



109 STUDENTS GRADUATED FROM RAMAZ UPPER SCHOOL 44 TO SPEND NEXT YEAR STUDYING TORAH IN ISRAEL EXTRAORDINARY COLLEGE ADMISSIONS RECORD

We are happy to congratulate the High School Class of 2000, numbering 109 students, whose graduation took place in the Main Synagogue of our Congregation on Wednesday evening, June 21.

The class distinguished itself in many ways.

Forty-four of the students will be studying Torah in Israel next year at institutions that include: Machon Gold, Midreshet Harova, Midreshet Lindenbaum (10 students), Midreshet Moriah, Midreshet Mevaseret Yerushalayim, Orot, Nativ, Yeshivat Birkat Moshe, BMT, Yeshivat Hakotel, Yeshivat Har Etzion, Yeshivat Mevaseret Yerushalayim, Yeshivat Reishit Yerushalayim, and Yeshivat Sha'alvim.

NATIONAL MERIT HONORS

The class had a winner in the National Merit Scholarship Contest, as well as five finalists and 16 letters of commendation. This means that 20 percent of the class was honored in this prestigious competition.

The students also did extremely well in their college admissions, gaining admission to, among others, Barnard, SUNY Binghamton, Boston University, Brandeis (19), Brown, University of Chicago, Columbia (15), Cornell (9), CUNY, Duke, Harvard (3), Johns Hopkins, MIT (7), Michigan,

SHABBAT CHAZON SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

This year for the first time KJ will have a Scholar-in-Residence for Shabbat Chazon, Friday and Saturday, August 4 & 5, the Shabbat before Tisha B'av. We will be very proud to welcome Rabbi Joshua Berman, an alumnus of Ramaz to present three lectures.

Rabbi Berman, Ramaz Class of '82, is a graduate of Yeshivat Har-Etzion and of Princeton University, and is currently a Rottenstreich Doctoral Fellow at Bar-Ilan University. He is a lecturer in Tanach at Nishmat, and the author of *The Temple: Its Symbolism and Meaning Then and Now* (Jason Aronson, 1995), currently in its second printing. His essays on biblical theology and issues of contemporary concern have appeared in the pages of *Tradition*, *Judaism*, *Midstream*,

L'Eylah and *The Jerusalem Post*. He has served as scholar-in-residence at Congregation Keshet Israel, Washington, D.C., Kehilath Jeshurun, Young Israel of Great Neck, the Harvard Hillel, the Yakar Center, London, the Kemp Mill Synagogue, Silver Spring MD, and at Congregation Sha'arei Tefillah in Newton, MA. Rabbi Berman and his family reside in Bet Shemesh, Israel.

Shabbat Morning *Drasha* —

The Third Temple:

Do We Want It? Do We Need It?

Shabbat Afternoon, one hour before Mincha —

The Drama of Eichah

Shabbat Afternoon, between Mincha and Maariv —

Making Sense of Sacrifices

RAMAZ LOWER SCHOOL SCORES BRILLIANTLY ON 4TH GRADE NEW YORK STATE EXAM

Last year, the Ramaz family was somewhat disappointed in the performance of the 4th grade on the first administration of a new English Language Arts Assessment by New York State. Our 4th grade this year also took the test and, we are proud to report, scored brilliantly. Out of 61 students in the class, 44 percent of the students (27 in all) scored in level 4, which means they excelled; 46 percent (28 students) scored in level 3 thereby meeting state standards; and ten percent (six students) scored below state standards, level 2. Comparing

these results with all of the Day Schools whose scores were published last year, one notes that this year's 4th grade had double the percentage of top level scores of any school last year. Last year's results were widely publicized in the Jewish press. We don't know how the press will treat this year's results, but we believe that the KJ/Ramaz family is interested in knowing how we did this year.

We congratulate the children, their teachers and the administration and faculty of the Ramaz Lower School on this splendid achievement.

NYU, University of Pennsylvania (12), Tufts, Yale (3), and Yeshiva and Stern Colleges (17).

We congratulate the students, their parents and the entire faculty and

administration of Ramaz on this splendid record and on the wonderful group of students who were graduated from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School this year.

SHIVAH ASSAR B'TAMMUZ, TISHA B'AV AND THE THREE WEEKS JULY 20 - AUGUST 10, 2000

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 Apostomos 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 occurred on these days extends beyond the fasts themselves. The period between these last two fasts, traditionally called **The Three Weeks** includes several practices of 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, August 2, and continue until midday on the tenth day of Av, August 11, 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.

GOTTESMAN CENTER TO PROVIDE MORE SPACE FOR FORMER SOCIAL HALL AND BEGINNER'S SERVICES

For the first time, Kehilath Jeshurun will use the new Gottesman Center, which otherwise houses the Rabbi Haskel Lookstein Middle School of Ramaz, for two of our High Holy Day services.

The parallel service, formerly held in the Riklis Social Hall, will this year move to larger facilities in the Falk Auditorium of the new building. Additionally, the Beginner's service for the High Holy days previously held in the gym of our Main Synagogue building will now be housed in the more spacious and more modern facilities of the Gottesman Center as well. This will allow us to accommodate more people seeking to daven and observe the High Holy Days at Kehilath Jeshurun. In recent years this has been a significant problem as we have not been able to accommodate all who wish to be with us.

As this Bulletin goes to press, High Holy Day seat reservation cards are being sent to all congregants. We ask you to please return the card with your request as soon as possible, but not later than the deadline of Monday, July 10.

If you are not planning to be with us this year, please return the card and tell us that as well. This is important information for us.

FAST OF 17TH OF TAMMUZ

Thursday, July 20, 1999

Fast Begins	4:30 AM
Shacharit	7:00 AM
Mincha	7:55 PM
Fast Ends	9:02 PM

TISHA B'AV SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, TISHA B'AV EVE

Mincha Services 7:55 PM

Fast Begins 8:00 PM

Followed by:

Ma'ariv and Eicha

THURSDAY, JULY 22, TISHA B'AV

Morning Services 7:00 AM

Followed by Kinot

Mincha Services 7:30 PM

Conclusion of Fast 8:36 PM

THREE WEEKS AND TISHA B'AV WORKSHOP

By Rabbi Yitz Motechin

Monday, July 17, 2000

8:00 PM

THANK YOU

We thank the following members of the congregation for their warmth and gracious hospitality in hosting various educational programs and events of Kehilath Jeshurun during the past year:

Marilyn and Greg Adler
Sandy and Dr. Robert April
Shira and Dr. Lawrence Baruch
Aliza and Alvin Broome
Helen and Ruby Davis
Jewel and Ted Edelman
Shlomit and Chaim Edelstein
Drs. Diana and Robert Friedman
Beth and Brian Haimm
Masami and Marko Issever
Shani and David Kramer
Carolyn and David Levy
Gaby and Dr. William Major
Pamela and George Rohr
Jane and Robert Schwalbe
Ruth and Irwin Shapiro
Adrian and Leonard Silverman
Adele and Ronald Tauber

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Elena Messing

SUMMER 2000

A TASTE OF TORAH AT KJ

Wednesday Evenings

July 5 - July 26

Rabbi Yossi Weiser

Senior Faculty Member
Ramaz Upper School

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. The Prophets: The Tragedy of King Saul (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. We will study the Book of Samuel, beginning with the anointing of Saul as Israel's first king, and address these issues: the nature of the Monarchy, Saul's humility — too good for his own good, the destruction of Amalek and its implications for generations, David and Goliath, and Saul's downfall.

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

The Bible is the "Source of Life," and "Halacha" (Jewish Law) is the map which shows us the way. In this course we will explore the practical and philosophical development of Halacha through Responsa literature from Talmudic times till today, 5760. Topics will include: Halacha and the Jewish traveler; who is a Jew; DNA; circumcision and modern medicine and culture: the afterlife; and new developments in kosher living.

Come and feast your souls! No charge.

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A C A D E M I C

C O N G R E G A T I O N K E H I L A T H J E S H U R U N

GILA ACKERMAN, daughter of Dr. Mona Ackerman and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from the Sacker Medical School of Tel Aviv University.

ALEXANDRA DANIELLE APRIL, daughter of Sandy and Dr. Robert April, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She worked on the French magazine and the Chessed Committee, in addition to being a volleyball team member for all four years of high school. Allie will attend Boston University in the fall.

DAVID J. S. BENDER, son of Dr. Paula Elbirt and Dr. Adam Bender, 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 was a member of RamPage, a Vice President of the Business Investment Club and an Associate Editor of the *Ramaz Business Journal*. David will attend the University of Michigan in the fall.

JOSHUA D. BOYARSKY, son of Shirley and Neal Boyarsky, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. He was a hockey team member for four years and worked in the G.O. Co-op. Joshua will attend BMT in Israel next year.

MICHAEL JOSEPH CINNAMON, son of Mindy and Dr. Jay Cinnamon, grandson of Rabbi and Mrs. Haskel Lookstein and great grandson of Mrs. Morris Katz, upon his graduation from the 8th grade of the Greenfield Hebrew Academy in Atlanta, Georgia. He will be continuing his studies at the Ramaz Upper School.

MARK CREIZMAN, son of Vivian and Larry Creizman and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation cum laude from Queens College with honors in Economics and Accounting. He has accepted a position at Deloitte and Touche.

NOAH DREZNER, son of David Drezner and the late Linda Drezner and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation from the University of Rochester with a Bachelor of Science in Earth Environmental Science with honors in Research. He was on the Dean's list for seven of the eight semesters. Noah was a member of Sigma Gamma Epsilon and the

National Honors Society for Earth Sciences. He was President of Sigma Xi and an associate member of the Scientific Research Society. He was a school senator for three years, which is one year longer than anyone in the 150 year history of the school. Noah is the recipient of several awards including: the Percy Dutton Prize, awarded to one who excels in wholesome, unselfish influence among fellow students; the Alice DeSimone Student Life Award, presented to one who demonstrated significant levels of responsibility, dedication and enthusiasm for co-curricular life at the University; the Ulysses Grant Dubach Award; the National Sigma Phi Epsilon Award in recognition of scholarship achievement; the Order of Omega Honors Society for University Greeks that maintain high standards for academics, co-curricular and Greek life on campus. Noah was elected to the Kledeans Senior Honor Society by the University Administration for dedication to the school and he was on the advisory board for administration and Board of Trustee decisions. He was a member of the New York State Technician Defibrillation and the Student Association Appropriations Committee. Noah will be working for the Alumni Research and Development Office at the University of Rochester, before beginning graduate school.

ARIEL EDELSTEIN, son of Shlomit and KJ President Chaim Edelstein upon his graduation with honors and the highest Judaic and General Studies average 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 received the Renee Margareten Berger Award, which is presented to the student with the highest General Studies average. Ariel was Editor of both the Hebrew newspaper and the Hebrew section of the yearbook. He was captain of the Math Team and co-captain of the Debate Team. He also rejoined the varsity basketball team in his senior year. Ariel will study at Yeshivat HaKotel in Jerusalem next year before beginning his studies at MIT.

MICHAEL ENGLANDER, son of Caryl and Israel Englander and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation from

Stanford University with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics.

NAOMI ENGLARD-SCHAFFER, daughter of Frieda and Dr. Sasha Englard, who has successfully completed the two-year program at Keren Ariel Institute for Jewish Law at Nishmat, the Jerusalem Center for Advanced Jewish Study for Women. She is now certified as a *Yoetzet Halacha*, a halachic consultant in the laws of family purity.

RUTH RACHEL ESSES, daughter of Barbara and KJ Trustee Abe Esses, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She was a chorus member for all four years, as well as a member of the Mock Trial Team and the Mussar Club. Ruthie will attend Carnegie Mellon University in the fall.

LISA FRANKEL, daughter of Susan and Peter Frankel and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from the School of Arts and Sciences at Cornell University with a Bachelor of Arts in English. She will be working at Merrill Lynch in San Francisco.

MICHAEL J. FREEDMAN, son of Nancy and Dr. Louis Freedman and grandson of Janice and Saul Linzer, upon his induction into Tau Beta Pi, the National Engineering Honor Society and Eta Kappa Nu, the National Honor Society for Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Michael will begin his senior year at MIT in the fall. This summer he will work in Montreal for Zero Knowledge in the field of internet privacy solutions.

DAVID M. FRIDMAN, son of Anne and KJ Trustee Natalio Fridman, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. He was captain of the Chess Team and a member of the Historical Simulation Club. David will attend Yeshiva University in the fall.

MIRIAM LEAH FRIED, daughter of Janet and Michael Fried and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from the University of Wisconsin at Madison with a Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Sciences and Law. She was admitted to the Golden Key National Honor Society. Miriam will attend Brooklyn Law School in the fall.

ARIELA TAL FRIEDMAN, daughter of Rosie and Dr. Mark Friedman and a Ramaz graduate, upon her

H O N O R S

E X T E N D S A M A Z E L T O V T O . . .

graduation from Stern College for Women of Yeshiva University. She will begin her studies at the David J. Azrieli Graduate School for Jewish Education and Administration in the fall.

DAVIDA BETH FRIEDMAN, daughter of Rosie and Dr. Mark Friedman and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from Queens College with a degree in Accounting and a minor in Economics. She has accepted a position at American Express Tax and Business Services.

ARIEL LEIGH GOLDWYN, daughter of Sandy and Bruce Goldwyn, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She is the recipient of the Boris Z. Gorlin Tikkun Olam Award, which is presented to the senior who strives through acts of tzedakah and chesed to repair the world in the image of God. Ariel also received the State of New York, Office of the Attorney General, Triple "C" Award, for character, courage and commitment to the school and community. She was a member of the undefeated girls championship Tennis Team and Chairperson of the Chesed Committee. Ariel also headed freshman orientation and Yachad. She was also a participant in the March of the Living. Ariel will attend Brandeis University in the fall.

ILAN GOLDWYN, son of Sandy and Bruce Goldwyn, upon his graduation cum laude from Brandeis University with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology. He will attend Rochester Medical School in the fall.

DAVID J. GREENBAUM, son of Wendy and KJ Trustee Sholem Greenbaum, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. He headed the Co-op, played on the Hockey Team and was a captain of the Model Congress Team. David will study at Yeshivat HaKotel in the fall, before beginning his studies at University of Pennsylvania.

JILLIAN ELIZABETH GROSS, daughter of Georgette and Steven Gross and granddaughter of Mrs. Alexander Gross and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation cum laude from Brandeis University with a Bachelor of Arts in

History. She will attend Brooklyn Law School in the fall.

JONATHAN GRUENHUT, son of Lynette and Jerry Gruenhut, grandson of Shirley and Paul Schulder and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation with honors from Harvard University with a combined Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science in Computer Science, and where he was on the Dean's List.

JENNIFER LAURA HEYMAN, daughter of Ronnie and Samuel Heyman and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from Yale University with a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies.

MICHAELA A. JOSEPH, daughter of Mrs. Jessica Joseph and the late Jean-Paul Joseph, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She served as President of the Senior Class and a participant in the Tzedakah Committee. Michaela was a member of both the Photography and Film Clubs. She will attend George Washington University in the fall.

ABIGAIL M. KAHN, daughter of Bernice and Vice President Dr. Gilbert N. Kahn, granddaughter of Mrs. Toni Kahn and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from the University of Pennsylvania with honors in History. She will be working in Boston in the fall.

FRED KAHN, son of Deborah and David Kahn, grandson of Mrs. Miriam Kahn and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation with honors from the Sy Syms School of Business of Yeshiva University. He received the Solomon Polachek Memorial Award.

AARON KATZ, son of Robert Katz, upon his graduation from Great Neck North High School, as a National Merit Semi-Finalist. He will attend Columbia College in the fall.

PHILIP A. KATZ, son of Evelyn and Gregory Katz and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Katz, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. He played on the Hockey Team and was a member of the Business Investment Club, the Tzedakah Committee and the Debate Team.

ELISSA JILL KLEINHAUS, daughter of Rosalie and KJ Trustee Harry

Kleinhaus, granddaughter of Mrs. Emil Mandelbaum and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from Barnard College with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a minor in Art History.

JEFFREY ERIC KLEINHAUS, son of Rosalie and KJ Trustee Harry Kleinhaus and grandson of Mrs. Emil Mandelbaum, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. He served as co-captain of the Tennis Team and assistant captain of the Hockey Team. Jeffrey also played soccer and participated in the Business Investment Club. He will attend Brandeis University in the fall.

ERIC JASON KLUGER, son of Hon. Judy and Barry Kluger, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. He was a member of the Business Investment Club and the Tzedakah Committee. Eric will attend Brandeis University in the fall.

DEBRA S. KOBRIN, daughter of Ruth and Larry Kobrin and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation cum laude from the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of Pennsylvania, where she was on the Dean's List.

REBECCA KOBRIN, daughter of Ruth and Larry Kobrin and a Ramaz graduate, upon receiving a Master of Science in Education from the University of Pennsylvania. She is continuing her work on her doctoral dissertation.

NAOMI TEHILA KOHEN, daughter of Zahava and Abe Kohen, upon her graduation with honors from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as the recipient of a Letter of Commendation in the National Merit Scholarship Contest and the Bausch and Lomb Award. She was a member of the Computer Programming Club and the Math Team and was active on the French Magazine. Naomi will attend MIT in the fall.

AARON KRAWITZ, son of Esther and Ira Krawitz and grandson of Mrs. Hana Amini, upon his graduation with honors from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as the recipient of the Dr. Irving and Dubby Shulman Derekh Hayashar Citizenship Award and the RamPage Award. He was

ACADEMIC HONORS

(Continued)

Co-editor in Chief of the *RamPage* and Co-Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the *Israeli Tribune*. Aaron was also a member of the Tennis Team and the Math Team. He will attend the University of Pennsylvania in the fall.

JONATHAN ELIAS KULE, son of Wilma and KJ Trustee Stephen Kule, grandson of Mrs. Goody Dane and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Arts in Sports Marketing and Communication.

MATTHEW DANE KULE, son of Wilma and KJ Trustee Stephen Kule and grandson of Mrs. Goody Dane, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. He played on the Hockey and Softball Teams. Matthew also participated in the Business Investment Club and the Math Team. He will attend BMT in Israel next year, before beginning his studies at the University of Michigan.

ANDREW LEBWOHL, son of Madeleine and Dr. Mark Lebwohl, upon his graduation from The Dalton School. He will attend Columbia College in the fall.

ELIEZER MAGID, son of Sandy and KJ Trustee Dr. Norman Magid, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as the recipient of the Morris S. Arfa Keter Shem Tov Award, which is given to the student who best exemplifies the qualities and character advocated in Pirkei Avot, as well as the Avram J. Hellerman Memorial Bikur Cholim Award presented to the graduating senior who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to the mitzvah of bikur cholim. He was Managing Editor of the Yearbook, a founding member of the Mussar Club and a member of the Chesed Committee. Eliezer will attend Yeshiva Birkat Moshe in Israel next year, before beginning his studies at Cornell University.

LIVIA BLAKE MENCHE, daughter of Paula and Dr. David Menche, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She is the recipient of the Sue Moskowitz Chesed Award, for demonstrating exceptional concern for people and kindness to those in need, Sports Award and a Gabba'ei Tzedakah award. Livia served as co-

captain of both the Varsity Basketball and Tennis Teams. She chaired the Charity Committee and the Service Squad. Livia will attend Barnard College in the fall.

MONIQUE MESSER, daughter of Perla and Dr. Julio Messer and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from the University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Arts in History.

KAREN Y. MESSING, daughter of Noemi and Dr. Danny Messing, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She played on the Volleyball Team and participated in the Spanish Newspaper and Math Team. Karen will attend Cornell University in the fall.

JAY JOSHUA (KOBY) OPPENHEIM, son of Raquel and E. Magnus Oppenheim, upon his graduation magna cum laude from Cornell University with honors in Comparative Literature. He was awarded a Cornell-Heidelberg Student Exchange Fellowship entitling him to study for the coming year at the University of Heidelberg in Germany. At Cornell, he was very active in the Center for Jewish Living.

JONATHAN (YONI) OPPENHEIM, son of Raquel and E. Magnus Oppenheim, who has just completed a one-year study program at Yeshivat Shaarei Mevaseret Zion in Jerusalem and will continue this fall at the Tisch School of Arts of New York University.

GAIL JAVITT OSOFSKY, daughter of Sue and Dr. Norman Javitt, upon receiving a Master's degree in Public Health from John Hopkins University as part of her Greenwald Fellowship in Bioethics.

ZAMIR POLLAK, son of Bonnie and Isaac Pollak, upon his graduation with honors 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 is the recipient of the Lillian Jacobs Award for excellence in character and dedication to the spirit of Jewish Ethics, and the Sam Gyenes Memorial Award, which is presented to the senior selected by the class as the individual most concerned with the needs and sensitivities of his or her classmates. Zamir also received the Myer Appleman Memorial Award for excellence and

commitment to religious studies, the David Franklin Memorial Award for outstanding work and dedication to the scientific method and the New York City Comptroller's Achievement Award. He served as Editor of the Spanish section of the Yearbook, co-founder and co-editor-in-chief of the *Israeli Tribune*, and a writer for both *Likrat Shabbat* and *Breakthrough*. Zamir will attend Yeshivat Shaalvim in the fall, before beginning his studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

EITAN PLASSE, son of Barbara and Dr. Terry Plasse and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation summa cum laude from Brandeis University with highest honors in History, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He minored in East Asian Studies and spent a semester studying Chinese in Beijing.

LEORA JASMINE PLATT, daughter of Rivka and Dr. Morris Platt and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation with a Bachelor of Arts from Stern College for Women of Yeshiva University.

EZRA RAPOPORT, son of Sandra and Dr. Samuel Rapoport, on winning the New York Academy of Sciences Award for Scientific Achievement, and the U.S. Navy Award for Excellence in Research for his project "*Storing Computer Data on a Strand of DNA: A Novel Approach*." His project won Third Place in the Regional Intel Science and Engineering Fair. Ezra also competed in the 2000 Junior Olympics in Sacramento, California for men's under-17 foil fencing.

ANDREW RECHTSCHAFFEN, son of Pamela and Rabbi Manfred Rechtschaffen and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania with an MBA. He will be working in the investment banking department of a major Wall Street firm.

JORDANA LEAH RIKLIS, daughter of Diana and Ira Riklis and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation summa cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania with honors in Psychology. She will be working in a psychology clinic in Uruguay, following her wedding in August.

ADAM JASON RING, son of Louise and Frank Ring, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper

ACADEMIC HONORS

(Continued)

School of Ramaz. He was a member of the Mussar Club and wrote for its newsletter. Adam played guitar for the School Band and participated in the Federal Reserve Bank Challenge. He will attend Oberlin College in the fall.

EVELYN ROCHLIN upon receiving the Gilda Lehrman Institute for American History Seminar Grant for summer study at Yale University.

JANET BETH RUBIN, daughter of Audrey and Jesse Rubin, upon her graduation with honors from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as the recipient of the David Kagan Memorial Award presented to the student athlete who best exemplifies the values of sportsmanship and *menschlichkeit* both on and off the playing field. She was a key member of the winning girls' varsity basketball team. Janet was elected to the French Honors Society each year since tenth grade and was an active member of the Tzedakah Committee from ninth grade through twelfth grade. She will attend the University of Pennsylvania in the fall.

NINA RACHEL SASSOON, daughter of Salomon and Dr. Evelyn Sassoon, upon her graduation with honors from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Contest. She is the recipient of The Aron and Leah Swergold Memorial Award for excellence in Talmud, the History Award and Politics and Law Award. She was Captain of both Mock Trial and Model United Nations. Nina chaired the Student Faculty Administration Council and was a member of the Spanish Honors Society and the Math Team. She will attend Harvard University in the fall.

JOANNA RUTH SCHACTER, daughter of Sheira and Steven Schacter, granddaughter of Dr. Nathalie and Israel Friedman and great granddaughter of the late Gertrude S. Lookstein, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She is the recipient of the Gertrude Lookstein Eishet Chayil Award, given to the senior woman who best integrates modern ideals of womanhood with traditional Jewish life, as well as the Politics and Law Award. Joanna participated in Mock Trial, Model

United Nations and the Chesed Committee. She was a member of both the Varsity Basketball and Tennis Teams. She was also a Junior High Adviser. Joanna will attend Columbia College in the fall.

JOSHUA SCHWALBE, son of Janie and Robert Schwalbe and a Ramaz graduate, upon his graduation magna cum laude, with honors in History, from Brandeis University, with a Bachelor of Science in Economics and History, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He will be working in the field of finance.

JENNIFER SCHWARTZ, daughter of Marilyn and Yechiel Schwartz and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Smilow, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as the recipient of the Isaac Rapaport Bible Award and the Gloria Schrenzel Sheer Dance Award. Jennifer was the Senior Class President and Co-Coordinator of the Junior Retreat. She was also a member of the Dance Ensemble. Jennifer will attend Midreshet Lindenbaum in Israel in the fall, before beginning her studies at New York University's School of Education.

VALERIE SCHWARTZ, daughter of Marilyn and Yechiel Schwartz and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Smilow and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from Stern College for Women with a Bachelor of Arts. She received an award for excellence in Computer Science.

DEBORAH BLANCA SCHWERDT, daughter of Yvette and Jakob Schwerdt, upon her graduation with honors from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She was a leader in Debate, the Math Team, Programming Club and the French Magazine. She also was a member of the Tzedakah Club and tutored children in Hebrew both in school and outside of school. Deborah will attend Columbia in the fall.

JEREMY KARL SIGALL, son of Roberta and Dr. Michael Sigall, 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 was a member of the French Honors Society and Model Congress. Jeremy was the starting goaltender of both the KJ and

Ramaz Hockey Teams. He will attend BMT in Israel in the fall, before beginning his studies at New York University.

DAVID E. SPEISER, son of Dr. Phyllis and Mark Speiser, upon his graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. He was Junior and Senior Captain of the Historical Simulation Club, as well as a participant in both the Film Making and Film Watching Clubs, both new this year. David was also a member of the KJ Ice Hockey team from seventh through twelfth grades. He will attend BMT in Israel in the fall.

SARA MICHEL TENENBEIN, daughter of Marian and Dr. Aaron Tenenbein and granddaughter of Mrs. Joyce Newborn and the late Abe Newborn, upon her graduation with honors 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 is the recipient of the Leonard Friedland Hebrew Language Memorial Award and the Drama Award. Sara was outstanding in her participation in the Math Team, Environmental Club and Drama. She will attend MIT in the fall.

ALEXANDRA JAYNE USDAN, daughter of Alice Usdan and Burton Usdan and a Ramaz graduate, upon her graduation from the Sy Syms School of Business of Yeshiva University with a Bachelor of Science.

DAPHNE J. WEISSER, daughter of Shoshana Weisser, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. She was a member of both the Art and Photography Clubs. Daphne will attend SUNY at Albany in the fall.

CLAIRE DAVA WOLINSKY, daughter of Dr. Harvey Wolinsky and Pamela Field, upon her graduation from the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz, as the recipient of a Chorus Award. She was President of the Chesed Club and of the Chorus. She was also an active member of the Softball, Chess and Math Teams. Claire also participated in the March of the Living. She will attend Tufts University in the fall.

THE 128TH YEAR OF CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN 1999 -

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINYAN

5760 has thus far been a year of tremendous growth and development for the Young People's Minyan, not only in terms of its membership roster, but also in terms of its participation within Kehilath Jeshurun's general community.

An intimate social network of singles and marrieds alike in their 20's and 30's, whose constituents adhere to both the Ashkenaz and Sephardic traditions, the Young People's Minyan gathers on the first Shabbat of every month in the brand new Benjamin Gottesman Center's Falk auditorium for a slightly less formal davening, followed by a delicious hot chulent kiddush. With so many wonderful smachot occurring within our ranks, these kiddushim are frequently sponsored by baalei simcha who transform them into luncheons where children romp and play, and young professionals have a rare opportunity to mingle, greet and socialize.

For many Orthodox newcomers to the Upper East Side, the Young

People's Minyan has become an indispensable entree to the overall congregation and neighborhood. Rabbi Joshua Lookstein's warm and inspiring divrei torah, and our home-grown team of shlichei tzibbur and torah readers, are hallmarks of the service, as is a spirit of openness and tolerance for the antics of young children.

Organizationally, the Young People's Minyan is quite proud of the recent election of its *gabbai*, Brian Haimm, to serve as an officer of the shul, while nearly a dozen of our regulars sit on the KJ Board of Trustees. Always wary lest it devolve into a mere "community within a community," the Young People's Minyan is also proud of the fact that so many of its regulars have, without pressure, taken the morally and religiously correct step of becoming dues paying members of the congregation, in appreciation of the reality that those who benefit from an institution are obligated to support it.



KESHER

The new Keshet Club was a big success this year. Bridging the Couple's Club and Young People together brought a wonderful and new dimension to the KJ community. Under the leadership of Jewel Edelman and Debbie Rochlin, Keshet ran some very successful events.

Keshet would like to publicly thank all of its board members and chairpeople for all of the time and effort that they devoted to this new initiative.

Keshet reluctantly bids farewell to the Edelmanns who are unfortunately

moving across the pond. A special thanks to Jewel for all of her devotion, guidance, time, and patience while serving as president. Our loss is London's gain.

Keshet would like to welcome the new presidium: Debbie Rochlin, Anne Schwartz, and Mark Todes. We are confident that they will work together to continue to make Keshet a vital and vibrant arm of the KJ family.

We look forward to seeing you at our next Keshet function which is scheduled for September. Have a great summer!

EIN BISSEL ABOUT THE

The Beginner's Minyan consists of adult Jewish men and women with varying abilities in Torah understanding, synagogue practice, and Hebrew language skills. The Minyan is intended to be an outreach program. Of particular significance to me, is the ability to interrupt the service, when needed, to ask question and receive an answer. The understanding is that the aim of the Minyan is to prepare its members for "graduation" to the Main Synagogue. George Rohr has been heard to comment that "if you've heard one of his stories three times, it's time to move to the main service."

Over time, bonds are formed among the members. Minyan members have developed special regard for our spiritual leaders. When the *parsha* of Emor was to be read, it was discovered that both George

FOR RABBI YITZ M THE ESTEEMED C

Rav Buchwald wrote "it
Motechin and Rohr said

The beginner's
While at them Y

You call that kind of

If we sit more than
A Dvar Torah we're cal

It's a tradition

The Rohr – Mot

Will beginner's ever le

You can't be a par

If you haven't done

Shabbat dinners

They just fill u

God willing, someday the beg

KEHILATH JESHURUN — A RETROSPECTIVE . . .

- 2000

BEGINNER'S MINYAN

Rohr and Rabbi Yitz Motechin shared the same Bar Mitzvah *parsha*.

In honor of the special significance of this particular *parsha* to our two readers, they undertook the additional work of restudying and reading to the minyan from an actual Torah scroll. This scroll was carefully brought from the Main Synagogue for this special purpose. Having two "Bar Mitzvah boys" who both are old enough to have and who themselves are fathers of sons and daughters seemed to me to be a special event indeed.

With the verse below, it was my hope to honor the much-admired spiritual leaders of our minyan on the respective anniversaries of their Bar Mitzvah *parshas*. It is my belief that all that were present for the reading of Emor were blessed by both learning and the sharing of joyous experience.

Susan R. Saslow

MOTECHIN AND GEORGE ROHR

"It's time to reach out"

"we'll teach you..."

"we'll collar

Yitz hollers

"noise, singing?"

"once in a seat

called upon to speak.

"you know,

Motechin show,

"learn how to sing?"

"t of the bunch

"Saturday lunch.

"are small..."

"up the hall.

"winner's might learn to sing

S.R. Saslow

8 Iyar 5760

YOUTH GROUPS REACH AMAZING LEVEL OF SUCCESS

One of the most important aspects of the youth department is the Shabbat and Holiday program. Approximately 200 children attended age appropriate morning groups. The groups are both fun and educational. The children learn about the day, practice their prayers and have a great time during services and Shabbat afternoons. A curriculum is developed for each group to ensure maximum enjoyment and supervision. With the addition of Ezra Starr, the early childhood groups have improved dramatically and will continue to do so in the coming year.

Shabbat afternoon groups have grown tremendously since last year. With davening, sports, games and prizes there is something for everyone. Groups are open to grades one through eight. Each week there are about 75 kids in attendance.

The Sports Department is another crucial aspect of the youth programming. Children participated in the intramural KJBL basketball league (over 110 kids this year). It was a fabulous success and we will be looking to start a Girls league next year. A high school hockey team represents the synagogue admirably in competition against teams from all over. This year we started a baseball league. Despite some scheduling quirks, we have had a very good beginning. Regardless of athletic ability, every child can partake in these events.

The youth department also provides frequent social activities. Children in

second through eighth grades attend a monthly Open Gym and Video on Saturday night. Every month, children ages 2 to 8 learn about the Jewish holidays through Sunday morning Arts & Crafts/Pizza parties. They learn about special mitzvot through programs like Challah Baking & Tzitzit Making.

Holidays are special times in the KJ Youth Department. Children celebrate with a Sukkah decorating party, Sukkot hospital visits, a gala Purim carnival attended literally by hundreds, a Chanukah hospital candle lighting ceremony, a Pesach trip to Great Adventure and a Shavuot Youth Learn-In & Ice Cream Party. Through these activities, children learn the value of Torah, the Jewish calendar and community responsibility and have a great time. This exemplifies the way the KJ Youth Department educates its youth while providing a safe, supervised social outlet in a Jewish setting.

The year started and concluded with fantastic Shabbatons, each with over 120 kids. This summer, the synagogue will be sponsoring an exciting new basketball camp. The camp will combine top notch basketball with a nurturing Jewish environment.

The Youth Department will be providing informal morning groups over the summer. Please contact Ari Segal for more information.

We look forward to seeing you next year.

LUNCH AND LEARN FOR SENIORS

We would like to thank Kehilath Jeshurun for organizing and continuing the "Lunch and Learn" Program for senior members.

A special thanks to Bob Leifert for directing this program which provides us with many scholarly presentations.

The question and answer period gives us an opportunity to express our own opinions.

Our host Donna Silverman is always ready to greet us with a warm "hello" and "What do you prefer?" as she offers us lunch.

By the way we give credit to Anita and Miriam for serving the food. Many thanks to Rose Langer who acts as the treasurer.

We look forward to next term.

With friendship,
The Students of "Lunch and Learn"

KJ'S 128TH YEAR — A RETROSPECTIVE

A YEAR FULL OF SUCCESSFUL ACTIVITIES FOR KJ'S SISTERHOOD

Our year began in October with an opening meeting and light lunch followed by a Book Review by Rabbi Haskel Lookstein on "the Holocaust in American Life" by Peter Novick.

The first of our seasonal boutiques began with a Chanukah Boutique followed by our Pesach and Spring Boutiques. Kudos to Riva Alper and Anne Schwartz for their exemplary organizational skills. The Pesach Boutique brought with it the Second Annual Family Portrait Day coordinated by Myra Eckstein Mogilner, Judy Kangisser Kahn and Leora Mogilner Linhart.

Let's step back to December when we enjoyed a backstage tour of the Metropolitan Opera House organized by Juliana Levite and Terry Jaspan. Our other cultural event of the year was an evening at Avery Fisher Hall in March where we were mesmerized by works of Beethoven and Tchaikovsky performed by the New York Philharmonic under the baton of Kurt Masur. A standing ovation to Yvonne Koppel and Hannah Shapiro for arranging a sold out event.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

As the summer draws near, we can look back on the greater part of the year 5760 as truly a year of change and accomplishments for the KJ Social Action Committee (SAC).

The Mitzvah Toy Campaign has distributed over 200 toys to underprivileged children. In addition some of these toys were hand delivered to Israel directly to institutions that care for children.

The Simcha Sharing program was able to donate \$10,000 to various organizations that provide meals to the Jewish elderly and homebound.

Our clothing drives were successful by providing hundreds of impoverished Jewish families with our congregant's gently worn clothing. We expanded the drive to include children's peripherals.

This year was our first children's book drive. We collected hundreds of books. We, the KJ Congregants, are now part of

A class in Flower Arranging given by Party Planner and Floral Designer, Ava Sofer brightened a cold winter's day in January. Ava taught the women how to arrange flowers in a vase. The Sisterhood thanks Ava for graciously donating her time. Rebecca Grafstein and Carolyn Rubin organized this lovely afternoon.

Jennifer Gross and Terry Jaspan continued in their personalized New Member Outreach Program by sending each new member a bottle of Kiddush wine, compliments of the Sisterhood, and offering Shabbat lunch invitations.

The Annual Spring Luncheon in May closed out our 1999/2000 year. Chaired by Riva Alper and Rhonda Luxenberg, the event was a rousing success. The luncheon is the major fundraiser of the year for our organization. The money raised allows us to meet the many communal needs for which we are responsible: Shabbat and Yom Tov Kiddushim, Bar and Bat Mitzvah gifts, and most importantly, the preparation of the first Shiva meal for mourners returning from the cemetery.

eliminating the problem of illiteracy by providing these books to the Literacy Program.

Twice a year, on Passover and the night of Kol Nidre, food is collected to benefit Project Ezra. We have always appreciated the contributions; however with this arm of the KJ SAC we need more support from you. We realize that it is just a matter of reminding everyone. We will make it our business to remind you so you can do a mitzvah.

Overall the year has been quite successful. Our success is also due to the incredible dedication of Doris Travis, our Former Chairperson who recently relinquished her title. With our new co-chairs Sari Rosenberg and Amanda Ritz and all of our new and prospective members we look forward to an exciting and successful year.

Have a great summer!

ADULT EDUCATION

As the academic year, '99-'00, comes to a close, it is worthwhile to note the achievements of KJ's Adult Education Institute. Overall, the year was quite a success. The foundation of the Institute is the weekday morning program for women. All three classes, Rabbi Joshua Lookstein's Talmud class, Rabbi Haskel Lookstein's Parshat HaShavua class and, back by popular demand, Dr. Shera Aranoff Tuchman's Biblical Personalities class, grew in size and enthusiasm.

The mainstays of the Institute, the various Shabbat classes and Rabbi Rubin's evening Talmud class (which none of his students will allow him to retire from) were enhanced by various new offerings. Joshua Cypess, our Rabbinic Intern, re-instituted a Shabbat afternoon Parsha class, which grew in attendance every Shabbat as people began realizing what a resource we had at KJ. Another class, taught by Rabbi Hillel Novetsky, on loan from the Kollel MiTzion at Lincoln Square Synagogue, was initiated by our member, Eugene Major. It was a high-level, in-depth study of tractate Bava Kama, and we commend both teacher and students for their commitment to serious Torah study.

Rabbi David Flatto and Rachel Klein, both gave over their breadth of scholarship to very dedicated students throughout the year. And, of course, undoubtedly the highlight of this past year's program was the contribution of Rabbi Zvi Waldman to KJ's collective soul. He touched our lives in ways that few, if any, could ever duplicate. We will miss him and wish him well on his return to Israel.

Our year was periodically infused with the Torah of Scholars-in-Residence, from Rabbi Menachem Leibtag, the pioneer of 'web-Torah', to Rabbi Saul Berman, to Dr. Deena Cohen Zimmerman, one of the first two female Halachic consultants. We hope to build on these successes for the coming year.

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 Middle School.

HARRY BAUMGARTEN

*son of
Ellen and Frederic Baumgarten*

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

MAXWELL BRYER

son of Meryl Wiener and Barry Bryer

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*

JENNIFER GUTTMAN

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

OREN HAYMOVITS

son of Judge 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 Jessica Joseph 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 Edward Low*

ANDREW KLUGER

son of Hon. 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 J. Ezra 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 and Stanley Serrur*

GEALIA SINGER-CIMET

daughter of Adina and Michael Singer

ELIZABETH SINNREICH

daughter of Naomi and Dr. Abraham Sinnreich

ARIEL WAGNER

daughter of Phyllis and Jonathan Wagner

TALI YAHALOM

*daughter of Dr. Marlene Warshawski Yahalom
and Dr. Joachim Yahalom*

ARE OUR CHILDREN READY

A SERMON DELIVERED ON SHABBAT EMOR 5760, MAY 13, 2000

BY RABBI

I

“Sex is pleasurable,” one boy, 13, said. “Why not now? Sometimes people get hurt. Sure, I’ve been hurt. But that’s going to happen.”

This was the rather shocking blurb that highlighted an article on the front-page of the Sunday Styles section of *The New York Times* on April 2, 2000. The general heading was: “The Face of Teenage Sex Grows Younger” and it shocked many of us into a recognition that things are very different from the way they were only ten or twenty years ago. The difference, and our response to it, deserve a serious discussion. That discussion could very well be rooted in the Torah portion of Emor which represents the culmination of three Torah portions dealing with limits on sexuality as far as Jews are concerned.

Parshat Emor is not the first place in which sexuality is discussed in the Torah. According to our teacher, Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, of blessed memory, the first discussion of sexuality in the Torah concerns a universal sex ethic and is set forth in the first two portions of Bereishit. There, the Torah establishes certain basic limits on sexual behavior for all human beings. Explicitly or implicitly, the Torah endorses marriage and forbids adultery, incest with some blood relatives, homosexuality, and bestiality.

“Why do these limits apply to all humanity?” asks the Rav. He answers that every human being is created in the image of God - *b’tzelem E-lokim*. When we violate these sexual limits we, in effect, destroy our *tzelem E-lokim*. We are no longer human; we are behaving like animals.

In the Torah portions of *Acharei Mot* and *Kedoshim*, the Torah sets forth the sexual ordinances for Jews. Here we find many more limits in addition to the fundamental limits that apply to all humanity. The parameters for incest

are wider. The rule of prohibiting sexual relations between a Jewish man and woman when the woman is in a state of *nidah* is presented. The difference between the *Bereishit* list and the *Acharei Mot* and *Kedoshim* lists is in the details. Jews have many more limits than do non-Jews.

Why these extra limits? The Rav answers that Jews have *kedusha* — sanctity — and *kedusha* always means limits. *Kedusha* in time — Shabbat and Yom Tov — is manifested in limits on work. Purim, for example, having no prohibitions on labor, also has no *kedusha*. Chanukah is the same — a holiday without limits and, therefore, without sanctity. Shabbat, Yom Tov and Yom Kippur, on the other hand, all have strict limits and all have *kedusha*.

In personal *kedusha* — *kedushat Yisrael* — the limits are sexual. This is the reason for the lengthy lists of prohibited sexual behavior in the portions of *Acharei Mot* and *Kedoshim*.

The proof of this thesis, that personal *kedusha* is expressed through limits on our sexuality, is found in the portion of *Emor*. This is the portion that deals with the priesthood. The difference between a priest and a regular Israelite is that the priest has more limits on his sexuality. He is not allowed to have relations with a prostitute, a *chalala* (a woman born from a union between a priest and a woman whom he is not allowed to marry) or a divorcee. Why does a priest have more limits than a regular Jew? Simply because he has more *kedusha*. “For he sacrifices the bread of God and therefore he is holy” (Leviticus, 21:6). A *Kohain* is more holy and therefore he has more limits on his sexual behavior.

Finally, the High Priest has the greatest amount of *kedusha* and it should therefore come as no surprise

that he also has a further limit on his sexuality. In addition to all of the prohibited unions for regular priests, the High Priest is not even allowed to marry a widow. “Rather a virgin from his people shall he take as a wife” (Leviticus, 21:14).

I recall hearing the Rav present this thesis and I shall never forget his illustration of the difference in sanctity between a High Priest, a priest, and a regular Jew. He asked his listeners: “What would you think would be a way of manifesting the difference in levels of sanctity? You probably would think that a regular Jew has to *daven* three times a day while a priest would have to *daven* five times a day and the High Priest seven times a day. In fact, however, such is not the case. All Jews *daven* the same way and the same amount. The differences between us in *kedusha* are reflected in limits, the more *kedusha* the more limits — particularly, sexual limits.” (These were the Rav’s approximate words.)

In summary, therefore, there are two fundamental concerns in the Torah’s limits on sexual activity:

1. *Tzelem E-lokim* — the creation of human beings in the image of God. This is common to all mankind. This requires the avoidance of marital infidelity, homosexual behavior, and bestiality, all of which defile our *tzelem E-lokim*.

2. For Jews there is the additional concern of *kedusha* and *imatatio Dei*. “You shall be holy because I the Lord your God am holy” (Leviticus, 19:2). This requires more sexual limits, more self-control, more *tz’ni’ut* — modesty — more restraint.

II

It is against this background that we must view the explosion in sexual activity and stimulation in our day and consider what effect it has on us and especially on our children. There is

FOR ALL THAT THEY SEE AND READ?

AT CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN

HASKEL LOOKSTEIN

hardly a film today without explicit sex. There is MTV, lurid rap lyrics, and now there is even cybersex on the Internet.

The traditional warning to parents used to be: "It's ten o'clock — do you know where your children are?" Now, the warning might very well be: "It's 5:00 P.M. — do you know what your kids are watching and doing?"

Our children, down to the elementary school grades, are being exposed to news reports, images and internet material for which they cannot possibly be ready. All of the media treatment of the Clinton-Monica Lewinsky saga was very damaging to our children's psyche. They had no business being exposed to the explicit sexual messages they were reading in the papers and watching on television.

Consider the following excerpts from the article quoted at the beginning of this sermon:

"On the Upper West Side, Dr. Marsha Levy-Warren, a psychologist, said she is seeing more and more pre-teenagers who are going on junior versions of dates in fifth grade, at 10 or 11 years old (sound familiar?). By seventh grade, they have graduated to sex" (I hope this part is not yet familiar).

"In the suburbs, on Long Island, Dr. Wayne Warren, a psychologist, said groups of seventh and eighth graders rent limousines to take them to clubs in Manhattan, where they get drunk, grind on the dance floor and have oral sex in dim corners."

"Before, the dialogue was, 'I love you and care for you, so let's experiment.' Now the dialogue is, 'this is safe and fun and okay, and you have nothing to worry about.'"

"Despite the paucity of data about young teenagers, educators say that the anecdotal evidence points to increased sexual activity, often of a detached, unemotional kind.... What's most

troubling to Dr. Levy-Warren and others is a new casual, brazen attitude about sex. 'I call it body-part sex,' she said. 'The kids don't even look at each other, it's mechanical, dehumanizing. The fallout is that later in life they have trouble forming relationships, they're jaded.'" (There is potentially the most tragic result of this early exposure to something for which children are simply not ready).

III

What are we to do about this very disturbing phenomenon? For our part, Ramaz will significantly expand its sex education program in the Middle School. We simply must deal with the reality of information, disinformation and premature stimulation to which our children are exposed.

What is particularly important, however, is the role of parents. Parents have to be ready to talk frankly with their teen and pre-teen children and to set limits — and not to be afraid to talk about what *kedusha* means and how *kedusha* means being ready to be separate and different, with standards that the general society may consider prudish.

I discussed this with a family in our congregation. The mother in that family told me that when her children were young she and her husband used to tell them that there are certain things you don't do because *es past nisht*. There may be no absolute logic for what they were telling their children not to do; it was simply a matter of *es past nisht*. It's not right for a nice Jewish person to do this.

Her children are now grown and when they sit around the table and talk about certain bizarre types of behavior, one of the now adult children will say: "This is probably one of those *"past nisht"* things.

I found that report rather refreshing. I know that I grew up with that expression. My parents, of blessed

memory, often said: "*es past nisht*." I also know that I haven't heard it for about forty years. People seem to be afraid to say it. Why? Why can't we simply say to our kids "no?" My father once preached a sermon, the theme of which was: "No!" is also an answer. Maybe it's time that parents stopped being afraid to say to their children: "No!" Or, if you will, "*es past nisht*."

We also have to take teenage drinking seriously. To do so, however, may mean being a little more careful about adult drinking — especially in front of teenagers. I am particularly troubled about the burgeoning phenomenon of kiddush clubs in synagogues all over America. What is the message that we are giving to our children when anywhere from a couple of minyanim of men to as much as one-third of the congregation leave after the Torah reading in order to take a few drinks and perhaps even enjoy some food. Some shuls actually have catered kiddush clubs with weekly sponsors. What do they think the teenagers in those congregations are learning? Teens want to be cool and they look for signals from adults as to what constitutes being cool. What kind of cool models are we presenting to our children?

We have to be careful about how we pressure children at Bar and Bat Mitzvahs to disco, to join in slow dancing and to play certain games. These are all messages that we are giving children who are absolutely not ready for such messages.

We must be circumspect about the kind of dresses we buy for 12 and 13-year-old girls. It's not good to grow up too fast. Children should dress like children — not debutantes. And we should err on the side of modesty, not on the side of provocative dress. And if our daughters want something else, it is no sin to say to a child: "No!" or "*es past nisht*." "No!" (or "*est past*

(Continued on page 14)

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We are proud to congratulate our esteemed member, Rabbi Maurice Wohlgeleitner on the publication of his newest book: **JEWISH WRITERS / IRISH WRITERS: SELECTED ESSAYS ON THE LOVE OF WORDS.**

Rabbi Wolgeleitner has always had a passionate love for words and language. In the book, he demonstrates a powerful link between Jewish and Irish literature. In both arenas he discusses the human struggle with life and death as well as virtue and weakness, success and failure, and dreams and nightmares, all in the context of their respective cultures.

The book is divided into four general categories: The Holocaust, Jewish-American Writers, Irish Writers, and Memoirs and Autobiography. He discusses the assimilation of both groups as they establish themselves in America and their departure from past traditions.

We are particularly impressed with the very positive reviews this book has already received, including the words of Cynthia Ozick and Oscar Handlin. We expect it will be equally successful with the public and encourage you to purchase a copy. The book is available at Judaica Classics by Doina in the synagogue lobby.

**NISHMAT DINNER HELD
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2000**

We are very happy to announce that Nishmat's Tenth Anniversary Dinner was held this year on Wednesday, May 31, at the Essex House.

The guests of honor were Mrs. Joseph Lieberman (wife of

Senator Lieberman) and Sharon (Mrs. Adam) Mintz. On the Dinner and Journal Committee were, among others, our members Rachell Maidenbaum Gober, Lauren Merkin and Jennifer Roth.

**ARE OUR
CHILDREN READY?***(Continued from page 13)*

nisht. "No!" (or "*est past nicht*,") is also an answer.

A recently published book by Kay S. Hymowitz carries a title that should give all of us pause even as it sums up our message: "Ready or Not: Why Treating Children as Adults Endangers Their Future and Ours."

If all of this sounds somewhat prudish, perhaps it is; but perhaps it sounds that way only because we live in a society where the rules have

broken down. As humans we must protect our *tzelem E-lokim* and that of our children as well. — As Jews, we must be sure that we do not sully our *kedushat Yisrael*.

Kedusha always requires limits, whether in sex or in diet or in anything else that tends to move toward excess. It is time to be proud of our stature as *kedoshim* and to live the kind of life — with defined limits — that ensures our continuation as a holy people.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

BIRTHS

Mazel tov to:

Marilyn and Greg Adler on the birth of a daughter, Melissa Eve.

Mrs. Goody Dane on the birth of a great grandson, Joseph Bruno, to her grandchildren, Caroline and David Schwarcz of Los Angeles.

Abigail and David Doft on the birth of a son, James Roman. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Arlene and Avrom Doft.

Nealy and Michael Erberon on the birth of a son.

Dr. Chani and Jonathan Hornblass on the birth of a daughter, Ava. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Ann and Hon. Jerome Hornblass.

Davida and Ashley Joffe on the birth of a daughter.

Ruth and Lawrence Kobrin on the birth of a granddaughter, Ariela Elizabeth to their children, Rebecca Kobrin and Kevin Feinblum.

Renata and Robert Marcus on the birth of a son, Mark.

Wendy and Adam Modlin on the birth of a daughter, Dylan Sylvia. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Leah and Barrie Modlin.

Amy and Jeremy Singer on the birth of a son, Jacob Tyler.

Deborah and Dr. Marc Zimble on the birth in St. Louis of a daughter, Marsha Sarah. Similar good wishes to the proud grandmother, Mrs. Goody Dane.

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

ENGAGEMENTS

Mazel tov to:

Tikva and Paul Bochner on the engagement of their daughter, Daniela, to Michael Rader, son of Barbara and Dennis Rader of New Haven, Connecticut.

Rosie and Dr. Mark Friedman on the engagement of their daughter, Ariela Tal, a Ramaz graduate, to Jeremy S. Fine, son of Susan and Stephen Fine of Woodmere.

Naomi and Gerald Goldstein on the engagement of her son, Yuri to Alexandra Alperovich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mikhail Alperovich of Newton, Massachusetts.

Sheira and Steven Schacter on the engagement of their daughter, Erica, a Ramaz graduate, to Robert Schwartz, son of Margo and Jack Schwartz of Scarsdale. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Dr. Nathalie and Israel Friedman.

Judy and Dr. Alfred Tanz on the engagement of their daughter, P.J., a Ramaz graduate, to Dr. Brian Slomovitz, son of Dr. and Mrs. Jay Slomovitz of Westfield, New Jersey.

Ellen and Sandy Ward on the engagement of their son, Andrew, to Randi Matza, daughter of Sue and Moe Matza of Hewlett, Long Island.

May their weddings take place in happiness and blessing.

WEDDINGS

Mazel tov to:

Sheira and Steven Schacter on the marriage of their daughter, Elizabeth, a Ramaz graduate, to Joshua Trump, son of Stephanie and Jules Trump of Miami. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Dr. Nathalie and Israel Friedman.

Eden Schonfeld, daughter of Marilyn and Bernard Schonfeld, on her marriage to Michael Fischman, son of Dorothy Ann and Edward Fischman of Buffalo.

Adele and Ronald Tauber on the marriage of their son, Daniel, a Ramaz graduate, to Natasha Friedman, daughter of Marvin and the late Sheila Friedman of Coral Gables, Florida.

May their marriage be filled with happiness and blessing.

CONDOLENCE

Our condolences to:

Esti Abadi on the passing in Brazil of her mother, Rachel Jerusalmi.

May she be comforted among those who mourn for Zion and Jerusalem.

BNAI MITZVAH

Mazel tov to:

Mrs. Gertrude Linzer on two celebrations in her family: the Bat Mitzvah of her great granddaughter, Atara Feldman, daughter of Beth and David Feldman, which took place on Sunday, May 28, in Philadelphia and the Bar Mitzvah of her great grandson, Adam Grosbard, son of Dena Altman, which will take place on Saturday, June 24, in West Orange. Both children are the grandchildren of Carol and Rabbi Arnold Feldman.

Helen and Morris Wyszogrod on the Bar Mitzvah in Israel of their grandson, David Zlotogorski, son of Dina and Chaim Zlotogorski.

COMMUNAL HONOR

Congratulations to Alice Usdan and

her daughters, Alexandra and Josepha who were honored at the Annual Spring Luncheon and Ballet Benefit of the Yeshiva University Women's Organization (YUWO), which took place on Wednesday, June 14, at the Metropolitan Opera House at Lincoln Center. Alice is a member of YUWO's national board. Alexandra just graduated from Stern College and Josepha is a senior there. KJ members Terry Jaspan, Gabriella Propp, Ruth Shapiro and Pamela Rechtschaffen were co-chairs of this event.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Alan Rechtschaffen who recently published a monograph on "Risk and Derivative Management," sponsored by the Chubb Insurance Company. Alan is a professor at Fordham University Law School.

PROFESSIONAL HONORS

Congratulations to Dr. Daniel C. Javitt, son of Dr. and Mrs. Norman B. Javitt, on his having been selected for a 2000 Clinical Scientist Award in Translational Research by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund. The award is both prestigious and extremely valuable in helping Dr. Javitt to continue his research endeavors at New York University School of Medicine and to maintain his involvement as a mentor "for the next generation of physician-scientists."

In Memoriam

Teresa Brennglass

We mourn the passing of the beloved wife of our esteemed senior member Samuel Brennglass and the devoted mother of Dr. Alan Brennglass.

Teresa Brennglass was an extraordinary Jewish woman. Her life was characterized by piety and commitment to God and to the Jewish people, leadership in several synagogues, and a deep involvement in many important organizations. She was, above all, a very caring wife to her illustrious husband and a proud mother and grandmother to a wonderful family.

The community joins her family in mourning her passing.



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SHABBAT SCHEDULE

		<i>Lighting of Candles</i>	<i>Friday Evening Services</i>	<i>Saturday Afternoon Services</i>	<i>Sabbath Ends</i>
June					
23-24	Bechukotai	8:13 pm	6:45 pm	8:05 pm*	9:15 pm
30-Jul 1	Shelach	8:13 pm	6:45 pm	8:10 pm	9:14 pm
July					
7-8	Korach	8:12 pm	6:45 pm	8:10 pm	9:13 pm
14-15	Chukat-Balak	8:09 pm	6:45 pm	8:05 pm	9:09 pm
21-22	Pinchas	8:04 pm	6:45 pm	8:00 pm	9:03 pm
28-29	Matot-Masei	7:58 pm	6:45 pm	7:55 pm	8:56 pm
August					
4-5	Devarim (Shabbat Chazon)	7:51 pm	6:45 pm	7:45 pm	8:48 pm
11-12	Va'etchanan (Shabbat Nachamu)	7:42 pm	6:45 pm	7:35 pm	8:37 pm
18-19	Ekev	7:31 pm	6:45 pm	7:25 pm	8:26 pm
25-26	Re'eh	7:21 pm	6:45 pm	7:15 pm	8:16 pm
September					
1-2	Shoftim	7:10 pm	6:45 pm	7:05 pm	8:06 pm

*Seudah Shlishit

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Weekday mornings 7:30 am
Sunday mornings 8:30 am
Mondays and Thursdays 7:15 am
Rosh Chodesh Weekdays 7:00 am
Sabbath mornings 9:00 am

EVENING SERVICES

Monday through Thursday 6:45 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, July 3

Rosh Chodesh Tammuz
Morning Services at 7:00 am

Tuesday, July 4

Rosh Chodesh Tammuz
Independence Day Observance
Morning Services at 8:30 am

Thursday, July 20

Shivah Assar B'Tammuz
Fast begins at 4:30 am

Morning Services at 7:00 am

Mincha at 7:55 pm

Conclusion of Fast at 9:02 pm

Wednesday, August 2

Rosh Chodesh Av
Morning Services at 7:00 am

Wednesday, August 9

Eve of Tisha B'Av
Mincha Services at 7:55 pm
Fast begins at 8:00 pm

Thursday, August 10

Tisha B'Av
Morning Services at 7:00 am
Mincha at 7:30 pm
Conclusion of Fast at 8:36 pm

Monday, September 4

Labor Day
Morning Services at 8:30 am

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