

Kol Kneseth Israel

"The Voice of Kneseth Israel"



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A Special Father's Day Gift



If you'd enjoy surprising the man in your family with an unusual Father's Day gift and garner *mitzvot* in the process, be sure to order your tickets for the special **Neshama Carlebach** concert **June 17**.

For those of you lucky enough to have already shared an evening with Neshama, this is a chance to introduce her to your family.

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Neshama's rendition of traditional and modern Jewish music, both on her recordings and in her appearances at concerts across the country, has thrilled millions. The daughter of the late **Rabbi Schlomo Carlebach**, she continues his tradition, begun in the late 1950's, of performing historical religious selections as well as classic Hebrew folksongs before live audiences. Following in his footsteps, Neshama has performed in concerts in Israel, Europe, South Africa, Canada and all across this United States.

Some of her appearances have included concerts at San Francisco's Gershwin Theater, at New York's Manhattan Showcase, and before a growing number of synagogue audiences, such as Adath Israel in New York City.

Fluent in Hebrew, Neshama has lived in Israel and the United States, and performs her songs in both Hebrew and English.

Proceeds from the concert go to support the programs of our **Seltzer Music and Cultural Arts Endowment Fund**, established by our own Sarah Frisch in memory of her parents, who instilled in their children the need to enrich and add dimension to their lives with music and the arts. A percentage of the net proceeds will go to support the CKI Building Fund.

The concert begins at 5 p.m. on Father's Day, at the **Larkin High School auditorium**, 1475 Larkin Avenue in Elgin.

Here's how you can make a real difference. For \$1,000 you can reserve eight premium seats, have a full-page ad or greeting in the concert program, receive an autographed CD, receive special parking, and be invited to a post-concert reception in a private room just outside the auditorium.

(continued on p. 8)



From the Rabbi's Study...

A Pesach Carroll

One of my favorite commentaries on the *haggadah* comes from Lewis Carroll. I don't say that the reverend gentleman of Christ Church, the author of *Alice in Wonderland*, intended a *Pesach* sermon, but his words still serve, in the form of four quatrains from his epic poem, *The Hunting of the Snark*.

We start with the question, "What does it mean to be free?" Carroll supplies the answer for each of the *Haggada's* four sons.

For the Simple Son, he writes of a ship's Bellman:

*"He had bought a large map
representing the sea,
Without the least vestige of land:
And the crew were much pleased
when they found it to be
A map they could all understand."*

That's the Simple Son's idea of freedom: a world of no restrictions. You can go in any direction. You just can't get anywhere.

Thank goodness our world is not like that. We need things in the way that we can trip over and bump into. And so we

answer the Simple Son: Being free means restraining our actions.

Then we have the Wicked Son:

*"What's the good of Mercator's
North Poles and Equators,
Tropics, Zones, and Meridian Lines?
So the Bellman would cry:
and the crew would reply
'They are merely conventional signs!'"*

"Okay," says the Wicked Son. "You have your land. But why all those other markings on the map?"

"You want restrictions?" he says. "I have restrictions. I don't steal. I don't lie. That's what my map needs. I've got ethics. There's my spiritual coastline. All those ritual things are just doohickies that the mapmaker put in."

Yes, perhaps, maybe, but—no map will guide a sailor who doesn't know where he is. Let the sailor find a landmark. Help him turn his map into a guide. And so we answer the Wicked Son, "Those doohickies show us where we are. Tell us, where are you?"

As for the Son Who Does Not Know How to Ask, Carroll writes:

*"Then the bowsprit got mixed with
the rudder sometimes*

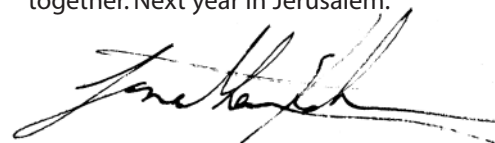
*A thing, as the Bellman remarked,
That frequently happens in
tropical climes,
When a vessel is, so to speak,
'snarked.'"*

That's where most of us seem to be. We're pretty snarked, wondering how to follow the map when our ship is stuck inside out and backwards. For this son, the Haggada teaches, we have to open up. That's all, it says. Just open up, do something, and begin.

And the Wise Son:

*"But the principal failing occurred
in the sailing,
And the Bellman, perplexed and
distrressed,
Said he had hoped, at least,
when the wind blew due East,
That the ship would not travel
due West!"*

There is a wind blowing. The ship may not yet respond, but the Wise Son feels it. It blows to the East. Up anchor, get unsnarked, and we sail. All four together. Next year in Jerusalem.



A Message from Our President

Recently I attended a talk by Arnold Eisen, the new Chancellor Elect for the Jewish Theological Seminary, at North Suburban Synagogue. During the past several months Chancellor Eisen has been occupied with what can be accurately described as an informational road show, giving talks at various synagogues across the country. While he made clear that his intent was to share his vision for JTS, it was by no means a one-way conversation with the larger Jewish community. Dr. Eisen is also gathering opinions and ideas for the future direction of Conservative Judaism.

One of the main points of his message that struck a chord with me was the following:

"What we stand for is the conviction that the freedom to criticize goes along with and strengthens our commitment. It does not undermine it. Knowing Torah well, inside and out (which means knowing the disagreements that Jews have had about Torah and adding to that conversation ourselves) – this is the key to building the future."

Dr. Eisen views divergence of opinion as the growth medium for allowing our movement to accept change, within the context of principles contained in the

(continued on p. 5)

Ha Kol Information

Kol Kneseth Israel is published monthly by Congregation *Kneseth Israel* of Elgin, Illinois. It is mailed to CKI members via first class postage.

Non-members who would like to receive a copy may do so by forwarding a yearly donation of \$18 (*Chai*) to cover cost of production and mailing.

Make checks payable to CKI.



All material for the May issue is due NO LATER than April 10, PLEASE.

All items should be e-mailed to ronrazowsky@gmail.com

Ha Kol Editor:
Ron Razowsky

Design/Production:
Jana McFarlane



Torah School News

Another story from Reverend Meyer that made me think about life and our *Torah* School.

A woman and a handful of her family and friends gathered on a grassy hillside overlooking Half Moon Bay in Northern California to bury her husband. When the graveside committal was done, the widow stood on the verdant slopes of Skyline Memorial Park and watched the autumn sun beginning to set over the blue Pacific. It was then she said, "Isn't it lovely? We picked this spot because it had such a great view." And then her voice wistfully trailed off. "Roger always wanted a table with a view."

"He always wanted a table with view." As I heard more about Roger's life, I realized that epitaph fit him perfectly. Not surprisingly, he worked hard. He made it through college on an academic scholarship, then slowly began to rise up the corporate ladder of a chemical engineering company. In time, he began to reap the harvest of his labors – larger and larger homes in nicer and nicer neighborhoods, more impressive cars, grander vacations – all the things he wanted. He didn't want the failure of his first marriage or one child in trouble with drugs and the other hardly ever speaking to him.

When he died, Roger had a big in-the-ground pool and a house whose dining room looked out on the Bay. He had a corner office that overlooked the Golden Gate Bridge, and he had enough clout at the best of restaurants to get "a table with view."

I guess there's a little bit of Roger in all of us. But in the busy routine of our days and our struggles to gain some external validation that says we've made it, maybe we put too much

emphasis on "a table with a view" and actually forget to "view the table we have."

Here we are at Passover, resurrecting those once-a-year recipes and setting the table we have with those intriguing Passover items that might be new and contemporary or inherited and sentimental. And soon all that marvelous food will grace the table, and we will all enjoy the feast.

Now take a step back and **view the table you have**. What an extraordinary epiphany! It isn't the table with a view that's important. It's viewing the table we have with all the blessings that have come our way.

How often I have been at meetings where principals have talked about their schools. I have walked through their synagogues and have seen their classrooms, equipment, facilities, and materials. "Wow," I've thought, "what we at CKI could do if we had a table with that view." But we don't. We're neither that kind of community nor do we have that kind of cash flow or financial cushion. So I stop thinking about that and say to myself, "View the table we have." And, my friends, we have set a table of which we can be so very proud.

The table of *Torah* School has an energy, life, vitality, and brightness that brings love and laughter and joy in learning. And we have a community that helps us in so many ways, by rolling up their sleeves to do work and by giving us donations that enable us to buy a little more, do a little more, give our children a little more.

As I view the table we have, I see some wonderful things for April. The children will again participate in Passover Stations, where they will learn about the major elements of the seder. On Friday evening the 13th, we will have

Kindergarten Consecration. That following Sunday, Marilyn Price, puppeteer, author and storyteller, will be here to do an entire morning of interactive sessions with our students. Following two extraordinary Confirmation Classes in March about Israel with Dr. Roddy Frankel and Gary Kenzer, Dr. Frankel returns to Confirmation to show the students how to navigate important sites to glean information about Israel and the Middle East and talk about anti-semitism. We have our last Junior Congregation of the year on Saturday morning, April 21st with Lucy Marshall as our "cantor." Then on Sunday, April 29th, vocalist, guitarist and Israeli folk dancer Naomi Bayer is here to entertain and teach the children. And looking ahead to May 6th, we all go to *Etz Chaim* in Lombard for the Walk With Israel!

We do have a blessed table! It's a pretty full one, for sure. And you see, sometimes the true wonder of our table is not so much where we are sitting and how gorgeous a view we might have, but what we are doing to improve the table we've set, and viewing it knowing that it will serve us well, and shower us with immeasurable rewards.

Let us teach our children that if they're asked which table is for them, this is the answer. "I will not live a life in pursuit of a table with a view. I will view the table I have." Let them reap the learning, the loving, and the laughter of that table – the one that teaches them about Judaism and being good, kind and compassionate people. Let that be their epitaph.

L'chaim,



Sisterhood News

Spring has arrived, and like our favorite yearly flowers that have begun to sprout outside, there is a variety of yearly springtime Sisterhood activities that are growing.

Tuesday, April 3rd marks the CKI Community Seder. Please reply to Anita Hornung if you can assist her in setting up. I'm sure she would appreciate your help.

The joint Hadassah/Sisterhood Seder takes place on Thursday, April 4th. Please note that we are seeking angels to offset the cost of this lovely evening. If you are able to make a contribution, either large or small, please contact Wanda Pitzele.

Sunday, May 13th marks our second annual Mother's Day flower sale. Show Mom you care by preordering a big, beautiful geranium that you can pick up on Mother's Day. This flower is guaranteed to bloom throughout the summer. Once again, please return the appropriate form by April 15th. They also make great teacher's gifts (School ends the following week!)

Also, mark your calendars for Tuesday, May 8th, for the *Torah* Fund dinner. All are welcome and encouraged to attend

our dairy pot luck dinner. We are guaranteed to learn a little about *Torah* Fund while enjoying each other's company and recipes! RSVP to Cheryl Stanczak.

Several Central Region dates to look forward to:

May 3rd – Open Board meeting and Taste and Tell at Pheasant Creek Clubhouse, Northbrook. All are encouraged to bring a Sisterhood cookbook and a dairy or *parve* recipe to share.

June 7-9 – "Summertime Express" Conference/Retreat at the Embassy Suites in Deerfield. If you are interested, please speak to us or Conference Co-chair Wanda Pitzele.

Also, thanks to Nina Finn for heading up the soup fundraiser. Thanks also to all her kitchen-mates, including Wendy Barrash, Amy Fosco, Sherry Wiesman, and Kara Gauthier. With their help and your support, we raised over \$300 for Sisterhood. We also cleared over \$100 on the *Purim* gift basket fundraiser.

Additionally, a great big thank you to the Sisterhood Nominating Committee

of Jana McFarlane, Wanda Pitzele, Anita Hornung, and Wendy Barrash, led by Committee Chair Maureen Rosenfeld. They diligently toiled and went above and beyond to present a phenomenal slate for Sisterhood's incoming Executive Board. Please remember to cast your vote at April 17th's meeting. For the proposed slate, please see the Sisterhood sidebar article.

Jana
Sandi

Sandi Phelan and Tina Wolf
Sisterhood Co-chairs

"When You Wish Upon A Star" – The CKI Wish List

The canopy for over the parking lot entrance door is no longer on the Wish List. It is now over the parking lot entrance door! Bill McFarlane worked on that wish, had the canopy made for us, and hung it up one cold Sunday morning in March! What a wonderful "touch" it is to that entrance. Several of the Confirmation Class students looked at it and remarked, "That's pretty cool."

THANK YOU, BILL, FOR THAT AND FOR ALL YOU DO FOR CKI!

- Matching couches for the library. Come take a look at color and size needed.
- **And...**many of our large round and long tables are really beginning to show their age and use. Several are no longer usable, and others are on their way out. Also, they are heavy and cumbersome. There are now tables that are large but lightweight and easy for just one person to move. We'd love to either start a fund for the eventual purchase of new lightweight tables for the Social Hall or have someone underwrite the purchase of these tables. Please let us know.

These are things that just enhance our home.

Thanks for all your help!

Sisterhood 2009-2011 Slate of Officers

I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of Sisterhood's Nominating Committee: Wendy Barrash, Anita Hornug, Jana McFarlane, and Wanda Pitzele. Our efforts resulted in the following slate of officers, which was presented at the March Sisterhood meeting, and which will be voted upon at the April meeting:

Co-Presidents: **Rochelle Fosco** and **Wanda Pitzele**

Executive Vice President: **Risa Cohen**

Treasurer: **Tina Wolf**

Hospitality VPs: **Wendy Barrash** and **Kara Gauthier**

Fundraising VPs: **Sherry Wiesman** and **Amy Fosco**

Programming VPs: **Mia Fossa** and **Susan Robbins**

Membership VPs: **Barb Razowsky** and **Deborah Stone**

Financial Secretary: **Adele Stein**

Corresponding & Recording Secretary: **Jana McFarlane**

Immediate Past Co-Presidents: **Sandi Phelan** and **Tina Wolf**

Please attend the April 17th Sisterhood meeting in order to vote on accepting this slate. Also, mark your calendars for Sunday, June 10th when Installation takes place for both the Sisterhood Board and the new CKI Congregation Board.

USY and Kadima News

Last month USY held their annual *Purim* Jail fundraiser, and in so doing they raised money for *Tikun Olam* that surpassed the total raised the previous year. Later in the month, USY and Kadima had fun at a joint program playing Laser Tag in Hoffman Estates.

This month, USY holds a new program in conjunction with their monthly Board Meeting: the Yeast Feast! We meet at Nick's Pizza to enjoy some delicious pizza, after having eaten *matzah* for the the 8 days of *Pesach*. Eighth graders: remember that you're invited to join in on all USY events now.

On Monday, April 16th, the Chicago Regional USY holds a *Siyum Ha Torah*, the dedication of its own *sefer Torah*. This *Torah*, which originated in Romania over 150 years ago, has now been restored, and it has found a new home in our youth community. A member

from each chapter in the Chicago region physically contributes to the completion of the *Torah* on this night by assisting the *sofer* in writing one letter in the scroll. Our USY President, Molly Rosenfeld, represents CKI in fulfilling this *mitzvot*.

Sunday, April 22nd is the date for our final joint chapter event of the year: Lunch and Bowling at Elgin Lanes for USY & Kadima. Fifth graders are invited to attend as a welcome and introduction to Kadima, which they are eligible to join next year.

Finally, on the weekend of April 27-29, *Kinnus* will take place - the culminating event of the year for our Regional USY.

Looking ahead to May, elections for 2007-2008 USY Officers will be held during the Board Meeting on May 7th at 8pm. All members from 8th-12th grade are encouraged to attend and VOTE!

CKI COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ADULT EDUCATION - Barbara Sharf

BY-LAWS - Malcolm Morris

CEMETERY - Ben Rifken

ENDOWMENT - Charles Zimmerman

FUND RAISING - Anita Hornung (New Donor Tree)

HA KOL EDITOR - Ron Razowsky

HOUSE - Dan Marshall & Carl Schweinler

MEMBERSHIP - Dr. Joe Rosenfeld

PUBLICITY - Melinda Abrams and Marcie Monteith

RITUAL - Paul Glaser

SOCIAL ACTION - Sherry Wiesman, Fern Raben and Tina Wolf

YOUTH ACTIVITIES - Joe & Maureen Rosenfeld

To contact a Committee Chairperson, call CKI at 847-741-5656

And then on Sunday, May 20th, *Kadima* is hosting a Last Day of School Party at Chuck E. Cheese for ALL grades of *Torah* School.

Please be in touch with any questions or suggestions.

Maureen Rosenfeld, *Youth Chair*
847-888-1950 or JustSayMo18@cs.com

From Our President

(cont'd from p. 2)

Torah. Change takes place not by abandoning *Halachah* (Jewish Law) but by finding new directions based on that law. From this idea he articulated three main challenges that he is setting for JTS:

1) *Defining what is Conservative Judaism* – He is unwilling to settle for the traditional explanation, which simply states that we fall somewhere between Reform and Orthodox Judaism. In his words, "Come on: we have a proud history, a history of ideas, of values and commitments, which distinguishes us. I think that we know that this is a movement that really does stand for something." I believe Dr. Eisen is concerned about the ambiguity that many of us see in our movement, the perception that it lacks a clear mission.

2) *Working on improving the quality of our institutions* - Here he is talking about all institutions, including synagogues, camps, schools and, yes, even the quality of clergy produced by JTS. While recognizing that there is a need to improve he describes it not as a crisis but rather as an opportunity:

"We all know that we are not perfect, and there are many occasions where we know what excellence looks like and we know we fall far short of it. Frankly, I find this very encouraging. Because if we were living up to our full potential there would be no room for growth and no way to hope that if we are more excellent, more Jews will find their way to our doors."

3) *Restructuring and Reorganizing* – Dr. Eisen used the example of Stanford University which, during his tenure, had gone through multiple reorganizations. As someone from the corporate world, I tend to view the term "reorganization" with as much enthusiasm as a visit to the dentist's office. However, here the context is more about the approach taken when dealing with Jewish issues in the modern world,

We are trying to fit 21st-century ideas inside structures and organizations that are fifty and 100 years old. And if they don't fit, there is a reason for that. So, here is another area where we have a lot of work to do. Here is another area that fills me with confidence.

The message here is, taking a frank look at our institutions, including those at JTS, and being open to making changes where it is necessary—not being hidebound by doing things the same way simply because that's always the way they've been done.

Perhaps you have noticed that the Chancellor Elect has not provided a clear-cut road map but defined some basic questions that need to be addressed by our movement. He is asking us to participate in this process by sending in our ideas and questions to the JTS Web site: www.jtsa.edu/progs/phi/areisen/facon.shtml

Where would you like to see our movement change (or not change)? How can our Conservative Movement become more meaningful to you in your life and those of our own community? Those are the questions that Dr. Eisen is asking us.

Perry Pitzele
President

Earth Day 2007

When we baby-boomers were little, the longevity of the State of Israel was far more uncertain than today. In that era, we young children earnestly saved our dimes to purchase "stamps" for *Tu BiSh'vat* tree certificates. My own children could never quite understand how spring could come to Israel (but not Elgin) in February. As a result, we developed a family custom of always planting a tree or shrub on Earth Day and blessing it in hopes that it would flourish.

In March, the kids and I would make a pilgrimage to a garden center. I also allowed them to select their own vegetable favorites. Those little envelopes held such large expectations! Tomatoes were planted in little starter cups in our basement, dutifully watered (and often accidentally drown). By April we turned the soil in the garden and planted snow peas, carrots, spinach and radishes. The children never managed to plant the seeds within the straight furrows, but God germinated the seeds just the same. As my children matured, various neighborhood pre-schoolers replaced my children as "gardening assistants." Trust me, there is nothing quite like arriving home on a spring day, to be welcomed by small children in your driveway awaiting your arrival asking, "Shar-we, can we garden today?" I hope each of you has the joyous experience of planting with a small child, because you don't have to be little to play in the mud.



Earth Day this year is Sunday, April 22nd. As we go to press, a variety of activities are being planned to help your family observe the day. Come that Sunday to the Social Action table in the Social Hall and pick up materials and ideas. We often ask what we personally can do to help in any given issue. Change the light bulbs in your fixtures to long-lasting CFL "pig-tails." Carpool or bike more frequently. Recycle more often. Invest your 401(k) in socially conscious "green" corporations. Watch the film "An Inconvenient Truth" to learn more about the effects of CO² on our planet. Did you know that you can require ComEd to supply your residence with electricity manufactured by windmill power? Please plan to make several positive changes on April 22nd. *Make a commitment* to help lessen greenhouse gases. Saving the planet is not the responsibility of Superman; all of us need to help.

Darfur update

As this message goes to press, we are preparing to celebrate our joyous festive holiday, Passover. But not all peoples of the world have reasons to celebrate. Unfortunately, evil knows no holiday. The situation in Darfur has not improved. Aid workers from Doctors Without Borders (www.doctorswithoutborders.org/), who have become the intended targets of the Janjaweed militia, continue to provide aid to displaced persons in refugee camps in both the Sudan and Chad. The US Holocaust Memorial Museum (www.ushmm.org/) has a sobering eyewitness pictorial account as well as alerts, essays and educational materials. An additional educational resource is Darfur Peace and Development (<http://darfurpeaceanddevelopment.org/home.php>), which presents educational information from a non-sectarian and non-political perspective. Learn how to effectively petition, or write to your congresspersons at: www.savedarfur.org/content. Still looking for additional ways to become involved? Join an action committee at: www.savedarfur.org/page/group/ThouShaltNotBeaBystander. Pick up Darfur handouts, which are available in the Social Hall.

Feed the Hungry

It is uncomfortable to think of hungry individuals in our community, but unfortunately, the need is great. Remember the important *mitzvah* of feeding the hungry. Thank you to all who joined us on *Purim* and donated Mac-and-Cheese *groggers* for the

Elgin Food Pantry. I hope you have by now cleaned your cupboards for Passover. After the holiday, please donate your non-perishable Passover items to the food cupboard. We will deliver it to the Food Pantry for you. Our Food Pantry Collection Cupboard is located to your immediate right as you enter through the parking lot entrance. In the year 2000, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization estimated the number of starving in the world at 826 MILLION people. We can all make a difference through our continuing donations, as well as through our prayers. Please pray to end hunger throughout the world.

Sherry (Shar-we) Wiesman

MILK AND HONEY

- Israel has the third highest rate of entrepreneurship – and the highest rate among women and among people over 55 - in the world.
- Relative to its population, Israel is the largest immigrant-absorbing nation on earth. Immigrants come in search of democracy, religious freedom, and economic opportunity.

More next month...

CKI BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT, Perry Pitzele

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Co-VPs/Sisterhood,

Sandi Phelan & Tina Wolf

VP/Education, Anita Hornung

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Carole Burstein

TREASURER, Marc Zemel

FINANCIAL SECRETARY,

Chuck Zimmerman

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT,

Paul Glaser

Ritually Speaking

The recitation of *yizkor* prayers on *Yom Kippur* always seems to draw a large crowd at synagogues everywhere. There are some who, though never coming to any other service the entire year, and not even formally members of a synagogue, will make every effort to attend a *Yom Kippur yizkor* service.

Actually, *yizkor*, a special memorial prayer for one's deceased relatives, is recited in the synagogue four times a year: on *Yom Kippur*, but also on the final days of *Sukkot*, Passover, and *Shavuot*.

This year, the final day of Passover is Tuesday, April 10th. To follow *halakhah* and custom, a special festival service, including *yizkor* prayers, is to be held at CKI that morning beginning at 8:30. To accommodate those who must go to work afterwards, the service concludes at 9:30.

To insure that services conclude as scheduled, it helps immeasurably to have as many people as possible be here at the scheduled start. "*Yizkor*" actually means "remember." So remember your loved ones by attending services on the morning of April 10th, and remember to be there for the start, at 8:30.

Paul Glaser, *Ritual Chair*

There is
NO Senior
Lunch in April.

Roth Scholarship Applications Available

Any graduating senior pursuing a post-high school education is eligible for the **Roth Scholarship**, awarded each spring. Contact the CKI office for an application. Applications are due to the office by **April 30th**. The winner(s) of the award are announced at the Board Meeting on June 5th.

The Roth Scholarship is given each year in memory of Lillian and Jerome Roth.



The Rabbi's Calendar

- 4/2 Siyyum Bechorim
- 4/3 6p Community Seder
- 4/10 8:30a-9:30a Shacharit service. *Yizkor*
- 4/15 11:30a Rabbi's class w/ Hope Church Youth Group. All invited
- 4/15 Yom Hashoah. Beth Tikvah
- 4/17 7:30p-9p Judaism 101
- 4/20 Wiseman naming
- 4/22 10:30a B'nai Mitzvah Parent Seminar
- 4/24 7:30p-9p Judaism 101
- 4/29 10:30a Understanding Hebrew

Greeting the Bride

"Although my parents could never understand why we were doing all this and couldn't make head or tail of it, they always loved Friday night. They looked forward to it. And there wasn't a Friday night that they were here that my mother didn't come into the kitchen and give me a hug and a kiss before dinner."

—Sandy Goodlick
in *The Art of Jewish Living: The Shabbat Seder*

Parashat HaShavu'a – Weekly Torah Portions

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| April 7
19 Nisan | <i>Shabbat Hol Hamoed Pesah</i> – 33:12-34:26
<i>Maftir</i> : Numbers 28:19-25
<i>Haftarah</i> : Ezekiel 37:1-14 |
| April 14
26 Nisan | <i>Shemini</i> – Leviticus 11:1-47
<i>Haftarah</i> : II Samuel 6:1-7:17 |
| April 21
3 Iyar | <i>Tazria-Metzora</i> – Leviticus 14:33-15:33
<i>Haftarah</i> : II Kings 7:3-20 |
| April 28
10 Iyar | <i>Aharey Mot-Kedoshim</i> – Leviticus 19:15-20:27
<i>Haftarah</i> : Amos 9:7-15 |

Honorable Menschen

...to **DR. RODDY FRANKEL** for giving of his time to present thought-provoking and insightful sessions on Israel, Jimmy Carter, and anti-semitism to adults on Sunday mornings and to the Confirmation Class on Monday evenings.

...to **DAN MARSHALL** and **BILL McFARLANE** for everything they do to keep our building and facilities in working order.

...to the **ADULT HEBREW CLASS** for helping finance the professional games for the Purim Carnival.

...to **BILL McFARLANE** for loaning us the Foosball and Air Hockey games for the Purim Carnival and to **Bill and Jana** for donating one of those Air Hockey tables to raffle off at the Carnival.

...to **JUDI SCHWEINLER** for donating a long file cabinet that will be used downstairs to store records.

...to **ALL THE STUDENTS** who worked for the Purim Carnival: Sophia Kohn, Laura Cox, Deanna Phelan, Robyn Phelan, Lisa Gerlach, Rachel Gauthier, Riva Kohn, Danielle Stone, Jenna Mussar, Emily Burkner, Sara Shankman, Ethan Finn, Jacob McFarlane, Marlee Gauthier, Alex Guralnick, Lucy Marshall, Jessica Shankman, Bill Wolf, Sara Gerlach, Brittany Zeoli, Leah Schillmoeller, Rachel Pitzele, Ben Schillmoeller, Joel Seigle, Molly Rosenfeld, Matt Mussar.

...to **ALL THE ADULTS** who worked at the Purim Carnival: Anita Hornung, Paul Glaser, Bill McFarlane, Ira Fosco, Chuck Miller, Perry Pitzele, Arthur Shankman, Ed Wolf, Tina Wolf, Fern Raben, Deborah Stone, Hillary Schneider, Maureen Rosenfeld, Joe Rosenfeld.

...to the **PERFORMERS** in our first ever Purim Talent Show: Shelbi Fosco (MC and student who had the original idea to do this), Jacob Abrams, Ashley (granddaughter of David Ashkenaz and Roselle McLaughlin), Joey Miller, C'lee Miller, Lisa Gerlach, Riva Kohn, Jenna Mussar, Zachary Kohn, Becky Hymer, Ellie Evans, Lucy Marshall, Rabbi Kohn & Riva, Katie Moore, 3rd grade and their teacher, Jessica Astrug – Nicole Bear, Jacob Fosco, Carolyn Ginder, Emma Hillman, Spencer Kravis, Sam Monteith, David Schillmoeller, Rachel Schillmoeller.

(If we missed anyone, we apologize. It is a big event and so much goes on. Thank you!)

What Is The Clara Wechter Educational Fund?

The Clara Wechter Educational Fund was started over 50 years ago by Lillian Roth in tribute to her friend. Clara Wechter had been President of Sisterhood for over 13 years. This has never been repeated.

Clara had been raised in a Reform environment under the tutoring of Rabbi Abraham Rose. She assumed a leadership position, as she could not let the efforts and innumerable hours of work of her predecessors such as Esther Epstein, Katie Liebovitz, Annie Kowitz and Mary Greenberg die. The fund is to be used for Torah School needs. Over the years students and teachers have received books and scholarships. The television set, chalkboards, scholarships, video recorder, visual aids, speakers and many entertainers have all been paid by this fund. Of recent memory is the magician we had for the opening of Sunday School.

There is no minimum donation for cards to be sent for any occasion: *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*, get well, sympathy or any other.

To support this fund, please call or send a check to: Barbara Sharf, 1101 W. Bartlett Rd #425., Bartlett, IL 60103, Phone: 630-540-3082

Neshama Carlebach Concert

(cont'd from p. 1)

- \$750--six premium tickets with invitations to the post concert reception, special parking, and a 1/2 page ad or greeting in the program
- \$500--four premium tickets with invitations to the post concert reception, special parking, and a 1/2 page ad or greeting in the program
- \$250--2 premium tickets with invitations to the post concert reception, special parking, and a program listing.

For information on the Seltzer Music Endowment call Barbara Maring at 847-888-1793 or Helen Lindow at 815-568-8848.

Contributions to support the Neshama Carlebach concert should be payable to the **Seltzer Music Endowment Fund** and mailed to CKI at 330 Division St., Elgin, IL 60120.

Ticket pricing:

\$54.00 – Premium tickets include an invitation to the post concert reception

\$36.00 – Adult tickets

\$18.00 – Full time students 22 years old and under

Group pricing is available.

For **ticket reservations**, contact the **Elgin Community College ticket office** at 847-622-0300 or go online at www.elgin.edu and click on ARTS CENTER.



50+ GROUP*

Sunday, April 22, 2007 at 4:00 p.m.

Wear your hiking shoes! We go to **Bluff Spring Fen** for an easy walk before dinner at the home of Herb and Medina Gross.

Bluff Spring Fen is an Illinois Nature Preserve owned by the City of Elgin and the Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. A "fen" is a special wetland community created by water seeping from the ground that is alkaline (not acidic, as in a bog) and has a high mineral content. The ecosystem surrounding the spring harbors many unique and rare plant species. In addition, surrounding the Bluff Spring Fen

community there are dry-hill prairies and oak savannas. Naturalist Steve Byers says the view here is the view the pioneers had when they first came to Illinois.

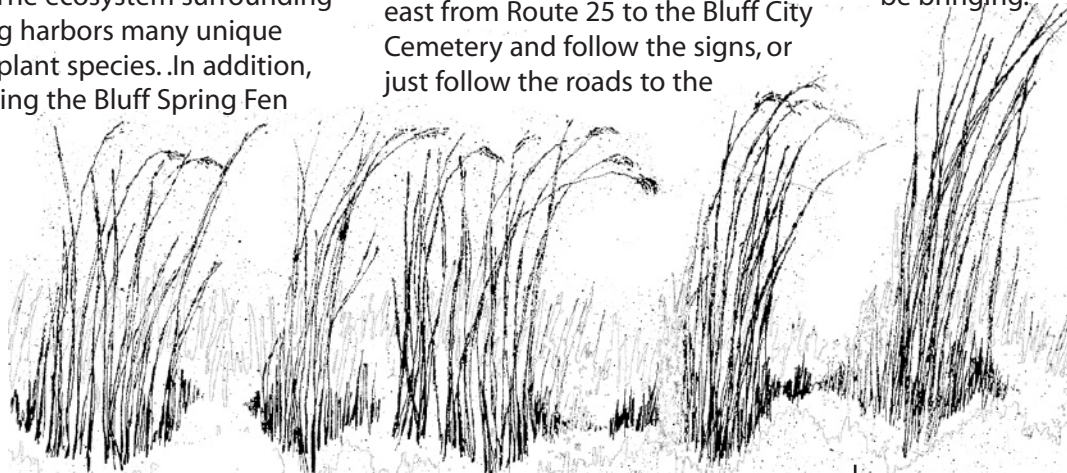
Our guide will be Doug Taron, who has been a steward of the Fen since 1982 and is the Curator of Biology at the Peggy Notebart Nature Museum in Chicago.

To get to the Fen, take Bluff City Boulevard south from Route 20 or east from Route 25 to the Bluff City Cemetery and follow the signs, or just follow the roads to the

southwest corner of the cemetery.

Parking is limited at the Fen. Please arrange carpools beforehand (check with Medina) or meet at the synagogue parking lot. The tour is scheduled for 4 pm. If you are late, you will have to catch up with us. Afterwards we will have a dairy potluck dinner at the home of Herb and Medina Gross, 833 Prospect, Elgin. RSVP to Medina (847) 695-1316 and let her know what you will be bringing.

*The Very Fenny Fifties



Annual Torah Fund Event

Please plan on joining our Sisterhood women **Tuesday, May 8**, for our **Annual Torah Fund Dinner!** This year we are convening at the home of **Tina Wolf**. There will be invitations sent through the mail, but, please, save the date!! We will do our enjoyable dairy pot-luck meal, so get out your favorite recipe and plan on joining us!

This year we will see the short video called "*The Tribe*." It is an unorthodox, unauthorized history of the Jewish people and the Barbie doll...in about fifteen minutes. It is a film by Tiffany Shlain. What can the most successful doll on the planet show us about being Jewish today? Narrated by Peter Coyote, the film mixes old school narration with a new school visual style.

The video weaves together archival footage, graphics, animation, Barbie dioramas, and slam poetry to take audiences on an electric ride through the complex history of both the Barbie doll and the Jewish people - from Biblical times to present day. By tracing Barbie's history, the film sheds light on what it means to be an American Jew in the 21st Century.

This promises to be an enjoyable evening of socializing, food (of course), entertainment, and education!
SAVE THE DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2007

Sincerely,
Cheryl Stanczak
CKI Sisterhood Torah Fund Chair
Central Region Torah Fund V.P.

SHOP CKI TO SHOP AMAZON.COM

Don't forget! You can shop Amazon.com for books, DVDs, and a world of other items and help support CKI. This past January, CKI received its first-ever check from Amazon thanks to many of you who shopped that site. It's easy! Simply go to CKI's website, www.ckielgin.org, and click the link to Amazon.com. Then, any order you place will result in a donation to CKI. It won't cost you a penny more! Remember that you must access the Amazon website through CKI's website first.

Donation Information

I/We would like to make a donation to the following CKI fund:

Fund: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please indicate In Honor of

In Memory of

Make your check payable to: Congregation Kneseth Israel
330 Division Street, Elgin IL 60120

Consider a gift to the **Congregation Kneseth Israel Endowment Fund** through one of our income for life plans:

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS in which you transfer funds into a trust or mutual fund that pays you income.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES in which you purchase an annuity and receive income.

All have significant tax advantages.

For further information, please call or write:

Charles Zimmerman, *Chairman*, phone 847-741-5656
Congregation Kneseth Israel Endowment Fund, 330 Division Street, Elgin, IL 60120

Special Funds

The following funds are available for your generous donations:

Seltzer Music & Cultural Arts Endowment Fund – Jewish cultural enrichment programs

CKI Education Fund – Support *Torah* School

Clara Wechter Education Fund – Support *Torah* School
Endowment Fund – See the President

General Fund – For multi-purpose use

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund – Needs decided by Rabbi

Lee Miller Book Fund – New books for Library

Lillian Roth Scholarship Fund – See the President

Major Gifts – \$5,000 and up. See the President

Memorial Plaques – \$300.00

Prayer Book Fund – *Siddur* is \$25; *Chumash* is \$60

Shalom Academy – Pre-school Jewish Education

Simon C. & Ruth L. Kaplan Torah Fund – Repair of *Torah* scrolls

Sisterhood Flower Fund – Pulpit flowers

Sisterhood Vision Fund – Large-type *Siddur* \$50

Tree of Life – Leaf is \$100; Rock is \$1,000

USY/Kadima Youth Group – Support for programs for our United Synagogue Youth

April Birthdays

- 1 Robyn Phelan
- 1 Deanna Phelan
- 1 Doreen Stein
- 1 Shari Heiss
- 4 Alvin Hass
- 5 Bruce Freeman
- 5 Samantha Guralnick
- 6 Marcie Monteith
- 7 Judy Rubenstein-Gantz
- 8 Karen Bender
- 11 Milton Perlman
- 13 Benjamin Berg
- 13 Ronald Burstein
- 14 Abigail Evans
- 15 Danielle Stone
- 16 Ellen Silberman
- 16 Eric Lesser
- 17 Alan Galper
- 17 Laura Newman
- 18 Cheryl Stanczak
- 22 Pearle Brody
- 22 Eric-Jan Ginder
- 23 Brittany Zeoli
- 23 David Ashkenaz
- 23 Mitchell Hwalisz
- 25 Talia Fossa
- 25 Patrick Lewis
- 26 Joshua Funk
- 27 Chuck Gauthier
- 28 Phyllis Lesser
- 29 Tina Wolf

April Anniversaries

- 3 Ira & Amy Fosco
- 5 Chuck & Kara Gauthier
- 6 Al & Ruth Zimbler
- 7 Michael & Marcie Monteith
- 11 Ron & Fern Raben
- 24 Don & Nancy Moore

Acknowledgements

Generous Donations

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Marion Bromberg

Joe & Maureen Rosenfeld
Jana & Bill McFarlane
Chuck & Kara Gauthier
Lynn & Paul Glaser
Ed & Pearle Brody
Jerry & Rose Goldstein

Speedy Recovery to Sarah Haffron

Ed & Pearle Brody

In memory of Betty Novak

Jana & Bill McFarlane
Maureen & Joe Rosenfeld
Jerry & Rose Goldstein

In memory of Bobby Rosengarten

Jerry & Rose Goldstein

Mazal Tov to Shirley & Burt Friedman on the birth of a new granddaughter

Ed & Pearle Brody

GENERAL FUND FOR ROOF AND BUILDING REPAIRS

In gratitude for winning the air hockey table

The Wolf family

In memory of Marion Bromberg

The Wolf family

Donations

Len & Laurie Winner
Chuck & Nancy Zimmerman
Barb & Paul Maring
Brad Burker & Anita Hornung
Fely & Walter Arnold
Rochelle Fosco
Wanda & Perry Pitzele
Maureen & Joe Rosenfeld
Rose & Jerry Goldstein
Herman & Marian Loeb
Ed & Tina Wolf
Herb & Medina Gross
Jana & Bill McFarlane

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Betty Novak

Michael & Marla Finger

ABRAHAM M. & ANNA ROSE SELTZER
MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND
Helen & Manfred Lindow

LEE MILLER BOOK FUND

In honor of Lisa & Dan Schulman

Adeline Kohlhagen

CKI EDUCATION FUND

To Nina Finn, for a complete and successful recovery

Fern & Ron Raben

To Lily Marlene Flynn for a speedy recovery

Fern & Ron Raben

In Memory of Marion Bromberg

Fern & Ron Raben
Emily, Sarah, Anita & Brad Burker
Len & Laurie Winner

In memory of Marion Bromberg, "the best gal"

Jack Hornung
Ron, Karen, Jason & Laura Sigal

In honor of Fern Raben's birthday

Emily, Sarah, Anita, & Brad Burker
Ron, Karen, Jason & Laura Sigal

CLARA WECHTER EDUCATION FUND

In honor of my new great granddaughter, Rachel Heidi

Adeline Kohlhagen

SIMON C. & RUTH L. KAPLAN TORAH PERPETUATION FUND

In memory of Marion Bromberg

Lois & Steven Troy
Adeline Kohlhagen

TREE OF LIFE

In Honor Of
FERN & RON RABEN
FOR UNWAVERING SUPPORT
OF SYNAGOGUE & CHILDREN
From Scott & Joey Miller

In Our Family

HAMAKOM YENAHEIM ETKHEM –
CONDOLENCES

The congregation expresses condolences to the families of:
...**Betty Novak**, aunt of **Ron (Carole) Burstein**. She was also the sister of **Alvin (Gert) Burstein** of blessed memory.

Beth Berkson, wife of **Dr. Michael Berkson**

May God comfort you and may their memory be a blessing

R'FUAH SH'LEIMAH – GET WELL

Fern Raben	Sherry Wiesman
Ben Rifken	Sarah Haffron
Rose Goldstein	Shirley Friedman
Lisa Schulman	LilyMarlene Flynn
Sarah Frisch	Irv Durchslag
Al Zeman	Herman Loeb
Roselle McLaughlin	Ashkenaz

May God bring speedy and complete healing to you and all others who are ill among the people of Israel.

We Send You To Hebrew School Because...

- Hebrew School is just as important, and in some ways may be more important, than public school.
- You are so fortunate that there is a State of Israel in your lifetime, and going to Hebrew School is a great way to strengthen your connection to Israel and to the Israelis—by learning the history, songs, and stories of our homeland and its people.

More next month...

Sincere thanks to the many members of our CKI family who graciously extended sympathy to our family on the loss of my beloved sister Marion Bromberg.

Your generous donations in memory of Marion are deeply appreciated.
– Phyllis & Don Lesser

Yahrtzeiten

We recall with loving memory those whose yahrtzeiten are commemorated during the coming weeks, and those whose names are read in the Synagogue at Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services during the month of April. It is appropriate for members of their families to be present when these names are read.

Mar 31	Apr 1	Lena Simon	Apr 7	Apr 8	Pearl Rosenberg	Apr 21	Apr 21	Belle Stern Freund
Mar 31	Apr 1	Anna Rubnitz*	Apr 7	Apr 8	D.Louis Steinberg*	Apr 21	Apr 21	Abe Strickman*
Mar 31	Apr 2	Bernard LeVine*	Apr 7	Apr 8	Leo Karnal	Apr 21	Apr 21	Louis Vopner*
Mar 31	Apr 2	Karen Schwerdlin	Apr 7	Apr 8	Dorothy Raffelson*	Apr 21	Apr 22	David Brazner*
Mar 31	Apr 3	Emil Simon	Apr 7	Apr 11	Bella Durchslag	Apr 21	Apr 24	Herman Fischer*
Mar 31	Apr 3	Dr. Howard Ravenscraft	Apr 7	Apr 11	Melvin Pitzele	Apr 21	Apr 26	Paul Fields*
Mar 31	Apr 3	Irving Schwartz	Apr 7	Apr 11	Marion Braun*	Apr 21	Apr 26	Rose Miller*
Mar 31	Apr 4	Sidney Jay Blumberg	Apr 7	Apr 13	Bayle Boskind	Apr 21	Apr 27	Arthur Levine*
Mar 31	Apr 4	Jacob Rifken*	Apr 7	Apr 13	David Rosenberg*	Apr 28	Apr 28	Jennie Krasnick*
Mar 31	Apr 5	Edward S. Fox*	Apr 7	Apr 13	Lena Bochner*	Apr 28	Apr 28	Mary Fischer*
Mar 31	Apr 5	Moses Schlossberg*	Apr 7	Apr 13	Ed Narofsky*	Apr 28	Apr 28	Harry Zimpler*
Mar 31	Apr 6	Joseph Sklute*	Apr 14	Apr 14	Ruth Mintzer	Apr 28	Apr 29	Theodore Garson
Apr 7	Apr 7	Anna Schack*	Apr 14	Apr 15	Herold Rifken*	Apr 28	Apr 30	Al Kowalsky
			Apr 14	Apr 15	Milton Ginsberg*	Apr 28	Apr 30	Charlotte Mariam Udesky
			Apr 14	Apr 16	Louis J. Schwartz*	Apr 28	May 1	Phyllis Mirkin
			Apr 14	Apr 17	Bessie Silvan*	Apr 28	May 1	Sarah Ableman*
			Apr 14	Apr 18	Stella Bell	Apr 28	May 3	Lyle L. Miller
			Apr 14	Apr 19	Leah Kucuy	Apr 28	May 3	Emil Simon*
			Apr 14	Apr 19	Pnina Mariasis	Apr 28	May 4	Molly Morris
			Apr 14	Apr 19	Nahum Mariasis	Apr 28	May 4	Bert Sigal
			Apr 14	Apr 19	Copol Leavitt	Apr 28	May 4	Betty Schaffner
			Apr 14	Apr 19	Carl Cohen	Apr 28	May 4	Diana Weisner*
			Apr 14	Apr 20	Marc Garson			



There are two dates listed above on our *yahrtzeit* list. The first is the **day of the service at which the name are read**. The second is the **actual date of the *yahrtzeit*, and memorial candles should be lit on the preceding evening**. An asterisk after a name indicates that a plaque is affixed to the Memorial Tablet.

KINDLE THE SHABBAT CANDLES

April 67:03 PM
 April 137:11 PM
 April 207:19 PM
 April 277:26 PM

NOTE: Shabbat ends one (1) hour after candlelighting time on Saturday night.

JUF Creates Israel-Focused Grant Program Joining Chicago and Israeli Teens

What if someone gave you \$25,000 to help make Israel a better place? Would you spend it, for instance, on food programs for Israel's hungry? Rehabilitation for people wounded in terror attacks or during wartime? Literacy programs for Ethiopian immigrants who are among the poorest people in Israel?

These are some of the issues that 20 teenagers from the Chicago area and 10 from JUF's Partnership 2000 region of *Kiryat Gat-Lechish* and *Shafir* will examine this coming fall in *Kolot*: The Israel-Centered Teen Giving Circle.

Through *Kolot*, the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago will give the American and Israeli teens a minimum of \$25,000 to allocate to Israeli non-profits. The group, which will operate as a real philanthropic foundation, will jointly research Israel's needs, and learn about philanthropy and grant-making.

The program is made possible by a generous anonymous donation to The Centennial Campaign. Federation capital and endowment initiative to provide for the future of Chicago's Jewish community, and the Fel Pro/Mecklenburder Foundation.

"Chicago teens will work side by side with their Israeli peers to alleviate hardship in Israel and make Israel stronger and more vibrant," said Hallie Shapiro Devir, director of Federation's youth Initiatives. "We are asking them to use their passions, their abilities and their voices to put their ideals in action."

Over winter break, the Chicago teens will travel to Israel on a fact-finding mission, joining their Israeli peers on site visits to non-profits and performing community service. In the spring, the Israelis will come to Chicago where they will learn about Chicago's Jewish community.

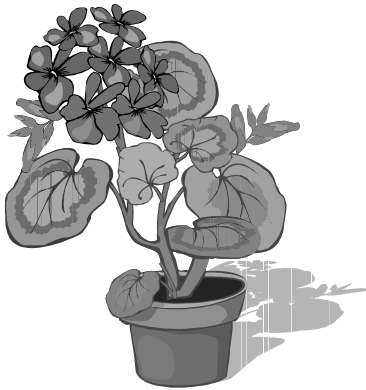
To apply, teenagers must be entering the 10th-12th grades in the 2007-08 school year. They will be expected to make an anonymous contribution to the grant pool which can be as low as \$10.00. Every dollar personally contributed by the American teens will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$1,000 per participant by a local private foundation. The program is free, but students will be expected to pay for their own travel expenses which are expected to cost about \$1,800. Scholarships are available.

JUF is Illinois' largest social services provider. Each year, JUF-supported social-welfare education and relief programs serve 300,000 Jews and non-Jews throughout the Chicago area and more than 2 million people in Israel and around the world.

To apply for *Kolot*, please contact Hallie Shapiro Devir at (312) 444-2904 or at hallieshapiro@juf.org. The application deadline is June 1.

Surprise Mom for

Mother's Day



Will Mom be spending another Mother's Day at Hebrew School?

Even if she's not, make her day special by giving her a beautiful, **pink** or **red** geranium for Mother's Day. Each plant will come beautifully decorated in a 6½-inch pot and is guaranteed to be full.

These are not your average geraniums.

Please return the attached form and check to **CKI Sisterhood** to: Tina Wolf, 5N336 Sundance Ct., St. Charles, IL 60175

Please respond BEFORE April 15th

P.S. They make great teacher's gifts. (School ends the following week, too!)

Name _____

Phone # _____

of geraniums @ \$14 each _____ Pink _____ Red _____

Total Due _____

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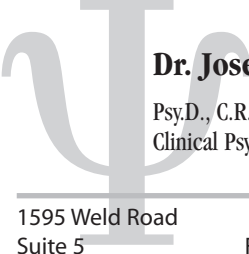


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April 2007

Shabbat Services: **Friday evenings 7:30 pm**
Saturday mornings 9:30 am

1	NO SCHOOL		17	PICK UP FUNDABILITY CERTIFICATES	
2	<i>Siyyum Bechorim</i>			Sisterhood Meeting	7:00 pm
3	Office Closed <i>PESACH</i> CKI COMMUNITY SEDER	6:00 pm	20	<i>Ima & Me</i> Naming of Evelyn & Gwyneth Wiseman during services	10:30 am 7:30 pm
4	<i>PESACH</i> Day 2 – Office Closed		21	Junior Congregation	
5	Women's Seder	6:00 pm		<i>Dalet</i>	9:30 am
8	<i>Torah</i> School resumes			<i>Alef, Bet, Gimel</i> in Library	10:00 am
10	ORDER FUNDABILITY CERTIFICATES <i>Shacharit Service. Yizkor</i>	8:30-9:30 am	22	<i>Yom Hazikaron</i> <i>B'nai Mitzvah</i> Parent Seminar <i>Kadima & USY</i> Bowling 50's+ club	10:30 am Noon 4:00 pm
	CKI Board Meeting	7:30 pm	23	<i>Yom Ha'atzmaut</i>	
	USY Board Meeting & Yeast Feast	8:00 pm	24	Judaism 101	7:30-9:00 pm
11	Hebrew School (Kitchen Turnback)		27- 29	<i>Kinnus</i>	
13	<i>Ima & Me</i>	10:30 am	29	Naomi Bayer Understanding Hebrew	during school 10:30 am
	Family Services – Kindergarten Consecration	7:30 pm	30	Confirmation class	6:30 pm
15	Marilyn Price	during school			
	Rabbi's Class with Hope Church Youth Group	11:30 am			
	<i>Yom HaShoah</i> at <i>Beth Tikvah</i>	7:30 pm			
	300 Hillcrest, Hoffman Estates				
16	Confirmation class	6:30 pm			
	<i>Siyyum Ha Torah</i>				
				<i>Drs. Albert & Frieda Simon Adult Study Group</i>	
				Sunday mornings	10:00 AM