Hello K.I. Congregational Family. I would like to relate a story given to me many years ago called “The Man Who Sold Hot Dogs.” There was a man who lived by the side of the road and sold hot dogs. He was hearing impaired so he had no radio. He had trouble with his eyes so he read no newspapers. But...he sold lots of hot dogs! He put up signs on the highway telling how good they were, and he stood on the side road and cried, “Buy a hot dog Mister?” So people did stop to buy his hot dogs. So he increased his meat and bun orders and bought a bigger stove to take care of his trade. Then he finally got his son through college and home to help him out. But then something happened; his son said “Father, haven’t you been listening to the radio? Haven’t you been reading the newspapers? There is a big recession. The Near East situation is bad. The domestic situation is worse.” So the father thought, “Well, my son has been to college. He reads newspapers and he listens to the radio. He ought to know.” So the father cut down on his meat and bun orders, took down his advertising signs, and he no longer bothered to stand out on the side of the road selling his hot dogs. Then his hot dog sales fell almost overnight. “You are right son,” the father said to the boy, “We certainly are in the middle of a great recession.” –Anonymous.

There are many inferences that can be drawn from the above tale, but one that comes to my mind is the self-fulfilling prophecy. It might go something like this….the synagogue is failing. We have to become Reform or we won’t survive. Our membership is aging and we do not have enough younger members to offset this trend, so we are doomed. This type of self-defeating behavior will probably lead us to failure if we constantly tell ourselves we have no options and we are doomed. In my short tenure as president of K.I., I have had the opportunity to talk with many of our members. While I know they are concerned, I am amazed at the defeatist attitudes that many of them harbor. Just like the story above, we have weathered many a recession and managed to recover. There will be more; you can count on it. There are no challenges that we cannot overcome. While I have concern for our situation, I know that there are solutions out there as well. This however requires each of us to pull ourselves up by our boot straps and get involved as part of the solution. When we talk amongst ourselves the conversation should be how can we attract new members, young, middle-aged and more experienced. When we talk with those in the community, it should be how we are working to rebuild and revitalize the shul, not tear it down and light the yahrzeit candle.

I was out to dinner the other night with one of our past presidents. While the conversation started out to be a little contentious, the tone actually mellowed when he realized that I’m interested in just a few shorts weeks we will be celebrating the holiday of Purim. Although it is a fun and crazy holiday, there is also a very serious nature to Purim because it commemorates the Jewish people being saved from a total holocaust within the Persian Empire. We are not exactly sure when this story takes place, best guess being around the fifth century B.C.E. Regardless, the story of Esther is so important to hear, that it is required that both men and women hear every word read twice, Purim night and Purim day. In brief, Haman, who was the vizier to the king, announced that he wanted to destroy the Jewish people. While many Jews dismissed these statements as just meaningless rhetoric, Mordechai took them seriously and created the strategy to thwart Haman’s plan.

So why is it so imperative that we hear the story of Esther, which took place over two millennia ago, twice annually? Fast forward about 2,300 years. We had a man named Hitler who also made his intention known, to rid Europe of all Jews. Many people dismissed him as a lunatic and paid very little heed to his threats. We all know what followed. Fast forward another seventy-five years to modern day Persia, or Iran, where once again, the leaders of the country vow to exterminate Israel. And once again, many Jewish people dismiss these statements as meaningless political rhetoric of a lunatic. However, just as Mordechai took these threats seriously and created a strategy to spoil Haman’s goals, so too, organizations like AIPAC take Iran’s threats very seriously and have created a political strategy to halt their ability to carry out their goals. And by the way, if you think that Iran will be satisfied with the destruction of Israel, think again. Just as Esther approached her country’s leader to advocate on behalf of her people, I would suggest writing the President, your Senators and Congressman reminding them how important the security of Israel is to our country, and encourage them to take whatever steps necessary to insure that radical and maniacal rulers do not carry out their evil plans.

Esther’s story also reminds us that we must take care of people who are less fortunate than us, with the nitzvah of giving charitable gifts to the needy. How can we celebrate wholeheartedly while others go day to day never knowing where their next meal is coming from. We have an obligation to share our blessings with others, and Purim gives us the opportunity to do so in a big way, by giving mishloach manot to our friends and matanot l’evyonim (charitable gifts) to the needy. Obviously, one way to accomplish this is to send money to charitable causes, but another way is to bring our food and household items to shul on Purim and drop them into the JFS or Yachad barrels in our lobby. In this way, when we celebrate Purim with costumes, food and fun, we can do so with a clear conscience.

I wish you all a very happy, freilich and meaningful Purim.

Rabbi Jeffrey A. Shron
SHABBAT SERVICES
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28
Candlelighting*.............................5:52 P.M.
Kabbalat Shabbat..............................6:00 P.M.
SATURDAY, MARCH 1
Morning Service...............................9:00 A.M.
Mincha........................................5:30 P.M.
Havdalah.......................................6:44 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7
Candlelighting*.............................6:00 P.M.
Kabbalat Shabbat..............................6:10 P.M.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8
Morning Service...............................9:00 A.M.
Mincha........................................4:45 P.M.

BAT MITZVAH OF NINA KULIKOV
Havdalah.......................................6:51 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14
Candlelighting*.............................7:07 P.M.
Kabbalat Shabbat..............................6:45 P.M.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15
Morning Service...............................9:00 A.M.
Mincha........................................6:45 P.M.
Havdalah.......................................7:58 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21
Candlelighting*.............................7:14 P.M.
Kabbalat Shabbat..............................6:45 P.M.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22
Morning Service...............................9:00 A.M.
CHAI ANNIVERSARY KIDDUSH
Mincha...........................................6:50 P.M.
Havdalah.......................................8:05 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28
Candlelighting*.............................7:21 P.M.
Kabbalat Shabbat..............................6:45 P.M.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29
Morning Service...............................9:00 A.M.
Mincha........................................7:00 P.M.
Havdalah.......................................8:13 P.M.

*NO LATER THAN

Vicky and Andre Kulikov are proud to announce the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Nina, on Shabbat afternoon, March 8, at 4:45 p.m., at Kehilath Israel Synagogue.

Nina is the granddaughter of Phyllis and Ron Kogan, Galina Kulikova and the late Sergey Kulikov. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Jack and Sarah Ruben and the late Mickey and Bernice Kogan.

Nina is a sixth grader at Trailwood Elementary School. Her passions include painting, drawing, and singing. Currently she is in the Junior Raiders Choir and violin at her school. In her spare time, besides her art, she loves to read, enjoys creative writing and plays outdoor soccer. She also has fun being a sister to her older brother, Sam.

We look forward to being surrounded by family and friends as we celebrate Nina’s Bat Mitzvah.

MORRIS FINGERSH SCHOLARSHIP TRUST
The Trustees of the Morris Fingersh Scholarship Trust Fund are now prepared to proceed with the disbursement of the funds from the trust set up by the late Morris Fingersh. The income from the trust is to be used to provide financial assistance to deserving students at the Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy.

All students of the Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy are eligible. Application requests for financial assistance should be sent after March 15 to:
Trustees of the Morris Fingersh Trust
c/o Kehilath Israel Synagogue,
10501 Conser Street,
Overland Park, Kansas 66212.

ALL REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 15, 2014 ABSOLUTELY NO REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE

FAST OF ESTHER
On Thursday, March 13, Jews around the world will be commemorating the Fast of Esther. This is one of our minor fast days, meaning it is observed from break of day until evening and not a twenty-four hour fast like Yom Kippur.

In the Megillah of Esther, the Jewish people are commanded to fast in memory of the events of the Purim festival and the Jews being saved in the land of Iran.

The fast begins at 6:14 a.m. and will conclude at 7:56 p.m.

SIMCHA TREE LEAF DEDICATIONS
IN HONOR OF
KAREN & STEVE PACK
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY 1-29-2014
THE DEVINKI & KOLKIN FAMILIES

REMEMBER! MARCH 9

DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL ISSUE OF THE FOCAL POINT IS MARCH 10
PURIM
at
Kehilath Israel Synagogue

THE FAST OF ESTHER

Thursday, March 13, 2014
Services 7:00 a.m. & 6:45 p.m.
The Fast of Esther commemorates the day when the Jews of Persia fasted and prayed that they be spared the massacre planned by Haman. This fast begins at sunrise and ends at dark.

MACHATZIT HASHEKEL

This Biblical injunction requires everyone to pay a half Shkel or half dollar to the Sanctuary of the L-rd. The purpose was to take a census of every man, woman and child. Today this money goes to charity.

MISHLOACH MANOT

Send two types of ready-to-eat foods to at least one friend, personally or by messenger. Also, it is a mitzvah to give a gift to at least two needy people.

PURIM EVENING

Saturday, March 15, 2014
Maariv & Megillah Reading at 7:30 p.m.
COME IN COSTUME AND JOIN US AFTER THE MEGILLAH READING FOR PURIM ENTERTAINMENT, KID’S ACTIVITIES, HAMANTASCHEN AND REFRESHMENTS. DON’T MISS THE FUN!

PURIM DAY

Sunday, March 16, 2014
Services and Megillah Reading at 9:00 a.m. in the Rose Morgan Chapel

SPECIAL THANKS

The Al Hanisim paragraph, a special prayer of thanks, is included in the Amidah and the Birkat Hamazon.
MARCH BIRTHDAYS

We want to wish a Happy Birthday to all of the following congregants who are celebrating their birthdays this month:


MARCH ANNIVERSARIES


CONGREGANTS MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Emily Ruben, Jeremy Gutovitz, Ashlyn Agron, Jonathan Kosiborod, Mark Kriesfeld, Jordan Levin, Samuel Kosiborod, Adam Schlozman, Benjamin Siegel.

MARCH YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

Emily Ruben, Jeremy Gutovitz, Ashlyn Agron, Jonathan Kosiborod, Mark Kriesfeld, Jordan Levin, Samuel Kosiborod, Adam Schlozman, Benjamin Siegel.

Rabbi Jeffrey A. Shron
Senior Rabbi
ELIZABETH PEDEN
Executive Director
GEVURA DAVIS
Director, K.I. Fred Devinki Eitz Chaim Religious School
ALLEGRA SHANBERG, Editor
CRAG CAPLAN, President
RABBI HERBERT J. MANDL, PH.D.
Rabbi Emeritus
SAM DEVINKI,
Honorary President for Life

THE FOCAL POINT OF
KEHILATH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE
(913) 642-1880 FAX: (913) 642-7332

President’s cont’d from page 1..................

in positive input and solutions, and he and his wife offered some that may have real merit in the future of K.I. I intend to reach out to some of our past presidents as they have something to offer in the solutions we are searching for and have a great deal of “tribal knowledge.” Those who are interested in positive input and ideas, I’m very willing to hear from them. That goes for everyone, not just past presidents. There are many solutions for our challenges, and I’d like to hear from you if you have some to offer. My cell phone is 913.706.0933, home is 913.851.8682 and my email address is capcraiger@aol.com; please don’t be afraid to use any of the above. We have work to do so please get on board, take part in programming, offer ideas, get on a committee, and communicate with our board of directors and our officers as they are some of the most capable K.I. has ever seen. I look forward to working with you, and for you, in our quest to be the best. As a man I have always respected used to say, “See you at the top”!

Craig Caplan, President

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Craig Caplan, President
Kehilath Israel Synagogue Is Pleased To Announce Its

Caviar Family-Jewish Scholar in Residence Series

Rabbi Samuel Intrator

The Mystical Power of Prayer

April 4 & 5, at K.I.

Friday Night  6:15pm
Rabbi Intrator will blend prayer, understanding and song as he leads the Friday night service. He will continue this theme during dinner. His topic will be “The Spiritual Power of Speech.” Children have their own program.

Friday Night Dinner follows services  (Reservations required by March 27)
Adults: $10, Children under 13: Free with Parent

Shabbat Morning  9am
Rabbi Intrator addresses the congregation from the pulpit on “Why So Few Jews in the Pews: Bringing More Meaning to Prayer” and will lead a truly inspirational Musaf service.

Shabbat Mincha/Havdalah  6:50pm
As Shabbat winds down, Rabbi Intrator keeps us inspired and leads us into Havdalah followed by an Uplifting Musical Experience, complete with storytelling, singing and dancing. You won’t want to miss this happening.

Rabbi Intrator has lectured throughout the U.S., Israel and Europe where he has touched Jews from all backgrounds. His outreach techniques and philosophies are based on those of the legendary Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach with whom he toured extensively. Rabbi Intrator was the Assistant Rabbi at the Carlebach shul, Congregation Kehillat Jacob, in New York City, from 1992 until the untimely passing of Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach zt"l. He then served as the Senior Rabbi of the synagogue from 1994 – 2000. Rabbi Intrator’s interactive approach to prayer and Jewish learning has inspired thousands to feel connected to their spiritual roots.

This exciting community program is held at K.I. 10501 Conser, Overland Park, KS.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yahrzeit</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 ADAR II-MARCH 1</td>
<td>ESTHER GALLAS, GERTRUDE JERWICK, GOLDA MALLIN, JACOB MONDSCHEIN, SAM OSADCHY, SAM SHRIBER, SAMUEL YOFFEE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 ADAR I-MARCH 2</td>
<td>ALAN COSNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 ADAR II-MARCH 3</td>
<td>MARTIN BROWN, HARRY CONE, MAX FLEITMAN, SARAH GORDON, RAISEL LADINSKY, SOPHIE MANN, SAM MOGEL, DOROTHY RUDNICK, IDA SEBERT, MANYA SLOTKIN, SOLOMON WISMAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 ADAR II-MARCH 4</td>
<td>BERTHA ABEND, MOSES BECKENSTEIN, HARRY JACOBSON, STEVEN KANDLIS, JOSEPH SIMON, ANN SINGMAN, ANN WEINBERG</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 ADAR II-MARCH 5</td>
<td>BELLE GLASS, AARON KRAITCHMAN, ROSE PORTNOFF</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 ADAR II-MARCH 6</td>
<td>ROSE AARON, JOE ADELMAN, ROSE FILSON, ABRAM FISHMAN, BENJAMIN HARRIS, BEILA DVORA JABEN, ELLEN MARGOLIS, MAX MOLOTSKY, SOPHIE PRESS, PAULINE SHAW, ALVIN SISS</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 ADAR II-MARCH 7</td>
<td>LINDA DORFMAN, MOLLIE DWORETSKY, MORRIS EISEN, RACHELLE FROHLICHMAN, HARRY KAPLAN, NATHAN N. MAISSL, MORRIS MILOVITZ, PHILIP J. SPECTOR</td>
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<td>6 ADAR II-MARCH 8</td>
<td>BENJAMIN BAKER, JOSEPH BERNSTEIN, BESSIE BLOCK, FREDA BOEDER, ANNA ROSE COHN, JULIUS GUCKENHEIMER, NAFTALIE LEFKOWITZ, ALEC LEVITT, SAMUEL MYERS, MORRIS TURKIN, JACK WEINBERG</td>
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<td>7 ADAR II-MARCH 9</td>
<td>SOPHIE BIRENBOIM</td>
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<td>8 ADAR II-MARCH 10</td>
<td>GERTRUDE BURSTEN, PESACH COHEN, MOLLIE GANDAL, ABRAHAM GOUTOVITZ, JACOB KUSNETSKY, EDITH MANN, PAUL MANN, YEHUDAH MOOKIN, ISADOR TENENBAUM, SAM TRANIN, MEYER WINEGAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 ADAR II-MARCH 11</td>
<td>SHERMAN BERNSTEIN, ESTHER LITTMAN, SAMUEL PREVAN, ANNA RASKIN, ZYIYAH SILVER, MOLLIE SINGMON, PHILLIP SOLSKY, REBECCA TRANIN, ZLATA ZENITSKY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 ADAR II-MARCH 12</td>
<td>IDA BROWN, SAM CAPLAN, KATIE FEINGOLD, HENRIETTA JACOBSON, JACOB LANSKY, JOSEPH PRICE, ROSE WEINER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 ADAR II-MARCH 13</td>
<td>BASIA GORIN, DORA KAHN, MILTON NEARENBERG, MAURICE ROTH</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 ADAR II-MARCH 14</td>
<td>MEYER FEDER, SAM GOLDBERG, MARY KRAFT, HOROWITZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 ADAR II-MARCH 15</td>
<td>BETTY GLASS, ISRAEL GOTTLEIB, MIRIAM GOTTLEIB, RIVKA GOTTLEIB, SARA GOTTLEIB, MAX GREEN, MAX HACKER, LEAH KALISH, MOSES MONDSCHEIN, SADIE WACKNOV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 ADAR II-MARCH 16</td>
<td>TILLIE BARASH, SAMUEL GLADSTONE, SAMUEL GREENBERG, DANIEL MILLER, HARRY SAGER, RALPH SHER, LEVI SINGMON, SAM WEINER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 ADAR II-MARCH 17</td>
<td>SAM GUDINSKY, RITA LEGA, RAYLA LESKI, SIMCHA LESKI, MARY MARGOLIS, BETTY LOU MASLAN, CARL MYERS, HERMAN PLESSNER, DORA SANDLER, JEANNE SUBERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 ADAR II-MARCH 18</td>
<td>SOLOMON BIRENBOIM, LEO BURSTEN, PEARLE COHN, MORRIS DOBROWSKI, JOSEPH ESRI, JEANETTE GODLER, ESTHER GREENSTEIN, WILLIAM HOROWITZ, ITTA LICHTOR, WILLIAM LIPKIN, ROSA POWELL, HELEN RUDNICK, CELIA SCHIFMAN, ARYEH ZALC MANN</td>
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<td>17 ADAR II-MARCH 19</td>
<td>EMMA CHERNOFF, JACOB COHN, MOLLY MEYERS, SYLVIA SPECTOR</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 ADAR II-MARCH 20</td>
<td>BETTY KOOK, ROSE LINDMAN, MINNIE SALWINSKY, SARAH TENENAUBM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 ADAR II-MARCH 21</td>
<td>BEN GUROVITZ, FISHEL JABEN, CARL KRAITCHMAN, HINDA LEWKOWITZ, MAX PITLUCK, DAVID STEINBERG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 ADAR II-MARCH 22</td>
<td>A. HELLMAN, NATHAN JACOBSON, IDA KLEUGAM, JOSEPH KRUG, SHEMUEL KRUG, NATHAN MATTERS, NELLIE MILLSTEIN, ELIZABETH PFIEFER, NATIEN ROVENSKY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 ADAR II-MARCH 23</td>
<td>RACHEL BERNSTEIN, ESTHER CARROLL, HARRY KATZ, PERI KLOPPER, JACOB SHAW, LEONA TRANIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 ADAR II-MARCH 24</td>
<td>SAMUEL COHEN, ESTHER GRUNDMAN, JOSEPHINE LEVITCH, MARY MATTERS, BEN MEDOFF, CLARA OSADCHY, ABRAHAM PESMEN, LENA PITTEL, FANNIE L. SAMBUR, ISAAC SHERMAN, REBECCA WINER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 ADAR II-MARCH 25</td>
<td>MARK ADELMAN, ITZHAK ALBERT, LIBBIE ALBERT, ESTHER BAUM, VICTOR DAVIS, OSCAR FRIZENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 ADAR II-MARCH 26</td>
<td>MINNIE COHN, ABRAHAM DENOWITZ, NATHAN DUNN, BEN GARBER, ABE GREENBERG, LEAH NUSBAUM, ABE ROVEN, SONIA SCHULTZ, RACHEL STUMDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 ADAR II-MARCH 27</td>
<td>EDNA BEIZER, ISAAC PODER, HARRY BROSDBKY, FRUMA FRIEDMAN, ABRAHAM NUDELMAN, RACHEL ROSENBURG, BELLA SLOBOSKY, ARON WARNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 ADAR II-MARCH 28</td>
<td>LOUIS BROWN, BETTY CHUZIE, STEPHANIE KLOPPER, MORRIS SAMET, LIBIE SHER, ADOLPH SILVER, ARON SUKIIENK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 ADAR II-MARCH 29</td>
<td>IRWIN AGRON, DORIS BUSH, SHEVA GOLDMAN, IDA FAY KLEIN, MARY MENDELSON, JACK PRICE, KARLA SIBERG, DAVID STEIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 ADAR II-MARCH 30</td>
<td>BENNETT ALPORT, AVROM BARABAN, OSCAR NUSBAUM, ANNA POLANSKY, SARAH REBECCA, RUBEY, JOSEPH SHAPIRO, CELIA TANHOFF, SHIRLEY TOLTZIS, JOHN WARSHAWSKI, ISAAC ZITRON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 ADAR II-MARCH 31</td>
<td>ANNA COHN, GERTRUDE JERWICK</td>
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We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions.....

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Edith Shaw

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LORRAINE MOORE
Erwin & Janice LaPine

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Joe & Bobbie Levy
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Isabelle Gallas
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MEYER GILGUS
Zolan & Doris Gilgus
SANDRA GOLDSTEIN
Elliott & Linda Goldstein
ABRAHAM NUDELMAN
Charlene Rubin
DOROTHY BELL
MORRIS BELL
Beverly & Barnett Alport

CHAI KIDDUSH FUND
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CAROLE & PEYTON SHER
MARCIA KARBAN & JOSEPH SMUCKLER
SANDRA & LARRY JABENIS

K.I. RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND
YAHREZET
GOLDYE RADETSKY
Linda & David Fogel
ELIZABETH FRANK
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HERMAN & DOROTHY SCHIFMAN
HUNGER FUND
YAHREZET
BETTY MASLAN
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Carol Schifman & David Halpern
AMALIE KORNFEIN
Mr. & Mrs. William Kornfein

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BIRTH
GRANDSON OF ARNIE & CAROL CAVIAR
Steve & Susan Osman
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REBECCA YEDDIS
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SCHOLARSHIP FUND
YAHREZET
ELIZABETH FRANK
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ELMER PRICE
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Jerome Bulavsky
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Paul Wacknov
David Wacknov

WILLIAM & ANNA BIRENOIM RITUAL & PRAYER BOOK FUND
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SIBBY & MEL COSNER

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LIBRARY FUND
YAHREZET
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JEAN & MORRIS ODESKIN RITUAL & RELIGIOUS ITEMS FUND
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BARBARA GALLAS
SYLVESTER SHER
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SYLVESTER SHER


Honor
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RABBINICAL ASSOCIATION
Susan & Charles Choucourn
RABBI SHRON
Susan Cohen

MEMORY
SYLVESTER SHER
Susan & Geral Kloppe
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Fannie Krashin
ERNEST HOROWITZ
Toba Horowitz

RECOVERY
CAROL COHEN
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Sylvia Braun
ERNA HUEBNER
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BEN COSNER
ESTHER COSNER BERG
Jerry & Barbara Cosner
NATHAN TEMPOSKY
Harriet Fein

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MOLLY GILGUS
Cinde Gilgus
MAX MOLOTSKY
Barbara Molotsky
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JACK EISEN
Judy Weinstein
ESTHER ORLOVICH
Mary Skaler
SAM RUBENSTEIN
Ida Bernstein
CAROL HYKEN
Beverly Rae Burk
HARRY KAPLAN
Marian Kaplan
HARRY SAGER
Carol Levitt
SOPHIE PRESS
Fred Press
JACOB BERNSTEIN
Phyllis Kohn
DENA M. LEVINE
Robert & Fran Becker
SAM BEISER
SALLY SILVERMAN
Mrs. Shirley Beiser
5774 YOM HASHOAH/HOLOCAUST — MEMORIAL SERVICE, APRIL 27, 2014

The community is invited to attend the 2014 Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Memorial Service on Sunday, April 27, at 1:30 pm at the Jewish Campus.

Mirra Klausner, a member of the 2nd Generation and the daughter of Tiberius and Carla Klausner, is the Chair of the 2014 Yom HaShoah commemoration.

Tiberius, a Holocaust Survivor, is a native of Romania and was liberated by the Russians. Many of his family members perished.

Mirra and her husband Todd Clauer have three daughters. She works at SAFEHOME, a domestic violence shelter.

The moving candle lighting ceremony will include Holocaust survivors, Children of Survivors, Grandchildren of Survivors, Jewish War Veterans, a member of the youth in our community, and a representative of the entire Jewish Community. Six candles will be lit in memory of the six million Jews who perished. The service also honors those who survived the Nazi genocide.

This event is coordinated by the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education, JCC, and the JCRB/American Jewish Committee. Local Jewish organizations are co-sponsors. The entire community is invited to attend at no charge.

SECOND NIGHT OF PASSOVER SEDER

A contemporary community second night of Passover Seder experience will be offered on Tuesday, April 15 at Congregation Beth Shalom (14200 Lamar) beginning at 6:30 p.m. The Seder is an opportunity for family and friends to come together as a community for the telling of the Passover story — to reflect on our past and look forward to a future of freedom and liberation for all people throughout the world.

This year’s Seder experience will focus on modern day slavery and include traditions and customs of the Passover Seder using a special Haggadah from the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Through engaging stories, song and interactive discussion, we will retell the story of our people’s journey from slavery to freedom and remember those around the world who struggle with injustice every day. For as long as one person is oppressed, none of us are truly free. For it is said: Every person, in every generation, must regard his or her self as having been personally freed from bondage in Mitzrayim.

The Seder will be led by Rabbis David Glickman, Arthur Nemitoff, Scott White and Cantors Tahl Ben Yehudah and Sharon Kohn. A traditional kosher-for-Passover Seder meal will be prepared under supervision of the Vaad Hakashrut of Kansas City and served under the supervision of Rabbi David Glickman, Congregation Beth Shalom.

The community Seder is sponsored by the Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City, Jewish Family Services, and the Community Legacy Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City and supported by Congregations.

Advance reservations are mandatory and must be received by Monday, Monday, April 7; fees increase after that date.

Registration is available on line at www.kcrabbis.org or forms can be picked up at area congregations. For more information or to inquire about confidential financial assistance, contact Annette Fish, Administrator/Program Director, Rabbinical Association by email, afprogram@aol.com or call 913.327.4622.

WELCOME THE SPRING BY PLANTING THE SEEDS OF SOME NEW JEWISH LEARNING!

Are you curious about the Jewish mystical tradition? Just what is Kabbalah, and how does it differ from what some Hollywood celebrities are doing? Here is your opportunity to read, discuss, and learn from Jewish mystical texts, both well- and lesser-known. Our 10-week study begins in Torah and ends in California’s Kabbalah Centre and Israel’s Bnei Baruch Institute. Rabbi Elchanan Shulgasser will be our guide and teacher. Mysticism and Kabbalah: Secret Knowledge in Judaism is a 10-week scholars course for students who have completed the Melton Core Curriculum or comparable material. The class will be held at the JCC on Monday evenings, beginning on March 17th. Registration, including the student reader, is $180.

Is there a young child in your life? Melton’s Foundations of Jewish Family Living can teach you how to introduce and reinforce Jewish values in your day-to-day interactions with the little ones you love. You’ll learn which PJ Library books and Shalom Sesame videos will help you teach these fundamental behaviors, and you’ll have plenty of discussion time to share experiences with other participants. The first half of this 20-week course will be offered in two settings this spring: On Tuesday mornings at The New Reform Temple with Rabbi Alan Londy, beginning on March 18th; and on Wednesday evenings at the JCC with HHBHA School Psychologist, Ayala Rockoff, beginning on March 19th. (Part two of this course will be offered next fall.) Registration, including the student reader, is $250.

For more information or to enroll in either one of these classes, contact Henri Goettel at hgoettel@publicnetworking.org.

IN MEMORIAM

May the G-d of Mercy sustain and comfort those who have suffered the loss of dear ones. The Kehilath Israel family extends deepest sympathy to our bereaved families of:

YAKOV DREYER
(Husband of Olga Dreyer
Father of Svetlana Kapustin)

ABRAHAM HARRY GALLAS
(Father of Rachel Towle)
JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES NEWS

JEWISH UNEMPLOYED HAVE USEFUL TOOLS THROUGH JEWISH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

First, at the request of JFS funders, JFS has begun to *charge a nominal fee of $75 for full participation in all JES programming for up to 6 months*.

Of course there is a sliding scale available so everyone can participate, regardless of income.

RSVP for all programs to employment@jfskc.org.

Questions? Please call 913.730.1449.

MARCH

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: JFS “Kaffee Klatsch”. Weekly complimentary coffee and nosh; business casual dress. JCC Conference Room A (inside theater entrance), 8:30-9:30 a.m. Arrive before 8:30!

March 11, 25: JFS “Getting Unstuck” Roundtable. Informal bi-weekly session led by a JFS counselor to provide tools to get unstuck and move forward in your job search and life. RSVP to employment@jfskc.org. Call JES with questions at 913.730.1449. 10-11 a.m. March 11: JFS “Successful Conversations”. This great networking workshop is part of the Jobseeker Workshop series. RSVP to employment@jfskc.org. Social Hall, 9 a.m.-noon.

March 19: JES Monthly Job Club Topic: “Effectively Communicating vs. Venting”. Business casual dress, Social Hall, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

March 20: “Networking Happy Hour” for jobseekers, employers and others who want to make connections! Jewish Employment Services, RSVP to employment@jfskc.org. Social Hall, 5:30-6:45 p.m.

JES COMPUTER SKILLS HELP

For more information about the program, email JES Director Gayl Reinsch at greinsch@jfskc.org or call 913.327.8278. Job counseling and coaching is also available through JES.

LINK: http://www.jfskc.org/services/jewish-employment-services/

JOIN THE GAME AND TRUMP HUNGER

On Sunday, March 16 enjoy an afternoon of duplicate bridge to benefit Jewish Family Services Food Pantry. The JCC, JFS and Town Village of Leawood are sponsoring the duplicate bridge from 1-5 p.m. at the JCC. Bridge players may register individually, as couples or as tables at a cost of $5 per person plus one non-perishable food item. Those who wish to participate must register by March 12 by paying in person at the JCC Front Desk or call 913.327.8007. For more information or for questions, please contact Jill Maidhof at the JCC, 913.327.8077 or email jillm@jewishkc.org.

FAMILY TO FAMILY COURSE SET FOR MARCH

JFS and NAMI will present Family-to-Family, a free 12-week course for family and friend of individuals with mental illness. This course, that begins Wednesday, March 26, provides participants with communication and problem-solving techniques, coping mechanism and the self-care skills needed to deal with their loved one’s mental health as well as its impact on the family. Classes will be held at the Jewish Community Campus, 6:30-9 p.m. on Wednesdays, starting March 26; it requires a 12-week commitment. Reserve your space by contacting Susie Hurst, Director of Family Life Education, susieh@jfskc.org or 913.327.8259.

PASSOVER FOOD DRIVE TO BEGIN SOON

Once again, JFS is spearheading the Passover holiday food project in partnership with The Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City and area congregations. This effort brings to life the words from the Haggadah we use during Passover, “Let all who are hungry come and eat!”. Starting March 1, congregations will be collecting specific Passover food items for JFS’ holiday food project. By gathering designated food items, we put into action the traditional words of the Haggadah, “let all who are hungry come and eat!”. Passover begins at sundown, Monday, April 14. Food donations will be taken until March 31. This Holiday Food Drive will help approximately 200 individuals and families enjoy the traditional foods of Passover, particularly matzah and those made from unleavened products. Donated items may be dropped off at your congregation or in designated food barrels at JFS office at the JCC. For more information, please contact Jo Hickey, food pantry coordinator, at 913.327.8250. Volunteers are also needed to help out; those interested in volunteering should call the JFS office or email volunteer@jfskc.org. LINK: http://www.jfskc.org/volunteer/

SPRINGTIME HEALING SERVICE

The Communitywide Healing Service, under the auspices of the Jewish Community Chaplaincy program housed at Jewish Family Services, will take place Thursday evening, April 3 at Village Shalom. The service begins at 6:30 p.m. It is open to the entire community regardless of one’s level of observance. Rabbi Jonathan Rudnick, Jewish Community Chaplain, will facilitate the service. Please make reservations for the healing service by calling JFS’ office at 913.327.8250 or sending an email to healing@jfskc.org. For more information, contact healing@jfskc.org.

ONE CALL TO VOLUNTEER!

JFS has centralized its volunteer opportunities! JFS is recruiting new volunteers – and we want you to sign up. YOU can make a difference in someone’s life by volunteering as little as once a month. All you need to do is send an email to volunteer@jfskc.org or call 913.730.1410. JFS has numerous volunteer opportunities in its various programs and services and work when it fits your schedule. Give just a little and get so much in return. LINK: http://www.jfskc.org/volunteer/

COLLECTION BEGINS FOR PASSOVER HOLIDAY FOOD PROJECT FOOD PANTRY OPEN; DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

JFS food pantry is open to help meet the ever-growing need for food assistance in Kansas City all year ‘round. Donations and volunteers are needed and you can help. The pantry is often in need of protein products, particularly tuna. Currently, the pantry is in particular need of peanut butter and cleaning supplies. To become a food pantry recipient or donor, call JFS at 913.327.8250. To volunteer, please call 913.730.1410. Check with the JFS office for the exact hours the pantry is open. LINK: http://www.jfskc.org/services/lifecrisis/foodpantry

JFS LOOKS OUT FOR BELOVED COMPANIONS WITH PET FOOD PANTRY

JFS of Greater KC and VCA Animal Hospitals are partnering to provide pet food for needy families. Through Jasmine’s Corner at the JFS Food Pantry, donated pet food will be distributed monthly to JFS clients who have pets. You must be a client of JFS in order to receive pet food assistance through the food pantry. Financial contributions for the pet food pantry, as well as the food pantry itself, are also welcome. Donations may be made on line at www.jfskc.org. LINK: http://www.jfskc.org/jasmines-corner-pet-food-pantry/

HELP@HOME LITE NOW AVAILABLE

If you would like to become a Help@Home Lite member, or for more information any JFS older adult program, please contact Herbet at 913.327.8239 or email her at dherbet@jfskc.org. Those who wish to volunteer for the Help@Home Lite programs can send an email to volunteer@jfskc.org or call 913.730.1410.

CONGREGATIONS HELP FEED THE HUNGRY FOR PASSOVER

Jewish Family Services, in partnership with the Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City, is teaming up with area congregations in response to the ever-growing need for food assistance in Kansas City. In preparation for Passover, Kehilath Israel Synagogue has chosen to collect donations of Farfel/Cake Meal. Packaged items should be labeled “kosher for Passover”. These items will provide food for Pesach to more than 140 households in our community.

Please drop off your food donations in the specially labeled collection barrels in our building through March 30; items will be picked up and distributed through the JFS Holiday Project prior to the start of Passover (which begins Monday evening, April 14). If you have any questions please contact Susan Chourcin at 816.942.8317.

If you would like information regarding the JFS Food Pantry, or would like to become a JFS Food Pantry recipient, volunteer, or donor, please call Jewish Family Services at 913.327.8250.
CREATE A JEWISH LEGACY THROUGH A PLANNED GIFT TO KEHILATH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

A planned gift to Kehilath Israel Synagogue is a powerful statement of your commitment to the congregation and a wonderful way to ensure its vibrant future. It is a way of perpetuating values and leaving an enduring legacy. There are a wide array of creative methods to establish a planned gift. The Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City is also here as a resource to work together with you and K.I. to find the most appropriate strategy.

Bequest
The most common way to leave a legacy gift is through a bequest in your will or trust. A charitable bequest allows you to retain use and control over your assets during your lifetime. An outright charitable bequest reduces the amount of your estate subject to federal taxes.

IRA or Pension Funds
If you have accumulated substantial amounts in your retirement account and have named your children or grandchildren the beneficiaries at your death, taxes can consume the majority of the money. As a result these plans are often not ideal assets to bequeath to your heirs. Naming K.I. as the death beneficiary can avoid these taxes and enable you to accomplish your charitable goals, preserving the full value of these accounts.

Life Insurance
Life insurance can be an advantageous and inexpensive way to fund a planned gift, especially for younger donors. When you purchase a new policy naming Kehilath Israel Synagogue as owner and beneficiary, or the Jewish Community Foundation (for the benefit of K.I.), you will receive a tax deduction for each premium payment. You could also transfer an existing policy which would entitle you to a current income tax deduction equal to the net cash or replacement value of the policy. All future premium payments you pay would generate additional income tax deductions.

Charitable Remainder Trust
A Charitable Remainder Trust is a tax exempt irrevocable Trust that you can create which provides income to the you, and/or another named beneficiary, for life or a term of years. Upon the death of the donor and/or beneficiary, the remaining balance of the Trust will pass as a gift to the Jewish Community Foundation for the benefit of K.I. Synagogue.

Other Funding Vehicles
Other options for planned gifts include charitable income plans and gifts of real estate, art, or jewelry. Your financial professional or estate planner can help you select the one best suited for your individual needs and charitable goals.

Recognizing Your Generosity
In addition to recognition by the Kehilath Israel Synagogue, the Jewish Community Foundation honors donors who have made a present or future commitment of $10,000 or more to the permanent endowment of a local Jewish organization or synagogue. The Endowment Book of Life is a beautifully designed book on display at the Jewish Community Campus, and is inscribed with each donor’s photo and personal story of commitment and motivation. If you have made such arrangements and have not been included in the Endowment Book of Life, please contact the Foundation. Of course, you may remain anonymous as well.

For questions about these various planned giving vehicles or to discuss options that would make the most sense for you, contact Elizabeth Peden, Executive Director, at Kehilath Israel Synagogue (913.642.1880 ext. 203 or Elizabeth@kisyn.org) or Josh Stein, Director of Fund Development, at the Jewish Community Foundation (913.327.8121 or joshuas@jewishkc.org).
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**March 2014** 29 Adar I 5774 - 29 Adar II 5774
The Focal Point of
Kehilath Israel Synagogue
10501 Conser
Overland Park, KS  66212
913.642.1880
FAX 913.642.7332
www.kisyn.org

WEEKLY SERVICES
ROSE MORGAN CHAPEL

Sunday Shacharit    9:00 A.M.
Monday-Friday Shacharit   7:00 A.M.
Sunday-Thursday
Mincha and Maariv
Week of March 3  6:00 P.M.
*Beginning with week of March 9  6:45 P.M.
ROSH CHODESH ADAR II
Sunday & Monday, March 2 & 3
PURIM - Sunday, March 16

SATURDAY, MARCH 15  7:30 pm
MEGILLAH READING
ENTERTAINMENT BY MARCHING COBRAS
COME IN COSTUME!

HAMENTASCHEN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO ASSEMBLE
BASKETS ON SUNDAY MORNING
MARCH 9  10:00 am - NOON
Call the synagogue office to say you’re helping!

DELIVER BASKETS ON
SUNDAY, MARCH 16.
Your assistance is appreciated!