

HA KOL The Voice of Congregation Kneseth Israel

הקול

January 2015

Tevet - Shevat 5775

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Wanted: A Few Good Advertisers

Join the celebration of Congregation Kneseth Israel's 123 years of service to our Fox Valley Jewish community. Building on our past, we have developed a new vision for the future. We have a new enthusiasm, new growth, and a new healthy outlook for CKI. Our religious school has doubled in enrollment and we are providing quality programming for young and old. Our leadership and volunteers seek new opportunities to engage a growing population of people looking for a place to enjoy their religion and community contacts. This synagogue is alive with people devoted to the best traditions of Judaism.

We need your help. HaKol, a creative and dynamic way to tell the CKI story, is published monthly online in full color and available on our synagogue website. We need advertising revenue to cover the cost of production. As an

advertiser, you get the benefit of reaching a growing Jewish community of parents and children, grandparents, and friends that stretches from Crystal Lake to Aurora and from Des Plaines to Huntley. Advertising in HaKol is cost effective and a great way to reach a unique target audience.

For 2015, a standard size ad (2-3/8" x 2-1/4") in 12 months of HaKol is available for \$150.00, a double size ad (3-3/4" x 4-5/8") is \$250.00. All proceeds go towards the cost of production.

Ads to start in **March 2015**, must be submitted no later than **February 15, 2015**.

For more information, contact Congregation Kneseth Israel at 847-741-5656, or e-mail at ronrazowsky@gmail.com. This is an opportunity you, or someone you know, should not miss.

"Wow, and thank you so much!"

Those were the words that I heard today, from employees at the Community Crisis Center and at PADS, when I dropped off all of the personal care items.

It seems that, while people do make generous donations, it is very rare to receive so many personal care items all at once. Yet there is a great need for them at both places. The staff was thrilled.

Thank you so much to all the generous and wonderful people who have dropped off supplies all month. The six boxes and six bags filled my car.

Special thanks to Tammy Marsala for sorting through the donations and making it so easy for me to get them over to the Crisis Center and PADS.

CKI really is a wonderful place.

Thank you,
Elise Kleinman, *Tikkun Olam Chair*

Chanukah Menorah Creations with Miss Wendy



CKI SAVE THE DATES

- 02.01 - Men's Club: World Wide Wrap; Rabbi Frisch Klein's Birthday
- 02.02 - CKI Board meeting
- 02.13 - February Birthday Celebration
- 02.15 - Deadline for HaKol ad submissions, as well as article submissions
- 02.22 - Men's Club Man and Youth of the Year Dinner, honoring Joe Rosenfeld and Shane Bonner

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From the Rabbi's Study...

Last month, I talked about the power of light. For some, January can be harder than December.

There isn't that big celebration to look forward to. The weather can make it harder to get out. It is a quieter month, often a time for reflection. Sometimes, it is a time for New Year's Resolutions, made and then almost as quickly broken. People seem to drag themselves to get together.

Yet, getting together is part of what religion is about. Religio, from the Latin, means to tie back into. Tying back into is a search for community. And community is one of those things we do well at CKI. It was the most important thing listed in the focus groups, and still relevant today.

In the month of January this year, there are no Jewish holidays. Tu B'Shevat is in February this year!

Here are some things you can participate in at CKI in January:

Java and Jews: THURSDAY, January 8. Come sit and have coffee or some other warm beverage—8:00 AM, South Elgin Starbucks; 11:30 AM, Panera on Randall at I-90; 5:00 PM, Calibré at the Arboretum in South Barrington. Each group seems to have a different flavor and the conversation and company is always interesting.

Friday night, **January 9**, is the **6th and 7th grade service** at 7:00 PM. The 4th and 5th graders did an excellent job last month and we are excited to hear from our 6th and 7th graders. The Oneg Shabbat will be sponsored

How to reach the Rabbi:

I am in the office at least ten hours each week for people to drop in to see me. Come sit and have coffee with me. Mondays are my days off. I am in the office Tuesday mornings from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM, Wednesday afternoons from 1:30-3:30 PM, and Thursday afternoons from 2:00-6:00 PM. Call first, just in case something has come up. Can't make any of those times? Call and set another time. I'll meet you almost anywhere, anytime. I am accessible by cell phone, 978-590-8268 or by email, rabbi@ckielgin.org.

by their parents and I am sure there will be yummy food. Sharing food is an important part of community.

On **January 10**, we will try a new program. Join us at 4:00PM for a **Mincha-Ma'ariv** service. Once a month, we will gather to explore a different kind of service. This idea came out of our exploration of prayer in November. This month we will try some gentle meditation and an emphasis on healing. Other months, we may try kayaking or walking in nature. Watch this spot for each month's focus.

On **January 16**, we are starting a new tradition. Once a month, we will have **birthday cake as part of Oneg Shabbat**. So, if you have a January birthday, please come join us on the 16th. We will sing Yom Huledet Sameach, eat birthday cake, and I will offer a special birthday blessing from the Bimah.

On **January 17**, we continue our **Kiddush Round Table** discussion of Jews in the News. Bring an article of something that intrigued you or just come and enjoy the conversation. Grab something to eat at the Kiddush, find the table where I am sitting. We'll be finished by 1:00 PM.

That weekend is also when we deliver the food we collect for the **City of Elgin food drive** in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr Day. Last year, our small congregation donated more food than any other congregation of any size. Let's keep that tradition going as we serve the wider community.

On **January 23**, we will be joined by **Pastor Nat Edmonds and one of the choirs from Second Baptist Church**. We will have an opportunity to talk about race relations after Ferguson and the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, for both the Jewish community and the African-American community.

Another new tradition is "**Rabbi's Table**." Once a month Simon and I have been inviting people to join us for Shabbat dinner. By the end of the year, every family, every person, will have been invited to dinner at least once. In January, we will host a lunch instead, for our members of a certain age. It will be after our regular services and Kiddush on **January 24**.

Reading is an excellent way to stay connected to the community, and January can be a good time to hole-in, hibernate, and read a book. But then, come discuss it. The next **book club** is **January 28**, and the book is *The Museum of Extraordinary Things*.

Jews Around the World: England

We have no Judaism Rocks this month, but we have a new family at CKI, where he is from England, and she is from Brazil. Have you met Tony and Maria yet? They have already sponsored a Kiddush!

The UK has the second largest Jewish population in Europe and the fifth largest worldwide. It grew slightly in the last decade, making it more stable than some Jewish communities in Europe right now. There are 409 synagogues in the UK, and about 74% of Jews in the UK affiliate with one of them. Like the United States, there are different streams, or movements, of Judaism, but the names are different. There are several Orthodox branches, comprising 65% of all British Jews. There are the Masorti, which is like our Conservative Movement, 22%, and Liberal, like our Reform, 9%. There are also 3.5% that identify as Sephardi. Overall, 60% of Jewish children attend Jewish day schools. These numbers make the UK a place where Jews are highly affiliated with Jewish institutions.

One unique thing about England, is that it gave birth to Limmud. LimmudUK is a winter conference of serious adult Jewish learning, run by volunteers for volunteers, called voluticipants. In England, there can be as many as 200 presentations and 2000 participants. In Chicago, recently, there were 50 sessions and over 300 participants. Stay tuned! A Taste of Limmud is coming to Elgin! It is a great way to build community.

Our congregation is connected to England another way, also! One of our Torah scrolls was commissioned by Sir Moses Montefiore, one of only 24 in the world. Montefiore was a great Jewish philanthropist known for founding hospitals and the area just outside of the walls of Jerusalem, with the windmill named for him, Yemin Moshe.

HaKol Information

HaKol is published monthly by Congregation Kneseth Israel of Elgin, Illinois. It is sent by email or mailed to CKI members via first class postage. Non-members who would like to receive a printed copy may do so by forwarding a yearly donation of \$18 (chai) to cover cost of production and mailing. **Make checks payable to Congregation Kneseth Israel.**

All material for the February issue is due NO LATER than January 15, PLEASE.

All items should be emailed to: jemcfarlane@earthlink.net

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To contact, call CKI at 847-741-5656



In our effort to offer more transparency and to encourage more participation, the CKI Board now makes our upcoming meeting agendas available on our website as a downloadable PDF. Please go to: www.ckielgin.org/board-meeting-agenda.html

PLEASE...
If there is an illness in the family or the loss of a loved one, please call CKI at 847-741-5656 so that your CKI family can contact you and be of help.



President's Message

Can Synagogue Life Heal?

As I look at the title of this article, I realize that you probably know what my answer will be. You'll know, because I am the President of the synagogue, but I am fairly certain you'll also know, because your heart is already aware.

I was moved to write this article by a piece that I recently read entitled, "The Depression Epidemic," by Jonathan Rottenberg (Psychotherapy Networker, November/December 2014). Nearly one in five Americans suffer from depression; about 35 million people in the United States. That's a lot of people, and doesn't include those suffering from anxiety. Americans consume more psychiatric medicine per person than any other country on the planet. In addition, we are also the largest consumers of illegal drugs. Why this is occurring, is a very important question.

One of Rottenberg's central themes is that we have made a mistake in looking at depression and anxiety as individual problems. We isolate the individual, and his/her illness, from the surrounding environment, as though that environment had nothing to do with the onset of the disorder. We also treat it that way. We focus strictly on the individual, and occasionally include the family, but never the wider environment.

However, there are environmental explanations for America's poor mental health. One is the consumer culture. We are in a never-ending pursuit of more stuff, in the mistaken belief that the relentless competition for more will make us happier. There is little empirical evidence to back up the notion that things bring us happiness, but it is certainly what the advertisers tell us over and over again. It is a brass ring that all of us know we will never reach. It is what Martin Seligman (Authentic Happiness, 2002) referred to as the "hedonic treadmill."

A second explanation lies in our incessant rushing around, combined with high levels of distraction. I myself have four telephone numbers, three e-mail addresses, and a Facebook account—I am a relative lightweight in the distraction department. I don't have a TV in every room, or Twitter, or Snapchat, etc. Most of us never have a moment to catch our breath, to get away from work, or to allow our minds to settle down. Research has proven that our minds need quiet time in order to process and sort all of the data we have absorbed.

So, if the environment is at least a part of the problem, what are some solutions? Well, the health sciences have looked into that. Here are a few of the solutions: ritual, a social support network, connectedness, time off the treadmill, pursuit of virtue, exercise, meaning in our work and personal lives, acceptance, and hope.

Ritual is defined as those anchors in time upon

which you can depend. These include things like family dinners, walking the dog, or going to synagogue. Ritual is intentional. We establish rituals as an alternative to just running around.

A social support network is a group of people on whom you can rely. Synagogue life offers many opportunities for establishing a social support network: prayer partners, Men's Club or Sisterhood, meeting with the Rabbi, sitting together on Sunday mornings, and participation in other aspects of synagogue life.

Connectedness is one of the keys to a spiritual life, and means feeling connected to the world around you. It can be a small thing like taking a moment to be mindful of the food you are about to eat. It can be larger, like engaging in Tikkun Olam or Bikkur Cholim (visiting the sick) activities, or contemplating G-d's world and the web of creation.

Time off the treadmill is exactly that. A time when the phone is off, when we disconnect. Judaism has institutionalized that sort of break for the last 3,000 years. It is the Sabbath. Time off is available in the aptly named "sanctuary" at 330 Division Street, where we gather to pray. Prayer is mostly repetitious. It is chanting, and chanting is perhaps the oldest form of group stress management.

Seligman identifies virtue as having six components: Wisdom and knowledge; courage; love and humanity; justice; temperance; and spirituality and transcendence. The study of each of these is available at a synagogue; not just during religious services, but in study groups and casual conversation, as well.

There are plenty of opportunities for exercise in a synagogue. The "Jewish Aerobics" of prayer is just one opportunity. Volunteering around the building is another. Doing a Tikkun Olam activity like Habitat for Humanity or PADS is a third.

I once read that, "Without G-d nothing in life has any meaning." If there is no plan or purpose, no big picture, then why bother? We really would be just gerbils on a wheel. Talk about a cause of depression! Joining a faith community, such as a synagogue, brings meaning not just to our personal lives, but to our work lives as well.

By feeling a part of a bigger whole, by understanding that G-d is present in our lives every day, we are able to accept what life brings to us and to have hope for a better future.

Is joining a synagogue the entire answer? No, but it is a great place to start. It is right here. You're already a member. Use it to the fullest. Use it for you.

Shalom,
Joe Rosenfeld

Why I Am a Jew

During the High Holidays, a number of our congregants were asked to speak to the congregation about why they are Jewish and what it means to them. We thought you would like to have the opportunity to reflect on what was said in depth, or, if you were unable to attend services, read some of these for the first time. We hope to publish one each month for the next few months.

Why I Am a Jew by Ken Hillman

This was a tough one. Why am I a Jew? The short answer is that my journey has led me to the immutable conclusion that everything I am, and have done, reaffirms that I am a Jew. I am not Jewish because I do not equivocate or waiver. I am a Jew. And my journey confirms it.

Now the hard part, how to share that journey with you and to do it in three minutes on Yom Kippur.

My journey starts in New York City, where I used to go to synagogue on the High Holy Days with my dad on the Upper West Side. Back then, everyone in my world was Jewish except the delivery man, doorman and the occasional kid who would throw pennies at us. When your world is Jewish, you didn't really have to think of it all that much.

I remember High Holiday services sitting with my dad in our usual seats behind the lady in the beehive hairdo (my dad was a Brooklyn Dodger fan who lived in the Bronx. For those of you who did not follow baseball in New York back then, I would maintain that a kid growing up a mile from Yankee Stadium and rooted for the "There's always next year" Dodgers, instead of the mighty Yankees, is a distinctly Jewish trait). We sat behind the lady in the beehive hairdo every year, but did not know her name, because we only saw her during the High Holidays as that was the only time any of us went to synagogue. It was a beautiful synagogue, with ornate benches, a giant pipe organ, a gorgeous chandelier, an ornate balcony and stained glass windows extolling the greatness of the donor—I mean G-d.

One time, in the middle of the Kol Nidre sermon, a baby started to cry and the rabbi yelled at the baby—taking time from yelling at us for not going more often, and yelling at the people who weren't there, for not being there. From this I learned the institution of the Jewish religion. It was what we did, but not necessarily anything that I could relate to—perhaps because it was "what everybody else did." We went, but there was no connection—no ruach—there was plenty of beauty, but it was external.

The start of my personal diaspora came when I went away to college in Williamstown, MA. I majored in English and learned about the hatred generated towards Jewish authors like

(continued on page 6)

TREE OF LIFE LEAF or ROCK FUNDRAISER

Have you noticed our "Tree of Life" at CKI on the wood-paneled wall with the engraved leaves and rocks? It has been there since the 1950s, and is a great way for us to help CKI raise funds while getting something special in return that will last for many, many years. For \$100 per leaf, you can honor a teacher or special mentor, acknowledge the birth of a new baby, a birthday, wedding, anniversary, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Chanukah gift, or any type of celebration. Of course this is also a perfect way to memorialize the loved ones we have lost. For those of you who would like to make a donation of \$1,000, CKI will purchase more bronze rocks for engraving. To make this fundraiser even more affordable, consider "chipping in" with other congregants to purchase a rock or leaf. Any amount is helpful to our synagogue!



Existing Tree of Life

My goal is to sell the existing leaves and new rocks, and then re-design and enlarge the tree so this tradition can continue for many years. Attached you will see some examples of our existing tree, leaves and rocks, and an option for how a new "grove of trees" might look. Wouldn't it be thrilling to sell all the leaves/rocks and have to order more, while continuing this fundraiser as a permanent display and something to be proud of at CKI for generations to come? That is my wish, so I hope you will join me in making this happen!

Thanks so much in advance for your support,
Robin Seigle

Questions? Email me at robin.seigle@gmail.com or call me at home, 847-426-8426.



Existing Rocks



BUY A LEAF OR ROCK FOR THE TREE OF LIFE

There are many ways you can easily participate in the new fundraising project for CKI. For \$100 per leaf you can honor a teacher or special mentor, acknowledge the birth of a new baby, a birthday, wedding, anniversary, bar/bat mitzvah, Chanukah gift, or any type of celebration. Of course this is also a perfect way to memorialize those we have lost. For those of you who would like to make a donation of \$1,000, CKI will purchase more bronze rocks for engraving. To make this fundraiser even more affordable, consider "chipping in" with other congregants to purchase a rock or leaf. Any amount will help reach our quota!

_____ Leaf/ Leaves - @\$100 each (maximum lines: 5)

_____ Rock - @\$1,000 each (maximum lines: 6)

Engraved message (please print) - see suggestions below.

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

Line 4 _____

Line 5 _____

Line 6 _____

Your Name: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____



Please mail check (made out to Congregation Kneseth Israel) along with this completed form to:
 CKI, 330 Division, Elgin, IL 60120.
 Any questions, contact Robin Seigle at robin.seigle@gmail.com or 847-426-8426.
 Please allow 6 - 8 weeks for installation on the "Tree of Life." Thank you!

Inscription Suggestions:

Celebrating the birth of
 Hannah Friedman
 February 12, 2013
 from her grandparents
 Joel and Susan Kaufman

Mazel Tov to the
 Bat Mitzvah girl
 Rachel Rosenberg
 May 11, 2013
 love, from Mom & Dad

Warmest Wishes on
 your 60th birthday
 with love from
 your dear friends
 ~ The Klein's & Wolf's ~

To Mrs. Shapiro
 for your many
 years of service at CKI
 fondly,
 Your 4th grade students
 2013-2014

In memory of our parents
 Harold and Lora Seigle
 Herb and Cyril Friend
 with love and gratitude
 from Robin & Mark Seigle

To our Grandparents
 in honor of
 their 60th wedding
 anniversary.
 love, Sarah & Bekah

I am currently looking for people that are interested in substitute teaching for Torah School. No Hebrew knowledge required! The person will be given a lesson plan and an aide when substituting; also this is a paid position. Please let me know if you are interested or would like more information.

January:

Sunday 4	No School – Winter Break	
Wednesday 7	Hebrew	5:00 – 6:30 PM
Thursday 8	Chai School	6:30 – 8:00 PM
Friday 9	Family Shabbat	7:00 PM
Sunday 11	Hebrew	9:00 AM
	Torah w/Pre K	9:45 AM
Wednesday 14	Hebrew	5:00 – 6:30 PM
Sunday 18	Hebrew	9:00 AM
	Torah	9:45 AM
Wednesday 21	Hebrew	5:00 – 6:30 PM
Thursday 22	Chai School	6:30 – 8:00 PM
Sunday 25	Hebrew	9:00 AM
	Torah w/Pre K	9:45 AM
Wednesday 28	Hebrew	5:00 – 6:30 PM

With winter upon us, please note that you may check www.emergencyclosingcenter.com for school and synagogue closings. You can go to the web page and register for them to notify you if something is posted for CKI. There is also a link on the www.ckielgin.org web page for the emergency closing center.

If your children will not be attending school or if they will be **late** for any reason, please call or email to let me know.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, at finnina@sbcglobal.net, or call the CKI office at 847-741-5656.

Why I Am a Jew

(cont'd from page 3)

Saul Bellow, for "telling secrets." I was on the crew (rowing being a distinctly non-Jewish activity) but was a founding member of a comedy improv group. For those of you unfamiliar with the distinctly Jewish nature of comedy in the U.S., please understand that at one point, 70% of the working comics in the U.S. were Jewish. From the Goldbergs to the Three Stooges to the Marx brothers, Jack Benny, Milton Berle, Lenny Bruce, Robert Klein, and Jerry Seinfeld, the Jewish immigrant experience was easily translated to humor. And what was it about humor? For an oppressed people having trouble assimilating and finding acceptance, humor was a way to express truth in an unthreatening manner. I learned that the "haha" is never far from the "A Ha."

I remember Kol Nidre of 1983, on campus at Williams. There was a service for Kol Nidre, but at that service we were told where we would need to go the following day for services—none of the options were within 30 minutes. A couple of us decided to put together a Yom Kippur service. We spent the night putting together a service and had the first Yom Kippur service on campus. Today, there are two services today, a spiritual walk and a break fast at the faculty house. From this experience, I learned to create change. The change might not be earth shattering, or even noticeable at the time, but that lesson stayed with me forever.

After graduation, I followed my career to various places and wound up one year playing softball in the New Orleans synagogue softball league. I never forgot playing on a field that had a giant David Duke poster on it. This was a reminder to me that we as Jews may argue about the finer points of "Who is Jewish," but we always needed to be careful because there were always those who would lump us all together and no good would come of it. From my year of Louisiana softball, I learned to be wary of playing chess with people who played dodgeball back.

As my life and career moved back to New York City, I learned the power of transformation. Two South American Rabbis, Marshall Meyer and Roly Matalon, had taken over at B'nai Jeshurun and transformed and rejuvenated the congregation. Just because you were surrounded by Jews, didn't mean you couldn't have ruach—and I really liked it. I remember Yom Kippur in the 90's one year when Roly and Marshall were arguing over arguing on the Bimah about Akeidat Yitzchak—the D'Var Torah. To say they were arguing was not quite right—they were fighting—who was playing Chicken with whom, Abraham and G-d. I was mesmerized. I had learned about an allegorical reading of the Torah, and as a result, I never felt science compete with the Torah, but the way they fought about it made it come to life. I felt like I was given permission to dive in with them

Thank you
to everyone who shopped at the
Sisterhood Gift Shop!
Remember, we are open year 'round.
It is not too soon to start to think
about Passover, Mother's Day,
or graduations.
We will soon have a supply of the
"CKI Pins" by Linda Blatchford.



Credit cards accepted

All sales benefit Sisterhood & CKI

and it reinforced to me that no matter how much I learned about fossils, dinosaurs or the theory of evolution, I had no conflict with Torah. As a Jew, I may not have the answers, but I would fight to learn the questions.

Other snippets from my Journey: Rabbi Arnie in Michigan inviting me to his Ufruf with his partner and being angry not everyone was as happy as I was to celebrate with him, and not being able to find a Rabbi in Baltimore to co-officiate my wedding to Bridget. Oh sure, once we were married we could join any synagogue, but the ceremony itself made me feel like the nine year old who saw, but didn't feel the beauty. I found the truth, and I felt like I needed to make changes again.

Fast forward to the last ten years in the Fox Valley. Five synagogue changes, three Bar Mitzvahs in three different synagogues and searching for a home. And thanks to Joe Rosenfeld who kept in touch with Bridget, and meeting Rabbi Margaret I learned Ma Tovu Ohalecha Yaakov...! I may have been wandering, for decades, both spiritually and physically but as a Jew, my tents can still be beautiful, if they contain love, ruach, a search for the truth (with a little "haha" thrown in the "A ha"), and true inclusion. Those are not uniquely Jewish traits, but those traits in the context of my journey is what makes me a Jew.

PJY Candle Making Fun!

at McHenry County
Jewish Congregation

We had another really great turnout for the PJY Chanukah Candle Making at MCJC. Seventeen kids attended from FVJN (2), CKI (5), and MCJC (10), and many parents enjoyed a cup of coffee at Starbucks. Thanks to Annie and Ali for staffing. And thanks to MCJC for making the delicious latkes!

**Please join us and RSVP now!
Scavenger Hunt at Woodfield Mall!
Sunday, January 11, 2:45 to 4:30 PM
At Woodfield Mall**

Drop off and pick up at Forever Yogurt, Lower Level near Macy's.

Open to all Jewish 5th graders through high school.

Have fun solving clues in the mall, making friends, and snacking on frozen yogurt!

After dropping off your child at Forever Yogurt, parents are invited to gather at the Starbucks Coffee on the lower level next to Croc's. Hang out and schmooze while you wait over a cup of coffee!

**\$10/child if you RSVP in advance on-line at
<http://prairiejewishyouth.weebly.com/calendar-of-programs.html>**

or, send a check made out to CKI Youth, to Liza Bachrach, 7 Clove Court, South Elgin, IL 60177

\$15/child at the door

See what we have done and what we are doing next at:

<http://www.ckielgin.org/youth-groups.html>

Thanks,
Liza Bachrach & Elise Kleinman,
CKI Youth Co-Chairs



Making Chanukiot with Miss Robin





SCAVENGER HUNT & FROZEN YOGURT!

Open to all Jewish 5th graders through high school.
Have fun solving clues in the mall, making friends
and snacking on frozen yogurt!

Sunday, January 11
2:45 pm to 4:30 pm

Woodfield Mall

5 Woodfield Mall, Schaumburg, IL 60173

Drop off & pick up at **Forever Yogurt**, Lower Level near Macy's.

After dropping off your child, parents are invited to gather at the
Starbucks Coffee next to Croc's on the Lower Level.

Hang out and schmooze while you wait over a cup of coffee!

\$10/person

if you pay in advance on-line at

<http://prairiejewishyouth.weebly.com/calendar-of-programs.html>

or send a check made out to CKI Youth

to Liza Bachrach, 7 Clove Court, South Elgin, IL 60177

\$15/person

if you pay at the door

Scholarships available

<http://prairiejewishyouth.weebly.com/pjy-scholarships.html>



Check out the **Prairie Jewish Youth** at
www.prairiejewishyouth.weebly.com

FUNDABILITY... THE EASIEST CONTRIBUTION TO CKI YOU WILL EVER MAKE!

GROCERY/DRUG STORES

Albertson's (Jewel/Osco) (4%) \$25
 CVS Pharmacy Debit Card (6%) \$25
 Walgreens Debit Card (6%) \$25
Whole Foods Market (3%) \$25

MISCELLANEOUS

Amoco/BP (1.5%) \$50
 Exxon/Mobil Debit Card (1%) \$50
 Shell Debit Card (2.5%) \$25
 Marathon Gas (3%) \$25
 SpeedWay (4%) \$25

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 Americal Eagle Outfitters (10%) \$25
 Barnes & Noble Debit Card (9%) \$10
 Bath & Body Works (13%) \$10
 Banana Republic Debit Card (14%) \$25
 Bed Bath & Beyond Debit (7%) \$25
 Best Buy Debit Card (3%) \$10
 Claire's (9%) \$25
 Crate and Barrel (8%) \$25
 Eddie Bauer (10%) \$25
 Express Debit Card (10%) \$25
 Foot Locker (9%) \$25
 Groupon (9%) \$25
 Gymboree (13%) \$25
 Harry & David (10%) \$25
 Home Depot Debit Card (4%) \$20
 Jo-Ann Fabric Debit Card (8%)* \$15
 iTunes (5%) \$20
 Kids/Toys/Babies R Us (1.5%) \$20

RETAILERS (CONT)

LL Bean (16%) \$100
 Lands' End (16%) \$25
 Lane Bryant (6%) \$25
 Limited (9%) \$25
 Lord & Taylor (8%) \$25
 Lowe's Home Improve (4%) \$25
 Macy's (10%) \$25
 Marshalls/TJ Maxx (7%) \$10
 Meijer (3%) \$25
 Menards (3%)* \$25
 Men's Warehouse (8%) \$100
 Michaels (4%) \$100
 Office Depot Debit Card (4%) \$25
 Office Max Debit Card (5%) \$25
 Old Navy/GAP Debit Card (14%) \$25
 Pier 1 Imports Debit Card (9%) \$25
 Pottery Barn (8%) \$25
 Restoration Hdwr Debit Card (12%) \$25
 Staples Debit Card (5%) \$25
 Talbots (13%) \$25
 Target (2.5%) \$25
 Williams-Sonoma (8%) \$25
 Wal-Mart (2.5%) \$25
 Zappos.com (8%) \$25

DEPARTMENT STORES

Cabela's (11%) \$25
 Dick's (8%)* \$25
 JC Penney Debit Card (5%) \$25
 Kohl's (4%) \$25
 K-Mart Debit Card (4%) \$25
 MC Sports (8%) \$25
 Sears Debit Card (4%) \$25
 Sports Authority Debit Card (8%) \$25

RESTAURANTS

Applebee's Debit Card (8%) \$25
 Arby's (8%) \$10
 Bahama Breeze Debit Card (9%) \$25
 BoneFish Grill (8%) \$25
 Boston Market Debit Card (12%) \$10
Bubba Gump (9%) \$25
 Buffalo Wild Wings (8%) \$10
 Burger King (4%) \$10
 California Pizza Kitchen (4%) \$10
 Cheesecake Factory (5%) \$25
 Chevys (8%) \$25
 Chili's Debit Card (11%) \$25
 Chipotle Mexican Grill (10%) \$10
 Claim Jumpers (9%) \$25
 Cold Stone Creamery (8%) \$10
 Dave & Busters (13%) \$25
 Denny's (7%) \$10
 Einstein Bros Bagels (10%) \$10
 Jamba Juice (7%) \$10
 Kentucky Fried Chicken (8%) \$5
 Lettuce Entertain You (12%) \$25
 Lou Malnati's (8%) \$25
 Macaroni Grill Debit Card (11%) \$25
 Maggiano's Debit Card (11%) \$25
 Olive Garden Debit Card (9%) \$25
 Outback Steakhouse (8%) \$25
 Panera Bread (9%) \$10
 Pizza Hut (8%) \$10
 Rainforest Cafe (9%) \$25
 Red Robin (9%) \$25
 Smashburger (10%) \$10
 Starbucks Debit Card (7%) \$25
Steak 'n Shake (8%) \$10
 Subway (3%) \$10
 Sweet Tomatoes (8%) \$25
 TGI Fridays (9%) \$10
 Wendy's (4%) \$10

Note: * = No Change
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See our Website (ckielgin.org) for a complete listing of all available retailers.

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TOTAL CERTIFICATES

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Wanda Pitzele

Sherry Wiesman

Ron Razowsky

May G-d have mercy upon you and others who are ill among the people of Israel.

Another Way to Donate to CKI!

as fundraising chairman for CKI, I am always looking for new ways to raise money for our synagogue. I know many of you go to the CKI website and then click to make a purchase on Amazon.

Here is another way that will also work!

Just sign into Amazon Smile instead. Here is the link: smile.amazon.com

Once you select **Congregation Kneseth Israel, Elgin** as your charity of choice, you are all set! CKI will receive a percentage of the price of your eligible purchases.

1] Go to: smile.amazon.com

2] Sign into your Amazon account if you're not already there

3] Click on the **Your Account** tile (to the right of the Search bar)

4] Then click in **Change Your Charity** in the drop down menu

5] Type **Congregation Kneseth Israel** in the **Pick Your Own Charitable Organization** (below featured spotlight charity)

6] Click on the **Search** tile/tab and CKI should come up as a selection

7] Click on **Select** and go shop until you drop!

Email this link to many of your friends who frequently shop through Amazon. Each time they sign into Amazon Smile and make their purchase, the synagogue will automatically benefit! They must go to Amazon Smile, not just Amazon, but I think that is easy to remember!

Thanks!

Robin Seigle, Fundraising Chair

amazon.com
Shop through the CKI website!!

January Birthdays

3	Jenna Mussar
4	Cathy Aron
4	Jeff Rifken
5	Madeline Lewis
5	Rylee Sheba
6	Anita Hornung
7	David Goodman
12	Kathy Lange
15	Avery Epstein
16	James Morgan
17	Barry Rose
21	Nikki Zeoli
21	Jeremy Seigle
22	Bridget Hillman
24	Preslee Fivelson
25	David Bromet
25	Melissa Gerlach
26	Estee Berg
26	Karen Kehl Rose

January Anniversaries

3	Leonard & Joyce Kofkin
22	Ken & Maureen More
26	Joe & Maureen Rosenfeld

Parashat HaShavu'a: Weekly Torah Portions

January 1 10 Tevet	<i>Fast of 10th of Tevet</i> Exodus 32:11-14; 34:1-10 <i>Haftarah:</i> Isaiah 55:6-56:8
January 3 12 Tevet	<i>Vayih</i> – Genesis 49:1-49:26 <i>Haftarah:</i> 1 Kings 2:1-12
January 10 19 Tevet	<i>Shemot</i> – Exodus 3:1-4:17 <i>Haftarah:</i> Isaiah 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23
January 17 26 Tevet	<i>Va'era</i> – Exodus 7:8-8:15 <i>Haftarah:</i> Ezekiel 28:25-29:21
January 21 1 Shevat	<i>Rosh Chodesh Shevat</i> Numbers 28:1-15
January 24 4 Shevat	<i>Bo</i> – Exodus 11:4-12:28 <i>Haftarah:</i> Jeremiah 46:13-28
January 31 11 Shevat	<i>Beshallah</i> – Exodus 14:15-16:10 <i>Haftarah:</i> Judges 4:4-5:31

Sisterhood Board
Meeting
January 13 • CKI
7:00 PM

Special Funds

The following funds are available for your generous donations:

Clara Wechter Education Fund – Supports Torah School and Adult Education

General Fund – For multi-purpose use

Lee Miller Book Fund – New books for Library

Lillian Roth Scholarship Fund – (See the President)

Prairie Jewish Youth – Support for programs for our synagogue youth

Memorial Plaques – \$300

Prayer Book Fund – Chumash is \$60

(Siddurim are no longer available for inscription)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund – Needs decided by Rabbi

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

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

Sisterhood – Support our women's group to maintain the kitchen and other projects

Sisterhood Flower Fund – Pulpit flowers

Sisterhood Vision Fund – Large-type Siddur \$50

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

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



Book Club

On **Wednesday, January 28**, we will be meeting at **Sherry Wiesman's** house.

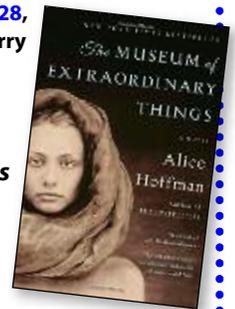
We are reading

The Museum of Extraordinary Things by Alice Hoffman.

We will meet at **7:00 PM**.

Sherry lives at 352 N Commonwealth, Elgin, IL 60123.

Everyone is welcome to attend these events.



For more information, contact Risa Cohen at risacohen521@yahoo.com, Sue Johnson at SusanSJohnson@wideopenwest.com, or Suzy Zemel at mnszemel@comcast.net.



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

Actual Date Observed	Dates of Service	Name	Actual Date Observed	Dates of Service	Name	Actual Date Observed	Dates of Service	Name
Jan 2	Jan 2 & 3	Mary Dreyer	Jan 13	Jan 9 & 10	Bertha Beler*	Jan 23	Jan 23 & 24	Helen Sugar
Jan 2	Jan 2 & 3	Erika Lindow*	Jan 13	Jan 9 & 10	Miriam W. Cohen*	Jan 23	Jan 23 & 24	Natalie Iris Troy*
Jan 3	Jan 2 & 3	Michael Glaser	Jan 13	Jan 9 & 10	Mollie Kleinman	Jan 24	Jan 23 & 24	Ruth Kaplan*
Jan 3	Jan 2 & 3	Hyman Miller	Jan 14	Jan 9 & 10	Harry Seigle*	Jan 24	Jan 23 & 24	Sibyl Kaplan Moses*
Jan 4	Jan 2 & 3	Sarah Cohen*	Jan 15	Jan 9 & 10	Irving P. Durchslag*	Jan 24	Jan 23 & 24	George Neumark
Jan 4	Jan 2 & 3	Frances Ruth Hayden*	Jan 15	Jan 9 & 10	Donald Frisch	Jan 24	Jan 23 & 24	Joseph Ruben
Jan 4	Jan 2 & 3	Louis Meyer*	Jan 15	Jan 9 & 10	Betsy Lynn Zeman*	Jan 25	Jan 23 & 24	Jane Barrow*
Jan 4	Jan 2 & 3	Celia Flowers Reback*	Jan 15	Jan 9 & 10	David Zemel	Jan 25	Jan 23 & 24	Jean Boskind*
Jan 5	Jan 2 & 3	Benjamin B. Baker*	Jan 16	Jan 16 & 17	Barnett Kadin	Jan 25	Jan 23 & 24	Rochelle Fey*
Jan 5	Jan 2 & 3	Sarah Sweet	Jan 16	Jan 16 & 17	Molly Levine*	Jan 25	Jan 23 & 24	Wendy Karen Slutsky
Jan 6	Jan 2 & 3	Anna Gilbert	Jan 16	Jan 16 & 17	Tillie Shore	Jan 26	Jan 23 & 24	Mandel Bochner*
Jan 6	Jan 2 & 3	Lillian Salk Stein*	Jan 16	Jan 16 & 17	Albert Smilgoff	Jan 26	Jan 23 & 24	Sarah Seltzer Frisch*
Jan 7	Jan 2 & 3	Martin Fischer*	Jan 17	Jan 16 & 17	Ellen Goodman	Jan 26	Jan 23 & 24	Pearl Harris*
Jan 7	Jan 2 & 3	Henry Grosken	Jan 18	Jan 16 & 17	Elizabeth Chesler	Jan 28	Jan 23 & 24	Edythe Kadin
Jan 7	Jan 2 & 3	Irene Kramer*	Jan 18	Jan 16 & 17	Sarah Miller	Jan 28	Jan 23 & 24	Lillian Ruth Seigle Roth*
Jan 8	Jan 2 & 3	Henry Norman Eisner*	Jan 18	Jan 16 & 17	Jean Fischer Shenker*	Jan 29	Jan 23 & 24	Hyman Ableman*
Jan 9	Jan 9 & 10	Louis M. Brenner*	Jan 20	Jan 16 & 17	Gerald London	Jan 29	Jan 23 & 24	Lillian Bloomberg
Jan 9	Jan 9 & 10	Dorothy Cohen	Jan 21	Jan 16 & 17	Marlene Gordon	Jan 30	Jan 30 & 31	Zeldah Demont*
Jan 9	Jan 9 & 10	Harry Sweet	Jan 21	Jan 16 & 17	Roy Rifken*	Jan 30	Jan 30 & 31	Louis Gordon*
Jan 11	Jan 9 & 10	Vivian Atkins	Jan 22	Jan 16 & 17	Florence Schwartz	Jan 30	Jan 30 & 31	Theresa Silber
Jan 11	Jan 9 & 10	Melvin Garland	Jan 23	Jan 23 & 24	Yetta Bear*	Jan 31	Jan 30 & 31	Eugene Bernstein*
Jan 12	Jan 9 & 10	Irving Paul*	Jan 23	Jan 23 & 24	Maurice Bender	Feb 1	Jan 30 & 31	Sam M. Becker*
Jan 12	Jan 9 & 10	Sylvia Coady*	Jan 23	Jan 23 & 24	Michelle Diane Fosco*	Feb 1	Jan 30 & 31	Nathan Cohen*
Jan 12	Jan 9 & 10	Harry Richberg	Jan 23	Jan 23 & 24	Bessie Puklin*	Feb 1	Jan 30 & 31	Herman Garson
Jan 12	Jan 9 & 10	Florence Shankman	Jan 23	Jan 23 & 24	Lizzie Richberg	Feb 1	Jan 30 & 31	Martin Kornstein*
						Feb 1	Jan 30 & 31	Nate Krohn*
						Feb 3	Jan 30 & 31	Lester Fischer*
						Feb 3	Jan 30 & 31	Anna Newmark Gombiner*
						Feb 3	Jan 30 & 31	Frank Lindow*
						Feb 5	Jan 30 & 31	Betty David*

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

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

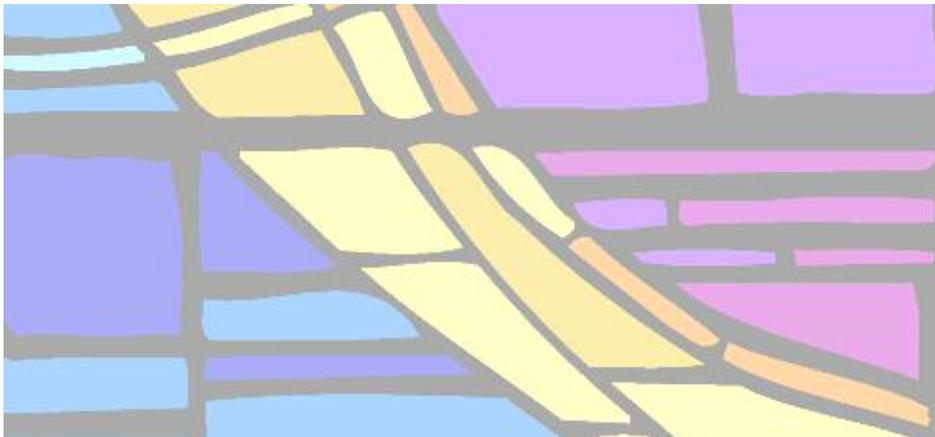
KINDLE THE SHABBAT

- Fri Jan 24:15 PM
- Fri Jan 94:22 PM
- Fri Jan 164:30 PM
- Fri Jan 234:38 PM
- Fri Jan 304:47 PM

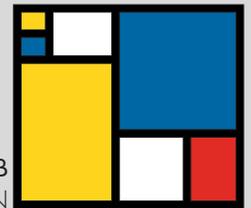
...and HAVDALAH CANDLES

- Sat Jan 35:46 PM
- Sat Jan 105:53 PM
- Sat Jan 176:01 PM
- Sat Jan 246:10 PM
- Sat Jan 316:18 PM

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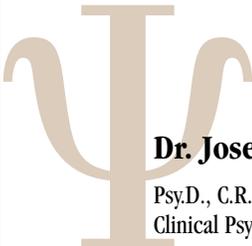
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Have you seen the beautiful embroidered tablecloths at CKI?

They are used for special occasions and are quite amazing! Through the many years our synagogue has existed, hundreds of people have become members, raised their families there, got married, had grandchildren—well, you get the picture. As a fundraiser, years ago, many of these congregants purchased a napkin and added their names. This napkin was then embroidered by a group of woman from CKI, and all the completed napkins were then sewn together to make long tablecloths.

We are in the process of sewing another CKI tablecloth and would love to include as many families as possible. The cost of having your names embroidered is \$18.00 per family, and any extra money you would like to donate will go towards purchasing more napkins along with embroidery thread.

Please fill out the form below, and send it with your payment to:

CKI, 330 Division Street, Elgin, IL. 60120, Attention: Robin Seigle.

Note: Please make your check out to **Congregation Kneseth Israel.** (Please do not abbreviate.)

The deadline is ***NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15.*** Once we receive your payment, we will get you a napkin to “autograph” and return to us.

Thanks in advance for your support. These cloths will be a wonderful way to remember the past, and carry on the future of our CKI congregation!

Robin Seigle
Fundraising Chair

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

Names to be embroidered (please print)

Donation Enclosed: \$ _____ (Minimum \$18.00)

Thank you!

Any questions, contact Robin Seigle

847-426-8426

robin.seigle@gmail.com

