



KEHILATH JESHURUN

BULLETIN

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5 Tammuz 5777

POLITICS IN THE PULPIT ISN'T THE REAL ISSUE

by Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz

Do politics ever belong in the pulpit? This old question has returned with renewed urgency in recent months. Rabbi David Wolpe, writing in the Jewish Journal, made a call for depoliticizing sermons; this was met with a hail of disapproval. Among his respondents was Rabbi Rick Jacobs, the President of the Union for Reform Judaism, who argued that rabbis must use “the sermon to bear prophetic witness to pressing societal and communal challenges their congregants faced.” Wolpe responded by noting that it is disingenuous to carry the mantle of the prophets when your political views are nurtured elsewhere. He writes: “If Judaism supports all the policies you believe anyway, can’t you be at least a little suspicious that your politics are guiding your Torah, and not your Torah leading to your politics?”

While it is important to have a thoughtful debate about politics in the pulpit, we are overlooking the most important issue. What matters most is not whether a Rabbi speaks about politics, but how the Rabbi speaks about politics. Is the Rabbi dividing or uniting by what he says in the pulpit each and every week?

America is deeply polarized. The reigning paradigm on TV news is to debate each issue in adversarial and simplistic terms. Social media further exaggerates the divide with inflammatory propaganda masquerading as news, and of course, self-

righteous rhetoric proliferates. In this environment, politicians and partisans are rewarded far more for making emotion-laden attacks on opponents than for offering dialogue and discussion.

This polarization is dividing America. Political views have become a marker of personal identity. Friendships are breaking up over politics, and even our love lives are transformed. Political philosophy is now a significant factor in choosing who to date, and less than 10% of Americans are now married to someone from the opposing political party.

Let’s not kid ourselves; this same polarization deeply affects the Jewish community. Angry political discussions occur at many Shabbat tables and Passover Seders. Everyone has an anecdote about meals abruptly ending, and friends unfriending, all due to political arguments. Increasingly, politics has deeply impacted communal and personal relationships.

For the Jewish community this division is devastating. We are already divided between Orthodox, Reform and Conservative; now we will divide as Republican and Democrat as well?

This is where the Rabbi’s sermon plays a critical role. Let’s put aside the Rabbis who add fuel to fire, who gain attention by dividing others. But even Rabbis who speak in measured tones miss a crucial teaching: our job is to teach people how to



live together.

This is why avoiding politics in the pulpit won’t solve the problem. Debate is a natural part of life. Bring two people together long enough, and they will eventually disagree. In every relationship, whether it be a marriage, friendship, or business partnership, one needs to negotiate disagreement with respect and understanding, otherwise the relationship will fall apart. Communities are no different. The problem is when it comes to politics, toxic arguments are constantly on display; on cable news channels, most debate is punctuated with condescension and disrespect. In this environment, Rabbis need to teach congregants how to disagree without being disagreeable. And in congregations where everyone holds the same political views and live in a bubble of ideological certainty, the lessons of respectful debate are far more important.

Encouraging respectful debate should be second nature for Rabbis. The ethos of the Talmud encourages debate, because a serious argument pays large intellectual dividends. Yet at the same time the Rabbi knew debates can become heated; so they worked hard to ensure that these arguments don’t become fights that destroy communal unity. Rabbis would argue about kashrut but still eat in each other’s homes, because they believed that one

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Mazal Tov TO THE CLASS OF 2017 pages 10-12, 20-21

REFLECTIONS ON THE 145TH ANNUAL SYNAGOGUE MEETING pages 6-7, 13

NEW MEMBERS

Seventy new households joined the Congregation this past year and were officially inducted and welcomed at the 145th Annual Meeting by Morris Massel, Secretary of the Congregation:

Mark Abel	Emily & Nathan Gindi	Genesa Pfeifer
Raquela & Avi Adelsberg	Rachel Bayme & Daniel Groisser	Lauren & Barry Piafsky
Danielle & Jason Amirian	Marian Gross & Family	Elana & Ilya Podolyako
Nina & Eliav Assouline	Moshe Hoffman	Judith & Arnold Price
Beth & Marc Bengualid	Glenda Cortez & Daniel Iwanicki	Miriam Ranells
Lillie & Danny Bensusan	Sarah & Isaac Jonas	Michele & Max Rayden
Naomi & Jared Bernheim	Elianna & Yoel Kaye	Alexandra & Michael Rishty
Stephanie & Igor Biselman	Saba & Shawn Khodadadian	Hindy Schachter
Monica & David Borowik	Marika Kogan	Jessica & Joseph Scherban
Denise & Jason Brenner	Rachel & Alex Kozlowsky	Liora & Ben Schulman
Jordan & Caroline Bryk	Rebecca & Aaron Kuperman	Andrea Schwartz
Ashley & Lawrence Buterman	Abraham Levitman	Shira & Michael Shambon
Monique & Eli Chetrit	Lauren & Daniel Levy	Leah & Jesse Sheff
Rebecca & Joshua Chubak	Allie & Alexander Luxenberg	Melina Spadone
Aliza Katz & Ariel Cooper	Rachel & Matthew Luxenberg	Gila & Marco Srouer
Stefanie Hirsch & Patrick Coyle	Jennifer & David Mashaal	Stephanie & Mark Srulowitz
Michele & Gad Demry	Rachel Haber & Ari Mentzel	Sarah & Joshua Strobel
Judith & Olivier Dupont	Heather & Edward Mermel	Talia & Ben Strulowitz
Sheila & David Ebrahimzadeh	Lily & Noam Mintz	Michelle & Bruce Taragin
Nechama & Jason Fertig	Rochelle & Charles Moche	Sara & Jonathan Tsur
Taryn & Daniel Fiskus	Kimberlee & Jason Ostheimer	Jennifer Waitman
Paula & Steven Forkosh	Rebecca & Terry Oved	Bettina & Spencer Waxman
Hannah Frappier	Arielle & Jonathan Packin	Natalie & Eli Zybert
	Annick Boyen & Ryan Palecek	

KJ FOOD PANTRY

The KJ Food Pantry provides kosher food weekly to New York's hungry. Clients are referred to us through the synagogue and local service agencies. Each week clients come to KJ to receive food staples tailored to their diets, as well as a selection of fresh fruits and vegetables. Ramaz students pack the bags and staff the booth in the lobby of KJ, and Ramaz/KJ members also deliver packages to those who are homebound.

**THE KJ FOOD PANTRY
WISHES TO THANK
D'AGOSTINO SUPERMARKET
FOR ALL THEIR HELP.**

For further information or to volunteer, please contact
Bernice Kahn at bernice.berman@gmail.com

WELCOME

Kehilath Jeshurun warmly welcomes
the following new members
who have joined the Congregation between the Annual
Synagogue Meeting
held on March 29 and this Bulletin
which went to press on June 29.

Jessie Cytryn
Vivian Goodstein
Lillian Hirsch
Julie and Ethan Marcovici
Deborah and David Rifkin
Debbie and William Schwartz
Gila and Avi Sutton
Laura and Moshe Tordjman

**SHIVAH ASSAR B'TAMMUZ, TISHA B'AV AND THE THREE WEEKS
JULY 11 – AUGUST 1**

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 after the sin of the Golden Calf; the daily sacrifice was 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 the ninth day of the month of Av – *Tisha B'Av*. On this day, the spies

(*meraglim*) 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 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 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, July 24, and continue until midday on the tenth day of Av, August 2, we are additionally forbidden

to eat meat and drink wine (except on Shabbat), to go swimming, to bathe for pleasure, or to do any laundry or dry cleaning that is not absolutely necessary. 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 forbidden, as well, to study Torah on this day excepting the sections of the prophets and the Talmud that discuss the destruction. We do not wear *tefillin* until Mincha and the custom is to sit on low chairs as mourners do until midday. Our observance of mourning also forbids us from greeting friends on Tisha B'Av.

We mourn the Temples that were destroyed over nineteen hundred years ago, and we pray that we will be worthy to see God rebuild the Temple in our lifetime.

TISHA B'AV 2017

Monday Night, July 31st, Erev Tisha B'Av
~ Fast Begins at 8:13 p.m.
~ Mincha, Maariv & Eicha at 8:05 p.m.

Tuesday, August 1, Tisha B'Av
~ Morning Services at 7:00 a.m.

~ Shiur by Rabbi Jeremy Wieder at 9:00 a.m.

Film screenings throughout the day, reflecting this somber observance.

*Films will include **No Place on Earth**, a remarkable true tale of survival.*

~ Shiur by Rabbi Weinstock at 7:00 p.m.
~ Evening Services at 7:40 p.m.
~ Fast Concludes at 8:50 p.m.

Summer Taste of Torah
with Rabbi Yossi Weiser



TUESDAYS: JULY 11, 18, 25 & AUGUST 8, 15

DEBORAH: PROPHET & LEADER OF ISRAEL
7:00 PM

Examine how Devorah, Yael, and Barak faced incredible challenges yet still led our people to physical and spiritual victory. Learn how the Judges are more relevant today than ever!

THE LIFE OF THEODORE HERZL 8:00 PM

At Herzl's death in 1904, it was said that he'd accomplished nothing, but, of course, Herzl accomplished everything! Explore the fascinating story of the father of modern Zionism through an analysis of the award winning film "It is No Dream."



WEDNESDAYS: JULY 12, 19, 26 & AUGUST 2 & 16

STUDIES IN THE WEEKLY TORAH PORTION
7:00 PM

Explore the profound insights and relevance of our tradition derived from the weekly Torah reading as it is filtered through the prism of classical Jewish commentaries of the last 2,500 years.

"THE QUARREL" 8:00 PM

In the wake of the Holocaust, broken hearts and spirits were strewn across the Jewish world. Grapple with the turmoil of this complex era through the study of the award-winning film, "The Quarrel."



Keter Torah Awards Bestowed Upon

At the conclusion of the morning service on the second day of Shavuot, Sandra E. Rapoport and Sara Shemia were presented by Rabbis Haskel Lookstein and Elie Weinstock with the Fifteenth Annual Judith Kaufman Hurwich Keter Torah Award. These are their remarks:

WHY RUTH?

Thank you so much, Rabbi Lookstein, Rabbi Steinmetz, and Rabbi Weinstock. Thank you, too, to Lenny Silverman and to Riva Alper. I am honored to accept this Keter Torah award. It is enormously meaningful to me, as it celebrates two of the things I cherish most: *Limud Torah* and community, and it is bestowed by this gracious and generous congregation that I love and respect. Thank you.

With permission of Rabbis and Friends, for the next few minutes I would like to teach a little Torah in memory of my father, Gavriel ben BenTzion v'Sarah, alav ha-shalom, whose *yahrzeit* was Erev Shavuot. May our learning today bring a blessing to his memory.

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RUTHLESS. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, the meaning of the word “ruthless” is “feeling or showing *no* pity or compassion.” Someone who is ruthless is unsparing, merciless. The OED goes on to explain that the word “*ruthful*” - meaning “possessing kindness or compassion” - began to be used in English in the early 13th century, based on the archaic noun “*ruthe*,” meaning “a feeling of pity or grief.”

Through three millennia, then, the heroine of our Megillat Ruth has come - etymologically and literarily - to stand for an expression of deep and selfless I-Thou compassion.

Even so, three thousand years after Ruth plighted her troth to her mother-in-law Na'omi at the crossroads of Moav and Judah, no matter how many *shiurim* or lectures people attend about this Megillah, people still ask the same question:

Yes, but why Ruth?

Why do we dedicate a Megillah to her; name our daughters for her? After all, she was a Moabitess. A woman born and raised in the evil heart of Moav, the nation that refused the Israelite ex-slaves bread and water after they left Egypt. And because they showed *no* compassion, Moses instructed the Children of Israel, in the book of Deuteronomy, that Moabites may never enter the community of Israel, even until the tenth generation.

Yet this is the land that bore our heroine. We begin to appreciate Ruth's historic and literary burden. Coming from a people who *lack* compassion, she must

possess and exhibit it. But of course, in this exquisitely constructed Megillah, there is more.

Ruth is at the absolute bottom of the societal totem pole of the ancient Near East of the tenth century BCE, representing a trifecta of hopelessness: First, she is a Moabite **woman** - perhaps even a lapsed Moabite princess, according to the Talmud - who had wed an Israelite who had migrated to Moav to escape a famine. Second, she is now a **widow**. Disaster and death took everything from her, leaving her destitute. And third, she is

childless, without any blood connection to her dead husband's family. She is a woman without husband or clan to protect her. She belongs to no one, and no one will aid or claim her. She can stay in Moav with her biological family and her people, or she can accompany her elderly and despondent mother-in-law to Judah, where the old woman intends to go *to die*. Neither choice is promising.

What should Ruth do? Stay or go?

Right there, in Chapter 1 of our Megillah, at the crossroads on the rocky border between Moav and Judah, *Ruth makes a choice*, and she acquires immortality.

One answer to the complex question “Why Ruth?” is right there in plain sight, marvelous, thrilling and important. I will offer it to you this morning. It hinges on recognizing the difference between the Normal and the Singular, an idea

articulated by Cynthia Ozick in an essay about Megillat Ruth.

First, let us consider the Normal. In our story we see Naomi, Orpah and Ruth standing at the crossroads. Moav is behind them, Judah lies just across the Jordan River. Naomi has *no* expectation that the younger women will accompany her the rest of the way to her homeland of Beit Lechem of Judah. She assumes they were escorting her *part* way, and that now they will turn back. This is the normal thing to do, and Naomi sincerely bids her daughters-in-law to *lech-na, shov-na, isha l'beit imah. Go, please; return, each of you, to your mother's house*. In fact, the verb *shuv, return*, is a theme-word in the Megillah, repeating *twelve times* in chapter 1 alone! Naomi calls Orpah and Ruth “my daughters,” and she means it. She, her sons and their two wives lived together as a family for ten years, and they love one another.

Orpah speaks up first, seeing the logic of Naomi's plea: if the young women return to their mothers' polytheistic, idol-worshipping homes, they can be wed to Moabite men, and have husband, home and children. For a Moabite girl, this is the normal and desirable thing to do. So Orpah heeds Naomi's plea. She kisses Naomi, the two weep on each other's shoulders, and Orpah leaves, and returns to her mother's house. She behaves in a way that is natural and normal. Ozick calls Orpah “no one's heroine.” And while the Midrash is critical of Orpah for giving in so quickly, we should perhaps consider that she sought ordinary family security and happiness; a *normal* aspiration.

But the “normal” Orpah - no one's heroine - disappears! - from biblical history, and from our story.

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Sandra E. Rapoport & Sara Shemia

THE BLESSINGS OF COMMUNITY

Thank you, Rabbi Weinstock, for your much too kind introduction.

Mazal Tov, Sandra. I am honored to be recognized with you today.

We celebrate Shavuot on the date that the Jewish People received the Torah from God at Mount Sinai more than 3,300 years ago.

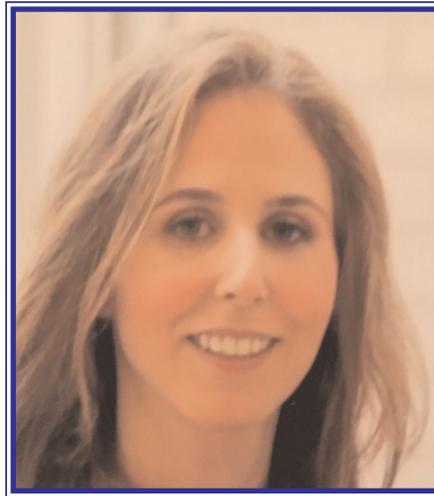
It feels appropriate, therefore, that I stand here today addressing you, in the room right next to where I received my first book of the Torah, when I was in the second grade at Ramaz, and where my children each received their first chumash. We celebrated Victor, our third child, receiving his, right here on this bimah just over one year ago.

The Torah service of Ashkenaz tradition concludes with reciting “Eitz chayim hi lamachazikim bah, v’tom’cheha m’ushar.” It is a beautiful verse that we sing so frequently. “The Torah is a Tree of Life to those who hold/cling to it, and those who uphold it find happiness.” All of us, within the KJ family, are nurtured by our community, and the Torah values that guide us.

I feel extremely fortunate that this is the community that I was born into. My mother and father, Marilyn and Tom Meltzer, were both active members here. My mother taught English to Israeli students at Ramaz when I was a young child, until it was time for me to begin nursery school there. My father, who was a baal teshuvah, appreciated everything that this community had to offer, and loved bringing me to shul with him on Friday nights, when I would look forward to receiving my bracha from Rabbi Lookstein, and on Shabbat mornings. One of my most embarrassing moments ever, was on one Friday night in shul when I was a toddler. My father had lifted me up and was holding me in his arms standing close to the wall in the chapel, where we used to daven on Friday nights. I somehow reached over his shoulder and turned off all of the lights in the room during Kabbalat Shabbat. Apparently, I was asked to leave. But that did not stop my father from

bringing me back the next week. I also have vivid memories of running ahead of him on 85th street on Shabbat mornings, tripping, falling, and ending up with holes in my tights and bloody knees every week. None of this deterred him from wanting me to experience shul with him.

Unfortunately, my fathers’ life was cut short much too early, and he passed away at the age of 36, when I was eight years old, and my brother, Michael, was four years old. This is when I first began to understand the importance of community. We did not live geographically close to any



of my aunts and uncles, and my mothers’ friends, both from this community, and our Summer community at the time at the Jersey Shore, became our extended family. We shared Shabbat meals, Holiday meals - friends who made sure that my brother would always have somebody to sit with in the Men’s section of shul - and this is when I began to sit up in the women’s balcony. I would sit with my mother, and Mrs. Frieda Lerner, a member of this community who was my babysitter and like a second grandmother to me, who I loved dearly. This is where I would come and sit to daven, throughout my childhood, teen and college years, and feel comfort in the familiarity of the space, the people, and the prayer.

As I grew into a young adult, while I was a student at NYU, and more

importantly, as I entered the workforce, I was well equipped to clearly articulate my observance and practice of Judaism, and confident that it would never limit my opportunities or success in any way. I never felt that I had to make a choice to either be an observant Modern Orthodox Jew or have a career in the fashion industry. It was a given to me that I could do whatever I set out to do, with my observance never being an obstacle. I didn’t realize early on what a gift that was, but over the years, as I have talked to people from various communities, so many have shared with me that they never saw having a career so steeped within secular society, while maintaining their observance, as being a possibility.

Here in Manhattan, the cultural and financial capital of the world, we have so many incredible opportunities and experiences to enjoy every day. KJ, our spiritual and physical home away from home, is critical to the life of our family. It is a place that reminds us of our values and priorities, to live a life that celebrates our religious traditions, the study of Torah, to love and support our fellow Jews and the State of Israel.

We are blessed with Rabbis Lookstein, Steinmetz, Weinstock and Kraus, as well as Audrey, Lisa, Naama and Rachel, and Julia Baruch, our Yoetzet Halacha, who are all incredible role models to me. They have helped to guide our family through day-to-day questions that come up, and more complex situations, and always have an incredible sense of humanity and sensitivity when addressing any halachic issue.

We are fortunate to live in this community where my family, my mother and brother, live, and are a part of our daily lives. We are also blessed with so many friends within this community that have become our family as well. I would like to especially thank those of you who gave up your holiday at the beach to be here with me today. The environment that we are raising our collective children in, where

REFLECTIONS ON THE 145TH ANNUAL SYNAGOGUE MEETING

128 NEW MEMBERS INDUCTED

Rabbi Elie Weinstock's fitting invocation was most appropriate to the tenor of KJ's 145th Annual Synagogue Meeting. After the singing of the national anthem led beautifully by Cantor Mayer Davis, the induction of 70 new member households, comprising 128 people, took place. (A listing of the new members appears on page 2 of this Bulletin, and the invocation is on page 13.)

The first order of business which immediately followed was the celebration of milestone anniversaries of affiliation for thirty-seven households. Rabbi Lookstein, in his inimitable way, fondly recalled the family histories and communal contributions of each of the celebrants.

The following members celebrated milestone anniversaries and were honored by the Congregation:

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRANTS

- Fran and Benjy Brown
- Karen and Meyer Gross
- Yvette Hyman
- Evelyn Ostow Mandelker
- Laurel and Lawrence Rosenbluth

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRANTS

- Paula and Barry Apfelbaum
- Ruth Schwartz and Marvin Davenport
- Steven Davenport
- Ann and Honorable Jerome Hornblass
- Ruth and Edward Lukashok
- Martha Schessel

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRANTS

- Lauren and Keith Breslauer
- Marie and Robert Briefel
- Sheila and Jeremy Chess
- Eugenia and Ira Davis
- Pamela and Adam Emmerich
- Shoshana and Warren Graham
- Debra Weingarten and Richard Jacobs
- Edith and Salomon Lipiner
- Jay Lunzer
- Leyla and Hayim Medine
- Lauren and Ezra Merkin
- Ruth and David Musher
- Nancy and David Payne
- Rivka and Morris Platt
- Steven Reisman
- Rochelle and Michael Ring
- Miquette and Morton Schrader
- Elisa Septee

- Judith and Isaac Sherman
- David Shipper
- Sandra Shipper
- Gabriela and Jack Shnay
- Lisa and Lee Snow
- Lisa and Jonathan Staiman
- Sarah and Mark Tarnofsky
- Clarissa Payne and Harry Uvegi

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President David Lobel presented an overview of the year's business, including a report on the synagogue's growth and a proposed membership dues increase. He noted that even with the increase, KJ's dues structure is by far the most reasonable when compared to similar Synagogues in the New York Metropolitan area.

BOARD ELECTIONS

The report of the Nominating Committee, as approved by the Board of Trustees, was presented by Wendy Greenbaum and adopted by the congregation.

The following officers will serve for the 2017-2018 Congregational year:

- President David Lobel
- Senior VP Elias Buchwald
- Vice President Jonathan Wagner
- 2nd VP Surie Sugarman
- 3rd VP Nicole Agus
- 4th VP..... Sidney Ingber
- Secretary Larry Baruch
- Treasurer Robert Schwartz
- Asst. Treasurer David Sultan
- Exec. Secretary Morris Massel
- Financial Sec'y Evan Farber
- Recording Sec'y J.J. Hornblass

REGULAR TRUSTEES

In regard to Regular Trustees of the Congregation, Jonathan Art, Rae Gurewitsch, Jay Lefkowitz, Rochelle Major, Judith Ottensosser, Alan Rechtschffen, David Stein and Roberta Stetson completed their terms and were not eligible for re-election, and Roni Pick resigned. We thank them for their dedicated service to the Synagogue.

The following Regular Trustees' terms expired and were eligible for re-election:

- Roy Feldman
- Barry Frohlinger

The Nominating Committee then recommended that these Regular Trustees be re-elected, and they were.



50th Anniversary celebrants Fran and Benjy Brown



Kol Ram Community Chorus under the direction of Daniel Henkin



"Ha Lachma Anya"



All photo by Yossi Hoffman

One of our youngest members...

Two Associate Trustees completed the maximum number of years they are eligible to serve: Rocky Fishman and Dr.



25th Anniversary celebrants Sheila and Dr. Jeremy Chess and Sheila's mother, Paula Pilevsky (below, left) "sheps nachas"



25-year Anniversarians Judy and Isaac Sherman



Shoshana and KJ Gabbai Warren Graham celebrate 25 years of membership

Jody Levine. Tuvy Meyer requested to step down from the Associate Board. The Nominating Committee recommended the following Associate Trustees for positions as Regular Trustees and they were so elected:

Rocky Fishman
Dr. Jody Levine

The Nominating Committee further recommended the following members of the congregation to serve as Regular Trustees, and they were so elected:

Andy Charles
Louis Menaged
Josh Kaufthal
Stephanie Katz

ASSOCIATE TRUSTEES

The following Associate Trustees were nominated and elected:

Michael Ausubel
Jamie Chubak
Dr. Naamit Kurshan Gerber

DECEASED MEMBERS

In a more sobering moment, Rabbi Lookstein then warmly paid tribute to fourteen members of the Congregation who were called to their eternal reward since the 144th Annual Meeting:

Celia Blumenthal
Sandra D. Brickman
Charles Cohen
Ruthann Eckstein
Donna Grunor
Amy Haber
Mona Haddad
Zahava Kohan
Jonathan Messeloff
Louis Orwasher
Alice Smokler
Melvin Stein
Elie Wiesel

Dr. Frederick Zuckerman

MINI-SHIUR ON THE HAGADDAH

Looking ahead to Pesach, Rabbi Lookstein delivered a brief shiur on *ha Lachma Anya*, and two fundamental messages which are a part of this short prayer with which we begin the Seder: the ethical message of Egyptian servitude -- that we understand the soul of the stranger because we were slaves in Egypt, and the message of hope and redemption -- that as terrible as things were for us in Egypt, the Jewish people gained their freedom from the mightiest power of that time.

Following the shiur was a rousing performance by the Kol Ram Community chorus under the direction of Daniel Henkin.

RAMAZ SCHOOL MEETING

Dr. Philip Wilner, Chairman of the Board of the Ramaz School, then conducted its brief annual meeting. The following members of the Board of Trustees completed their terms of service and were thanked:

Perah Dwek
Julie Friedman
Lara Slager

The following Board members were re-elected:

CHARTER TRUSTEES

Mitchell Davidson
Leora Mogilner
Daniel Schwartz
Alissa Shams

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS

Drorit Ratzker
Sirena Silber

ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS

Abigail Tambor
Ethan Tucker

PARENT BOARD MEMBERS

Ray Chalme
Randi Eisenstein

The following people were elected to serve on the Ramaz Board:

PARENT BOARD MEMBERS

Joshua Crane

ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS

Wendy Modlin
Diane Rein

The following Honorary Board Members were re-elected for a one year period:

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS:

Harvey Beker
Fred Distenfeld
Lillian Eisman
David Gruenstein
Pearl Hack
Robert Kapito
Ilan Kaufthal
Dr. Jerry Kestenbaum
Gail Propp

The 145th Annual Synagogue Meeting then adjourned and all enjoyed a delicious repast of frankfurters, sauerkraut, and ice cold beer courtesy of Foremost Caterers.

Keter Torah Awardee Sandra E. Rapoport

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Now, let us consider the Singular. Same facts as prevailed with Orpah: a young woman, Moabite born and raised; wed to an Israelite; lived ten years in the house of Naomi, a God-fearing Hebrew; she escorted her mother-in-law to the border of Moav and Judah; and she is bidden to return to her ancestral home. But-the sameness, the normal, ends there.

This time, it is *Ruth* who must choose, and that makes all the difference. *Ruth* has spent the two-week

journey across Moav-*thinking*. She has not forgotten the lessons she learned during ten years at Naomi's hearth. The rabbis tell us that during the arduous two-week foot-journey from Moav to Judah, Naomi had reminisced aloud about her land, her people and their laws. *Ruth* heard all this and absorbed it into a mind and heart already primed to listen. She also has heard the old woman's logical plea, issued three times, to return home - *lech-na, shov-na!*

And perhaps *Ruth* knows that logically, rationally, Orpah was right. Everything rational is telling *Ruth* to return home to Moav.

But she does not.

We have read it many times before, but let's *listen*, now, to *Ruth's* answer to Naomi:

"Entreat me *not* to leave you; to turn back and not to follow you. For wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. This and more may the Lord do to me, if anything but death parts me from you."

Wow.

It is *more* than "ruthful" compassion that we hear in *Ruth's* words. It is *vision*. Three times in her plea to Naomi, *Ruth* mentions God! This singular Moabite woman, widow of an expatriate Israelite, of empty pockets and empty womb, has done what only Abraham had done before

her. *Ruth* has intuited God. So confident is *Ruth* in her vision that she pledges lifetime fealty to Naomi in the Lord's name!

If we remember our Tanach, at this precise point in Chapter 1 of *Ruth's* story we can already predict its ending. Because embedded within *Ruth's* words is a subtle hint of what she is to become, and of the seed that is to come from her.

Did anyone catch it?

Ruth's words binding her to Naomi will be used by biblical princes and kings in future generations when they pledge loyalty to one another. Saul's son,

Jonathan, crown prince of Israel, uses similar words when he pledges love and loyalty to David. And as the late Bible scholar Tikva Frymer Kensky pointed out, *listen* to the words of King Yehoshaphat of Judah as he solemnly promises the king of Israel to join with him in a war against the king of Aram:

"I will do what you do; my troops shall be your troops, my horses shall be your horses."

This dramatic similarity of words and cadence to those in our story is a broad hint to us, early in the Megillah, that this seemingly ordinary Moabite woman is not ordinary; she is not "normal" at all. She is Singular and unique. *Ruth* speaks of loyalty, and of a recognition of God, and she uses the biblical language of kings! She *will go* with Naomi, despite the rational arguments to return to her home, and despite the privations facing them in Judah. She *will go*, because she has just pledged herself to do so. *Asher telchi, elech!* she says. *Wherever you go, I will go!*

Ruth's word "*elech!*" echoes Abraham's two "goings," his two *lech lecha's*, and also the words of his daughter-in-law-to-be, Rebecca, who replied "*Elech!*" when *her* family asked if she would accompany Abraham's servant to wed Isaac in faraway Hebron.

The choice of "*elech!*"- of choosing "to go"- is nothing short of momentous. In

Ruth's case, she is abandoning forever family and a homeland steeped in idol worship, accompanying a mother-in-law to the strange country of Judah, land of the One-God. *And no one told her to do this*. Is it any wonder, then, that in our tradition, *Ruth's* words to Naomi are considered *Ruth's* conversion to Naomi's monotheistic faith?

I have shared with you this morning my favorite answer to the question "Why *Ruth*?"

Our childless and destitute Moabite immigrant widow is Singular: She intuits God - like Abraham. She speaks - in the language of kings. She passes God's test - of "will you go?" She acts - like a biblical matriarch. And her reward is that - at long last, this woman who spoke of God three times at that crossroads - in the end, is blessed thrice-over: first, by her adopted community, who liken her to the matriarchs Rachel and Leah. And she is

blessed twice by God. This Singular, childless,

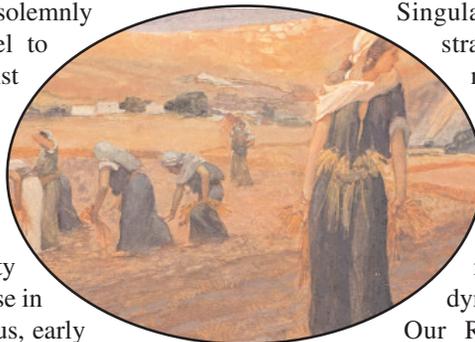
stranger becomes not only an *Em b'Yisrael* - a mother in Israel - but also an *Em Malchut*, the mother of a dynasty of kings.

Our *Ruth* does not know it yet, but she is destined to become the great-grandmother of King David.

All that, and she is "ruthful," too!

Thank you all, and Chag Sameach.

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For information
about the weekly status
of the Manhattan Eruv

Call the Eruv Hotline
212-874-6100 ext. 3

(Recorded Message)

TAHARAT HAMISHPACHA

QUESTIONS REGARDING MATTERS OF JEWISH FAMILY LAW AND WOMEN'S HEALTH SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO

JULIA BARUCH
KJ'S YOETZET HALAKHAH
 929-274-0628
 JB.YOETZET@GMAIL.COM

THREE COMMUNITY MIKVAHS

The Jacques & Hannah Schwalbe Mikvah
 419 East 77th Street
 (between 1st & York Avenues)
 Telephone: 212-359-2020

The Rennert Mikvah at 5th Avenue Synagogue
 5 East 62nd Street
 (just off Fifth Avenue)
 Telephone: 212-753-6058

The West Side Mikvah
 234 West 74th Street
 (West of Broadway)
 Telephone: 212-579-2011

Keter Torah Awardee Sara Shemia

(continued from page 5)

they have such deep bonds with each other, and comfort in one another's homes, is very special. I do not ever take for granted the support system that we have, and the knowledge that whenever I am in a jam, big or small, I don't have to worry because of the incredible network here in this community that I can count on.

Any leadership role that I have taken on over the years within KJ has been with the hope to help others experience the same sense of belonging and love of this community as I have.

It is an honor and quite meaningful to receive this award in memory of Judith Kaufman Hurwich, whose family has created many significant opportunities for women to study Torah, and whose mother, Rita Kaufman, was a beloved KJ community member and close friend and neighbor of my family. We lived in the same building, and as a young child, I was always welcome to go downstairs to Mrs. Kaufman's apartment to watch movies on her betamax, as we didn't have a home video system in our apartment until the VCR. Whenever she would come to Ramaz delivering boxes of Entenmann's chocolate chip cookies to her granddaughters, she always brought a box for me as well, and years later, when she was already 80 years old, insisted on

making the gefilte fish for the Friday night dinner that my mother was hosting for the out of town guests in for the Shabbat of my brother's bar mitzvah, because nobody's gefilte fish could compare.

I would like to thank my mother for being my role model, and for setting an amazing example for me by creating a loving home, always available to help her family, friends and community, while building an impressive career at the same time. She is a woman with incredible strength and integrity.

I would like to thank my husband, Simon, for being such a supportive partner, and our children, Tom, Esther and Victor for understanding and embracing the values that we try to model. I especially would like to say "thank you" to Tom for surprising me with your beautiful reading of the Haftarah this morning. Had I known, I would have made sure to leave a tie out for you to wear, which would have alleviated the need for your last minute wardrobe change!

Most importantly, I want to thank God for our abundant blessings - *Eitz Chaim Hi* - Torah and community that have nurtured me and my family. I am incredibly grateful.

Chag Sameach.

RABBI ELIE WEINSTOCK HONORED BY RCA



Pictured here with Rabbi Jonathan Morgenstern of the Young Israel of Scarsdale (Assistant to -- and later successor to -- Rabbi Jacob Rubenstein), Rabbi Weinstock was recently the recipient of the *Rabbi Jacob and Deborah Rubenstein Memorial Award for Rabbinic Excellence* from the Rabbinical Council of America in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the areas of commitment to youth, Israel and Jewish unity, bestowed at the RCA Annual Convention.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF YOM HASHOAH PROGRAM:
 CANDLE-LIGHTING CEREMONY AND
 A COLLABORATION BETWEEN
 RAMAZ UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THE
 JEWISH COMMUNAL FUND'S WITNESS THEATRE**

Hundreds filled the Ramaz Upper School Kaufman Auditorium on April 23 to honor the memories of those who perished in the Holocaust.



The next generations step forward to keep the memories alive.

ACADEMIC HONORS

CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN EXTENDS A MAZAL TOV TO...

DAVID BARUCH, son of Shira and Dr. Larry Baruch, upon his graduation from NYU Law School. David has accepted a position as an Associate at Simpson Thacher and Bartlett LLP. Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents Audrey and Rabbi Haskel Lookstein.

JONATHAN (YONI) BETTINGER, son of Nava and Dan Bettinger, upon his graduation from The Ramaz Upper School. Yoni will attend Ashreinu in the fall and Muhlenberg College upon his return from Israel.

ANAELLE CHETRIT, daughter of Monique and Eli Chetrit, upon her graduation from The Ramaz Upper School. She will attend Yeshiva University/Stern College in the fall.

NOAH CHETRIT, son of Esther and Moshe Chetrit, upon his graduation from The Ramaz Upper School. He will attend Bar Ilan University in the fall.

MICHAEL CINNAMON, son of Mindy and Dr. Jay Cinnamon, upon his graduation from NYU Law School. Michael has accepted a position as an Associate at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents Audrey and Rabbi Haskel Lookstein.

REBEKAH FENSTER, daughter of Jan and Dr. Daniel Fenster, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. A recipient of the Gertrude Lookstein Eishet Chayil Award given to the senior women who best integrate modern ideals of womanhood with traditional Jewish life; the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Award for Personal Growth; and the Gloria Schrenzel Sheer Dance Award, Rebekah will attend Midreshet Moriah in the fall and New York University upon her return from Israel.

SAMUEL FREILICH, son of Drs. Stephanie and Jonathan Freilich, upon his graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. A recipient of the Mary and Louis Wolinsky Award in Community Outreach presented to the seniors who have demonstrated the highest standards of menschlichkeit in service to Klal Yisrael, Samuel will attend Yeshivat

Eretz HaTzvi in the fall and Columbia University upon his return from Israel.

ALLY GOLDSTEIN, daughter of Amy and Alex Goldstein, upon her graduation from the University of Michigan, School of Information, with a Bachelor of Science in Information.

LILY HABER, daughter of Jill and James Haber, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. She will attend University of Pennsylvania in the fall.

ARIELLE HADAD, daughter of Dr. Michelle and Yosef Hadad, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. A recipient of the Fannye Popkin Memorial Award for Excellence in Fine Arts, Arielle will attend Bar Ilan University in the fall and Syracuse University upon her return from Israel.

MATTHEW HIRSCHFELD, son of Dr. Susan Hirschfeld and Elie Hirschfeld, upon his graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. A recipient of the Darkhei Noam Award presented to the seniors who comport themselves with inner strength, warmth, and sensitivity; an English Award; the Sidney Scheinberg Award for Politics and Law; a Spanish Award; the Lisolette Samuel Gorlin Award for Excellence in Mathematics; a Letter of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Program; a George Washington University School of Engineering & Applied Science Medal, Matthew will be attending Kivunim in the fall and Harvard College upon his return from Israel.

HANNAH HOFF, daughter of Rachel and Eliot Hoff, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. She is a recipient of the Gertrude Lookstein Eishet Chayil Award given to the senior women who best integrate modern ideals of womanhood with traditional Jewish life, and the Fannye Popkin Memorial Award for Excellence in Fine Arts. Hannah will be attending Midreshet Torah v'Avodah in the fall and Binghamton University upon her return from Israel.

DAVID HOFFMAN, son of Vicki and Isaac Hoffman, upon his graduation from Yale

Law School. David will be clerking for a Federal Judge in the Southern District of New York this fall, and thereafter has accepted a position as an associate at Vinson and Elkin LLP.

CAROLINE JASPAN, daughter of Michele and Ronald Jaspas, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. A recipient of the Mary and Louis Wolinsky Award in Community Outreach presented to the seniors who have demonstrated the highest standards of menschlichkeit in service to Klal Yisrael, and the Rifka Rosenwein Journalism Award granted to the seniors who reflect a commitment to a year of study in Israel and excellence in journalism and writing, Caroline will be attending Midreshet Moriah in the fall and Binghamton University upon her return from Israel.

DANIEL JASPAN, son of Michele and Ronald Jaspas, upon his graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. A recipient of the Gilda Silverman Memorial Award presented to the seniors who, with energy and good humor, have demonstrated a commitment to learning as the language of their daily lives, and the Meyer Appleman Memorial Award for excellence and commitment to religious studies, Daniel will be attending Yeshivat Netiv Aryeh in the fall and Binghamton University upon his return from Israel.

ADAM KAHN, son of Judy and Dr. Hirshel Kahn, upon his graduation from Cornell University with a BS from the S. C. Johnson College of Business and the School of Hotel Management. Adam accepted a position with Wells Fargo in investment banking.

GABRIELLA KASSMAN, daughter of Nina and Larry Kassman, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. A recipient of the Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein Award for Personal Growth and a NY State Attorney General's Triple C Award, she will be attending Cornell University.

SOPHIA KLASS, daughter of Stacey Kreinen-Klass and Richard Klass, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School.

ACADEMIC HONORS

She will be attending New York University in the fall.

JULIA KREVAT, daughter of Randy and Mitch Krevat, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. A recipient of the Gertrude Lookstein Eishet Chayil Award given to the senior women who best integrate modern ideals of womanhood with traditional Jewish life, and a Music Award for excellence in chorus, Julia will attend Midreshet Amit in the fall and New York University upon her return from Israel.

SARAH KREVAT-HOCHSZTEIN, daughter of Randy and Mitch Krevat, upon her graduation from NYU Steinhardt with a BS degree in Media and Communications and the Founders Award for Academic Excellence.

JACOB LEFKOWITZ, son of Elena and Jay Lefkowitz, upon his graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. Jacob will attend Shalom Hartman Institute in the fall and Dartmouth College upon his return from Israel.

JASMINE LEVINE, daughter of Drs. Jody and Elie Levine, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School. A recipient of a Letter of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Program, Jasmine will

be attending Harvard College in the fall.

CARLY SCHEINBERG, daughter of Stacy and Ron Scheinberg, upon earning a Masters Degree in Education while completing Teach for America in Chicago. She will pursue her masters in speech pathology at Columbia in September.

ELIANNA SCHWARTZ, daughter of Debbie and Daniel Schwartz, upon her graduation from the Ramaz Upper School, where she was the student speaker at graduation. She is a recipient of the Ramaz Prize, which is given to the student who best exemplifies the ideals and goals of a Ramaz education: menschlichkeit; commitment to Torah, mitzvot, Am Yisrael and Medinat Yisrael; superior academic achievement; and a demonstration of responsibility for the society of which she is a part. Elianna also received the Rifka Rosenwein Journalism Award granted to the seniors who reflect a commitment to a year of study in Israel and excellence in journalism and writing; the Avram J. Hellerman Bikur Cholim Award; the Isaac Rappaport Bible Award for excellence in the study of Bible and commitment to its principles; the Rampage Award; and a State of New York (Regents) Scholarship for Academic Excellence. Elianna will be a Sherut Le'umi volunteer in the fall and will attend Barnard College upon her return. Mazal Tov as well to

proud KJ grandmother Gabriella Major.

ALISON SHAY, daughter of Susan and Scott Shay, upon receiving a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree from Northwestern University. She will relocate to Boca Raton, Florida, this summer to begin her work as research engineer for Newell Rubbermaid.

NATALIE STEIN, daughter of Dr. Meg Rosenblatt and David Stein, upon graduating from Yale's School of Management and its School of Public Health with joint MBA and MPH degrees. She will begin work for Parthenon-EY, a global strategy consultancy, as a Consultant in their New York offices. Mazal Tov as well to proud KJ grandparents, Geraldine and Moses Stein.

JASON SUGARMAN, son of Surie and Bob Sugarman, upon his graduation from the University of Pennsylvania Law School cum laude. Jason will begin working as an associate at the law firm of Davis Polk & Wardwell in the fall. Mazal Tov also to Jason's wife, Ariel, upon her graduation from the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University. Ariel will begin her residency at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore. Mazal Tov as well to proud KJ grandmother Judith Rudoff.

A Letter to KJ from Hostess Captain Extraordinaire Annie Mae Walton Upon Her Retirement After 55 years of Devoted Service

Dear Friends,

I am sure no one thought this day would come. I am still finding it hard to believe myself, but this is my official retirement letter letting everyone know that after 55 years I will be leaving my job. It has been an amazing journey, starting when I was a 28-year-old coat check attendant. It was at that time I became acquainted with Dr. Noam Shudofsky, who took an interest in my future and encouraged me to go to cooking school. I became the school chef, preparing lunches, and special holiday foods like hamantashen, latkes, helping to nourish generations of Ramaz children. Over time, I coordinated a dedicated staff in the preparation of all the KJ Kiddushim, special holiday breakfasts, and Lunch and Learn. I arranged for coat check, tallit folders, restroom cleaning and so many behind-the-scenes preparations that make KJ such a refined Synagogue.

Leaving is hard, particularly because I have so enjoyed working here watching generations of the KJ/ Ramaz family grow up and have families of their own. I will miss you and remember all of you for your friendliness and kindness. I appreciate your honoring me in the Synagogue and I thank God for giving me the opportunity to help the KJ /Ramaz family.



*With appreciation,
Annie Mae*



RAMAZ CLASS OF 2017

**We wish then continued success and personal growth
as they enter the following *yeshivot* and schools
to pursue their passion for learning and commitment
to Torah, *mitzvot*, and *Ahavat Yisrael*.**

Bar Ilan Israel Experience | Emunah V'Omanut | The Hartman Institute | Kivunim
Machon Maayan | Mechinat Keshet Yehuda | Midreshet Amit | Midreshet Harovah
Midreshet Lindenbaum | Midreshet Moriah | Midreshet Torah v'Avodah | Nativ | Nishmat
Yeshivat Ashreinu | Yeshivat Eretz HaTzvi | Yeshivat Har Etzion (Gush) | Yeshivat Maaleh Gilboa
Yeshivat Netiv Aryeh | Yeshivat Orayta | Yeshivat Reishit Yerushalayim

Babson College | Barnard College | Boston University | Carnegie Mellon University
University of Chicago | Columbia University | The Cooper Union | Cornell University
CUNY Baruch College | CUNY City College | CUNY Hunter College
CUNY Macaulay Honors College | CUNY Queens College | Dartmouth College
University of Edinburgh | Emory University | George Washington University
Harvard University | IDC Herzliya | Indiana University | Lehigh University
University of Maryland | University of Miami | Muhlenberg College
The New School, Parsons School of Design | New York University | University of Pennsylvania
Princeton University | University of Rhode Island | Rutgers University | SUNY Albany
SUNY Binghamton | Syracuse University | Yale University | Yeshiva University

**We salute our graduates who have chosen to show their gratitude, loyalty,
and love to the United States of America and The State of Israel and will defend
these two great countries as they serve in the Reserve Officer Training Corps,
the Israel Defense Force, and Sherut Leumi.**

וישלח ברכה והצלחה בכל מעשה ידיהם

INVOCATION
AT THE 145TH ANNUAL
KJ SYNAGOGUE MEETING

by Rabbi Elie Weinstock

ETERNAL GOD: Tonight, as we begin our congregation's 146th year, we invoke King David's 146th Psalm.

אהללה ה' בחיי אומרה לאלקי בעודי:

I shall praise the Lord in my life; I shall sing to the Lord from my inner being...

TONIGHT, we give praise to God for the vibrancy and dynamism of our synagogue. We recognize our many new members: Individuals, couples, families, and young children who create a multi-generational tapestry weaving together past, present and future.

WE CELEBRATE those who have spent decades in our synagogue and who have helped pave the way leading up to this wonderful moment in our existence.

WE SOMBERLY RECALL those within our congregational family who have passed on since last we met, and rededicate ourselves to preserving their memories for as long as we exist.

אשרי שא-ל יעקב בעזרו שברו על ה' אלקיו:

Praiseworthy are those whose help is the God of Jacob;
 whose trust is in the Lord our God...

WE ASK for God's assistance in the stewardship of our holy congregation. May the officers, trustees, clergy, and professionals remain dedicated to the sacred task of leading our beloved community and all those who have placed their trust in them.

עשה משפט לעשוקים נתן לחם לרעבים ה' מתיר אסורים:

God performs justice for the oppressed, gives bread to the hungry;
 and grants freedom to those who are bound...

TONIGHT, let us rededicate ourselves to the mission of following in God's ways - of justice, of truth, of kindness.

LET US strengthen our resolve to give. To give of our time, energy, and resources to KJ and, especially, all those in need. Let us focus our attention on family and friends. Let us remember to warmly greet all whom we encounter.

LET US give thanks for the freedom God has granted us here as citizens of America. Let us remain ever-vigilant and passionate about our homeland, the State of Israel.

ימלך ה' לעולם אלקיך ציון לדר ודר

The Lord will reign forever! Your God, O Zion, to all generations.

TONIGHT, we rededicate ourselves as a congregation that lives in accordance with God's eternal teachings. We aspire to serious and uplifting prayer, Torah study, chesed, meaningful Jewish living, and outreach to those not yet affiliated.

WE CELEBRATE *mi'dor l'dor* - from generation to generation - as we convene for the Annual Meeting of the Ramaz School which expertly educates our children and the Jewish future.

HALELUYAH!

DEAR GOD: For all these reasons and more, we sing and praise You. We are very fortunate, and we are most grateful.

WE PRAY for Your continued blessing in fulfilling our congregation's mission of dedication to Your service, the Jewish people and the State of Israel, our fellow citizens, and humanity.

AMEN.

POLITICS IN THE
PULPIT ISN'T THE
REAL ISSUE

by Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz

continued from page 1

must supplement debate with habits of unity, otherwise there will be no one left to debate with. We need once again to learn how debate with respect.

I write these words with a broken heart, because the problem of respectful debate has been around for my entire career. Unlike partisans who jump in and ask for reasoned debate only when their own side is attacked, I have watched the negative effects of nasty rhetoric for nearly 25 years. In 1995 the debate over the Oslo Accords had reached a fever pitch. The political rhetoric in Israel had gotten so heated that there was talk of a Civil War. In the United States, some Rabbis who opposed Oslo called Prime Minister Yitzchak Rabin a "judenrat" and talked about him "endangering Israel," and worse. At the time I was alarmed, and I started an "ahavat yisrael" campaign, where people from my community pledged that "my love for my fellow Jews takes precedence over my opinion of the peace process." The campaign kicked off on September 26th, 1995, and managed to get a few hundred signatures in Westchester County. A few weeks later Rabin was assassinated.

In the aftermath of the Rabin assassination there was a great deal of soul searching, with large efforts made to reunify our community. But now, 22 years later, our community seems to be back in the same place. Now it's time for Rabbis to step in, and pledge to unify the community. The real issue isn't whether or not Rabbis talk about politics less, it's about whether they talk about unity and respect more.

**Having a Bar or Bat Mitzvah
 in 5779?**

If you are celebrating a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at KJ between September 2018 and June 2019, please contact Riva Alper in the synagogue office at 212-774-5670 to reserve specific rooms for celebratory meals/kiddushes, and other functions.

AIPAC FOR THE GENERATIONS

This year's AIPAC reports feature AIPAC through the perspectives of a father and son, and a sibling dialogue -- all part of the 18,000 pro-Israel activists from all 50 states who attend the AIPAC Policy Conference. Here, they share their thoughts on coming together to help strengthen the U.S. Israel relationship.

SOPHIA KREMER ('20) AND WILLIAM KREMER ('21)

“Many Voices, One Mission” was the theme of the annual American Israel Political Affairs Committee (AIPAC) Policy Conference that took place in Washington D.C., from March 26th to 28th. AIPAC encourages pro-Israel activists to be engaged politically and build relationships with members of Congress from both sides of the aisle to promote the U.S.-Israel relationship. This year, 18,000 people, including 4,000 students, attended. Among them were nearly 250 members from our own Kehilath Jeshurun community - the largest synagogue delegation from any synagogue - and more than 40 Ramaz Upper School students.

And for the first time, my parents registered me along with my brother William ('21) to attend. We had heard a lot of amazing things about the Policy Conference experience from fellow Ramaz students and their energy upon returning left me curious and intrigued as to what could possibly be so fascinating about listening to speeches by politicians and the like for two to three days straight. We just had to find out. What makes AIPAC the most important and exciting pro-Israel event of the year?

SK: William- Can you share a bit about why AIPAC Policy Conference is the greatest pro-Israel experience ever?

WK: Well, to start with, the idea of missing a few days of school didn't exactly bother me. But on the more serious side, I never could have imagined that support for Israel runs so far and deep in our country. We always think of pro-Israel in terms of our local Modern Orthodox community of schools and shuls, and in reality, supporters for Israel come from every state in the country, in every affiliation. It was incredible to hear stories from AIPAC members who are more closely attached to Israel than you can possibly imagine and yet never heard of an etrog. Some aren't even Jewish!

SK: You are totally right, I also expected a sea of the like-minded, when in fact AIPAC is the opposite.

WK: And that was the case for the presenters, not just the audience. At one of the sessions I attended, back-to-back there was a Democrat who openly supported the Palestinian cause and two-state solution, followed by a Republican whose presentation was the opposite. It was interesting to see the same issues addressed from such different points of view.

SK: What was the most impactful session for you?

WK: The highlight of the conference was hearing the personal story of Governor Eric Greitens of Missouri, a first-time governor, only 43 years old. He spoke about the Jewish value of Tikkum Olam, which stayed with him all the way from his days as a student in a Jewish nursery program. It was that drive that led him to volunteer in Bosnia while in college, and he went on to become a Rhodes scholar, followed by a Navy Seal who was deployed four times: to Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa and SouthEast Asia. And then, just this February, not even a month after taking office, he

publically stepped up against Anti-Semitism, leading the cleanup of a vandalized Jewish cemetery in St. Louis, and invited Vice President Pence to join him.

SK: Wow, I know that left such an impact on you that you even went on to read his book, *A Warrior's Heart*. My most memorable moment was Monday evening's General Assembly address by former South Carolina governor Nikki Haley, the United States Ambassador to the U.N. The crowd was enormously supportive of her. The cheering was extraordinarily loud, to the point where she had to plead with the audience to let up and allow her to speak. Many applauded her as she mentioned her accomplishment of signing into law a bill to stop the efforts of the BDS movement and her loud support for Israel in the very biased and anti-Israel climate of the U.N.

For those readers who are future attendees of AIPAC (yes, that means everyone reading this article!) the conference is split up between General Assembly sessions, held twice each day, that welcome all attendees of the conference at once in the Verizon Center, and smaller sessions, which are held in the nearby Convention Center. During these breakout sessions, specialized presenters from authors to journalists to Israeli government officials speak to groups of anywhere from 40 to 200 people. At one session exclusively for congregants of KJ, we heard from Israel's Minister of Education Naftali Bennett, the leader of the political party *Jewish Home*.

All in all, with the excitement and incredible presenters, it was hard to even stay focused on the fact that we were just a month after the election of a controversial new President, with so much at stake for the future of America-Israel relations. But it was reassuring to know that more than two thirds of Congress and so many of our county's highest ranking officers turned out to Policy Conference to show their support during this uncertain time, all because of the work of one incredible organization and grassroots movement called AIPAC.



18,000 AIPAC supporters in the Verizon Center.

Save
the Date!

SUNDAY, MARCH 4 - TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018

RICHARD AND MILES KLASS: A FATHER AND SON SHARE THE AIPAC EXPERIENCE

This year, my son, Miles, and I attended the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) policy conference in Washington DC from March 26th to 28th. We joined together with over 250 attendees from the KJ/Ramaz community.

Our experience at AIPAC started with our community's special breakout session - the KJ/Ramaz session with Member of Knesset Naftali Bennett. MK Bennett first spoke about his having lived in New York many years ago and having stumbled upon the KJ Beginner's Minyan. There, he encountered someone named "George" (George Rohr) who got him involved as a regular attendee. The Beginner's Minyan actually helped bring Mr. Bennett's wife closer to Judaism and foster a more Jewish home for them. Then, Mr. Bennett spoke of the great advances of Israel, a small country with a high tech industry second only to Silicon Valley. He then spoke of some of Israel's challenges, including the stark fact that Lebanon's leadership has become primarily members of the terrorist force Hezbollah, which now enables Lebanon to potentially launch missile into Israel at any time.

After the KJ/Ramaz session, we went to explore the AIPAC Village, an area that comprises booths displaying different innovations and industries going on in Israel,

including the Arrow missile project, the Beit Issie Shapiro disabilities booth, and Water Gen, which makes potable water from air.

That evening, we attended the General Session in the Verizon Center (home to the Washington Wizards (NBA) and Capitals (NHL)), which featured many inspirational speakers, including: Ori Sasson, the 2016 Olympic bronze medalist in judo; Ankie Spitzer, the wife of Andre Spitzer (one of the 11 Israeli olympiads murdered in Munich in 1972); and former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper. PM Harper spoke about the three existential threats facing the world: Iran and its sponsorship of terror; Sunni

Islamic extremism; and the Boycott Divestment Sanctions (BDS) movement. Unfortunately, this was a sobering speech to hear about the state of world affairs.

After the evening session was over, I brought Miles with me to a large fraternity party (not bad for a 9th grader!). I am a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi, the Jewish fraternity on college campuses around the world, and together we attended a party hosted by AEPi where many of the younger AIPAC attendees socialized.

The next morning, the AIPAC leadership presented this year's missions to be accomplished:

continued on page 16



Miles Klass - Ramaz '21

This past March, I went to the AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington DC for my first time. As a student who enjoys technology, I was fascinated by those segments of the conference that displayed the technological wonders being developed in Israel.

When I was in the AIPAC village (a huge pavilion featuring many different areas), I got up-close insights into many Israeli inventions. Especially impressive was one that draws water from oxygen in the air; the replica of the Arrow 3 missile that protects Israel from enemy rockets; and virtual reality glasses that show Israel in a very different, real way.

I went to a lecture about the weapons that are used for the Iron Dome defense system. In the session, the speakers explained how Iron Dome works and what it does. They talked about a new anti-missile defense system called Arrow 3, which can stop rockets from Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq. They also highlighted how the Iron Dome system was just used to blow up Syrian missiles that had been launched the week before the conference.

At the Verizon Center, I listened to Vice President Mike Pence speak about the United Nations. He said that the U.N. should not criticize Israel anymore. It was great hearing Prime Minister Netanyahu speak via videoconference about how many people care about Israel and how important AIPAC is to Israel. I think the AIPAC Policy Conference is a great experience for people around the U.S. to come together to help Israel, and I can't wait to go back next year!

An Open Letter to My Grandfather

Dear Saba,

Thank you so much for arranging for me to go to AIPAC. It was truly such a memorable and meaningful experience for me. I especially enjoyed hearing Naftali Bennett speak to KJ as it was a lot more intimate than the larger events Carly and I attended.

I'd say my second favorite part about attending AIPAC was actually having the opportunity to talk to other Israel supporters. I found that no matter where I was (be it sitting down to have a coffee or waiting for my Uber) people were so friendly and wanted to hear my story. One of the most interesting people I happened to run into was a student from Florida State University. He told me how he was president at FSU's AIPAC. I then felt like an idiot when I asked him if he went to Jewish schools growing up and he told me that he was a Baptist. I had always (naively) associated being a Israel supporter with Judaism and I was pleasantly surprised to see first-hand the diverse support Israel does, in fact, have.

Quite honestly, I have found my own campus, GW, to not be the most pro-Israel school. Though we have some student associations on campus, pro-Palestine organizations have a much stronger presence. Earlier this semester I went with my friend to a general body meeting for a club called Justice for Palestine. I was very hesitant to go at first (she too is a big Israel supporter) but after going to Jewish schools my entire life, it was quite scary to hear what was being said about a country I hold so near and dear to my heart. I'm not the type to publicly argue (especially with pro-Palestinian) groups but the whole time during that meeting I attended I kept thinking to myself, I know Israel isn't murdering all these Palestinians and how could the UN possibly estimate that all of them are going to die in ten years? After attending AIPAC, I really feel as though my beliefs and passion for Israel were not only reaffirmed but also strengthened.

I cannot thank you enough for your generosity and support. I'm really looking forward to seeing you soon!

Love,

Elisabeth



Elisabeth Buchwald and Carly Stern, granddaughters of KJ Board of Trustees Senior Vice President, Elias Buchwald

RICHARD AND MILES KLASS: A FATHER AND SON SHARE THE AIPAC EXPERIENCE

continued from page 15

(1) countering Iran and its state-sponsored terrorism; (2) ensuring that Israel receives additional moneys to provide for its security; and (3) fighting the anti-Israel bias in the United Nations. Having the AIPAC mission platform presented to the entire assembly and asking the assembly to get involve in getting out these messages made me feel as if I was part of a great team, an important link in a chain to protect Israel and the Jewish people.

The AIPAC policy conference smartphone app allows attendees to register for individual breakout sessions during the conference. There are so many sessions to choose from - whether catching a conference on US-Israel policy, Israeli history, information on foreign countries such as Turkey (presented by our own KJ member Dr. Mark Meiorowitz), Egypt and Syria, or Israeli politics. I registered for a fascinating, informative session entitled "Israel and the Palestinians: Ideas for the Future." The speakers at this session included some of the negotiators at the last peace negotiation to have taken place between Israel and the Palestinians and included Ilan Goldenberg, Lucy Kuitzer Ellenbogen, Koby Huberman, Leah Odenic and Ghaith al-Omari. They spoke about methods of attempting to restart meaningful negotiations, including the factors weighing in on those negotiations such as the two-state solution, settlements, and Zionism and Palestinian statehood (national movements).

Heading back to the Verizon Center, we heard truly energizing addresses from various government officials that charged the crowd with enthusiasm about being an American and being supportive of Israel. Jointly, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy

and Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer told the audience about how Israel is a bi-partisan issue that spans across the Democratic/Republican political spectrum. Senator Paul Ryan gave his opinion that the Iranian regime itself should be declared to be a foreign terrorist organization.

Without doubt, the highlight of the speeches was the one presented by US Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley. This one was worth my watching again on the AIPAC website! Ambassador Haley received a 2-minute standing ovation with huge applause for her very-public criticism of the UN for its anti-Israel agenda. In responding to the crowd's clapping, Ms. Haley said that, while thanking everyone, all she did at the UN was tell the truth - of course, that drew thunderous applause again. She promised to be the new Sheriff in town at the UN and would not allow the persistent Israel-bashing of the past to continue in the future.

This year's AIPAC Policy Conference was a huge success with over 18,000 people and a charged audience. With God's help and our diligent efforts, we will succeed in cementing a powerful US-Israel relationship.





DISCOVERING THE UNKNOWN YEARS OF THE REBBE'S EARLY LIFE



Monday, May 15

KJ SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP: BE A PART OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

Contact KJ Executive Director Leonard Silverman at 212-774-5680 or LSS@CKJ.org

KJ and Chabad of the Upper East Side partnered in a conversation about the newly-published book *Early Years: The Formative Years of the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson as told by Documents and Archival Data*. Following remarks by Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz and Rabbi Ben Zion Krasnianski, Director of Chabad Upper East Side, Rabbi Dr. Jacob J. Schacter engaged the book authors, Rabbi Elkanah Shmotkin and Rabbi Boruch Oberlander, in a discussion about the research that went into the book. Peppared with vignettes about the Rebbe's early life, including stories about the Rebbe's childhood teacher and his life in Berlin, what was obvious from the dialogue was the extent of the years-long research of hundreds of documents, journals, letters and diaries that tell the story of the man who played such a pivotal role in the course of twentieth century Jewish history.



Coordinated by Joanna Kleinhaus, gently-used plastic toys were donated by the Ramaz/KJ community to Second Chance Toys, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping disadvantaged kids and protecting the environment, by keeping plastic out of landfills.

KJ/RAMAZ CAME OUT IN FORCE ON JUNE 4 FOR THE ANNUAL CELEBRATE ISRAEL PARADE



Hadar Goldin and Oron Shaul, two IDF soldiers who were killed in Operation Protective Edge and whose remains -- three years later -- have yet to be returned to their families by the Palestinians, were in the hearts and on the posters of the KJ/Ramaz parade contingent.

CELEBRATE ISRAEL PARADE **GRAND MARSHAL**
Rabbi Haskel Lookstein

Photo credit: Mara Lassner

THE 145th YEAR OF CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN:

SPECIAL SHABBAT SERVICES

Learners Service
Hashkama Minyan
Women's Tefilah Group
Keshet Minyan
Intermediate Service
Teen Minyan
Sephardic Minyan

SHABBAT SCHOLARS

◆Rabbi Dr. Jeremy Wieder
◆Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis
◆Dr. David Pelcovitz

SEUDAH SHLISHT GUEST SPEAKERS

◆Dr. Mark Meirowitz
◆Rabbi Eric Grossman
◆Rabbi Dr. Benny Lau
◆Elliot Brandt
◆Leah Sarna
◆Rabbi Dr. Jeremy Wieder
◆Dr. David Bernstein
◆Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis
◆Dr. David Pelcovitz
◆Pnina Omer, Director of Yad l'Iisha
Monica Dennis Goldberg Legal Aid

HOLIDAY EVENTS

◆Teshuva Shiur by Rabbi Saul Berman
◆Shabbat Shuva Drasha by Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz
◆Sukkot Meals
◆Congregational Breakfasts for Hoshanah Rabbah, Purim, Yom ha' Atzmaut, Yom Yerushalayim
◆Purim Mishloach Manot

◆Women's Reading of Megillat Esther
◆Shabbat HaGadol Drasha by Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz
◆Witness Theater Yom Hashoah Program
◆Yom HaZikaron Program
◆Tekes Ma'avar, Yom Ha' Atzmaut Barbecue & Services
◆Yom Yerushalayim Program w/ former Ambassador Danny Ayalon
◆Shavuot Dinner & Tikkun Leyl
◆Simchat Torah/Shavuot Student Divrei Torah
◆Torat Nashim Shavuot Learning

MEN'S CLUB

Kiddush Discussions:

◆Taking the Battle Against Israel's Enemies into the Courts with Nitsana Darshan-Leitner of Shurat haDin
◆Why are Israel and Zion Indestructible, and What Must We Do to Ensure Their Survival? and The Purpose of Hebrew: A Direct Experience with God w/ Dr. Nick Gura
◆What Does Israel's Baby Boom Mean for Israeli Security? with Dr. Yoram Ettinger
◆Labels, Schmabels - Decoding Food Labels for Better Health with nutritionist Lisa Young
◆Facts and Mysteries of the Zika Virus with Dr. Marty Grumet, Professor and Director of Rutgers Stem Cell Research

◆Personal Autonomy and the Religious Establishment: The Mikvah as a Reflection of the Tides of Change in Israeli Society with Dr. Naomi Marmon Grumet, Director of the Eden Center in Jerusalem
◆Update on the Iran Nuclear Deal and Implications of UN Resolution 2334 with Omri Ceren, Managing Director of the Israel Project
◆Am I My Body: What Does Jewish Tradition Say About Autonomy and the Right to Privacy? with Dr. Adena Berkowitz
◆The President and Prime Minister Meet. Now What? w/ Robert Sugarman
◆John Lennon v United States w/ Leon Wildes, moderated by Michael Wildes
◆The International Legal Forum and the Global Battle Against BDS with Yifa Segal, Director of the International Legal Forum led by Scott Shay
◆Why Efforts to Confront Campus Anti-Semitism Must Promote Academic Freedom with Kenneth S. Stern, Executive Director of the Justus and Karen Rosenberg Foundation
◆ISIS and the Threat to Israel with Clarion Project's Ryan Mauro and Richard Green
◆National Security vs. Civil Liberties: Achieving a Difficult but Necessary Balance with Maurice Sonnenberg, Foreign Policy Advisor
◆American Jews Today: The Real

Story with author Tuvia Tenenbom
Film Series:

◆Last Words with filmmaker Rita Ender
◆The Return with filmmaker Adam Zucker and Introductory Remarks by Marek Skulimowski, President of the Kosciuszko Foundation
◆The Jewish Family Old and New with Neta Ariel, director of Jerusalem's Ma'aleh Film Academy
◆Beauty of Their Dreams with Emmy Award winning documentary filmmaker Debra Gonsker Vinik
◆Clarion Project's Faithkeepers
Supper Lectures:
◆Broadway, Schrafft's and Seeded Rye: Growing Up Slightly Jewish on the Upper West Side with author Lyla Blake Ward
◆The People and the Books with author Adam Kirsch
◆Adolfo Kaminsky: A Forger's Life with author Sarah Kaminsky

SISTERHOOD

◆Sisterhood Night Out
◆Estate Planning Workshop
◆Pre-Holiday Boutiques
◆Deceptively Pareve Baking Event featuring Alexandra Joseph Rabbani, Chief Culinary Officer of Salt of the Earth Bakery
◆Challah and L'Chaim - Challah Baking with the Challah Fairy and Presentations Regarding Genetic Risks for Breast and Prostate Cancer by Dr. Emily Sonnenblick and Dr. Kennerth Offit

UJA@KJ WRAPPED UP THE YEAR WITH SOME INCREDIBLE PROJECTS:



In partnership with the KJ Youth Dept., Keshet, and the Sephardic Minyan, we hosted a sold-out dinner of over 120 people in honor of UJA's CommUnity Shabbat. With 99 other events happening over the course of the weekend, and with words of inspiration from Joanna Samuels, Executive Director of the Manny Cantor Center at Educational Alliance, everyone left the dinner feeling energized and inspired to be part of such a strong CommUnity!

Thanks to a partnership with the Ramaz Lower School, which raised over \$1,000 through their brachathon, we were able to sponsor a pre-Pesach seder for the seniors at Project ORE. With over 40 volunteers and 60 clients, the room was full of joy, ruach, and lots of matza! Rabbi Weinstock led a fantastic seder that inspired everyone there.

The annual Lunch-and-Learn with Holocaust survivors was a hit! In addition to a delicious lunch, Yiddish discussion, and tasty treats, the survivors had the chance to hear from the Ramaz Lower School choir. The intergenerational component of this program is so special for both the students and the survivors - one survivor even said that it is the "highlight of the year!"

Finally, through a grant from UJA and the Jewish Communal Fund, Ramaz was a host school for the life-changing Witness Theater program, which allows Holocaust survivors to share their story with high school seniors. The incredible dramatic retelling of the survivors' stories on April 23 at the Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School was a powerful way to recognize Yom HaShoah.

UJA-Federation also provides support through the Partners in Caring initiative for an on-site social worker, Danielle Herbst, to support the mental health and well-being of the KJ community through our Partners in Caring grant.



A RETROSPECTIVE OF 2016-2017

- ◆Museum Tours of *SOTHEBY'S : A Special Tour of Judaica and Israeli Art* with Sharon Mintz, John Ward, and Jennifer Roth
- MUSEUM OF ART AND DESIGN:**
Judith Leiber: Crafting a New York Story ◆Annual Spring Luncheon, *Under One Tent*
- ◆Book Club Discussion, *Lilac Girls* with author Martha Hall Kelly
- ◆Preparations of Local Houses of Mourning and Mourner's First Meal
- ◆College Connection

KESHER

- ◆Shemini Atzeret Lunch
- ◆Living Room Learning
- ◆UJA@KJ Chesed Projects
- ◆"Shira and Friends" Concert
- ◆Keshar New & Expectant Moms' Breakfast
- ◆Shabbat Meal for New Parents

GUEST SPEAKERS

- ◆Israeli MK Michael Oren
- ◆Rabbi Dr. Benny Lau
- ◆Rabbi Shlomo Riskin
- ◆Elliot Brandt, *AIPAC's Managing Director of National Affairs*
- ◆Congressman Ed Royce
Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee
- ◆Hindy Poupko, *Deputy Chief Planning Officer, UJA Commission on the Jewish People*

SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS

- ◆Sephardic Writers and Their Stories
- ◆Israel Bonds Shabbat Dinner for Young Professionals
- ◆Roundtable with Rabbis Chaim Steinmetz, Elliot J. Cosgrove, and Angela Buchdahl
- ◆Holiday Programs for the Bereaved
- ◆Chazan Simcha Leiner / *Ashkesfard Dinner*
- ◆Daf Yomi Siyum
- ◆Seymour Propp Memorial Lecture
- ◆Yachad Shabbaton
- ◆Blood Drive
- ◆Mitzvah Toy Drive
- ◆Food Pantry
- ◆*What Gematria Can Teach Us: A Two-Part Series* with Dr. Nick Gura
- ◆Annual Synagogue Meeting
- ◆KJ/Ramaz Career Development and Networking Initiatives
- ◆AIPAC Conference
- ◆History at Home with Rabbi Hayyim Angel
- ◆Kristallnacht Commemoration
- ◆Operation L'Hitraot Israel Pesach Trip
- ◆Chevra Kadisha Seudah Shlishit - *Oh! the Places You'll Go: Dr. Seuss and the Pursuit of Chesed* with Kenny Rochlin
- ◆KJ Annual Dinner - *SPEND THE*

NIGHT WITH A KNIGHT

- ◆Israel Bond Shabbat featuring Shimon Mercer Wood, *Spokesperson and Consul for Media Affairs at the Consulate General of Israel in Manhattan*
- ◆Book Reception for Rabbi Hayyim Angel's two books: *Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi: Prophecy in an Age of Uncertainty* and *Increasing Peace Through Balanced Torah Study*
- ◆The Yiddish Schmoozers
- ◆Lunch and Learn
- ◆Soul Cycle: Women's Rosh Chodesh Learning w/ Rachel Kraus
- ◆Tefillin and Mezuzah Check
- ◆Sefirat ha-Omer Mini Series with Leah Sarna
- ◆Mission to Berlin and Prague
- ◆Kumsitz Musical Seudah Shlishit
- ◆KJ/Ramaz Ice Skating and Melave Malka
- ◆Rabbi Lookstein's First Pitch at the Mets vs Marlins game
- ◆Plaza Community Chapel End-of-Life Series
- ◆Book Review of *Early Years: The Formative Years of the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson*

BEGINNERS

- ◆Jewish Youth Connection
- ◆Holiday Workshops
- ◆*Friday Night Live!* Service & Dinners
- ◆Hebrew Reading Crash Courses

- ◆NJOP Shabbat Across America
- ◆Rosh Hashanah New Year's Eve Bash
- ◆Sukkah Dinner Under the Stars
- ◆Chanukah in the Park
- ◆*One Hundred Homes of Light* Initiative
- ◆Shabbat Lunches
- ◆Passover Seder
- ◆Basic Judaism Crash Course
- ◆Crash Course in Jewish History
- ◆Shabbat Oneg
- ◆Jewish Learning Institute
- ◆Purim Party

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- ◆Family Rooftop Seudah Shlishit
- ◆Tot Shabbat
- ◆Teen Onegs
- ◆Community Friday Night Dinners
- ◆Purim Carnival
- ◆Fall and Spring Shabbatonim
- ◆Open Gym Programs
- ◆Shabbat morning groups
- ◆Story Times at Barnes & Noble
- ◆Pajama Party Movie Night and Pizza Party
- ◆Musical Havdalah Ice Cream Party
- ◆Tefillah Together
- ◆Living Room Learning/Pirkei Avot for Kids
- ◆Teen Ski/Snowboard Trip to Hunter Mountain
- ◆Teen Trip to NBA Game
- ◆KJ Basketball League

KJ Sisterhood: A Spring Filled with Literacy, Charity and the Arts!

Meet the Author: Martha Hall Kelly author of Lilac Girls

Rita Woldenberg and Suzy Appelbaum arranged for author Martha Hall Kelly to join us in Rita's home to speak about her best selling novel, *Lilac Girls*. The author, who is not Jewish, shared with us how she became inspired to uncover the story of Ravensbruck, Hitler's only all-female concentration camp.

Annual Spring Luncheon - Under One Tent

Rebecca Farber, Karen Hershkowitz and Nicole Jaspan partnered to chair the Sisterhood's annual fundraiser. A highlight of the luncheon was Rabbi Lookstein presenting Yvonne Koppel with the Gertrude Lookstein Award. Yvonne has brought many KJ women under our 'tent' and her dedication and commitment to the Sisterhood has been nothing less than extraordinary.

Spring Art Event: Judith Leiber Exhibit at The Museum of Arts and Design

Monita Buchwald, Terry Jaspan and Marylene Friedman chaired this event at which attendees viewed Leiber's luxurious creations and learned about the significance of her works as a woman, an immigrant and an entrepreneur in New York during the 60s. Thanks to Lisa Chetrit for hosting a beautiful pre-tour lunch.

Every KJ woman member is a member of the KJ Sisterhood. If you are new or a long-standing member it is never too late to start to participate with the KJ Sisterhood. We are here to help you feel welcomed and inspired. Email us at KJSisterhood@CKJ.org.





Ramaz Middle School Class of 2017

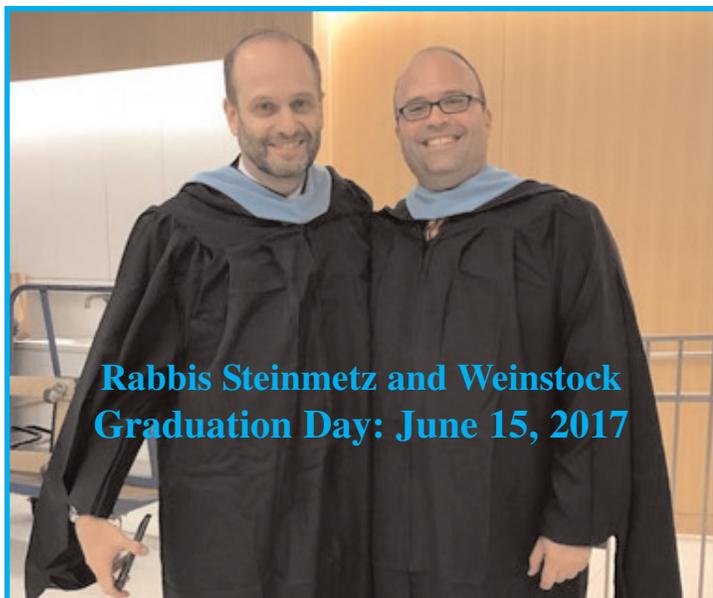
RAMAZ ADMISSIONS

Should you have a child who will be of age to enter the Ramaz ECC in September 2018, the Admissions Office at Ramaz is open for inquiries.

Please call 212-774-8025 or e-mail baruchs@ramaz.org or kahnj@ramaz.org

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer.

Ramaz School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. Ramaz does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national, and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship, and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.



**Rabbis Steinmetz and Weinstock
Graduation Day: June 15, 2017**



**If you think you know
what Hebrew School is...Think again!**

- ◆ Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program
- ◆ Jewish Holidays, Traditions & Heritage
- ◆ Family Learning Experiences
- ◆ One-on-one Hebrew Tutoring

Our Sunday Hebrew School is accepting fall enrollments for children entering Kindergarten through Bar or Bat Mitzvah age.

Contact 212-774-5692 or JYC@CKJ.org
for more information.

MAY THEY GO HIGHER AND HIGHER

We extend a warm Mazal Tov to the following young members of the Congregation who participated in Advancement Day Exercises as they completed the Ramaz Middle School:

MARK ADLER

son of Marilyn and Greg Adler

ELAN AGUS

son of Raanan and Dr. Nicole Agus

JEREMY BARUCH

*son of Shira and Dr. Larry Baruch
grandson of
Audrey and Rabbi Haskel Lookstein*

MAYA CHAOVAT

daughter of Debby and Ezra Chaovat

DARREN CLEEMAN

son of Tami and Dr. Edmond Cleeman

MAXIMILIAN COHEN

son of Gila and Hon. David Cohen

JACOB DAVIS

*son of Eugenia and Dr. Ira Davis
grandson of Sara and Joseph Nathanson*

AVIGAIL DUPONT

daughter of Judith and Olivier DuPont

JACOB DWEK

son of Perah and David Dwek

JAY GRINBERG

son of Jeannette and Dr. Mikhail Grinberg

ELLA HILTZIK

daughter of Dana and Matthew Hiltzik

SHIRA HUEBNER

daughter of Dina and Marshall Huebner

KIRA JACOBS

daughter of Dr. Tikva and Zalman Jacobs

LIORA KASSMAN

daughter of Nina and Larry Kassman

WILLIAM KREMER

son of Esther and Marcel Kremer

CAITLIN LEVINE

daughter of Drs. Jody and Elie Levine

JACOB LIBIN

son of Sherri and Alexander Libin

EITAN LINHART

*son of Dr. Leora Mogilner and
Richard Linhart
grandson of Rochelle Mogilner and
Hal Gaswirt*

REBECCA MASSEL

*daughter of Caroline and Morris Massel
granddaughter of Harvey Arfa*

JULIA MODLIN

*daughter of Wendy and Adam Modlin
granddaughter of Leah and Barrie Modlin*

DANIEL NORTH

son of Deborah and Randall North

MICHAEL OLENICK

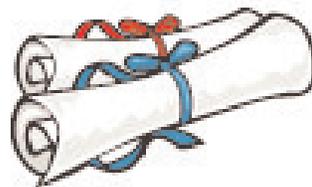
son of Judy and Donald Olenick

GABRIELLE OSTAD

*daughter of Lisa Ohebshalom
and Dr. Edward Ostad*

SPENCER RUBINSTEIN

*son of Esther Buterman and
Kenneth Rubinstein*



GABRIELLE SAKHAI

daughter of Marcy and Cyrus Sakhai

JACOB MOR SCHWARTZ

*son of Suzanne and Robert Schwartz
grandson of Marina and Sam Schwartz*

MICHAL SEINFELD

*daughter of Tali Seinfeld,
Erin & Eyal Seinfeld
granddaughter of Smadar and
Dr. David Seinfeld*

JULES SHALHOV

son Rina and Amnon Shalhov

ALEXANDER SHAPIRA

son of Adrienne and Avi Shapira

SAMANTHA SINENSKY

*daughter of Dr. Sara Babich
and Dr. Mayer Sinensky*

JAKE SLOCHOWSKY

*son of Ronny Dagan Slochowsky
and William Slochowsky*

AARON SOKOL

son of Susan Kamali Sokol and Joseph Sokol

CHARLES SPIELFOGEL

*son of Michelle and Dr. William Spielfogel
grandson of Rebecca and John Steindecker*

EMMA STONEHILL

*daughter of Robyn Price Stonehill
and David Stonehill
granddaughter of Judith
and Hon. Arnold Price*

CECILE TARAGIN

*daughter of Dr. Michelle Kahane-Taragin
and Bruce Taragin*

Save the Date:
KJ ANNUAL DINNER

Saturday night, December 2, 2017, at 8:00 pm

Ramaz Upper School

60 East 78th Street

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES UNLIKE ANY OTHERS!

*Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services
for those in search of a more informative
and inspirational experience:*

- ☞ No knowledge of Hebrew necessary
- ☞ Questions and Answers
- ☞ Historical Overviews
- ☞ Great Kiddush following Rosh Hashanah services
- ☞ Traditional prayers and a modern message
- ☞ Over 100 Shofar Blasts

*Services will be conducted at the
Gottesman Center
Ramaz Middle School
Lindenbaum Gymnasium
114 East 85th Street*



Rosh Hashanah morning services will be held on Thursday and Friday, September 22nd and 23rd at 8:00 AM. Kol Nidre services will be held at 6:10 PM on Friday night, September 29th followed by Yom Kippur services at 9:00 AM the next morning.

**For Information Contact:
212-774-5678
or
Beginners @ckj.org
Tickets only \$60
No membership required!**

LEARN HEBREW IN TIME FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAYS!

Our Hebrew classes will have you identifying letters and sounds to give you the basics in time for Rosh Hashanah. Taught by master teacher Sara Rosen, this class is perfect for those who have no background or as a review for those who wish to brush up on their skills.

Beginning Wednesday, August 16

Prayerbook Hebrew:

Improve your Hebrew reading skills using the Siddur - 6:00 PM

High Holiday Hebrew:

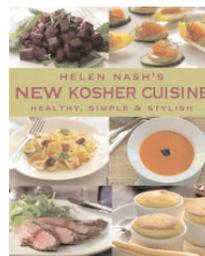
Explore the Machzor and become more familiar with the liturgy - 7:00 PM

Classes meet at 125 East 85th Street

Co-sponsored by NJOP

COOKING WITH CONGREGANTS

Did you know that longstanding KJ Member Helen Nash is an internationally celebrated Kosher Chef? The author of three published cookbooks, Helen invites the community to peruse her www.KitchenWiseHN.com website on the first of every month to discover four new seasonal, simple, modern Kosher recipes. Sign up on her website to be notified of recipe releases, and use it to communicate directly with our own culinary star! Helen learned at the feet of storied kitchen masters, and today she graciously shares her secrets to home-cooked, highly appealing and healthy Kosher food. Let Helen lend a helping hand to your next Shabbat or Yom Tov gathering.



Chetrit Family Donates Sephardic Torah to KJ



Eli Chetrit and Abraham Esses with the beautiful Torah dedicated in honor of the marriage of Samantha and Abraham Chetrit

YEAR-END UPDATE FROM KJ SOCIAL WORKER DANIELLE HERBST

What an exciting and busy year it has been! I am so eager to share the various programs I've been working on with all of you. As you may have already noticed, shul goers are now being welcomed by a cheerful and energetic Shabbat greeter each week in an effort to make people feel at home at KJ. Being a stranger to KJ can be daunting, and navigating it can be a challenge. It is my mission to help make people feel comfortable and embraced by KJ.

Some new and expanded programs we have launched include the KJ Welcoming Committee, where new members are paired with existing members for a Shabbat meal. The KJ Caring Committee (Bikur Cholim) visits shul members who are homebound or who are in need of good cheer. Ahava@KJ is actively helping connect singles, and Coffee Talk is a weekly forum for community parents to come together to discuss communal needs. In addition, I provide an array of services to those in need.

I look forward to what the coming year may bring, and hope that you will join us at any one of our many and growing programs. If you have any ideas for programs, please feel free to reach out to me (SocialWorker@CKJ.org) or one of the rabbis.

BNEI MITZVAH



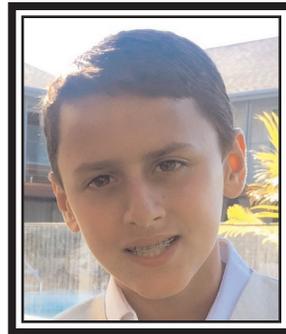
NOA SCEMAMA

Mazal Tov to Caroline and Jean-Pierre Scemama upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Noa, at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun on June 4, at which time she lead part of the services and delivered a D'var Torah. Noa is a student at JYC and a seventh grade student in the Honors Math section at Wagner Middle School and an active Member of Arista National Honor Society.



JAKE RUBIN

Mazal Tov to Stephanie and Daniel Rubin upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jake, at Abuhav synagogue in Safed, Israel on August 17, when he will read Parashat Re'eh. Jake is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



DAVID RUBIN

Mazal Tov to Stephanie and Daniel Rubin upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son, David, at Abuhav synagogue in Safed, Israel, on August 17, when he will read Parashat Re'eh. David is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



ILANA KAHN

Mazal Tov to Judy and Dr. Hirshel Kahn upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Ilana (Lani), at Avtalyon in the Galilee, Israel, on August 22, Rosh Chodesh Elul, at which time she will read the Torah portion for Rosh Chodesh and deliver a D'var Torah on a related topic. Lani is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



ELISABETH BERMAN

Mazal Tov to Sarah Berman and Nathaniel Berman upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Ellie, which will take place on September 9th, at Darkhei Noam. Ellie will read from Parshat Ki Tavo and deliver a D'var Torah. Ellie is entering sixth grade at the Ramaz Middle School.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

BIRTHS

Mazal Tov to

Diane and Hon. Robert Abrams upon the birth of a grandson, Benjamin Jacob (Binyamin Yaakov), born to their children, Rachel and Rabbi Ian Pear.

Sandy and Dr. Robert April upon the birth of a grandson - their eighth grandchild - Jordan Miles (Avraham Mordechai) born to their children Sarah and Joshua Koolyk of Teaneck.

Danielle and Jonathan Auerbach upon the birth of their third child and second daughter, Claire Ellie (Yehudit Etel).

Shane and Linda Barbanel upon the birth of their second daughter, Lily Rose.

Stephanie and Dr. Craig Basman upon the birth of their first child and daughter, Charlotte Rosalie (Tziporah Raizel).

Sarah and Albert Betesh upon the birth of their first child and daughter, Joy Giulia (Simcha).

Laurie and Dr. Eli Bryk upon the birth of a grandson, Harrison David (David Hirsh), born to their children Jacki and Jeff Karsh in Los Angeles.

Vanessa and Ray Chalme upon the birth of their first grandchild and granddaughter, Barbara Noa (Batya), born to their children Robin and Walter Rahmey.

Leora and Jason Cohen upon the birth of their first child and daughter, Carter Charlotte (Shira Rachel).

Rochelle and Chazan Mayer Davis upon the birth of a grandson, Charles Benjamin (Binyamin Yechezkel), born to their children Aliza and Mikey Davis.

Lauren and Noah Doyle upon the birth of their second child and daughter, Michaela Erin (Michal Eadit). Mazal Tov as well to the proud KJ grandparents, Hollace and Steven Cohen.

Miriam and Eric Feldstein upon becoming first-time grandparents with the birth of a granddaughter, Reia Amalya, born to their children, Jenny and Adam Teitcher.

Linda and Charles Fisch upon the birth of their seventh grandchild, Shemaya Moshe, born to their children Zipporah and Michael Neuman of Baltimore.

Audrey and Michael Frankel upon the birth of their second child and first son, Jordan Martin (Yechezkel Meir). Mazal Tov as well to proud KJ grandparents Susan and Peter Frankel.

Mark Friedman upon the birth of a grandson, Lev Yisrael.

Jillian and Sam Genet upon the birth of their first child and son, Mayer Walter (Meir Lev).

Suri and Marc Helwani upon the birth of their third child and first daughter, Cara Liv (Chaya).

Michele and Steven Kamali upon the birth of their third child and first son, Jack Griffin (Lev).

Former KJ Social Worker Kathy (Shira) Felberbaum and husband Gilead Kedem, upon the birth of their first child and daughter, Yael Hadassah, born on Yom Ha'Atzmaut.

Dr. Emily and Aaron Krawitz upon the birth of their second child and son, Jonah Eli (Yoah Elie). Mazal tov as well to proud KJ grandparents Esther and Ira Krawitz.

Judy & David Lobel and Laurie & Dr. Eli Bryk upon the birth of a grandson, James Gershon (Gerson Shalom) born to their children Caroline and Jordan Bryk.

Jennifer and David Mashaal upon the birth of their third child and second son, Benjamin (Binyamin). Mazal Tov as well to the proud KJ grandparents, Lillie and Danny Bensusan.

Daniela and Steven Niditch upon the birth of their third child and daughter, Ruby Belle (Riva Hadassah).

Mary and Jonathan Peldman upon the birth of their second child and first daughter, Isabel Maya (Naomi Maya).

Jennifer Bernstein and Geoffrey Platt upon the birth of their first child and son, Jack Alexander (Yaakov Alexander). Mazal Tov as well to the proud KJ grandparents, Drs. Vicki Deutsch and Gerald Platt.

Elana and Ilya Podolyako upon the birth of their first child and son, Sebastian Ilyich (Shmuel Yisrael). Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents Judy and Dr. Mark Tykocinski.

Kim and Eric Rechtschaffen upon the birth of their first child and son, Parker Gordon (David Shalom). Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandfather Rabbi Manfred Rechtschaffen.

Gail & Marvin Schaffer and Hedva & Edmund Kessler, upon the birth of a grandson, born to their children, Adam & Tanya Schaffer.

Judy and Isaac Sherman upon the birth of a great-grandson, Noah Asher, born to their grandchildren, Jason and Dena Ingerman.

Sarah and Josh Strobel upon the birth of their second child and first son, Ashton Theodore (Asher Dov Boaz).

Surie and Bob Sugarman upon the birth of a granddaughter, Talia Bess (Talia Bayla), born to their children Amanda and Jonathan Klatt. Mazal Tov to proud KJ

great-grandmother Judith Rudoff.

Laura and Moshe Tordjman upon the birth of their first child and son, Ezra Maurice.

Alice and Leon Wildes upon the birth of a granddaughter, Geesia Sarah (Gigi Savannah), born to their children, Alexandra and Shraga Rozenberg of Jerusalem.

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

BNEI MITZVAH

Sharon and Asher Levitsky upon the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Eliana Markowitz, daughter of Lily Levitsky.

Carol and Alan Schechter upon the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Ahuva Ita Schechter, daughter of their children, Renee and Rocky Schechter, of Woodmere.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mazal Tov to:

Florence and Dr. Philip Felig upon the engagement of their grandson, Lt. Noam Felig (IDF), son of Minna and Clifford Felig, to Shani Colton, daughter of Bashe and Arye Colton, all of Ramat Gan, Israel.

Gwen Francis upon the engagement of her daughter, Samantha, to Matthew Spiegel, the son of Michele and Eitan Spiegel.

Debra and Barry Frohlinger upon the engagement of their daughter, Natalie, to Zach Kirschner, son of Laurie and Mitch Kirschner of Woodmere.

Dina and Marshall Huebner upon the engagement of their daughter, Rachel, to Ari Kaissar, son of Drs. Amy and Guy Kaissar of Skokie.

Michele and Ronald Jaspan upon the engagement of their son, Joshua, to Sara Lidsky, daughter of Yelena & Anatoly Lidsky of Cleveland.

Rhonda & Jeffrey Luxenberg upon the engagement of their son, Daniel, to Tzivia Wise, daughter of Nomi & Ben Smilchensky of New Rochelle and Lisa & Mark Wise of Cedarhurst.

Vida and Arthur Mantel upon the engagement of their daughter, Jessica, to Jacob Leshno, son of Dalia and Moshe Leshno of Tel Aviv.

Sandra E. and Dr. Samuel Rapoport upon the engagement of their son, Ben, to Amanda Muchnick, daughter of the late Dr. Richard and Felice Muchnick of Manhattan.

Debbie and Shimon Rubin upon the

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

engagement of their daughter, Becky ('07), to Nisan Lerea, son of Nancy and Rabbi Dov Lerea of Riverdale.

Diane & Russell Miller and Jill & Marc Schwartzberg upon the engagement of Diane's and Marc's daughter, Lauren Schwartzberg, to AY Levy, the son of Bleema and Rabbi Chaim Moshe Levy of Zurich, Switzerland.

Judy and Isaac Sherman upon the engagement of their granddaughter, Lauren Sherman, to Jeremy Doberman. Lauren is the daughter of Sharon and Jonathan Sherman of West Orange. Jeremy is the son of Alan and Cheryl Doberman of Monsey.

Arlene and Daniel Stein upon the engagement of their daughter, Becky, to Kevin Wendum, the son of Isi & Michelle Wendum of Antwerp, Belgium.

May their weddings take place in happiness and blessing.

MARRIAGES

Mazal tov to:

Brenda and Albert H. Bernstein upon the marriage of their granddaughter, Julianna Paulette Storch, daughter of Dr. Daniel and Elana Bernstein Storch of Phoenix, Arizona, to Reuben Cohen, son of Edward and Nadine Habousha Cohen of NYC.

Monique and Eli Chetrit upon the marriage of their son, Abraham, to Samantha Edelstein, daughter of Michelle and Ron Edelstein.

Jena Clifton and Justin Cohen upon their marriage.

Randy and Mitch Krevat upon the marriage of their daughter, Sarah, to David Hochsztein, son of Giselle and Dr. Paul Hochsztein of Woodmere.

Helen and Dr Daniel Potaznik upon the marriage, in Israel, of their son, Yehuda Arye, to Chen Harazi, daughter of Rikki and Aharon Harazi of Givatayim.

Eleanore Reznik upon the marriage of her grandson Matthew Beller, son of Michael Beller and Beth Reznik Beller z'l, of Jamica Estates, to Jennifer Lazar, daughter of Jacob Lazar of Jerusalem and Amy Lazar of Teaneck.

Leonore and Herbert Wolf upon the marriage of their grandson, Joseph Heller, son of Amy and Paul Heller, to Miriam Thorne of Minnesota.

Susan and Dr. Robert Taub upon the marriage of their son, Jonathan, to Jennifer Peters.

May the newlywed couples be blessed to build homes faithful to the traditions of the Jewish people.

MILESTONES

Michael Hartig upon the 50th Anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

Judy and Isaac Sherman upon the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Dr. Jerry Zimmerman upon the 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

COMMUNAL HONORS

Elie Hirschfeld upon his appointment to the Israel Bonds National Campaign Advisory Council. He was also part of a select group of Israel Bonds leaders at a recent dinner with Warren Buffet in NYC.

Michele and Joseph Romano upon being named Guests of Honor at Nishmat's 27th Anniversary Gala Dinner. Dinner Chairs were fellow KJ Members Gail Propp, Wendy and Sholem Greenbaum, and Gaby Propp.

Philip Schatten upon receiving the Humanitarian Award from the Marks Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst at their 90th Anniversary Gala.

Rabbi Elie Weinstock upon receiving the Rabbinical Council of America's *Rabbi Jacob and Deborah Rubenstein Memorial Award for Excellence in Rabbinic Leadership*, at the RCA Annual Convention on June 19. The award is bestowed annually on an American Rabbi who excels in three critical areas: Israel, Youth, and engagement with the larger Jewish community. This coveted award, presented by his peers, acknowledges the esteem in which the honoree is held by his colleagues, reflecting their appreciation of his leadership, contributions, and vision of the best in the American Modern Orthodox rabbinate.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Arielle Baumgarten, daughter of Roberta Caplan and George Baumgarten, upon performing the role of Lancelot Gobo in a staging of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* actually taking place this summer in Venice, Italy with the Oxford Shakespeare Company.

Rabbi Moshe Friedman, son of members Marylene and Alan Friedman, upon being named the Director of Outreach for the Forum for Jewish Leadership in West Hampstead, London, focused primarily on students and graduates of Cambridge and Oxford. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and has spent the last 10 years studying Jewish thought and Talmud

in Israel, including several years at the Mir Yeshiva, and has ordination from the Israeli Rabbinate. He is married to Shalvie Friedman, who will be teaching in seminary in London. They have two daughters, Racheli and Na'ama Batya.

Rosie ('68) and Dr. Mark S. Friedman upon Mark's brother, David M. Friedman's appointment as U.S. Ambassador to Israel. They are the sons of Adelaide and the late Rabbi Morris S. Friedman, a"h, of Temple Hillel in Long Island.

Netanel Goldstein, director of the Jewish Youth Connection, upon being selected to participate in Prizmah's "YOU Lead" Leadership Development Program, a cohort of educators, heads of schools, and directors of educational programs who meet online monthly, and bi-annually in person, to discuss issues confronting Jewish education and to develop creative solutions.

KJ Bikur Cholim Volunteers Riva Alper, Roy E. Feldman, Roni Kracier, and Karen Lerman upon receiving Volunteer Service 10-Year Anniversary Awards at the Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital. Additionally, KJ Bikur Cholim coordinator Karen Lerman was acknowledged for 500 cumulative hours of service.

Richard A. Klass upon his induction as the Treasurer of the Brooklyn Bar Association at Brooklyn Borough Hall.

Rachel and Rabbi Daniel Kraus upon being selected by The Jewish Week as one of this year's "36 under 36" list of notable young people positively impacting the Jewish world.

Dr. Mark Meirowitz upon being a featured panelist on "Turkey & Israel: Reconcilable Differences" at the AIPAC National Conference, Washington, DC, March 2017.

Lee Snow upon having his Letter to the Editor published in an online Wall Street Journal edition.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Mazal Tov to

Jeffrey M. Goldman upon the dual graduation from Rutgers New Jersey Medical School of his twin daughters from the Ramaz Class of '09, Jordana Goldman and Jessica Goldman.

Wilma and Stephen Kule upon the graduation of their granddaughter, Sophie Kule, from Yeshiva University High School for Girls - Central. She will be attending Midreshet Lindenbaum in the Midrashit Chu"l IDF program. Sophie is the daughter

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

of Leslie and Michael ('92) Kule.

Rebecca Massel, daughter of Caroline and Morris Massel, upon receiving the Keter Shem Tov Award of the Rabbi Haskel Lookstein Ramaz Middle School. Congratulations as well to the proud KJ grandfather, Harvey Arfa. The award is bestowed on a graduating 8th Grade student who is truly a mensch, and who quietly goes out of her way to perform acts of kindness and render service to the school community.

Audrey Menachem upon receiving her doctoral degree from Yeshiva University's Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration.

Eleanore Reznik upon the graduation of her granddaughter, Aviva Beller, from the Ramaz Upper School with a Darkhei Noam Award, presented to the seniors who comport themselves with inner strength, warmth, and sensitivity. Aviva will be attending Midreshet Torah V'Avodah in Jerusalem in the fall and attending the University of Massachusetts in Amherst following her return from Israel.

Eleanore Reznik and Renee & Michael Bernstein upon the graduation of their granddaughter and daughter, Hali Bernstein, from Stephen Gaynor School. She will attend Eagle Hill in Massachusetts in the fall.

Liora Schulman upon receiving a PhD in Accounting from Baruch College.

Ruth and Irwin Shapiro upon the graduation of their granddaughter, Rachel Shapiro, with a Masters in Talmud from Yeshiva University's Graduate Program for Women in Advanced Talmudic Studies (GPATS). Rachel is the daughter of Monica and Sandy Shapiro.

Ruth and Irwin Shapiro upon the graduation of their grandson, Jacob Shapiro from Yeshiva University. Jacob is the son of Monica and Sandy Shapiro.

Ruth and Irwin Shapiro upon the graduation of their grandson, Elie Shapiro from Frisch. Elie, the son of Monica and Sandy Shapiro, will be attending Yeshiva University.

Jake Slochowsky, son of Ronnie Dagan Slochowsky and William Slochowsky, upon receiving the Keter Shem Tov Award of the Rabbi Haskel Lookstein Ramaz Middle School. The award is bestowed on a graduating 8th Grade student who is truly a mensch, and who quietly goes out of his way to

perform acts of kindness and render service to the school community.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to:

Jeffrey Ascherman upon the passing of his mother, Dorothy Rose Ascherman.

Ray Brenner upon the passing of his stepmother, Sandy Brenner.

Fran Brown upon the passing of her stepmother, Frances Lustigman.

Sherry Cohen upon the passing of her mother, Beatrice Milberg.

Bonnie Dietrich upon the passing of her brother, Terrence Wheeler.

Pamela Emmerich upon the passing of her mother, Doris Nadler.

Vanessa Gad upon the passing of her father, Mussa Cohen.

Jon Herbitter upon the passing of his mother, Ruth Herbitter Viggiano.

Ronnie Heyman upon the passing of her father, Sumner Feuerstein.

Meryl Jaffe upon the passing of her father, Lloyd Jaffe.

Jeffrey Justin upon the passing of his father, Zoltan Justin, and the passing of his mother, Kitty Justin.

Debbie Kahn upon the passing of her father, Rabbi David Moseson.

Robert Lunzer upon the passing of his mother, Martha Lunzer.

Donna Mannor upon the passing of her father, Shlomo Mannor.

Stanley Rosenfeld upon the passing of his father, Meyer Rosenfeld.

Sam Schwartz upon the passing of his brother, Herman Schwartz.

Marc Schwartzberg upon the passing of his mother, Shirley Cohen.

Smadar Seinfeld upon the passing of her mother, Hanna Ron.

Ronnie Stern upon the passing of his father, Jerome L. Stern.

Shera Aranoff Tuchman upon the passing of her mother, Freda Aranoff.

David Vorchheimer upon the passing of his father, Fred Vorchheimer.

Alice Wildes, Alan Goldberg, and Eve Berman upon the passing of their father, Samuel M. Goldberg.

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

המקום ינחם
אתכם...

CREATE AN ENDURING LEGACY

Please consider participating in the Congregation's Endowment and Planned Giving Program, through which you can create an enduring legacy of active participation in KJ.

Contact Leonard Silverman
at 212-774-5680
or LSS@CKJ.org
for information.

ISRAEL ACTION

Check out "Artzeinu"
The Weekly Israel News Update

<http://artzeinu.org>

edited by fellow KJ members
Ava Hornblass
JJ Hornblass,
Erica Schwartz
Founder: Deena Shiff

This site provides easy access to numerous news sources and videos, and is well organized by general topic.

VISIT WWW.CKJ.ORG
AND CLICK ON THE
JOIN OUR E-MAIL LIST
BUTTON

**BE SURE TO VISIT KJ'S
WEBSITE
WWW.CKJ.ORG
FOR PROGRAMMING UPDATES**

In Memoriam

ANITA ABOWITZ

Anita passed away, seemingly suddenly, because the illness that took her life was never mentioned by her except to a few very close friends. She fought it for many more years than the doctors had assumed she could survive. She had at least fifteen extra years as a gift of life due to God's mercy and her determination.

A very active member of the community and a regular in Bikur Cholim, Anita worked with her husband, Jordan, for many years in business in Philadelphia before moving to New York. Here, she continued working in her own cottage industry, making and selling beautiful tablecloths to discerning buyers in the KJ community and well beyond it. Those tablecloths were also symbolic of her exceptional hospitality to many of us at KJ who were invited to her Shabbat and Yom Tov table to enjoy Anita's warmth, thoughtfulness and culinary expertise.

Above all, she was an exceptional mother and grandmother whose devotion to her children knew no bounds. She was an exceptionally loving wife to Jordan with whom we grieve at her passing and whom we wish well as he strives to recover from a very difficult loss.

SANDRA BRICKMAN

She was known to all of us as SanDee, a fixture in Ramaz in which she served as a gifted and innovative teacher and a dedicated, meticulous and loving headmistress for over thirty years. Two generations of students benefited from her extraordinary contributions, talents and tutelage.

She was a beloved member of the KJ family, davening with us regularly on the High Holy Days. She was an extraordinary daughter to her mother who survives her and whom she showered with love and care throughout her life. She will forever be remembered by us for her cheerful disposition, her quick wit and her unbounded love for the children of Ramaz.

MARCIA BRODY

Together with her dear husband, Arthur, who survives her, Marcia was a wonderful wife and mother for over sixty years. She and Arthur were always together and always in sync.

She was a member of the congregation for over thirty years after having moved from Westchester to the building next door to our Main Synagogue. They were fixtures at our services every Shabbat and Yom Tov. They were always generous to our Annual Synagogue Appeal. They made many friends in the KJ community and, even after they moved to assisted living housing

north of Riverdale, she and Arthur continued their association with KJ and their support of all that we do.

MARTHA SCHELSEL

She was a member of the congregation for over forty years together with her late husband, Dr. Eli Schessel. The two of them used to walk from the West Side very regularly to attend Shabbat services at KJ until the walk became too great, first for him and then for her.

She loved our synagogue and she was a very proud mother of two Ramaz alumni, Harry and Michael. She was so happy with their wonderful accomplishments and their fine education at Ramaz.

A smile on her face, she greeted everyone with warmth and love.

JAY ROTHSCHILD

In many ways, Jay was a renaissance man. He was an excellent dentist until back problems forced him to retire in his sixties. In retirement, however, his extraordinary intellectual curiosity was given free reign as he pursued courses in Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, thirsting for knowledge in Biblical Hebrew, Jewish philosophy and Jewish history. He loved to discuss all of this with his friends both in and out of shul.

Jay and his wife, Sandy, were married for fifty-six years. They blended together as a very loving family with their three daughters and sons-in-law, and eight grandchildren, all of whom brought them great pride and nachas. Jay showered love upon all of them and, in turn, was the recipient of exceptional love and respect.

His hallmark, however, was his intellect. He loved to talk about ideas, particularly Jewish ideas. Even in his difficult days of illness, nothing would bring him more pleasure than to have a serious discussion in Halakha or Jewish thought with anyone who would come to visit him. He was kind, thoughtful, never judgmental and somehow always understanding of the choices people make.

Finally, he loved this community, our shul, our rabbis, our shiurim and, especially our davening. He was a passionate Jew and, quietly, one of the leaders in the Soviet Jewry movement of the 1970's and 80's.

He died shortly after reciting the vidui (confessional) in his bed, pronouncing with his last breaths the Shema Yisrael. A fitting conclusion to a beautiful Jewish life.

ORDER MAIN SYNAGOGUE MEMORIAL PLAQUES AND CEMETERY PLOTS ON THE KJ GROUNDS AT BETH EL CEMETERY IN PARAMUS, NJ

To order plaques for deceased loved ones (or to reserve for yourself after 120 years of health and blessing),
visit www.CKJ.org/plaques

To purchase burial plots at Beth El, visit www.CKJ.org/burialplots

**To speak to someone about either opportunity,
please contact Hattie Murphy in the Synagogue office at 212-774-5653 or Hattie@CKJ.org**

DEDICATE

Members of the Congregation and others are invited to honor a friend or relative, celebrate a milestone event or memorialize a loved one by dedicating *Chumashim* or *Siddurim*.

CHUMASHIM - \$75 each

SIDDURIM - \$50 each

Contact the Synagogue office at
212-774-5600

KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun
125 East 85th Street
New York, NY 10028-0928

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KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun
125 East 85th Street, New York, NY 10028
212-774-5600

Synagogue Officials

Dr. Haskel Lookstein *Rabbi Emeritus*

Chaim Steinmetz *Senior Rabbi*
Elimelech Weinstock *Rabbi*
Rabbi Daniel Kraus & Rachel Kraus
. *Directors of Community Education*
Rabbi Dr. Jeremy Wieder
. *Scholar-in-Residence*
Mayer Davis *Cantor*
Benny Zalta *Cantor*
Leonard Silverman *Executive Director*

Officers of the Congregation

David Lobel *President*
Elias Buchwald *Senior Vice President*
Jonathan Wagner *Vice President*
Surie Sugarman *2nd Vice President*
Dr. Nicole Agus *3rd Vice President*
Sidney Ingber *4th Vice President*
Larry Baruch *Secretary*
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David Sultan *Assistant Treasurer*
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JJ Hornblass *Recording Secretary*

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Benjamin Brown Fred Distenfeld
Chaim Edelstein Eric Feldstein
Samuel Eisenstat Stanley Gurewitsch
Joel Katz

Affiliate Presidents

Carla Tanz *Pres. Sisterhood*
Ariel Sebag *Pres. Sisterhood*
Dr. Mark Meirowitz *Pres. Men's Club*
Brittany Cogan *Pres. Keshet*
Elizabeth Savetsky *Pres. Keshet*
Elisa Septimus *Pres. Keshet*

Office Staff

Riva Alper *Administrator*
Richard Dobrotinich *Superintendent*
Dina Farhi *Executive Assistant*
Danielle Herbst *Social Worker*
Hattie Murphy *Comptroller*
Menucha Parry *Director of Member Services*
Aryana Bibi Ritholtz *Youth Director*
Sy Yanofsky *Assistant Comptroller*
Ether Zarnel *Director of Communications and Programming*

Are you receiving your KJ Bulletin late in the mail? Are you receiving double copies of the Bulletin?
We need to know! Please e-mail Riva@ckj.org or call 212-774-5670.

In preparing the Bulletin, we welcome all

KJ members' announcements of communal, academic and professional achievements.
Please e-mail Riva@CKJ.org or mail it to the synagogue, marked "ATTN: KJ Bulletin"

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

		Lighting of Candles	Friday Evening Services	Saturday Afternoon Services	Sabbath Ends
July					
7-8	Balak	8:12 PM	6:45 PM	8:05 PM	9:13 PM
14-15	Pinchas	8:09 PM	6:45 PM	8:00 PM	9:09 PM
21-22	Mattot/Masei	8:04 PM	6:45 PM	7:55 PM	9:03 PM
28-29	Devarim	7:58 PM	6:45 PM	7:50 PM	8:56 PM
August					
4-5	Vaetchanan	7:51 PM	6:45 PM	7:40 PM	8:48 PM
11-12	Ekev	7:42 PM	6:45 PM	7:30 PM	8:37 PM
18-19	Re'eh	7:31 PM	6:45 PM	7:20 PM	8:26 PM
25-26	Shoftim	7:21 PM	6:45 PM	7:10 PM	8:16 PM
September					
1-2	Ki Tetze	7:10 PM	6:45 PM	7:00 PM	8:05 PM
8-9	Ki Tavo	6:58 PM	6:45 PM	6:45 PM	7:52 PM
15-16	Nitzavim/Vayelech	6:47 PM	6:45 PM	6:35 PM	7:40 PM

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
Shabbat mornings.....9:00 AM

EVENING SERVICES

June 26 - July 14..... 6:50 PM July 16 - September 21..... 6:45 PM

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, July 4
Morning Services at 8:30 AM

Monday, July 24
Rosh Chodesh Av
Morning Services at 7:00 AM

Tuesday Night Services at 7:40 PM
Fast ends at 8:50 PM

Tuesday, July 11
Fast of 17th of Tammuz
Fast begins 4:23 AM
Morning Services at 6:50 AM
Evening Services at 8:05 PM
Fast Ends at 9:09 PM

Monday-Tuesday, July 31-August 1
Fast of Tisha B' Av (See schedule p.3)
Monday Night Services at 8:05 PM
Fast Begins at 8:13 PM
Tuesday Morning Services at 7:00 AM

Tuesday-Wednesday, August 22-23
Rosh Chodesh Elul
Morning Services at 7:00 AM
Saturday night, September 16
Selichot at 10:00 PM