



ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

Chronicle

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IYAR-SIVAN 5772

Clergy Corner



by
Rabbi
Charles
Feinberg

DEEDS OF LOVINGKINDNESS

Recently, I received a letter that began with these sentences: *Ms. Dena Bauman visited Leah Rabinovich, my mother, on a regular basis for the past two years as part of Adas Israel's Hesed project. My mother and Dena clicked right away. My mother always looked forward to Dena's visits and referred to her as "my friend." According to Dena, my mother enjoyed showing her family pictures and drinking tea together. They even tried to play Scrabble a few times, which my mother enjoyed immensely.*

I received this letter from Beth Ann Rabinovich whose mother, Leah, died on February 27 of this year. Leah and her late husband, Jacob Rabinovich, were longtime members of Adas Israel. Jacob was a past president of the Men's Club. Both Jacob and Leah were founding members and strong supporters of the Havurah. After Jacob died, Leah felt very alone.

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Ahavat Yisrael Weekend, May 18-20 The Last of Our Three Pillar Weekends

Ahavat Yisrael means love and concern for the land and people of Israel. Adas Israel will devote the weekend of May 18-20 to giving expression to *Ahavat Yisrael*. All are invited to participate in this, the last of our Three Pillar Weekends—community-wide events that celebrate the



Hirsh Goodman



Isabel Kershner



Martin Indyk

values we live by. The *Ahavat Yisrael* weekend is generously supported in part by the Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen Endowment Fund, the Ryna and Melvin Cohen Senior Rabbi Program Fund, the Susan Linowes Allen Music Fund, the Marilyn and Stefan Tucker Program Fund, and the Tillie

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Annual Congregational Meeting Wednesday, June 6, 7:30 pm



- Yad Hakavod Award Presentation to Judith Strauch
- Election of Synagogue Leaders by Margaret Siegel & Susan Kay, Nominating Committee Co-Chairs
- "State of the Synagogue"

Address by President Johanna Chanan

- Presentation on the Vision of Renewal Building Campaign by Steve Kleinrock & Russell Smith
- Dessert Reception by Yarden Catering will follow the meeting.

Copies of the slate of leaders and the proposed synagogue budget will be available on the synagogue website (adasisrael.org) or by calling the synagogue office. ○

VISION OF RENEWAL Campaign Underway Design Presentation Set for Annual Meeting June 6



By now, all synagogue members have received the VISION OF RENEWAL brochure detailing the plans and rationale for our building renewal campaign. With a goal of

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CELEBRATING OUR 142ND YEAR
THE CHRONICLE IS SUPPORTED IN
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Clergy Corner

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She and Jacob had been married for 75 years, and she really needed some companionship outside of what her devoted family could give her.

Dena's visits were part of the Hesed Project, which has been chaired by Harriet Isack and Ed Kopf for the last three years. Sixteen volunteers from our congregation visit older members in the synagogue and community who may be living alone either at home or in a long-term care facility. These volunteers visit regularly, depending on the circumstances of the volunteer and the person being visited. We call the person being visited a "host," since the volunteer enters his or her apartment or home. Some of our volunteers are young people. We have a father and daughter who visit an elderly parent of a member; a high school teenager has been visiting an older couple who live in the Adas neighborhood; and a young, recently married woman has been visiting a retiree. Of course, we have a number of middle-aged and older volunteers.

What has been satisfying and rewarding about the Hesed Project is how both volunteers and hosts feel blessed because of their participation. Volunteers feel blessed because their lives have been enriched through the friendship that has developed. Learning about the long life of another person—his or her joys, triumphs, and sorrows—has touched the souls of our volunteers. And our hosts feel blessed because the volunteers have brought them new companionship and friendship. Some of our hosts felt they would never make a new friend again; the Hesed Project has taken away that fear.

Indeed, there have been times when our hosts have aided the volunteers. You may remember that in January 2011 Washington suffered a terrible ice storm. Traffic was snarled for hours and some people were not able to get home that night. One of our volunteers flew into BWI that day and took a cab back to the District. The cab got caught in the gridlock on upper Connecticut Avenue near the Beltway. As the volunteer was sitting in the traffic unable to move, she realized she was within walking distance of her host. She paid the cabbie, walked over to her host, and stayed the night there.

The Hesed Project has been an unqualified success. At the same time, members of the Hesed Project realize that we are serving relatively few members of our congregation. We would like to expand the project's reach and the scope. First and foremost, we need more volunteers and more hosts. So please consider becoming a volunteer. It is not a large commitment of time; it is more a regular commitment of three or four hours a month. We also need more hosts. If you know of someone who might be interested in having a friendly visitor on a regular basis, please let me or Harriet Isack know. We would be happy to contact the person directly. You can reach Harriet at happyisack@gmail.com, and you can reach me at Rabbi.Feinberg@adasisrael.org. Or you can call me directly at the synagogue.

We would also like to expand the scope of our project if we

can get more volunteers. There are times when families are coping with serious illness or a newborn child and don't have the time or energy to prepare meals. If we had more volunteers, we could reach out to these families more consistently. Different groups in the congregation do this now. Members of the Gan or Religious School often reach out to families who are dealing with a crisis. But I do know that there are families who feel ignored during a difficult time.

Adas Israel is a wonderful congregation. We do many great things in all kinds of ways. At the same time, we are not perfect and we can always improve upon what we do. We can do more in reaching out to older and younger members so they feel supported and included in our community. Please consider becoming a volunteer or host. Support the Hesed Project!

Remember the teaching at the beginning of Pirkei Avot: "The world rests on three things: Torah, Service, and acts of loving-kindness." May we join together to strengthen all three. ○

VISION OF RENEWAL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

\$11 million, \$9 million of which has been pledged to date, the building renewal will transform the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, re-envision the Gewirz Hall, and create a vibrant Beit Midrash (House of Study) in the center of our building.

"With this renewal, we are poised to become not just a synagogue for programs, services, and religious schools, but a true Spiritual Jewish Community Center," explains Rabbi Gil Steinlauf.

Conceptual drawings can be found on our website, adasisrael.org, along with a link to ways members can participate in the campaign. Under the leadership of our Renewal Steering Committee (Steve Kleinrock, Herlene Nagler, Lawrence Nussdorf, Robert Peck, and Russell Smith), an active design committee has been working with architects from H3 Hardy Collaboration to create warm, embracing spaces that are light-filled, spiritually uplifting, accessible, and open to new possibilities for our congregation.

The renewal will also include an expanded Quebec Street Foyer, new Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop, a beautiful Donor Wall, modern and accessible restrooms, and completely upgraded sound systems and technology in all of the renovated spaces.

A complete presentation will be made at the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 6 at 7:30 pm.

Many beautiful and meaningful components of our building renewal are available for dedication. Pledges are payable over five years and may be made in the following categories:

Visionaries , \$250,000 and above	Supporters , \$25,000 and above
Builders , \$180,000 and above	Patrons , \$18,000 and above
Benefactors , \$72,000 and above	Leaders , \$10,000 and above
Pillars , \$50,000 and above	Sponsors , \$5,000 and above
Sustainers , \$36,000 and above	Friends , Below \$5,000

A complete listing of all donors will appear in the upcoming *Chronicle* and on our website. To pledge or to discuss the contribution of available named dedications, including our arks, *bimah*, *Ner Tamid*, *mezzuzot*, Media Center, Torahs, *bimah* chairs, and Torah covers, please speak to a member of the Steering Committee or contact Glenn Easton at the synagogue office, 202-362-4433. Refer to our website regularly for all updated information about construction, building use during construction, images and renderings, and donor information. ○

Holidays

Shavuot, 2012 /5772



The festival of *Shavuot* commemorates the proclamation of the Ten Commandments at Mt. Sinai, so it is known in the Jewish tradition as *z'man matan torateinu*, "The season of the giving of our Torah."

The Rabbis speak of *Shavuot* as the crowning climax of the Exodus. Until the first *Shavuot*, the liberated slaves in the wilderness were free in a physical sense only. At Sinai, the Israelites used the freedom obtained on Passover to consecrate themselves as "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

Moreover, to make clear that the teachings of the Torah revealed at Sinai are for all humankind, the Book of Ruth, the story of a woman who voluntarily accepted Judaism in place of idolatry, is customarily read on the second day of *Shavuot*. In the *Megillah* of Ruth are found the glowing words of faith she spoke to her mother-in-law Naomi: "Entreat me not to leave you, for wherever you go I will go, and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people will be my people and your God, my God."

Shavuot literally means "weeks" as it occurs precisely seven weeks after the second day of Passover. The 49 days between Passover and *Shavuot* are known as *s'firat ha-omer* (the counting of the *omer*), reminiscent of the days when farmers brought a measure (*omer*) of their newly harvested grain to the Temple.

The *Shavuot* holiday is also known as *Chag Ha-Bikurim*, the Festival of the First Fruits, and *Chag Ha-Katzir*, the Feast of the Harvest. At this time, farmers went on a pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem, bringing with them offerings of their barley harvest and the first fruits of their orchards. As an echo of this ancient agricultural celebration, it is

customary to decorate synagogue and home with flowers and plants.



Saturday, May 26, Erev Shavuot Leyl Shavuot at Adas Schedule

- 6:00 pm** Evening *Minyan*, *Mincha*
- 6:45 pm** *Seudah Shleesheet*
- 8:00 pm** First Talk: "The God You Don't Believe In Is the Same God I Don't Believe In" by Rabbi Gil Steinlauf
- 8:50 pm** *Maariv*
- 9:15 pm** Second Talk: "Finding Our Way Home: The Tension Between Wandering and Settling in 21st-Century Jewish Life" by Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt
- 10:00 pm** Break
- 10:30 pm** Third Talk: "What Happened at Sinai: The Building of the *Mishkan*" by Rabbi Charles Feinberg

During *Shavuot*, dairy dishes are traditionally eaten because the Torah is often compared to milk and honey, having the nourishment of the former and the sweetness of the latter.

Below are a few suggestions to make *Shavuot* a real celebration. Though it is a brief holiday, it is filled with joy and profound meaning.

- Light *Yom Tov* candles and prepare a festival meal on both evenings of the holiday.
- Invite guests to join in your celebration of *Shavuot* and eat dairy dishes.
- Attend the *Tikkun Leyl Shavuot*; it is customary to stay up all night on the eve of *Shavuot* studying the Torah. (See schedule above.)
- Hear the Ten Commandments read in the synagogue on the first day of *Shavuot*.
- Read the Book of Ruth.
- Light a *yahrzeit* candle in memory of family members who have died, give *tzedakah* in their name, and attend service on the second day to recite the *Yizkor* Memorial Prayers.

First day of *Shavuot*, Sunday, May 27, services begin at 9:30 am; Combined Service: Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Service and Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* Service.

Second day of *Shavuot*, Monday, May 28, services begin at 9:15 am, *Yizkor* at 11:00 am. The Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* Service will join the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Service. ○



Did You Meet Your Spouse at Adas Israel?

We are curious how many members have met their spouse at the synagogue. If you met your spouse at Adas Israel, please help us compile a list by sending your name and wedding anniversary date to BethAnn.Spector@adasisrael.org. ○



Adas Israel *Havurah* to Celebrate a Milestone June 2

Forty years ago, a historic event took place within the walls of the Adas Israel Congregation. At the initiative of Dr. Sander ("Sandy") and Adina Mendelson, a small group of worshipers gathered in the Board Room on June 3, 1972, to celebrate *Shabbat*. It was a self-selected community, bound by a common interest to hold an intimate, lay-led, family-friendly worship service. Next month, on **Saturday June 2**, the Adas Israel *Havurah* will commemorate the 40th anniversary of its founding at services in the Library where the group has been meeting for many years. Fittingly, Sandy will lead the discussion on the *parasha*. All current *Havurah* participants, alumni, and friends of the *Havurah* are invited to the worship service and to the luncheon in the Gewirz Hall that follows.

Drawing on the vision of philosopher-theologian Franz Rosenzweig, the Mendelsons and others who shared that vision submitted a formal proposal to the synagogue's board in March 1972. As expressed in that document, they hoped to create "an independent, experimental synagogue-community which would center around worship, an intensive study experience, and meaningful interrelationships among members of the group." That is what the *Havurah* soon became. And this framework has been sustained and reinforced for four decades. In addition to *Shabbat* services led by the participants and self-sponsored *kiddushim*, over the years the group has celebrated life cycle events and supported one another in times of sorrow.

The *Havurah* has no formal leadership per se, but of necessity, individuals have taken on various roles, for example, to assign prayer leaders, recruit volunteers to prepare a *d'var Torah*, or arrange for *kiddush* sponsors. Less well known perhaps is that the *Havurah*, by offering a friendly setting, evolved into "safe" environment for honing one's synagogue skills—more than 150 congregants have learned to chant Torah there—and even became an incubator for developing synagogue leadership. Many *Havurah* participants have become board members and some even rose to the presidency—Stuart Fidler (z"l), Sander Mendelson, Jordan Baruch (z"l), and Ed Kopf. In addition, most *Havurah* participants are active in other communities of the synagogue, such as the Hesed Project, the Bereavement Committee, and Sisterhood. It is significant that the Adas Israel *Havurah* was one of the first synagogue-based separate services in the country. At a time when independent *havurot* and services are on the increase, ours continues to gain strength and to give support to the synagogue.

Many of those who helped create the *Havurah* that first year now are grandparents. But at the same time, it also is multigenerational. The *Havurah* continues its tradition of outreach, inviting young families to try its style and to make their own mark for future generations. The *Havurah* service may be found in the Library—on the first, third, and fifth *Shabbat* each month, September through June. Do drop in! ○

Honoring Our 60th-Anniversary Members

We would like to honor (or acknowledge) and thank the following members who have belonged to of the congregation for 60 years. We are ever indebted to their interest, dedication, and support: Leonora Abrams, Clement & Sandra Alpert, Jeannie Bernstein, Maxine Bernstein, Norman & Diane Bernstein, Edith Block, Anita Bobys, Robert & Adele Buckhantz, Ethel Bulman, Irving Burka, Leonard & Frances Burka, Rose Burka, Bob & Joy Cohen, Shirley Cohen, Miriam Feldman, Julius & Perla Fox, Pearl Franck, Morton & Norma Lee Funger, Joe & Sonya Gichner, Bernie & Zita Glassman, Reeva Goldberg, Balfour & Doris Goldman, Monica Greenberg, Sylvia Greenberg, Jack & Florence Herman, Mel Jacobson, Nathan

Katz, Jack & Barbara Kay, Selma Kirstein, Lillian Kramer, Shirley Kullen, Jack & Fran Lish, Lester & Saucie Melnicove, Miriam Melrod, Barbara Miller, Gerry Miller, Ruth Rheingold, Mildred Robins, Loretta Rosenthal, Robert & Marion Rosenthal, Irving & Lorain Rothstein, Bette Rothstein, Stanley Scherr, Margaret Schulman, Arthur & Shirley Sisen, Blanche Speisman, Pearl Weissler, Lillie Wolloch, Allen & Annette Wolpe, Donald & Paula Wolpe, Mendy Woodley, and Phyllis Zweig.

If you've been a member for over 60 years and are not listed, please call Elinor Tattar (202-362-4433) so we can update our records. ○

Ruach Minyan

The *Ruach Minyan* invites the DC-area Jewish community, including those new to the area, visitors, and those looking for a new *Shabbat* experience, to join us at Adas Israel on the second and fourth Friday of each month for a spirited and engaging *Erev Shabbat* experience. The lay-led egalitarian *Kabbalat Shabbat* and *Maariv* service combines song and soulfulness, and is followed by a tasty catered *Shabbat* dinner at Adas Israel or a potluck at a nearby home.

We welcome people from all backgrounds and of all ages, and we provide a warm environment for prayer, study, growth, and getting to know each other. If you're looking for an engaging and fun *Shabbat* experience, please join us for *Shabbat* evening services and dinner at the *Ruach Minyan*!

For more information about upcoming events, or to receive our weekly e-mail announcements, visit adasisrael.org/ruachminyan, join our Facebook Group at [tinyurl.com/322fej](https://www.facebook.com/322fej), or e-mail ruachminyan@adasisrael.org. ○

Jewish Primary Day School Graduates to Be Honored June 16

On Saturday, June 16, we will honor the Adas Israel graduates of the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital. *Mazal tov* to Luca Becker, Jonas Drogin, Menachem Drogin, Rebecca Ingber, Daniel Ingber, Ezra Meyer, Isaac Silber, Meirav Steinlauf, and Daniel Weiss.

They will be honored with a blessing and a gift from the congregation. We are happy to participate in their celebration in this way and extend our sincere good wishes to them, their parents, and their families. ○

Laskin Fenichel Scholar Fund..

The weekend includes the following programs:

Friday Night, May 18, will be a celebration of the Abe and Minnie Kay Israel Experience for our 22 10th graders, who are heading to Israel for two weeks in June. The evening will also be an opportunity say *todah rabah* to Jack and Barbara Kay, who are subsidizing this incredible experience for our teens. We will also welcome Hirsh Goodman and Isabel Kershner, who will give short anecdotal talks about their lives in Israel.

6:00 pm *Kabbalat Shabbat* and *Maariv*

7:30 pm *Shabbat* Dinner (RSVP required): \$27.95 for adults, \$21.95 for children under 12. RSVP to Carol Ansell, 202-362-4433 or carol.ansell@adasisrael.org. RSVP deadline: Wednesday, May 16, noon.

Saturday, May 19

9:30 am *Shabbat* Morning Services followed by a Congregational *Kiddush* Luncheon

1:00 pm Post-*Kiddush* Roundtable with Hirsh Goodman, Isabel Kershner, and Martin Indyk

8:30 pm Men's Club Pre-Concert Reception to Support Masorti Kibbutz Hannaton (For more information, see page 7.)

9:00 pm Moshav Band Concert Pre-Party co-hosted by YP@AI and the Washington Jewish Music Festival. Concert begins at 10:00 pm. Tickets: \$18, \$15; discounted member/senior/student. Tickets go on sale at wjmf.org.

Sunday, May 20

8:30 am *Shacharit* and Breakfast

10:00 am Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen Lecture with Hirsh Goodman and Isabel Kershner

11:00 am Israel Family Festival, featuring Israeli dancing, Hebrew signing, food tasting, and a Hebrew Sing-Along

About Our Guests

Hirsh Goodman founded the *Jerusalem Report* and served as its editor-in-chief for eight years. He is the author of *The Anatomy of Israel's Survival*, winner of the 2012 National Jewish Book Award.

Isabel Kershner is a journalist and author who began reporting from Jerusalem for the *New York Times* in 2007. Previously she was senior editor, Middle East for the *Jerusalem Report* magazine. Kershner is the author of *Barrier: The Seam of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*.

Martin Indyk is vice president and director for foreign policy at the Brookings Institution in Washington. He served as U.S. ambassador to Israel and assistant secretary of state for Near East Affairs during the Clinton administration and is the author of *Innocent Abroad: An Intimate Account of American Peacemaking Diplomacy in the Middle East*.

Moshav Band: Raised in a musical village in the hills between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Moshav founders Yehuda and David grew up on the sounds of Dylan, Van Morrison, and Neil Young. Their rich rock/folk/reggae songs are spiced with the fiery flavors of the Middle East and Shlomo Carlebach's unifying call. Join us for a pre-party



before Moshav takes the stage.



About Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen

Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen, of blessed memory, were longtime members of our congregation with deep connections to the State of Israel. Born in Jerusalem in 1890, Nehemiah Cohen was trained as a rabbi. He became a schoolteacher in Rishon-Li-Zion in Palestine, where he met and married

his wife, Naomi Halperin. He emigrated to the United States in 1915 and eventually opened a kosher butcher shop in Carnegie, PA. After forming a partnership with Samuel Lehrman, a local wholesale food distributor, he moved to Washington, DC, and opened up the first "self-service grocery store" in the city. The store flourished, and by 1949 there were 19 Giant food stores spread throughout Washington and the Maryland and Virginia suburbs. In 1977, Cohen became honorary chairman of Giant until his death in 1984 at the age of 93.

Cohen's lifelong commitment to Israel and his contributions to public service were recognized by Adas Israel Congregation in 1974, when he received the *Shem Tov* award for exemplifying "the highest ideals of good citizenship and caring for his fellow man."

We are grateful to the children and grandchildren of Nehemiah and Naomi Cohen for creating this special evening linking their names to the congregation in perpetuity. ○

The Shramchenko Collection

The congregation is fortunate to have a growing collection of paintings in a revolving display in the Mendelson Gallery. Among the collection is a series of water color paintings by the late Mykola Shramchenko, which was generously donated by Diane and Norman Bernstein.

Mykola Shramchenko, a Ukrainian Christian, lived in the household of a Jewish family and was arrested by the Nazis who considered him a Jew. He used his artistic talents to forge credentials for Ukrainian Jews attempting to escape from Hitler for which he was arrested. Many of his paintings are a vivid representation of what he saw in the concentration camps. ○



Sisterhood

Sisterhood Events Ongoing and Upcoming

Seeking Nominations for Sisterhood Officers and Board Members: Please contact President Lisa Kleine with suggestions for the new slate of officers and board members. Several terms are expiring, so there are opportunities to take on leadership roles in the organization. Contact: sisterhoodpresident@adasisrael.org.

Taste of Tanach: May 15 and June 12 are the remaining dates to hear Rabbi Steinlauf discuss "Mitzvot," the theme for 5772. Meet in the Sisterhood Library at 10 am. For an advance copy of the reading, call the rabbi's assistant, Beryl Saltman, 202-362-4433, or just drop in. See the March and April issues of the *Chronicle* to read an in-depth interview with Rabbi Steinlauf about Sisterhood's "Taste of Tanach." These are available online at www.adasisrael.org.

N Street Village Yarn Project: Sisterhood's project to collect yarn for the Village's knitting and crocheting classes is proving to be a success—the response has been very gratifying. Thank you so much! The need is ongoing, however, so remember, if you have spare yarn or needles, please deposit them in the coat room bin marked "N-STREET VILLAGE YARN COLLECTION." We still need a chair or at least volunteers to bring the yarn to the Village periodically. Contact Interim Chair **Marcie Feuerstein**, mfeuerst@hotmail.com, if you'd like to help.



Torah Fund Campaign: This year's campaign is drawing to a close, but it isn't too late to help meet Sisterhood's goal of \$12,000 for 5772. See the website for details. Please send your check, made out to "Torah Fund," to Mrs. **Gerry Lezell**, c/o Sisterhood, Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec St., NW, Washington, DC 20008-5296.

Sisterhood Shabbat Goes Year-Round: We are calling on the many women in Adas Israel—Sisterhood members or not—who can *leyn*, to commit to reading Torah in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary throughout the year. Available dates are published monthly in the e-newsletter, or you can obtain current information on dates by contacting co-chairs **Marcie Goldstein** (Marcie.B.Goldstein@gmail.com) or **Lucy Hassell** (LUCY.HASSELL@Longandfoster.com). **Naomi Malka**, interim ritual director, will assign the specific portions and provide coaching as needed.

Shirley Abrams Memorial Fund: Shirley Abrams (z"l) was one of Sisterhood's most memorable and active leaders, serving as president from 2001 to 2003. Sisterhood is still accepting donations in Shirley's memory. They may be sent to

Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop

HOURS

Sun–Mon & Wed–Fri, 9:30 am–12:30 pm

Tues, 9:30 am–3:00 pm & 6:30–8:00 pm



Invited to a bat mitzvah?

Check out our 16-inch sterling silver pendant necklaces from Israel. Pendant designs vary, but include various styles of *magen david*, *mezzuzah*, *hamsa*, *chai*, and *menorot*.

And the best news ... they're only \$17 each!



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Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.

Sisterhood, c/o **Dava Berkman**, Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008-5296.

The Sisterhood E-newsletter: Last October, Sisterhood inaugurated a mid-month e-newsletter, *The Adas Israel Sisterhood Source*, to keep members informed about programs, events, and milestones in members' lives. The two initial issues were sent to all women in the congregation; later issues were e-mailed to Sisterhood members only. Those without e-mail addresses receive a copy by mail. If you are a Sisterhood member but have not been receiving the newsletter, please contact newsletter editor and Sisterhood VP for communications **Joyce Stern**, joycestern@starpower.net. If you joined later in the year and do not have the full complement of issues, you can view them on the Sisterhood page of the synagogue's website: www.adasisrael.org. ○

Men's Club



introduction to the Adas Israel commitment and our unique relationship with this kibbutz and its Ecological Educational Center.

Following this event, join us at 10:00 pm for the Moshav Band Concert. There is no cost for the Hannaton pre-event, and tickets to the concert are available at wjmf.org. For more information on Kibbutz Hannaton or to RSVP for the pre-event, please contact us at mensclub@adasisrael.org. We look forward to warming you up with a taste of Israel before the concert!

End-of-the-Year Business Meeting and Election of Officers

A message from Rob Rubin, President: Three years ago, when Mark Berlin asked me to step up to reinvigorate the Adas Israel Men's Club, I was excited about finding a place for our club within the *shul* and the community both locally and nationally. We've started down an interesting path and now we need some helping maturing the club into a vibrant institution. We've had everything, from ballgames to lectures, from *Sukkah* Studs to health fairs, from bagel sales to wine sales, from the Garden of the Righteous to building a summer scholarship fund.

While I am proud of all the activities and all the ways we have given back to the *shul*, including the Kol HaOlam competition, I am most proud that the men in the congregation are no longer absent. We are starting to find a unique place within the Adas community; however, the time has come for me to pass the torch.

This coming year, we would like to fill positions for five roles on a Board, including President, Kol HaOlam Chair, Treasurer, Communications VP, and Community Building VP. Please join us Tuesday night, June 5, at 6:30 pm for dinner and elections. If you are interested in a position or know someone who might be, please let us know at mensclub@adasisrael.org. ○

Summer Scholarship Fund: Update

Thank you for purchasing your wine for the holiday from the Men's Club/Potomac Wines event. Josh Feldman from Potomac Wines wrote the Mark Berlin Summer Scholarship Fund a check for \$440 based on the number of bottles we sold at the event. This one event accounted for approximately 20 percent of our \$2,500 matching commitment to the Scholarship Fund each and every year. In fact, in the past year



alone, the Men's Club has provided almost \$10,000 to support the *shul* in our many efforts with the Fund, the Garden of the Righteous, the *Latke* party, the *Purim* Carnival, and various other underwriting opportunities. Thank you for making it all possible.

Upcoming Activities:

Israel Pillar Weekend Pre-Concert Event Honoring Kibbutz Hannaton

On Saturday evening, May 19, please join us at 8:30 pm for a reception in support of the newly energized Masorti Kibbutz in Israel, Hannaton. We'll start with *Havdalah*, and then we will offer Israeli wines and light hors d'oeuvres, along with a short

Lifelong Learning

Spiritual Support Group for Loss and Bereavement

Wednesday, May 23, 7:30–8:30 pm

Join us for an hour of comfort and support. This is a drop-in group for those suffering a loss or bereavement with Rabbi Feinberg and Rabbi Gilah Langner.

Follow Us on Facebook



You don't have to join Facebook to follow us on Facebook. Visit our Adas Israel Facebook Fan Page at facebook.com/adasisraeldc to learn up-to-the-minute information about the synagogue.

Jewish Study Center Classes

Starting in May!

Visit jewishstudycenter.com to register for May classes held Wednesday evenings at Adas Israel:

What Are "Jewish Economics"?

Wednesday, May 2

Taught by Carmel Chiswick, professor of economics at George Washington University

Find out how economic principles help illuminate how we make choices about our religious lives.

Jewish Witness to a European Century: 20th-Century Jewish History Through Personal Stories, Including Our Own

Wednesdays, May 2 & 9

Taught by teachers from Centropa, "a digital bridge back to a world destroyed" ○

Life Cycle

Milestones

Births

Yonah Zemer, son of Cantor Arianne & Rabbi Randy Brown
David Levi and Miriam Helene, son and daughter of Jessica Keimowitz & Patience Crozier, grandson and granddaughter of Hazel and Robert Keimowitz

Ryan Gabriel, son of Miki Flamenbaum & Lital Kenzi

We wish our newborns and their families strength, good health, and joy.

Marriages

Rachel Darcy Butler, daughter of Jamie and Stuart M. Butler, was married to William Munroe Kamens, son of Mary Ellen Miller and Edward B. Kamens.

We wish the newlyweds and their families a life of joy, good health, and connection to the Jewish community.

B'nai Mitzvah



Bennett Bramson, May 5

Bennett, son of Jim and Nanci Bramson, is a graduate of Gan HaYeled Nursery School and the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital. He is currently a seventh grader at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. Bennett looks forward to sharing his *simcha* with his sister Sabrina, his brother Elliot, the rest of his family and his friends.



Gabriel Cropsey, May 12

Gabriel Ethan, son of Mihaela and Seth Cropsey, began his Jewish education at Adas Israel Religious School. He is a seventh grader at Pyle Middle School. Gabriel Ethan is delighted to share his *simcha* with his grandfather Joseph Cropsey, his great aunt Miriam Levy, his parents, and his family and friends.

Members in the News

David Bruce Smith received the Joseph Ottenstein Award from the Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) for his efforts and achievements in improving the life of the community.

Stefan Tucker has been appointed by DC Council Chairman Kwame R. Brown and Mayor Vincent C. Gray to the recently formed DC Tax Revision Commission, chaired by former DC Mayo, Tony Williams.

Adam Kupfer celebrated his *bar mitzvah* at Temple Beth El on April 22.

New Members

David & Mindy Feinberg live in Washington, where David is in business consulting at Crunchtime Solutions and Mindy works at Twitter, Inc., in digital media.

Jerome Netter & Leora Klapper and their children, Eitan, Amalia, and Liat Netter, live in Washington, where Jerome is a consultant and Leora is an economist at the World Bank.

Carol Zawatsky is CEO of the DCJCC and lives in Washington.

In Memoriam

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Frederick Aladjem, father of Daniel Aladjem

Eva Cohen, mother of Rabbi Batya Steinlauf

Warren Weber, father of Cantor Jeffrey Weber

Life Cycle Information

When Death Occurs

When death occurs, please call the synagogue office, 202-362-4433, so that we may inform the clergy and be of assistance.

During business hours, ask for Glenn Easton. After business hours, a staff member on call may be reached by calling the synagogue office at the number above and pressing "2" to be connected automatically, or by calling the answering service, 301-421-5271, which will page the staff member on call.

On *Yom Tov* and *Shabbat*, even though detailed funeral arrangements should not be made, a staff member on call can still be reached at 301-421-5271.

Bereavement Committee

The Bereavement Committee assists families with all of the arrangements surrounding the funeral and subsequent burial of loved ones. We welcome your interest and encourage your participation and assistance. We need you; please join us. If you have questions, or know of someone whom you think might be interested in participating in this important work, please feel free to call either Jane Beller (301-986-1133) or Edie Hessel (202-244-7189) or contact Toni Bickart (202-244-2747) regarding the *Tahara* Committee.

Cemetery Hours

Visitation at the Adas Israel Cemetery is by appointment only. Contact Glenn Easton or Laura Bloomberg at the synagogue office (202-362-4433) to schedule a visit. ○

Cemetery Open on Mother's Day & Father's Day

The Adas Israel Cemetery will be open on May 13 (Mother's Day) and June 17 (Father's Day), from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The cemetery is located at 1400 Alabama Avenue, SE, Washington, DC. For more information contact Laura Bloomberg, 202-362-4433, ext. 144. Find directions on our website, adasisrael.org/cemeteries.



Kol HaMayim: Voice of the Waters

Going to the *mikvah* (on a spiritual level) is like going to the gym (on a physical level). If you go to the gym once, you may have a great workout, but the benefits will only start to accrue once it becomes a regular practice. Similarly, many people use the *mikvah* once and find it to be a wonderful experience. The deeper meanings and potential of *mikvah* as a spiritual practice are revealed, however, only after repeated cycles of use. Some cycles are monthly, some are seasonal and some are yearly—each user decides for him or herself what is appropriate.

By maintaining the discipline of immersing in the *mikvah* every *Rosh Chodesh* or every *Yom Kippur* or every [insert meaningful event here], you begin to notice how your practice is evolving, the energy you bring to it each time, and where you find yourself in relation to this *mitzvah*. Regardless of your age, your relationship status, or your level of Jewish observance, you are warmly invited to the *mikvah* to explore what meanings it may hold for you.

Nominating Committee Report

In accordance with the Adas Israel Bylaws, our Nominating Committee has announced the following slate of synagogue leaders to be presented at the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 6 at 7:30 pm:

President-Elect: Arnold Podgorsky

Board Members (Elected): Judith Bartnoff, Alvin Dunn, Alexandra Horowitz, Susan Kay, Stephen Lachter, Andrew Lipps, Jennie Litvack, Jessica Nemeth, Cynthia Rosenberg, Elinor Sachse

Board Members (Presidential Appointments): Jacob Bardin, Jodi Blecker

Trustee: David Povich

We thank the following board members for their service to the congregation, some of whom are no longer eligible to continue on the board due to term limits: Betty Adler, Jamie Butler, Leah Chanin, and Robert Rubin.

"Additional nominations for any of the offices of the Congregation, the Trustees, and the Board of Directors may be made by petition signed by not less than twenty-five (25) members of the Congregation in good standing, providing that the petition shall be filed in the office of the Executive Director of the Congregation by May 15th." (Bylaws Article VIII Sec. 5)

Our appreciation to the Nominating Committee: Margaret Siegel & Susan Kay, co-chairs, Jacob Bardin, Beth Heifetz, Amy Golen, Harriet Isack, Brian Schwalb, Eugene Sofer, and David Strouse. ○

Synagogue Office Closings

Shavuot, Sunday, May 27

No School

Shavuot & Memorial Day, Monday, May 28

Schools/Offices Closed

Adas Israel Community Mikvah

Our *mikvah* is a sacred space where Jews can mark life transitions with powerful physical ritual. Immersing in a *mikvah* connects the body to the water cycle of our planet and to the sources of life. People visit our *mikvah* to observe the *mitzvah* of monthly immersion; to celebrate *s'machot*; to find strength during a difficult time; to pray for healing; to reflect on the meaning of becoming a bride, groom, or *bar* or *bat mitzvah*; to convert to Judaism; and to prepare physically and spiritually for *chagim*.

To learn more about our *mikvah* or to schedule an appointment, contact Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776 or mikvah@adasisrael.org. For more information, visit adasisrael.org/mikvah. ○



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May 2012 Iyar–Sivan 5772

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES: Please turn off cell phones and pagers before entering services.

In the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary: Interim Ritual Director, Naomi Malka will read Torah. Congregational *kiddushim* co-sponsored by the Paul Goldstein–Lillian Goldstein-Lande Shabbat Kiddush Fund and members of Adas Israel.

Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (TEM): Every *Shabbat* morning at 9:30 am, with the Torah service around 10:30 am. Led by laypeople with the occasional assistance of Adas clergy, the TEM is a participatory service with a full *P’sukei D’Zimrah* (introductory Psalms), *Shacharit*, and *Musaf*, a complete reading of the weekly Torah portion, and a *d’var Torah*. For more information, e-mail traditionalminyan@adasisrael.org.

Havurah Service: Lay-led, participatory service at 9:45 am. Rotating volunteers lead services, read Torah, and conduct an in-depth discussion of the weekly Torah portion. A *kiddush* follows the service. For additional information and to participate, e-mail havurah@adasisrael.org.

Youth Shabbat Services: Starting with Tot *Shabbat* for children ages 5 and under led by Menuhah Peters. *Shorashim*,

for students in grades K–1 is led by Allison Redisch and/or Linda Yitzchak. *Netivot*, for students in grades 2–3 is led by Naomi Michaelis and/or Aviva Weinstein. Junior Congregation, for grades 4–6 is led by David Smolar, Josh Bender, and/or Elie Greenberg.

Shabbat Unplugged: A new musical family service for families with young children on Saturday mornings at 10:45 am. The service is designed for elementary school families and above, though older children are welcome and encouraged take on leadership roles. Led by Josh Bender and Elie Greenberg.

‘Dial-in’ for Programs & Services: If you are unable to attend programs, lectures, or services, dial in to hear them. Call 202-686-8405.

Library Open on Shabbat: The Adas Israel Library is open on Saturdays from 12:30–1:30 pm. Our Shabbat volunteers will help you find just the right book to bring home. For assistance during the week, contact our librarian, Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:30 am Morning Minyan 9:30 am Jewish Meditation with Rabbi Steinlauf Part 2 9:30 am Men’s Club Health Fair 10:00 am Catering Committee Meeting 12:15 pm Hesed Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	30 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Rabbi/Parent/Child Program–“Mitzvot” 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	1 7:30 am Morning Minyan 1:00 pm JSSA Job Search Group 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Torah Club	2 Gan Parent/Teacher Conferences 7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:30 am JSSA Boot Camp 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting 7:30 pm Seven Blessings: A Workshop for Engaged & Newly Married Jewish Couples	3 7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:30 am JSSA Boot Camp 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	4 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm L’Dor VaDor Shabbat Service–Kindergarten Class Celebrating Shabbat, with Rabbis Steinlauf & Feinberg 6:30 pm YP Shir Delight Service & Dinner with Rabbi Steinlauf 7:00 pm L’Dor VaDor Shabbat Dinner	5 PARSHAT ACHAREI MOT-KEDOSHIM 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Smith Sanctuary Shabbat Service Bar Mitzvah: Bennett Bramson; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan; D’var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D’var Torah by Michael Goldman 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 11:00 am Shabbat Youth Services for Tots–3rd Grade
6 8:30 am Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Sukkot in Spring 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	8 7:30 am Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Downtown Study Group–OFF SITE 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Torah Club	9 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Education Director’s Council Meeting 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:45 pm JCRC Annual Meeting 7:30 pm Seven Blessings: A Workshop for Engaged & Newly Married Jewish Couples	10 Lag B’Omer 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	11 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Shabbat Sing–Children Only 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 pm Ruach Minyan Service	12 PARSHAT EMOR 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Smith Sanctuary Shabbat Service Bar Mitzvah: Gabriel Cropsey; Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 11:00 am Shabbat Youth Services for Tots–6th Grade 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush sponsored by the Cropsey Family
13 8:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	14 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	15 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Sisterhood “Taste of Tanach” 1:00 pm JSSA Job Search Group 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:15 pm Ma’alot Graduation 6:30 pm Torah Club	16 7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:30 am Gan Truck Day 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting 7:30 pm Seven Blessings: A Workshop for Engaged & Newly Married Jewish Couples	17 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	18 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 5:45 pm Gan Family Shabbat Dinner Ahavat Yisrael Weekend 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat & Nesi’ah Tovah Ceremony; followed by Dinner 6:30 pm Gan Family Shabbat Service with Rabbi Feinberg & Robyn Helzner -	19 PARSHAT BEHAR-BECHUKOTAI Ahavat Yisrael Weekend 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Smith Sanctuary Shabbat Service; D’var Torah by Hirsh Goodman & Isabel Kershner 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D’var Torah by Ken Heitner 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 10:45 am Shabbat Unplugged Family Service 11:00 am Shabbat Youth Services for Tots–6th Grade
20 Ahavat Yisrael Weekend 8:30 am Shacharit and Breakfast 10:00 am Cohen Lecture: Hirsh Goodman & Isabel Kershner 11:00 am Israel Family Festival 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	21 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	22 Rosh Chodesh Sivan 7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:00 am Rosh Chodesh Sivan Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund 6:00 pm Last Ma’alot Classes 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	23 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Religious Practices Committee Meetings 7:30 pm Bereavement Support Group	24 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:30 am GPA Staff Appreciation Lunch 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	25 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 pm Ruach Minyan Service & Dinner	26 PARSHAT BEMIDBAR 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Smith Sanctuary Shabbat Service; Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 6:45 pm Seudah Shleesheet
27 Shavuot Day 1 9:30 am Combined Service; D’var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	28 Shavuot Day 2 Gan HaYeled–Shavuot–No Classes 9:15 am Combined Service in the Smith Sanctuary Service; D’var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf; Yizkor at 11 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 9:13 pm Yom Tov ends	29 7:30 am Morning Minyan 4:00 pm YP Yom Ha’Atzmaut BBQ 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	30 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	31 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	1 7:30 am Morning Minyan 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg Light Candles at 8:10 pm 6:00 pm L’Dor VaDor Shabbat Service with Rabbis Steinlauf & Feinberg 7:00 pm L’Dor VaDor Shabbat Dinner	2 PARSHAT NASO 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Smith Sanctuary Shabbat Service Bar Mitzvah: Jared Horwitz; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:30 am Havurah Shabbat Service (40th Anniversary Service & Kiddush); D’var Torah by Sander Mendelson 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 11:00 am Shabbat Youth Services for Tots–6th Grade

Education

Gan HaYeled



Truck Day

Beep! Beep! Honk! Honk! The 20th annual Gan HaYeled Truck Day is May 16, 9 am to noon, in our parking lot. The children get to climb in, on, and around all sorts of vehicles, from snow plows and dump trucks

to fire trucks and motorcycles. The synagogue parking lot will be closed during that time; we apologize for any inconvenience.

Last Chance to Register

There are still a few spots left in Camp Sweet Summertime, the Gan's summer camp. Sweet Summertime begins June 20 and runs through July 29. Throughout the six weeks of Sweet Summertime, you will see smiles and hear laughter from our campers and staff alike. With a broad variety of activities, there is something for everyone. There are two separate three week sessions to choose from.

As a special bonus, our very special Gan teachers work in the summer and make Sweet Summertime a wonderful experience. For more information, call the Gan office, 202-362-4491 or visit adasisrael.org/gan.

Adas Board Approves Sheri Brown as New Early Childhood Director



Based on an extensive search and the recommendation of an excellent search committee, Sheri Brown has been selected as the new director of the Adas Israel Early Childhood Center. Sheri has been serving as interim director, overseeing our Gan HaYeled Nursery School this past year.

Before coming to Adas Israel, Sheri was director of the Rosie Urian Jewish Education Center in Leesburg, VA, and founded the Classroom to Discovery Pre-School in Sterling, VA. She has also taught at various nursery programs in Virginia and Maryland. Sheri earned a BA from St. John's College in Annapolis and has done graduate work at the University of Virginia.

During her transitional year as interim director, Sheri has brought her experience, warmth, and dedication to our school and congregation. She has worked closely with teachers and parents to continue the excellence and unique nature of our Gan community.

Spearheaded by Laurie Aladjem, Toni Bickart, and Debby Joseph, the two-year, nationwide search to replace retiring Gan director Shelley Remer brought inquiries from 15 candidates; telephone and personal interviews; reference checking; tours of the school; and meetings with parents, lay leaders, teachers, clergy, and staff. Joining Laurie, Toni, and Debby on our excel-

May Calendar for School, Youth, and Families

- | | |
|---|---|
| 4: L'Dor VaDor Service and Dinner; Kindergarten Class <i>Shabbat</i> | 18: Confirmation |
| 6: 3rd-Grade <i>Chagigat HaSiddur</i> ; 6th-Grade Trip to Small Museum | 18-20: <i>Ahavat Israel</i> Weekend |
| 8: Confirmation photos, 7:00 pm; 10th-Grade Israel trip meeting 8pm | 19: <i>Shabbat</i> Unplugged |
| 10: <i>Lag B'Omer</i> | 20: <i>Yom Yerushalayim</i> ; Israel Family Festival, 11:00 am |
| 11-13: <i>B'nai Mitzvah</i> Retreat | 22: Passing the Torch and Last Ma'alot Class |
| 15: Ma'alot Graduation & Awards | 26: <i>Erev Shavuot</i> |
| | 27: No school, <i>Shavuot</i> and Memorial Day Weekend |
| | 27-28: <i>Shavuot</i> |

lent search committee were Meredith Weiner Cymerman, Gail Levine, Robin Goelman, Pamela Reeves, Beth Kanter, Susan Greenberg (teacher representative), Alexandra Horowitz, Amy Schwartz, Jodi Blecker Lowit, Judith Ross, Sandra Schulman, Jeremy Steindecker, Molly Levinson, and Robert Zucker. Synagogue President Johanna Chanin, along with staff members Rabbi Steinlauf, Joshua Bender, and Glenn Easton, served as active ex-officio members of the committee.

Our nationally accredited Early Childhood Center with nearly 200 children is a model Jewish educational environment for our young children and families. In addition to the Gan HaYeled Nursery School, the center sponsors Sweet Summertime Camp, Parent & Toddler programs, Parent/Rabbi Education programs, and *Shabbat* services while supported by our Gan Parents Association. In addition to our school, Sheri will continue to work closely with Rabbi Steinlauf, Josh Bender, and our entire staff developing early childhood programs, services, and experiences throughout the synagogue. ○

Religious School

Mah Tov

"Mah Tov" means "How Wonderful" and this section highlights memorable moments in the Religious School.

Mazal tov to our Purim Carnival Costume Contest Winners!!!

2nd Grade and under

1st Place: Joshua M.

(Grogger)

2nd Place: Maya, Avi, and

Ella G. (Moses, Burning Bush, and Sheep)

3rd Place: David S.

(King Ahasuerus)

3rd-6th Grade

1st Place: Isa L. (Lego Queen Esther)

2nd Place (tie) : Mimi K. (Zeresh) and Mendel S. (Hippy Rabbi)

3rd Place: Adam C.

(Harry Potter)



Education Continued

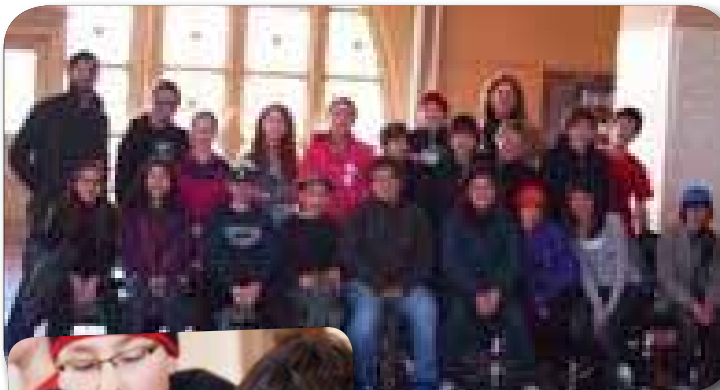
Peres Delegation of Jewish and Arab Israeli Teens Comes to Ma'alot



Ma'alot students participate in sports bridge-building activities with Jewish and Arab teens from Israel.

The Peres delegation from Israel joined our Ma'alot (7th–12th grade) program last month. The delegation consists of eight 15-year-old girls who are involved in a program that is part of the Shimon Peres Center for Peace. Half of the girls are Arab-Israelis from the town of Ein Rafa (also in Mateh Yehuda), and half are Jewish from other towns. The girls meet weekly and play soccer together on a joint team. Their coaches (one Jewish, one Arab) use sports techniques as bridge-building and dialogue-inducing mechanisms.

6th-Grade New York/New Jersey Shabbaton



▲ *Sixth-grade students at Ellis Island.*

◆ *Students Nick E. (left) and Isaac F. examine a passenger manifest at Ellis Island.*

Recently the 6th-grade class went on a *shabbaton* to New

York/New Jersey. In New Jersey, they experienced a “walking *Shabbat* community” and a Jewish community that is centered in one geographic area. They had a chance to meet, interact, and form bonds with students from the Teaneck community. They also were able to compare and contrast the *Shabbat* traditions in a Conservative and Orthodox community while experiencing a unique and complete *Shabbat* experience. The following day, they added to their study of the Jewish immigrant experience by visiting the Tenement House Museum and Ellis Island.



Melvin Gelman Religious School and Ma'alot DC Receive the 'Framework for Excellence' National Award

The Melvin Gelman Religious School and Ma'alot programs were recognized as a “Framework for Excellence School” by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Adas Israel is one of only of 23 synagogue schools in the country to receive this status. This prestigious certification marks the fact that our religious school and Ma'alot DC have met “rigorous standards in all academic areas that include professional development, curriculum development, and family education. Further, the Melvin Gelman Religious School and Ma'alot DC have met all of the goals, aims, and benchmarks necessary to be considered a school of exceptional academic quality.”

Last Shabbat Unplugged Musical Family Service (Until the Fall), May 19

Shabbat Unplugged, a musical family service for families with children in elementary school, meets Saturday, May 19, at 10:45 am. Older children are welcome and are encouraged take on leadership roles. *Shabbat Unplugged* is led by Josh Bender, director of education, and Elie Greenberg, director of informal programming. The service seeks to build a fun, interactive, and spirited prayer experience.

This is also an opportunity for families to explore some of the key concepts and themes in Jewish prayer. Guitars and other instruments are used to enhance the experience and to teach Jewish and Israeli songs. In addition, the Torah portion comes alive through the art of Jewish storytelling with Jennifer Rudick Zunikoff. Families are invited to join the congregational *kiddush* following the service.

Jewish Value for May–June: Ahavat Yisrael and Bikkur Cholim

Ahavat Yisrael is the Jewish value to love Israel and to be connected to the land and its people. *Bikkur cholim* is the obligation to care for and visit the sick. During May and June, we will combine these two Jewish values and learn about Alyn Pediatric and Adolescent Rehabilitation Center. The only hospital of its kind in Israel, Alyn uses multidisciplinary therapies, including humor therapy and animal-assisted therapy, to rehabilitate children and adolescents. In addition, we will do a special *mitzvah* project for Alyn connected to our Israel Independence celebration on May 20. To learn more about Alyn, please visit <http://www.alyn.org/>. ○



'Mom, Dad, Why Do I Have to Go to Hebrew School?'

The following are thoughts and reflections from Susan Kay, chair of the Religious School Committee, on the recent Parents' Corner entitled, "Mom, Dad, why do I have to go to Hebrew School?"

At the Religious School Committee's most recent Parents' Corner event, a group of elementary school parents tried to confront the age-old question, "Mom and Dad, why do I have to go to Hebrew School?" The answer isn't the same for everyone, but for many, it involves achieving a sense of Jewish identity, continuity, and connection. How to best impart those relatively amorphous concepts was the focus of the discussion. The parents turned to a panel of experts—current Ma'alot (high school) students in the religious school—to hear their thoughts on experiences that helped connect them to Judaism and their suggestions on how our religious school could better help make those connections. Rabbi Steinlauf and Education Director Josh Bender also participated in the discussion.

The panel consisted of four students with a strong sense of Jewish identity. They, along with their classmates, still meet every Tuesday evening for learning and intense discussions on Jewish issues as part of Adas's Ma'alot program. These students spoke passionately about their connection to Israel, Jewish learning, and their strong friendships with each other. How did they get there? And for those of us feeling less optimistic about where our own children will fall on the spectrum of Jewish identity, how can we get our children there?

For these students, recurring themes seemed to be the friends they made while participating in specific *tikkun olam* (social action) projects, engaging in thoughtful, sophisticated discussions on topics ranging from Israeli conflicts and Torah, to issues facing kids today, and, of course, the bonds and passion that developed as a result of participating in the 10th-grade Abe and Minnie Kay Israel experience. Friends, open dialogue, social action, and Israel all worked as powerful connectors to Jewish identity. When prompted to recall earlier connections, they talked about going to *shul* with their parents, participating in youth group activities, playing with other religious school kids outside of school, and

having *Shabbat* dinner with other Jewish families. Some of the things they wanted to have had more exposure to included conversational Hebrew and enhanced discussions on substantive Jewish topics such as Israel and belief at a younger age.

Connecting to Judaism occurs in many ways and at various times in people's lives. But securing a strong foundation for our children in their early years is of paramount importance to many of us. Unfortunately, there isn't one specific remedy for achieving the connection we are looking for. A pill would be nice, but it hasn't been marketed yet, so we have to take the harder route of finding meaning and value and imparting them. Many Adas families try to instill Jewish values at home by celebrating *Shabbat* and holidays and observing other Jewish traditions. But religious school is where we often hang our hopes and dreams. We send our kids to religious school to get "the connection." We tend to hand over this responsibility in a way dissimilar to our perhaps overinvolvement in our children's secular lives.

Fortunately, we have a fabulous school with charismatic leadership: Josh Bender at the helm, along with Elie Greenberg and Beth Ann Spector, all taking on enormous responsibilities—not only for the religious school, but also for our *Shabbat* and High Holy Day services and youth group programs. You might not know how the religious school and opportunities for youth have been transformed during the past five years under this able leadership. If you haven't been to Adas with your child in a while, consider getting involved in something new, together. Try *Shabbat* Unplugged, where Josh and Elie lead a musical service with a professional storyteller. If your kids are older, try getting together with a friend and going to junior congregation. Or, try the monthly Friday night L'Dor VaDor service with dinner and Gaga (Israeli dodge ball). The dodge ball is tame enough for little ones, but competitive enough for older kids as it is expertly run by the Adas staff.

If you can stay after drop-off on Sunday, check out *Shacharit* Live, or if you are able to take the time during the week on Tuesday or Wednesday, stay for *Mincha* (afternoon service). Both are vibrant musi-

cal services led by Josh and Eli. Your child probably knows more *t'filah* (prayer) than you think, and the *ruach* (spirit) of these services is sinking in even if we don't always see it on the surface.

Another way to connect is to participate in a social action project with your child's class. The religious school curriculum includes a Jewish values framework that incorporates different Jewish values such as attending the sick, aged, or bereaved. Organize a soup kitchen program where the students are responsible for bringing dinner once a month, or help with one of the many projects already in place. Ask Josh; he will direct you to a project.

These are all important, relatively easy ways to enjoy some "Jewish time" with our kids and build a sense of Jewish identity and community. Just like we make a huge effort to get to soccer, baseball games, and ballet recitals, it is a huge effort to fit "Jewish time" in, too. And, of course, it is not all on us; we have great educators who have our kids' Jewish interests at heart. They are constantly thinking about innovative ways to reach our children. *Chugim* (electives) are a popular and recent addition to the curriculum for 3rd–6th graders. These electives range from conversational Hebrew, to exploring the *shul*, to dance and creative writing. In this way, students have the opportunity to choose to spend time on what most interests them, thereby meeting other students in the school with similar interests and engaging with other teachers, in addition to their classroom teacher.

A sense of one's Jewish identity can't be achieved by religious school alone, by parents alone, or by clergy alone. It is a combined effort that will bring the best results. But the religious school recognizes its part as a key component in the quest for achieving Jewish identity, and the religious school leadership is always receptive to suggestions on how to help you reach your kids. So take some time to participate in some events, meet with Josh, get to know your child's teacher, and consider what it is you are trying to give your child by sending him or her to religious school.

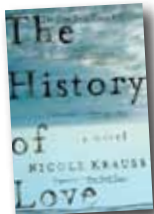
—Susan Kay, Religious School Chair,
susankaysk@gmail.com

Library Corner

Love Is in the Air

by Robin Jacobson

In springtime, it is said, "love is carried on the breeze." Spring brings weddings and the beautiful, many-faceted love story of the *Book of Ruth*, read on *Shavuot*. What better time to enjoy one of the award-winning love stories in our library? As an extra enticement, we are offering 10 free copies of *The History of Love* (reviewed below), presented to the Library Committee on World Book Night (for details and to request a free copy of the book, see page 20).



***The History of Love* by Nicole Krauss**

Romantics will relish this ingenious book—part love story, part mystery—that pays tribute to the force of love and literature down generations and across continents.

When the book opens, Leo Gursky, an elderly Holocaust survivor, is nearing the end of a long, lonely, and difficult life. Sadly, his main concern is not to die unnoticed. Consequently, Leo deliberately drops coins and behaves eccentrically on his regular visits to the shops near his New York City apartment. He even volunteers to pose nude for an art class.

Leo's youth promised better. In Poland, Leo loved a girl named Alma and wrote for her a beautiful book, called *The History of Love*. Before the couple could be married, World War II separated them. Believing that Leo was dead, Alma married another man who offered her protection. When Leo resurfaced after the war, Alma turned him away.

Like Leo's lost love, the manuscript of *The History of Love* seemed also to have disappeared in the fog of war. But, in fact, the man who was supposed to safeguard Leo's Yiddish masterpiece translated it into Spanish and published the book under his own name in Chile. A traveling Israeli, David Singer,

bought a copy. Entranced by the book, David and his wife Charlotte name their daughter, Alma, for the book's heroine. After David's death, a mysterious patron commissions Charlotte to translate *The History of Love* from Spanish into English. Alma Singer, now a precocious teenager, begins to unravel the book's history and seek the identity of the patron. Eventually, the many separate strands of the story are satisfyingly tied together.

***A Long, Long Time Ago & Essentially True* by Brigid Pasulka**

Like *The History of Love*, this charming novel is rooted in Poland, but the World War II characters are righteous Gentiles, rather than Polish Jews. The book opens in spring 1939, with a chance, love-at-first-sight meeting between a young man nicknamed Pigeon and a beautiful girl, Anielica, in a tiny mountain community with a picturesque name, Half-Village. A man of few words, Pigeon courts Anielica by volunteering to renovate her family's hut. With some suspicion, Anielica's father accepts the unusual offer and watches in astonishment as Pigeon transforms the crude hut with the addition of glass windows, extra rooms, and indoor plumbing.



After the German invasion in September 1939, the renovated hut becomes the headquarters of the Half-Village resistance fighters, led by Pigeon, and a hiding place for Jews. At war's end, the Soviets liberate Poland from the Germans and enslave it to communism. Suspected of anti-Soviet activity, Pigeon becomes a hunted man.

The book alternates chapters about Pigeon and Anielica with chapters from a later time narrated by their granddaughter, Beata, who lives with two female cousins in Krakow in the 1990s. The legacies of Nazism and communism linger in the dreary "New Poland" where the new-fangled capitalism is blamed for high poverty and unemployment rates. Against this depressing backdrop, the three women struggle to earn a living, gain education and professional advancement, and find love. ○

"From generation to generation..."

L'Dor VaDor Service & Dinner and GAGa Tournament!

Join us for a Shabbat experience for all generations with a Friday night service and Shabbat dinner. Services led by the clergy with the help of our children. Feel free to bring your own Kosher wine to enjoy!

Friday, May 4, 2012

6:00pm - Service

7:00pm - Dinner

7:45pm - Kids GAGa Tournament

\$18.75 - Adult Dinner
\$12.50 - Child Dinner (Ages 3-12)
Children 2 and under eat FREE!

RSVP by Wednesday, May 2nd at 11am
No refunds after RSVP deadline.

Register Online at adasisrael.org/ldorvador
(202) 362-4433 Carol.Ansell@adasisrael.org



You are cordially invited to attend the
**Graduation of the
Ma'alot DC Class of 2012
and Awards Presentation**

**Tuesday, May 15th
7:15 pm**

Connecticut Ave. Patio

All are invited to attend and honor our graduating seniors. Refreshments for our graduates and their families to follow.

A 5:00pm dinner for the graduates at a classmate's home immediately precedes the ceremony.

7th-11th Graders will return to class after the ceremony. The final session will be on May 22nd and will include a special dinner and "Passing the Torch" ceremony.



Youth @ AI



Adas Israel Youth had much excitement in March! Each of our groups had a fun event:

Chaverim had lots of fun decorating pillows for *seder* and discussing the different parts of Passover with our friends!

Machar had fun on *Shabbat* when we played all kinds of games, including a combination of *Shabbat/Passover Jeopardy* and lots of Gaga!

The **Kadima** basketball team enjoyed going out for a delicious dinner at Pita Hut after one of its games!

USY had a blast at Burritos and Bowling. Both elements of this event were fulfilled, and it was awesome!

Coming up in May:

Chaverim: Saturday, May 5, "*Shabbat in the Park*"—Join us for lunch and games outside!

Machar: Sunday, May 6, "*Jew at the Zoo*"—Join us for a fun zoo event!

Kadima: Saturday, May 26, we'll enjoy *Shabbat* outdoors together—Join us for lunch and outdoor fun!

USY: Saturday, May 12—Join us for a *Lag B'Omer* Bonfire; Regional Spring Convention, May 17–20!

Hope to see you all at our final events of the year!

Nessiah Tova! Have a great trip!!

Wishing all of our Adas Israel summer camp and Israel trip participants a fantastic journey this summer! We'd like to send you off with our blessing, so please join us for a special *aliyah* Saturday morning, June 2. RSVP to elie.greenberg@adasisrael.org. ○

YP @ AI



A community for young adults between the ages of 21 and 35. Singles can meet singles, young couples can meet young couples, newcomers can connect with other newcomers.

'Shir Delight,' May 4, 6:30 pm



Shir Delight is Adas Israel's *Kabbalat Shabbat* experience for young Jewish professionals between the ages of 21 and 35.

Our evening begins at

6:30 with a happy hour *oneg*, followed by a lay-led *Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv* service and \$8 *Shabbat* dinner. While everyone is welcome to join us for our happy hour *oneg* and services, we can only accommodate a limited number of people for dinner.

Please register at adasisrael.org/yp by May 1 to reserve your spot.

An Evening with Moshav, May 19, 9:00 pm

Join us for a pre-show happy hour and a concert of the best Jewish rock band around. The Israeli-born Moshav band grew up on Moshav Meor Modi'im, a musical village located in the hills between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The band's home, founded by the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach, has been and continues to be the birthplace of many Jewish songs enjoyed the world over. Members of Moshav were under the spiritual guidance of Rabbi

Shlomo Carlebach, often performing with him at his concerts.

Moshav, which includes brothers Yehuda (vocals, percussion), Meir (vocals, guitar, mandolin), Yosef (bass), Solomon, and David (vocals, guitar), comes on like a family of traveling minstrels, court jesters, and old-age mystics all at once. Its music is rich with fiery rock/folk/reggae songs, spiced with the flavors of the Middle East. The boys draw you into their own struggles and leave you pondering your own, but not before providing you with a huge helping of hope.

Moshav's powerful sound has been heard at music festivals and more intimate settings worldwide. Projects in which Moshav has played an essential role include The Wake Up Tour (a Northern American Jewish Renewal project) and Israeli Block Parties, organized to increase awareness of Israel and Judaism. Now based in Los Angeles, the band continues to ignite audiences throughout the U.S. and worldwide.

Special discount for YP@AI: tickets are usually \$15 for the concert. Buy them through our website for only \$10 each, which includes **free** drinks at our pre-party. See you there! ○



Contributions

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Anna & Joseph Blumenthal Video Fund

In Memory Of: **Anna Blumenthal** by Allen Wolpe.

Anne Frank House Fund

By: Gena Schoen, Adas Israel Social Action Fund.

In Honor Of: **Susan Klein** becoming a bat mitzvah by Sally and Neal Goldman.

Gail Schwartz's birthday, **Sophie Lasky, Simon & Sue Rubin**, by Fae Brodie. Wedding of **Alan Roth & Michael Rodgers** by Harriet and Art Isack.

For the Speedy Recovery Of: **Judy Wohlberg** by Fae Brodie.

In Memory Of: **Marvin Brooke Bromberg** by Art & Harriet Isack. **Elsie Adler Benn** by Fae Brodie

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In Memory Of: **Herbert Pilzer** by Geraldine Pilzer.

Congregational Kiddush Fund

In Honor Of: **Mackenzie Fox** by Gary Fox & Rima Adler. **Bryan Philip Knapp** by Bill Knapp & Jeanie Milbauer. **Gabriel Ethan Cropsey** by Mihaela, Seth, & Joseph Cropsey.

1999 adult b'nai mitzvah class by Linda Segal, Nancy Weiss, Ginger Moss. **Amalia Nicholson's** baby naming by David Nicolson.

Daily Minyan Fund

By: Deborah Runkle.

In Honor Of: **Bernie Meyer's 95th birthday** by Richard & Susan Ugelow, Marvene Horwitz, Arthur & Harriet Isack, Arnie & Mary Hammer, Glenn & Cindy Easton, Norman Shore. Birth of **Maya Frances Friedberg** by Arthur & Harriet Isack.

In Memory Of: **Umberto Ancona** by Mario Ancona

Dan Kaufman Children's Program Fund

In Honor Of: **Minna Kaufman's** birthday by Dale Kaufman, Esther Silverman. **Ben Goelz** becoming a bat mitzvah, **Katie Clark** becoming a mother by Dale Kaufman.

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In Honor Of: **Keren Saltzman** by Joel & Rhoda Ganz. **Beverly Cohen's** special birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

In Memory Of: **Hy Lezell** by Joel & Rhoda Ganz. **Morris Kleinerman, Gertrude Kleinerman** by Ruth Kleinrock. **Annette Rayman, Henry Adler, Federico Adler, Herbert Birtha**, by Jeffrey Jacobovitz & Leah Hadad. **Bessie Siegel** by Steve Grayson & Michelle Leavy. **Victor A. Sachse III** by Roger & Renée Fendrich.

Garden of the Righteous Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of **Maya Frances Friedberg, Sandra & Clement Alpert's** 50th anniversary, **Clement Alpert's** 100th birthday, by Saul & Judy Strauch. **Judy Strauch** receiving the *Yad Hakavod* award by Roger & Renée Fendrich. *In Memory Of:* **Rhoda Alban** by David Connick. **Louis Strasser** by Alan Strasser. **Warren Weber, Eva Cohen** by Saul & Judy Strauch.

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In Memory Of: **Paul J. Schweitzer** by Matthew & Susan Finston.

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In Honor Of: Birth of **Maya Frances Friedberg** by Harry & Judie Linowes.

In Memory Of: **Hy Lezell, Ambassador Sol Linowitz, Eva Cohen, Marvin Kogod**, by Harry & Judie Linowes.

Havurah Kiddush Fund

By: Marvin Szymkowicz & Diana Savit, Jorge Pineda & Judy Heumann.

In Honor Of: **Arlette Jassel Goldstein's** 70th

birthday by Ken Goldstein & Arlette Jassel.

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In Memory Of: **Morris Hariton** by Nancy & Carl Gewirz.

Muriel Jacobson Memorial Endowment Fund

In Honor Of: **Melvin Jacobson's** special birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Offerings Fund

In Honor Of: **Gail Schwartz's** significant birthday, **Susan Klein's** becoming a bat mitzvah, **Rabbi Avis & Ralph Miller's** new granddaughters, **Madeline Jayne Scherr, Miriam Rosenthal's** marriage to Mileve **Michael Phillips**, by Goldie Rivkin. *For The Speedy Recovery Of:* **Judy Wohlberg** by Goldie Rivkin.

In Memory Of: **Israel Stern** by Alvin Stern. **Dr. Norman Bernstein** by Mr. & Mrs. Albert Small Jr. Allyson D. Newman, Michael Fleisher. **Hy Lezell** by Loretta Feldman.

Eva Cohen by Bruce Ray & April Rubin.

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Contributions Continued

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Mazel Tov On: Birth of **Keren Saltzman** by Bo & Marky Kirsch.

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Sandra & Clement Alpert Fund for Family Education

In Honor Of: **Dr. Clement Alpert's** 100th birthday by Ellen & Bernard Young. **Sandra & Clement Alpert's** 50th anniversary & **Dr. Alpert's** 100th birthday by Cecilia & Leonard Platnick, Adele Leff, Roger & Renée Fendrich. **Sandra & Dr. Clement Alpert's** 50th anniversary by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

In Memory Of: **Florence J. Kahn, Elaine Semel Sorcher, Yetta Alpert, Joseph S. Kahn**, by Dr. & Mrs. Clement Alpert.

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In Memory Of: **Julia & Rose Woronow** by Doris Povich.

Scott Dreyer Family Endowment Fund

By: Scott Dreyer.

Shelley Remer Gan HaYeled Enrichment Fund

In Honor Of: **Zita Moghadam, Caleb Gershengorn, Noa Donovan, Orly Strobel, Eliya Gelb** becoming b'nai mitzvah, by Shelley Remer. **Gan staff** by Sheri Ann Brown.

Sheri Brown's appointment as director of the Gan HaYeled by Mark & Deborah Joseph. Birth of **Cantor Arianne & Rabbi Rand Brown's** son by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

In Memory Of: **Sophie Silfen** by Barbara Robinson. **Frederick Aladjem** by Glenn & Cindy Easton. **Mimi Levinson** by Molly Levinson, Josh, Henry, Lulu & Livvy Wachs. **Frederick Aladjem** by Mark & Deborah Joseph. **E. G. Rosenberg** by Mark Rosenberg. **Marvin Bromberg** by Stewart & Shelley Remer. **Siegel-Kalmekoff Family Adult Education Fund**
In Honor Of: **Ian Gershengorn** becoming a bar mitzvah, Birth of **Maya Frances Friedberg**, Marriage of **Rachel Butler & Bill Kamens, Bernie Meyer's** 95th birthday, by Margie Siegel.

Solar Cookers

In Memory Of: **Betty Levinson** by Jackie Levinson.

Social Action Fund

In Honor Of: **Tamara Handelsman's** recent award by Irv & Estelle Jacobs.

Sophie Silfen Shalom Tinok Fund

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In Memory Of: **Irving Koenig** by Evan & Hallie Werbel.

Tzedakah Fund

For the Sale of Chametz: Rob & Rachel Rubin, Leah Chanin, David & Toni Bickart, Morris Chalick, Marshall & Arlene Cohen, Andrew & Amy Herman, Arthur & Harriet Isack, Steven & Ruth Kleinrock, Leo & Fradel Kramer, Richard Cohen & Kathy Krieger, Ralph & Rabbi Avis Miller, Michael & Joyce Stern, Sheldon Kimmel, Bill Levenson, Yvette Epstein Biff & Iris Henley, Beth Slavet, Rabbi Herb & Sharon Schwartz, Larry Jarvik & Nancy Strickland, Art & Edie Hessel, Brian Weinstein, Steve Keln & Joy Lerner, Jerry & Kathy Sandler, Alex Preker & Susan Hulton, Ed & Jeri Greenberg, Dan Byerly & Kate Clark, Ari & Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt, Steven Weiner, Mark & Inna Lerner, Carl & Michelle Schoenberger, Harry Marks.

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Ma Tovv

HONORING OUR LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

Lesley Brinton & Carol Ansell Celebrate 18 years at Adas Israel; Beryl Saltman Completes 13th Year

The purpose of the Ma Tovv column is to honor and acknowledge those who work tirelessly behind the scenes to enrich our Adas Israel experience.

One of the strengths of our congregation is the longevity and dedication of our staff members. A synagogue is a unique place to work, and staff members work and succeed due in large part to their commitment to our mission and the importance of our work.

Our appreciation and congratulations go to Lesley Brinton, who is celebrating her 18th anniversary as our synagogue controller and supervising our accounting department. Carol Ansell, our receptionist and the "voice of Adas Israel" is also celebrating her 18th year. Beryl Saltman, our rabbinic assistant and *b'nai mitzvah* coordinator is completing her 13th year at Adas Israel.

The longevity of our staff is also a

testament to the way our leadership and membership treat our important staff members. Voted "one of the best nonprofits to work at" in a national survey, Adas Israel is known for its progressive employment practices and wonderful work environment. Lesley, Carol, and Beryl add significantly to our congregational service and success. ○



Lesley Brinton



Carol Ansell



Beryl Saltman

Contributions Continued

For The Speedy Recovery Of: **Lisa Povich** by Diana Engel Glenn & Cindy Easton. **Jerry Bubis** by Glenn Easton.

In Memory Of: **Jeanette Rose** by Hannah Aurbach. **Joan Bratman** by Dorothy Cohen. **Alfred Backer** by Eva Rehfeld. **Sadye Ottenberg, Gilbert Ottenberg** by Ronald Ottenberg. **David Sykes** by Terry & Ginny Gans. **Abe Lish, Ruth Burns, Martin Greenberg, Nellie Greenberg**, by Jack & Fran Lish. **Ethel Miller, Max & Pauline Chafets**, by Betty Miller. **Glorya S. Scherr** by Stanley Scherr. **Arthur Nussdorf** by Larry & Melanie Nussdorf. **Esther Waxman** by Rep. Henry Waxman. **Eva Cohen** by Adrian & Annette Morchower.

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In Memory Of: **Eva Cohen** by Yaacov & Herlene Nagler, Glenn & Cindy Easton.

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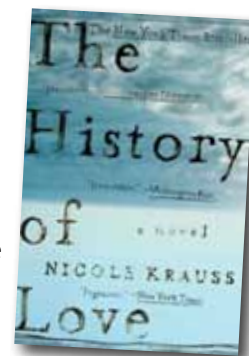
World Book Night Request a Free Copy of *The History of Love*

On World Book Night, April 23, the Library Committee received 10 copies of the international bestselling novel, *The History of Love*, by Nicole Krauss to distribute free-of-charge. (A review of *The History of Love*, which traces the interrelated lives and loves of quirky Jewish characters across time and distance, appears on page 15).

World Book Night is a celebration of reading and books that originated in the United Kingdom in 2011. This year, the program has expanded to include Ireland, Germany, and the United States. In thousands of communities

on both sides of the Atlantic, individuals and institutions will be distributing tens of thousands of books. The Library Committee is proud to have been selected for participation.

To request a free copy of *The History of Love*, please contact Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org). To learn more about World Book Night, visit us.worldbooknight.org. ○



Upcoming Chronicle Deadlines—

June issue: Tuesday, May 1, noon; July/August issue: Friday, June 1, noon