker • Morris Bart • Edwin Deitch • Jeffrey R Epstein • Johanne Gillman • Daryle Gross • Dr. Harry C. Gross • Isaac Gutman • Yulia Ioselev • Edward H. Jacobs • Martin Andrew Koplan • Robert Loebel • Zelik Oleinik • Genevieve Gutman Reich • Goldie Silverman Rosenbaum • Faisel Schuck • Gersh Sherman • Arthur Shor • Toby Slabosky • David Solomon Striner • Melvin Sturm

March 10

William Brody • Anna Kolodkin Bush • Martin Cohen • Stewart Crosier • Richard Meyer Davis • Sally Feldman • Marjorie Freedman • Morris Friedman • Louis Gassel • Ginda Katz • Jacob Katz • Rosa Kern • Leopold Levi • Elaine Lewis • Leonard D Licht • Julia Markman • Ann Mostov • Arthur Pasternak • Sylvia Kessler Robinson • Anna Wallace Rosenbloom • Alan Harvey Stark • Murray Steinfeld • Faye Wansker

March 17

Augustine Bressler • Mark L Eisenstadt • Thomas Feinberg • Carl Kaplan • Germain Kern • Dora Kohen • J.R. Miller • Jessica Hiller Rosenthal • Fe Dolar Serrato • Sarah S. Steinberg

March 24

Vittorio Argentini • Isaac Bressler • A. Jerome Dave • Bertha Diamond • Dr. Robert Feinberg • Bertha Schoenfeld Goldberger • Nannette Hope Hyatt • Harold Leibowitz • Rose Leitson • Hyman Markowitz • Lester Popkin • Leon Potter • Eli Yatsko

March 31

Gordon Brown • Shmulik Dragif • Bryan Feldblum • Irwin Freedman • Paul Davis Friedman • Roza Galinskaya • Peter P. Holz • Edith Ivins • Sarah Hannah Licht • Lillian Silverman Richer • Jack Rosenberg • Yetta F. Manis Speert • Stanley Vogelfang

Heska Amuna Synagogue

Yahrzeits



February 4

Jacob Goodstein · Helen Hahn · Alexander Licht ·
Robert Moody · Lillian Morrison · Rabbi David Panitz ·
Hilda Presser Sarah Rubenstein · Rose Shapiro ·
Charles Silverman · Harry Strauss

February 11

Louis Balloff · Logan Brown · Yetta Burnett · Eugene Cornez ·
Max Finkelstein · Milton Finkelstein · John Gitman ·
Rose Imbrey · Isadore Kleg · Lela Lippner · Joseph Richer ·
Esther Rosen · Myer Sachs · Frances Sturm · Clarice Weinstein

February 18

Monte Abrams · Joseph Billig · William Brotman · Ethel Brown ·
Harold Brown · Isaac Cohen · Herbert Davis · Albert Fadem ·
Abraham Fay · Jack Feld · Samuel Green · Leonard Handler ·
Louis Joffe · Frances Klein · Carole Kramer · Alfred Levin ·
Barnett Mackta · Clarence Mann · David Rabin · Mollie Saroff ·
Randy Schwartz · Gertrude Wolf

February 25

Molly Botnick · Gerson Corkland · Isaac Corkland ·
Gertrude Danziger · Rose Delinsky · Elizabeth Farkas ·
Joseph Gluck · Helen Gries · Evelyn Hagler · Elliott Jaffrey ·
Ronald Lawhead · Rose Leeds · Zelda Levin · David Levine ·
Florence Lieberman Esther Mann · Robert Moore ·
Harry Moskowitz · Nathan Oleshansky · Kenny Palmer ·
Miriam Ring · Max Robinson Doris Rothbart · Morris Shagan ·
Roslyn Shamitz · Marilyn Shorr · Abe Slovis · Roberta Smith ·
Anna Snyder · Rita Solomon · John Walton · Ethel Wittenberg

March 4

John Abrams · Maida Bendes · Edith Brotman ·
Shirley Eisenberg · Lillian Ellin · Samuel Fayonsky ·
Sol Foster · Mary Ginsburg · Annie Green · Herman Linke ·
Hercolino Lourenco · Edwin Markoff · Rita Nichols ·
Paula Rader · Judith Rattner · Ruben Robinson · Nathan Samet ·
Barney Schiff · Elsie Shorr · Toby Slabosky · Razelle Toronto ·
Herman Werner · Aaron Wise Norman Wolf · Mayer Zucker

March 11

Pauline Botnick · Lucille Bruskin · Max Burnett ·
Goldie Craycroft · Rudolph Deitch · Geraldine Diftler ·
Debby Freeman · Albert Goodstein · Pearl Goodstein ·
Dora Green · Marvin Hecht · Leah Herz · Norma Herz ·
Benjamin Homer · Ruth Kaplan · Esther Kisilinsky ·
Louis Klinkowstein · David Leibowitz · Bessie Liberman ·
Yetta Nadler · Ida Nius · Oscar Pfeffer · Elsie Rattner ·
Morris Rattner · Sam Rosenblatt · Dorothy Schnoll ·
Joyce Simon · Esther Strauss · Melvin Sturm ·
Rae Weisberg · Leah Wise

March 18

Marion Abrams · Irving Bayer · Samuel Jacobs · Paul Kanfer ·
Lillian Kanter · Monte Kaplan · Bernard Kronenberg ·
Pearl Meyers · Caroline Nadler · Theodore Nius ·
Joslyn Presser Rebecca Reznick · Sarah Robinson ·
Milton Ross · Max Rubenstein · Caroline Schwartz ·
Lazar Schwartz · Arnold Schwarzbart · Martin Shersky ·
Isaac Slovis · Sol Winer · Jacob Winick · Eli Yatsko ·
Sarah Zwick-Daum

March 25

Morris Bart · Mazeltov Benhayon · Gordon Brown ·
Mary Brown · Sam Chandler · Chris Colston · Matilda Davis ·
Ida Finestone · Elisabeth Gay · Joseph Imbrey · Jacob Katz ·
Harold Leibowitz · Margaruite Mandell · Beatrice Owens ·
Casper Perelman · Arlene Prager · Rosalyn Raskin ·
David Renert · Lillian Richer · Melvin Robinson ·
Jack Rosenberg · Ethel Rywell Frances Schanowitz ·
Miles Siegel · Esther Thompson · Lillian Weinbren ·
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The Barbara Winick Bernstein Archives of the Jewish Community of Knoxville and East Tennessee

The Way We Were in 1973: HESKA AMUNA RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLASS



Clockwise from upper left: Mark **Liberman**, teacher (the late) Joseph **Spector**, Douglas **Weinstein**, Laura **Long**, Elizabeth **Sayah**, David **Brown**, Mark **Saroff**, Lori **Gluck**. Off to the right is Diane **Renert**, only partially visible.

Doug **Weinstein**, Mark **Saroff**, and Mark **Liberman's** parents, Marilyn and Harvey, live in Knoxville.

Thanks to Marilyn **Liberman** for donating the photo and providing the description of the event as well as most of the identification.

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



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TITANIC MUSEUMS HONOR THE 135 CHILDREN ON RMS TITANIC

Master Edmond Navratil
2nd Class Passenger
Age: 2 Years
Born: March 5, 1910
Destination: Waterbury, Connecticut

I'm Edmond Navratil from Nice, France. My brother, Michel, and I didn't know it, but Mother had no idea where we were.

Our parents were in the midst of a divorce. Rather than risk giving us up, Papa decided to take us away to America. He changed our last name to Hoffman, bought tickets for *Titanic* and tried to make us disappear. His plan worked until an iceberg got in the way. Suddenly the secrecy and lies crashed in on us.

On deck, Michel and I were separated from Papa and placed in a lifeboat. Once aboard the rescue ship, we were unable to tell anyone who we were or why we were all alone. As far as the world knew, no Navratils were on *Titanic*, and nobody knew the Hoffmans, either. The Navratils seemed to have vanished, yet there we were — two little boys who were very much alive. What would become of us?

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