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Men's Club Says Brad's Their Man (of the Year)!

CKI's Men's Club has announced that it is honoring **Brad Burker** as its Man of the Year at the **Annual FJMC Midwest Region Man of the Year Event**, this year a brunch at **Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah**, in Wilmette, on **Sunday, February 19**, beginning at **11:00 am**.

Brad was selected for his many efforts on behalf of CKI and Men's Club, not the least of which include serving as

the Men's Club Secretary, Chair of the Yellow Candle Program, and member of the CKI Board and person responsible for making sure our many announcements and press releases are distributed to our membership and the news media.



Brad Burker

Tickets are just \$30 per person, and must be ordered no later than January 31. To reserve a place, contact Paul Glaser at pauljay-glaser@sbcglobal.net.

CKI TO CELEBRATE REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY WITH ELGIN CHURCH

CKI is pleased to announce that on **Friday, January 13**, it will celebrate Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Day with a **special Shabbat evening service** featuring our friends from **Elgin's St. James AME Church**.

Details are still being worked out as this goes to press, but long-time members may recall that St. James visited CKI in similar celebrations in the past, and that same spirit of joy and brotherhood promises to be present as St. James will honor us with a performance by their fabulous choir. You will not want to miss this event, which will begin at **7:30 pm**. All ages are welcome.

For those who may wonder why a Jewish synagogue might want to mark this occasion, take a look at the photo at the right of Dr. King during his famous 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery:

The bearded gentleman to the left of Dr. King? Rabbi Abraham Joseph Heschel, one

of the preeminent Jewish theologians of the 20th century. Heschel saw the teachings of the Hebrew prophets as a call for social action in the United States and worked for civil rights and against the war in Vietnam.

For many, Monday January 15 is a day off from work. Why not start the weekend by remembering why that is so? Join us!



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From the Rabbi's Study...

Now that we've entered 2012, has it ever occurred to you how strange it is for the secular calendar to choose this time as the beginning of the year? The Jewish calendar chooses the autumn, but that seems just as strange. Why autumn? Why winter?

The obvious time to begin the year is in the spring, when all of nature is filled with rebirth. Why didn't either calendar do that? The answer is that both of them did, a long time ago.

In the Torah, the very first commandment that was given to the people of Israel came in the spring, right before the first Passover: "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months;

it shall be the first month of the year for you" (Exodus 12:2). But isn't Rosh Hashana, in the autumn, the Jewish New Year? Isn't that in the Torah? Yes, the Torah mentions it, but Rosh Hashana there isn't called the New Year. It's called the Day of Sounding the Shofar. And it is indeed in the autumn, but the Torah calls that the seventh month. (Remember, seven is a very important number. The "Sabbath" of months, which would still be in the fall, is a good time for Rosh Hashana.)

Just as the Jewish year used to begin in the spring, so did the pre-Christian calendar. After all, the prefixes sept-, oct-, nov-, and dec- mean, respectively, seven, eight, nine, and ten. Why isn't December the tenth month?

Well, it was. The year used to begin in March, and March itself used to begin on the first day of spring. The two calendars used to start together.

And they ended together. After all, what's the oddest month of the year? February, of course. It doesn't have enough days (which is probably a good thing. Who wants a long February?), and its number of days keeps changing. It's the only month that doesn't fit into "Thirty days hath September..." On the Hebrew calendar, we have the same problem at the same time of year with the month of Adar. Some years have only one Adar, and some years have Adar I and Adar II. That's because both February and Adar used to come at the

(continued on page 8)



President's Message

Thank you to everyone who attended the two congregation rabbi search meetings on December 4 and 11. Also, thanks to all of you who filled out the rabbi search survey both online and via paper copies. Input from you, the membership of Congregation Kneseth Israel, will help us find the right spiritual leader for our congregation. I have chosen, and the Board of Directors has approved, the following people for the Rabbi Search Committee:

Sue Johnson – Chairperson, David Bear, Paul Glaser, Herb Gross, Gale Jacoby, Stuart Kravis, Don Lesser, Marian Loeb, Barb Maring, Dan Marshall, Maureen Manning-Rosenfeld, Malcolm Morris, Wanda

Pitzele, Mark Seigle, Ericka Yeger, Marc Zemel, Chuck Zimmerman, and me. Sue Johnson, as Chairperson, will keep the congregation informed of what is happening within the Rabbi Search committee. Please be sure to read her article monthly for an update.

We had a very busy December at CKI with the Chanukah Bazaar, the Men's Club Latke Lunch, Shabbat service lead by our Gimel class, and our Shabbat service we had for Chanukah with songs and music. Be sure to attend our activities scheduled for January (please check the calendar and various articles in this issue of HaKol), especially our joint service on January 13, 2012, with St. James Church to commemorate Martin Luther King's birthday.

Please welcome our new members and welcome back past members when you see them at services and activities.

Wanda Pitzele and Rich Kruth have agreed to be our co-chairpersons for **Keruv**. Please look for their articles for upcoming events and current information.

☆ ☆ ☆

Remember if you have any questions or suggestions; please feel free to contact me either at (847) 207-3179 or president@ckielgin.org.

Rockelle

HaKol Information

HaKol is published monthly by Congregation Kneseth Israel of Elgin, Illinois. It is sent by email. Hard copies will be mailed, upon special request, to CKI members via first class postage.

Non-members who would like to receive a hard 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 February issue is due NO LATER than January 15, PLEASE.

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

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YOUTH ACTIVITIES - Liza Bachrach
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.



Sisterhood News

THANK YOU to everyone who made purchases at the CKI Sisterhood Gift Shop's

Chanukah Bazaar this year!! We appreciate your support!

Check out our **NEW ONLINE** Gift Shop, in addition to our regular gift shop for your shopping pleasure:
<http://ckielgin.judaicabeautiful.com/>

I am excited to announce that our Central Great Lakes Region President, **Rhonda Cohn**, will be joining us this year to help us celebrate **Sisterhood Shabbat, Friday, January 20**. (See sidebar to the right.) The women of CKI take over the bimah on this special evening and give the Rabbi a break! Please join us for this service and oneg—everyone is invited!!!

On December 13 Hadassah joined us for a very festive Chanukah party. (See photo, below.) We noshed on kugel,



Update from the Vision Committee

There is a lot going on at CKI to keep moving forward on the new Vision. The hard working volunteers of CKI are trying to address concerns and plan for the future. The Top Five Priority Items identified at the November open Vision Committee Meeting are being addressed in the appropriate committees:

- Keruv adoption
- Recruit volunteers
- Caring Committee Activation
- Review the school for restructuring
- Review Religious services for restructuring

“There is nothing wrong with change if it is in the right direction.”

– Winston Churchill

Right now we are in an investigation and planning phase, moving in the direction of the Vision that the congregation has decided upon. We will continue to keep you informed!



bourekas, pickles, and sufganiot and drank punch. We sang. We played games. We noshed... you get the picture! We also collected warm gloves to donate to the Community Crisis Center. Thank you to **Ericka Yeger, Anita Hornung**, and **Medina Gross** and their committee for putting the party together so successfully!

Have you organized your team for the Sisterhood/Men's Club **Chili Cook-off??** I'm cooking! The clock is ticking. The tasting and judging is **Sunday, January 22 at 12:30**. (See ad, bottom of page 5.) Hey, you don't get fleischigs at shul too often, especially CHILI! Let's have a CHILI THROW-DOWN!! See y'all there!

Jana

SISTERHOOD SHABBAT

Welcome Shabbat at our annual Sisterhood Shabbat. The women leading the service will warm you up spiritually on a cold, wintery Friday night!



Please join us on Friday, January 20, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Oneg following services

School Announcements

Pre-School will meet with their teacher, Miss Rachel, at 9:45 am on 1/15 and 1/29/12.



Junior Congregation is scheduled for Saturday, January 7, at 9:30 am.



Kindershabbes is planned for Friday evenings January 6 and March 9 at 6:30 pm.



Confirmation Class will meet on Sunday evenings January 8 and January 22 from 6:30-8:00 pm.



Hebrew School will meet Wednesdays (1/4, 1/11, 1/18, 1/25) from 5:00-6:30 pm and Sundays (1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29) from 9:00-9:50 am, **including Conversational Hebrew**.



Torah School will meet from 9:50 am until noon on 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, and 1/29/12.

Meals on Wheels Needs YOU!!

Volunteers to deliver meals are still needed for the Mondays in February, 2012. Please let Sue Johnson hear from you ASAP at 847-695-7160!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!!



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

GROCERY/DRUG STORES

Albertson's (Jewel/Osco) Debit	\$25	\$100
Dominick's (4%)	\$25	\$100
CVS Pharmacy Debit Card (6%)	\$25	
Walgreens Debit Card (6%)	\$25	\$100

MISCELLANEOUS

Amoco/BP (2%)	\$50	
Exxon/Mobil Debit Card (1.5%)	\$50	
Shell Debit Card (2.5%)	\$25	\$50
Marathon Gas (3%)	\$25	\$100
SpeedWay (4%)	\$25	\$100

RETAILERS

Ace Hardware Debit Card (4%)	\$25	
Amazon.com (4%)	\$25	
American Eagle Outfitters (9%)	\$25	
Barnes & Noble Debit (9%)	\$10	
Bath & Body Works (13%)	\$10	\$25
Banana Republic Debit (9%)	\$25	
Bed Bath & Beyond Debit (7%)	\$25	
Best Buy Debit Card (3%)	\$25	\$100
Blockbuster Debit Card (7%)	\$10	
Claire's (9%)	\$10	
Crate and Barrel (8%)	\$25	\$100
Express Debit Card (10%)	\$25	
Foot Locker (9%)	\$25	
Gymboree (13%)	\$25	
Harry & David (10%)	\$25	
Home Depot Debit Card (4%)	\$25	\$100
J Jill (8%)	\$25	
Jiffy Lube (8%)	\$30	
Jo-Ann Fabric Debit Cart (6%)*	\$20	
I-Tunes (4%)	\$15	
Kids/Toys/Babies R Us (1.5%)	\$20	
LL Bean (15%)	\$25	
GROUPON (7%)	\$25	

RETAILERS (CONT)

Lands' End (17%)	\$25	
Lane Bryant (8%)	\$25	
Limited (9%)	\$25	
Lord & Taylor (8%)	\$25	
Lowe's Home Improvement (4%)	\$25	\$100
Macy's (10%)	\$25	\$100
Marshalls/TJ Maxx (7%)	\$10	\$25
Menard's (3%)*	\$25	\$100
Men's Warehouse (8%)	\$25	
Michaels (4%)	\$25	
Office Depot Debit Card (4%)	\$25	
Office Max Debit Card (5%)	\$25	
Old Navy/GAP 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	
Staples Debit Card (5%)	\$25	
Talbot's (13%)	\$25	\$100
Target (2%)	\$25	
Walden Books (9%)	\$10	
Williams-Sonoma (8%)	\$25	
Wal-Mart (2%)	\$25	
Zappos.com (8%)	\$25	

DEPARTMENT STORES

Cabela's (11%)	\$25	
Dick's (8%)*	\$25	
JC Penney Debit Card (7%)	\$25	\$100
Kohl's (4%)	\$25	\$100
K-Mart Debit Card (4%)	\$25	\$50
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	
Baskin Robbins (9%)	\$10	
Bob Evans (10%)	\$10	
BoneFish Grill (5%)	\$25	
Boston Market Debit Card (12%)	\$10	
Burger King (4%)	\$10	
California Pizza Kitchen (4%)	\$10	
Champps (9%)	\$25	
Cheesecake Factory (5%)	\$25	
Chevy's (8%)	\$25	
Chili's Debit Card (11%)	\$25	
Chipotle Mexican Grill (10%)	\$10	
Claim Jumper (8%)	\$25	
Cold Stone Creamery (8%)	\$10	
Dave & Busters (13%)	\$25	
Denny's (7%)	\$10	
Jamba Juice (7%)	\$10	
Kentucky Fried Chicken (9%)	\$5	
Lettuce Entertain You (12%)	\$25	
Little Caesars (8%)	\$20	
Lou Malnati's (8%)	\$10	
Macaroni Grill Debit Card (11%)	\$25	
Maggiano's Debit Card (11%)	\$25	
Max & Erma's (13%)	\$20	
Olive Garden Debit Card (9%)	\$25	
Outback Steakhouse (5%)	\$25	
Panera Bread (9%)	\$10	
Pick Up Stix (12%)	\$25	
Pizza Hut (8%)	\$10	
Rainforest Cafe (9%)	\$25	
Red Robin (9%)	\$10	
Ruby Tuesday's (8%)	\$25	
Starbuck's Debit Card (7%)	\$25	
Subway (3%)	\$10	
Sweet Tomatoes (8%)	\$10	
TGI Fridays (8%)	\$25	
Wendy's (4%)	\$10	

TOTAL SALE
TOTAL CERTIFICATES

Note: * = No Change

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CKI
Orders due by the 10th of the month

CONGREGATION KNESETH ISRAEL

330 Division Street, Elgin, Illinois 60120-5685

See our website (ckielgin.org) for a complete listing of all available retailers.

KINDERSHABBS

Come welcome the Shabbat with a half hour service designed especially for children preschool-3rd grade.

Friday, January 6 • 6:30 pm

Special Kiddush • Story • Singing

Join your family and friends and learn why Shabbat is the best day of the week!



Search Committee Begins Process

The process of finding a new spiritual leader for CKI began in December. Members were invited to participate in open meetings and online surveys to gather information as to what members are seeking in a new rabbi. The search committee then met on December 12 and broke into subcommittees to investigate resources, write descriptions of what we are seeking, describe the position for potential candidates, and plan interview questions. The **next meeting will be January 9**; at that time, the committee will finalize those topics and begin to "list" our opening.

There have been many questions about the process, so let me try to clarify questions. It is the job of the search committee to find viable candidates to be our

rabbi. The committee does not hire a new rabbi. That will be a congregation decision. The committee anticipates inviting candidates to the synagogue for the purpose of meeting the congregation and leading services. After the visit(s), the congregation will vote on whether the board should negotiate a contract or not.

The search committee appreciates the congregation's interest and support. If, at any time, you have a questions or suggestion, please contact **Rochelle Fosco, President**, or **Sue Johnson, Chair** of the search committee.

This is an exciting time for our congregation which we think will successfully create a strong future for our community.

KERUV קרוב

I was privileged to represent Congregation Kneseth Israel at Keruv training in Washington, DC in December. It was an unbelievably diverse, thoughtful, and articulate group of men and women. I came home with a lot of enthusiasm and ideas on how to move CKI toward becoming a more welcoming and inclusive congregation. I think that we have a head start on many of the larger congregations in that we have already recognized and

welcomed many interfaith families in our fold for many years. We are already doing many things right, but have a way to go on other issues posed by such a diverse community.

CKI is fortunate to have **Richard Kruth** as the Keruv Co-Chair. Rich brings understanding, intelligence, and a level-headed outlook to the position. We are also fortunate that the idea of Keruv has really caught the attention of many of

our congregants. Keruv means to welcome, or to gather close. This is our goal.

The first committee meeting will be **Wednesday, January 18, at 7:30 pm** at CKI. If you are interested in working on the Keruv Committee, please let me and Rich know that you are coming. If you are unable to attend, let us know that also. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Rich or me.

– Wanda Pitzele, 630-289-3349
wandanp@sbcglobal.net
Rich Kruth, 847-289-9894
richkruth@richkruth.com

Sisterhood and Men's Club present

CKI's First (and possibly only) Great Chili Cook-Off!

What better way to spend a cold January Sunday afternoon but to attend a Chili cook-off. That's right! Men's Club and Sisterhood are collaborating to hold a special **Café CKI** on **Sunday, January 22, starting at 12:30 pm** where teams of your fellow CKI'ers will be competing for the bragging rights to the best Chili in the Fox Valley area!

Admission is **\$5 per person. Sunday School kids are FREE!!** This includes samples of each of the chili creations along with a complimentary soft drink and some finger-food to go down with all that fine chili. There will also be beer on sale for those with a bigger thirst.

Want to try out that special family recipe for 5-alarm chili or have an idea for a new delicious concoction that would leave even Chef Ramsey speechless? Then contact either Wanda (wandanp@sbcglobal.net) or Perry Pitzele (pesachp@sbcglobal.net) 630-289-3349, for further details on the contest. *Remember, slots for the contest are limited so don't stew about it.*

Pearle Brody is Moving East!

Longtime CKI member, **Pearle Brody**, will be moving the last week of December to:

Hebrew Senior Rehab, 1200 Centre St. Roslindale, MA 02131

For any of you who know Pearle, she has been part of the CKI community for most of her life, and now she is moving closer to her son Marty. This will be so wonderful for Pearle, and she has been waiting to get a room at the facility in Massachusetts for quite some time.

We just wanted to let everyone know, and we are sure she would love a note from any of you.

We enjoyed a really unique Lounge Night in December. **Sam Miller**, a regional BBYO Board member led the group in a Gilad Shalit program. The kids broke up into two groups, terrorists and Israelis. They then had to barter back and forth through videos and make negotiations to release Gilad Shalit. When you see one of the kids, ask them what were the results! Sam Miller also received a special tour of CKI where **Joe Rosenfeld** showed him our framed archived charters for BBYO. The kids were excited to see that we were part of BBYO before Israel became a state! See the photo below. Left to Right: **Liza Bachrach**, youth advisor; **Riva Kohn**, Co-President of CKI-Y; **Sam Miller**, BBYO Regional Board; **Isaac Marshall**, Co-VP of Israel Affairs; and **Ellie Kohn**, Co-VP of Israel Affairs.

We also enjoyed joining the CKI family for the Latke Lunch, and we exchanged some white elephant gifts. One of our former youth group members, **Sophia Kohn**, came back for a surprise visit. It was nice for everyone to reconnect.

Please save the dates for the following programs:

.....
 If you are not receiving Youth Group information emails and would like to, please email Liza at Archbroch@comcast.net, and let me know. You can also download flyers from the website at www.ckielgin.org/youth.html

JANUARY

7 – Laser Quest (all grades) and Lock-in (8th grade and up) 7:30-9:45 pm at Laser Quest, 860 North Roselle Road, Hoffman Estates. After Laser Quest, the older kids will go to CKI for a Lock-in and some special programming until January 8, 9:00 am. \$25 per kid. RSVP to Liza by January 2 at Archbroch@comcast.net. Bring a sleeping bag, pillow and appropriate loungewear.

27-29 – Invite Convention, BBYO Hyatt, Deerfield. Watch emails for details.

FEBRUARY

16-20 – International Convention, BBYO Atlanta

20 – Meals on Wheels

25 – 9:30 am - DDD (Daven, Dish & Dine), lunch at Al’s

CKI-Y is for High School Ages.

CKI-Y CONNECT is for 6th through 8th grade.

– Liza Bachrach, Youth Chair

a great week in the heart of the world

this past tuesday night, aaron alexander, the associate dean of the ziegler school at american jewish university, made a presentation to us for erev nativ. he introduced us to a few different jewish texts concerning the lighting of the chanukiah candles. alexander taught us that the reason we light the candles in an ascending order is that traditionally, anything holy cannot decrease in value, it can only increase. this is why we don’t light eight candles on the first night of chanukah, then seven on the second night, etc, since that would be a decrease in value of something holy.

his main message to us was that each person holds true one specific mitzvah that holds our jewish life and identity together. and this one mitzvah can only increase in holiness and help us build our judaism into something even bigger. it was a really nice speech, and he was a fun to listen to.

the second part of erev nativ, all of us made our own chanukiah. we were each given small, rectangular pieces of mirror. on all of the tables, there were lots of different pieces of colored glass, beads, candle-holders, and glitter. it was a lot of fun to have a big arts and crafts
 (continued on next page)



Ritual – Todah Rabah!!

Todah Rabah to the Perlman Family for generously **repairing two of our Yads** (pointers for reading Torah) that had been broken for some time.

Stop by their store!!

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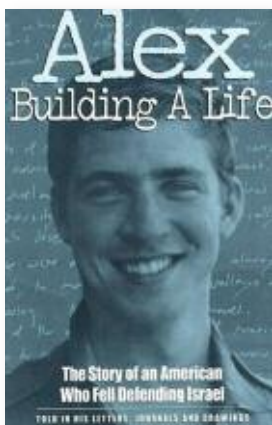
Lucy in Israel...

(cont'd from previous page)

night—I love that kind of stuff. i tried to take a picture of my final product, but it's still hard to see the colorful glass and stuff against the mirror. but i'm excited to light candles on it together with all the nativ-ers!

volunteering at the lone soldier center has been going great recently. this past week, on thursday, the workers had me do a different job than my usual blogging. the center organized a pre-draft seminar, which will take place this tuesday, for lone soldiers who are about to join the army this year. it will be an informational session for the soldiers to meet new people, get their questions answered, and talk with representatives from different units. in order to spread the word, the center had me call a list of drafting lone soldiers to invite them to the seminar.

at first, i was nervous to call and speak with all of these people i had never met. but pretty soon i felt a lot more comfortable with what i was saying and actually had a lot of fun. what was especially cool was that many of the soldiers i'd called had never heard of the lone soldier center before, so i was the first person to really introduce it to them. all of the kids were super nice and enthusiastic.



Parashat HaShavu'a Weekly Torah Portions

Jan. 5 Fast of 10th of Tevet
10 Tevet Torah – Exodus: 32:11-14;
34:1-10
Haftarah: Isaiah 55:6 – 56:8

(Marks beginning of siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar which ended, 18 months later, with destruction of Jerusalem and First Temple. A minor fast day, lasting during daylight hours.)

Jan. 7 Vayehi – Genesis 49:1-49:26
12 Tevet Haftarah: I Kings 2:1-12

Jan. 14 Sh'Mot – Exodus 3:1 – 4:17
19 Tevet Haftarah: Isaiah: 27:6-28:13;
29:22-23

Jan. 21 Birkat Hahodesh
26 Tevet Vaera – Exodus 7:8-8:15
Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

Jan. 25 Rosh Hodesh Shevat
1 Shevat Numbers 28:1-15

Jan. 28 Bo – Exodus 11:4-12:28
4 Shevat Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28

FIND YOURSELF IN SHUL!
SHUL IS GOOD!

Check out the weekly parsha (Torah reading) on our website! Gain a new perspective by clicking on www.ckielgin.org/meaningful-observance.html

many of them are my age and decided to join the israeli army before college or make aliyah after high school, so it was interesting to speak with all of them and hear a little of their unique stories.

an american lone soldier named alex singer was killed in lebanon defending israel 25 years ago. his family collecting his poetic and inspiring letters, journal entries, and artwork and created a well-known book called *alex: building a life*. i've only read parts of the book, but i plan to read more. alex's words are really powerful and thought-provoking.

thursday night, a group of nativ-ers walked to alex singer's parent's home in jerusalem. they welcomed all of us into their gorgeous home, which

Cool Stuff: Yiddish Theater Posters

Steven Heller has written some very interesting blogs, and one of his more recent offerings is about what he found when searching for information about an uncle of his that purportedly was in Yiddish theater.

Check it out:

<http://imprint.printmag.com/daily-heller/yiddish-posters-in-virtual-stacks/>



Steven is the co-founder and the co-chair of the MFA Designer as Author program at the School of Visual Arts. He writes the Visuals column for the *New York Times Book Review* and the Graphic Content blog for T-Style. He is the author, coauthor, and/or editor of more than 120 books on design and popular culture, including the recent book *Born Modern: The Life and Design of Alvin Lustig* (Chronicle).

– from *Imprint Magazine*

was decorated with alex's artwork. all of alex's family now lives in israel, including an older brother who is the author of the hugely famous book about israel called *the start-up nation*. after introducing ourselves and sharing something about our experiences in israel, all of us were so lucky to hear the singers speak to us about their story...

* * *

Read the rest, catch up from the archive, and continue to follow Lucy on her blog: <http://lucymarshall.tumblr.com>

From the Rabbi's Study
(cont'd from page 2)

end of the year, and the end of the year is the best time to make the adjustments needed for the sun to play catch-up with the calendar.

It goes further. About the end of February comes Fat Tuesday—or, in French, Mardi Gras. In Adar comes the Jewish equivalent, the holiday of Purim. These big, silly celebrations in both cultures used to herald the onset of the New Year.

Times change, and so do calendars. But why did we Jews eventually move our New Year to the autumn, and why did the Christians move it to the winter?

I don't know, but I have a theory.

Remember how the Bible begins—that first chapter about the Creation? "And there was evening, and there was morning, one day [the second day, the third day, and so forth]." Well, tradition takes that phrase to mean that days begin in the evening. And so, on the Jewish calendar, they do, most notably in the case of Shabbat, which begins on the evening of the seventh day. (A glance at any page of a calendar will show that Christians and Jews agree on Saturday as the seventh day of the week. Christians, though, observe their Sabbath on the first day. Some denominations call Sunday the Lord's Day, which they celebrate in place of Saturday's Sabbath.)

But if we Jews begin our days in the evening, Christians have a harder time, beginning their days at midnight. I don't mean that it's harder because people had to stay awake (which was no mean feat before the invention of electric lights), but because it used to be much more difficult to identify the moment when midnight arrived. All the heavens announce sunset, but midnight arrives quietly (which, at that sleepy hour, is appropriate). We in the Western world take for granted that days begin at midnight, but nothing in nature suggests that they should.

Nor does nature suggest the evening. Pagan, nature-based religions do the obvious, and begin their days at sunrise. The sun brings on the day. (It was revolutionary of the Torah to deny the sun

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GENERAL FUND

In honor of the awesome CKI Youth Board who is helping us transition smoothly to BBYO!

Liza Bachrach

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To: Sue Zemel for a speedy recovery

Barb & Ron Razowsky.

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Get Well wishes to Sue Zemel

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Speedy Recovery to Sherry Wiesman

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Burt Friedman Adrienne Himmelfarb
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Sue Zemel

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

this honor, and to proclaim that God creates the day, sunlight or no.) The Jews defied paganism by counting from the evening, while the Christians, for whatever reason, chose to begin at midnight.

They did the same with the year. Pagans begin with the spring, which is like the sunrise of the year, Jews with evening autumn, and Christians with midnight winter. The year is the day writ large, for each tradition in its own way. January first, Rosh Hashana, and the equinox festivals are not just celebrations of renewal. Each is an assertion of fundamental beliefs and a distinct way of life, linking large units of time to small ones as well as to sacred texts.



January Birthdays

- 3 Jenna Mussar
- 3 Jessica Njus
- 4 Cathy Aron
- 4 Jeff Rifken
- 5 Sarah Burker
- 5 Madeline Lewis
- 6 Anita Hornung
- 7 David Goodman
- 10 Gordon Roth
- 12 Kathy Lange
- 15 Avery Epstein
- 17 Barry Rose
- 19 Isabel Goldberg
- 20 Katie Burstein
- 20 Edward Stein
- 20 Geoff Zimmerman
- 21 Jeremy Seigle
- 21 Nicole Zeoli
- 25 Melissa Gerlach
- 26 Estee Berg
- 26 Karen Kehl Rose
- 31 Peggy Zonis

January Anniversaries

- 17 Daniel & Lisa Schulman
- 22 Ken & Maureen More
- 26 Joe & Maureen Rosenfeld
- 31 Robert & Nancy Cox

Special Funds

The following funds are available for your generous donations:

- Seltzer Music & Cultural Arts Endowment Fund** – Jewish cultural enrichment programs
- Clara Wechter Education Fund** – Supports Torah School and Adult Education (
- 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 (Siddurim are no longer available for inscription)
- 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
- CKI-Youth/Youth-Connect Groups** – Support for programs for our synagogue youth

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	Date of Service	Name	Actual Date Observed	Date of Service	Name	Actual Date Observed	Date of Service	Name
Jan 01	Dec 31	Nathan Breen*	Jan 11	Jan 07	Irene Kramer*	Jan 25	Jan 21	Roy Rifken*
Jan 01	Dec 31	Lillian Grosken	Jan 11	Jan 07	Molly Levine	Jan 27	Jan 21	Yetta Bear*
Jan 01	Dec 31	Beatrice Wohl Shatzkin*	Jan 12	Jan 07	Henry Norman Eisner*	Jan 27	Jan 21	Maurice Bender
Jan 03	Dec 31	Sylvia Glaser	Jan 13	Jan 07	Louis M. Brenner*	Jan 27	Jan 21	Michelle Diane Fosco*
Jan 03	Dec 31	Ida Pearl Goldstein*	Jan 13	Jan 07	Dorothy Cohen	Jan 27	Jan 21	Bessie Puklin*
Jan 03	Dec 31	Sarah Hymovitz*	Jan 15	Jan 14	Irving Paul*	Jan 27	Jan 21	Helen Sugar
Jan 04	Dec 31	Foster Poper*	Jan 16	Jan 14	Sylvia Coady*	Jan 27	Jan 21	Natalie Iris Troy*
Jan 05	Dec 31	Sarah Meyer*	Jan 16	Jan 14	Florence Shankman	Jan 28	Jan 28	Ruth Kaplan*
Jan 06	Dec 31	Mary Dreyer	Jan 17	Jan 14	Bertha Beler*	Jan 28	Jan 28	Sibyl Kaplan Moses*
Jan 06	Dec 31	Jean Eagels	Jan 17	Jan 14	Miriam W. Cohen*	Jan 28	Jan 28	George Neumark*
Jan 06	Dec 31	Erika Lindow*	Jan 18	Jan 14	Harry Seigle*	Jan 28	Jan 28	Joseph Ruben
Jan 07	Jan 07	Michael Glaser	Jan 19	Jan 14	Irving P. Durchslag*	Jan 29	Jan 28	Jane Barrow*
Jan 07	Jan 07	Hyman Miller	Jan 19	Jan 14	Clarence Mehr	Jan 29	Jan 28	Jean Boskind*
Jan 08	Jan 07	Sarah Cohen*	Jan 19	Jan 14	Betsy Lynn Zeman*	Jan 29	Jan 28	Rochelle Fey*
Jan 08	Jan 07	Harold Durchslag	Jan 20	Jan 14	Molly Levine*	Jan 29	Jan 28	Wendy Karen Slutsky
Jan 08	Jan 07	Frances Ruth Hayden*	Jan 20	Jan 14	Albert Smilgoff	Jan 30	Jan 28	Mandel Bochner*
Jan 08	Jan 07	Louis Meyer*	Jan 21	Jan 21	Ellen Goodman	Jan 30	Jan 28	Sarah Seltzer Frisch*
Jan 08	Jan 07	Celia Flowers Reback*	Jan 22	Jan 21	Elizabeth Chesler	Jan 30	Jan 28	Pearl Harris*
Jan 09	Jan 07	Benjamin B. Baker*	Jan 22	Jan 21	Sarah Miller	Feb 01	Jan 28	Lillian Ruth Seigle Roth*
Jan 10	Jan 07	Lillian Salk Stein*	Jan 22	Jan 21	Jean Fischer Schenker*	Feb 02	Jan 28	Hyman Ableman*
Jan 11	Jan 07	Martin Fischer*	Jan 22	Jan 21	Jean Fischer Shenker*	Feb 02	Jan 28	Lillian Bloomberg
Jan 11	Jan 07	Henry Grosken	Jan 24	Jan 21	Gerald London	Feb 03	Jan 28	Zeldah Demont*
						Feb 03	Jan 28	Louis Gordon*
						Feb 03	Jan 28	Theresa Silber

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** is the **day of the service at which the name is read**. An asterisk after a name indicates that a plaque is affixed to the Memorial Tablet.

KINDLE THE SHABBAT

Fri Jan 64:16 pm
 Fri Jan 134:24 pm
 Fri Jan 204:32 pm
 Fri Jan 274:41 pm

...and HAVDALAH CANDLES

Sat Jan 75:20 pm
 Sat Jan 145:28 pm
 Sat Jan 215:36 pm
 Sat Jan 285:45 pm

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

We're planning ahead for **Saturday, April 21**, when **Peter Yarrow** will perform at ECC. Come re-live the '60s as Peter shares his music from "Puff the Magic Dragon" to "Blowin' in the Wind" and "Light One Candle."

We've arranged a block of tickets to be reserved for CKI – our discounted price is **\$28 per ticket**.

Deadline to reserve is not until March 15, but you can express interest now to Maureen Rosenfeld at MaureenMR@wowway.com

We plan to meet for dinner beforehand at the Colonial Cafe.

50+ GROUP

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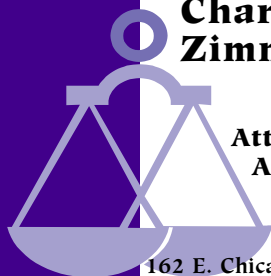
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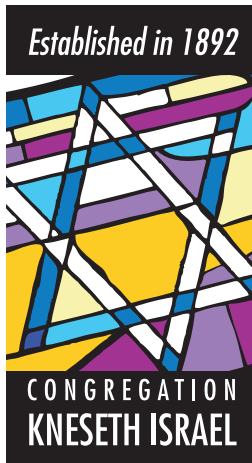
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January 2011

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

1	No School		16	Men's Club Mtg. at Elgin Public House	6:30 pm
3	CKI Board Mtg.	7:30 pm	17	PICK UP FUNDABILITY CERTIFICATES	
4	Hebrew School	5:00 pm	18	Hebrew School Keruv Committee meeting	5:00 pm 7:30 pm
6	Kindershabbes Shabbat Service	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	20	Sisterhood Shabbat Service	7:30 pm
7	Junior Congregation CKI Youth LaserQuest (all grades) in Schaumburg and Lock-in (8th grade & up) at CKI	9:30 am 7:30-9:45 pm	21	Shabbat Service	9:30 am
8	CKI Youth Lock-in pick-up Hebrew School Torah School Confirmation Class	9:00 am 9:00 am 9:50 am 6:30 pm	22	Hebrew School Torah School Confirmation Class Regional Men's Club meeting in Milwaukee Chili Cook-Off sponsored by Sisterhood and Men's Club	9:00 am 9:50 am 6:30 pm TBA 12:30 pm
10	ORDER FUNDABILITY CERTIFICATES Sisterhood Bd. Mtg. with meal	7:00 pm	25	Hebrew School	5:00 pm
11	Hebrew School	5:00 pm	27	Men's Club to lead services at Friendship Village in Schaumburg Shabbat Service	6:30 pm 7:30 pm
13	Martin Luther King Special Service with St. James A.M.E. Church	7:30 pm	27-29	Invite Convention, BBYO Hyatt Hotel, Deerfield	
14	Shabbat Service	9:30 am	28	Shortened Shabbat Service Haftorah Reader: Barry Rose	9:30 am
15	Hebrew School Pre-School with Miss Rachel Torah School	9:00 am 9:45 am 9:50 am	29	Hebrew School Pre-School with Miss Rachel Torah School	9:00 am 9:45 am 9:50 am