

Kol Kneseth Israel

"The Voice of Kneseth Israel"

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I am Not Going to Get Up Today!

by Dr. Seuss
modified by the CKI Education Committee
read by Anita Hornung at Ron Raben's
retirement party on Sunday, May 18, 2008

Please let me be.
Please go away.
I am NOT going to get up today!

The alarm can ring.
The birds can peep.
A shofar can blow.
But my pillow is deep.
Today's the day I'm going to sleep.

I don't care if kids are getting up
right now all over town.
I'm retired, I've earned my rest...
I am staying down.

All around the world
they're getting up.
And that's okay with me.
Let the kids and teachers get up all they want
in Haifa or Tel Aviv.

Let the kids get up in Elgin
...and Schaumburg.
I simply do not care
Let them get up for Hebrew school.
But not me, I'm staying here.

I've never been so sleepy,
not since the boys were small.
You can take away my breakfast
...bagels, lox, and all.

Fern can tickle my feet.
Fern can shake my bed.
Fern can pour cold water on my curly head.
But she'll be wasting her time.
So go away!
I am NOT going to get up today!

In bed is where I'm going to stay.
And I don't care what the Pitzeles say!
They never wake me anyway.

Let them just try to wake
me.
Let them scream and yelp.
They can yell from now to
Chanukah
but it isn't going to help.

I don't choose to be up
walking.
I don't choose to be up
talking
I don't choose to be up
schmoozing
I simply plan on snoozing

So won't you kindly go
away.
I am NOT going to get up today!

You won't get me up
with a bagel and cheese.
You won't get me up
with an Entenmanns' tease
...or coffee, or orange juice, or any of that goo.
My tongue is asleep.
And my teeth are too.

You can print it in HaKol.
Spread the news all over town.
But nothing's going to get me up.
Today I'm staying down.

You can shoot me with falafel and beans!
You can bring in the whole Israeli mil-i-tar-y.
You can put it on YouTube
but no matter what you say
I am NOT going to get up today!

Nothing's going to get me up.
Why don't you understand!
You'll only waste your money
if you hire a Klezmer band.

That's why I say,
Please go away!
I am NOT going to get up today!

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From the Rabbi's Study...

Riva and I extend our deepest and most heartfelt thanks to the very many individuals of Congregation Kneseth Israel who went far out of their way to provide Riva with the kind of *Bat Mitsva* celebration that she deserved and that did our congregation proud.

I tried to thank as many of you from the *Bima* as I could by name, and I know that many more worked anonymously to make our celebration possible.

Riva's *Bat Mitsva* day passed quickly, but its fond memory lasts the rest of our lives. Every moment of the day was good, and that could be only because of the massive effort undertaken by this community. Your warmth, love, and generosity made all the difference. Thank you all, from me and from my family to you and yours.

– Jonathan Kohn

Freedom and Rules

The second Monday night of this month, on *Shavuot*, we begin to celebrate the giving of the *Torah*. That's when our newly freed lives became weighted down with rules. But the ancient Sages wouldn't have put it that way.

When Moshe came down from Mt. Sinai and saw that the people were worshipping a Golden Calf, he shattered the tablets of the Ten Commandments and had to go up for seconds. Why did he shatter the tablets? There are many beautiful *Midrashim* to explain, but my favorite is that the stones were simply too heavy for him to hold. Now, if they were too

“All the side issues are unimportant. All that is real is “what does God want?””

heavy, then how did he carry them down to the foot of the mountain? The stones were made of earth and, like all physical objects, they longed to return to the earth—that's the *Torah's* version of the law of gravity. But the letters on the stones came from heaven, and they longed to return there. As long as the letters were in the stones, then the stones could be carried easily. But when the letters took one glimpse of the Calf—and letters,

says the *Midrash*, have feelings just like books and people—then they ran off to heaven leaving the stones behind. Moshe then could neither catch the letters nor hold the stones, and so he lost both.

The letters of the *Torah* accounted for the lightness of the stones. It's a very odd view, as if the rules of the *Torah* were there to make our life easier.

Another *Midrash* explains. The commandments were “carved” into the stones. But the letters that spell carved (“*charot*”) also spell freedom (“*cheirut*”). The letters, if we read them right, were “freedom” in the stones.

Freedom isn't what people think it is.

(continued on p. 11)



A Message from Our President

I really look forward to this time of year because it's definitely the end of the cold weather. No, *REALLY*, it's definitely getting warmer now! It marks the beginning of leisure time activities, whether that's fishing, hiking, boating, swimming, attending Cubs or Sox games or, in my case, playing golf. In some ways, for me at least, golf is like a religion: it requires a leap of faith to keep playing and much learning and practice to appreciate its intricacies.

Something we also associate with this time of year, marked by the end of *Torah* School, is a slow-down in activity at CKI. Actually, to some degree, this is an illusion because we still hold *Shabbat* services every Saturday morning, we will be observing *Shavuot* (including a study session), we will be celebrating *B'nai Mitzvah* (Isaac Marshall and Jenna Mussar), Board meetings take place each month, planning for High Holidays is in full swing and, yes, planning for this year's

annual picnic and school registration. I know that with all of the summer activities including vacations, sending kids off to camp plus everything I mentioned above, perhaps the synagogue may have trouble competing in your life.

However, consider this a possible opportunity to get reacquainted with the *shul*: perhaps attend a Saturday *Shabbat* service and participate in *Torah* study, attend a Board meeting and find out how decisions are made by your leadership (and even take part in those discussions), check out an adult study session or get involved with our Social Action Committee (contact Sherry Wiesman). In short, this could be the time to actually meet one or two of those resolutions that you made during last year's High Holidays.

Whatever you decide to do, I look forward to seeing you in *shul*!

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.

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All material for the July issue is due NO LATER than June 10, PLEASE.

All items should be emailed to ronrazowsky@gmail.com

Ha Kol Editor: Ron Razowsky
Design/Production: Jana McFarlane



Torah School News

So here I sit at my laptop and write to you for the last time. Boy, I've been writing something to you in this newsletter for many years. It hasn't been a chore. I enjoy writing. After teaching it for so many years, it's just grown to be another limb of my existence as an old English teacher. I suppose it's that old "walk-your-talk" thing. But I have to admit that it's going to be a relief to know that I don't have to rush to meet a monthly publishing deadline.

I've talked to you in my writing about so many parts of my life—my bubbe, my father, my father-in-law, my Fern, my kids, my passions, my resume, my approaches, my thoughts, my philosophy, my hopes, my reactions to professional meetings, activities, films, and books, my little "bytes" of wisdom I've picked up along the road, my views of life, my shows I've directed, my former students, my life in education.

Before joining CKI about 20 years ago, we were members of a couple of other synagogues and especially active in one. Each congregation has its distinctive personality and direction. And in all the synagogues, I have found one constant—the school is the heartbeat of that congregation.

I think about how CKI now comes alive on Wednesdays and Sundays. I think about how people gather and want to be with each other. I think of the Family Services, Junior Congregations, Youth Services, special programs, activities, field trips, holiday celebrations, experiences in Confirmation Class, and classes. I think of the knowledge the teachers are giving to our children about being Jewish. I think of the lessons we teach about *tzedakah*, *chesed*, *tikkun olam*. I think about our school themes like "A Mitzvah a Month," "A Kindness a Week," "The Wit and Wisdom of the *Talmud*," and "Extraordinary Jewish Americans." I think of our celebrations of Israel. I think of the parents who bring their

children to school and just hang around to be a part of the sociability of this community. I think of the teachers who give so much of their time and heart to their classrooms and students. I think of the student aides who willingly give their time to come back to CKI to help out and to be with each other.

Over the years, I have truly come to know that the school is what keeps a synagogue vibrant, vital, and populated. Without the school, I don't think a synagogue has a chance. After all, it's the young families who bring their children who make up a big part of the membership. And it is the children who, in most cases, will return to the synagogue even when in college as long as their parents are still members. It is here that they find a Jewish connection. It is here that they find their Jewish roots. It is here that they find friends and continue to strengthen their identities. It is here that they find their souls.

Sure, there are those who pull out after the "obligatory" *Bar or Bat Mitzvah*. Every synagogue has that segment. But just think of what they're missing and all they are taking away from their children. Not only do we provide a Jewish education where children learn about our heritage, traditions, rituals and laws, but we work hard at instilling in our children the qualities that will continue to serve them well in life: patience, acceptance of others, understanding, kindness, respect, generosity, humility, compassion, strength of character, sensitivity. We get involved in the lives of the children and their parents. We teach them to be good people. And in the middle of all that, we try to have some fun. That's a pretty tall order.

CKI is so very special and unique. Because we all come from a demographically non-Jewish "neighborhood," we find our Jewish "neighborhood" within the walls of this building. We find our Jewish identity within the services. We find our Jewish identity within the activities from Sisterhood, Men's Club, *Hadassah*, Adult

Education, *USY/Kadima* and, yes, school! We reach out for and hang onto each other.

Now that I am preparing to leave my position as Director of Education, several people have asked if Fern and I are also leaving the congregation. Absolutely not! That is something we cannot do. Having been in this family so long, loving all the people here, and being so invested in CKI's welfare and existence, leaving would be like a death in our lives. We will be here.

I've said so much over the years; I suppose the best thing to say now is part of what I said in my letter to the Board. So I say to you,

"I have cherished my time as Director of Education at *Kneseth Israel*. The children, parents and staff have blessed me with loyalty, dedication, friendship, challenges and excitement.

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to bring CKI *Torah School* back to a viable and vibrant place to learn. Thank you for all the help, support, and trust you have bestowed upon me. Thank you for some of the best times.

"It's been an extraordinary journey, but after considerable soul searching and deliberation, I have come to realize that it is time to move on. After spending 46 years in education and living by a school calendar, I need a change. Fern and I are just looking forward to enjoying some years of retirement and doing some different things together.

"CKI will always be a special place for both of us. May we all continue to go from strength to strength."

And let us all say.....

L'chaim!!

Sisterhood News

As the 2007-2008 Sisterhood year ends, I have very mixed emotions as I look back through this year. First, I must thank my mentor and friend, **Wanda Pitzele**, for being my Co-President. In fact, most of the year she was the President because she unselfishly stepped in and did most of the work because I was in school. Second, to my executive board, thank you ladies for working as diligently and as hard as you all have. Without your individual assistance, our year would not have been nearly as successful.

The coming year 2008-2009 will be as successful or greater, as we have all figured out what it takes to get the job done. My fellow Sisterhood women helped and I know will continue to help. We will have our same fundraisers: Corned Beef Luncheon, *Chanukah* Bazaar, Soup Sales, along with many other interesting programs. One of the themes we are planning is "Aging," which includes issues with parent(s) aging, along with some of us getting a little bit older, too. We are still looking into having an interfaith get-together to learn about other religions.

We are looking for other Sisterhood members to help along with our "regulars." I am looking for women whose children are in Hebrew school and, therefore, at CKI on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings, to help pitch in with our Gift Shop and, hopefully, will consider being our new chairs. Both **Tina Wolf** and **Wendy Shankman** have given us years of service above and beyond, running our Gift Shop and the *Chanukah* Bazaar. Their children are grown, no longer in Hebrew School, and it is getting harder for them to run the Gift Shop. I know they would be happy to assist whoever is interested in jumping in. So, if there are ladies who love to shop, and most

importantly, love to sell, please let us know. In addition, any women who are here on Wednesdays and Sundays and are willing to volunteer their time and services for anything else in Sisterhood, we always like enthusiastic new ideas.

One of our last fundraisers for 2007-2008, the Kitchen Wish List, will be kept alive and running through the 2008-2009 year. If you have any questions, please see **Shari Heiss**. Wanda has volunteered to concentrate on developing a system to facilitate our members sponsoring *onegs* and *kiddushes* following services. Anyone interested in planning for an *oneg* or *kiddush* feel free to contact her.

Please make sure you continue to read *HaKol* for happenings in Sisterhood. Again, thanks to Wanda and all the women in Sisterhood, and I look forward to being sole president (Wanda thinks she is off the hook, but we all know better) for the coming year. Any suggestions you may have will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Rockelle



Meals on Wheels... Time for Another Thank You!

The pre-Passover participants for Meals on Wheels included **Ron Razowsky** and **Chuck Zimmerman**, **Cheryl Stanczak** and **Wanda Pitzele**, **Len and Laurie Winner**, **Sherry Weisman** and your chairwoman, **Marc Zemel** and his mother, **Mrs. Zemel**.

These generous folk deserve extra praise as this was just before the first *Seder*, a busy time in all households.

Our next delivery will occur the week of July 14-18. If you are a regular and can't be available, you might let me know; if you haven't done it for a while or need to schedule some pre-*B'nei Mitzvah* community service, please call and reserve your date. **Shari Heiss** will deliver on July 16 and could use a partner.

Sitting by the phone (847)-695-6540...

- Nancy Zimmerman

Kitchen Wish List

Love to eat? We all do. Every time we serve any food item at CKI, whether it be for a *Latke* Lunch, Hut Dogs, the Passover *Seder* or at an *Oneg* or *Kiddish*, it is because the Sisterhood works hard year long to maintain the STRICTLY KOSHER CKI kitchen.

Everybody benefits.

But just like your personal kitchen, utensils break, new items are needed, broken dishes need to be replaced.

The Sisterhood is having a fundraiser to fulfill the KITCHEN WISH LIST.

Please participate. Look at the "Seder plate" on the wall of the Social Hall. We have need for items at a large range of



prices. You can purchase an entire set of items or just one part of a set. We appreciate all contributions!

All of us can help ensure that the Sisterhood is able to continue to operate a modern kosher kitchen at CKI.



Annual Congregational Meeting June 3

As required by the synagogue bylaws, we will be holding our annual congregational meeting which is scheduled for June 3, at 7:00 pm. The purpose of this meeting is to elect four new at-large Board members.

The Nominating Committee has nominated the following individuals:

Sue Zemel
Sherry Weisman
Sue Merdinger
Barry Rose

Also, please note that during the meeting, nominations will be accepted from the floor. Immediately following the meeting we will be holding the regular June Board meeting to which you are all, of course, welcome to attend as well.

– Thank you,
Perry Pitzele, *President*

Still a-Wishin' and a-Hopin'...

We're still wishing for...

- ✧ **New lightweight 8-foot long tables for the social hall.**
(We purchase them at Sam's. Prices: 8' long tables are \$70.00 each. 60" round tables are \$100.00 each. We are tax exempt.)
- ✧ **For privacy and comfort, we'd like to purchase and install vertical blinds to cover the windows in the kindergarten and 1st-grade classrooms on the first floor.**
- ✧ **A new video setup (camera, etc.) in the sanctuary that will record DVDs.**
- ✧ **Help to improve the sound system in the sanctuary.**

Wishes are good. Granting them is even better! We are truly grateful!

Thank you!

The Pleasure of Reading

As this article goes to press, parents everywhere are making summer plans for their kids, whether it be travel, summer camp, or ways to occupy kids who moan that they are bored. Summer is a great time of adventure and discovery for children and teens.



Whether you are looking for a list of books to occupy beach days on the sand or looking for rainy day amusements, you will find that our CKI library collection has stories aimed at all grade and reading levels, from pre-school through teens (and also books for adults, of course).

There are shelves and shelves of fiction to help "while away the days." Many books, both fiction and non-fiction, recount tales of valor, of courage, and of conviction. There are wonderful books about role models: sports figures, statesmen, and inventors. There are biographies of doctors who discovered

cures for various dreaded diseases and true stories of valiant heroic soldiers and of the determined Zionists who built Israel. Our collection includes books about fictional children who suffer the same types of insecurities and angst that all children endure growing up. Middle school children and high school grade readers will find an extensive collection of Holocaust books (and of historical fictional characters who hid to escape the *Shoah*).

Every nationality it seems, wants its future generations to connect, respect, remember and celebrate all types of ethnicities. Jewish children have the

greatest and longest uninterrupted chain of customs and culture in the world. No people have more history or more reasons to celebrate ethnic pride than we Jews. Help your children discover who they really are by encouraging them to explore their Jewish heritage through reading.

– Sherry Wiesman

CKI BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT, Perry Pitzele

EXECUTIVE VP, Jack Fishman

Co-VPs/Sisterhood,

Rochelle Fosco & Wanda Pitzele

VP/Education, Anita Hornung

RECORDING SECRETARY,

Carole Burstein

TREASURER, Marc Zemel

FINANCIAL SECRETARY,

Chuck Zimmerman

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT,

Paul Glaser

Dear CKI Family,

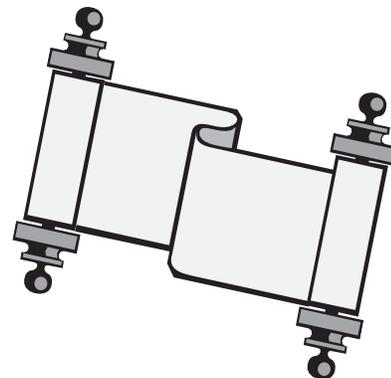
Thank you for all the kindnesses shown to us as we ended our positions as Youth Chairs. It is a special honor to be given a Leaf on the Tree of Life. We treasure the scrapbook filled with kind words from so many adults and students at CKI. And we're grateful for the gift certificate and notecards. Thanks to Robin and Liza for baking the delicious cake for the last USY Board Meeting of the year. Thanks, also, to everyone who attended the USY Shabbat; it was inspirational to participate in the service led by our USYers. These children are our future, and it is very heartening to see the many ways that our congregation supports them. We exit knowing that our USY chapter will continue to thrive in the very capable hands of Liza Bachrach. We are confident that CKI members will support her efforts just as you have always supported us.

Today Rabah,

Dr. Joe and Maureen Rosenfeld

Parashat HaShavu'a – Weekly Torah Portions

June 7 4 Sivan	Naso – Numbers 4:21-5:10 Haftarah: Judges 13:2-25
June 9 6 Sivan	First Day of Shavuot Torah: Exodus 19:1-20:23 Maftir: Numbers 28:26-31 Haftarah: Ezekiel 1:1-28, 3:12
June 10 7 Sivan	Second Day of Shavuot (Yizkor) Torah: Deuteronomy 15:19-16:17 Maftir: Numbers 28:26-31 Haftarah: Habakkuk 3:1-19
June 14 11 Sivan	Be'ha'alot'kha – Numbers 8:1-9:14 Haftarah: Zekhariah 2:14-4:17
June 21 18 Sivan	Sh'lach L'kha – Numbers 13:1-14:17 Haftarah: Joshua 2:1-24
June 28 25 Sivan	Birkat Hachodesh Korach – Numbers 16:1 – 17:15 Haftarah: I Samuel 11:14-12:22



FIND YOURSELF
IN SHUL!
SHUL IS GOOD!

TORAH SCHOOL DIRECTOR NEEDED

Congregation Kneseth Israel in Elgin, IL is looking for a new Torah School Director. This part-time position involves overseeing a religious education program

for grades K through 10 and an education staff of 12 instructors. The successful candidate must be creative, energetic, motivational, have good communication skills and be a self-starter. A basic knowledge of Hebrew and Judaic history is preferred. For more information, contact **Anita Hornung**, CKI Vice-President of Education, at **630-377-1351**.

KADIMA & USY NEWS!

Have a great summer!

Watch for applications for

CAMP CHUSY & CAMP KADIMA

August 12 thru August 18, 2008



Social Action

Thank you to everyone who attended the Earth Day program. Special thanks are extended to Joe Rosenfeld for creating our power point presentation on composting and Dan Marshall for speaking about the merits of CFL bulbs. They sparked a wonderfully interactive discussion within the well-attended program.

Also, in case you didn't know, CKI is now proud to announce that they have taken one more step toward going green. We have purchased a composting bin and would like to encourage everyone, when working on the synagogue grounds, to place any yard waste in it. Additionally, when

working in the kitchen, any fruit/vegetable peelings and/or egg shells may also be deposited. **Protein waste should NOT be included.** The bin is located in the side garden outside of the office door entry.

As always, please remember that there are many in our community who are hungry. Please continue to bring in nonperishable food items and/or personal hygiene products to restock the shelves of the food pantry.

Enjoy the warm weather,

– Sherry Wiesman and Fern Raben
Social Action Co-Chairs

Honorable Menschen...

...to **DR. DANIEL & LISA SCHULMAN** for their generous and kind donation to help us continue to purchase more new books for the Dr. Daniel and Lisa Schulman Young Adult Library.

...to **AMY FOSCO** for all her work in organizing and facilitating the Cookie Dough fund-raisers for *Torah School*.

...to **ALL THE FAMILIES** throughout the year who have generously donated to and hosted the Family Services *Oneg Shabbat*. They made those Friday nights even more special.

Jewish Employment Network

Job Seekers experience many hopes and challenges in the job market. If you have been recently downsized or are thinking of changing careers, the Jewish Employment Network offers numerous options to assist you with your career goals: career counseling, job search strategies, networking opportunities, and access to monthly round tables and support groups.

For more information go to www.jvschicago.org or call **Joyce Bogolub**, JVS Career Counselor, at **630-889-0548**.

Noticed the Green Lights in the Sanctuary?

Well, not really *green green*.
Energy-efficient green, that is.

Thanks to a very generous anonymous donation, we have begun replacing what had been 200-watt incandescent bulbs in our sanctuary chandelier-fixtures with 85-watt compact fluorescent bulbs. The 85-watters produce the equivalent of 350 watts of light. So if each four-bulb fixture used to use 800 watts, we're now using only 340. Multiplied by six fixtures, that's 2,760 watts we're saving every time we turn on the lights!

We estimate the new bulbs will save us about \$500.00 per year on electricity. Plus, the bulbs should last about ten



years which will save on ladder *shlepping* and \$5,000 or more in the long run. And we're doing our part to help the environment.

On a related note, the Ritual Committee has not yet weighed in on whether, due to the energy savings, services should last longer. But if they did, it's comforting to know it's costing us a lot less.

*Liza Bachrach and
Dan Marshall
invite you to share
their joy
at Shabbat Services on
Saturday, June 14, 2008
as their son*

*Isaac
becomes Bar Mitzvah*



*Please join us for Kiddush
following services*

Bar Mitzvah



Isaac Marshall is to be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on **June 14**. Isaac is a 6th grade student at Haines Middle School.

He enjoys playing baseball, bowling, ping pong, pool and spending time with his cousins and friends. He likes jazz music and plays the tenor sax. He will attend OSRUI (a Jewish overnight summer camp) for the fifth straight year this summer. He is an active and enthusiastic member of *Kadima*.

Sharing this special occasion with Isaac are his proud parents, Liza Bachrach and Dan Marshall, and his brother Jake and his sister Lucy, as well as many relatives from near and far. His *Bubbe* and *Opa* are eagerly watching in spirit!

Something Isaac has learned from his Jewish education is that giving *zedakah* makes him feel good about himself, and that visiting Israel taught him that Judaism has a long, rich history in which to be proud.

MITZVAH
PROJECT
WITH
ISAAC
MARSHALL

What do people do when they don't have blankets and they are cold?

Come help me make new blankets for the poor.

It requires no skill, just bring a pair of fabric scissors, a ruler and a BIG heart!

SUNDAY
JUNE 8, 2008
1 PM

at
Fox Valley Jewish Neighbors
121 South Third Street
Geneva, IL

Please RSVP to Isaac Marshall
Archbroch@sbcglobal.net
847.622.8855

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

A full seven weeks after the second *Seder of Pesach*, please join us at CKI on **June 8** to celebrate the giving of the Torah. Share blintzes and our traditional dairy refreshments for the holiday of *Shavuot*, the Feast of Weeks, which celebrates as well the harvest of summer fruit.



Together we sing, eat, tell stories, and study from **7 to 10 pm**. This is the time of year that God gave the Torah. Please join us as once again we prepare to receive it.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot: Sunday, June 8, 7 pm to 10 pm
Morning service with Yizkor: Tuesday, June 10, 8 am

We Send You To Hebrew School Because...

- Because Hebrew School is just as important, and in some ways may be more important, than public school.
- Because 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.

CKI COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ADULT EDUCATION - Barbara Sharf
BY-LAWS - Malcolm Morris
CEMETERY - Jeff Rifken
ENDOWMENT - Charles Zimmerman
FUNDRAISING - Anita Hornung
HA KOL EDITOR - Ron Razowsky
HOUSE - Dan Marshall
MEMBERSHIP - Dr. Joe Rosenfeld
PUBLICITY - Melinda Abrams, Marcie Monteith
RITUAL - Paul Glaser
SOCIAL ACTION - Sherry Wiesman, Fern Raben, Tina Wolf
YOUTH ACTIVITIES - Liza Bachrach

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

There will be
NO
"CKI SENIORS"
Lox & Bagel Luncheon
for the month of June.

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

June Birthdays

- 1 Ethel Schillmoeller
- 1 Jacob McFarlane
- 1 Isaac Marshall
- 3 Richard Stanczak
- 4 Maxine Turek
- 6 Sarah Rubin
- 11 Danielle Lindow
- 12 Bill Wolf
- 13 Adam Berkson
- 13 Jeff Silberman
- 13 Rachel Gauthier
- 13 Daniel Schulman
- 14 Shirley Friedman
- 16 Lynn Glaser
- 16 Kenneth Abrams
- 16 Ilene Peterson
- 19 Morgan Farr
- 20 Barbara Levine
- 21 Jennifer Finger
- 23 Liana Ginder
- 25 Marc Bear
- 26 Kevin Phelan
- 26 Jacob Fosco
- 26 Sandra Lindow
- 29 Jacob Rifken
- 29 Todd Nye
- 30 Jennifer Rifken
- 30 Jacob Gantz

Special Funds

The following funds are available for your generous donations:

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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

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Shalom Academy – Pre-school Jewish Education

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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

June Anniversaries

- 8 Richard & Marci Zeoli
- 9 Gene & Sandy Lindow
- 14 Elaine Sofferman & Patrick Lewis
- 17 Ron & Carole Burstein
- 17 Jerry & Rose Goldstein
- 18 Alan & Irene Loss
- 19 David & Roselle McLaughlin Ashkenaz
- 24 Michael & Janet Seigle
- 26 David Goldberg & Krista Ravenscraft
- 27 Bruce & Kipp Freeman
- 28 Alvin & Norma Hass
- 28 Richard & Sue Johnson
- 28 Ilene & Jason Peterson

Acknowledgements

Generous Donations

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Ben Rifken

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The McFarlane Family
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Harold & Vera Rifken
Marty & Donna Rifken
Rose & Jerry Goldstein
Susan & Jerry Goozh

In honor of Ron Raben, for leading our Torah School with love and devotion

Joe & Maureen Rosenfeld

In memory of Marion & Joseph Braun

Laurie & Len Winner

In honor of Dr. Joe and Maureen Rosenfeld

Rose & Jerry Goldstein

In memory of Abraham Brody

Pearle & Ed Brody

In memory of Gertrude & Albert Winner

Laurie & Len Winner

PRAYERBOOK FUND

In memory of Ben Rifken

Dorothy & Milton Perlman

CKI EDUCATION FUND

In honor of Riva Shoshona Kohn's Bat Mitzvah

Saul Mariasis
Barbara Njus

In memory of Ben Rifken

Dan & Lisa Schulman
Barbara Njus
Fern & Ron Raben

In honor of Liana Louise Ginder on her Bat Mitzvah

Saul Mariasis

To Joe and Maureen Rosenfeld, Yasher Koach and thank you for your years of dedication and leadership of USY.

Fern & Ron Raben
Barbara Njus

In honor of Shirley Simon's 90th Birthday

Barbara Njus

In honor of Christopher Miller's Bar Mitzvah

Saul Mariasis

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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In honor of Martin Brody's induction in the "Fox Valley Arts Hall of Fame"

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In honor of Riva Kohn's Bat Mitzvah

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CKI LIBRARY DONATION

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Speedy Recovery to Lisa Schulman

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USY/KADIMA

In honor of Joe & Maureen Rosenfeld for their devotion and commitment to the youth of CKI and CHUSY.

Lisa Alter Krule

In memory of Ben Rifken

The Bachrach/Marshall Family

TREE OF LIFE – (All Leaves):

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In Tribute to Ben Rifken

from JoAnn & Marshall Goldin
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In honor of

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Your students and friends
2004-2008

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PASSOVER DONATIONS

In memory of my dear mother, Ethel Lange

Kathy Lange

In memory of Rosa A. Meza

Rose Marie Smith

Donation

Gary Widen and Bonnie Karlin

In honor of the wonderful individuals who always work behind the scenes. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Passover Seder would not happen without them: **Sherry Wiesman, Rina Baxter, Ron & Fern Raben, & Kathy Lange**. Also, thank you, **Gary Widen and Bonnie Karlin**, for your generous donation

– Thank you all,
Anita Hornung

*Regaling us with posters
Of contemporary Jews,
Near classes and near snacks where
we can
Read and nosh and schmooze,
And with understanding hearts
By which you help our children learn,
Every day you've done us good.
Now may God bless you, Ron and Fern.*

– Jonathan Kohn

In Our Family

HAMAKOM YENAHEIM ETKHEM – CONDOLENCES

The congregation expresses condolences to the family of **Ben Rifken**, father of **Jeff Rifken**, and brother of **Louis (Merrian) Rifken**

May God comfort you and may his memory be for a blessing

R'FUAH SH'LEIMAH – GET WELL

Fern Raben	Herman Loeb
Rose Goldstein	David Goodman
Lisa Schulman	Pearle Brody
Sherry Wiesman	Sue Zemel
Shirley Friedman	

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

Do you have a preschool child? Would you like a Jewish Preschool?

Shalom Academy was founded to answer those questions.

If you are interested in helping re-open the preschool, call **Wanda Pitzele** at **630-289-3349** or email to **wandanp@sbcglobal.net**.

Traditionally, it is a multi-age classroom or 3 and 4 year olds with a limited enrollment of six. How exciting to have your child learning the Jewish holidays and *Shabbat* along with such things as the alphabet, colors, shapes, seasons, etc. With only six children in the class, there is a lot of individual attention for your child. Given enough interest, we will open *Shalom Academy* in the fall!

Grants are available from JUF for the first child in a family to enroll in a Jewish preschool.



From the Rabbi's Study

(cont'd from p. 2)

We imagine that worries and responsibilities take away our freedom, and that no one is more free than an infant. Perhaps it is great to be an infant, but I'm not sure. Babies cry a lot.

For the last two months, between *Pesach* and *Shavuot*, we recalled Israel in its infancy. At *Pesach* the Jewish people were born, after long labor in the mother country of Egypt and after the water of the Red Sea broke. Following *Pesach*, they entered infancy in the wilderness.

But shortly after their birth they suffered their first trauma, as the nation of Amalek struck them from behind and cut off a part of them. That was the newborn nation's first hint of their future struggle with evil, and thus of their covenant with God. It was Israel's *Bris*.

Now we celebrate *Shavuot*, the giving of the *Torah*, which was Israel's *Bar Mitzvah*. Up until that time, Israel could do with impunity anything they pleased—rebel against Moshe, complain about God, anything. Only

after Sinai were they held accountable for their actions.

It should have been a very good time in the wilderness up until Sinai. Before the nation was born the people were slaves to Pharaoh. After Sinai they were servants of God. In between, they were free to do whatever they liked. What could be more desirable?

But they didn't feel that way. In fact, no time in their life was more miserable, and this despite their direct experience of God's signs and wonders. They learned that they didn't want to do whatever they wanted to do. They needed direction. They wanted to serve God.

A clue to this is found in the poem that I sometimes read on *Yom Kippur*, Rudyard Kipling's "If..." The poet advises his son to "meet with Triumph and Disaster/And treat those two impostors just the same."

The infant's life is full of triumphs and disasters. Now he's hungry and now he's fed, now he's wet and now he's dry, now he's bored and now he's amused.

As adults, we learn to look beyond the immediate present. We know that we can be hungry for awhile without anything terrible happening, and that being fed is no guarantee of fulfillment. Ours is a longer view. That's the source of our freedom and our happiness. But the *Torah's* view is the longest of all.

At Sinai we were told, "Do what God wants. Do the right thing." We learned there that nothing else counts. It took a tremendous burden off our shoulders. All the side issues—what are my feelings, what are my expectations, what do I deserve, who will be angry at me, what will be easy or difficult, what will people say, what will I look like—are unimportant. They are impostors. All that is real is "what does God want?"

That's freedom, engraved within the rules. That's lightness. We can be free as a bird, if only we bind ourselves to the sky.

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 **June**. It is appropriate for members of their families to be present when these names are read.

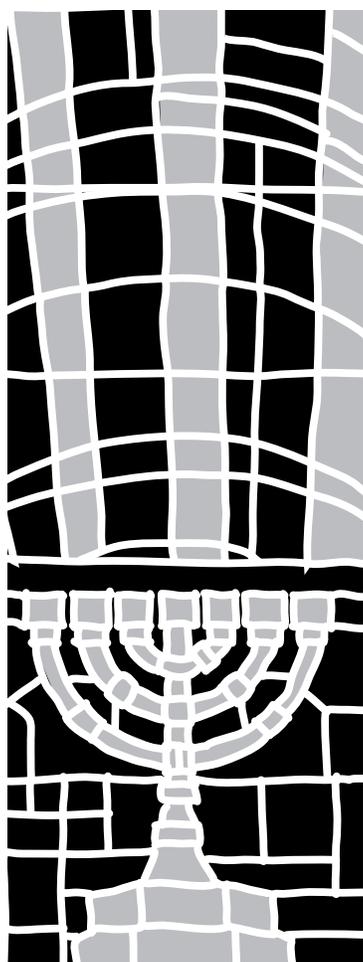
May 31	June 1	Gladys Fox	June 7	June 8	William Goldstein*	June 21	June 22	Etta LeVine*
May 31	June 1	Jack Lisagor*	June 7	June 8	Joseph Polis*	June 21	June 22	Julius Kreeger*
May 31	June 1	Bella Goldman	June 7	June 9	Capt. Bernard Sohn*	June 21	June 23	Bessie Turek Solomon*
May 31	June 3	Michael Fosco*	June 7	June 10	Ruth Bachrach*	June 21	June 23	Benjamin Bear*
May 31	June 3	Rose Sohn	June 7	June 10	Herb Friend	June 21	June 24	Barney Berman*
May 31	June 3	Edith J. Mendel*	June 7	June 10	Isaac Cohien*	June 21	June 25	Renee Levine*
May 31	June 3	Jenny Brazner*	June 7	June 10	Max Fishman*	June 21	June 26	Joseph Fisher*
May 31	June 4	Norton T. Burstein*	June 7	June 11	Beatrice Feldman	June 21	June 27	Rachel Flowers*
May 31	June 5	Capt. Irene Wirtschaffter*	June 7	June 11	Morris Hartzman*	June 21	June 27	Harris Wolfson*
May 31	June 5	Melvin Frisch	June 7	June 12	Morris Rosengarden*	June 21	June 27	Bertha Kahn Polis*
May 31	June 6	Sarah Stern*	June 7	June 12	David Abraham Nerove*	June 21	June 27	Frieda Levin
May 31	June 6	Allen Mintzer	June 7	June 12	Maurice Hymen*	June 28	June 29	Manuel Sievers*
June 7	June 7	Abraham Brody*	June 7	June 12	Harry A. Jaffee*	June 28	June 30	Daniel Hochstadter
			June 7	June 13	Rose Meza	June 28	July 1	Sam Mintzer
			June 14	June 15	Sidney Kramer*	June 28	July 1	Ann Goldstein*
			June 14	June 17	Rose I. Schwartz*	June 28	July 2	Minnie Bernstein*
			June 14	June 17	Richard Kenneth Johnson	June 28	July 2	Rabbi Morris Greenfield*
			June 14	June 18	Sarah Dinah Mell*	June 28	July 3	Louis Burstein*
			June 14	June 18	Edward Simon*	June 28	July 3	Henrietta Rosenberg*
			June 14	June 18	Gertrude Winner*	June 23	July 3	Phyllis Rothman
			June 14	June 19	Lena Sievers*	June 23	July 4	Jerome Finger*
			June 14	June 20	Tessie Rose	June 23	July 4	Barbara Johnson
			June 14	June 20	Anna Rosengarden*			

There are two dates listed above on our *yahrtzeit* list. The first is the **day of the service at which the names 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

June 68:05 PM
 June 138:09 PM
 June 208:11 PM
 June 278:12 PM

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



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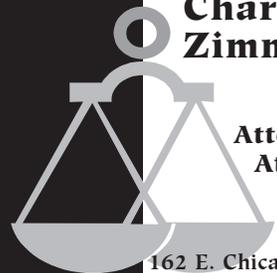


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June 2008		Shabbat Services: Friday evenings thru 6/20		7:30 pm
		Saturday mornings		9:30 am
3	CKI Board meeting	7:30 pm	12	Sisterhood Board Wrap-up meeting 7:00 pm
8	<i>Tikkun Leil Shavuot</i> – Shavuot Study	7:00-10:00 pm	13	<i>Oneg</i> : Dan Marshall and Liza Bachrach 7:30 pm
9	SHAVUOT – Office Closed		14	Bar Mitzvah: Isaac Marshall 9:30 am <i>Kiddush</i> : Dan Marshall & Liza Bachrach
10	SHAVUOT – Office Closed Morning service with Yizkor	8:00 am	18	PICK UP FUNDABILITY CERTIFICATES
11	ORDER FUNDABILITY CERTIFICATES		20	Last Friday Night Shabbat for the season 7:30 pm