Rock out with us at our Purim Festivities March 15th & 16th!

On Saturday, March 15, come to KI for a Purim celebration full of fun, friends and timeless music. Dress like your favorite rocker and gather for a bring-your-own Brown Bag Community Dinner at 6:00 p.m., a Shir Joy performance and Megillah Reading at 7:00 p.m. and a performance by our own Jewveniles at 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, March 16 at noon, join us for our annual Purim Carnival in the K/G.

Since Purim celebrates our heroine, Esther, this year our musical theme is Esther and the Queens of Rock. During our service, we will recognize and honor the Women of Rock. The Jewveniles have been practicing every week to bring you a special repertoire of tunes that features the distinctive voices of famous female vocalists. Look forward to hearing the songs White Rabbit, Me and Bobby Magee, Big Yellow Taxi, I Love Rock and Roll, and many more, with clever new lyrics by our very own Evan “Shpielberg” Schwartz.

This event will have something for everyone, and is a chance for the entire KI community to come together and participate in the spirited celebration of Purim. So let’s see who gets “hit with your best shot” – hopefully Haman! Please join us!

The Jewveniles
Craig Reinheimer, Music Director and Bass
Joanie Reinheimer, Lynn Rosen and Ethyl Treatman Burns, Vocals
George Abramson, Lead Guitar
Larry Belitsky, Guitar
Michael Chauveau, Percussion
Evan Schwartz, Piano and Vocals
Jewish Commitment to Health Care Runs Deep

Driving into work recently to start early morning rounds allowed some time for reflection, as I wound my way through the streets of North Philadelphia. I am struck by the dramatic changes of season in our part of the world, as I see the overcast sky, the effect of the blustery wind, and wait for my car heater to kick in. Soon the sky will be bright again, and the temperature warm and sultry. We live in a world “on the edge,” where just a slight change in the angulation of our planet toward the sun results in such a difference. Are these laws of physics a matter of the luck of our planet’s location, 93 million miles from the sun, or were they set in motion by God? When any of you have the answer, please let me know.

Judaism recognizes these changes, how they impact us, and the need to protect our environment. I attended Tu BiShvat services, where we had a special Seder to honor the land’s abundance. It was a joyous celebration on a cold January night, highlighted by our Confirmation Class singers. When I see four generations having a good time in our building, I know we are doing our part: L’dor V’dor.

Rabbi Kleinman has brought a culture of environmental concern and activism to KI. He taught me that many passages in the Torah speak to the mitzvot of caring for the land and acting as responsible stewards. The majority of us are not farmers; we depend on the work, skill, and luck of others, so that all year, we have access to wonderful fruits, vegetables, meat, cheeses, and dairy. This is not true in all parts of the world. I am reminded of a story from a Russian friend who had immigrated to the United States. In Russia, fruits were available only at certain times of year. The joke amongst he and his friends was: “When is blueberry season in the United States?” The answer: “When Genuardi’s opens.” (An older joke: I know Genuardi’s is now closed.)

At KI, we have taken significant steps to reduce our “carbon footprint,” with sophisticated controls of our heating and air conditioning system, and recycling. Our Women of Reform Judaism planted a successful vegetable garden, providing an educational opportunity for our kids and many pounds of fresh produce for area food banks. Even with the ground frozen as I write this, I know the women are already planning their spring project. Having tried some vegetable gardening myself with intermittent success and failure, I know the work and time required to coax the earth to bring forth its yield. Some prayer is in order.

Perhaps it is God’s plan, to mandate winter, as a time to rest the earth and prepare it for its amazing awakening in a couple of months. Or maybe it’s just a law of physics. Purim is on the way, then Passover. Our Jewish year is a constant reminder of God’s blessings, and the importance of our history. I looked forward to Super Bowl Sunday both because I am a football fan, but also because after that, I start seeing ads for the Masters’ golf tournament. Then I know spring and Passover are truly on their way.

KI Shares ‘Visual Prayer’ Expertise at Biennial

The URJ Biennial was a fabulous experience! I would like to share two highlights from the convention.

First, I had the honor of presenting, on behalf of KI, our cutting edge visual presentations in a workshop titled: “Big Screen Worship: Praying Without Prayer Books.” I presented alongside three rabbis and a cantorial soloist whose synagogues/organizations have been using visual presentations over the last decade.

I was grateful for the opportunity to share my experience creating visuals, running the visuals, and collaborating with our congregant, Marlene Adler, on the High Holy Day visuals. We are clearly at the forefront of using visuals, based on our frequent and creative use of them. Throughout the conference, attendees at the workshop asked me questions about how to initiate visual presentations, how we raised the funds, how our senior staff collaborates, and how I create a visual presentation for every service we have.

In the second presentation, Rabbi Stacy Rigler and I had the opportunity to share our progress with the B’nai Mitzvah Revolution. In particular, we presented on how well we collaborate throughout the visionary process of our B’nai Mitzvah Revolution projects!

Overall, the Biennial is a great place to reconnect with colleagues and share ideas between synagogues. I would love for more of our community to attend the next one in Orlando, Florida! You too would have the opportunity to experience wonderful Jewish music, meet new people and attend interesting, productive workshops and creative worships.
There is a teaching in the Talmud that says, “Mi She’nichnas Adar, Marbim B’Simcha,” When (the Hebrew month) Adar begins, joy increases.” Why did the rabbis say this? Because the festive holiday of Purim takes place during Adar! This year, we will celebrate Purim with dinner and the Megillah reading performance by the Jewveniles on Saturday, March 15th, followed by our annual KIFTY Purim Carnival after JQuest on Sunday, March 16th.

Purim is a joyous holiday. It is a celebration of the triumph of the Jewish people over the wicked Haman, who sought the community’s destruction because he was mad at Mordechai wouldn’t bow down to him. Haman is the first in a long line of deranged minds that thought that they could make the world better by killing the Jews. History, in this regard, is sometimes on our side, and sometimes against us. We read at the end of the Book of Esther (the Megillah) that ultimately Haman hangs on the very gallows that he built for Mordechai. The story concludes, not by a revocation of Haman’s decree, but by a proclamation that the Jews have the right to defend themselves against those seeking to harm them. The Jewish people in Shushan were victorious in body and spirit. The Jews in other countries at other times often were not so lucky.

Purim is a celebration of revealing hidden truths. The plot line in the Book of Esther takes a one-hundred and eighty degree turn once Esther tells King Ahashueros that she is Jewish – a fact that she had thus far kept to herself. Once Esther reveals her true self, the King not only sees her differently, but also sees the entire Jewish people differently. The reader might ask, “Why was she not forthcoming with this information?” Besides adding to the drama of the story – it is a question that Jews in every generation wrestle with. Reform Jews in the early 1800s living in Europe were desperately trying to fit in with their contemporary societies. They intentionally downplayed most aspects of their Jewish identity that would make them different – in particular their dietary laws and their religious observances.

Today in America, there is little risk that revealing our Jewish identities will lead to discriminatory measures, yet we struggle to find the balance between overtly identifying Jewishly and keeping this information to ourselves. Like Esther, many of us have been in situations where we feel compelled to state that we are Jewish – when people wish us a “Merry Christmas,” when people make Anti-Semitic jokes in our presence, when people defame Israel.

Purim is a day when everything gets turned around. Haman hangs, not Mordechai. Jews are victorious, not defeated. The truth literally sets Esther free. The name “Purim” itself is even grammatically connected to “Yom Kippur.” The way we celebrated Purim is exactly the opposite of the way we observe Yom Kippur. Purim is festive. We eat and drink and make merriment. We have costume parades and carnivals. As we enter the Hebrew month of Adar, we enter the spring months with joy and gratitude and, best of all, some really, really fun Purim Celebrations.
Judaism is a religion of "the Book." Every Shabbat and holiday is enhanced with a selection from the Torah and related portions from other sections of Tanach (the Hebrew Bible). The following includes citations for the reading of Scripture in the synagogue for the month ahead as well as a brief summary of the parshiyot and haftarot. For more extensive investigation of the weekly Torah portion, please consider attending KI’s lively Torah Study Havurah, which meets every Saturday morning in the Meyers library at 9:00 a.m. and is led by our Rabbinic staff.

Rabbi Lance J. Sussman, Ph.D.

Torah for Pekudei
March 1
Ex. 38:21
Kings 7:40
Plaut, p. 668
Plaut, p. 726

Pekudei is the final portion in the Book of Exodus. It completes the Torah's report on the construction of the Sanctuary in the desert. The Masoretic notes inform us that there are 1,209 verses in the second Book of the Torah, divided into 11 reading sections (parshiyot). The Haftarah focuses on the completion of the First Temple and includes a prayer and dramatic speech by King Solomon.

Torah for Vayikra
March 8
Leviticus 1:1
Isaiah 43:21
Plaut, p. 681
Plaut, p. 978

Vayikra is the first portion in the Book of Leviticus. It contains detailed accounts of the numerous sacrifices which defined the ritual life of ancient Israel. Curiously, the last letter of the first word of the portion, an Aleph, is written in miniature, and is the subject of much interpretation. In this week’s Haftarah the prophet Isaiah takes the people to task for not living up to their ritual obligations and expresses divine discontent with them.

Torah for Tzav
March 15
Leviticus 6:1
Jeremiah 7:21
Plaut, p. 781
Plaut, p. 983

This portion continues the discussion of the various sacrifices of the ancient cult and ends with the inauguration of the Sanctuary Service. Aaron and his sons are consecrated as priests and "did all the things commanded" to them by Moses. In the Haftarah, the prophet Jeremiah notes that the "people" were not commanded to offer sacrifices at the time of the Exodus. Centuries later, rabbinic authorities were able to reconstruct a non-sacrificial, prayer service based on the prophet's teaching.

Torah for Shemini
March 22
Leviticus 9:1
II Samuel 6:1
Plaut, p. 791
Plaut, p. 986

After discussing the deaths of the sons of Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Shemini focuses on the dietary laws of the Jewish tradition. Leviticus 11 contains one of the most complete guides to keeping kosher, including the prohibition on pork, shellfish and scavengers of all types. The Torah portion also describes the consecration of the Sanctuary in the wilderness, and the Haftarah discusses the transportation of the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem by King David. In the following generation, Solomon built a permanent Temple.

Torah for Tazvia
March 29
Leviticus 12:1
II Kings 7:3
Plaut, p. 826
Plaut, p. 991

Most of this week's portion is concerned with procedures to heal leprosy and other skin diseases which often ravaged ancient populations. Metzora continues the "dermatological" discussion of Tazria. Interestingly, the rabbis believed that leprosy was a punishment for slander and gossip and, indeed, malicious talk is a curse in any community. The Haftarah relates the story of how the Prophet Elisha (9th c. BCE, Northern Kingdom) heals Naaman, captain of the army of the King of Aram, of leprosy.
Worship

PURIM: A Festive Holiday Celebrating Survival

Purim is celebrated by reading of the Scroll of Esther, known in Hebrew as the Megillat Esther. This story takes place in Persia (today’s Iran) in King Ahasuerus’ time. Under his rule, Haman, the King’s prime minister, plots to exterminate all of the Persian Jews. Haman’s plan is foiled by Queen Esther and her cousin Mordechai, who save the Jews from destruction. Traditionally, congregations read the Megillah at Purim services. When Haman’s name is read, they use noisemakers to drown it out.

Purim is an unusual holiday; Esther is the only Book of the Bible in which God is not mentioned. Over time, Haman became the embodiment of every anti-Semite in every land where Jews were oppressed. Purim’s significance is not how it began, but what it has become - a thankful and joyous affirmation of Jewish survival against all odds.

In the Book of Esther, we read that Purim is a time for “feasting and merrymaking” and for “sending gifts to one another and presents to the poor” (Esther 9:22). In addition to reading the Megillah, celebrants dress up in costumes, have festive parties, perform silly theatrical adaptations of the story called “Purim shpiels,” send baskets of food to friends called mishloach manot and give gifts to the poor called matanot l’evyonim. We eat Hamantaschen, three-cornered cookies with poppy, chocolate, or other fillings in the center.

KI Adult Education Committee Programs

If you are not one of the 230 people who have registered for the Adult Education programs, you are missing out!! You are missing interesting lectures, humorous conversations, wonderful people, and pot luck dinners. Come and join the fun. Registration fees will be greatly reduced since there are only 13 programs left out of 45. All of these programs will be in the Library. Please come. Contact Caryl at caryl.levin@verizon.net.

March 6, 11:15 a.m. - Maimonides Café: Lewis Mifsud, facilitator.
March 10, 2:30 p.m. - Unmasking Purim: Political Intrigue and the Megillah. Rabbi Howard Addison.
March 27, 11:15 a.m. - Ecclesiastes: The Most Heretical Book in the Bible. Rabbi Sim Prystowsky.
April 3, 11:15 a.m. - Maimonides Café: Mike Serdikoff, facilitator.
April 17, 11:15 a.m. - Assistive Technology: What’s it all About, Alfie? Norman Rubin, facilitator.

History Brought to Life

At the recent Adult Education program, “Impersonation of Captain Percival Drayton 1812-1865,” Carol and Jack Lieberman were both attired in period costume and the presentation was greatly enjoyed by about 30 attendees. Jack Lieberman impersonated Captain Percival Drayton, who won the Medal of Honor for his service in the U.S. Navy during the Civil War. Pictured, left to right: Norman Brody, Shanlee Pollack, Carol Lieberman, Jack Lieberman, and Caryl Levin.

March 2014 Worship Schedule

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| Saturday, March 8 | 9:00 a.m. Torah Study  
|             | 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service  
|             | Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Aaron Guth  
| Friday, March 14 | Shabbat Tzav – Leviticus 6: 1  
|             | 8:00 p.m. EP Shabbat Evening Service  
| Saturday, March 15 | 9:00 a.m. Torah Study  
|             | 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service  
|             | Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Luis Berman  
| Friday, March 7 | Shabbat Vayikra – Leviticus 1: 1  
|             | 8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service  
| Saturday, March 22 | 9:00 a.m. Torah Study  
|             | 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service  
|             | Bar Mitzvah of Marc Farrell Klein  
| Friday, March 28 | Shabbat Tzria – Leviticus 12: 1  
|             | 6:00 p.m. Blue Bell Shabbat  
|             | 8:00 p.m. EP 1st Annual Heritage & Rabbi Einhorn Tikkum Olam Award Shabbat Service  
| Saturday, March 29 | 9:00 a.m. Torah Study  
|             | 10:30 a.m. 3rd grade Student led Service  
|             | Bar Mitzvah of Jake Michael Silverman  

Shabbat Pekude – Exodus 38: 21

Shabbat Vayikra – Leviticus 1: 1

Shabbat Tzav – Leviticus 6: 1

Shabbat Shemini – Leviticus 9: 1

Shabbat Tzria – Leviticus 12: 1

Ecclesiastes: The Most Heretical Book in the Bible.
From the Meyers Library

Sydney Taylor Book Award Winners
In January the Association of Jewish Libraries announced the winners of this year’s Sydney Taylor Book Awards. Each year the AJL recognizes the best Jewish Children’s Books published within the past year with these awards. The winner for Younger Readers is The Longest Night: a Passover Story by Laurel Snyder. It is a rhyming version of the Passover story. For Older Readers, the award goes to The Blessing Cup by Patricia Polacco. In the Teen reader category, the prize was given to The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World’s Most Notorious Nazi by Neal Bascomb. The Award Committee also recognizes Honor and Notable Books within each category. The Meyers Library has a complete listing of the award winners. We also have the winning titles in our collection for you to borrow.

Speaking of the STBAC, I am very proud to announce that I have been appointed by the Association of Jewish Libraries to serve on this illustrious committee. In this capacity, I will be reviewing most of the newly published Jewish children’s books in the coming year. I will then participate in the lengthy deliberations to selection the award winners. It is an honor to have been selected by my peers to serve on this committee.

Kindles are here!
Have you ever wanted to try reading a book on an E-reader, but didn’t want to invest in a reading device? The Meyers Library has two Kindles, which you may borrow. These E-readers are preloaded with some of our most popular current titles. If you are thinking about purchasing a Kindle for yourself, borrowing one from the library is a way to take a “test drive.” You can adjust the type size on a Kindle to meet your vision needs. Kindles may only be borrowed during regular library hours.

Purim
The joyous holiday of Purim takes place this month. The Meyers Library has a large selection of books about Purim for children. Are you a Queen Esther or Vashti fan? Should Mordechai be considered a Jewish hero? Why do we not want to hear the name of Haman? Find the answers to these questions in the Purim section of the Meyer’s Library.

One Book One Jewish Community
You have the chance to share your reactions to The Wanting by Michael Lavigne, this year’s One Book One Jewish Community title on Wednesday, March 19 at 2:30 p.m. during a library and Adult Education sponsored book discussion in the library. The Meyers Library has several copies of the book available for borrowing (including copies on our Kindles). We also have LaVigne’s previous novel, Not Me, in our collection.

Sifriyat Pijama (Hebrew Story Hours)
Sifriyat Pijama mails FREE high quality Hebrew Children’s literature and music to families with children ages 2 – 8 throughout the year. It is a PJ Library program for Hebrew speaking and reading families! The final Hebrew story hour and activity program for this year is scheduled for March 23 at 10:00 a.m. in the library.

Adult Book Discussion Group
Our Adult Book Discussion Group is having another great year. Everyone has strong opinions about the books. The only requirement to join this group is that you have read the book. This is a moderated book discussion and not a book review. Participants are expected to share their insights, reactions, and comments with others who have also read the book. We will meet on Tuesday April 1 at 1:30 p.m. to discuss The Golem and The Jinni by Helene Wecker. Call Ellen at 215-887-8700 x122 for more information and to pre-register. Save the date for the final Adult Book Discussion Group sessions on June 10. Titles are available in the Meyers Library.

Save The Date
We have an Author Event scheduled for Monday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m. Sue Levi Elwell and Nancy Fuchs Kremer, the co-editors of Chapters of The Heart: Women Sharing The Torah of Our Lives, will lead a panel discussion. In this book 20 Jewish Women use Jewish language and text as a lens through which they share life experiences.

Become a Book Reviewer
Have you noticed the Good Reads Column appearing in Shalom KI? Have you read a Jewish book that you recommend others read? Would you like to see your name in print? Contact Ellen about becoming a Book Reviewer for our Good Reads Column.

Become A Library Volunteer
We need YOU! The Meyers Library is a wonderful resource, with a huge selection of books for your reading and research, a comfortable environment, and good coffee! Join the friendly volunteers who keep our library up to date! We have jobs you can do either in the library or from home. If you would like...
From the Meyers Library (con’t.)

to volunteer, e-mail library@kenesethisrael.org or call: 215-887-8700, x 122

The Meyers Library is a wireless computer zone. Bring your laptop; enjoy a cup of gourmet coffee and explore the latest book arrivals in your KI home. The Library is open on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We are also open on Sunday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and on Tuesday afternoons from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., whenever JQuest is in session. Visit our book carts Friday evenings after services. Make the KI Library your home away from home.

Ellen Tilman
Director of Library Services

From the Museum

Through Different Eyes invites artists of the museum’s Collaborative to curate objects from our permanent collection. This is the first year of this curatorial adventure, which will be repeated each winter going forward. Always proud of our artist members’ talents, we are happy to find yet another way to showcase their artistic and curatorial skills.

Naomi Godel, granddaughter of silversmith Daniel Blumberg, chose examples of his exceptional ceremonial Judaica silver work. Daniel Blumberg was also the father of TJMuseum’s founding director, Judy Maslin. For this installation, Judy loaned the museum additional examples of her father’s beautiful work.

Joan Myerson Shrager and Paula Mandel have chosen the theme of the hamsa for their installation which will include museum objects along with their own art work. Rabbi and Liz Sussman are also loaning hamsas from their personal collection.

Guest artist, Frank Root will exhibit a few, specially-selected carved reliefs from his important and well-respected Holocaust Series.

Marlene Adler chose the observance of Shabbat as her theme. Portions of her curatorial statement follow: “I make it a point to observe Shabbat whenever possible. I enjoy making dinner and lighting candles with my family. It gives us a chance to unwind from the hectic week and to spend meaningful time together in a relaxed way. By observing the Sabbath, I am keeping an important tradition alive – one that I hope my children will follow as they grow older and remember with fondness, how we lit the candles and said the blessings over the wine and the bread.

(For the) exhibition, I carefully chose objects that tell the story of Shabbat and also display a variety of shapes, textures and forms. For example, there were so many beautiful styles of candlesticks to choose from – from the traditional to the modern! Each has its own history, having been part of countless Sabbath prayers in so many different homes before becoming part of the collection.

The Tzedakah boxes also come in a wide variety, some lovingly handcrafted and some manufactured for broad distribution. I recently learned that it is part of Jewish tradition to have a Tzedakah box near the candlesticks and to put some money into it as an act of charity. I now have a box that I plan to decorate to use on Shabbat. I will then donate money saved in it to different charities each time it is filled. This will be another tradition that hopefully will be continued by my children.

The Havdalah spice boxes are beautifully designed and display intricate filigreed animal forms. They offer another unique artistic expression to the observance of the end of Shabbat. At our home I like to use a spice box that my daughter made when she was a student in Keneseth Israel’s religious school.

In closing, no matter how one chooses to spend Shabbat and whatever little ritual you observe, Shabbat is a gift that has been given to us and we should honor it and bring it into our lives. The most important thing is that Shabbat should offer us a feeling of rest, completeness and peace.

Please take a moment visit the exhibition where, in addition to the remarkable pieces from the Temple Judea Museum collection, you can see my daughter’s spice box and the Tzedakah box that I recently decorated.”
Mazel Tov to our Bar/Bat Mitzvah Students

My name is Madison Rae Berman; I like to be called Madi. My Bat Mitzvah is March 1. For my Mitzvah Project, I volunteer at Pegasus Riding Academy, where I assist with physically and mentally challenged clients during their therapeutic riding lessons. I also groom the horses and help with cleaning their stalls and the barn. I attend Murray Avenue Middle School. In my spare time I take two dance classes and enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I love to be silly and laugh. My parents are Karen and David Berman and my older brother is Zachary.

My name is Isaac Adam Guth; my Bar Mitzvah is on March 8. For my Mitzvah Project I have been volunteering for the JRA to help the hunger problem in this area. I attend Cedarbrook Middle School. My hobbies include playing video games, watching tv, reading, listening to music and hanging out with friends. I enjoy watching baseball and football and I have a junior blackbelt in karate. My parents are Adam Guth and Ellie Margolis.

My name is Jacob Wood Sklar; my Bar Mitzvah is March 15. I am in 7th grade at Germantown Friends School. My Mitzvah Project is to raise money for Parkinson’s Disease. I will participate in several bike rides for the Michael J. Fox Foundation and am training with the Bicycle Club of Philadelphia to ride in the 5 Boro Bike Tour in New York City. My hobbies are Nike Addict, comedy, basketball, soccer and skiing. My parents are Caitlin and Peter Sklar.

My name is Marc Farrell Klein and I am in 7th grade at Abington Junior High. My Bar Mitzvah is on March 22. For my Mitzvah Project I chose to volunteer for the Kisses for Kyle Foundation. This foundation is dedicated to helping families residing in the Delaware Valley who are fighting childhood cancer. In December, I organized a holiday gift card drive and collected more than $400 in gift cards. My hobbies include hanging out with friends, playing tennis, listening to music, and swimming. Currently, I am hoping to make my school’s tennis team. I am also an avid Phillies and Flyers fan. My parents are Abby and Matt Klein.

My name is Jake Michael Silverman; my Bar Mitzvah is March 29. For my Mitzvah Project, I’m collecting new and used baseball equipment for needy kids all over the world (Pitch in for Baseball.org) because I love baseball. I attend Abington Jr. High School. My hobbies are listening to music, hanging with friends, playing sports, cooking, watching TV and playing video games. My favorite sports are baseball, football and basketball. My parents are Missy and Jeff Silverman and my sister is Dana.

We mark with sorrow the passing of . . .

Norman Shenkman, father of our member Leslie Knapp
Annette Tannenbaum, our member and wife of our member Donald Tannenbaum
Hanley S. Rubinson, member and father of our member Bill (Deborah) Rubinson
Robert DeLuca, our member and husband of our member Barbara DeLuca
Joyce Herman Goldstein, sister of our member Carl (Florence) Herman
Harris Segelin, our member
Raymond Kaufman, step-father of our member Michael (Beth) Serdikoff and grandfather of our members, Jessica Serdikoff and Mollie (Michael) Shapiro
Robert Kruger, brother of our member Warren (Cindy) Kruger

Weddings

Benjamin Maslin and Jessica Linn, Benjamin is the grandson of our members Simeon & Judith Maslin and nephew of our members Naomi & Doran Godel

Births

Olive Zaydie Kovach, daughter of Gabriel and Sarah Kovach and granddaughter of our members, Jackie and Brian Kovach
THE DOUBLE STANDARD

A quote from Eric Hoffer: "Things permitted to other nations are forbidden to the Jews." Other nations drive out thousands, even millions of people and there is no refugee problem. Russia, Poland and Czechoslovakia did it. Turkey threw out a million Greeks and Algeria a million Frenchmen. Indonesia threw out the Chinese – and no one says a word about refugees. But in Israel, the displaced Arabs have become eternal refugees. This is a double standard – one for other nations – one for Israel and the Jews.

Selected quotes from a letter from Irwin Cotler, former minister of justice of Canada: "Dear Dr. Rogge (President of the International Olympic Committee, the IOC) The Canadian Parliament unanimously passed a motion calling for a moment of silence at the 2012 London Olympics in memory of those Israeli Olympians killed 40 years ago. Indeed, civil society groups, Parliaments, and political leaders around the world have been calling on the IOC to hold a moment of silence at the London games with the Canadian Parliament the first to unanimously support this call – an expression of our responsibility to remember – le devoir de memoire.

After eschewing a memorial for the murdered Israeli athletes at the 2012 opening ceremony, the IOC rightly memorialized the victims of the 2005 London bombings, though this terrorist atrocity had no nexus to the Olympic Games. Accordingly, it is not hard to infer – as many have done – that not only were the athletes and coaches killed in 1972 because they were Israeli and Jewish, but that the moment of silence is being denied them because they were Israeli and Jewish. This was the greatest tragedy to ever occur during the Olympic Games, yet the IOC made it clear that these victims are not worth 60 seconds. Imagine that these athletes were from the United States, Canada, Australia, or even Germany. No one would think twice about commemorating them. This is a double standard – one for other nations – one for Israel and the Jews.

Selected quotes from Leo Tolstoy: What kind of unique creature is this whom all the rulers of all the nations of the world have disgraced and crushed and expelled and destroyed; persecuted, burned, and drowned, and who despite their anger and their fury, continues to live and flourish? He is the one who for so long had guarded the prophetic message and transmitted it to all mankind. A people such as this can never disappear. The Jew is eternal.

Shalom and L’hitraot, Bill Dodds

MUSIC ARTS COMMITTEE

Join us for Gary Graffman “85” Gala Concert

Maestro Gary Graffman, world-renowned concert pianist, master teacher, civil rights activist, and President/Director Emeritus of The Curtis Institute of Music, will be honored at a special concert to celebrate his 85th Birthday.

Presented by the KI Music Arts Committee Community Family Concert Series, this concert will be at KI on Sunday, March 23 at 1:00 p.m.

World-class pianists performing are: Yuja Wang, Ignat Solzhenitsyn, Meng-Chieh Liu, Kuok-Wai Lio, Haochen Zhang, and Natalie Zhu. These featured artists are part of Graffman’s teaching legacy, which spans more than 40 years.

Also playing are: Curtis alumni Jason DePue and Yumi Kendall, who studied violin and cello, respectively, during Graffman’s tenure as Director/President of Curtis. They will be playing two movements from Schubert’s Trout Piano Quintet. Ying Fu and Curtis alumnus Robert Kesselman will complete the string players’ complement for the Trout. All four are members of The Philadelphia Orchestra.

Following the concert, there will be a champagne Viennese Dessert Buffet Meet the Artists Reception, featuring music by Maestro colleagues Don Liuzzi, Lee Gravagno, and Tom Lawton of PhilOrch Jazz.

Born in New York in 1928 to Russian immigrant parents, Graffman’s music education began on the violin at age 3, with his celebrated violinist father, Vladimir. However he soon demonstrated a preference for the piano. Isabel Vengerova, an old family friend, Curtis instructor and among the finest piano teachers in the world, agreed to teach Graffman. At the age of seven he was the youngest student ever to be admitted to Curtis. Three years later his concert career began at New York’s Town Hall. In 1946 Graffman graduated from Curtis and was awarded the Rachmaninoff Prize. He gave his official debut as soloist the following year with Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Graffman’s Leventritt Prize victory in 1949 led to further success, while he continued studies with Rudolf Serkin at the Marlboro Music Festival and then with Vladimir Horowitz privately. His meteoric rise in the 1950s carried him through more than two decades of fame and critical acclaim.

During the height of the Civil Rights movement in 1964, Graffman refused to play in Jackson, Mississippi when he learned that African Americans were denied opportunity to attend. Colleagues learned of his refusal to perform and followed suit. Litigation over contract non-performance resulted in Graffman’s management canceling their representation of him. An injury in 1979 limited his career to teaching and performance of left-hand repertory. In 1986 he was named Director of the Curtis Institute of Music, from which he retired in 2006.

His recorded performances of concerti by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov, and Prokofiev, and solo works by Russian composers and the Romantics are considered benchmarks of their genre. Also notable are his performances of sonatas for violin and piano by Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, and Schumann, with violinist Henryk Szeryng. After his injury, Graffman played well-known concertos for left hand by Ravel and Prokofiev and many contemporary works written specifically for him. Graffman’s entire discography as a 24 CD set was released in October 2013 in honor of his 85th birthday.

Proceeds from this concert will fund free tickets for all Music Arts future concerts and special family music appreciation concerts. More information is available on the KI website and in the office at 215-887-8700.
Alternative Lessons for Alternative Learners

This month I want to share with you a piece from one of our Teen Assistants. When I came to KI, one of the areas that I felt needed attention was how we helped special needs students in our school. Over the past 10 years we have worked with families to ensure that this is a welcome environment for all of our students. At times we have had special tutors and teachers, especially for Hebrew. But the most successful ways to help our kids are through teen assistants. The teens are fun friends who can help support kids who need it most. The Jewish Learning Venture has created a training program and below is a blog entry from one of our teens - Carly Cherwony - and her thoughts on the program.

By Carly Cherwony, TAP Teen
Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel

Having volunteered at Sunday school for the past six years and worked in my congregation's preschool for the past three, I have experienced children from multiple age groups, backgrounds, and with varying abilities. In the Sunday school I am not paired with a particular child, but I am part of something very special at my synagogue. We recently altered our entire curriculum in order to better engage the children as well as help them relate Jewish values and teachings to their modern life.

In my third grade classroom we have been creating a holiness museum. This is the kid’s museum: teachers are only there for support, guidance, and organization. The class got to define what “holy” was to them and work with their parents to select a holy Jewish object to display (ranging from kippot to candlesticks to one child’s grandfather’s ethical will) in the museum. They created and discussed the criteria for their objects and made a film about the museum. We just held a reception, unveiling their finished product, and it looked amazing! All the kids and their families were so proud of what they were able to build.

Through this process I was able to apply and educate the other aide on the tools we learned at TAP. Since their project was very abstract and hands on, the children, many of whom had not been able to take on this kind of role in lesson planning and education, would get frustrated, confused, and upset when they didn’t understand the activity or agree with their classmates. I would be patient with the kids and used a range of methods to help them along. It varied from talking them down by explaining a simplified version of the lesson, letting them express their emotions and listen before calming them down, taking them on a walk to get a change of scenery and to move around, or telling them a quick story to get their mind off what was bothering them before addressing the issue.

The TAP program not only gave me great insight on how to work with children with special needs, but also overall useful teaching techniques to help every child. Not all children learn in the same way and as teachers we need to recognize when one form of teaching does not work and be able to apply alternative methods so that every child has an equal opportunity to learn and be involved.

Blue Bell
Students Learn, Create in Honor of Trees

Throughout the holiday season, KI members helped serve two hot meals to more than 200 homeless and hungry folks at Broad Street Ministry, cooked, packed and delivered 175 meals to the Klein Branch JCC for home bound elderly residents in Northeast Philly, and packaged and delivered ten snack packs to local First Responders thanking them for their dedication to keeping our community safe.

Additionally, through our Mitzvah Menorah collection, we delivered boxes of food, toys, and winter clothing to residents of the Families Forward Philly Homeless Shelter and Broad Street Ministry, toiletries to seniors and veterans in need, and canned food to the Abington Interfaith Food Cupboard for local distribution.

Thank you to all who donated to and participated in these gestures of tikkun olam!
Youth & Education

Preschool Winter Warm-Up

This winter has definitely been a rough one. It is cold, dreary and just not fun, but it was warm and cozy at KI on January 18th. Preschool families danced the night away to music provided by Party Masters, plus we had plenty of delicious food and great raffles. We also enjoyed a beautiful Havdalah Service with Rabbi Kleinman, Chana Rothman and Cantor Amy. While having all this fun, we also managed to raise nearly $5000 for our Playscape Project.

I want to thank Meredith Freeman, Marnie Wildman, Heather Eisenhart and Cameron Taylor, who together worked so hard on this amazing and very successful event. And thank you to all those who joined us that night to help us meet our goals!

I know there will be warm weather to come and we will see all our families outside enjoying the Playscape once again.
**March 2014 Calendar**

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<td>9:30 a.m. JQuest</td>
<td>Noon Shir Joy Rehearsal</td>
<td>Museum Craft &amp; Arts Event</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. Movie Night</td>
<td>11:30 a.m. Adult Ed Program</td>
<td>8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service</td>
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<td>9:30 a.m. JQuest</td>
<td>2:30 p.m. Adult Ed Program</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. JQuest</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. JQuest</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. Blue Bell JQuest</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Tot Shabbat</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morn. Service</td>
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<td>Noon</td>
<td>Shirley Joy Rehearsal</td>
<td>JQuest</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Quest Noar</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. Officers Mtg.</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Wine Tasting</td>
<td>2:00 p.m. Rydal Park Shabbat</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m. JQuest</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. NO Shir Joy Rehearsal Purim Carnival</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. JQuest</td>
<td>2:30 p.m. Library and Adult Ed Event</td>
<td>11:15 a.m. Adult Ed Program</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service led by 5th grade</td>
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<td>Noon</td>
<td>Shir Joy Rehearsal</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Quest Noar</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. Brotherhood Board Meeting</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. CC Lunch ‘n Learn</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. Blue Bell JQuest</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morn. Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m. JQuest</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. Shir Joy Rehearsal</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. JQuest</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. Women of KI – Passover Prog.</td>
<td>11:15 a.m. Adult Ed Program</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Blue Bell Shabbat 8:00 p.m. EP First Annual Heritage Shabbat Service</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Music Arts Concert</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Quest Noar</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. Blue Bell JQuest</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Mtg.</td>
<td>10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service 5:30 p.m. Havdalah Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m. JQuest</td>
<td>Noon Shir Joy Rehearsal</td>
<td>CCAR Convention – Chicago</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. JQuest</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Quest Noar</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>11:15 a.m. Adult Ed Program 4:00 p.m. Blue Bell JQuest 7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Mtg. 8:00 p.m. EP First Annual Heritage Shabbat Service</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Keneseth Israel Phone Directory**

- Administrative Office: 215-887-8700
- Rabbinic Office: 215-887-8702
- Religious School Office: 215-887-8704
- Fax: 215-887-1070
- Preschool: 215-885-2425
- Museum: 215-887-2027
- Gift Shop: 215-884-4364
## April 2014 Calendar

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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1:30 p.m. Book Discussion</td>
<td>11:15 a.m. Adult Ed Program</td>
<td>8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service – Rabbi Sussman Thomas Jefferson and the Jews</td>
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<td>4:30 p.m. JQuest</td>
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<td>9:00 a.m. Torah Study</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m. KIFTY – out of bldg.</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. Brotherhood/W of KI Event</td>
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<td>9:30 a.m. JQuest Passover Color Wars</td>
<td>1st night of Passover</td>
<td>Offices and School Closed</td>
<td>Preschool Closed</td>
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<td>11:30 a.m. Museum Comm. Mtg.</td>
<td>Library Author</td>
<td>10:30 a.m. Passover Service</td>
<td>11:15 a.m. Adult Ed Program</td>
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<td>12:00 p.m. Shir Joy Rehearsal</td>
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<td>6:00 p.m. Congregational Seder</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m. Interfaith Program</td>
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<td>7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
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**ARZA GALA**

Join us at the ARZA GALA “Honoring our Past – Securing our Future,” Saturday, April 5, 2014 at Central Synagogue, 123 East 55th St., New York. For additional information call: 212-650-4280 or www.arza.org
YAHREITZ FUND
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Regina Abrams
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Barbara Batt, Harry Batt
Brenda Baumholtz
Harold Baumholtz
Thelma Bayuk
Samuel Trachtenberg
Flora L. Becker
James Daniel Becker
Judy Bell, Jonathan Bell
Miriam Bell, Sarah Steinemann
Merryl & Scott Bender
Reuben H. Goldber; Abe Rubinowitz
Irene Birnbaum, Sarah Peckler
Eugene & Harriet Brecher
Eichel Brecher; Ray Krakowitz
Joseph R. Brenner, Aaron M. Brenner; Doris Sostmann
Lynee Caplan
Robert Walkenstein
Betty Cohen, Hyman Paplow
Claudia A. Cohen
A. Douglas Abraham
Phyllis & Martin S. Cohen
Harry Marcus Cohen
Barbara G. Cole
Zelda Gottman
Freda Cooper, Marshall Album
Louis Cooper, Kiva Cooper
Rita Ann Gold Cousins
Louise U. Kostick
Julia Davis, Paul Kraft
Shelcia DeAnnuntius
William Cooper
Rhea Dennis & family
Freda Hersh
Ruth & William Dodies
Harry Smith
Renate Elgart
Regina Schoenwetter
Elaine & Julius Ellison, Allen Ellison; Esther Krasnow; Max Krasnor; Coleman Nadler
Ruth Erle
Samuel D. Eri; Else Magnus
Vickie & Jack Farber
Joseph Weinberg
Martin & Ellie Feldsheer
Edward Sclaky
Eileen & Stephen Feldman
Henry H. Brown
Frances Fertman, Edith Fertman
Doni Fisher, Harry Ginsburg
Susan Fisher
Stanley Fisher
Barbara & Kenneth Forman
Margaret Riffkind
Jean A. Foreman, Anna Amsterdam; Philip J. Amsterdam
Penny Frederick
Irving Cohen; Jacob Weinstein
Elinor Garson, Esther Berman
Sally Ginsberg, Jonathan Bell, Marlene Glass, I. Eddie Sachs
Steven E. Glauser
Beatrice Glauser
Marty Glynn, William Glynn
Claire Goldstein, Ellfridie Franke; Debra Goldstein
Florence Gorman & family
Paul Gorman
Emily & Howard Greenberg
Michael Leonard Brecker
Joan Gross, Shirley Silverman
Tania Hafelt
Bernard Hafelt; Herman Hafelt
Ruth Halpern, Raphael Raich
Carl & Florence Herman
Sadye Herman; Fannie Sokoloff, Isador Sokoloff
Lillian Hertz, Myron C. Hertz
Edward E. & Shirley S. Itzenson
Herbert Itzenson
Joan F. Jaffe
Nettvlene Fleshman
Ruth Joseph, Anna P. Bram
Marilyn Kaplan
Sidney Seidman
David & Barbara M. Katz
Janet L. Myerson
Diane Kendall, Herman K. Stern
Janet & Tim Kerry
Nelson V. Haas
Howard Koff, Freda Yaffe
Audrey & Hal Krisberg, Albert Goldfinger; Iris Goldfinger
Elaine Leibowitz
Benjamin Swait
Caryl Levin, Martin T. Glass
Jill Levine, Stanley Rankin
Ruth Lipschutz
Robert Walkenstein
Mark Lipschutz
Beatrice Lipschutz
Anita Lipsin
Nathan Binkin; Jack M. Lipson
Miriam & Jim Logan
Arlene Schwartz
Jerome & Benita Mandel
Milton E. Belkin
Carol & Steven Marsh, Charles L. Carroll; Fannie Carroll
Irwin Matusow, Anna Silverstein
Lois & Marvin Mazer & family
Rose Mazer
Barbara & Henry Meil
Clara Goodhart
Henry Meyer
Victoria Ocheer Marks
Barbara Michaels
Ruth Ann Nibauer
Barbara & Nelson Mishkin
Samuel Chot; Frances Mishkin
Charlotte Moskowitz
Abraham Milstein
Bruce S. Muchnick
Harry B. Muchnick
Aaron & Gail Newberg
Lillian Newberg
Arlene & Larry Newman
Calman Solomnon
Frances Nodiff
Anna Kramer
Laurence & Mary Lou Nodiff
Anna Kramer
Shanelee Pollack
Richard Gold; Pauline Kirsh
Leonard & Renee Portnay
Anna Portnoy
William Printz, Jerome N. Printz; Ruth Sondhaim
Phyllis Raskin-Macey
Mendl M. Raskin
Isabelle Ripkin, Sol Jaslows
Jay L. Rosen, Bee Pooed
Lynne & Ronald Rosen
Sarah Silverstein
Marvin I. Rosen
Elizabeth Rosen
Sally Rosen-Plon
Robert L. Rosan
Helene Ross & family
Edward J. Ross
Janet D. Rowland
Louise G. Lang
Arlene B. Rubin
William Feldtshcer; Frank Rubin; Morris Rubin
Deborah & Bill Rubinsohn
Milton Brownstein
Greta Rubinstein & family
Roman Rubinstein
Barbara Rudnick
Anne G. Altman
Neil & Eyse Saladoof
Herbert Saladoof
Marilyn Savitz
Leonard David Savitz
Ross Schriftman
Harry Goldman
Jane C. Schwartz
Howard I. Schwartz
The Serdikoff Family
Gerald Serdikoff; Martin Serdikoff, Leon Weil
Georgia Shafia, Isaac Cohen
Leon Silver, Morris Silver
Janet Simmons, Claire Blitl
Ruth Singer, Sarah Prince
Rose Silvanir, Bessie Skorupsky
Sheldon & Shirley Sommerman
Isador Sommerman
Ruth & Philip Spergel
Lee Horowitz; Phillip Horowitz; Sarah Spergel
Claire F. Spilk, Ida Freedman
Freda Sussman, Sophie G. Sacki
Betsy Tuft
Carolyn M. Tuft; Louis Tuft
Alvin V. Sidor, Victor Sidor
Max & Marlene Wald
Charles Wald
Jack Weinberger
Samuel Mazzy
Mildred Weiss, Max Dunn; Reba Dunn; Mae G. Weiss
Edith Yesner, Florence Josovitz
Maryanne Zevin
Robert H. Levine
ARCHIVES FUND
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Rochelle Wolf
CANTOR’S PHILANTHROPIC FUND
Donor, In Memory Of
Jackie & Ron Baer
Stanley G. Baer
In Honor Of
Donnie & Bob Katz
Sandy Rosenthal
CARING COMMUNITY
Donor, In Honor Of
Anita & Murray Madnick & family,
Special birthdays of Gene & Avi Behrend
PAULIE & SID CROSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Donor, In Memory Of
Paulie & Sid Cross
Milton Sanders
GENERAL FUND
Donor, In Memory Of
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Norman Shensman
Jay & Donna Karfunkle
Robert DeLuca
Deborah & Bill Rubinsohn
Helen & Richard Konstance
Walter Fiddler
Morton & Judy Langfeld
Robert DeLuca; Hanley Rubinsohn
Janet Sigman, Paul Rada
Chuck Steinberg
Hanley Rubinsohn
Bob & Helene Wagman
Frank Mazen
Rochelle Wolf, Frank Mazen
Donor, In Honor Of
Myra & Howard Asher
Marriage of Benjamin Maslin & Jessica Linn
Elaine & Len Hertzberg
50th Wedding Anniversary of
Francine & Steve Strauss
Lois & Arnold Machles
50th Wedding Anniversary of
Francine & Steve Strauss
Joan Millian, Joan Polin
Sharon & Lee Rosenthal
75th Birthday of Ann Klein Cohen
Rubinson Family
90th Birthday of Adeline Stein
Francine & Steven Strauss
Stoloff Grandchildren
GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Donor, In Memory Of
William A. Schur
Robert DeLuca; Solomon Fisher; Neil J. Kanner
KING DAVID HARPSOCIETY
Donor, In Memory Of
Jan C. Finkelstein, Alvin Charles Goldston; Abraham Marymor
Barbara Rudnick & Irv Matusow, Hanley Rubinsohn
Donor, In Honor Of
Barbara Rudnick & Irv Matusow, Sandy Rosenthal
MANUEL & BLANCHE KORN HEARING IMPAIRED FUND
Donor, In Memory Of
Jean M. Korn, Bertram W. Korn
DR. MANFRED R. KRAUSKOFF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
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Kay Brylawski
Joseph L. Krauskopf; Patricia M. Krauskopf
CLARENCE L. & ESTELLE S. MEYERS LIBRARY FUND
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Donor, In Honor Of
Blanche Baurer, Bat Mitzvah of Sydney Becker Rubin
MUSIC ARTS FUND
Donor, In Memory Of
Julius & Elaine Ellison
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Marlene Sellers, Marvin Leon

Donor, In Honor Of
Marlene Sellers, Speedy
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Hanley Rubinsohn
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Ruth Singer
Hanley Rubinsohn
Somerman & Budilov Families
Neil Kanner
Sheldon & Shirley Somerman
Hanley Rubinsohn;
Harvey Sleptian

Donor, In Honor Of
Marisa Herrera
Rabbi Lance J. Sussman
Sandi & David Kleinman
Rabbi Kevin M. Kleinman
Sharon & Lee Rosenthal
70th Birthday of Jo Ann Simon
Nan Rosner & family, Naming of
Greenberg Grandchildren
Janet Yudkin, Robert L. Brent

RICHARD E. RUDOLPH, JR. NURSERY SCHOOL FUND
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Merry & Scott Bender
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Donor, In Honor Of
Carol & Michael Davis
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Sarah Cooper
Rachel Pines
Alyne Feldman, Jacob Feldman;
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Barbara Bronstein
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Donor, In Memory Of
Lynn Brody & family
M. Michael Brody; Paul Roda
The Parkinson Family
Paul Roda

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Herbert G. Altman
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Lynd Brody, Rochelle Wolf
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Melanie & Todd Mumbauer
Renee Levin
Rita Poley
Peter Olster; Ilana Weinstein

21ST CENTURY FUND
Donor, In Memory Of
Marc & Andy Bookman
Angelina; Rae Mustokoff;
Margie Reed

TYSON RADIO FUND
Donor, In Memory Of
Vecheon, Sam & Howard Bloom
Albert Bloom
Marsha & Dan McGee
Rose Elefant

LYNNE NEIGUT & FAMILY

RICHMAN FUND

Donor, In Memory Of
Lewis Rosenthal
Rocha Wolf
Richard & Anne Brown
Rochelle Wolf

Donor, In Honor Of
Barbara Bronstein
Rochelle Wolf

TYSON RADIO FUND

Donor, In Honor Of
Marlene Sellers
Rochelle Wolf

The enclosed contribution is to the ___________________ Fund
In Memory of ____________________________________________
In Honor of ____________________________________________

Please acknowledge to:
Name _______________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State _____ Zip 

Donors Name _________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State _____ Zip

Please make checks payable to Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel.

Contributions

We Appreciate The Thoughtfulness Of Those Who Support KI

...by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions to KI’s special funds.

We apologize ahead of time for any donations that may be missing from this issue. If you would like it to appear next month, please contact Anita by phone (215-887-8702) or e-mail (anita@kenesethisrael.org). Sorry for any inconvenience.

Richman Fund for Seniors Established

We are pleased to announce that a new endowment fund was recently established. The Benjamin and Renee z”l Richman Fund for Elder Care will provide financial assistance to senior citizens and help us provide transportation subsidies to KI services and programs for seniors.

We are grateful for the compassion and generosity of our congregant, Ben Richman. Donations to the fund should be marked “Richman Fund.”

There are many opportunities to build a legacy at KI. To discuss bequest or endowment fund options contact KI’s Executive Director, Brian Rissinger at 215-887-8700.
Dear Women of Keneseth Israel,

Lilith Salon a Great Success!!

Paulette Sterman-Soroko did a yeoman’s job of organizing the afternoon by reviewing the articles, asking pertinent questions, and leading the discussions. Her kind, caring demeanor and leadership skills were most appreciated. It made us feel comfortable to share our ideas. We looked at three significant articles and spent the afternoon exploring our thoughts and feelings around them. Here is an excerpt from Paulette’s synopsis of the event: “Our conversations were lively, passionate, and insightful. Everyone had the opportunity to share their personal opinions and reflections in a safe, nurturing environment. These articles encouraged us to reflect on our experiences and spurred conversation regarding implementing change in our community. It was a most delightful and energizing afternoon!”

Our next Lilith Salon will be held on Sunday, March 30th at 2:00 p.m. at Paulette Sterman-Soroko’s house. RSVP to Paulette Sterman-Soroko, Lilith Salon Chairperson at 215-646-7997 or at stermanp@comcast.net. Please send Paulette your name, address, phone #, and email address.

Upcoming Events For Your Enjoyment:

Our next Board meeting is on Tuesday, March 11th at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Our Board Meetings are open to all of our members! We will be discussing nominations and programming ideas for next year.

Friday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m. “Passover” Wine Tasting prior to services, not only can you get a taste of the wonderful wines we have in our Gift Shop, you can also place your order for Passover!

Wednesday, March 26th at 6:30 p.m. “Clear Your Plate, Fill Your Cup” program. We will be joined by Cantor Amy Levy and Rabbi Stacy Rigler. This is a unique Women’s Passover Program filled with prayer, dancing, and singing that we began last year. We have written an interactive service “for women only” and encourage you to attend. We encourage you to bring your daughters, daughters-in-law, nieces or friends. A “light supper” will be served for only $18 per person.

Saturday, April 5th at 7:30 p.m. “Hurricane” Schwartz coming to speak on all things weather. Is anyone NOT interested in the weather? Please come - you will not be disappointed.

The Yom HaShoah Candles will soon be arriving at your home. Light them on the evening of Sunday, April 27. This is important for all of us, as each new generation is more removed than the last. We need to both observe this date and educate the younger generation, so all will remember and understand.

Our member Earl Weiss is still active, even though he has moved with his wife to an assisted living community in Bucks County. He is much too young to stop participating. He mentally runs circles around all of us. He is much too young to stop participating. He mentally runs circles around all of us.

We are now on Facebook, so please Like us and become a Friend. We will update events there as well.

We will begin to send information to all who donated to Brotherhood, so everyone can keep up with our agenda, even if you do not partake in meetings. Your donations are our lifeline.

We are always looking for new ushers and usherettes. Saturday services are fun as you meet people you have not seen since high school and it is rewarding to help.

We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The pizza alone makes it worthwhile, but you will see that the time is well spent.

Have to go as I hear the Boys of Summer beginning their quest towards the World Series. Shalom.

Nathan Zinberg, President
natezin@aol.com

Help Donate Seder Boxes

Kibbutz Birkat Shalom is our twinning community in Israel, led by Rabbi Miri Gold. Each year at Passover, volunteers from Birkat Shalom distribute Seder Boxes to local needy families. A donation of $36 will go a long way to help Rabbi Gold accomplish her goal. Your generous contribution is needed and will be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made payable to KI – please write Seder Box in the memo line.

Shalom distribute Seder Boxes to local needy families. A donation of $36 will go a long way to help Rabbi Gold accomplish her goal. Your generous contribution is needed and will be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made payable to KI – please write Seder Box in the memo line.

In Our Community

Hello from Brotherhood

As we move toward the Spring season, there are several events happening here at KI. Please add these dates to your calendar:

Saturday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m.: A Spring Shindig with the Women of KI and a social gathering for everyone. Come and dance or just hang out with friends and enjoy some food and adult beverages. Whether you come by yourself, with a partner or a group, you will enjoy yourself. There will be activities geared towards everyone. Prices are not firm as yet but should be about $15 per person, which includes good food and soft drinks. Beer and wine extra, but at 1970’s prices. I assure you, the good time will far outweigh the nominal price.

Friday evening, April 11 at 8:00 p.m.: Brotherhood Shabbat. We have Glenn “Hurricane” Schwartz coming to speak on all things weather. Is anyone NOT interested in the weather? Please come - you will not be disappointed.

Our member Earl Weiss is still active, even though he has moved with his wife to an assisted living community in Bucks County. He is much too young to stop participating. He mentally runs circles around all of us. We are now on Facebook, so please Like us and become a Friend. We will update events there as well.

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MEN OF REFORM JUDAISM

16 MARCH 2014
Gaon with the Wind

The Iraqi city of Fallujah has been in the news recently, having been the site of brutal military struggles, first shortly after the U.S. deposition of Saddam Hussein, and recently as part of the continuing internecine battles plaguing that country.

Close to Fallujah, in ancient Babylonia, was the city of Pumbedita. This was the site of one of the two major Talmudic Academies, which existed both in Babylonia and in Palestine roughly from the 6th century into the Middle Ages, either the 11th or 13th centuries. The other major Babylonian academy was in the city of Sura. The heads of these academies were the geonim, (singular gaon).

A humorous incident is mentioned in the Babylonian Talmud. A famous judge (dayan) Rav Sheishet from another academy in Nehardea, used Pumbedita as part of a jest in an argument with one Rav Amram. This occurred after the latter made a forced argument regarding whether children can assume ownership of a father’s property in a case of doubtful transference of real property rights.

After Rav Amram states his position, Rav Sheishet retorted: “Are you from Pumbedita, where they push an elephant through the eye of a needle?” As in most Talmudic debates, the jest was not the end of the argument!

After the gaonic period, the term gaon has been used simply as a title of honor to describe extreme excellence in Jewish learning. In recent centuries the most familiar of these has been Elijah ben Solomon (1720-1797) known as The Gaon of Vilna, a fierce opponent of Chasidism, then sweeping Eastern Europe.

Next month Saadia Gaon confronts Aaron ben Meir in a classic debate over the Jewish calendar! Don’t miss an account of this earth-shaking chapter in our history.

Dick Weiss
Immediate Past President
We are pleased to offer a Discount to All KI Members for any upcoming party.

Check out our Website and our Facebook page for samples of our beautiful creations.

From large parties to intimate gatherings, we work in all budgets.
Creative, Affordable Party Planning and Decorating for:
Weddings • Bar/Bat Mitzvahs • Corporate Events • Proms • Graduations
Parties And Every Special Event
For The Future

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td><strong>Friday, 4/4</strong></td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Shabbat Service Rabbi Sussman: Thomas Jefferson and the Jews</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, 4/10</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Friday, May 9</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, May 10</strong></td>
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<td>Spring Gala Honoring Cantor Levy</td>
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**CORE VALUES**

As a diverse community representing a broad constituency of nearly 1,000 families strong, we have identified seven core values that define the heart and soul of our congregation.

Look inside for the core value symbol – revealing our commitment in action!

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<th>Value</th>
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<td>Jewish Pride/Love of Israel</td>
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Join Rabbi Lance & Liz Sussman and Rabbis Peter and Stacy Rigler

for an enriching, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, as they lead a summer family trip to Israel. The deluxe tour, AUGUST 17 - 29, 2014, is open to all members of Keneseth Israel and Temple Sholom, and promises to be a most memorable experience. Highlights of the trip, among many, include Biblical Jerusalem’s Western Wall tunnels “Behind the Scenes” tour, ancient synagogues & artists market in mystical Safed, a hike through the Tel Dan Nature Reserve, a visit to an active Israeli Military Base and an unforgettable performance at Nalag’at Theatre. For more details and information, please see the link on the KI Website homepage or contact the clergy office.

Address Service Requested:
8339 Old York Rd., Elkins Park, PA 19027-1597

Berlin & Amsterdam

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