

# Kol Kneseth Israel

"The Voice of Kneseth Israel"



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## Sadness by Roddy Frankel, MD

### Holiday Shopping

I used to enjoy browsing bookstores during my free time, and wherever I happen to be, there is always a Borders or Barnes and Noble in the neighborhood. This past *Rosh Hashanah*, after the first day of services, I kept thinking about my parents and all the High Holidays we had shared growing up in Cleveland. I never realized how much I would miss those days. My parents are still alive, may the Lord bless and protect them, but they live in another city and I don't see them nearly enough. Even though I will see them over the *Yom Kippur* holiday, I do miss them terribly whenever they are not where they're supposed to be. And during the holidays, they are supposed to be sitting next to me. So here I was walking down the history aisle of Barnes and Noble (and no, this is not a plug for them) when I spotted a paperback with a solid black cover turned so that the cover was facing me at eye level – a paperback titled *Mein Kampf*.

A lump formed in my throat as I glared at the book. I instantly thought of my parents and the impact this piece of filth, staring me in the face, had upon their lives. This book indoctrinated a generation of Germans and drained them of what little humanity they possessed. At first, this book encouraged Germans to burn down countless synagogues. But first, they would empty the Jewish libraries of all their books and burn them in huge bonfires for all the townspeople to see. Ancient, priceless *Torah* scrolls were burned in front of the towns' rabbis simply to humiliate and demoralize them. Eventually, this book enabled the Germans and their allies to systematically murder 85% of Europe's Jewish population. And now, sixty years after the fall of the Third Reich, the book that started it all was back at my local bookstore.

### My Parents

My mother was about 8 years old when she, her parents, her brother and her sister had to flee from their home in Czernovitz, Romania (now renamed Czernovitz, Ukraine) as the Nazi soldiers swept through their town. My mother's family was Orthodox Jewish. Her father was an accountant, self-educated, since religious Jews weren't allowed to attend Romanian universities. They lived in a small house with a few chickens and a goat in

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## From the Rabbi's Study...

**Gee Dash Dee**

Do we have to write G-d, or can we spell out the name in full?

Not only can we spell out the name in full, but we shouldn't write it any other way. Such is the unanimous ruling of the Conservative Movement's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards.

There do exist names of God that we don't commonly spell out, but God is not one of them.

This isn't a special Conservative leniency. The medieval law codes, such as the *Shulchan Arukh*, list the sacred names of God, and they state clearly that these and no others are the names. The law codes are written in Hebrew and Aramaic, which are the holy tongues, and they give no restriction on the writing of words in any other language.

The Conservative position, therefore, is the one based on ancient and medieval texts. Anyone who insists on the spelling G-d is adding new rules, similar to the way Glatt Kosher standards add new rules to the *Torah's* dietary laws.

As Rabbi Gordon Tucker, who voted for this ruling, remarked, "It makes no more sense to write G-d than to write -o-."

This ruling, despite its unanimity, puts many of us in a difficult position. Some of us have avoided all our lives writing out the English name in full, and others learned at our parents' and our grandparents' knees never to write it out. For these people it's hard, and it may even seem disrespectful, suddenly to change. Just as in the case of those who leave services before *Yizkor* even when Jewish law begs them to stay, this personal expression of piety must also be respected. When the writing hand hesitates, then it should not be compelled.

But the law is clear. There is no prohibition on spelling out the English name of God, and for those who can follow this law it is spelled out for them by the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards.

They spell it out completely.



Don't forget to turn your clocks **BACK** one hour Saturday night, November 1 !!



## A Message from Our President

As I watch and listen to the Presidential campaign winding down, I can't help but think that both candidates could have benefited from spending a day at *Yom Kippur* services, especially from the prayer *Ashamnu*. For those who don't recall, that's one of the main prayers for confessing our sins as a community. Perhaps by reading these sins aloud, the candidates might be reminded of what they promised to the country and, perhaps, to themselves.

I think back earlier on in the campaign to the promises of running a civil campaign, absent all the negativity that's become common with these events. Somehow, perhaps naively, I thought that given the character of the two individuals running, this would be a different campaign and they would avoid the personal attacks and, instead, focus on the major issues.

Unfortunately, as we all know, this was not how things transpired. As the election gets closer, it seems the greater frequency and more personal these attacks became. In fact, as one commentator remarked, it has become more "like a knife-fight in a phone booth." The imagery here seems apt because it brings to mind how both candidates are bloodied and marred by this form of verbal snipping.

We are all taught that we have an obligation to avoid *lashon hara*, evil speech. The *Talmud* teaches us that such speech is viewed as damaging as a physical attack. Perhaps in the case of political candidates this potential for harm is magnified by the attention paid to everything they say. I recall hearing about one incident at a campaign rally where people actually called Obama a terrorist and some even called for his execution. Please don't take this as any endorsement of either candidate but rather as a prime example of how much

harm, even though unintentional, can result from negative speech.

Having differences of opinions accompanied by thoughtful discussion is both normal and healthy in a democracy. But when this deteriorates into anger and even hatred, then it serves to divide people. The lesson for

*(continued on next page)*

## 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 December issue is due NO LATER than November 10, PLEASE.**

All items should be emailed to [ronrazowsky@gmail.com](mailto:ronrazowsky@gmail.com)

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



## Torah School News

During this time of reflection, I am reminded of the three things we try to do better in the year ahead, *Tefillah*, *Teshuvah*, and *Tzedakah*.

We turn to God (in prayer) – that’s *Tefillah*,

We turn to others (to make up for our mistakes) – that’s *Teshuvah*,

We turn to those who need our care (and to share) – that’s *Tzedakah*.

The most important thing I learned this year in the process of trying to teach this is: All the prayers in all the books have no meaning, until we read them, and feel them, and give them life. This is the way we communicate with God and in turn, the way He communicates with us.

A big Thank You to **Wanda Pitzele** and **Adele Stein** for doing the youth services, and thanks to all who attended.

*Mazel Tov* to the *Dalet* class for their participation in the family *Shabbat* service in October. Thank you, to the parents of the *Dalet* class for sponsoring the *oneg* after the service.

November will seem like a quiet month compared to October.

We start with **changing our clocks on Sunday, November 2 at 2:00 am.**

Remember to set them BACK 1 hour. Spring *ahead*, Fall *behind*.

**Friday, November 7**, Family *Shabbat* service, 7:30. The *Gimel* class will be participating.

**Saturday, November 15**, Junior. Congregation, 10:00 am.

**Sunday, November 16**, 7th grade will be doing their bake sale.

**Wednesday, November 26**, starts our Thanksgiving Break. Classes resume on Monday, December 1, for Confirmation class.

One more item to cover. I am looking for a **volunteer to teach Beginning Hebrew** for the adult class. Since the class has been going for a few years, we are finding it would be helpful to have a beginner’s class and an intermediate class. **Saul Mariasis**, who has done a wonderful job for the past several years, will move to the intermediate group, and the new person would take the beginners. If anyone is interested in teaching this on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am, for one hour, please let me know.

*Nina Sobrow G. M.*



## From Our President

(cont'd from previous page)

us here is that as a community, albeit a smaller one than the U.S., we need to guard ourselves against *lashon hara* even when we have strong disagreements about issues affecting our synagogue. We need to remember that when we hear someone arguing a position we are diametrically opposed to, that all of us are looking out for the same objective: what’s best for our congregation. Giving in to the temptation of belittling those we disagree with only brings all of us down and ultimately misses the mark in bringing about positive change.

Therefore, I say to all of you:

*B'Shalom,*

*Perry*

## LADIES! GET RID OF YOUR HUSBAND (for 20 hours) FOR JUST \$150!!

The Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs Midwest Region Retreat will be held on **December 6-7** (Saturday night to Sunday afternoon), at the recently-renovated **Lodge at Geneva Ridge in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin** (a little over an hour from CKI). This year’s retreat, entitled “The Buck Starts Here,” will focus on the economy with expert analysis from an economics professor from the University of Illinois at Chicago and an editor from *Business Week*. And, as always, there will be plenty of fun, spirituality, networking, and lots of *ruach*!

For only \$150 per person (\$200 for a single room), men can meet and interact with dozens of others from Conservative congregations throughout the Midwest. The price includes lodging and all meals.

There’s still time to register, but don’t delay. **Reservations must be made by November 3.** For more information, contact **Paul Glaser**, who is chairing the event., at 630-513-8268, or [pauljayglaser@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pauljayglaser@sbcglobal.net).

## Sisterhood News

Our fellow sisterhood member, **Cheryl Stanczak**, has successfully come through her back surgery and is currently having chemo. Our *mitzvah* chair, **Ana McCarthy**, is handling preparation and delivery of meals to Cheryl and her family. Please contact Ana with either donations or help in preparing of meals. Keep Cheryl in your prayers. She is a long-time member and very hard worker for both our sisterhood and CKI.

Sisterhood's opening meeting and lunch was a success and very informative. My sincere thanks and gratitude to **Susan Robbins** for all her hard work in presenting this program to us. Also, thank you to our guest speaker, **Yonah Klem**. Yonah's program on *Kaballah* was very interesting and I think many of our women left the meeting with questions answered and more questions to search out on our own.

Sisterhood has many exciting programs planned for this coming year. If you are not already a member of Sisterhood, please try to make plans to join this year. Sisterhood had blue bookmarks that were passed out during the High Holiday services. If you have not received one, please see me and I will be happy to give you one.

As I write this article (this article was to be in the October *HaKol*), I think about the content of my article. I am currently learning about cultural diversity in health care. As I learn about other cultures as they pertain to healthcare, I think how cultural diversity enters into my faith, my Judaism. We know that we live in a world of many different people. We work with them, we live with them, and here at CKI we pray with them.

Cultural diversity in Judaism, at first glance, seems strange to even question. Yet, we all come from various backgrounds, lifestyles and many of our members have come from other areas in the United States as well as other countries. We have members who were born Jewish and members who have chosen to be Jewish. We have members who were raised in Orthodox homes or raised in reformed homes. We have

members who are Jewish but were not raised religiously in the Jewish faith. Therefore, even though we may be different, we are all the same. We all come to Congregation *Kneseth Israel* to fill a void, to enhance our faith, to spend time with our extended family. There is something for everyone here.

Many of our parents may have lived in ghettos. The definition of a ghetto is "Etymology: Italian, from Venetian dialect *ghèto* island where Jews were forced to live, literally, foundry (located on the island), from *ghetâr* to cast, from Latin *jactare* to throw. A quarter of a city in which members of a minority group live especially because of social, legal, or economic pressure." (Definition from Merriam-Webster online dictionary.) In school, I am learning about living with people from other cultures: Indian, Asian, African-American, Hispanic, and Eastern European, to name a few. In an ideal world, we would all live together in peace and tranquility. The Jewish people have been referred to as the "chosen," but for what were we chosen? I think that if we treat each person in our lives, both at work and at home, with respect and understanding we would all benefit. Unfortunately, we live in a time, when we stereotype people and refuse to associate with others not like us, mostly from ignorance and fear.

We just celebrated our most holy of religious seasons; we should practice to set examples for our children and ourselves. Open your eyes, your hearts and your lives. Meet other people, and respect other people. In the end, I believe others who meet us will see how we are not so different from them. We, the Jewish people, have long been persecuted. Sometimes we look back, and the only reasons were that we are Jewish. If we want respect from other people, we need to teach them how to be tolerant.

Let us lead by example!



## Welcome Wonderful Wishes...

**A big thank you to Barry Rose for his donation of an LCD projector!**  
**We are now able to turn the social hall into a movie theatre!**

**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.)
- ✧ **A new video setup (camera, etc.) in the sanctuary that will record DVDs.**
- ✧ **New 3- or 6-foot long bookshelf (with 3 shelves) for the library on which we can house our growing Dr. Daniel and Lisa Schulman Young Adult Library acquisitions.** (Check out the one we have in the library. It isn't tall, because it stands in front of the windows.)

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

Thank you!

### 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

### CKI BOARD MEMBERS

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**VP/Sisterhood**, Rochelle Fosco  
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**TREASURER**, Marc Zemel  
**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**,  
Chuck Zimmerman  
**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**,  
Paul Glaser

Our joint kick-off program was a big success—BOWLING!! The bumpers definitely came in handy! At this point we are gearing up for the USY Board Lock-in. We all plan on painting a CKI-USY banner which **Wendy Shankman** so generously hemmed! **Laura Cox** is organizing the making of a USY poster board for the social hall, and **Danielle Piraino** plans on assembling our own USY Friday night service. We are going to be busy.

**Susan Robbins** orchestrated the Goebbert's Pumpkin Farm visit for *Kadima*. The kids had a fabulous time! (Pictures to follow.)

The 8th Grade *Shabbaton* will take place Dec. 12 through 14 in Wisconsin. Forms were emailed and are due to me by November 14. Email me if you have any questions.

### UPCOMING EVENTS for NOVEMBER:

**Nov. 7-9** CHUSYfest for USY

**Nov. 16** *Kadima* blanket-making *mitzvah* project and lunch at CKI

**Nov. 17** USY Board Meeting, 8 pm - Help Sisterhood with Corned Beef Lunch

**Nov. 26** Turkey Dance BEANS

– Liza Bachrach, *Youth Chair*

- When Stephen Hawking visited Israel, he shared his wisdom with scientists, students, and even the prime minister. But the world's most renowned victim of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), or Lou Gehrig's disease, also learned something: due to the Israeli Association for ALS's advanced work in both embryonic and adult stem cell research, as well as its proven track record with neurodegenerative diseases, the Israeli research community is well on its way to finding a treatment for this fatal disease which affects 30,000 Americans.

## The Pleasure of Reading

On the night of November 9/10, 1938, 200 synagogues were destroyed, thousands of businesses vandalized, approximately 30,000 German Jews were arrested to be sent to concentration camps, and almost 100 additional Jews were murdered. This travesty of inhumanity was unleashed in response to the shooting of a German diplomat in Paris by 17-year-old Herschel Grynszpan who was upset about his family's expulsion from Germany. This orchestrated anti-Semitic perversion has become known in history as *Kristallnacht* (Crystal Night), the "Night of the Broken Glass."

Our children and grandchildren must never forget the horrific events of *Kristallnacht*, which occurred during the early stages of the Holocaust. At Passover, we learn that it is our responsibility to retell our Jewish history. This obligation is no less true of *Kristallnacht*.

The CKI Library collection has many shelves of Holocaust volumes. I encourage you to peruse them choosing titles that are appropriate for

the maturity level of the younger reader(s) in your family. Some, like *The Hostage Torah*, introduce this troubling topic in a sensitive manner appropriate for younger readers.

Other book selections expand upon your pre-teen and teen's public school curriculum with biographical and non-fiction works including: *The Voyage of the Uluu*; *Fireflies in the Dark*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Anne Frank Remembered: The Story of the Woman Who Helped to Hide the Frank Family*, and *Anne Frank and Me*.

Dozens of other titles including: *Number the Stars*, *The Cross by Day—Mezuzah by Night*, *Fire in the Hills*, and *Daniel Half Human and the Good Nazi*, use the device of historical fiction to tell these events in a manner that pre-teens and teens can absorb.

Adult readers will be enlightened by reading: *The Holocaust Chronicle*, *Nazi Revolution: Germany's Guilt or German's Fate?*, *The Parnas: A Scene from the Holocaust*; *Medical Block: Buchenwald*, *The Last Jews in Berlin*, or *From Berlin to Jerusalem: Memories of my Youth*.

Books such as: *The House on Garibaldi Street: the Capture of Adolf Eichmann*, *Promises to Keep: One Man's Journey Against Incredible Odds*, *Outraged Conscience: Seekers of Justice for the Nazi War*, *After the War*, and *October 45: Childhood Memories of the War* recount the stories of survival and retribution. These are but a few selections from our extensive Holocaust collection.

Winston Churchill inspired the world (borrowing the words of 19th Century Spanish philosopher George Santayana) by saying: **"Those that fail to learn from history, are doomed to repeat it."** Please read and teach our younger generations so that they may be forever spared living the horrors their grandparents experienced.

– Sherry Wiesman



## Social Action

Thank you to all who supported the *Kol Nidre* Food Drive. All items were delivered to the Community Crisis Center Food Pantry.

### Flu Shots

Holy Trinity Church (our neighbor across the street on the south east corner of Chapel and Division) is offering **flu shots** (to the public) on **November 10** from **1:30 – 3:30 pm**. The Visiting Nurses Association administer the shots.

### Health Care Day at CKI

Recently, I had the privilege of meeting **Randee and Jim Donovan**, who are new members at CKI. Very generously, they have shared their poignant family story. Randee's heart-rending words provide additional reasons why it is so important for all who are physically able to donate blood.

*Gabriel Fox Donovan was born May 11, 2006. His family called him "Serious Gabe." His big, dark brown eyes were always watching everything and everyone around him. Gabe was stingy with his smiles, but when you made him happy, he'd laugh and light up the room.*

*Gabe loved his big brother Jack and his dog Sazzmo. He liked to play with electrical cords, his toolbox, and he enjoyed doing chores around the house with his dad and grandpa. Gabe's favorite foods were noodles, popcorn, and fruit snacks. He loved dogs and being outdoors. He was happiest with his blankie, his binkie, and his mom.*

*Gabe was diagnosed with Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (AML) on November 27, 2007. He was eighteen-months-old. His only symptoms were that he was pale and his testicles were slightly enlarged. Gabe completed five intense rounds of chemotherapy at Children's Memorial Hospital in early April of 2008. Within two weeks, his cancer returned.*

*Gabe was scheduled to receive a non-related stem cell transplant early in the summer of 2008. Sadly, he died very unexpectedly after only one more*



*round of chemotherapy. It was four days before his second birthday. He was buried on May 11, 2008: his second birthday and Mother's Day.*

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**Sunday, November 16**, CKI hosts its **Sixth Annual Blood Drive** from **8:30 am to noon**.

The drive is being conducted with the assistance of **Heartland Blood Centers**, a non-profit medical organization that supplies blood to the area hospitals that service CKI Members, including Sherman, Provena St. Joseph, Delnor, and Central DuPage. If you or someone you know had surgery locally in the past year requiring a blood transfusion, chances are the blood came from a Heartland donor.

Our goal this year is to supply 32 units of blood. Since each donor can only offer one unit and since some prospective donors may be turned away due to medical reasons, we'll need a minimum of 50 volunteer donors to come forward.

Donations will take place aboard Heartland's state-of-the art mobile donation unit (the Bloodmobile) that will be parked in our lot. If you're here to drop off your children for Sunday School, this will be a perfect way to spend the morning. And bring a friend! Non-members are welcome, and there are juice and treats, too!

If you have never donated blood before, it's easy, quick (in most cases the donation takes less than 15 minutes), and is relatively painless. Most importantly, IT'S A MITZVAH!

The Social Action Committee is coordinating the drive. Walk-ins will be welcome, but reservations are strongly suggested. To **pre-register** for a donation time, please email **Fern Raben** at: [r.raben@sbcglobal.net](mailto:r.raben@sbcglobal.net)

General donor qualifications include: being in good health and feeling well, 17 years of age or older (or 16 years of age with written parental consent), 110

pounds or more, and at least eight weeks since the last donation. Medications for high cholesterol, blood pressure, allergies and most anti-inflammatory drugs ARE acceptable. Some travel outside the US might disqualify you. For more information, including a list of medications that may affect eligibility, check out Heartland's website: [www.heartlandbc.org](http://www.heartlandbc.org).

Be sure to eat something within four hours of the donation, and bring a photo ID.

In the meantime, some excellent food sources of iron include chard, spirulina, blackstrap molasses, tofu, thyme, parsley, cinnamon, and turmeric. So pound down the spirulina and we'll see you on November 16!

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A Kane County Health official will also be here during the blood drive to assist people who need help registering for the State of Illinois **ALL KIDS HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM**. The goal of this program is that every child in the State be covered by health insurance. Insured kids get the medical attention they need, it keeps them in school, and it also reduces the strain on emergency rooms.

### Petitions

There are two very important petitions in the social hall which we are asking you to sign:

The CCC (Community Crisis Center) has asked us to support them in educating people to end domestic violence. Please sign the petition and pick up brochures detailing how you can recognize domestic violence situations and where to seek confidential help.

Also, on the same table is the petition from the United Synagogue of Conservative Jews, of which CKI is a member congregation. Eighty-seven hundred Ethiopian Jews are seeking asylum in Israel under the Right of Return law. They have been denied immigration status in Israel. It is vital that they be allowed to leave Ethiopia. Someone recently asked me why we

*(continued on next page)*

## Social Action

(cont'd from p. 6)

should be involved with the internal decision making of the Israeli government. The answer is simple: *Tikum Olam*; it is our obligation to help repair the earth, to help others (especially fellow Jews) wherever there is injustice or persecution.

### Breast Cancer Awareness

A quick and easy *mitzvah*! The Breast Cancer web site has an arrangement with their corporate sponsors who agree to donate free mammograms in exchange for advertising on their site. The Breast Cancer site is having trouble getting sufficient numbers of people to click on their site daily to meet their quota of donating at least one free mammogram a day to an underprivileged woman. Go to the site and click on 'donating a mammogram' for free (pink window in the middle). And while you are at their site, click the other tabs to help end hunger, illiteracy and other social problems.  
<http://www.thebreastcancersite.com/>

We all can participate in the war against breast cancer in another way as well. Dr. Susan Love (the first doctor who recognized the connection between hormone replacement and breast cancer) is asking for women of all ages to register at [www.armyofwomen.org](http://www.armyofwomen.org) to comprise a huge database of all women for breast cancer research. (You may occasionally be asked to go give a blood or urine sample.) Registering is free and easy, and it will make a difference in our lifetime and the lifetime of our daughters.

– Fern Raben and Sherry Wiesman

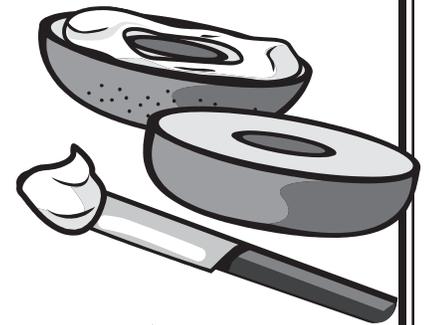
## A Mitzvah on Wheels

CKI members performed a community *mitzvah* for October with the delivery of Meals on Wheels. Thanks to **Deborah & David Stone, Ron Burstein, Len & Laurie Winner, Sheri Wiesman, Sue Johnson, Ron Razowsky** and **Anita Hornung**. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated. Look for scheduling information for the next CKI Meals on Wheels in *HaKol*.

– Nancy Zimmerman & Sue Johnson

# The "CKI SENIORS" Lox & Bagel Luncheon

Tuesday, November 11  
12:00 noon at CKI



RSVP to [phyllisCKI@aol.com](mailto:phyllisCKI@aol.com) or (847) 741-8784

Please respond DEFINITELY NO LATER THAN  
Thursday, November 6.

Payment by cash or check at \$8.00 per person.

Please make check payable to "Cash."

**Just an important women's health reminder:  
October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month.  
If you did not get your mammogram done in  
October, make your appointment TODAY!**

– Cheryl Stanczak, CKI Sisterhood Torah Fund Chair

## Parashat HaShavu'a – Weekly Torah Portions

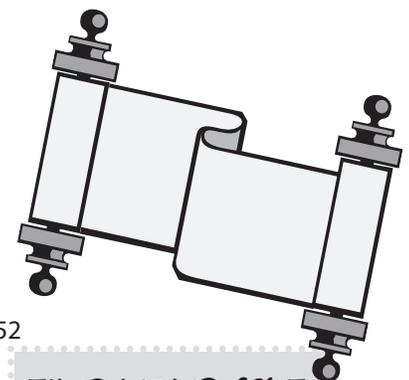
**November 1** Noah – Genesis 8:15-10:32  
3 Cheshvan Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1 – 55:5

**November 8** Lekh L'kha – Genesis 14:1-15:21  
10 Cheshvan Haftarah: Isaiah 40:27-41:16

**November 15** Vayera – Genesis 19:1-20:18  
17 Cheshvan Haftarah: II Kings 4:1-37

**November 22** Haya Sarah – Genesis 24:10-24:52  
24 Cheshvan Haftarah: I Kings 1:1-31

**November 29** Toldot – Genesis 26:23-27:27  
2 Kislev Haftarah: Malakhi 1:1 – 2:7



FIND YOURSELF  
IN SHUL!  
SHUL IS GOOD!



CKI Sisterhood November Field Trip  
 "Paintings in Light" – the Gropper Windows  
 Sunday November 23, 12:00 – 3:00

In 1967, artist William Gropper completed a series of five windows along the east wall in the Gottlieb Community Hall at West Suburban Temple Har Zion in River Forest. Instead of traditional stained glass techniques, Gropper used one inch thick chunks of brilliantly colored glass which were cut to shape and chipped or faceted on the surface. Each window is two stories high and contains 11 panels of this chiseled glass set in a matrix. The windows are separated from each other by brick columns of approximately the same width as the windows themselves.

To commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the installation of the windows, Temple Har Zion is enhancing the experience with docent-led tours and an exhibition of Gropper's other works.

The tour's suggested donation is **\$5.00**; a kosher box lunch is available for an additional **\$15.00**.

**If you want the lunch, join us at Har Zion at 12:00. If you want to do lunch on your own, join us at 1:00 for the tour.**

Har Zion is in River Forest, just off 290 at Harlem Ave. It will take approximately one hour to drive there from CKI.

**Please RSVP to Susan Robbins 847-331-3771 or [susanr613@yahoo.com](mailto:susanr613@yahoo.com) by Sunday, November 16 with your preference of lunch or no lunch. Please make your check out to CKI Sisterhood and either give it to Susan or leave it in the CKI office.**

## Honorable Menschen to...

**SUE ZEMEL and the CKI Choir – JEFF RIFKEN, MARC ZEMEL, MAUREEN ROSENFELD, NANCY ZIMMERMAN, SUSAN ROBBINS, NANCY COX, LAURA COX, and DANIELLE STONE...**

**LEONARD KOFKIN and the Ushers – PAUL GLASER, DAN MARSHALL, CHUCK MILLER, PAUL MILLER, C'LEE MILLER, BRAD BURKER, STEVE EAGELS, FRANK WEICHKIOWSKI, MARC BEAR, RICH KRUTH, MARC ZEMEL, JERRY GOOZH, BURT FRIEDMAN, DUANE KOTTER, TODD NYE, and JACK FISHMAN...**

**JOE ROSENFELD and PAUL GLASER,** ritual and honors...

**NINA FINN and her crew,** Break-the-Fast...

**KEN JACOBY,** *shofar*...

**ADELE STEIN, WANDA PITZELE,** and **NINA FINN,** Youth Services...

**ZAHAVA RAZ,** CKI secretary...

**PHYLLIS LESSER,** memorial book...

**ROCHELLE FOSCO, ANA MCCARTHY, MARINA FINK,** silver polishers...

**JENNIFER FOGEL,** chef – Cantor Falk's meals...

**MEN'S CLUB,** setup Break-the-Fast...

for all your work, effort, and time in making this year's High Holy Days a beautiful experience.

## Greeting the Bride

"Tell us about your *Kiddush* cup."

"We don't have one. We use glasses."

"And why do we use glasses?"

"So me and Ari can have the exact same shape. But instead of putting wine in, most of the time we put in grape juice, because me and my brother don't like wine. He doesn't like it but I a little bit like it."

– Dr. Ron Wolfson and Ari, Karen, and Erin Vinocor  
 in *The Art of Jewish Living: The Shabbat Seder*

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## Sadness

(cont'd from p. 1)

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the back yard. Their life was simple, and they never asked anything from anyone. When the Nazis came to Czernovitz, her family ran on foot across the border into Ukraine. Wandering through the countryside, they had nowhere to stay unless a kindly farmer would offer them a barn to sleep in. For nearly two years they continued to run, never knowing the comfort of a bed. Once, they hid under bails of hay as Nazi soldiers searched the very barn they were staying in. Had they been caught, they would have certainly been sent to the death camps or, possibly, shot on the spot. Such was the education of the Nazi soldiers. They had all read *Mein Kampf*.

My father was not as lucky as my mother. He was only 12 years old when the Nazis took him from Czernovitz. He was living with his uncle and aunt since his parents had been divorced and neither parent wanted to raise a child. His uncle and aunt had no children, and they were delighted to take my father in as a god-son. His uncle was an affluent jeweler in the city, and my father lived an idyllic life filled with all the toys a child could want. My father's uncle, ironically named Adolph, was a secular Jew of German and Austrian background. He was well-bred, well-educated, and thoroughly assimilated. He had heard about the Nazis, but he didn't need to worry. After all, his social standing and influential friends would see to it that no harm would come to his family. Besides, he was barely Jewish at all. Every Christmas, Uncle Adolph would put up a Christmas tree in their spacious downtown apartment, and my father would throw gift-wrapped presents off the second floor balcony down to the needier children in the streets. Surely, the Nazis would leave them alone. But such was not the case. They were transported to a Nazi labor camp in the Ukraine where they worked like slaves on one meal a day. They were beaten and humiliated. Luckily, the war ended before the Nazis could exterminate my father's camp.

On one occasion, my father barely dodged the Nazi SS, who came to round up all the children and elderly in the

labor camp for transfer to the death camps. My father escaped through a hole in the fence and hid in a corn field for two weeks, until he was sure the SS had left the camp and he could return. He had to return to the camp, since the Russians living under Nazi occupation were loyal to or fearful of the Germans and would have turned my father in. On another occasion, my father witnessed two German soldiers interrogating a female prisoner who had an infant. My father witnessed them brutally dismember the child in front of its mothers. The only time I ever remember seeing my father openly weep was when he told me this story. Such was the education of the Nazi soldiers. They had all read *Mein Kampf*.

### Speaking Up

I stood there staring at this disgusting book as all these memories of my parents' stories came rushing back to me. I have seen plenty of anti-semitism these past few years. Most of it has been on the internet. What used to be relegated to Neo-Nazi websites that catered to a thankfully small audience, was starting to leak out into more popular web sites like YouTube and FaceBook. What started as a few isolated incidents has swelled to hundreds of videos and blogs. Every time an innocent Jewish video is uploaded to YouTube, the comment section below the video is filled with vile, perverse, and often violent anti-semitic slurs. Similar violent hate speech is appearing all over FaceBook. Despite my repeated complaints to YouTube, Google (YouTube's parent company) and FaceBook, these mainstream websites refused to remove the offensive language, citing "free speech" as their highest priority. I was disgusted by their excuses, and I contacted the Anti-Defamation League, but their response was similar. I now avoid YouTube and FaceBook altogether, and I hope my child, and everyone's children, will do the same.

Today was somehow different. Not only was Barnes and Noble peddling anti-semitism in one of the largest national bookstore chains, they were mass-distributing Hitler's entire manifesto in cheap paperback and displaying it face up at eye level, a coveted spot on any bookstore's shelves. When I approached

the manager of the store, I asked her how they could justify selling this book. The manager recited to me what seemed like a rehearsed speech: "Barnes and Noble does not believe in discriminating against authors, regardless of their political views," I explained to her that I was deeply offended by this book. I told her my parents were Holocaust survivors, barely. She started to reply, "I understand your concern..."

"No, I don't think you do at all," I interrupted. "Why do you display this book so prominently? Why do you carry it at all?"

She replied, "We get requests for it all the time."

I patiently explained that the book incites hatred and violence. I explained that there is a resurgence of neo-Nazism, and Barnes and Noble is actively supporting this resurgence. I implored her to take the books off their shelves.

"I'm sorry, I can't help you," she replied. I asked for the mailing address of the corporate headquarters. She excused herself as she retired to the back office. After 10 minutes, she returned with a handwritten card listing a Customer Service phone number: 800-422-7717, the name "Kim Chambliss," and another phone number: 618-244-0698. I asked who the president of company is, and she replied, "Steve Regio." My parting words to the manager were approximately: "I understand you want to cater to the tastes of all your customers, but business should be conducted with at least a minimum of moral judgment. But if you don't care about morality or inciting hatred, then from a business perspective, consider this: Barnes and Noble does not sell pornography because that would tarnish their reputation. Selling *Mein Kampf* will also tarnish their reputation." I went home, ate dinner with my family, and sat down to record my thoughts. I would like to think that the president of Barnes and Noble would feel immense shame once he hears my story and that he will promptly remove the book from the entire national chain. I would like to believe this, but I know large corporations don't listen to isolated voices like mine. ☆

## Acknowledgements

### Generous Donations

#### GENERAL FUND

In memory of Libby Lewis

Sheila and Bernie Miller

#### PRAYERBOOK FUND

In memory of Howard Rifken

Lou & Merrian Rifken

#### CLARA WECHTER EDUCATION FUND

Get well to Pearle Brody and Cheryl Stanczak

Rochelle Fosco

In memory of Toby Feldman

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#### CKI EDUCATION FUND

To David Goodman, our wishes for your good health

Fern & Ron Raben

To Deborah Stone, our wishes for your good health

Fern & Ron Raben

#### BUILDING AND REPAIRS FUND

Donation for Synagogue front steps repair

Mark and Robin Seigle

#### SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND

Flowers for Yom Kippur in memory of Alan Finger

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Good wishes and prayers for Cheryl Stanczak

Sherry Wiesman

#### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of our parents and Jamie Hass

Alvin & Norma Hass

## In Our Family

#### R'FUAH SH'LEIMAH – GET WELL

Fern Raben	David Goodman
Rose Goldstein	Pearle Brody
Lisa Schulman	Rebecca Eagles
Sherry Wiesman	Cheryl Stanczak
Shirley Friedman	Ron Raben
Herman Loeb	

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

## Organ Donation, Halachic Issues and Tikkun Olam?

If you were raised as so many of us were, you were taught that tampering with the body in any regard is considered desecration— an extreme form of disrespect for the deceased. Jewish law, *halacha*, however, is clear that saving a life is of the utmost importance and overrides just about every prohibition and commandment in Judaism. These two seemingly mutually exclusive concepts collided head-on in the 20th century when medical technology made organ donation a reality.

Regardless of where you think you stand on this important medical ethics issue, please plan to join us on

**Sunday, November 23 at 10am**

when Dr. Noam Stadlan from HODS

(Halachic Organ Donation Society) will be our guest speaker.

The purpose of the HOD Society is to save lives by encouraging organ donation from Jews to the general population (including non-Jews) through education concerning the *halachic* and medical ethics issues associated with organ donation.

This program will be followed by Q & A.

Social Action has worked very diligently for *over a year* to bring this important programming to CKI. We are very proud to bring this event to Elgin.

**Please support this programming by attending. There is no charge for admission. This event is open to the general public.**

*Save one life and it is as if you have saved the entire world*

--Sanhedrin 4:5



## Donation Information

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

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## 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** – *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

## November Birthdays

- 1 Chuck Miller
- 1 Laura Cox
- 1 Michael Gantz
- 2 Margot Seigle
- 3 Stephanie Berg
- 5 Helen Neumark
- 7 Rose Goldstein
- 7 Sydney Peterson
- 8 Veronica McCarthy
- 9 Danny Seigle
- 9 Marsha Schwartz
- 9 Elaine Sofferman
- 13 Morgan Abrams
- 18 Adam Levine
- 20 Shana Bender
- 22 Rebecca Berg
- 22 Marci Zeoli
- 22 Lisa Wohl
- 25 Sandi Phelan
- 26 Shelby Fosco
- 27 Rebecca Eagels
- 30 Larry Berg

## November Anniversaries

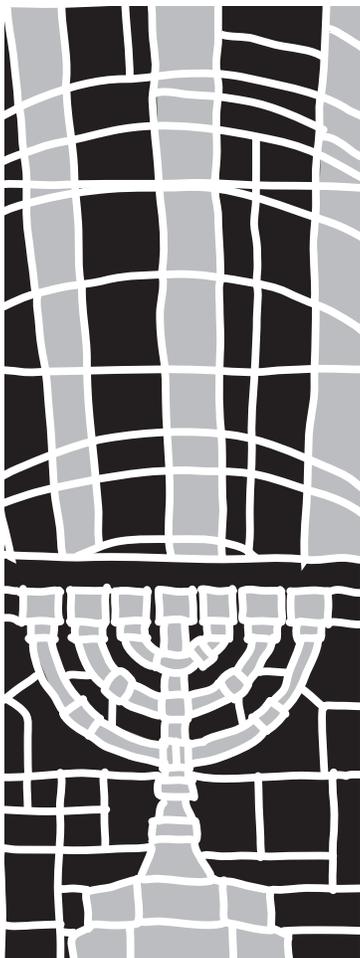
- 6 Pat & Nina Finn
- 19 Don & Phyllis Lesser
- 23 Marc & Sue Zemel



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

Nov 1	Nov 1	Israel Brenner*	Nov 8	Nov 11	Warren Rubnitz*	Nov 22	Nov 24	Gertrude Osmansky*
Nov 1	Nov 2	Charles Kreeger*	Nov 8	Nov 12	Lillian Rosengarden*	Nov 22	Nov 24	Pinchas Dermer*
Nov 1	Nov 2	Milton Raff*	Nov 8	Nov 12	Barbara Ann Burstein*	Nov 22	Nov 24	Libby Kupper*
Nov 1	Nov 3	Howard Gombiner*	Nov 8	Nov 12	Abraham Miller*	Nov 22	Nov 25	Dr. George Cutts*
Nov 1	Nov 4	Jacob M. Rubnitz*	Nov 8	Nov 14	Joseph Fischer*	Nov 22	Nov 25	Alvin Burstein*
Nov 1	Nov 5	Ned R. Ginsburg*	Nov 8	Nov 14	Joseph Kreeger*	Nov 22	Nov 26	Adolph Bernstein*
Nov 1	Nov 5	Harry Rifken*	Nov 15	Nov 16	Louis Gold*	Nov 22	Nov 27	Arthur Sidney Mendel*
Nov 1	Nov 6	Jeanette Scholnick*	Nov 15	Nov 17	Sarah Gordon*	Nov 22	Nov 27	Albert Brazner*
Nov 8	Nov 8	Samuel Strickman*	Nov 15	Nov 17	Sylvia Fishman Wigodner*	Nov 22	Nov 28	Ken Rose
Nov 8	Nov 9	Janet Elyn Eisner*	Nov 15	Nov 17	Sidney Julius Raffelson*	Nov 22	Nov 28	Jennie Kreeger*
Nov 8	Nov 11	Harriet Poncher	Nov 15	Nov 18	Joseph Fischer*	Nov 29	Nov 30	Hannah Goldstein*
			Nov 15	Nov 18	Iris Newman	Nov 29	Nov 30	Gloria Hayden*
			Nov 15	Nov 19	Harry Jacob Becker*	Nov 29	Dec 1	Dorothy Rosenbaum
			Nov 15	Nov 19	Julius Kornstein*	Nov 29	Dec 2	Gary John Seigle*
			Nov 15	Nov 20	Serena Kornstein*	Nov 29	Dec 3	Melvin Ruben*
			Nov 15	Nov 20	Anna M. Brenner*	Nov 29	Dec 4	William Sharf*
			Nov 15	Nov 21	Henry Cohien*	Nov 29	Dec 4	Isaac Kreeger*
			Nov 22	Nov 22	Edward William Goldstein*	Nov 29	Dec 4	Gertrude Mestetsky*
			Nov 22	Nov 22	Cyrus Demont	Nov 29	Dec 4	Mary Greenberg
			Nov 22	Nov 23	Harry Fischer*	Nov 29	Dec 5	Walter Kohlhausen*
			Nov 22	Nov 23	Bessie Fischer*			



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

Nov. 7 .....4:20 PM  
 Nov. 14.....4:13 PM  
 Nov. 21 .....4:08 PM  
 Nov. 28 .....4:04 PM

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

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## November 2008

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

2	<b>Change clocks back!</b> Sisterhood presents the movie "Iron Jawed Angels" in the CKI library. No charge.	2:00 am 9:50 am	16-17	United Synagogue Regional Convention	
3	Confirmation class	6:30 pm	17	Confirmation class USY Board - help with Corned Beef Luncheon	6:30 pm 8:00 pm
4	CKI Board Meeting	7:30 pm	18	Sisterhood Board Meeting	7:00 pm
7	<b>Family Shabbat Services</b> featuring <i>Gimel</i> class	7:30 pm	20	<b>CORNED BEEF LUNCH</b>	
7-9	CHUSYFest		23	Social Action program featuring Dr. Noam Stadlan, speaker from HODS Sisterhood Field Trip to Temple Har Zion: the Gropper Windows Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Epworth United Methodist Church 37W040 Highland Ave, Elgin	10:00 am noon-3:00 pm 7:00 pm
9-12	Women's League WLJC Convention		24	<i>Hadassah</i> book discussion: <i>Amos Oz's A Tale of Love and Darkness</i> – Sun City, Huntley, Condo Party Room	1:00 pm
8	Finger <i>Auf Ruf</i>	9:30 am	26	No Hebrew School USY Turkey Dance at Beth El at North Suburban Synagogue (BEANS)	
11	Veteran's Day CKI Seniors Lox & Bagel Luncheon	noon	27-30	Thanksgiving Recess – Office Closed	
15	<b>Junior Congregation</b> Sisterhood Jewish Film Night & Pot Luck Location to be announced	10:00 am 7:00 pm	30	No School	
16	<b>Blood Drive</b> 7th Grade Bake Sale <i>Kadima</i> blanket-making and lunch	8:00 am-noon during school noon			