

# Kol Kneseth Israel

"The Voice of Kneseth Israel"

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## A Message from Our President

Lots of things are happening at the Synagogue; Sundays are well attended by adults as well as children, Saul's Hebrew class is pulling in excess of 20 people while the Rabbi's adult *B'nai Mitzvah* is drawing equally good numbers. Sisterhood has been in full swing with their annual Corned Beef Lunch and Men's Club had good participation with setting up and taking down the *Shul Sukkah*. Yes we've had some good participation in lots of respects except in one very important area: *Shabbat* Services for both Friday night and Saturday morning.

As a young man growing up in a traditional Jewish household, it was expected that I attend services on a regular basis, and our Hebrew school had a very strict attendance requirement (much more so than CKI's for our *B'nai Mitzvah*). So during that time in my life I tended to view going to services as a chore and not so much as an enriching experience. It wasn't until after I had grown up and started living in areas with a much smaller Jewish presence that I stopped taking my religion for granted. Over time, and in our own *shul*, I began to appreciate the spiritual feeling and sense of peace that comes with public prayer and with it, the fellowship of my fellow congregants.

I know that a lot of us have a host of reasons why we don't show up for *Shabbat* services; I know because I've used those reasons too: "I'm too tired from working hard all week" or "I've had a really bad day," and my all-time favorite, "There'll be enough people there to make a *minyan*." It's important to talk about this last reason because, in point of fact, it's not true. There, unfortunately, have been several weeks already where we have fallen short of a *minyan* and

(Continued on next page)





## Rabbi's Message

Greetings *Chaverim*,

The theme of this year's High Holidays was "God." How can we formulate a more mature image of God, one that will actually sustain us when we confront the vagaries of life? Plastic, or cardboard images of God just don't cut it in the real world. I am happy to report that our God talks are continuing on Sunday mornings at 10:15. We have been averaging twenty people who come together to discuss and reflect upon prayer. This is an experiential class. We discuss times we feel moved to connect to God and the roadblocks that stand in our way. Discussions then center around the prayer(s) that reflect the feelings and sentiment generated in the room. Accordingly, we are not doing the service in order. We focus on

a particular prayer that reflects our current needs. I'm having a blast!!! The discussions are "real." Please feel free to join the group for any or all of the sessions. You may jump in at any time. We welcome the opportunity to learn from you. Know also that your privacy will be respected. No one will be coerced to speak or share.

Speaking of learning from one another I want to tell you about something that is exciting on the horizon. As you know, I am a member of the Elgin Coalition of Clergy. The coalition's mission has begun to coalesce around galvanizing the faith communities to support PADS homeless shelter. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, April 2 (time not yet firm) to participate in an interfaith *Seder* that address issues of homelessness.

This is a kick-off event that will heavily impact the Elgin community. As details emerge, I will share them. All houses of worship will be called upon to share their talents, so if you would like to participate on the ground level of an exciting new project, please let me know. We need help with food, publicity, and room set-up. This is a huge undertaking, and I am proud that CKI is hosting the event.

In the meantime, before Passover rolls around, I look forward to sharing *Hanukkah* with the CKI family.

Happy *Hanukkah*, and *Kol tuv*,

Marcy Greene

## A Message from Our President (continued from page 1)

as a result the Rabbi is forced to change a service into a *Torah* study session. While this is fulfilling in its own way, it is no substitute for the experience of public prayer with your fellow Jews. I experienced this first hand the first Saturday of November when we were two short of a *minyan*. I realize that this may have been partly due to timing with it coming the day after our New Member *Shabbat*, but it does point out a chronic problem – a decline in our *Shabbat* regulars. Some have suggested to me that perhaps this is simply the nature of our congregation and with all the other positive things happening, not something to be overly concerned with. But I would point out some important facts:

- 1) Those who have experienced the loss of a loved one need the comfort of saying *Kaddish* for the period of mourning. Without a *minyan* this cannot happen.
- 2) Those who have the need for that break in the week on *Shabbat* are equally robbed of their opportunity for public prayer.
- 3) New potential members coming to take a look at us on a Friday night or Saturday morning don't come away with the most positive image of our

Synagogue resulting in a possible lost opportunity for new membership; and finally one really relevant point:

4) **What is a synagogue if nothing else but a house of prayer?** When we are unable to hold *Shabbat* services we are failing in our core mission.

.....

For all of these reasons and perhaps a host of others, by coming to services you are not simply filling a chair in the sanctuary and burning time, but performing a very important *mitzvah*.

I know that with people's busy lives and competing activities it is not always possible to attend services every week. So let me propose a humble compromise; select at least one date a month and circle it on your calendar and then send a note/email to either the Rabbi, Don Lesser or me to let us know we can expect you on that date.

One other idea I would like to throw out: it's a new group that we'll be forming at CKI called the "**Minyaneers Club.**" No, we won't be handing out mouse ears to the club members but I thought perhaps a special *kippah* would be appropriate. The idea is that

for anyone who has attended five or more services becomes an automatic member. OK, it sounds corny, but let's give it a try. Also, for those of you who participate in this program you might just discover one unexpected bonus – a time of peace in your week and the fellowship of your fellow congregants.

See you all on *Shabbat*!

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

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

**Ha Kol Editor:**  
Ron Razowsky

**Design/Production:**  
Jana McFarlane



*"You LIGHT up my life..."*

*"LIGHT in August"*

*"LIGHT in the Piazza"*

*"Behold, what LIGHT in yonder window breaks..."*

*"Let there be LIGHT! And there was LIGHT. God saw that the LIGHT was good..."*

Light! That's what it's all about, isn't it? Light! Especially *Hanukkah*! Especially when you realize that *Hanukkah* goes beyond material things – beyond wrapping paper, ribbon, presents. Don't get me wrong. Presents are great, but they're just not what it's all about. There's something more here – something that connects to God and the soul and those lights! Something you can feel and even see in the faces of the children as you light the candles.

My mom, may her memory be a blessing, had this big, silver electric *menorah*. The lights were the traditional blue and white bulbs used on Christmas trees, and we stood around on *Hanukkah* turning on the appropriate number of lights. Somehow, it didn't do much for me. Something was missing. Now I know. That connection was missing – the connection you feel when you light the candles. I just remember the looks on the faces of our boys when we stood around the *menorahs* and lit the candles. (Each one had his own *menorah*.) That light brightened and wrapped their faces with a warmth and a glow that just seemed to bring us all a little closer – if only for a moment before, of course, we gave them a little gift.

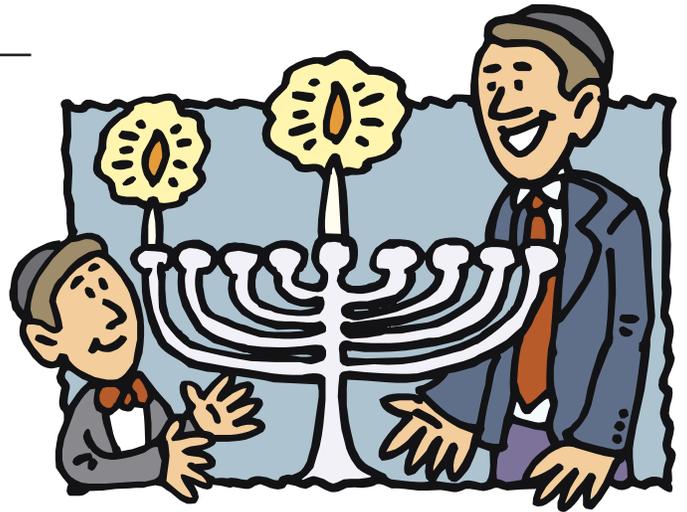
I remember reading somewhere that the flames of the *menorah* are small and silent. We light that first candle, and it is so subtle. Actually, we barely notice it. But as *Hanukkah* progresses and the *menorah* fills, these small and silent flames combine, become brighter, and strengthen our sense of spirituality and closeness to God. You know, life does demand so much from us and can

be, at times, so complex, that we just don't have the time to remember that we do have a soul – that deep inside, there is something else working besides wrapping paper and ribbon. And *Hanukkah* gives us the chance to remember that. As we light each candle, it can brighten and inspire us and cause us to dig deep and see who we are and what we really want to do.

Each child in *Torah School* is like those candles. Each time we work with them, we try to light them – to give them a sense of who they are, who they want to be, and what they want to do in life. We try to make them dig a little deeper inside to feel that soul, to try to get in touch with that inner flame. Just look at what's happening this month – and so much of it is such fun that we don't even realize we're digging that deep. But each activity offers a sense of identity and a blanket of warmth and spirituality. Small and silent at the beginning, it eventually all comes together to burn brightly!

Join us for the annual *Hanukkah Bazaar*! Let the children shop for small gifts for family and friends. No matter what, it is a nice way to teach them how it feels to give. Come to Family Services on Friday night, December 9th, as we celebrate *Gimel* class. Then there's the annual *Latke Lunch* on Sunday, December 18th right after *Torah School*. Wait until that frying-in-the-grease smell begins to permeate the halls and corners of the building! Poke your heads into the classrooms during the month as the children learn their Hebrew and biblical and Jewish history and create different *Hanukkah* projects. See how these teachers kindle the lights!

This year, make your *Hanukkah* lights part of a spiritual reconnection. Let each candle stand for something.



On the first night say, "I light this candle for my parents / my children."

On the second night as you light the new candle say, "I light this candle for others in my family." Then repeat the first one as you light the "old" candle."

On the third night, "I light this candle for my friends." (and repeat one and two...)

On the fourth night, "I light this candle for my teachers and others who help me." (and repeat)

On the fifth night, "I light this candle for all the ways I help others." (repeat)

On the sixth night, "I light this candle for all my blessings." (repeat)

On the seventh night, "I light this candle for world peace – for *tikun olam*." (repeat)

On the eighth night, "I light this candle for God." (repeat)

On that last night, look at all the candles as they silently burn, remember all you repeated as you kindled them, and feel the difference. In the words of the proverb, "For God's candle is the soul of Man."

Happy *Hanukkah*!

*L'chaim,*

## Sisterhood News

One of the best parts of being in Sisterhood is seeing how things always come together. November was filled with important Sisterhood events, and all were successful, due to the hard work and positive attitude of our members!

We started the month with the New Member *Shabbat*. It was a beautiful, relaxed evening. And the laughter of young children in the social hall certainly put a lively spin on it! Many thanks to **Barb Razowsky** and **Karen Sigal** for organizing the event. We believe that this was really a special welcome to our new families at CKI. If you are a new member to CKI and were unable to attend the New Member *Shabbat*, please contact Karen Sigal to receive your New Member Basket. The baskets were distributed to the new families as our way of saying "Thank You for choosing CKI."

The next event was the Corned Beef Lunch. Although it started slowly, things came together here, too. At the end, we sold about 650 lunches. Special thanks to **Nina Finn** for taking the lead on this fund raiser. The proceeds from this event allow Sisterhood to continue its support of the synagogue. And thank you, too, to all of you who baked, made sandwiches, stuffed bags, solicited orders, delivered lunches and ate the food. We could not do it without you!!

December's calendar also has a few special programs.

On **Monday, December 5th** we will meet informally to discuss *The Singing Fire*, by Lilian Nattel. If you remember, this book was the first selection of the Women's League Book Club. It should be a relaxing time. Come join us for dessert and discussion on a cool autumn evening. We'll start at 6:30 (when Confirmation class begins).

**Sunday, December 4th** is our annual **Hanukkah Bazaar**. As always, the gift shop will have a wide variety of gifts, in various price ranges, for everyone on your shopping list. We are still looking for people to help the bazaar run smoothly. Please call **Wendy Shankman** or **Tina Wolf** – or – sign up on the volunteer sheet near the gift shop if you would like to:

- ✓ Set up on the evening of Dec. 3rd
- ✓ Gift wrap on Dec. 4th
- ✓ Help students shop on Dec. 4th
- ✓ Break down on Dec. 18th

This may seem like a lot of work, but this is a project in which many family members can participate! It's a lot of fun and everyone looks forward to the bazaar every year!

Also in December is the Central Branch board meeting and pre-*Hanukkah*

"show and tell" party. At the time we are writing this article, we still do not have any details about it. We know that this will take place in the evening on either December 6th or 8th. If you are interested in attending, please contact Tina or Sandi for details.

Looking forward a little more, the **Women's League Sisterhood Shabbat & International Day of Study** will be in January. At CKI, we observe this tradition by having our Sisterhood members lead the Friday night service. It is a very special night for us and we hope that you will be part of it. This service falls on **Friday, January 20th**. **Adele Stein** will be organizing this event, so call her if you are interested. Dinner will be served before services, for those who wish.

Finally, we are still looking for surveys. Please send them in. This is a great way to see that Sisterhood meets your needs! But, if you prefer a more informal route, just talk to us directly. We are always available!

Tina Wolf and Sandi Phelan  
*Sisterhood Co-Presidents*

## Shopping Tsoures?

In case you can't find that item you're looking for at the Sisterhood *Hanukkah Bazaar*, don't forget you can do your holiday shopping from the comfort of the chair in front of your computer by **linking to Amazon.com through CKI's own webpage!**

Amazon.com offers great prices on a wide-range of items: books, CDs, DVDs, tools, cookware, electronics, apparel, you name it. And as long as you get there through the **link on the lower left side of ckielgin.org**, we can earn a percentage of the total sale (it won't cost you one cent more!).

While you're at it, why not **bookmark ckielgin.org** so that whenever the urge to shop strikes, you can help support programs here at CKI with only a couple of clicks. Happy shopping!

**amazon.com.**





## USY and Kadima News

**T**hanks to all the USYers who participated in two service projects last month: helping set up the Children's Library at the Community Crisis Center and helping Sisterhood with Corned Beef Lunch preparation.

USYers also had fun in November at CHUSYFEST and at the Annual Turkey Dance at Congregation *Beth El* in Highland Park. And our *Kadimaniks* had fun at their November event: lunch and bowling. Thanks to all the adults who helped with transportation and chaperoning.

This month, there's another opportunity to help with a service project, and this time we'll follow it with a social program. On **Saturday December 3**, both *Kadima* and USY will **help Sisterhood set up the Hanukkah Bazaar**, starting at 6:30pm. Once we've completed our tasks, we'll go **Ice Skating** at CitySkate in Elgin (on the Civic Center Plaza, between Hemmens Auditorium and City Hall). There is a warming shelter there, and skate rental is available for \$3 if you don't bring your own. Pickup is at 9pm. Parents are needed to help chaperone and transport.

Also in December, the **USY International Convention** takes place in Philadelphia, **December 22-29**.

There is no **USY Board Meeting** scheduled for this month. We'll meet next on **January 16** at 6:45pm at CKI.

Happy *Hanukkah* to all,  
Maureen Rosenfeld, *Youth Chair*  
847-697-2380 or JustSayMo18@cs.com

### CKI BOARD MEMBERS

**PRESIDENT**, Perry Pitzele

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**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**,

Paul Glaser



CKI USYers Molly Rosenfeld, Laura Sigal and Jason Sigal set up the Elgin Community Crisis Center Children's Library as a service project.

## The "CKI SENIORS" Luncheon

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

12:00 noon, at CKI

The cost for lunch will be \$8.00 per person

Program to be announced

**PLEASE....PLEASE....PLEASE**

for a catered lunch, we must know how many will attend

R.S.V.P. to

Phyllis Lesser at (847) 741-8784 or  
phyllisCKI@aol.com

Please respond by Friday, December 9th

## Social Action

Thank you to all the congregants who supported the *Kol Nidre* food drive! It was one of the most successful food collections we have ever been able to present to the Food Pantry. A special thank you also, to all of the 7th graders who helped the **Rabbi, Jack Fishman** and **Sherry Wiesman** deliver the food. The helpers were: **Chandler Abrams, Kimberly Koloms, Lucy Marshall, Amanda Melinger, Garrett Merdinger, Jessica Shankman, and Bill Wolf.**

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to again remember the hungry in our community. PLEASE bring food items each time you visit the *shul*. The Crisis Center is still in desperate need of formula.

As this article goes to press, we have not yet had the blood drive. However, we want to thank all of those who were able and willing to give blood on November 20th.

In December, please remember to support the Jewish Children's Bureau's holiday drive by donating a child oriented gift certificate. Ron Raben will be collecting them through the beginning of the month.

We are planning to remember our pets and all animals in January by collecting items needed at Anderson Animal shelter. A list of these items will appear in next month's bulletin.

During February we will again be collecting children's books to donate. Let's see if we can exceed last year's number; a record of approximately 750 children's books! More information about this event will also be forthcoming, or for additional information, please contact: Fern Raben, Tina Wolf or Sherry Wiesman

## REPORTING on "MEALS on WHEELS"

**D**espite a short time line for scheduling teams following Yom Kippur, everyone pitched in and filled out the week with good grace. Thanks go to Ron Razowsky and Anita Hornung, Kathy Lange and I, Len Winner and Kara Gauthier, Susan Seigle and Krista Ravenscraft, and Barb Maring with Chuck Zimmerman. Those that participate, when asked, get many thanks from those receiving the hot meals; it's a real mood elevator!

Our next week for delivery is January 16-20, 2006. Please join us and share the camaraderie as well as the appreciation of those being served. Dust off your winter boots and call to volunteer with the name of a partner who will accompany you. (847)-695-6540 Nancy Zimmerman

CKI's very own Choir will be singing at the  
December 2nd Friday night service.  
Come worship and sing with us!  
We hope to see all of you there!

## Honorable Menschen...

May G-d's blessings shine upon...

**JANA, BILL and JACOB McFARLANE** for making one of our wishes come true. Their donation of a 27" Sony television to *Torah* School and the congregation will certainly change the way we watch films and presentations. The television will always remind us of **Pierce Richberg** – their sweet father and grandfather.

**MELISSA, ROB, SARA, and LISA GERLACH** for granting another one of our wishes. Their donation of a new DVD player will also change the way we watch films.

**LUCY MARSHALL** for a *mitzvah* project for her upcoming *Bat Mitzvah* that enriched the lives of our 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th graders.

Lucy's great generosity and desire to have her *Torah* School friends experience a live theater production with a Jewish connection made it possible for us to take a field trip on Sunday, November 13th, to see "And Then They Came For Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank" at the Metropolis Theater in Arlington Heights. With the help of her mom, Lucy made the arrangements and purchased all the tickets.

**WALTER and FELY ARNOLD** for their wonderful donation to add to what we already been given for the purchase of *mezuzot* for the synagogue doors.

## A Hanukkah Community Festival at Spertus

On **Sunday, December 25**, Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies will sponsor **Something Else! A Hanukkah Community Festival**. This event offers activities for all ages on a day when most entertainment, shops, and restaurants are closed.

The event will take place at the **Spertus Institute, 618 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago** from **11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.** Admission is free!

*Something Else!* Provides fun for the entire family, with performances by celebrated human beat box artist and actor **Yuri Lane**, a high-energy science show by **Mad Science**, plus puppets, trivia games, face-painting, food and more. Guests



can tour exhibitions, unearth a treasure in the ARTIFACT Center, holiday shop in the gift store, or relax and watch a film in one of the family quiet zones.

Spertus does not charge admission but asks that visitors bring canned goods to be donated to the Dina and Eli Field Ezra Multi Service Center.

Discount parking is available at the Chicago Hilton for just \$8.00 with Spertus validation. Enter on Balbo.

For questions and other information, call Susan Baum at 312-322-1724.

## Academic Scholarship Program

Approximately \$500,000 in scholarship funds will be available from the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago for Jewish college and graduate students in need of financial assistance for the 2006-07 academic year. Eligibility requirements include:

- Full-time graduate enrollment primarily in a "helping profession"
- Vocational or undergraduate training in the helping sectors requiring no graduate education for employment
- Studies in the arts or sciences
- Communications at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana
- Law

Applicants must be legally domiciled in the greater Chicago metropolitan area or, in some cases, Cook County or Northwest Indiana. Jewish Vocational Service administers the scholarship program and personally interviews all applicants before May 1. To apply, go to [www.jvschicago.org](http://www.jvschicago.org) and click on

Scholarship Services. For additional information or questions call the JVS Scholarship Secretary at (312) 673-3457 or e-mail: [jvsscholarship@jvschicago.org](mailto:jvsscholarship@jvschicago.org)  
**The application deadline is February 15, 2006.**

*Remember...*  
CKI is now selling  
**2005-2006 Entertainment Books**  
**\$25.00 each**  
*with all profits going to CKI!*  
Please Call Lois Troy to arrange pickup  
**847-741-3548**

# A Special Mazel Tov and Honorable Menschen

**YOU CAN'T MISS HIM.** You've seen him walking around this place. He is one of our long-time *Torah* School teachers. Sometimes his students are following him or he's kneeling on the floor working with them or he's standing with them around the table talking to the seniors at their Sunday morning study session. And you can't miss him because he towers over us all – all 6 feet, 5 inches of him!

Next time you see **Marc Zemel**, please congratulate him, for he is the recipient of this year's **Heart of the Center Award** from the **Elgin Community Crisis Center**.

They recently honored Marc at a dinner and presentation and acknowledged his years of volunteer work and contributions. In fact, someone described him as "the perfect fit for this award." About 190 people attended the occasion, including the mayor of Elgin and local representatives.

In the words of **Maureen Rosenfeld** who spoke at the dinner: "Marc knows what our shelter needs – times 40...He's 'The Walgreen's Guy' who is beloved by all the staff...He knows the Center and the people...He has carte blanche. They just throw him the keys because he knows where things go...Marc will get off of work and come directly to the Center...He links people and resources and is an example and model for others...Over the years, Marc has dedicated himself to giving and being alert to the needs in this community."

What a beautiful tribute for a man who has given so much to so many and continues to do so through the children he teaches in Torah School.

### MAZEL TOV TO MARC FROM HIS KNESETH ISRAEL FAMILY AND TORAH SCHOOL COLLEAGUES!

*Jacob McFarlane concentrates on his drawing as Marc Zemel supervises his 5th grade class Megillah project. (Spring 2005)*



## Mazel Tov Corner

Congratulations to...

**EMILY BURKER** and **SARA SHANKMAN** on their recent election to the St. Charles North High School's chapter of the National Honor Society



## Parashat HaShavu'a – Weekly Torah Portions

**December 3** *Tol'dot* – Genesis 26:23-27:27 page 152  
 2 Kislev *Haftarah:* Malachi 1:1-2:7 page 162

**December 10** *VaYetze* – Genesis 30:14-31:16 page 176  
 9 Kislev *Haftarah:* Hosea 12:13-14:10 page 188

**December 17** *Va Yishlach* – Genesis 34:1-35:15 page 206  
 16 Kislev *Haftarah:* Obadiah 1:1-21 page 221

**December 24** *Va Yeshev* – Genesis 38:1-38-30 page 233  
 23 Kislev *Haftarah:* Amos 2:6-3:8 page 246

**December 25** Light first candle light in the evening as *Chanukah* begins  
 24 Kislev

**December 31** *Miketz* – Genesis 41:53-43:15 page 257  
 30 Kislev *Haftarah:* Zechariah 2:14-4:7 page 21

**January 1** Recite full *HALLEL* – *ROSH HODESH*  
 1 Tevet Read from three *Torah* Scrolls:  
 Second *Torah:* Numbers 28:9-15 – *Rosh Hodesh* reading page 930  
 Third *Torah:* Numbers 7:42-47 - *Hanukkah* reading page 808  
*Haftarah:* Zekhariah 2:14-4:7 page 1269

## 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 which pays you income.

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

All have significant tax advantages.

For further information, please call or write:

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

## Special Funds

The following funds are available for your generous donations:

**Abraham M. and Anna Rose Seltzer Music Endowment Fund** – Jewish cultural enrichment programs

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

**General Fund** – for multi-purpose use

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund** – Needs decided by Rabbi

**Lee Miller Book Fund** – New books for Library

**Lillian Roth Scholarship Fund** – See the President

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

**Memorial Plaques** – \$300.00

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

**Shalom Academy** – Pre-school Jewish Education

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

**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

## December Birthdays

- 3 Norman Agins
- 3 Noah Myrent
- 4 Amy Fosco
- 6 Michael Schwartz
- 7 Laura Sigal
- 8 Kimberly Koloms
- 9 Laurie Winner
- 10 Geoffrey Lindow
- 11 Jared Epstein
- 17 Benjamin Schillmoeller
- 17 Max Bush
- 18 Ken Jacoby
- 18 Teddi Stanczak
- 19 Robin Seigle
- 20 Allison Sinder
- 21 Malcolm Morris
- 23 Michael Finger
- 23 Marina Fink
- 23 Ian Goozh
- 23 Steven Troy
- 23 Lisa & Stuart Kravis
- 24 Jason Sigal
- 25 Leonard Winner
- 27 Erin DiSilvestro
- 28 Alyssa Lynn Kendall
- 29 David Barrash
- 29 Debbie Abrams
- 31 Marc Zemel

## December Anniversaries

- 8 Pearle & Ed Brody
- 8 Elizabeth & Jack Fishman
- 17 Nancy & Charles Zimmerman
- 18 Marina Fink & Steven Lekah
- 20 Deborah & Michael Poper
- 23 Adrienne & Gerald Himmelfarb

# MISHEGASS

## AS TIME GOES BY

You must remember this,  
 A *bris* is still a *bris*,  
 A *chai* is just a *chai*.  
 Pastrami still belongs  
 on rye,  
 As time goes by.

With holidays in view,  
 A Jew is still a Jew,  
 On that you can rely.  
 No matter if we eat tofu  
 As hours slip by.

Old shtetl customs, never  
 out of date.  
 All those potatoes mother  
 has to grate.

Honey, tsimmus, latkes,  
 chopped liver on our  
 plate.  
 The best that gelt can buy.

Some would send us to  
 perdition,  
 But we're strengthened by  
 tradition,  
 That no one can deny.  
 We roam, but we recall  
 our birthright,  
 As time goes by.

## CKI COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

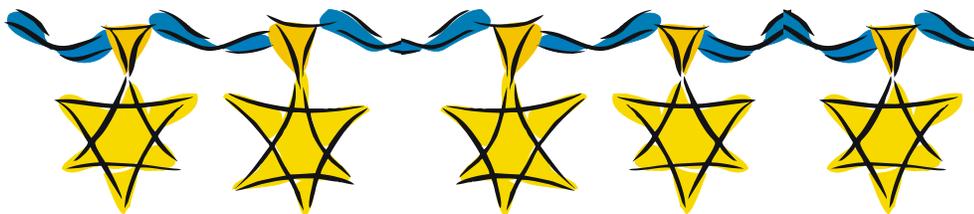
**ADULT EDUCATION** - Barbara Sharf  
**BY-LAWS** - Malcolm Morris  
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**ENDOWMENT** - Charles Zimmerman  
**FUND RAISING** -  
**HOUSE** - Charles Gruner  
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**PUBLICITY** - Aviva Beal  
**RITUAL** - Don Lesser  
**SOCIAL ACTION** - Sherry Wiesman, Fern Raben and Tina Wolf  
**YOUTH ACTIVITIES** - Joe & Maureen Rosenfeld

To contact a Committee Chairperson, call CKI at 847.741.5656

## CKI Book Club!

The CKI BOOK CLUB will meet to discuss the book **MR. MANI** by the Israeli author, A.B. Yehoshua, on **Saturday, December 3**, 2:30pm, at the home of **Irma Davis**, 1104 Lakewood Rd. Elgin phone 847-695-6593. Please phone for directions.

This novel, translated from the Hebrew, reveals the background of a Sephardic Israeli through five generations. It is a fascinating story.



Dreidels and chocolate,  
 never out of date.  
 Ancient Jewish stories  
 that we all relate.  
 Blue-and-white  
 giftwrap, everything  
 that's great?  
 And festive *chazerai*!

It's still the same old  
*Torah*,  
 It's still the same *menorah*,  
 We've latkes still to fry.  
 It's at *yomtov* when we  
 feel most blessed,  
 As time goes by.

# A Request From Our Treasurer

Please assist us in our bookkeeping. In order to ensure that each check sent in goes to the proper account, please be sure to write a note indicating what the check is for.

Below are two copies of a form to assist you: one for now and one for the future.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please check off what the enclosed check is for and put down the amount allotted to that fund.

	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Dues _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Assessment _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Religious Education _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Event (please specify which one(s)) _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation to (please specify which fund) _____	_____
In Honor of _____	
In Memory of _____	
Total Submitted _____	

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please check off what the enclosed check is for and put down the amount allotted to that fund.

	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Dues _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Assessment _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Religious Education _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Event (please specify which one(s)) _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation to (please specify which fund) _____	_____
In Honor of _____	
In Memory of _____	
Total Submitted _____	



# Fundability.

## Money within reach.

### **For Example:**

For every \$200 of Jewel, Walgreen's or Shell certificates you purchase, the Synagogue receives \$8.00. If only 170 CKI families purchase \$200.00 per month through Fundability, the Synagogue realizes a fund raising revenue of \$16,320 per year. You can purchase at any dollar amount, but the more you buy, the more CKI gets. **It costs you nothing... you get to spend every dollar you purchase!**

### **No extra cost to you. Extra cash for CKI.**

Every time you purchase Fundability Certificates for groceries, entertainment, restaurants, gasoline, general shopping, gifts, etc. a percentage of your purchase is refunded to the Synagogue as a charitable contribution!

You will receive either a debit card or a gift certificate for your selected store.

Pay by the 10th of the month and you will receive your Fundability certificates/debit cards by the 17th of the month.

It's like free money!!!  
Write your check to CKI.  
Use your certificates at your convenience at the stores of your choice.

See reverse side for ordering.



### Grocery/Drug Stores

Cub Foods (2%)	\$25	___
Jewel Foods (4%)	\$10	___
CVS Pharmacy Debit Card (2%)	\$25	___
Oscor Drugs (4%)	\$10	___
Walgreens Debit Card (2%)	\$20	___

### Miscellaneous

Exxon Debit Card (1.5%)	\$50	___
Shell Debit Card (2%)	\$25	___
Speedway Debit Card (4%)	\$25	___
Marathon Gas (3%)	\$25	___
Mobil Debit Card (1.5%)	\$50	___
Courtyard Marriott (12%)	\$50	___
Fairfield Marriott (12%)	\$50	___
Hyatt Hotels (9%)	\$25	___
Marriott Hotels (12%)	\$50	___
Renaissance (12%)	\$50	___
Spring Hill Suites (12%)	\$50	___

### Retailers

Ace Hardware Debit Card (4%)	\$25	___
Amazon.com (7%)	\$25	___
Barnes & Noble Debit (9%)	\$10	___
B. Dalton Debit Card (9%)	\$10	___
Bath & Body Works (13%)	\$10	___
Banana Republic Debit (9%)	\$25	___
Bed Bath & Beyond Debit (7%)	\$25	___
Best Buy Debit Card (2%)	\$25	___
Blockbuster Debit Card (7%)	\$10	___
Brentano's Debit (8%)	\$10	___
Borders/Walden Debit (8%)	\$10	___
Circuit City Debit Card (3%)	\$50	___
Crate and Barrel (8%)	\$25	___
Eddie Bauer (9%)	\$25	___
Express Debit Card (13%)	\$25	___

### Retailers (cont)

Foot Locker/Lady Foot Locker (9%)	\$25	___
Gap Debit Card (9%)	\$25	___
Home Depot Debit Card (3%)	\$25	___
Jo-Ann Fabric Debit Card (6%)*	\$20	___
Kay Bee Toys Debit Card (9%)	\$10	___
Kids/Toys/Babies R Us Debit (3%)	\$20	___
Lands' End (9%)	\$25	___
Lillian Vernon (17%)*	\$15	___
Limited (9%)	\$25	___
Linen-N-Things Debit Card (8%)	\$25	___
Lowe's Home Improve (4%)	\$25	___
Marshalls/TJ Maxx (7%)	\$10	___
Menard's (3%)*	\$25	___
Men's Warehouse (8%)	\$25	___
Office Depot Debit Card (4%)	\$25	___
Office Max Debit Card (5%)	\$25	___
Old Navy Debit Card (9%)	\$25	___
Pier 1 Imports Debit Card (9%)	\$25	___
Pottery Barn (8%)	\$25	___
Radio Shack Debit Card (4%)	\$25	___
Restoration Hdwr Debit Card (12%)	\$25	___
Ritz Camera Debit Card (6%)	\$25	___
Sam Goody Debit Card (9%)	\$20	___
Sears Debit Card (4%)	\$25	___
ServiceMaster (10%)	\$50	___
Sharper Image (16%)	\$50	___
Staples Debit Card (5%)	\$25	___
Structure (13%)	\$25	___
Talbot's (8%)	\$25	___
Williams-Sonoma (8%)	\$25	___

### Department Stores

Dick's (7%)*	\$25	___
JC Penney Debit Card (5%)	\$25	___
K-Mart Debit Card (3%)	\$25	___
Nordstrom's (3%)	\$25	___
Sports Authority Debit Card (8%)	\$25	___

### Restaurants

Applebee's Debit Card (8%)	\$20	___
Arby's (10%)	\$5	___
Bahama Breeze Debit Card (9%)	\$25	___
Baskins Robbins (9%)	\$10	___
Bennigan's (13%)	\$25	___
Bob Evans (10%)	\$10	___
Boston Market Debit Card (12%)	\$10	___
Burger King (4%)	\$5	___
California Pizza Kitchen (4%)	\$10	___
Champps (5%)	\$25	___
Chevy's (8%)	\$10	___
Chili's Debit Card (11%)	\$20	___
Corner Bakery Debit Card (11%)	\$20	___
Cracker Barrel Debit Card (9%)	\$10	___
Dave & Busters (8%)	\$25	___
Denny's (9%)	\$5	___
Dominio's Pizza (5%)	\$5	___
Kentucky Fried Chicken (9%)	\$5	___
Macaroni Grill Debit Card (11%)	\$20	___
Maggiano's Debit Card (11%)	\$20	___
Max & Erma's (15%)	\$10	___
Olive Garden Debit Card (9%)	\$25	___
Outback Steakhouse (4%)	\$25	___
Panera Bread (9%)	\$10	___
Pick Up Stix (12%)	\$5	___
Pizza Hut (9%)	\$10	___
Rainforest Cafe (9%)	\$10	___
Red Robin (9%)	\$10	___
Ruby Tuesday's (8%)	\$25	___
Starbuck's Debit Card (7%)	\$25	___
TGI Fridays (8%)	\$20	___
Wendy's (9%)	\$10	___

TOTAL SALE \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL CERTIFICATES \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: \* = No Change

# Acknowledgements

## Generous Donations

### GENERAL FUND

#### In memory of Ian Rubenstein

Pearle & Ed Brody

#### Speedy Recovery to Laurie Winner

Pearle & Ed Brody

Rose & Jerry Goldstein

#### Speedy Recovery to Jeff Silberman

Rose & Jerry Goldstein

#### In honor of Wanda & Perry Pitzele's 30th anniversary and Perry's presidency of the synagogue

Rae Pitzele

#### In honor of Wanda & Perry Pitzele's 30th anniversary

Ed & Tina Wolf

#### In honor of Fern & Ron Raben

Walter & Fely Arnold

#### In honor of Marc & Sue Zemel's 25th anniversary

Ron, Karen, Jason & Laura Sigal

Brad, Anita, Sarah and Emily (Buddha)

#### Speedy Recovery to Barb Sharf

Lisa & Daniel Schulman

#### Speedy Recovery to Burt Friedman

Lisa & Dan Schulman

#### In memory of Nancy Mariasis Ashcraft

Roy Ashcraft

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

#### Donation

Barbara & Robert Levine

### CKI EDUCATION FUND

#### In honor of Marc Zemel's uncanny ability to estimate mailing weight!

Wanda Pitzele

#### In honor of Marc & Sue Zemel's 25th anniversary

Fern & Ron Raben

#### In honor of Anita Hornung, Brad, Sarah & Emily Burker

#### In honor of Emily Burker's induction into the National Honor Society

Fern & Ron Raben

#### In honor of Sara Shankman's induction into the National Honor Society

Fern & Ron Raben

#### To Aaron Wolfensohn, wishes and prayers for a Continued good recovery

Fern & Ron Raben

#### To Zahava Raz, mazal tov on the birth of her grandson, Isaac David

Fern & Ron Raben

### FLOWER FUND

#### In memory of Gertrude Brody and Rhea Herzberg

Pearle & Ed Brody

### CLARA WECHTER EDUCATION FUND

#### In honor of Perry & Wanda Pitzele's 30th anniversary

Al & Karen Bender

Sue & Marc Zemel

#### In honor of Ed Brody's 90th Birthday

Rose & Jerry Goldstein

#### In memory of Myrl Cohen

Sue & Marc Zemel

#### In memory of Pierce Richberg

Sue & Marc Zemel

#### In memory of Antoinette London

Sue & Marc Zemel

### ABRAHAM M. & ANNA ROSE SELTZER MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND

#### In honor of Sue Zemel & the CKI Choir

Pearle & Ed Brody

#### In honor of Marc & Sue Zemel's 25th anniversary

Sarah Frisch

### CKI YOUTH GROUP (USY/KADIMA)

#### With gratitude to Dr. Ken Jacoby and his shofar

Pearle & Ed Brody

#### Donation

Wanda Pitzele

Rabbi Marcy Greene

### SHALOM ACADEMY

#### In honor of Wanda & Perry Pitzele's 30th Anniversary

Jerry & Rose Goldstein

### MAZEL TOV!!

...to **Zahava Raz** on the birth of her third grandson, **Isaac David Feryance**, born November 17, weighing in At 11 pounds 12 oz and 23" long!

...to **Carole and Ron Burstein** on the birth of their new granddaughter, **Maya Elm Henschel**, born November 16th, in New York

## In Our Family

### HAMAKOM YENAHEIM ETKHEM – CONDOLENCES

The congregation expresses condolences to the family of **Sidney Kaplan**, long time member of CKI. Sid died of injuries sustained in a tragic auto-pedestrian accident near his Elgin home. He was 93 years old. A native of Houston, Sid spent his professional life as a clinical psychologist, retiring from Elgin Mental Health Center. Sid was a quiet, gentle person who came to CKI upon his arrival in the Elgin area. Our sympathies to all his many relatives.

*May God comfort you and may his memory be a blessing.*

### R'FUAH SH'LEIMAH – GET WELL

Fern Raben  
Ben Rifken  
Jeff Rifken  
Frieda Simon  
Milton Wohl  
Jerry Goldstein  
Burt Friedman  
Charlie Gruner  
Shirley Friedman  
Laurie Winner  
Saul Mariasis

*May God have mercy upon you and others who are ill among the people of Israel.*



# Yahrtzeiten

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

Nov 26	Dec 1	Arthur Sidney Mendel*	Dec 10	Dec 10	Emma Vopner Salk*	Dec 17	Dec 23	Mordechai Ableman*
Nov 26	Dec 1	Albert Brazner*	Dec 10	Dec 10	Charles Fox	Dec 24	Dec 26	Rose Schwartz*
Nov 26	Dec 2	Samuel Loss	Dec 10	Dec 12	Zelda Sklute*	Dec 24	Dec 27	Esther Iseberg*
Nov 26	Dec 2	Ken Rose	Dec 10	Dec 12	Paul Greenberg*	Dec 24	Dec 27	Meyer Moshe Kohan Ghadosh*
Nov 26	Dec 2	Jennie Kreeger*	Dec 10	Dec 13	Herman Boskind*	Dec 24	Dec 30	Leo Greenberg*
Dec 3	Dec 4	Hannah Goldstein*	Dec 10	Dec 13	Rose I. Goodman*	Dec 24	Dec 30	Anna Singer*
Dec 3	Dec 4	Gloria Hayden*	Dec 10	Dec 13	Evelyn Schack*	Dec 24	Dec 30	Sadie Salstone*
Dec 3	Dec 5	Dorothy Rosenbaum	Dec 10	Dec 14	Sylvia Hymen*	Dec 31	Dec 31	Bessie Weiner
Dec 3	Dec 6	Gary John Seigle*	Dec 10	Dec 15	Dr. Joseph Bachrach*	Dec 31	Dec 31	Charles Rogoff*
Dec 3	Dec 7	Melvin Ruben*	Dec 10	Dec 15	Adolph Frisch	Dec 31	Dec 31	Beverly Fishman
Dec 3	Dec 8	William Sharf*	Dec 10	Dec 16	Micky Burstein*	Dec 31	Jan 1	Helen Louise Rys
Dec 3	Dec 8	Isaac Kreeger*	Dec 10	Dec 16	Abraham Goldstein	Dec 31	Jan 1	Helen Cooper*
Dec 3	Dec 8	Gertrude Mestetsky*	Dec 10	Dec 16	Ida Kreeger Marks*	Dec 31	Jan 1	Suzanna Massouda Levi*
Dec 3	Dec 8	Mary Greenberg	Dec 10	Dec 16	Anna Raffelson*	Dec 31	Jan 1	Esther Flowers*
Dec 3	Dec 9	Walter Kohlhagen*	Dec 17	Dec 17	Frank Brodsky*	Dec 31	Jan 1	Beverly Fishman
Dec 10	Dec 10	Helen Skolnik	Dec 17	Dec 17	Ann Hymen Swerdlow*	Dec 31	Jan 2	Nancy Ashcraft
			Dec 17	Dec 19	Rabbi Abraham Rose*	Dec 31	Jan 3	Leah Kahn
			Dec 17	Dec 21	Bessie Strickman*	Dec 31	Jan 3	Sarah Shatz*
			Dec 17	Dec 21	Clara Wechter*	Dec 31	Jan 4	Rhea Herzberg*
			Dec 17	Dec 21	Augusta Hass	Dec 31	Jan 4	Earl Lesser*
			Dec 17	Dec 22	Anna Herzberg	Dec 31	Jan 4	Idelle Sherman*
			Dec 17	Dec 22	Leo Cooper*	Dec 31	Jan 5	Rachel Polis*
			Dec 17	Dec 22	Dr. Wilbur Simon*	Dec 31	Jan 6	Nathan Breen*
			Dec 17	Dec 22	Clare Mell*	Dec 31	Jan 6	Lillian Grosken
			Dec 17	Dec 23	Fanny Kleiman	Dec 31	Jan 6	Beatrice Wohl Shatzkin*



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

## KINDLE THE SHABBAT CANDLES

Dec. 2	.....	4:02 PM
Dec. 9	.....	4:01 PM
Dec. 16	.....	4:03 PM
Dec. 23	.....	4:06 PM
Dec. 30	.....	4:10 PM

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

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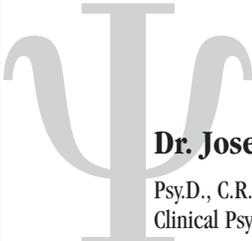
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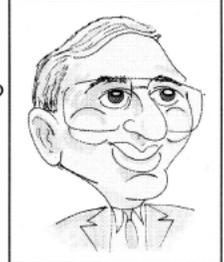
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