Kehilath Jeshurun Bulletin



Volume LXVII Number 8 June 26, 1998 2 Tammuz 5758

RABBI JOSHUA LOOKSTEIN ELECTED AS NEW ASSISTANT RABBI AT 126TH ANNUAL MEETING, SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 10 A TRULY MEMORABLE OCCASION IN THE HISTORY OF KEHILATH JESHURUN SPECTACULAR 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONCLUDES

With the fanfare and depth of a very meaningful introduction, former president Sandy Eisenstat presented Rabbi Joshua Lookstein to become the fourth generation in his family to serve as Rabbi in this congregation.

Of course, his familial predecessors were his great, great grandfather, Rabbi Moses Z. Margolis

("the RaMaz"), his grandfather, Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, and our current rabbi, Rabbi Haskel Lookstein. The appointment of the newest Rabbi Lookstein was received with tremendous warmth and enthusiasm by the membership who greeted him with a standing ovation. Mr. Eisenstat's remarks appear on page 7.

72 NEW MEMBER FAMILIES

The meeting started with the singing of the national anthems by Cantor Mayer Davis and was followed by a beautiful invocation by Rabbi Mark Wildes.

Dr. Diana Friedman, President of the KJ Sisterhood and past president of the Couples Club and herself a graduate of Ramaz then presented 72 families for induction as new members of KJ. This is the second largest group of new members to be inaugurated into membership in the congregation in its history. They represent a total of 130 adults and many, many children.

ALL OFFICERS REELECTED

The nominating committee chaired by past president Benjamin Brown and including Dr. Larry Baruch, Sandy Eisenstat, Dr. Diana Friedman, Sue Robins, Kenneth Rochlin, and Leonard Silverman presented the six officers of the congregation for the election. The group was unanimously approved by the membership. The officers for the 1998-1999 congregational year are:

President
Vice President
Second Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Secretary

Fred Distenfeld
Dr. Gilbert N. Kahn
Robert Zimet
Frederic H. Baumgarten
Chaim Edelstein
Richard E. Kobrin
Fred Baumgarten

The Rabbis Lookstein

104 SENIORS ARE GRADUATED FROM RAMAZ

Commencement Exercises for Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz were held on Wednesday evening, June 17. One hundred and four seniors were granted their diplomas, of whom 39 will be studying Torah next year in Israel at *yeshivot* and women's institutions such as Yeshivat Har Etzion, Yeshivat HaKotel, Shaarei Mevaseret Zion. Yeshivat Sha'alvim, Yeshiyat Birkat Moshe, Midreshet Lindenbaum Midreshet Moriah, among others.

Elsewhere in this Bulletin you will find a copy of an announcement placed by Ramaz in three Jewish newspapers in the New York area, highlighting the extraordinary record of honors and

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued on Page 15)

Page 2 KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

SHIVAH ASSAR B'TAMMUZ, TISHA B'AV AND THE THREE WEEKS JULY 12 - AUGUST 2, 1998

During the summer months, we mourn the destruction of both Temples in Jerusalem which took place on the ninth of Av. and the events that led to their destruction. We fast on the seventeenth day of the month of Tammuz, Shivah Assar B'Tammuz because, according to tradition it was on that day that the enemy penetrated the walls of Jerusalem prior to the destruction of the Second Temple. The Talmud, however, writes that these were not the only tragedies that befell the Jewish people on this day. On the seventeenth of Tammuz four more tragedies occurred: the first tablets containing the Ten Commandments were broken by Moses, the two daily sacrifices were suspended during the time of the First Temple, the wicked Apostumos burned the Torah, and an idol was erected in the Temple.

Additional tragedies also befell the Jewish people on **Tisha B'Av**. On this day, the *meraglim*, the spies, returned to the Jews in the desert with a negative report about the Land of Israel. In addition, it was on this day that the city of Betar was destroyed and tens of thousands of Jews were killed, and the day the wicked Turnus Rufus plowed the site of the Temple and its surroundings. Tradition asserts that the expulsion of the Jews from England in 1290 and the expulsion from Spain in 1492 also took place on **Tisha B'Av**.

Our mourning for the destroyed Temples and for the other calamities which occured on these days extends

FAST OF 17TH OF TAMMUZ Sunday, July 12, 1998

Fast Begins 4:23 AM
Shacharit 8:30 AM
Mincha 8:05 PM
Fast Ends 9:09 PM

beyond the fasts themselves. The period between these last two fasts, traditionally called The Three Weeks includes several practices mourning. During these three weeks we do not get our hair cut, attend weddings or involve ourselves in large joyous gatherings. During the nine days which begin on the first of Av, July 24, and continue until midday on the eleventh day of Av, August 3, we are additionally forbidden to eat meat and drink wine, except on Shabbat, to go swimming or bathe for pleasure, and to do any laundry or dry cleaning that is not absolutely necessary. In general, the Talmud writes that when the month of Av begins, our mood should reflect our mourning for the destruction of the Temples. On Tisha B'Av itself, besides fasting, we are prohibited from washing our bodies, wearing leather shoes, anointing ourselves. and having marital relations. It is also forbidden to study Torah on this day with the exception of the sections of the prophets and the Talmud that discuss the destruction. We do not wear our tallit and tefillin until Mincha and the custom is to sit on low chairs like mourners until midday. Our observance of mourning also forbids us from greeting friends on Tisha B'Av.

We mourn the Temple that was destroyed over nineteen hundred years ago and we pray that in the merit of our mourning we will be worthy to see God rebuild the Temple in our lifetime.

TISHA B'AV SCHEDULE Saturday, August 1, Tisha B'Av Eve

Mincha Services 7:55 PM
Fast Begins 8:12 PM
Followed by:
Ma'ariv and Eicha
Sunday, August 2, Tisha B'Av

Morning Services 8:30 AM
Followed by Kinot
Evening Services 7:50 PM
Conclusion of Fast 8:49 PM

HIGH HOLY DAY SEATS NOW BEING ASSIGNED

We have sent High Holy Day Seat Request Cards to our congregation. Please return your card with your requests as soon as possible. If you are not planning to be with us this year, please return the card and tell us that as well. The deadline for such requests is Monday, June 29.

Once again, we will be holding Beginner's Services under the leadership of George Rohr and our Outreach Coordinator, Rabbi Yitz Motechin. These services, which will be held in our air conditioned which gymnasium and accommodate between 500 and 600 people are also available to our members who would prefer to choose this "learner's service" for the High Holy Days in lieu of the Main Synagogue or one of the parallel services.

Rosh Hashana begins this year on Sunday evening, September 20, and continues on Monday and Tuesday, September 21 and 22. Yom Kippur is on Tuesday evening (Kol Nidre) and Wednesday, September 29 and 30.

REMEMBERING
THE TEMPLE:
THE LAWS OF
TISHA B'AV AND
THE THREE WEEKS

MONDAY, JULY 6 8:00 PM

- What is the significance of the Temple today?
- How and when do we commemorate its destruction?
- What events led to the destruction of the Temple and the exile of the Jewish Nation?

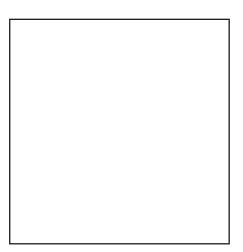
Conducted by:
Rabbi Yitz Motechin

126TH ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from Page 1)

KJ bids a warm farewell to Rabbi Wildes.

The KJ Crowd



President Fred Distenfeld

TRUSTEES RETIRED

Eight members of the Board of Trustees, having served the constitutional maximum of nine years on the Board are retiring due to the constitutional limit. They are:

> Elias Buchwald Rae Gurewitsch Lionel Etra Barry Kluger George Rohr Martine Fox Dr. Nathalie Friedman Ron Tauber

We are grateful for the many years of service each of these Trustees has provided and the enthusiasm of their dedication to Kehilath Jeshurun. We look forward to their continued participation in synagogue life and to future leadership from them.

TRUSTEES ELECTED

Two trustees whose terms expired were eligible for reelection to the Board. The membership endorsed the election of:

> Irwin Shapiro Isaac Sherman

To fill the eight vacancies on the regular board, the congregation elected four Associate Trustees of the congregation:

> Ray Brenner Dr. Robert Friedman

Doris Travis Barry Cooper

Additionally four other members of the congregation were elected for the three year terms:

> Abe Esses Natalio Fridman Eric Feldstein Robert Schwalbe

ASSOCIATE TRUSTEES APPOINTED

The following Trustees were re-appointed for one year terms on the Associate Board by President Fred Distenfeld:

> Harvey W. Abrahams Steven Koppel Harry Ballan Kenneth Rochlin Dr. Larry Baruch Jeremy Schwalbe Andrew H. Charles

Scott Shay

Leonard Silverman Karen Gibofsky

Dr. Alan Spiegel

NEW ASSOCIATE TRUSTEES

The following four members were appointed as Associate Trustees for the first time:

> Jane Gol Sandra Rapoport Marshall Huebner Ted Wachtel

DR. NATHALIE FRIEDMAN APPOINTED HONORARY TRUSTEE

Recognizing that Dr. Nathalie Friedman, Chairperson of our 125th Anniversary celebration and former Chairperson of our Adult Education committee, has been a lifelong member of the congregation and has herself distinguished by dedication, service, and other leadership important roles of throughout the years, Benjamin Brown, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, put forth her name to

become an Honorary Trustee. He further commented that her commitment to Yiddishkeit and the Jewish people made her exceptional role model whom we are proud to have as part of our community. For these reasons and in tribute to her being the daughter of the late Rabbi Joseph H. and Gertrude Lookstein, she was unanimously and enthusiastically approved by the assemblage.

125TH ANNIVERSARY CONCLUDING ADDRESS

The highlight of the meeting was the conclusion of the 125th anniversary celebration of the congregation. Throughout the year there was a series of 28 programs and two projects which spotlighted the events, activities, and trends of the Jewish community during the century and a quarter of KJ's existence. The conclusion was the address delivered

by Committee Chairperson, Dr. Nathalie Friedman. The title was: "CONTINUITY AND VISION: A DAUGHTER'S TRIBUTE TO RABBI JOSEPH H. LOOKSTEIN." We have reprinted Dr. Friedman's address in its entirety because we believe it is an important historic statement about the heritage of this community. It appears on page 9.

DECEASED MEMBERS

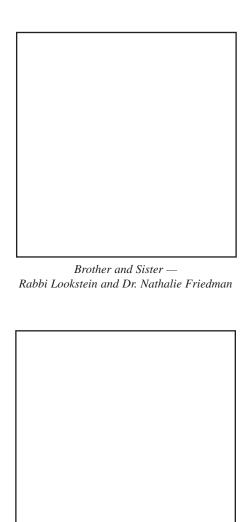
With warmth and sensitivity, Rabbi Lookstein paid tribute through brief eulogies to 22 members of the congregation who were called to their eternal reward since the 125th Annual meeting. Those members eulogized were:

Dr. Abram Abeloff
Jacob H. Avner
Lillian Brown Borenstein
Helen Brody
Else De Graaff
Joel Finkle
Heidi Friedman
Dr. Harry Goldin
Esther Gottesman
Paul Guttentag
Sidney Horwitz

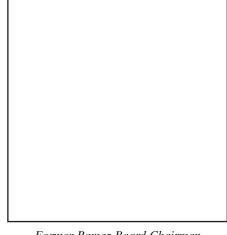
Dr. Jeanne Rafsky Jaspan Esther Kolatch William G. Lebowitz Gertrude Lookstein Abe Newborn Herman Riederman Jules M. Sax Aaron Schneidman Phyllis Seplow Marie Shulsky Dr. Julian Steiner

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Nominee and Nominator — Rabbo Joshua Lookstein and Former President Sandy Eisenstat



Former Ramaz Board Chairman Lawrence A. Kobrin

RAMAZ SCHOOL MEETING

Prior to the closing remarks of Rabbi Haskel Lookstein and the light collation in the Riklis Social Hall, David N. Kahn, Chairman of the Board of Ramaz School, conducted its brief annual meeting. Lawrence A. Kobrin, chairman of Ramaz's nominating committee presented the slate for Trustees for the coming year. The nominating Committee consisted of:

Lawrence Kobrin Francine Gerber
Harvey Beker Wendy Greenbaum
Fred Distenfeld Steven R. Gross

Melvin D. Newman

Mr. Kobrin recognized the fine service of three trustees who are no longer eligible to serve on the Board:

Gail Propp Lynette Gruenhut Carol Morrow

The following trustees were reelected to the regular board:

Israel Englander Barry Kluger
Dr. Diana Friedman Axel Stawski
Steven Schacter

Reelected as a parent Trustee was Dr. Isaac Herschkopf.

Reelected as an alumni Trustee was Helen Potaznik.

NEW REGULAR TRUSTEES elected were Anne Fridman (former parent trustee) and Barry Bryer. New parent trustees elected were Barbara Zimet (former regular trustee), Dr. Marrick Kukin, and Eugene Farber.

COMMUNITY TRUSTEES are persons from the community who may, but need not necessarily fall into other categories, but have demonstrated interest in Ramaz and are recognized leaders in the Jewish community. Newly elected in this category is Jan Groveman. Others reelected as community trustees are Harvey Beker, Jacob Berman, Andrew Schonzeit, Radine Spear, and Moshael Straus.

HONORARY TRUSTEES are persons who have given service to the school and who continue to identify with it and support it in its various means. Elected in this category are:

Robert Abrams Belda Lindenbaum

Lillian Eisman Gail Propp

Pearl Hack Raphael Recanati Ilan Kaufthal Howard Rubenstein



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REMEMBERING GERTRUDE LOOKSTEIN

by Lillian Jacobs 1998 Annual Sisterhood Luncheon

It is most fitting that this Sisterhood Luncheon be the occasion for a tribute to Gertrude Lookstein, since she was the first President — and always had a role in leading the way.

I knew Gert for more than 60 years — we met in our early 20's and grew closer and closer through our late 80's. Some of you here never knew her — some only in her later years when she was ill — and some fortunate few were her friends for many years.

She was a multifaceted jewel. Her glow came from within and shone through. She was rare and precious.

Gert was a pious lady, who was comfortable with people of all faiths — and with any branch of Judaism. She never displayed a narrow or biased attitude.

She had wonderful presence with leaders all over the world. She could be with some of the most outstanding people in government, writers, professors, rabbinic leaders — and whether she conversed or just listened, her presence was felt. What an exceptional lady she was. Yes — a lady indeed! — with *all* capital letters.

Gert was a good sport — she enjoyed good food, good company, a drink, a joke — she could do a bit of teasing herself. She frequently jibed me, saying, "Lillian, you can talk and talk all day" — and truth to tell, I can. But I promise not to today — though it is tempting when I talk about Gert.

She had exceptional "know-how"
— from choosing clothes and appropriate accessories — down to a special finishing touch on a platter before it came to the table. This special trait was apparent when it came to understanding people, knowing when to just listen, when to

offer a very wise bit of advice, when to just squeeze someone's hand and put her arms around you. It was always with such keen understanding, a deep interest, and great compassion.

Gert knew how to cope — what a great strength to possess. She lived during the Great Depression and struggled, as all of us had to. However, her spirit and demeanor were always undaunted. She managed her household, her family, and was right beside her husband in the Congregation, when the Congregation was suffering. Suffice it to say, she was extraordinary in her fortitude and her ability to cope.

She coped with a dreadful disease "Guillot baret" that attacked her entire nervous system. She was completely paralyzed! True, she had wonderful medical attention and tremendous love and support from her dear ones — from all who knew her. But it was her way of coping, working with all her might, with all kinds of therapy — difficult therapy — working unceasingly, with faith and optimism, until she won the battle and regained her health.

You may smile when you hear me say she also knew how to cope when things were going very well. It may sound strange, but believe me it is not. I have seen fine, intelligent people completely lose their sense of values during good times — do such extreme things, almost destroying families. Gert knew how to cope with good times. Her modesty, good common sense and great wisdom never allowed her to lose her sense of real values.

Gert was a special friend. Some of you here today can attest to that. She had a special talent — she knew how to be a friend to many people. She showed interest, devotion and

affection. She knew how to keep a confidence. You didn't have to say, "Gert, I want to tell you something, please don't tell anyone." She just never would repeat what someone had told her. That isn't easy. There are many very nice people who can't resist repeating a confidence.

Not Gert!

She was my dearest and closest friend and my life was truly enriched for having had this remarkable relationship for so long — one that grew in depth, in caring and in loving. We never argued or got angry with one another. Sure, we could disagree about some things we could kid each other — we could be together a lot — and sometimes, because of traveling, or family responsibilities, we were together less frequently, but always communicated and never stopped caring.

I am fortunate in having had many friends, and I still do, but I must tell you, Gert was one in a million, a very special human being, and my very best friend.

In closing, I would like to share with you something I recently jotted down on paper, while thinking of her.

My dearest Gert, we'll never part. You are ever in my heart I think of you daily

Sometimes sadly, sometimes gaily.

There are things I would love to share

Things about which only you would care.

We both knew "nothing is forever"

But leave each other? Never! Well, we're like everyone else, I guess.

There comes a time we all have to change our address.....

KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN Page 7

INTRODUCTION OF RABBI JOSHUA LOOKSTEIN 126TH ANNUAL MEETING, SUNDAY, MAY 10, 1998

BY SAMUEL EISENSTAT

In everyone's life there are memorable moments — both good and bad. A birth of a child or a grandchild, a graduation, a marriage or, God forbid, the passing of a dear one. These events remain emblazoned in our memories and are recalled long after the event took place. So too with a congregation, especially a congregation such as Kehilath Jeshurun which is really an extended family. In the life of the congregation there are events which are unique, memorable and because of the nature of the entity, historical — both to the Congregation and the community at large.

We are here today to celebrate an historic event in the life of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun an event which will impact upon the life of this Congregation in the coming millennium. We are here to induct and welcome a new Assistant Rabbi — a new generation of rabbinic leadership, which, please God, will build upon the unique rabbinic tradition that this Synagogue has been privileged to enjoy.

I feel very comfortable in saying that there is probably no other modern orthodox congregation that can boast of an annual meeting such as this. Just look around and observe those present. There are many New York Stock Exchange companies who fail to get an attendance of this size at their annual meetings.

I submit to you that this assembly is indicative of the great strength of this Congregation. This turnout of members is a manifestation of love for this very special Kehilah — which, because of the nature of this shul, is really an expression of love and great respect for the rabbinic leadership of this Congregation.

What makes this shul different from most other shuls? Well, as one who has been somewhat involved in the affairs of this congregation, I can state without a doubt, that it is the result of strong rabbinic leadership that has been and is present at KJ. This is a rabbi's shul — unique for the Jewish community. Because we have been blessed with very special rabbis, this shul is devoid of the narishkeit politics and related trivia that plagues so many of the shuls in the community. Not only do our rabbis serve as spiritual leaders of the Kehilah, but also they are deeply involved in the day to day affairs of the Congregation. The Congregation is what it is — because of the consuming devotion of its rabbinic leadership.

Not only is it a rabbi's shul—but it is a Lookstein shul. This congregation has been blessed to have at its helm during the recent decades two dynamic rabbinic leaders who have enabled this Congregation to grow as it has. Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, *zt"l* and *Sheyibodel Lechayim*, Rabbi Haskel Lookstein.

I, like many of you, was privileged to know Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein. To know him was to understand this Congregation — for he was its architect. You will shortly have the distinct privilege of hearing about The Rabbi from his daughter, Dr. Nathalie Friedman, Permit me a few brief observations. He was a five foot tall giant. He was electrifying and a visionary. He would create a modern orthodox synagogue, which would appeal to Jews who resided on the Upper East Side. To Jews who were already orthodox and those who, to quote The Rabbi, "were not yet orthodox." And boy did he

succeed. He was determined to create a shul that conformed to Halacha but his shul was going to be different. The Tefilah would be conducted with conviction and devotion in a dignified setting. The shuk atmosphere of many shuls and shteblach had no place at KJ. The "bigde Shabbos" of the Rabbis would be formal attire including high hats; the officers would wear appropriate formal attire; and yes, the congregants would wear black kippot. Things some of us could not really understand at the time — but he did — and this focus created a certain presence in Shul — one of spirituality and devotion.

In addition, the shul would be run on a sound fiscal basis; he had an updated financial report on his desk each day. And Lord help the preparer if the statement wasn't correct.

Rabbi Joseph set the structure for a modern orthodox congregation and we, his congregants, thrived.

Like all great CEOs, Rabbi Joseph, recognizing that a time would come when he would have to slow down in his rabbinic duties, brought in Rabbi Haskel to join in the responsibility of tending to this Congregation. They worked together as a marvelous team ministering to this growing congregation and Ramaz. With the passage of time, Rabbi Haskel assumed more responsibility and became the Rabbi of the congregation, and his father, the Senior rabbi. And when the time came that the *Rebono* Shel Olam decided that He needed Rabbi Joseph Lookstein in the olam ha'emes, as difficult as it was, this Congregation was ready — for Rabbi Haskel was at the helm.

I do not want to embarrass Rabbi Haskel by saying too much about him at this time and thank God each and every Congregant knows how blessed we are with his leadership and that of his very special rebetzin, Audrey — the best decision he ever made was to marry this very wise and elegant lady. He is a great rabbi — a man of Torah and vision and has the unique capacity generate to enthusiasm and excitement in his kehilah. He is a national religious leader who brings sanity to an otherwise tohu vavohu. He has become an outstanding fundraiser as we unfortunately know — and he has shepherded this Congregation to a level that even exceeds that which his sainted father could have contemplated. But with all these mailos, and they are very significant — his most outstanding quality is his neshama. Oh how rare to find a rabbi whose soul and lifestyle is a kiddush *Hashem.* As busy as he is, he is there for us when we need him for simchas, or when we have to deal with tragedy. That's when he is at his best. That's what makes him so very special.

Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun would not be what it is today were it not for the Rabbis Lookstein. And today we add a new link to the chain by inducting into office as our new Assistant Rabbi, Rabbi Joshua Lookstein.

Let me introduce him formally to this Congregation.

He comes from a very special family who are regular worshippers in this Congregation.

Rabbi Joshua Lookstein received his BA degree from Yeshiva College and his MA in Jewish History from the Bernard Revel Graduate School at Yeshiva University. He received his *smicha* from Yeshivat Rabbi Yitzchak Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University.

Despite his youth, he has significant experience within the Jewish community. For three years, he was involved in a special summer program in educating young people in Australia — ultimately leading that program. He performed similar

service in Canada and in the former Soviet Union. His leadership roles in these programs without a doubt, contributed to their success as did his involvement in the Yeshiva University Seminar for yeshiva high school sophomores which he led — a program that attempts to instill in our young people a love for *yiddishkeit* to supplement what they get at school.

You just have to look at Rabbi Joshua's face to know who he is and what he stands for He is learned. unusually sensitive, very bright, has a humor. marvelous sense of compassionate, and has the fire and enthusiasm of youth. He knows no shticklach and is therefore loved and respected by all those who know him — both young and old. If you will permit me, he embodies the best of both his grandfather zt"l and shevibodel lechaim, his father.

Let me deal with one final point. For many years Rabbi Joshua was not sure whether he could follow in the Lookstein tradition and assume rabbinic duties in this Congregation. He didn't know whether he could measure up to the demands of the position both in this shul and in Ramaz. I know this of my own personal knowledge because I, like a number of other present and past officers of this shul, met privately with him for extended periods, to discuss this subject. He did not take this position for granted. Quite to the contrary — he agonized over it for years; and there were many times that I left a meeting with him either here or in Israel and I would have bet that he was not coming to KJ.

But God works in his own ways and Rabbi Joshua Lookstein will carry on at the Lookstein Shul — and let me share with you my belief as to what caused him to accept the challenge here at KJ.

Rabbi Joshua served as the Rabbi of Congregation Agudath Shalom in Stamford, Connecticut last year. He was thrown into the water and not only did he swim, but he won the gold medal. I heard from friends of

mine who were his congregants that he was truly cherished. He brought a fresh dynamic rabbinate to a large and eclectic community. They were sorry he had to leave — but that was the term of his engagement. He was hired as an interim Rabbi and could not be extended. I also had the opportunity of reading the farewell tribute to him delivered by the President of the Congregation. It was a tribute unlike anything I have ever read describing how much he had accomplished and how much he was loved. And you know what... the president captured the essence of this very special rabbi — it was all true. This experience had to show Rabbi Joshua Lookstein that he had a gift from God that he had to pursue. He succeeded in Stamford on his own. This is very important to a young, sincere person who, despite his great love and respect for his father, wants to feel that he is worthy of a position not only because of who he is but because of what he can do. This successful experience gave him the self-confidence and, I believe, convinced him that he could succeed here at KJ — and succeed B"H he will.

Members of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun in General Assembly here assembled, let's make that history. In the presence beloved parents his grandmother, family, colleagues and friends, and believing as I do that Rabbi Joseph and his beloved and gracious rebetzin who was taken from us this past year, are looking down from above, together with his maternal grandfather and are kvelling, I present to you Harav Yehoshua ben Moreynu Harav Yechezkel, Rabbi Joshua Lookstein, and move his election as Assistant Rabbi of this Congregation.

Veyishlach Hashem Beracha Vehatzlacha Bechol Ma'asey Yadav. May Hashem give him strength, judgment and vision to lead this Congregation and Ramaz for many years to come.

125TH ANNIVERSARY CONCLUDING ADDRESS:

"CONTINUITY AND VISION:

A DAUGHTER'S TRIBUTE TO RABBI JOSEPH H. LOOKSTEIN"

BY DR. NATHALIE FRIEDMAN

My talk to you today was billed as the final *address* of the 125th Anniversary Year. Address? That sounds imposing; because all the other addresses this year have been between a half hour and an hour. But not to worry — I've been allotted about 15 minutes (as my father might have said: "That's hardly enough time to clear my throat"). But like my father, I will abide strictly to the time frame I was given.

If there is any one theme that has pervaded this year of celebration of KJ's 125th anniversary, it has been the theme of continuity. Each program and each event has been reflective of this theme. Each excerpt from early KJ bulletins that we reproduced in your current bulletins during this year has shown how events of the past — the fate of the Jews in Europe and later in the Soviet Union; the need to provide quality day school education for American Jewish children; attachment to the newly founded State of Israel how all of these and more have been continuing issues and concerns that KJ and its leadership have been at the forefront of.

And now that the year of celebration has drawn to a close, it's quite fitting that we devote just a few minutes to remembering that KJ who perhaps personality best symbolizes our theme of continuity my father — Rabbi Joseph Lookstein — who moved KJ from the spitoons and mothballs of an almost dying oldtime Orthodoxy into an elegant, and respected bastion of Modern Orthodoxy — but, at the same time, who did this within the Halachic boundaries of our tradition. So let's look at how this theme of "continuity" that has marked our celebration of KJ's 125th, reflects the innovative, yet the traditional path that my father strode in his 56 years of leadership of KJ.

One of my father's favorite themes, on which he would often preach, was drawn from the story of Joseph and his brothers. Recall, that Jacob sent Joseph out to find his brothers and to bring him back word of their welfare. And as the brothers saw Joseph approaching them from afar, they said bitterly:

"הנה בעל החלמות הלזה בא" – Behold, here comes the dreamer." The brothers hardly meant that as a compliment — it was clearly an angry, derogatory statement. But my father, perhaps almost subconsciously comparing himself to his namesake, Joseph, read the *pasuk*, not as "here comes the dreamer," but rather, "here comes the *Baal hachalomot* — the *Master* of his dreams."

And that, indeed, was my father. He had dreams, but he was not content to forget them in the morning, or even to ponder their meaning. He actualized his dreams; he made them come true. And, as a result, he changed the nature of the synagogue, the rabbinate, Jewish education — the entire Jewish landscape. And it has basically been these changes, these innovations that have marked the events of this past year's celebration.

Take, for example, the synagogue and the rabbinate. I think that what my father established here at KJ, was the importance of placing the shul in the forefront of events and needs of the wider Jewish community. A shul, he felt, is not just a place for daily, Shabbos, and Yom Tov services however important these may be. Rather, a shul must hold itself responsible for relating to and helping Jews whenever and wherever such relating and helping are needed. And so, the rabbi of the shul must be ready to give his time, as my father did, to fervent efforts to alert the world to the horrors of the Holocaust; to visiting the

DP camps after World War II; to helping the struggling new State of Israel; to making this congregation a staunch supporter of Yeshiva University, Bar Ilan, Israel Bonds; and — perhaps most important — to establishing and serving at the helm of a Jewish Day school (Ramaz) that became a model for such schools across the country.

As a child, I remember thinking: if only my father were like the fathers of most of my friends — going to work at 8:30 and coming home at 5:30. And, with nothing to do but spend time with ME over the weekends. But no — he was in shul early every morning. And while my mother used to insist that he come home for dinner at a reasonable hour, there was always some regular or emergency meeting later in the evening. And weekends — forget it! Those were his busiest times between shul. weddings. Bar Mitzvahs, unveilings, but most of all, organizational dinners and meetings (at which he, more often than not was the featured speaker): Ramaz; UJA; JDC; YU; NY Board of Rabbis; Synagogue Council of America; and a slew of others that I can't even remember. And he enlisted the balabatim of KJ in support of all these efforts.

Some of these causes are perhaps less critical today — but others have taken their place, and under my brother's leadership continuity of concern for the wider community at KJ is perhaps even stronger today than in my father's time. Day School education, Jewish Poverty; Jewish outreach; assimilation; pluralism, the changing role of women in Orthodoxy — these are all issues and causes for which KJ and its rabbinic and lay leadership have been in the forefront; issues that we have touched upon during this 125th anniversary year.

Page 10 KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

My father dreamed as well about a new kind of Jewish education to provide an alternative to the so-called parochial schools serving mostly the underprivileged Jewish children of the ghetto. A school that would provide quality secular and religious studies to boys and girls alike; that would enable its graduates to attend any college of their choice; that would be free from instruction on Sundays, on legal holidays, and on other occasions when most schoolchildren were on vacation. In short, Ramaz!

I often joke that my father started Ramaz in 1937 just in time for my brother to begin his schooling — too late for me. But that's hardly a fair accusation. My father dreamed about Ramaz for almost ten years before he was able to translate that dream into reality. Perhaps the death of his grandfather, after whom the school was named, in 1936 provided the final impetus. But remember that the preceding years were the depths of the Great Depression — not only an inopportune time to raise the necessary funds for a new school, but sometimes a period when months would go by with no money even to pay the shul officials.

So I missed out on a Ramaz education. But not because I was a girl. My father was determined that I learn Siddur, Chumash, Mishnah, and Hebrew — sometimes from private teachers; sometimes at the Hebrew Teachers Training School (that he, incidentally, founded) and sometimes from him. I remember summers in Connecticut when we would daven together every morning; and Shabbos afternoons when we studied Mishna.

I learned a lot of other things from my father — things that have stayed with me and influenced me over these many years. Once, in the course of taking a walk with him on a Friday evening, I made a somewhat pejorative remark about the accents of "those Jews from the borough just north of us". He launched into a lecture that I've never forgotten — and that has undoubtedly influenced my path as a sociologist — on the dangers of

stereotypes and of characterizing people in derogatory ways. And then there were lessons in tolerance and pluralism that have stayed with me to this day and that typified his thinking. so-called search independence — better known as teenage rebellion — I would sometimes go around the corner to hear Milton Steinberg speak at the Park Avenue Synagogue. Or even worse! Across the park to listen to Mordecai Kaplan. Believe it or not, my father never objected to these excursions. Of course, when I got back, he would subject me to excruciating crossexamination and not so gently point the weaknesses understanding of whatever lecture or sermon I had heard. But he also made it clear that he appreciated the intellect and contribution of rabbis like Steinberg and Kaplan and, as I was always well aware, he had no trouble working together with Conservative, Reform, and Reconstructionist rabbis and laymen. They treated him with respect as he treated them. In fact, he was famous for saying: "I love all Jews except those who don't love other Jews."

This is not the time to talk about his centrist approach to Judaism and his readiness to work closely (as he did for many years) with his colleagues on both the left and the right. We all know that my father's vision of a Centrist Orthodoxy and of a unified Jewish community is far from reality today. But we also know that it permeates the thinking and actions of his son, my brother, who has inherited that vision and is valiantly trying to perpetuate it.

Yes, my father was truly the visionary — he used to tell us about the army physician who rejected him from the regular chaplaincy because of his poor eyesight. "Rabbi" he said, "You may not have sight, but you do have vision!" And he did. But he was also a man of action, of innovative action, who translated his dreams and his visions into concrete accomplishments that have had a continuing impact on today's Jewish world.

At the time of his sudden death at the relatively young age of 76, he was engaged in writing his memoirs, his autobiography. He was a master at "titles" for sermons, talks, and articles. Whenever I had a paper to prepare for college, I would ask his advice for a title, and he never failed to come up with a winner. The title of his autobiography was to be: "God Owes Me Nothing." And in his Introduction he enumerated the reasons why God owed him nothing: a rewarding rabbinate; a model day school — Ramaz; a thriving university in Israel — Bar Ilan; a loving daughter-in-law and son-in-law; eight wonderful grandchildren and even greatgrandchildren.

But, at the very forefront of these reasons, he said, was the fact that he was fortunate enough to have been married for 53 years to my mother whom he called "a helpmate far beyond what he deserved."

And she was. I know, because I was there. I was there when he sought advice about a sensitive congregational problem. I was there when he hesitated to send off a letter, or pursue a course of action, until discussing it with her. And, even more, I was there when he encouraged her to develop her own abilities and interests. And she did — as she assumed leadership roles — on her own— in Sisterhood, Mizrachi Women, Bar Ilan, and more. And whoever came to KJ knew that when my father entered the pulpit — before he cleared his throat and adjusted his talis — he always looked up to the woman who literally was the love of his life.

I was touched to read as well, that God owed him nothing, he said, because he was fortunate enough to have seen his daughter achieve at least minimal success in the secular field in which he himself had pursued graduate study — sociology.

But even more, that his only son had continued the tradition of 12 generations of rabbis in his family by not only following him into the rabbinate, but into the very synagogue and school which he had developed and nurtured. I cannot help but add that perhaps an even greater joy must be his as he looks down on us today to see his grandson, Rabbi Josh, following in these same footsteps. Surely he would be saying with the greatest *kavana*: God really owes me nothing.

And surely, we would respond:

God may owe you nothing; but we who have been the heirs of your dreams and visions, owe you everything!

Page 12 KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

A C A D E M I C

CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN

GAIL ALTMAN, daughter of Judy and the late Dr. Howard Altman, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz with the Tandy Math, Science, and Computer Award for academic excellence and with a Sports Award. She was Captain of the Junior Varsity Basketball team and Captain of the Tennis Team during her senior year. Gail will attend Columbia College in the fall.

DANIEL LEWIS BROWN, son of Fran and Benjamin Brown and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation from Fordham University School of Law. He will be joining the firm of Bickel and Brewer.

HARLAN COHEN, son of Hollace and Steven Cohen and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation from Yale University with distinction in his dual majors of History and International Studies. He was awarded the Winifred Sturley Prize in English History for his senior thesis "Jordan and the Baghdad Pact: The Failure of British Middle East Policy, 1955-1956." He also received the International Security Studies Senior Essay Prize. Harlan will attend New York University School of Law in the fall.

LAUREN CECILY COHEN, daughter of Hollace and Steven Cohen, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as the recipient of the Fannye Popkin Memorial Award for excellence in fine arts. She founded the Model Congress team at Ramaz and served as a member of the Debate team, the Chorus and the Art Club. She also participated in this year's March of the Living. Lauren will attend the University of Wisconsin, Madison in the fall.

BRIAN COOPER, son of Rachel and Barry Cooper and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation from the University of Michigan with a BS in Business Administration. He will be working as an analyst with Morgan Stanley.

RUTH A. CORSON upon receiving a Master's degree in Jewish Art and Material Culture from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

MICHAEL DAVIS, son of Rochelle and Cantor Mayer Davis and grandson of Esther and Cantor Avrum Davis, upon his graduation from the Hebrew Academy of Nassau County. He was a winner in the Senior Division in the Law Day Arts and Letters Competition sponsored by the Bar Association of Nassau County. Michael will study at Yeshivat Sha'arei Mevaseret Zion in Israel next year and will then continue his studies at Yeshiva University.

daughter of Howard Deutsch and Jessica Deutsch and granddaughter of Fay and Joshua Deutsch and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from Yale University

REBECCA GABRIELLE DEUTSCH,

upon her graduation from Yale University summa cum laude. She received the White Award for the finest senior thesis in American History.

TESSA DEUTSCH, daughter of Ellen and Stanley Deutsch and granddaughter of Fay and Joshua Deutsch, upon her graduation from Duke University magna cum laude.

SIMON THEODORE FARHI, son of Dina and Jacques Farhi, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz as a recipient of the Boris Z. Gorlin Tikkun Olam Award. He was a member of the Model UN and Model Congress Teams and the Historical Simulation Club. He also served as Editor of the French newspaper and Co-President of the Intellectual History Club and one of the Gabba'ei Tefila. Throughout his tenure at Ramaz, he won several prizes in various contests including second place in the National Bible Contest, National First Prize in the Jewish National Fund Essay Contest and National Winner of the Jerusalem 3000 Contest, where he represented the United States at the International Competition in Jerusalem. Simon will attend Yeshiva Birkat Moshe/Maaleh Adumim next year, and will then continue his studies at Columbia University.

REBECCA KOBRIN FEINBLUM, daughter of Ruth and Lawrence A. Kobrin and a Ramaz graduate, upon receiving a Fulbright Fellowship to pursue her

doctoral studies in Israel next year at Hebrew University. She has also published an article entitled "Teaching Profession" in *Jewish Women in America:* A Historical Encyclopedia.

JENNIFER ELISE FISHBEIN-GOLD.

daughter of Cheryl Fishbein and Phil Schatten, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz as the recipient of a Letter of Commendation in the National Merit Scholarship Contest. She received the Special Projects Award as well as the Chorus Award. Jennifer was Editor of *Likrat Shabbat*, as well as Editor of this year's printing of Megilat Esther. She was also President of the Chorus and a member of the Chamber Chorus, Jennifer served on

accepted in a double degree program at Barnard College and the Jewish Theological Seminary, where she was chosen to be in the honors program with a full scholarship. **DEBORAH FISHKIND**, daughter of

the School Squad and was a Freshman

Advisor. She also participated in this

year's March of the Living. She was

Judy and Dr. Robert Podell and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. She will be doing a residency in Anesthesiology at Mt. Sinai.

DANIEL ARI FREEDMAN, son of Nancy, a former Ramaz student and Dr. Louis Freedman and grandson of our members, Janice and Saul Linzer, upon his graduation from MIT with a BS in Physics. A 1997 MIT Burchard Scholar, Daniel is also a member of Sigma Pi Sigma, the national physics honor society. Daniel spent three years as an army cadet, earned jump wings at Fort Benning in 1996, commanded MIT's military honor society Pershing Rifles C-12 (abn), and served in the National Guard. He will pursue a doctorate in physics at Stanford University in the fall.

RANDI JORDANA GOBER, daughter of Rachell Gober and Ira Gober and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from Brandeis University magna cum laude. She will pursue an advanced degree in Museum Education.

H O N O R S

EXTENDS A MAZEL TOV TO ...

JULIE DANIELLE GRIBETZ, daughter of Jessica and Dr. Allen Gribetz and granddaughter of Dr. Nathalie and Israel Friedman, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She was a member of the Model Congress and Tennis Team. Julie was an active member of the Bikur Cholim at Lenox Hill Hospital. She will attend Columbia College in the fall.

JOHANNA GRUENHUT, daughter of Lynnette and Jerry Gruenhut and granddaughter of Shirley and Paul Schulder, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz as a recipient of the Leonard Friedland Hebrew Language Memorial Award and The Debby Sacks Award for performing arts. JoJo involved herself in every area of the arts at Ramaz, including dance and choreography, numerous starring roles in school theatrical productions and Associate Editor of the yearbook. Her most recent accomplishment was co-hosting the annual Celebration of the Arts evening. JoJo also performed for three years in the Elizabeth Swados off-Broadway play "The Hating Pot." She also participated in this year's March of the Living. Johanna will study at Machon Gold in Jerusalem next year and will then continue her studies at Boston University.

JESSICA SIVIA HORNBLASS, daughter of Ann and Hon. Jerome Hornblass, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She was an active member of the Bikur Cholim at Lenox Hill Hospital. Jessica was also a member of the Art and Photography Clubs. She participated in this year's March of the Living.

JOSHUA KAHN, son of Deborah and David Kahn and grandson of Mrs. Miriam Kahn, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz as a recipient of the Morris S. Arfa Keter Shem Tov Award and the Sports Award. He was co-head of the Coop, Lunch and Learn program and the Tzedakah Committee. Joshua will study

at Shaare Mevaseret in Israel next year and will then continue his studies at Yeshiva University.

DANIEL KATZ, son of Evelyn and Gregory Katz and grandson of Ida and Joseph Katz, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. He was Captain of the Hockey Team and Co-President of SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving). He also participated in this year's March of the Living. Daniel will attend the University of Hartford in the fall.

TALIA KOHEN, daughter of Zahava and Abraham Kohen, who won third prize in the New York State Historical Association History Day Competition for her research on "On Eagle's Wings: The Migration of 43,000 Yemenite Jews to Israel in 1948-50." She will enter the ninth grade of the Ramaz Upper School in the fall.

SHULAMIT LEWIN, daughter of Ann Lewin and Gideon Lewin and a Ramaz graduate, upon receiving a Masters of Health Science in Health Education from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. She is now the State Outreach Coordinator for the Emergency Medical Services for the Children's National Resource Center in Washington, D.C.

EVA JENNY LIPNER, daughter of Drs. Deborah Weisfuse and Robert Lipner, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as the recipient of the Band Award. She served as Co-President of the Band and SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) and Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Spanish newspaper. She will attend Barnard College in the fall.

MICHELLE MESSER, daughter of Perla and Dr. Julio Messer, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz as a winner in the National Merit Scholarship Contest and with the Highest General Studies average. She is the recipient of the French Award as well as first prize winner in the National French Examination. Michelle also received the Mathematics Award, as well as the David Franklin Memorial Award for outstanding work and dedication to the scientific method. She received the Rampage Award, the Bausch and Lomb Science Award, as well as the Tandy Math, Science, and Computer Award for academic excellence. Michelle is also the recipient of the City of New York Comptroller's Award for outstanding achievement and contribution to the community at large. Michele was Co-Editor-in-Chief of RamPage and Captain of the Math Team. She will attend Yale University in the fall.

JEFFREY MILLER, son of Rochelle and Ramaz Headmaster Ira Miller, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as a recipient of the Gilda Silverman Memorial Award, presented by the G.O. to the senior who, with energy and good humor, has demonstrated a commitment to learning as the language of our daily lives. He also received the French Award. Jeffrey was Co-Editor-in-Chief of Elangage and Editoral Editor of RamPage. He was also a co-head of Freshman Orientation. Jeffrey will study at Yeshivat Har Etzion in Israel next year then continue will studies at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

WENDY KREINEN MODLIN, a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from Cardozo Law School of Yeshiva University.

JACK NASH upon being awarded an Honorary Degree from Baruch College of the City University of New York.

SHIMON PAGOVICH, son of Mrs. Talia and the late Dr. Benjamin Pagovich, upon his graduation from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst with a BA in History and International Relations.

YEHUDA POTAZNIK, son of Helen and Dr. Daniel Potaznik, upon placing as a regional semifinalist in the Bar Ilan International Contest for Jewish Identity. Yehuda will enter the tenth grade in the Ramaz Upper School in the fall.

BENJAMIN RAPOPORT, son of Sandra and Dr. Samuel Rapoport, who won the New York Academy of Sciences' First Award for Excellence in Science and Technology, and the New York Times Prize for his research on a novel approach to atherosclerosis.

EZRA RAPOPORT, son of Sandra and Dr. Samuel Rapoport, upon placing ninth in the United States in the 1998 National French Contest sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French.

TALIA JILL RIKLIS, daughter of Diana and Ira Riklis, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz as a recipient of the Leonard Friedland Hebrew Language Memorial Award. She held major leadership positions throughout high school, including Class President in both her sophomore and junior years and Co-President of the Business Investment Club in her senior year. Talia was a member of the Dance Club since ninth grade and she tutored younger children in Hebrew and mathematics. She will attend the University of Pennsylvania in the fall.

DANIEL SCHUCHALTER, grandson of Dr. Nathalie and Israel Friedman, upon his graduation from the Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington. He will attend the Shalom Hartman High School in Jerusalem.

SHLOMIT SCHUCHALTER, granddaughter of Dr. Nathalie and Israel Friedman, upon her graduation from the Jewish Primary Day School of Adas Israel in Washington. She will be returning to the Amit Dror School in Jerusalem.

LAURA BETH SCHWARTZ, daughter of Carol and Jesse Schwartz and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation cum laude from the NYU Stern School of Business. She will be joining the firm of Bear Sterns in the investment banking program.

JONATHAN PHILIP SHAPIRO, son of Ruth and Irwin Shapiro, upon his graduation from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He is doing a residency in Ophthalmology at Mt. Sinai Hospital.

JEREMY SIGALL, son of Roberta and Dr. Michael Sigall, who was admitted to Societë Honoraire of Francais. He will enter his senior year at the Ramaz Upper School in the fall.

JESSICA SARAH SIGALL, daughter of Roberta and Dr. Michael Sigall, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. Her leadership in the French Honor Society was increased by her work as Editor of the Ramaz French magazine, L'Elangage. Jessica was Co-President of SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) in her senior year and from ninth grade on, she was a member of the Business Investment Club (BIC). Jessica will attend Barnard College in the fall.

SAMANTHA SPRINGER, daughter of Dr. Barbara Sandberg and Steven Springer, who won first prize in the New York State Historical Association History Day Competition for her research on "The Homecoming of the Lost Tribe: The Migration of Ethiopian Jews to Israel." Samantha will enter the ninth grade of the Ramaz Upper School in the fall.

VALERIE TUGENDHAFT, daughter of Myra and Gerard Tugendhaft, upon her graduation from the Riverdale Country School. She will attend Brandeis University in the fall.

ELANA TYKOCINSKI, granddaughter of Dr. Nathalie and Israel Friedman, upon her graduation from Solomon Schechter School of Cleveland. She will enter the Akiba Hebrew Academy in Philadelphia.

TAMMY LAUREN WEISBUCH, daughter of Paula and the late Dr. Irwin Weisbuch, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She participated in the Service Squad, SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) and she was in the chorus for two years. Outside of school, Tammy was a youth group leader at KJ for two years.

DAVID MICHAEL WEISS, son of Barbara and Jerome Weiss, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz as the recipient of a Letter of Commendation in the National Merit Scholarship Contest. He also received the Sports Award. David was one of the three Co-Captains of the extremely strong Varsity Basketball Team and helped lead the team to the finals in the Metropolitan Yeshiva League. David was a Junior High Advisor and for the last three summers was a camp counselor. During his junior and senior years, he was an assistant Hebrew Teacher at Sha'arei Tefilah. David will attend Brandeis University in the fall.

DR. PETER MILLER AWARDED A MACARTHUR FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP

We are very proud to announce that among the 29 Fellowships awarded by the prestigious MacArthur Foundation, Dr. Peter Miller, a graduate of Ramaz, class of 1982, and the son of Dr. Naomi and the late Samuel Miller, was chosen for his scholarly work in early modern European intellectual history.

We understand that this Fellowship is close to Nobel prize stature for people in academia. It is granted annually to a small group of American scholars who are recognized as outstanding — on the highest level —

in their fields.

The description of Peter Miller's work provided by the MacArthur Foundation indicates that "he works at the intersection of political thought, historical writing and antiquarianism, moral philosophy, biblical studies, philology, and the arts. His writing demonstrates erudition and interdisciplinary breadth. Miller's current work examines issues of cultural diversity and historiography as they affected European thought at the beginning of the seventeenth-century.

This research will trace how new intellectual disciplines emerged after the demise of the Medieval organization of knowledge."

Dr. Miller received his B.A. and M.A. from Harvard and his Ph.D. from Cambridge University. He is currently doing research in Berlin but will be returning to New York, please God, this August.

We congratulate Peter Miller on this magnificent recognition and we hope that it will propel him higher and farther in his academic career.

KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN Page 15

104 Seniors...

(Continued from Page 1)

awards earned by the graduating seniors and also by other students and teams in the Upper School. The level and extent of the awards are simply unprecedented. We can all *shep nachas*.

Outstanding College Admission Record

We are proud to announce that this year's graduating class once again showered itself with glory in its college admissions record. The following are some of the more pertinent statistics:

Barnard 17 admissions (out of 25 applications); Boston University 17 (of 20); Brandeis 23; Brown 4; University of Chicago 7; Columbia 17; Cornell 19 (out of 22); Harvard 4; John Hopkins 6; MIT 4; University of Michigan 6; NYU 28 (an increasingly difficult school to get into); Penn 27; Princeton 2; Yale 4. In addition, 16 students were admitted to Yeshiva College and 18 to Stern College for Women.

We congratulate the entire Ramaz family on the outstanding record of this class and the entire student body of Ramaz. We extend our compliments to students, to their wonderful faculty and to their proud parents.

MAURICE CORSON RETIRES AS PRESIDENT OF THE WEXNER FOUNDATION

Our distinguished member, Rabbi Maurice Corson, announced last month that after fifteen years as President of the Wexner Foundation he will retire this summer from the active leadership of the Foundation.

During his years at the helm, the Wexner Foundation established programs to enhance professional Jewish leadership in both North America and in Israel. Rabbi Corson led both of these endeavors which have

MAY THEY GO HIGHER AND HIGHER

WE EXTEND A WARM MAZEL TOV
TO THE FOLLOWING YOUNG MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION
WHO PARTICIPATED IN ADVANCEMENT DAY EXERCISES
AS THEY COMPLETED THE RAMAZ LOWER SCHOOL.

BECKY ABRAMS

daughter of Diane and Hon. Robert Abrams

CLAUDETTE ADAMS

daughter of Renee and Leon Adams

JOYCE ARONOW

daughter of Victoria and Marshall Aronow

ANAELLE ATTIAS

daughter of Eve and Samuel Attias

ROSS BANON

son of Louise and Sidney Banon

SHIRA BENDER

daughter of

Dr. Paula Elbirt and Dr. Adam Bender

TALIA BERGER

daughter of

Dr. Celia Blumenthal and Herbert Berger and granddaughter of Mrs. Jean Blumenthal

MAXWELL BRYER

son of Meryl Wiener and Barry Bryer

SAUL CASTAGNELLO

son of Gail and the late John Castagnello

CLAIRE DISTENFELD

daughter of Rita and Fred Distenfeld

YOSEF FRIEDMAN

son of Rosie and Dr. Mark Friedman

LAURA GIBOFSKY

daughter of Karen and Dr. Allan Gibofsky

ARIEL GOLD

son of Ofra and Hon. Dore Gold

JENNIFER GUTTMAN

daughter of Gilda and Charles Guttman and granddaughter of Mrs. Rachel Waldman

OREN HAYMOVITS

son of Hon. Rhoda Cohen and Dr. Asher Haymovits

STEFANIE HIRSCH

daughter of Rochelle and David Hirsch

RONI JESSELSON

son of Linda and Michael Jesselson

TALIA JOSEPH

daughter of J

Jessica and the late Jean-Paul Joseph and granddaughter of Mrs. Soeurette Joseph

DAVID KAUFMAN

son of Shelly and Martin Kaufman and grandson of Hannah and Ed Low

ANDREW KLUGER

son of Judy and Barry Kluger

PHILIPPE KURZWEIL

son of Vivianne and Robert Kurzweil and grandson of Mrs. Linda Hanania

EVE LEBWOHL

daughter of

Madeleine and Dr. Mark Lebwohl

ELIZABETH LEE

daughter of Dr. Judith Lee and On-Wing Lee

MICHELLE MARCUS

daughter of Jacqueline and Jeffrey Marcus

ALEXA MENCHE

daughter of Paula and Dr. David Menche

JENNY MERKIN

daughter of Lauren and Ezra Merkin and granddaughter of Ursula and Hermann Merkin

ANDREW RUBIN

son of Deborah and Sheldon Rubin

DANIELLE SASSOON

daughter of Dr. Evelyn and Salomon Sassoon

OLANA SERRUR

daughter of Paulanne and Isaac Hazan

GEALIA SINGER-CIMET

daughter of Adina & Michael Singer

ELIZABETH SINNREICH
daughter of

Naomi and Dr. Abraham Sinnreich

MAURY SLEVIN

son of Joanna and Ronald Slevin

ILANA STAWSKI

daughter of Lili and Dr. Axel Stawski and granddaughter of Elli and Israel Krakowski

ARIEL WAGNER

son of Phyllis and Jonathan Wagner

TALI YAHALOM

daughter of Drs. Marlene and Joachim Yahalom

been such a blessing for the Jewish people here and in the State of Israel.

His wife, Ruth, has just completed a Master's program in Jewish Art and Material Culture at the Jewish Theological Seminary. She will continue to work in that field. No

doubt, her husband will now have some time to help her.

We wish Rabbi Corson well in his retirement and we know that he will find ways in which to continue to contribute significantly to Jewish life and Jewish leadership.

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR: A RETROSPECT

ANNUAL MEETINGS

1997 125TH ANNUAL MEETING

Hachnasat Sefer Torah — Dedication of a new Torah Launching the 125th Anniversary Year

1998 126TH ANNUAL MEETING

Official end of 125th Anniversary Year "Continuity and Vision — A Daughter's Tribute to Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein" by Dr. Nathalie Friedman

SCHOLARS-IN-RESIDENCE ANNUAL SYNAGOGUE SHABBATON

1997 Rabbi Jacob J. Schacter

The Jewish Center
"The Impact of Kehilath Jeshurun on the
American Jewish Community"

1998 **Dr. Jonathan Sarna**

Brandeis University
"From Century to Century — Two Perspectives
on the American Jewish Community"

≫ ≫ ≫ YOM HASHOAH

1997 PETER MALKIN

"How I Captured Adolph Eichmann"

1998 ELIE WEISEL

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sisterhood Tour of The Jewish Museum Exhibit "Points of Entry" Immigration to America

The Winter Ball — A Gala Celebration

Sisterhood 125th Birthday Party for Children

Dinner honoring members of the Chevra Kadisha, Bikur Cholim and Hatzolah

Sisterhood Annual Luncheon

Special Memorial Tribute to Mrs. Gertrude Lookstein

SHABBAT SCHOLARS

SENATOR JOSEPH LIEBERMAN

"Can An Orthodox Jew succeed in the Chambers of Capitol Hill?"

DR. AVIVA ZORNBERG, Biblical Scholar from Israel "The Name of the Rose — Building a House of God"

RABBI SHLOMO RISKIN, Efrat, Israel

"From the West Side to the West Bank — The Aliyah Movement"

STEVE EMERSON, International Terrorism Expert

YULI EDELSTEIN, Former Soviet Refusenik

DR. SYLVIA BARACK FISCHMAN, Brandeis University "Orthodoxy and Feminism —

Changing Images in American Jewish Life"

RABBI ADIN STEINSALTZ, Renowned Scholar of the Talmud

RABBI DAVID ELIACH, Yeshiva of Flatbush

"Modern Orthodox Education — Where Is It Leading?

DR. TAMAR ROSS, Philosophy Scholar, Bar Ilan University "The Role of Doubt in Religious Belief"

WILLIAM E. RAPFOGEL, Metropolitan New York Coordinating Council on Jewish Poverty "Jewish Poverty in New York"

Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald

National Jewish Outreach Program "The Ba'al Teshuva Movement — A Revolution Gaining Momentum"

CANTOR MAYER DAVIS AND THE SHULTONES

"The Revival of Jewish Music"

RABBI MICHAEL MELCHIOR, Chairman of Meimad Executive and Chief Rabbi of Norway



AM HASEFER BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB

Four books which have considered the Jewish experience in America and in Europe during the 125 year life of Kehilath Jeshurun.



ARCHIVES AND ORAL HISTORY PROJECTS

Inaugurated in honor of the 125th Anniversary and to be a continuing effort under the direction of Dr. Naomi Miller, Rae Gurewitsch and Yvonne Koppel-Kopans

"WE ARE TWO COUNTRIES BUT ONE PEOPLE" KJ BARAK CONTINUES TO SUPPORT ISRAEL YOUTH HOCKEY

Last summer, 16 members of KJ *Barak*, our teen ice hockey team, traveled with their families to Metulla, Israel, to compete against members of the Israeli Junior National Team and afterward donated their helmets, gloves and other equipment, purchased by our congregation, to the budding Israel Youth Hockey program.

Just before Pesach, KJ Barak's coach, Ben Epstein, received a wonderful letter from the captain of the Israeli squad, Amit Shoham. Reminding us that "we are two countries but one people," Amit informed us that our presence and support last summer has led to some tangible progress for their program. The Junior National Team of Israel recently won several games in the

European championship tournament and lost to powerful Bulgaria by a score of only 3-2 (without any Canadian help!) while the Metulla team itself won the junior national championship of Israel. They credit us as a major factor in that effort.

We are proud to say that this year, thanks to the generosity of our members, a special fund has been set up to continue our support of Israel Youth Hockey. During a visit to Israel over the Pesach holiday, our members, the April and Mantel families, whose sons Aaron and Daniel Lauchheimer and Kenny Mantel play for KJ *Barak*, handed a dozen pairs of new hockey skates, purchased by the fund, to Israeli coach Boris Mindel. Go, Israel! Go, KJ *Barak*!

THANK YOU MITZVAH TOY CAMPAIGN

May 17, 1998

Social Action Committee Kehilath Jeshurun Synagogue

Dear KJ and Ramaz Children:

Thank you very much for your donation of children's toys to Chabad's Children of Chernobyl. As you know, radiation-stricken children from Chernobyl and surrounding areas are brought to Kfar Chabad, Israel for medical care and treatment they require. The children come with very little. Your gift of toys provides fun and entertainment for them so they can enjoy their childhood.

During his visit to Israel, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan met with officials of Chabad's Children of Chernobyl and some of the children who arrived on the March 24th flight. Mr. Annan was briefed on our latest accomplishments, including the arrival of the 34th flight on March 2Jth, medical aid provided to hospitals and orphanages in Belarus and Ukraine, and the opening of a Mammography Clinic in the Ovruch region of Northern Ukraine. Mr. Annan pledged his full and personal support of CCOC's efforts.

To date, we have been able to save the lives of 1,571 children over 34 flights. We are hoping another flight will take place soon.

Once again, thank you for your gifts. On behalf of all of the children from Chernobyl, thank you for thinking of them and allowing them to have enjoyable childhood experiences.

Sincerely,

Abi Raichik Executive Director

Similar thanks were received from EMUNAH OF AMERICA for the needy children in their communal homes.

BELLA AND SUSAN WEXNER LAUNCH A VITAL PROGRAM AT YESHIVA UNIVERSITY'S RABI ISAAC ELCHANAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Dr. Norman Lamm announced the establishment of the Bella and Harry Wexner Kollel Elyon and Semikha Honors Program endowed by our members, Mrs. Bella Wexner and her daughter, Ms. Susan Wexner. The gift honors the memory of Mrs. Wexner's late husband, Harry and her parents, Lena and Harry Cabakoff of Columbus, Ohio.

The program will combine Torah intensive learning traditional rabbinic education with practical courses in disciplines such as written and oral communications, business ethics, leadership development, dispute resolution and counseling. Its goal is to train young rabbinic leaders who will be able to relate to the modern orthodox community and to all Jews whatever their level of commitment.

We congratulate the Wexners on this great contribution to American Jewish life in general and to the training of rabbis at Yeshiva University in particular.

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Heidi Friedman

A beautiful, charming and very happy person was taken away from her family and from the community suddenly and so prematurely. Heidi Friedman was a glorious wife and mother and only recently became a very proud grandmother. She was the epitome of sunshine and optimism. She would do anything for anyone who needed a favor or some help. She was adored by her two children, Lewis and Julie, a graduate of Ramaz.

She loved coming to shul and she was very proud of her children's Jewish education and all of their accomplishments. She was a most supportive wife to Arthur in all of his personal and many communal endeavors. Heidi Friedman loved everyone and was beloved by everybody. Her family grieves over her passing. The community mourns the loss of a precious member.

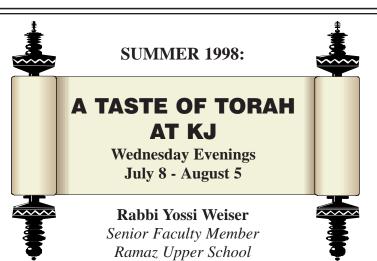


Jean-Paul Joseph

A gentleman of the first order, a member of a leading family in El Salvador where he grew up, and a stalwart personality in KJ and Ramaz where he and Jessica along with their three daughters, Alexandra, Michaela, and Talia made their home.

He was thrilled with his daughters' Ramaz education. He had a great sense of history, tracing his own roots hundreds of years. His main concern, however, was continuity and he was gratified that he and Jessica had laid the foundation for such continuity.

His sudden passing in his late 40's is a cause of unimagined sadness to his grieving mother, wife, daughters, and sister. We grieve along with them and we hope that we will be able to help them achieve the continuity and bright future for which Jean-Paul hoped and prayed.



IS YOUR SUMMER "BRAIN FOOD" BLAND OR TASTELESS? ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOME EXOTIC FLAVORS?

We are happy to present to you our summer fare for the spiritually and intellectually famished. To spice up your week we are offering two "courses":

I. Profit From the Prophets (7:00-8:00 PM)

The books of the Prophets offer a feast of unparalleled insights and inspiration, through the lives of our greatest men and women. Among the issues we'll examine are the birth of Samuel — the power of prayer, the "sins" of the "evil" Jews, King Saul — too good for his own good, and David and Goliath.

II. More Than "Just Say No?" — The Beauty of Halacha (8:00-9:00 PM)

The Torah is the "Sam HaChaim" — the Source of Life, and Halacha (Jewish Law) is the map which shows us the way. In this course we will explore the beauty of the "Lomdus" (the logical reasoning and development) of Halacha through Responsa literature from Talmudic times till now, 5758 (1998). Topics will include the seemingly mundane to the esoteric, from how to wash one's hands and toothbrushes, to naming of children, the Afterlife, making treaties with our enemies, lifeboat ethics, and Frappaccinos.

Come and feast your souls! No charge.

John Ungar

An alumnus of Ramaz and a very supportive member of the congregation, John Ungar died unexpectedly in his early 50's, leaving his wife and four children as mourners.

John remembered where he grew up and wanted to make sure that others would have the same benefits he had. He established a scholarship fund at Ramaz in memory of his late parents, Helen and Sidney Ungar. He contributed generously to the building of the Ramaz Upper School and he was a most supportive contributor to the Annual Synagogue Appeal despite the fact that he lived far from our House of God.

His good deeds and generosity live on after him. He was loyal to us in life; we will remember him with reverence as he goes to his eternal rest.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to all the members of the bereaved families. May they be spared further sorrow for many years to come.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

BIRTHS

Mazel tov to:

Suzanne and Jacob Doft on the birth of a daughter, Eliana Sophie. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Arlene and Avrom Doft.

Naomi Lazarus on the birth of a grandson, Matthew Lee to her children, Toby Lazarus and Allan Lichtenberg.

Jane and Michael Lewittes on the birth of a daughter. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. David Lewittes.

Stacey and Philip Narotzky on the birth of a daughter. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Iris and Daniel Glassman.

Deena and Gilad Ottensoser on the birth of twins, Chava Aliza and Yisrael Zvi.

Amanda and Michael Ritz on the birth of twin daughters, Elizabeth Chloe and Anabelle Felicia.

Susan and Scott Shay on the birth of a daughter, Abigail Danielle.

Katherine Edersheim and Bruce Tuckman on the birth of a son, Philip Joseph (PJ).

May these children grow up in the finest tradition of Torah, chupah and maasim tovim.

WEDDING

Mazel tov to Ruth and Dr. David Musher on the recent marriage of their son, Abraham to Dara Eizenman, daughter of Sandy and David Eizenman of Briarcliff Manor.

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Congratulations to Dr. Mark Tykocinski, son-in-law of Dr. Nathalie and Israel Friedman, upon his appointment as Chairman of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center.

Congratulations to our member Dr. James I. Cleeman on being awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. Public Health Service. Dr. Cleeman, who is the Coordinator of the National Cholesterol education program at the National Institutes of Health, was recognized for his outstanding career contributions in the fields of cardiovascular disease prevention, health care quality assurance, technology assessment, and national blood policy. Congratulations also to his wife Deborah and daughter Miriam Beth and to his father Mr. Abe Cleeman.

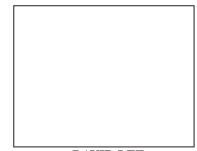
SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Evelyn Rochlin on being selected as "Yeshiva University Teacher of the Year."

COMMUNAL RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Alice Goldberg Usdan who is being recognized on behalf of her late mother at the 70th Annual Spring Luncheon and Ballet Benefit of Yeshiva University Women's Organization (YUWO). Alice's mother founded YUWO's Atlantic Beach and Great Neck chapters. Ruth Shapiro is the Luncheon Co-Chair.

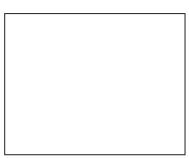
BNAI MITZVAH



DAVID LEE

Mazel tov to Dr. Judith Lee and On-Wing Lee on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, David, which took place on Sunday, April 26 in the Main Synagogue. He delivered a Dvar Torah on "My Legacy from King David."

David has just completed the seventh grade at Park East Day School.



ELIZABETH LEE

Mazel tov to Dr. Judith Lee and On-Wing Lee on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Elizabeth, which took place on Sunday, April 26, at KJ. She delivered a Dvar Torah on "Rosh Chodesh as a Woman's Holiday."

Elizabeth has just completed the sixth grade at the Ramaz Lower School.



FAREWELL TO THE WILDES

We bid a fond farewell to Rabbi Mark Wildes, his wife Jill and their son Yosef as they complete their two years of service to this community. Yosef, in fact, was born during their tenure here.

Rabbi Wildes particularly distinguished himself as one who paid particular attention to our Beginner's Program and specifically geared many of his courses and other instruction to this population. He was an advocate for greater outreach in this community. The Wildes developed many wonderful relationships with the

young people of this congregation and extended much hospitality to them. They will be missed by many.

Rabbi Wildes will be taking the next step in fulfilling his passion of working in outreach by establishing a new *kiruv* program based on the West Side of Manhattan.

We are grateful to Rabbi Wildes and to Jill for all they have done during their two years of service in our community and wish them well for success, both personally and for the Jewish people in their new endeavor.



ILANA STAWSKI

Mazel tov to Lili and Dr. Axel Stawski on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Ilana, which took place on Sunday, May 17. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Elli and Israel Krakowski.

Ilana delivered a Dvar Torah on the themes from the Parashot of Behar and Bechukotai of Shemita and Yovel, caring for the poor and God's rewards and punishments.

Ilana has just completed the sixth grade at the Ramaz Lower School.

7:30

7:20

7:10

6:45

6:45

8:22

8:10

7:59

7:48

7:34



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Rudy Arjune Superintendent

		Lighting f Candles	Friday Evening Services	Saturday Afternoon Services	Sabbath Ends
July	٠,				
3-4	Chukat	8:11	6:45	8:15	9:14
10-11	Balak	8:09	6:45	8:15	9:12
17-18	Pinchas	8:05	6:45	8:10	9:07
24-25	Matot-Masei	7:59	6:45	8:05	9:00
31-Aug 1	Devarim	7:53	6:45	7:55	8:53
	(Shabbat Chazon)				
August					
7-8	Va'etchanan (Shabbat Nachamu)	7:45	6:45	7:50	8:43
14 15	Elean	7.26	6.15	7.40	0.22

7:26

7:15

7:04

6:52

6:40

SABBATH SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Weekday mornings	7:30 am
Sunday mornings	
Mondays and Thursdays	7:15 am
Rosh Chodesh Weekdays	
Sabbath mornings	

EVENING SERVICES

July 1 - September 176:45 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, July 3

21-22

28-29

4-5

11-12

18-19

September

Independence Day Observance Morning Services at 8:30 am

Re'eh (Rosh Chodesh Elul)

Shoftim

Ki Teitze

Ki Tavo

Nitzavim

Sunday, July 12

Shiv'ah Assar B'Tammuz

Fast Begins at 4:23 am Morning Services at 8:30 am

Mincha at 8:05 pm Fast ends at 9:09 pm

Friday, July 24

Rosh Chodesh Av Morning Services at 7:00 am

Saturday, August 1 Eve of Tisha B'Av

Mincha Services at 7:55 pm Fast begins at 8:12 pm

Sunday, August 2 Tisha B'Av

6:45

6:45

6:45

6:45

6:45

Morning Services at 8:30 am Mincha at 7:50 pm Fast ends at 8:49 pm

Saturday - Sunday, August 22 -23

Rosh Chodesh Elul

Morning Services on Sat. at 9:00 am Morning Services on Sun. at 8:30 am

Monday, September 7

Labor Day

Morning Services at 8:30 am

Saturday, September 12 First Night Selichot 10:00 pm

A MODERN MIKVEH

is located in our Community at: 232-4 West 78th Street (East of Broadway) Telephone 799-1520

KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

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For Information about the weekly status of the Manhattan Eruv

> Call the ERUV HOTLINE 362-2602

> > (Recorded Message)

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