



# Ha'Kol

COMMUNITY NEWS FROM THE KJA, HESKA AMUNA & TEMPLE BETH EL

**May 2020**

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## Register today for summer fun!

- ◆ AJCC Pool Memberships
- ◆ Milton Collins Day Camp
- ◆ University Swim Club
- ◆ Smokin' Salmon

[www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org)

# Ha'Kol

May 2020

## KJA President's Remarks

By Chip Rayman, KJA President

By the time this article is printed, I hope and pray the coronavirus has peaked and is subsiding. We are anxious about camp attendance. Summer camp and AJCC Preschool are the lifeblood of our operation and their success allows us to fund other programs such as Jewish Family Services and Hillel at UTK.

With the stock market crash, I have hesitated to call you asking for your pledge for 2020. You can help by making your pledge early and funding your pledge as soon as you possibly can.

We had a really good year in 2019, enjoying record Preschool enrollment and five-year highs in camp attendance. We ended the year with the first surplus in years.

Some of the reason for our surplus is not having to compensate an executive director. And I will be ending my third year as your President in December, cutting back on my involvement. Bryan Goldberg is President Elect and will be taking over. Bryan actually works for a living and has a wonderful family to support.

We have been able to continue to make improvements to our facility and grounds: playground expansion and enhancement thanks to the Adam Brown family and donors to our playground memorial in honor of Logan Brown; preschool expansion in 2019; now prepping for preschool expansion (we have a 50-name waiting list covering all of our classes) again in 2020 by taking part of the ladies locker room downstairs, allowing us to enlarge an adjacent classroom; new LED lighting in the Caller Auditorium; significant and costly improvements and repairs to one of the best swimming pools in Knoxville; a new, quiet, more private office for Ed Hunter, our Director of Finance and Operations; moving Kristen Cannon, our Preschool Director to a larger upstairs office; finally renovating the ladies restroom upstairs; and removing the scrub brush and trees on the east side of our entrance. We are also making solid progress developing a Master Plan for our campus.

All of this progress is at risk with the onset of the virus. Financially, it could be devastating.

We also face a daunting reroofing job and security enhancements.

Of course, we have canceled all events – Knoshville, Yom HaShoah, and Pacesetters, until Fall, hoping the virus will be under control by then. It could be a really busy Fall.

So, please remember us in your giving. The stock market will come back in time, the virus will diminish and a vaccine will be developed, everyone will be back at work, your children will be back in school, life will return to normal and all will be right with the world.

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## AJCC POOL HOURS\*

**Mon-Tues-Wed-Fri 1-7 p.m.**  
**Thursday 1-8 p.m.**  
**Saturday 1-7 p.m.**  
**Sunday Noon 7 p.m.**

★ Days and hours subject to public health directives, weather, and Swim Team home meets

## ★ AJCC Pool Parties & Private Swim Lessons

Please contact the KJA Office at [office@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:office@jewishknoxville.org) or (865) 690-6343 to learn more about arranging pool parties and private swim lessons.

Out of an abundance of caution, we recommend you double check any community event or religious service to ensure it has not been canceled.

## The KJA and COVID-19: An Update

By Chip Rayman, KJA President

While we are focused on the coronavirus pandemic, this is the time when we must come together to ensure that our Jewish community isn't one of the casualties of the pandemic. The AJCC Preschool and the Milton Collins Day Camp are our lifeblood.

These are the actions we have taken to ensure the survival of the Arnstein Jewish Community Center during the coronavirus pandemic.

- We laid off most of our hourly employees and independent contractors.
- We told our laid-off employees and independent contractors to file for unemployment benefits that are very generous under the coronavirus program.
- We applied for a grant to replace Preschool lost revenues.
- We paid our laid off employees one week early.
- We created a Preschool Relief Fund for our laid-off teachers and staff to provide financial assistance for basic needs such as utility bills, shelter, or groceries.
  - ◆ To begin, we will gift our laid off employees with a \$100 grocery card.
  - ◆ We will contact each employee weekly to ascertain their needs.
  - ◆ The fund will be administered through Jewish Family Services.
  - ◆ We are continuing to pay our executive staff as they are still working.
  - ◆ We have applied for a coronavirus SBA loan that may be forgiven to cover the executive staff payroll and utilities.
  - ◆ We will apply for a grant for camp and swim team loss of revenue if we are not able to offer camp this summer.
  - ◆ We have enough cash to last a few months.

We invite you to contribute to the Preschool Relief Fund. But don't forget our Annual Campaign. If you can go ahead and make your pledge to the Campaign, it would be appreciated. Better yet, if you can go ahead and pay your pledge it would be extremely beneficial to our cash flow. Donations can be made at [www.jewishknoxville.org/donate](http://www.jewishknoxville.org/donate).

## Hillel at UTK Creates A Little Bit of Home, Jewishly, for Students

By Tara Bain, Hillel at UTK Director

As I write this, life has physically, mentally, and emotionally changed, and by the time this publishes it may have changed again. Now, writing this article for *Ha'Kol* hasn't changed much because I typically do that from home. However, no weekly hugs or face-to-face coffee chats or Shabbat dinners. I miss the students and am heartbroken for our seniors. It has been quite a challenging time for those graduating, and I am sad we will not get to celebrate in the way they deserve. I am so proud and grateful to have been a part of their lives: Jordyn Attias, Samantha Ballin, Yarden Batz, Kevin Saslawsky, Jessica Seagraves, Matt Sizemore, Rachel Seligstein, Natalie Zepeda, and Jacob Zigelnik. Our hope is to welcome them back this fall for a special Shabbat.

Life for the University of Tennessee, students, faculty/staff, and Hillel at UTK has become something we never expected. The campus may be a ghost town, but Hillel at UTK is far from it. Since spring break, I personally have had almost constant connection with students and Hillel International on a daily basis. Our student board, a.k.a. Hillel Council, met on Zoom the Monday after spring break to brainstorm what Hillel should and could look like in our new environments. Weekly I hold Zoom office hours for students to pop in and out to chat and vent. We are engaging one another via our group chat by hosting Picture Posts; this week it is "Your Favorite Pet." Hillel International launched Hillel@Home with some amazing (and sometimes well-known) speakers, which we promote each week.

We are also gathering for Shabbat, and our freshmen students are "hanging out" on FYSH (First Year Students of Hillel) Fridays.

A special shout out to Helene Sinnreich, Hillel at UTK advisor, for organizing a "Find the Afikomen" scavenger hunt. An afikomen showed up on many faculty pages, and students have had a great time with their search. Thank you to those of you who posted on your webpage!

Events may not be the same, but students have continued to receive meals from Hillel. Some of our students are still in Knoxville, and I have delivered Shabbat meals. This week, I am delivering Passover Care Packages with a full seder plate, a box of matzah, and homemade matzo ball soup. Right now, a little bit of home goes a long way.

So, as you can see, Hillel at UTK continues to inspire students to connect and live Jewishly. May we all find ways to do the same because physical distancing does not mean emotional distancing.



# SUMMER 2020

KJA programming is open to everyone regardless of faith or affiliation.

EVERYONE is welcome here.



The Most Fun Under the Sun



## JOIN US Fun for ALL AGES!


- **Milton Collins Day Camp K-6**  
Weekly themed camp programming features sports, arts, crafts, nature, music, drama, camping, swimming, field trips, and special guests  
**MCDC Camp Director - Brian DeBolt**  
**MCDC Co-Director - Sarah Price**  
camp@jewishknoxville.org

- **Specialty Camps**  
Cheer Camp  
Horseback Riding  
Karate with Mr. Rodney  
Robotics Camp  
Seeds of Abraham

- **Teen Adventure Program (TAP) 7-9 grades**  
Focus is on developing teamwork and leadership through community service projects. Teens can earn service hours for school credit.

- **Counselor in Training (CIT) Grades 10+**  
Application process required.  
Leadership development training.  
camp@jewishknoxville.org

- **AJCC Preschool Summer Programming 2 yrs. - Pre-K**  
Contact: Kristen Cannon, Director  
kcannon@jewishknoxville.org

- **SWIM TEAM**  
Head Coach - Joe Peeden  
  
<https://jewishknoxville.org/swim-team>

### Summer Pool Memberships



Arnstein Jewish Community Center  
6800 Deane Hill Drive  
Knoxville TN 37919  
865.690.6343  
[www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org)



For information, contact  
office@jewishknoxville.org

**AJCC POOL  
SENIOR SUMMER  
MEMBERSHIPS  
AVAILABLE  
(May 23-September 7)**

**Senior Couple 65+ \$160**  
**Senior Single 65+ \$105**

[www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org)  
(865) 690-6343

# friendshippers

*All are welcome to join us. You don't have to be 55 and up.*

***Rhythm Band with Rise Tucker***  
**Tuesday, May 12 Lunch — Noon; Program 1 p.m.**  
**Sherrill Hills Retirement Community, 271 Moss Grove Blvd.**

Let's strike up the band!  
 Do you like music? Do you like people? If you answered yes to those questions,  
 then rhythm band may be for you!

Rhythm band is an upbeat musical experience that mixes fun and entertainment through performing music as members of a band. Using rhythm instruments (tambourines, bells, maracas, rhythm sticks, etc.), participants accompany recordings of specially selected songs with simple rhythmic patterns.

If you've ever wanted to play in a band, here's your chance!  
 No prior band or musical experience is necessary.

The luncheon begins at noon and the program begins at 1 PM. Lunch is \$8. There is no cost for attending the program alone. Transportation is available upon request—please have your ride requests in by the Friday morning before the program. For more information, please contact Laura Berry at 690-6343 ext. 18 or [lberry@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:lberry@jewishknoxville.org)

*Friendshippers is a program made possible through your contributions to the KJA Annual Campaign and the Sam & Esther Rosen Friendship Fund. Thank you!*

## Knoxville Archives Committee Attends Southern Jewish Historical Society Meeting

*By Raphael Panitz, KJA Archives Committee member*

The Southern Jewish Historical Society held its annual conference in Charlottesville, VA from October 25-27. Barbara and Bernie Bernstein, Michael Burnett, Raphe and Susette Panitz, and Nicki Russler of Knoxville attended. A few highlights:

A guided tour of Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello, included the Jewish tombstone of Rachel Phillips Levy, mother of Jewish naval commodore Uriah Philips Levy. Levy purchased Monticello from Jefferson's descendants, who were deeply in debt and unable to maintain the house and the gardens. The luncheon speaker was Marc Leepson, author of *Saving Monticello*, a book exploring the Jewish connection to Monticello.

Shabbat services at Congregation Beth Israel, the synagogue threatened by the neo-Nazis in 2017 when they marched in Charlottesville, were followed by a presentation from Columbia University professor Nicole Hemmer, who explored the rise of the alt-right in Charlottesville.

Some Saturday sessions were devoted to pageants and monuments in the South that featured Jewish participation. We learned about Moses Ezekiel, Virginia Confederate sculptor of the Charlottesville Thomas Jefferson statue. Other presentations explored Jews' involvements in Richmond's Civil War Centennial from 1961-1965 as well as the Jewish component in the history of Birmingham, AL from 1871-1920.

We also listened to speakers who spoke about efforts to memorialize Leo Frank and about privilege and prejudice against Jews in the American South; Jews in Southern politics in Baltimore, Savannah, and Alexandria, Louisiana; a fascinating presentation of the involvement of Jews in the Charleston slave trade in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and efforts to investigate Jewish-African American relations in ante-bellum Charleston.

Other speakers spoke of combating anti-Semitism in the South through art and architecture, of protesting and fighting against anti-Jewish zoning laws in Lakeland, Florida, and about circuit-riding rabbis in North Carolina from 1950-1980. Sunday's sessions dealt with issues stemming from the Unite the Right march.



*Michael Burnett, KJA Archivist Nicki Russler, Barbara Bernstein, Susette Panitz, and Raphe Panitz at the 2019 Southern Jewish Historical Society conference.*



## AJCC Summer (Pool) Membership — \$330

*(Includes all household members and 6 guest passes)*

Applications available online at [www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org)  
or by contacting the KJA Main Office at 865.690.6343

# KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY *Ha'Kol*

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**UNIVERSITY SWIM CLUB  
SMOKIN' SALMON  
2020 SWIM TEAM REGISTRATION**

**\$250.00 per swimmer**  
(includes meet fees)

**Ages: 5 - 18**

SwimTopia  
Register on-line at:  
[www.universityswimclub.swimtopia.com](http://www.universityswimclub.swimtopia.com)

GKAISA  
Greater Knoxville Area Interfaith Association

Knoxville Jewish Alliance  
Arnstein Jewish Community Center  
6800 Deane Hill Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37919  
865.690.6343  
[www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org)

Knoxville Jewish Alliance

Coach: Joe Peeden

## Here's an Easy Way for You to Support Your Jewish Community Center

Join the Kroger Community Reward Program by linking your Kroger loyalty card to the AJCC Preschool (organization number **WA542**) at <https://www.kroger.com/>

The AJCC Preschool has earned \$753.82 since 2015. Registration is easy and if you need help, the KJA office staff can help you. This is a terrific way to help the AJCC Preschool, even you don't have children here.



Because of possible coronavirus –related postponements & cancellations, please double check any event or service listed within this issue of the *Ha’Kol* to ensure the event is still occurring.

# MAY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>We Hope to See You on AJCC Pool Opening Day</b>  <b>Saturday, May 23 — 10 a.m. (see Pool Hours on page 2)</b>  <b>AJCC Annual &amp; Summer Pool Memberships available online at <a href="http://www.jewishknoxville.org">www.jewishknoxville.org</a>.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please note that our opening date is subject to change based upon the guidance of government regulations at the time. As of publication, all public pools are closed by order of the Tennessee Department of Health.</li> </ul>					<p><b>1</b></p> <p>8:05p</p> <p>Noon Mindfulness Practice-HA 4:30p JFS Shabbat Service-Sherill Hills 6p Shabbat Service-TBE</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:05p</p> <p>9:30a-noon Shabbat Service-HA 9:30a Shabbat Service-JCOR</p>
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:30a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Religious School Celebration-HA 10:30-noon Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm TBD B'Yachad End of Year Celebration</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>7a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 6-7:30p KJA Executive Comm-AJCC 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Noon Executive Mifgash Manhigim-TBE 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>9:30-11a Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm 6:30p Wed Minyan-HA 6:30-8:30p Tai Chi-AJCC Orwitz Rm 7p Talmud Study-HA 7p Board-HA</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>7a Morning Minyan-HA 11a Adult Ed/Torah Study -TBE</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>8:11p</p> <p>8:10-9:30a Mother's Day Tea-KJDS Noon Mindfulness Practice-HA 6p Shabbat Service-TBE</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9:12p</p> <p>9:30a-noon Shabbat Service &amp; Shabbat Hinnuch Service-HA 9:30a Shabbat Service-JCOR</p>
<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>Mother's Day</b> 9:30a Morning Minyan-HA 10:30-noon Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm</p> <p><i>Happy Mother's Day</i></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>7a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 11:30a Jewish Family Services Comm-AJCC 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>Lag Ba'Omer</b> 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR <b>Noon Friendship-Sherrill Hills</b> 1-2p Special Friends Lag Ba'omer-KJDS 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>9:30-11a Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm 6:30p Wed Minyan-HA 6:30p Board-KJDS 6:30p Board of Directors Mifgash Manhigim-TBE 6:30-8:30p Tai Chi-AJCC Orwitz Rm 7p Talmud Study-HA</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>7a Morning Minyan-HA 11a Adult Ed/Torah Study -TBE</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>8:17p</p> <p>Noon Mindfulness Practice-HA 7p Confirmation Shabbat Service-TBE</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9:19p</p> <p>9:30a-noon Shabbat Service-HA 9:30a Shabbat Service-JCOR 10a Condensed Shabbat Service-HA</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9:30a Morning Minyan-HA 10:30-noon Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>7a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 2-3p Gelt Mart-KJDS 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>9:30-11a Tai Chi-AJCC 6:30p Wed Minyan-HA 6:30-8:30p Tai Chi-AJCC Orwitz Rm 7p Talmud Study-HA 7p Hadassah Board-AJCC</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>7a Morning Minyan-HA 11a Adult Ed/Torah Study -TBE</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>8:22p</p> <p><b>Yom Yerushalayim</b> Noon Mindfulness Practice-HA 6p Shabbat Service-TBE</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:25p</p> <p>9:30a-noon Shabbat Service-HA 9:30a Shabbat Service-JCOR <b>10a AJCC Pool opens</b></p>
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>9:30a Morning Minyan-HA 10:30-noon Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>Memorial Day</b> 9a Morning Minyan-HA 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym</p> 	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>MCDC Week 1</b> 9:30a Tai Chi-JCOR 6-9:30p Fencing-AJCC Gym</p>  <p>The Most Fun Under the Sun</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>9:30-11a Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm 6:30p Wed Minyan-HA 6:30-8:30p Tai Chi-AJCC Orwitz Rm 7p Talmud Study-HA</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>8:27p</p> <p><b>Erev Shavuot</b> 7a Minyan-HA 11a Adult Ed/Torah Study -TBE</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>8:27p</p> <p><b>Shavuot</b> <b>TBE, HA Offices closed</b> Noon Mindfulness Practice-HA 7p Shavuot Shabbat Service-TBE</p> 	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9:31p</p> <p><b>Yizkor Shavuot</b> 9:30a-noon Shabbat &amp; Yizkor Service-HA 9:30a Shabbat Service-JCOR 6:30p Shavuot Yizkor Memorial Service-TBE 7:30p Adult Education Class-TBE</p>

**31**

9:30a Morning Minyan-HA  
10:30-noon Tai Chi-Orwitz Rm




The Most Fun Under the Sun

**Register Online for Milton Collins Day Camp**

Visit [www.jewishknoxville.org/mcdc](http://www.jewishknoxville.org/mcdc) to learn about field trips, overnights, theme weeks, specialty camps, and registration.

**Join us this summer for the most fun under the sun.**  
**FIRST DAY: Tuesday, May 26**

## It's Time to Register Children & Teens for 2020 MCDC Summer of Fun!

DATES, THEMES, ACTIVITIES		AGES & PRICING	
2020 WEEKLY SESSIONS	<b>Week 1</b> May 26 - May 29 <b>NO CAMP MAY 25</b>	<b>MOST FUN UNDER THE SUN</b> <i>Welcome back to camp!</i> Cove Park Field Trip	<b>MCDC Camp:</b> Rising K - 6 <sup>th</sup> grade  <b>TAPS</b> (Teen Adventure Program) 7 <sup>th</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup> grade  Includes: team building, leadership & community service opportunities  <b>WEEKLY SESSION FEES:</b>  <u>1 week:</u> \$ 285.00 <u>2 weeks+ :</u> \$ 250.00 per wk (registered at same time) Does not apply to Specialty Camps  <b>DISCOUNTS:</b> <b>AJCC Annual Members 5%</b> (session fees only)  <b>Sibling Discount 5%</b> (does not apply to <u>1st child</u> registered)  <b>EXTENDED CARE:</b> 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. & 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. \$20.00 per hour / \$120.00 weekly
	<b>Week 2</b> June 1 - June 5	<b>MCDC OLYMPICS</b> Competitions galore! Inflatable obstacle course Thursday Late Night/Overnight	
	<b>Week 3</b> June 8 - June 12	<b>Mystery Kids</b> Science Magic Show Oak Ridge Museums and Park Field Trip	
	<b>Week 4</b> June 15 - June 19	<b>WATER WEEK</b> Field Trips: 4th & up White Water Rafting & K-3 McFee Park, Waterslide Inflatable. Late night and Overnight Programming	
	<b>Week 5</b> June 22 - June 26	<b>SUMMER SAFARI</b> Zoomobile Rainforest Adventure Field Trip	
	<b>Week 6</b> June 29 - July 3	<b>AROUND THE WORLD</b> Spanish Elective: International Dance Late night and Overnight Programming	
	<b>Week 7</b> July 6 - July 10	<b>EXTREME WEEK</b> K-2 The Muse Field Trip 3rd and up Main Event Field Trip	
	<b>Week 8</b> July 13 - July 17	<b>HEROES AND HEROINES</b> Late night and Overnight Programming	
	<b>Week 9</b> July 20 - July 24	<b>COLOR WARS</b> Friday— Pump it Up Field Trip	
	<b>Week 10</b> July 27 - July 31	<b>MCDC's Got Talent</b> Camp Finale and Parent Night	
	<b>Week 11</b> August 3 - August 7	 <b>Mini Camp</b> <b>Art, Crafts, Swim, Dive &amp; Sports Camp</b>	
SPECIALTY CAMPS	Robotics Camp Grades 4 - 9	June 1 - 5	\$350.00
	Cheer Camp	June 22 - 26	\$300.00
	Horseback Riding 8 years old and up	July 6 - 10	\$ 425.00
	Karate with Mr. Rodney	July 13 - 17	\$300.00
	Seeds of Abraham Grades 7 - 9	July 27 - 31	\$ 285.00

Register on line at: <https://jewishknoxville.org/mcdc> or for more information contact: [office@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:office@jewishknoxville.org)

# H A P P E N I N G S

## Suzy Snoops

*Ha’Kol welcomes your good news. Please send information to [jyork@jewishknoxville.org](mailto: jyork@jewishknoxville.org)  
You can also mail your news Ha’Kol newsletter, Knoxville Jewish Alliance,  
6800 Deane Hill Drive Knoxville TN 37919.*

- ★ The *New York Times* asked families around the country to share reflections on the Passover story in the time of COVID19. Their stories “speak to the power of memory, the meaning of plague, and how crockpots and cookbooks can connect us with loved ones of generations past and future” says writer Elizabeth Diaz. Knoxville’ian **Nancy Richer** was quoted in the April 8, 2020 article.

*“I always prepare a Seder the way my mother and father did. Brisket is made in my mother’s Wagner Ware pan. I have her cookbooks from 1946 written in Yiddish and English. My spinach and tomato mina (espinaca and tomate) or matzo kugel is something I’ve made for 35 years and is my favorite. I pack meals and deliver them to those who cannot get out or others who just need a good dinner. In this way I convey the meaning of Passover.*

*My thoughts drift back into the last century as I recount my father’s memories as a 3-year-old boy watching bodies lowered down from apartments in his tenement building due to the Spanish flu. That plague also passed. With the help of God, nothing will stop the human spirit from eventually beating this plague and eradicating the disease from the face of the earth.*

*At this time Passover becomes a shining beacon that God will keep this plague away from us. We recite “next year in Jerusalem,” asking for hope always. eradicating the disease from the face of the earth.*

*At this time Passover becomes a shining beacon that God will keep this plague away from us. We recite “next year in Jerusalem,” asking for hope always.”*

- ★ Mazel tov to **Daniel** and **Audrey Wohl**, on the birth of their son, Brighton Oliver Wohl. He is the first grandchild of **Marilyn** and **Barry Wohl**.



### Ha’Kol Newsletters Available on KJA Website

Need a back issue?  
Want to show an out-of-town friend or relative a story? You can find *Ha’Kol* online at  
<https://jewishknoxville.org/hakol>

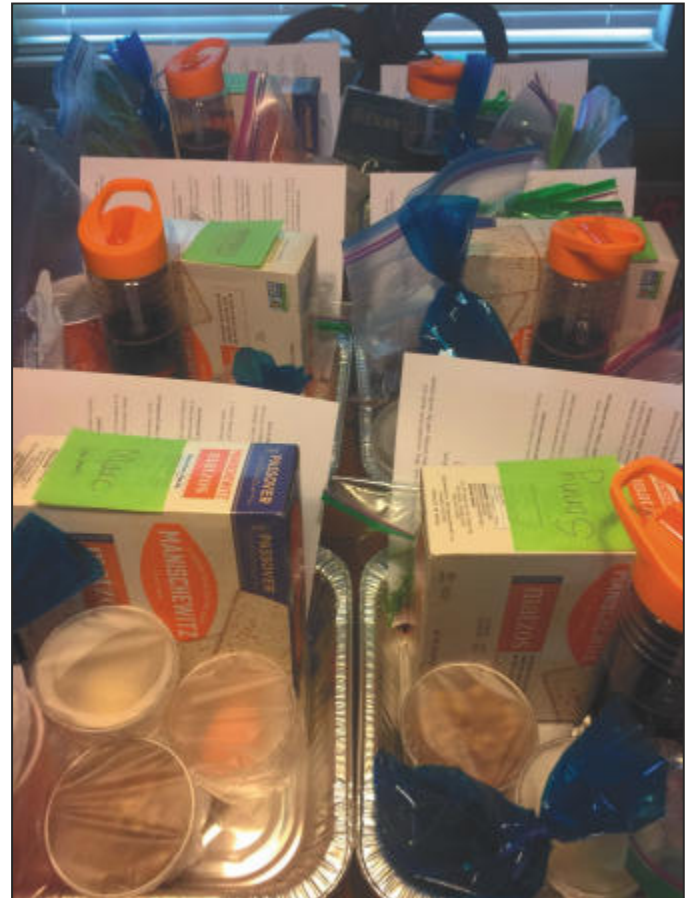
## KNOXVILLE AGAINST HATE

Brought to you by  
The Knoxville Jewish Alliance

SyracuseCulturalWorkers.com

## Hillel @ UTK Helps Students Celebrate Passover, Being Away From Home

Hillel @ UTK Director Tara Bain checking on students, trouble shooting, delivering online TLC, and providing Passover Care Packages with a full seder plate, a box of matzah, and homemade matzo ball soup. Yum!



Hillel at UTK Pesach care packages were delivered to students who remained in Knoxville. Items included everything needed for a personal seder — and kosher for Passover chocolates. Scotty Gelbart (from CA) was thrilled to receive his care package, saying, “This made my month!”

Hillel at UTK may not be meeting on campus, but programming still provides opportunities for students to connect with its mission of inspiring students to explore and embrace Jewish life. See page 3 for more news.

Hillel at UTK				
Yeah!				
WEEK OF March 30-April 3, 2020				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>Hillel Cafe</b></p> <p>MONDAYS 1:30-3:00PM OPEN HOUSE ANYTIME 20-28 TALKS ON</p> <p>Zoom On-Site App</p>	<p><b>IT'S VACATION DAY!</b></p> <p>SHARE A PIC OF YOUR FAVORITE VACATION SPOT BY HILLEL AT UTK. CRUMPLES!</p>	<p><b>Hillel @ HOME</b></p> <p>ANITA SOULIMSKY Wed, Apr 1   10:00-11:00 AM anitam@hillel.org</p> <p>Dr. Anne Niska, All-Star and owner of a kosher organic farm, shares his own Jewish journey. CC</p>	<p><b>Hillel Cafe</b></p> <p>THURSDAYS 1:30-3:00PM OPEN HOUSE ANYTIME 20-28 TALKS ON</p> <p>Zoom On-Site App</p>	<p><b>Shabbat Shabbon</b></p> <p>FRIDAYS 1:30-3:00PM OPEN HOUSE ANYTIME 20-28 TALKS ON</p> <p>Zoom On-Site App</p>



Right: Andrew Weinstein (Knoxville) steps onto a mosaic in an ancient Israeli Temple at a spring Virtual Shabbat.

# TEMPLE BETH EL TIMES



## Shalom Y'all!

By Rabbi Erin Boxt

“I don't know where you doctors lose your humanity, but you lose it. You know, if all of you at the beginning of your careers could get very sick and very scared for a while, you'd probably learn more from that than from anything else. You better start listening to your patients. They need to be heard. They need caring. They need compassion. They need attending to. You know, someday Doctor Budd, you're going to be on the other side of the table, and as angry as I am and as ANGRY as I always will be, I still wish you a better doctor than you were to me.”

Perhaps you are a *Golden Girls* fan like me. I admit it... Batya and I still watch reruns on TV. I even bought the series – it really does focus on some of the most important issues and challenges that we still face as a society today. The quote above was from Dorothy Petrillo Zbornak, played by actor Bea Arthur. In the two-part episode entitled, *Sick and Tired*, we find Dorothy with an unknown sickness/disease. The quote above comes from the very end of episode 2 when Dorothy confronts the specialist doctor she had seen in New York. In a sense, he dismissed her feelings/sickness as in her head and sent her on her way. What was causing her to feel sick was something this doctor had never faced before.

Dorothy finds out earlier in the episode she is diagnosed with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, a new disease back in the 1980s/1990s. Even today, this disease is often not diagnosed as there is still a lot unknown about it. At the present time in world history, we are facing something that is quite unknown. And, just as Dorothy was terrified in *Golden Girls*, we are all scared of what is in front of us right now, especially the unknown.

The Covid-19/Coronavirus Pandemic that we are facing today is another example of a disease that is quite unknown. We are learning more and more about this virus every day. Please rely/lean on those that are close to you. Make a phone call, send a text or FaceTime. While we are moving forward every day, we must continue to stay connected to each other.

Remember - if there is anything I can do for you, please know my door is always open. I look forward to working with all of you to make the Temple Beth El and the greater Knoxville Jewish community the most amazing family it can be!



**May 2020**  
7 Iyyar – 7 Sivan 5780

### Temple Beth El Times

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### TBE Oneg Schedule for May

<b>May 1</b>	Lesley Krakauer Karen & Brian Smith Honerlin & Robert Del Moro
<b>May 8</b>	Norma & Wes James Julia Wood & Kevin James
<b>May 15</b>	<b>Confirmation</b>
<b>May 22</b>	Jennifer & Adam Friedman Gina & Alan Feldblum
<b>May 29</b>	<b>Family of Sarah Mundorff</b>

## TBE President's Remarks

By Steve Lewis, TBE President

If you're writing a column that will not appear for two months -- in a world where everything has changed -- there's a pretty good chance that you'll end up looking foolish. All I have to do to prove this theorem is to go back and read the column I wrote for April.

However, there are some things, even in times like these, that I can share with a good deal of certainty: While the ongoing activities in our building have stopped, and while that might still be the case in May, behind the scenes the same activities of leadership, planning, and support still continue. There are also a number of important events which need to take in place in May -- some of which will require your participation.

For example, every year our Annual Meeting takes place in May. This year it is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, but even if we are not able to gather in person, we need to elect a new slate of officers and board members. So, by May we will have distributed the slate to you, and you will have the opportunity to vote for our future leaders.

Also, under consideration this year will be a new TBE Constitution and Bylaws. An effort launched several years ago by Arthur Copcutt (*May his name be for a blessing*) and his committee and carried on by a second group led by Larry Markel and Co-Chair Julie Braude, has now completed this daunting task. Again, by this reading you will have received a copy of the new bylaws to review, and in May they will be voted on by the congregation.

Your lay leadership has continued to meet regularly on Zoom, and in May we will vote on a budget for 2020/21, to ensure that TBE continues on a strong and prudent financial path.

As you know by now, our Auction/Fundraiser was rescheduled from April 18 to Saturday, May 16. Hopefully, it will still take place on that date. If not, the event leadership has a number of other options under consideration.

To help us maintain our spiritual strength, Rabbi Erin Boxt began leading live-streamed Shabbat Services in March on Zoom and Facebook. These new and different (and wonderful) opportunities for us to come together with warmth, holiness, and a sense of community, will also be continuing this month, if need be, and for as long as they are needed.

So, there you have it -- a challenging combination of knowns and unknowns. But there is one thing that for me is most definitely a known: The TBE community is strong. If things are back to the way they were, it is our strength, and God's, that will have gotten us there. If we are still facing the same challenges, we will make it through -- thanks to our strength, and God's. *Chazak, Chazak, V'nitzchazek*: Let us be strong, let us be strong, and let us strengthen each other as well.

*The March 6 Pour'Em Wine and Cheese Reception drew a festive group to Temple Beth El's Purim Shabbat services. For more photos, please see pages 14-15.*

*Right: Sarah May, Jessica, and Shaughn May, and Larry Markel (black hat) in the background.*



## Temple Beth El Religious School May 2020 Update

By Norma James, BE Education Director, [normajames@tbeknox.org](mailto:normajames@tbeknox.org)

### Parents:

*I have written this article in a voice that lends itself to being read to or read by your children. Please share it with them.*

The month of May has NOT been canceled! Yes, we are still here, but everything works in a different way. In a world where everything is changing by the day, I am not sure what new things will be happening in May. What I do know is that our parents are taking excellent care of our children. Our teachers and madrichim miss seeing our children. Everyone is learning new ways to connect with each other and keep a safe distance. Judaism does not stop just because we are separated from each other. There are many ways to connect to our Jewish Community. We are all still here for you anytime you need us!

### Here are some Temple Beth El and Religious School activities you can do:

- ◆ **Attend Shabbat service with Rabbi Boxt and Norma every Friday at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom or on Facebook.** You can watch it live or see the recording. No need to dress up for services. Pajamas, yoga pants, or track suits are perfectly fine.
- ◆ **Attend Havdalah with Rabbi and Norma every Saturday evening on Zoom and Facebook.** (Check the website for times.)
- ◆ **Contact Norma for a FaceTime Family Visit.** These are short visits that can happen most any time of the day, whatever works with the family's schedule. If you don't have FaceTime, we can use a different tool such as Zoom to connect. I have enjoyed seeing our children and getting a chance to talk to them. I love seeing the parents and finding out what their family is doing to pass the time.
- ◆ **Contact Norma for Hebrew Lessons on FaceTime or Zoom.** I am working with my B'nai Mitzvah students, but I have added in sessions with my sixth graders as well. I would be very happy to have a private session with your child or your children together, even if it is just Aleph Bet practice.
- ◆ **Zoom Hangouts with Norma are available for RS classes.** We can have Hebrew lesson, or listen to stories, or discuss what's going on in the world. Let's try this and see what happens!

### ISJL Activities by grade level are available. SEE Rena's letter BELOW

Hi Students and Teachers of Temple Beth El,

I wanted to let you know we at ISJL have released a collection of resources to keep us connected during these unprecedented and challenging times. You can find these at: <https://www.isjl.org/connection-in-the-time-of-coronavirus.html>. We will continue to provide more resources as time goes on, such as more educational elements, playlists, and virtual Southern Jewish heritage tour experiences. We are trying to continue to do as much as we can in order to continue our support of each and every one of our partners.

Best and be well,

**Rena Lubin**, Education Fellow 2019-2021

## Temple Beth El Welcomes New Members

By Missy Noon, Membership Chairperson

Please help us welcome David and Vivian Butler, our newest TBE members. We are so happy to have them join our congregation and be part of our Temple Beth El family.

Vivian and David moved to Knoxville from Mesa, Arizona in early October of 2019 after both of had retired. They moved to this area to be closer to their children and grandchildren. One of their goals after arriving in Knoxville was to find a temple to join where they would feel welcomed and comfortable. They found that at Temple Beth El. David and Vivian have enjoyed going to Friday night services and getting to know other members of the congregation.

Vivian and David Butler



## TBE Members, Guests Enjoy Pour'Em Wine and Cheese Reception

The TBE event preceded the March 6 Purim Friday Night Service at Temple Beth El.



*Grace Lewis & Rabbi Erin Boxt*



*Steve Rockmaker and Wilman Weinstein Lomax*



*Kyndyle Gonzalez, Ed & Linda Weintraub & Steve Lewis*



*Freddie & Mary Seals*



### **Pour'em Wine and Cheese Reception**

*Schmoozing and meeting others is a fun component of TBE's Pour'em Wine and Cheese Reception which was held prior to TBE's March 6 services.*



*Right: Sarah May and family*

## What's a Poet to Do During a Pandemic?

Marilyn Kallet spent time during April's quarantine crafting and sharing poems with friends. She graciously agreed to share a few from her efforts with *Ha'Kol* readers.

Marilyn Kallet, PhD, is serving her second term as Knoxville's Poet Laureate and is Professor Emerita of English at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Since 2009, she has led poetry workshops and writing residencies in Auvillar, France, for the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Kallet has published 16 books, including six volumes of poetry, translations, critical essays, children's books, pedagogy, and anthologies of women's literature.

Her first poem is a tribute to husband, Lou Gross.

### Apology, to Lou

Sorry for yelling  
when I spilled the coffee.  
Sorry for stains on the rug  
that resemble squalling babies.  
Sorry for the grey rain  
that nails us.  
Sorry for not trusting  
that you would heed  
my cry.  
Sorry we re-watched  
a half hour of "*The Marriage.*"  
Adam Driver is dynamite,  
though. Ferris Bueller  
offered the cure.  
Sorry made of coffee grounds  
and mean rain.  
Sorry made of wet grass  
and heat rash.  
Sorry made of I'll-leave-you  
the last brownie  
and Ritter Sport Dark Chocolate  
that will arrive in Some Day's mail.  
Sorry made of cheap  
toilet paper with  
no holes for the holder.  
Sorry made of birdsong.  
Thank the Carolina Wren  
who pecks our smallest seeds.  
Thank the Blue Jay  
who doesn't wait in line  
for ancient grains.  
Sorry made of blossoms  
and better days.

### Spiritual

*What power has love during  
a pandemic?*

Ours was always  
virtual.  
Plato had it  
right.  
Kind love swells,  
stronger,  
like a muscle  
that has been working  
out, but lighter,  
invisible,  
like atomic  
weights—  
love that lifts us  
daily without  
hope of  
gain.  
We practiced  
for this.  
Virtual, virtuous,  
*Faut de mieux.*  
Write to me,  
Buddy.  
Plato, play dough.  
Mixed metaphors  
taste good.  
Honey, words  
are all we have  
& hold.



### Lines You Can Use

Your eyes are like Talisker  
Dark Storm,  
& you look swell in a mask.

Your eyes are my rainforest  
condensed  
into a tear.

Your lips wet the petals  
of my Eden.  
You are my apple & my bite.

There's no one I would rather  
be quarantined with  
than you.

You are my shelter  
my open sky  
my eagle

My wild  
life  
refuge.

When you laugh  
my safe (space) is  
cracked

my walls  
come  
tumbling

(go)  
down,  
Moses.

## Contributions to the Funds of Temple Beth El

Donations listed were received as of March 20 2020

### CARING COMMITTEE FUND

*In memory of Anna K. Bush*

By: Deborah Roberts and Don Mossman

*In loving memory of Dr. Stanley Vogelfang & In celebration of the recovery of Gerry Milligan*

By: Jill Vogelfang

### CLARENCE STRASBURGER MUSIC FUND

*In memory of my beloved mother*

*Lillian Silverman-Richer*

By: Nancy Jane Richer

### GENERAL FUND

*In memory of Jeffrey R Epstein*

By: Marjorie Bornes & Linda Weintraub

*In memory of Sheldon Cohn & Selah Rose Ringuette*

By: Ivan Brody

*In memory of Mike & Shirley Goodfriend and in honor of Bob Goodfriend's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday*

By: Harry and Teresa Call

*In memory of Mildred Schultz*

By: Peter and Karen Covell

*In memory of Bert, Jean & Steven Gudis*

By: Doris Bradley Loar

*In memory of Dora Kohen & in honor of Charlie Weintraub's speedy recovery*

By: Ed and Linda Weintraub

### HERMINA BEILER FLORAL FUND

*In memory of Robert Loebel*

By: Andy and Zoya Loebel

*In memory of Bill Brody*

By: Pessa, Marla & Bart Brody

*In memory of Carl Kaplan*

By: Marc and Shelley Mangold

### LESTER POPKIN MEMORIAL CAMPSHIP AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*In memory of my father, Lester Popkin*

By: Janice Feinman

### LICHT YOUTH FUND

*In honor of Genesis 12:3*

By: James Murph

### MARX FAMILY EDUCATION FUND

*In memory of Mark Eisenstadt*

By: Michael Eisenstadt and Mary Beth Leibowitz

### PATIO AND GROUNDS FUND

*In memory of Yulia Ioselev and Ginda Katz*

By: Ilya and Bella Saforo

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

*In honor of tornado victims*

By: Peter and Karen Covell

*In memory of Irwin Freedman*

By: Harold and Shirley Freedman

*In memory of Elaine Lewis*

By: Steve and Grace Lewis

*In memory of Jessica Hiller-Rosenthal*

By: Susan Millis

*In memory of Morris Friedman*

By: Fred and Ava Radoff

*Donation by: Southern Region of Hadassah*

*thank you!*

# TEMPLE BETH EL TIMES

**Rabbi Erin Boxt**

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**TBE Office Phone:**

(865) 524-3521

**Fax:** (865) 525-6030

**Temple Office Hours:**

**Monday - Thursday:**

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

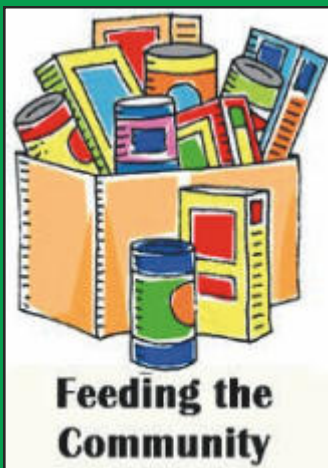
**Friday:** 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

## Our Mission

To inspire individuals to know, live, and shape our Jewish legacy.

In fulfilling our mission, we value our place in the chain of traditions, the diversity of those who seek to join us in our venture, and the kindness essential to a sacred community.

[www.tbeknox.org](http://www.tbeknox.org)



Please bring non-perishable foods for the Second Harvest Food Bank collection bin when you visit Temple Beth El.

Collection bins are also located at the Arnstein Jewish Community Center & Heska Amuna Synagogue.

Thank you!

## Social Cohesion Amid Social Distancing

By Rabbi Alon C. Ferency

March 15, 2020

*At a time when the community is suffering, no one should say  
 "I will go home, eat, drink, and be at peace with myself."*

– Talmud

Candidly, it's hard to put words to feelings of the past weeks. Is discombobulated a feeling?! Certainly, we feel overwhelmed by a unfathomable mix of boredom and anxiety, fear and loneliness. Surely, I hope that at the end of this trying time, the cost will not prove too much to bear, and the human toll and social fallout will be as minimal as possible.

Meanwhile, author David Brooks notes that, "Some disasters, like hurricanes and earthquakes, can bring people together, but if history is any judge, pandemics generally drive them apart. These are crises in which social distancing is a virtue... Pandemics hold up a mirror to society and force us to ask basic questions: What is possible imminent death trying to tell us? Where is God in all this? What's our responsibility to one another?"

Through it all we may learn something about our core values: we might see that life is not a race. Time cannot be spent or saved, only used. And, the best way to use time is with those we love. What truly matters is human connection with family, friends, and congregation. Our phones are only there to help us connect to other people! Life is better spent at home than in the office, with love and conversation, books and silent contemplation, children's games and long walks. It's unfortunate that it's taken the specter of imminent death to make us confront what truly matters.

Furthemore, we commit to connect you with our congregation. We are committed to be there for you, even when not face-to-face. As our sages taught, "Community can not die." Please let us know how we can address new fears, needs, or distress. May we survive this trial and gain wisdom in the struggle. When this is over, I know we will be proud of the way we got through this – as a community.

With health, safety, and God's blessings  
 Rabbi Alon C. Ferency



May 2020  
 7 Nissan - 6 Iyyar 5780

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## A special note to anyone interested in reading Torah

Pictures of our entire Shabbat Torah scroll are now available online for your learning pleasure at  
<https://heskaamuna.org/learn-to-read-torah>.

We have exceptional tutors that can – and would be honored to – help you, too. Just ask! Send us a note to [RRS@HeskaAmuna.org](mailto:RRS@HeskaAmuna.org).

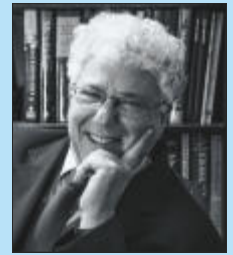


## Chairman's Thoughts

By Jeff Becker, Chair of Board of Trustees, Heska Amuna Synagogue

I'm writing this on March 15, 2020, two days before the deadline for submission of the *Ha'Kol's* May issue. I had already prepared an essay on American Judaism and its similarities and differences with Jewish Israel, but the current COVID-19 pandemic has made that musing seem insignificant, so I'll save it for the future. I don't know what will be happening as the May issue is published. Will the United States be under "lockdown?" Will the pandemic have passed? What will be the impact of this natural disaster on the United States and the World? How will it affect Judaism and Jewish practices such as synagogue attendance?

Whether you are a doomsday prophet or an eternal optimist, the following poem expresses actions and feelings that are, and will be, relevant whatever the outcome. Inscribed in this poem are lessons of social action and faith that are relevant both for this pandemic and for our lives in normal times. This poem (thanks to Mary Linda Schwarzbart for bringing it to my attention) directly speaks to the Jewish laws and traditions concerning treatment of the poor, widows, orphans, travelers, and others in need, growing directly from biblical commands. The Torah repeatedly expresses the obligation to help and care for those who, for whatever reason, are in need.



### Prayer for a Pandemic

*May we who are merely inconvenienced  
Remember those whose lives are at stake.  
May we who have no risk factors  
Remember those most vulnerable.*

*May we who have the luxury of working from home  
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.  
May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close  
Remember those who have no options.*

*May we who have to cancel our trips  
Remember those who have no safe place to go.  
May we who are losing our margin money  
in the tumult to the economic market  
Remember those who have no margin at all.*

*May we who settle in for a quarantine at home  
Remember those who have no home.  
As fear grips our country  
Let us choose love.  
During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,  
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.*

*Amen  
— from an anonymous source, 2020*

To continue my *Ha'Kol* tradition, I present brief biographical sketches of two Heska Amuna Board members chosen at random from our 19 board members. Frank Floyd (below) is our Vice Chair of Facilities and Programming. Serina Scott is our Vice Chair of Youth Education (page 23). They give generously of their time and effort to Heska Amuna in countless ways.

Due to concerns about when – or how - to hold our Annual Congregational Meeting in June, the Board will be making a decision soon about changing the meeting date to July.

Stay tuned...

### Board Member Frank Floyd

**Born:** Saint Louis, MO

**Raised:** GI Brat: Missouri, hilippines  
Mississippi, Virginia

**Years in Knoxville:** 34

**Family:** Spouse Laura; Son David, age 25;  
Daughter Elizabeth, age 14

**Education:** The University of Tennessee

**Vocation:** Contractor

**Volunteering:** Heska Amuna

**Favorite Activities:** Cooking, Time with family, Time at Heska,  
Repairing things



#### Reason for Serving on Heska Amuna Board:

Originally I agreed to serve on the Board simply because I was asked and I felt like I owed it to the community because of all the benefits our family had received from the synagogue over the years. In other words, I agreed to serve out of a sense of obligation. I have to say though, that my experience on the board was not what I expected and I have found it to be some of the most gratifying time that I've spent at Heska Amuna. I look forward to continued service on the Board in whatever capacity I am needed.

## Adult Education at Heska Amuna

By Abraham Brietstein, PhD., Vice Chair of Adult Education

Heska Amuna has placed an increased emphasis on adult education this year. With the advent of Heska Amuna's Hebrew High School which combines our high school students and adults in a learning environment, weekly adult education classes, monthly Sunday afternoon classes, and a Scholar-in-Residence program, there are more and more learning opportunities for our adults. Shuli Mesa, as education director, has been the developer and engineer behind Hebrew High School, which has been very successful. Some topics have included *Jewish Genetic Diseases* taught by Jeff Becker, *Judaism 101* taught by Rabbi Alon Ferency, and *Learning to Speak Yiddish* taught by Michael Glasman, among others.

Our weekly classes have included *Talmud study*, taught by Raphe Panitz and Jack Love, *Beginning and Intermediate Hebrew*, taught by Peggy Littmann, and *Conversational Hebrew* taught by Marcus Eisenbach, to name a few.

The monthly Sunday afternoon classes have also been hugely successful and well attended, beginning with a *Jewish Poetry Writing Workshop* by **Marilyn Kallet**, UT Professor and Knoxville's Poet Laureate, followed by *Portraits of Tennessee Survivors and Liberators* by **Rob Heller**, UT Professor and renown photo-journalist and *Who Shall Live and Who Shall Die* by **Helene Sinnreich**, UT Professor and Director of the Fern and Manfred Steinfeld Program in Judaic Studies. We also participated in the Scholar-in-Residence program featuring Professor **Ori Soltes**, which was a program jointly sponsored by Heska Amuna, Temple Beth El, the Knoxville Jewish Alliance, and the Fern and Manfred Steinfeld Program in Judaic Studies.

Our latest challenge is how to continue to present these much-needed and much-appreciated adult education learning opportunities in an environment in which we are mostly isolated in our homes. Fortunately, with the benefit of online video technology, we plan to continue offering challenging classes and learning opportunities to be enjoyed from the comforts of our home. By the time this article reaches publication, we hope you will already be enjoying some of these programs.



Brietstein



## Everything Will Work Out for the Best

By Lisa Jacobson, Heska Amuna Women's League President

During this period of isolation, I've had a chance to "listen" to some 'interesting' books. To say that some of them are "good" or "great" seems inappropriate for those books that have very emotional topics. One of those "interesting" books was *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Helen Morris. (I also read her novel which is based on the true story of Lale Eisenberg, (number 32407), as told by him to the author).

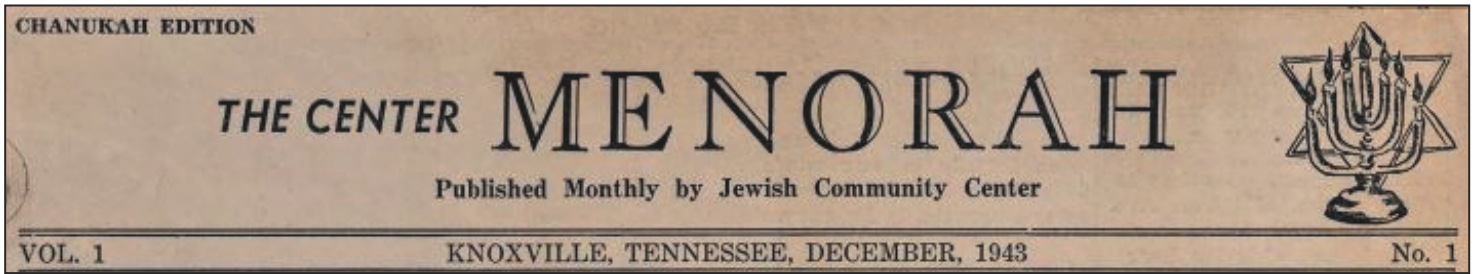
This book is full of the horrors of Auschwitz and Bergen Belsen but also is a story of love and hope. In these difficult times it is inspiring to hear and understand just how resilient humanity is despite extreme starvation, unbelievable cruelty, and physical and emotional torture. Below is an excerpt from the Afterword of the book, written by Gary Sokolov, Lale's son.

*When my father was forced to close his business when I was 16, I came home from school just as our car was being towed away and an auction sign going up outside our home. Inside, my mom was packing up all our belongings. She was singing. Well, I thought to myself, they just lost everything, and mom is singing. She sat me down to tell me what was going on and I asked her, "How can you just pack and sing?" With a big smile on her face she said, "When you've spent years not knowing when in 5 minutes time you will be dead, there is not much you can't deal with." She said, "As long as we are alive and healthy, everything will work out for the best."*

*Afterword by Gary Sokolov, Son of Ludwig Sokolov (Lale Eisenberg 32407),  
The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Helen Morris*



*Above:  
Many attended adult education programs such as "Who Shall Live and Who Shall Die" by Helene Sinnreich, UT Professor and Director of the Fern and Manfred Steinfeld Program in Judaic Studies. She will return later this year to continue a discussion of her research on the Holocaust.*



## Enjoy a Stroll Down Memory Lane (Without Having to Put on Your Shoes!)

Some of the past issues of *The Center Menorah*, Knoxville's first Jewish community newspaper, are now online at <https://heskaamuna.org/menorahs/>.

During 1943, in the midst of World War II, Knoxville's Jewish Community Center (it would not be named the "Arnstein Jewish Community Center" until the 1960's) began publishing a mostly-monthly newsletter, *The Center Menorah*. One of its initial main goals was to keep local Jewish servicemen around the world abreast of local events as well as informing our local community of news of its members in the armed forces. As noted in an early edition, *The Center Menorah* would:

- report news of local Jewish interest
- champion all worthy causes
- unite Knoxville Jewry toward communal advancements
- take local news to our boys all over the world.

*The Center Menorah*, predecessor to the *Knoxville Jewish Community Voice* and *Ha'Kol*, ran from December 1943 through 2000. The KJA Archives has most issues in paper and has arranged to put some online through the volunteer efforts of digitization expert Jeremy Moore. We welcome assistance, when it is safe to do so, to help convert the paper copies to be able to be read online.

Enjoy these excerpts from the online collection, then go online and enjoy full editions. And then, *(air)hug an archivist!* Providing access to these amazing capsules of our history could not be possible without the support of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and the KJA Archives' archivist Nicki Russler, and the countless number of volunteers who have helped to preserve our regional Jewish history for over 40 years. For more information on anything archives or to volunteer to help with this or any Archives project, contact Nicki at [archivist@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:archivist@jewishknoxville.org).

**VACATION BOUND:** Just TWO more weeks then off to Miami Beach goes Helen Klink, Reva Gerwin, Ida Linke and Shirley Siegal. Let us know if it's true what they say about the Miami Moon, girls! Toby Schwartz and son, Allen, will be taking off for Atlantic City soon. Max will be a forlorn husband when Ann and the boys take off for Philly. The Center is always open Max! Marion Siegel got lonesome with all the Cadets gone and wandered down to Savannah, and she will also visit in Baltimore and New York. Mrs. Isaac Slovis and children will be leaving for Charleston, S. C., this month. **EXTRA:** Genial Al Schieb has just sold his food store and hopes to get a much needed rest . . . You really need a rest Al, and you should take a few more overworked storekeepers with you.

Congratulations to our young graduates from Knoxville High School: Blossom Davis, Melvin Robinson, Estelle Zinkow and Sylvia Axelrod. My, how time flies!

**Join us for Shavuot!**

**Late Night with Rabbi Ferency Returns Thursday, May 28**

Visit [www.heskaamuna.org](http://www.heskaamuna.org) for more details.

### SPORTING

A red letter day on the Center's sports calendar is February 6. A basketball battle royal, reminiscent of the old knock-down, drag-out games of yesteryear between the single men and married men, will take place between the local A. Z. A. lads and a team made up of former stars (?) of bygone Center teams.

This has grown into a sort of grudge battle because the old boys think they can still play the game, and the youngsters have vowed to show them up. Instead of the regular ten-minute quarters with a 15-minute rest period between halves, the Stars (?) asked for 20 two-minute playing periods with a five-minute rest period between each, but this request was emphatically refused by A. Z. A. "It will have to be a regulation game," asserted Captain Jerry Millen. "We've been training for this game for three years and we don't want any changes in the rules now."

A capacity crowd is expected, so come up and see the fun. Tickets on sale at the Center.

Probable starting line-ups:

STARS (?)		AZA	
George "Pass-to-Brown" Busch (c)	F	"Truck" Collins	
Buster "Pass-to-Busch" Brown (c)	F	Melvin Robinson	
Max "Elbows" Wolf (c)	C	(c) "Shadow" Millen	
Max "Fingers" Morrison (c)	G	Zelig "Boy" Frumin	
Hymie "Dead-eye" Billig (c)	G	David Schneider	

Note: (c) denotes captain.

Star (?) subs: Frank Zoglin, "Doc" Weinstein, George Palmer, Nathan Robinson, (Ringer) Ben Wininck.

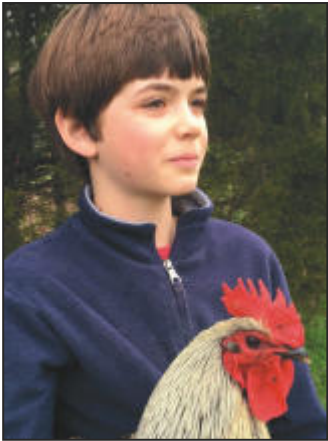
Max Morrison has undertaken to lead a boxing class at the Center on Tuesday nights from 5:30 to 6:30. Anyone interested in picking up a few pointers in the manly art of fisticuffs should attend these classes, 'cause Max is just the guy to show you the tricks.

## Celebrating the Bar Mitzvah of Josh Scott

Joshua Guipago Scott will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Friday, June 13.

Josh is an independent, passionate homeschooled learner who enjoys many activities. He has passions for Hebrew, drawing, sewing, landscaping, and raising chickens, but not eating them. He enjoys hiking, roller skating, and riding his bike hands free while filming video.

Many years ago Josh started sewing pillows by hand-stitching, which he figured out himself. Soon, having too many piles of pillows, he asked his mom to dispatch them. She took them to her office with his handmade signs and behold, they sold and were fairly popular. He went to her work and talked with his new customers and got feedback. At one point a lady gifted him a hundred year old heavy Singer sewing machine with lovely gilding which none of her own children had a use for. He taught himself to use this complexity and thus upped his game a fair bit. We have had fun acquiring a variety of reproduction presser-feet, as well as vintage exotic "contraptions" like a 1950s made mechanical zig-zagger with pattern discs, and also a ruffler which pinches and gathers. These incredible old-time mechanical gizmos are a joy to behold in action, something a proper geek giggles at in delight.



Soon he was taking custom orders, bringing fabric samples to customers to select, and keeping company books to track how much he was and wasn't making. He also makes some of his own clothes and carrying bags. He crafts small practical furniture: chests and cabinets for tools and parts, made of cardboard and duck tape, some with secret compartments.

In this photo we see Josh with Blackberry his Iowa Blue Rooster. The Blue is an interesting, legendary and mythical breed which many reasonable and sensible folks don't even believe exists. Legend has it a century ago an Iowa farmer discovered his hen had taken up with a Pheasant and produced a brood of hybrid chicks. This is less implausible than it seems, as chickens pheasants quail partridges turkeys grouse and peacocks are of the family Galliformes Phasianidae and can interbreed, it's just they don't normally want to. I believe it since the peacock that lives at our place, of its own accord and freewill choice, has recently started dating one of our hens and also

is now talking to a neighbor's cow who moos back evening greetings in peacock language from half a mile away. Also some years back we had a pheasant adopt us after falling in love with a hen and hopelessly courting her, with tragic results.

It's said Iowa Blues, part pheasant, have more wild instincts. As a result the Iowa Blue Rooster, which is extinct or mythological, but nonetheless exists at our home and which is validated by photographic evidence for which I am thankful, is said to be the greatest Chicken Hawk fighter known. Effective hen protection however is intertwined with hair-trigger temperament. This rooster draws blood and harms people at the farm who are reading a book, going for a run, pulling dandelions, or engaging on other basic day-to-day activities. Bare legs, crouching down for any reason whatsoever, and visible foot soles are considered especially personal affronts and invitations to fight as far as the Blue is concerned.

An idealist, Josh believes he can win over this wild fowl whom he loves. When attacked, he gloves up, catches Blackberry, and speaks softly while gently scratching its craw. The rooster calms down and lays off for a bit. We know chickens are a kind of reptile, coming from the dinosaur family (look at their feet to see) and have brains the size of a walnut. They can be trained to a limited extent using fear of hawks and love of food. This alternate training based on affection and familiarity may work, but the thing is he keeps trying and never gives up hope.

After picking the date of June 13, Josh recognized it represents the number of commandments in the Torah (613). Joshua will read *בהעלתך* which is *Beha'alotheikha* from Numbers. This portion is the story of journeying through the wilderness, guided by two clouds which turn into fire at night, and also describes the Menorah and Tabernacle.

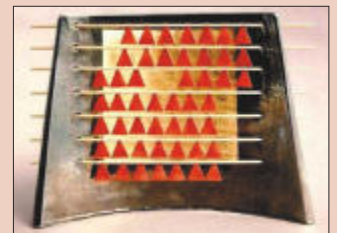
Joshua will be joined by his parents, Jeff and Serina Scott, and his brothers Thomas and Zach, on the Bimah to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah. Please join us on this day to share our joy.

## Keep on Countin'!

The beginning of May marks the mid-point to the 49 days of **Counting the Omer** which we first began counting on the second night of Pesach. At the end of the month, after counting the final day of the omer, comes Shavuot, a joyful celebration of receiving the Ten Commandments.

Hopefully you have enjoyed receiving a **weekly e-mail** from the Rabbi and Religious Services Committee on the focus for that week's omer counting. If you have not received these but would like to, we still have many days left of counting, so just let us know to add you to our e-mail list by sending us an email at [RRS@heskaamuna.org](mailto:RRS@heskaamuna.org) or calling the synagogue office at (865) 522-0701.

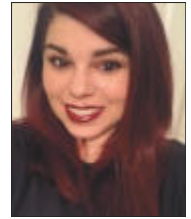
Looking ahead, the first week of this month of May focuses on Netzach (Endurance), the second week on Hod (Humility), the third week on Yesod (Bonding), and the final week on Malchut (Leadership). Keep on Countin'!



*"The Time Til Sinai," omer counter from the Studio of Arnold Schwarzbart, z"l*

## People Who Need People

By Shuli Mesa, *heska Amuna Education Director*



Lost in a constant state of flux, educators around the world have had to shuffle and adapt. Locally, Knox County Schools found a solution by bringing classes thru the PBS channel with coordinated worksheets (KCS @Home). We at HARS struggled with how to approach continued education in a religious context. After several phone conferences and Zoom meetings with Jewish educators around the country, we discovered that there isn't a one answer solution. There is no precedent.

We sought to meet the needs of our community gingerly and to listen. We began with weekly Zoom meetings for the HHH group. We recognized early on that this group of teens would feel the lack of social disconnect the hardest. We quickly added morning prayers for families. Rabbi led a Zoom meeting allowing families to jump on, pray with friends, and then go out and enjoy their day. Lev Comstock, our music instructor, joined us in early April for a Zoom meeting on Passover music which gave us an added opportunity to jump around and sing with each other. B'nei Mitzvah students continue with their tutors one to one.

Weekly emails have elongated to include new information. While we miss our weekly arts and crafts with Morah Marion, we have included DIY art projects. And we continue to include various links to videos, digital stories, and find new ways to participate in technology together, such as in Answergarden or Padlet.

As humans, adaptation is one of our strengths. As Jews, we excel in continuity. No matter what the future holds for our beloved community, we will survive this and we are not alone.

Stay healthy, stay happy, stay home, and don't forget to stay connected. As Babs once sang:

*People  
People who need people  
Are the luckiest people in the world  
We're children, needing other children  
—Barbra Streisand - "People" 1973*

### Board Member Serina Scott

**Born:** San Francisco  
**Raised:** Bay Area, CA  
**Years in Knoxville: 18**  
in Hawkins County, preceded by California, Virgin Islands, and New Mexico



**Family:** My husband Jeff, and our children Thomas, 16; Zach, 15; and Josh, 12. Also living with us are Mr. Peacock, (The Professor), and Ba'o, the Siamese cat as well as four hens (Felder, Velder, Barly, and Spot), and a rooster, Blackberry.

**Education:** San Francisco State University, BA in Art Pacific College of Oriental Medicine, MS in Oriental Medicine

**Vocation:** Acupuncturist  
Served two 4-year terms on the Advisory Committee for Acupuncture for the Tennessee Department of Health, appointed by Governors Bredesen, then Haslam

**Volunteering:** Heska Amuna Ed Committee and Board, with various other activities

**Favorite Activities:** Spending time with Family, enjoying the outdoors, watching the clouds go by listening to the wind in the trees and the frogs singing. In the warm months, I wander our property snacking on what grows here: cherries, apples,, peaches, blackberries, dew berries, silver berries, passion fruit, paw paw, mulberries, sour clover, wild onion, callery pears, persimmons, green briar sassafras, and soon hopefully, figs.

**Reason for Serving on Heska Amuna Board:**

To support the community that has supported me so much. Also, to get to know everyone better and be more connected. It may not be easy to say "Yes" to more commitments, but when it comes to Heska Amuna it's always rewarding and a good time, too.

ZOOM IN! with HARS		
May 3	End of Year Celebration B'yachad	9:30-11:30 a.m.
May 9	Shabbat Hinnuch	9:30 a.m. kiddush following services

## Contributions by Caring People

*Donations received through April 7, 2020*

### Cemetery Fund

*In memory of Sarah Robinson*  
Joyce & Harold Diftler  
*In memory of Harold Leibowitz*  
Peggy & Gale Hedrick  
*In memory of Rosie Frumin*  
Joani & Gary Leeds

### Change for the Future

Kimberly & Michael Morgan

### Cohen-Presser Fund

*In memory of Norbert Slovis*  
Marilyn Cohen Presser  
Linda Gray-Slovis  
*In memory of Tillie Slovis*  
Esther Webster

### General Fund

Kimberly Morgan  
*In memory of Sybil Joffe*  
Bunny & Charles Rosenberg

### Gertrude Glazer & I.B. Cohen Fund

*In memory of Israel Cohen*  
Arnold Cohen

### HARS Heroes

Sam Balloff  
Marilyn Burnett  
Carole & Robert Martin  
Mary Ann and Bryan Merrell

### Mitzvah Ticket for Purim Dinner

Miriam Weinstein

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

*In memory of Marilyn Greenfield*  
Gloria Greenfield & Stuart Brotman

### Yahrzeit

*In memory of Annie Green Lillian Weinbren and other members of the Green Family*  
Anita and Jeffrey Miller  
*In memory of Morris Rattner*  
Judith Rattner  
*In memory of Sam Rosenblatt*  
Alice Farkas  
*In memory of Elizabeth Farkas*  
Alice Farkas  
*In memory of Casper Perelman*  
Marie & Charles Perelman  
*In memory of Joslyn Presser*  
Marilyn Presser  
*In memory of Oscar Pfeffer*  
Jenny Pfeffer  
*In memory of Joyce Simon*  
Susan & Harold Silber  
*In memory of David Krauss*  
Brenda & Sigmund Mosko  
*In memory of Gordon Brown*  
Robin Zalkin Brown

## Heska Amuna Synagogue *HaShofar*

### Rabbi Alon C. Ferency

[rabbi.ferency@heskaamuna.org](mailto:rabbi.ferency@heskaamuna.org)

### Chair of the Board

Jeff Becker  
[hachair@heskaamuna.org](mailto:hachair@heskaamuna.org)

### Co-Presidents

Jeannie Bobroff & Markus Eisenbach  
[hapresident@heskaamuna.org](mailto:hapresident@heskaamuna.org)

### Education Director

Shuli Mesa  
[education@heskaamuna.org](mailto:education@heskaamuna.org)

### Operations & Administration Director

Beverly Wilcox  
[admin@heskaamuna.org](mailto:admin@heskaamuna.org)

### Kitchen Director

Kimberly Ault  
[kitchendirector@heskaamuna.org](mailto:kitchendirector@heskaamuna.org)

### Women's League President

Lisa Jacobson  
[WomensLeague@heskaamuna.org](mailto:WomensLeague@heskaamuna.org)

### Heska Amuna Synagogue

[info@heskaamuna.org](mailto:info@heskaamuna.org)

### Permanent Schedule

Friday Night Services.....Varies  
Saturday Morning Service.....9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Minyan.....9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Minyan.....6:30 p.m.  
Mon. & Thurs. Minyanim.....7:00 a.m.

*Minyanim for members  
can be arranged by contacting the  
President one week before.*

**For a list of Heska Amuna's  
services, events, and information,  
please visit  
[www.heskaamuna.org](http://www.heskaamuna.org)**

**(865) 522-0701**

**HESKA AMUNA SYNAGOGUE**  
is an affiliate of The United Synagogue  
of Conservative Judaism.

Thank you to everyone who sold chametz through Rabbi Alon Ferency this year. All donations made to the synagogue in lieu of paying the rabbi for this service helped us fulfill the mitzvah of *ma'ot hittim*, which is helping needy Jews observe the holiday of Passover this year.

- ★ Marilyn Burnett
- ★ Michael Burnett
- ★ Jenifer & Evan Ohriner
- ★ Emily Patrick
- ★ Anne & Bernard Bendriem
- ★ Joyce & David Beerman
- ★ Ted and Wendy Besmann





# K J C F F

## Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds

*A Supporting Organization of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and the East Tennessee Foundation to preserve and strengthen the Jewish Community of Knoxville*

### KJCCFF Stands Ready to Support Jewish Community in Times of Need

As we write this issue, Covid-19 is a problem that is more prevalent in NYC and LA than in K-town. Unfortunately, we suspect by the time you read this, it will be a wider problem in our community. For you, it could be a personal or family health issue, a business issue, or an employment issue. KJCCFF works through KJA to support community members in need at times of need. **Our Jewish Family Services Fund** is ready to support the broad Jewish community. Our **Miles and Zelda Siegel Fund** is ready to support the seniors in our community. Furthermore, we have the **Hannah and Raymond Landsberger Preschool Fund** that can indirectly support families through our Preschool at the AJCC.

If you would like to discuss your situation, please contact Laura Berry at [lberry@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:lberry@jewishknoxville.org) or 690-6343. You may speak to Laura in confidence and know that your situation will be handled professionally and compassionately. We are very fortunate to have her on staff and as a part of our Jewish community. It is times like these that we realize why we do what we do.

### KJCCFF Fund of the Month: Miles and Zelda Siegel Fund

Miles and Zelda Siegel came to Knoxville in the late 40s and jumped right into the Jewish community. Miles opened an accounting firm that was embraced by many of our families and businesses. The Siegels took a strong interest in Israel with Miles serving as a UJA campaign chair and chairman of Heska Amuna. Their children, Mark and Peggy of Knoxville, Sherry of Chicago and the late Cindy (z"l), grew up here and continue to impact our community. Miles and Zelda chose to create a permanent fund to support seniors. The grants made from this fund have been instrumental in supporting programs and a better life for our elders. The Siegels' legacy continues in Knoxville as their generosity will benefit Jewish seniors in perpetuity.

### Knoxville Jewish Community Needs to INCREASE a Fund...Jewish Family Services

Usually we talk about the need for a new fund. Given all that is going on with the pandemic, this is a good time to remind the community that we have the vehicle in place. It just needs to have another zero on the end of it. The KJCCFF Jewish Family Services Fund feeds KJA's JFS Emergency Fund so that the Alliance can quickly meet the needs of people who need help. Currently, we have the ability to help a family, or two, or maybe a few. What if the pandemic hits our community like what happened in the Jewish community in Brooklyn? How will we respond? I'm sure we can make phone calls to key donors who are interested in these types of situations. But what if they have their own short-term issues that need attention? If the community had a dramatically larger fund than the current \$50,000, maybe we could approach situations more proactively. Shouldn't the Knoxville Jewish community have the financial resources to put the professional and volunteer skills of our Jewish Family Services to work at a moment's notice?

### How to Request Assistance from JFS

Usually we use this space to define a charitable term, but with all of the references to Jewish Family Services on the KJCCFF page this month, we wanted to explain how to ask for assistance. All inquiries are confidential.

If you find yourself in need of emergency financial assistance for things such as rent or utilities, please call JFS Director, Laura Berry, at (865) 690-6343 ext. 18 or email her at [lberry@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:lberry@jewishknoxville.org) to schedule an appointment.

### Donations

**Cohen-Presser Designated Fund**  
Nancy Edwards

### KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY FAMILY OF FUNDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stephen Rosen, President; Jacki Imbrey, Secretary/Treasurer; Abraham Brietstein, Past President; Jeff Becker; Bernard Bernstein; Arnold Cohen; Robert Goodfriend; Scott Hahn, Richard Jacobstein; Bryan Merrell, Rosalie Nagler; Jenifer Ohriner; Howard Pollock; Pace Robinson; Bernard Rosenblatt, Laura Berry, Administrative Director

The KJCCFF encourages you to help insure the healthy future of our Knoxville Jewish community by including a commitment to the KJCCFF in your financial and estate planning.

To learn more about KJCCFF philanthropic opportunities, call 690-6343 or visit [www.jewishknoxville.org/kjccff](http://www.jewishknoxville.org/kjccff)



## President's Message

By Rhonda Bogard JCOR President

I am writing this article in late March during the Coronavirus pandemic, and I cannot imagine what May 2020 will look like. But it is important to capture thoughts and feelings from this time, and hopefully look back with a different perspective than I have right now. Normally, I just reach back to one of my weekly articles and include it in *Ha'Kol*, but this time is different. I don't have any relevant articles from my weekly newsletters, as all of them seek to convey necessary information rather than my thoughts or perspectives.

Some of what I have experienced these last few weeks has surprised me. I expected that I would feel concern for my family, including my JCOR family. I expected that I would have more to do rather than less as I made alternate plans for each of the projects I am involved in. I expected that I would feel a sense of loss as events that were important to me were cancelled. What I didn't expect is to have some kind of crisis going on in my heart about my relationship with Judaism.

This is not a crisis of faith, or of identity. I have already been through those at different times in my life and I feel very comfortable and confident in all those aspects. I feel more connected than ever to the JCOR community and want to do everything possible to keep us connected to each other, to the Oak Ridge community to the Oak Ridge interfaith community, and to the Knoxville Jewish community. My heart is, and always will be full of love for our people, for Israel, for the prayers, and for the language.

What makes me uneasy is the degree to which Conservative Judaism presents hurdles as we respond to our physical separation during the coronavirus pandemic. I love being Jewish in a Conservative synagogue and would not be comfortable anywhere else. I love that Jewish observance is a continuum and that we have different branches of Judaism that represent different points on the continuum. I am a Jew that has a very independent relationship with Judaism, one that is influenced by a deep love of learning and spiritual connection to all of humanity. I have always tried to be respectful of those who are deeply concerned with the observance of halakic law, even though that is of less interest to me. I think we have a nice balance at JCOR, and it is comfortable.

I want lots of flexibility in determining what we can or can't do especially on Shabbat during this time of crisis. I don't want to be bound by rules that aren't found in the Torah but were determined hundreds of years ago by rabbis. Of course just because I want this freedom for myself I know that that others might feel differently. I do recognize that the issues are workable and we will get through them. *Maybe I resent the extra energy required to do so.* Does this make me less of a Jew as I struggle with the discontinuity between very old rules and modern reality? Sometimes it just doesn't keep pace.

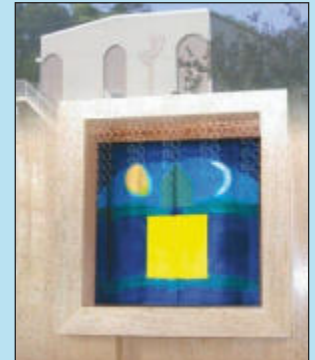
## JCOR ANNUAL MEETING 2020

**Sunday, May 17, 2020**  
either at JCOR  
or we may go virtual

4:30 p.m. - Program

5:30 p.m. - Dinner

101 W. Madison Lane, Oak Ridge



Please be sure to attend as we  
Honor Board Members  
Recognize Accomplishments  
Enjoy a Meal Together

Please RSVP to [office@jcor.info](mailto:office@jcor.info)



*Celebrating Purim 2020*



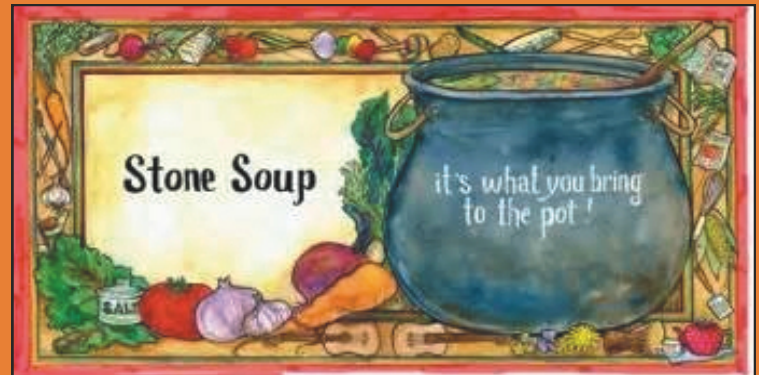
## Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge Sisterhood Friday Night Shabbat Service and Potluck

Friday May 15— 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Location TBD

**JCOR is a partner with the  
Oak Ridge Unitarian Church in  
sponsoring a monthly meal  
for the hungry.**

**Please donate your canned goods  
or dollars.**

**Contact  
Ronnie Bogard  
for more information**



### Donations to JCOR

#### Yahrzeits:

- ★ Stan Cantor from *Bobbie Cantor*
- ★ Elaine Shreter from *Hilary Shreter*
- ★ Solomon Chodorkoff & Milton Carey from *Ellen Appel*
- ★ Herman Halbert from *Mel & Edith Halbert*
- ★ Ida Fine from *Karen Brunner*
- ★ Montague Brown Wickline from *Monty Lewis*
- ★ Abba Goodstein from *Ellen Appel*
- ★ Esther Kitzes from *Judith Kitzes*
- ★ Pauline Liebman from *Shirley Schwartz*
- ★ Philip Ted & Sadie Shapiro from *Jim & Ronnie Bogard*
- ★ John Bogard from *Jim and Ronnie Bogard*

#### Donations:

- ★ Deborah Bowman
- ★ Tracey Cato
- ★ Geoffrey Laing
- ★ Penny Lukin
- ★ Stephen Storch

### JCOR Hosts and Hostesses

<b>May 2</b>	Catherine Braunstein, Jeannette Gilbert
<b>May 9</b>	Hilary Shreter, Monty Lewis
<b>May 16</b>	Alice Feldman & Albert Good Brenda & Sig Mosko
<b>May 23</b>	Edith & Mel Halbert, Elena Bamberger
<b>May 30</b>	Peggy and Randy Laxton Gery & Vicki Osowiecki
<b>June 6</b>	Shelby & Mark Kaye, Vivian & Miguel Reyes
<b>June 13</b>	Vera & Leon Maya, Ilana & Moshe Siman-Tov
<b>June 20</b>	Mary Rubens, Avigail & Victor Rashkovsky
<b>June 27</b>	Rhonda & Ron Sternfels, Nona & Sam Poole

## JEWISH CONGREGATION OF OAK RIDGE

- Rabbi Victor Rashkovsky—vicrash@yahoo.com
- Ronnie Bogard, President—rhondabogard@comcast.com
- Becky Charles, Sisterhood President—gchar2@aol.com

101 W. Madison Lane, Oak Ridge, TN 37830  
(Mail) P.O. Box 5434, Oak Ridge, TN 37831

JCOR's Saturday morning service begins at 9:30 a.m.  
For the Friday evening service schedule, please  
contact JCOR at [office@jcor.info](mailto:office@jcor.info) or call (865) 483-3581.

[www.jcortn.org](http://www.jcortn.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JewishOakRidge/>



# CHABAD OF KNOXVILLE



## Freedom

ב"ה



*Purim circus fun and camaraderie.*

Purim in the Circus was a delightful evening spent in camaraderie, with a delicious circus themed menu – a walking taco bar, vegetarian chili, hotdogs, homemade burgers on pretzel buns for all who dined and celebrated Purim. Acrobats and tricks performed by Dragonfly Aerial Arts Studio were the precursor for circus tricks available for all to try. Eating cotton candy, listening to the Megilah, dressed in our circus best, beam walking, stilt walking and enjoying each other’s company. Little did we know that this would be the last community gathering for a while as we all social distanced to flatten the infection rate.

Social distancing hasn’t stopped Chabad of Knoxville from connecting with our community. From a zoom Bar Mitzvah, to Zoom classes, Teen game nights, Virtual Havdalas, a Pre-Pesach Cooking Demo with chef Shifra Klien and a class by Mendel Wilhelm – we continued to stay connected though physically apart.

Celebrating Passover, the holiday of Freedom, during this time brings new context and meaning to the concept of freedom and the layers and complexities that surround the question what is true freedom. In these difficult times we see clearly that though we may be

physically limited, there are so many ways to remain connected, spread love and kindness, remaining truly free.

We hope and pray for an end to this social distancing with the eradication of this Covid19 virus and healing to all those effected. In the meantime, we will continue to do our part in supporting social distancing measures and to support our community. Looking forward to when we can all be together again in person.



*Virtual Havdalas, online Cteen get-togethers, and classes taught by Mendel Wilhelm are just a few ways our community stayed together while apart.*

# JAHRZEIT

## *Heska Amuna Synagogue*

### May 2

Gerd Abeles ♦ Bernard Belaief ♦ Joseph Bernard ♦ Samuel Billig ♦ Charlotte Cooper ♦ Marilyn Cornez ♦ Gordon Dischler ♦ Claire Evans ♦ Rosa Frumin ♦ Anna Gitman ♦ Israel Gruenberg ♦ Lionel Kay ♦ Fannie Leibowitz ♦ Rabbi Isaac Levin ♦ Ella Levison ♦ Bessie Millen ♦ Ruth Oleshansky ♦ Celia Rosenblatt ♦ Abraham Schorr ♦ Frieda Schwarzbart ♦ Christine Scott ♦ Selma Smullian ♦ David Stein ♦ Mariam Stein

### May 9

Marilyn Abrams ♦ Paul Cawn ♦ Rose Dischler ♦ Stanley Duhan ♦ Ruby Euster ♦ Freda Friedman ♦ Max Friedman ♦ Joseph Goldman ♦ Harriett Herbin ♦ Bertha Hoor ♦ Madeline Kanofsky ♦ Esther Millen ♦ Tybee Millner ♦ Abraham Radlaski ♦ Murray Rosenblatt ♦ Jacob Schwartz ♦ Joseph Sherman ♦ Charles Siegal ♦ Lottie Siegal ♦ Pauline Viener

### May 16

Pearl Austin ♦ Carolyn Bertram ♦ Hymie Billig ♦ Sharon Brietstein ♦ Isaac Cooper ♦ Lillian Drutz ♦ Howard Greenbaum ♦ Flora Hasden ♦ Sandra Levinstone ♦ Sidney Licht ♦ Mary Milford ♦ Sarah Miller ♦ Gary Miller ♦ Hannah Moskowitz ♦ Nat Nisenson ♦ Hyman Raskin ♦ William Russler ♦ Sylvia Saroff ♦ Sanford Weinstein ♦ Benjamin Weinstein

### May 23

Sam Abrams ♦ Isadore Abrams ♦ Norman Abrams ♦ Sidney Burnett ♦ Philip Chazen ♦ Linda Cohen ♦ Rachel Davis ♦ Julia Eichwald ♦ Jacob Ellin ♦ Anne Fuson ♦ David Garber ♦ Brayne Geller ♦ Samuel Grusin ♦ Ruth Kahan ♦ Bessie Kaplan ♦ Samuel Lavine ♦ Isaac Resnick ♦ Frank Robinson ♦ Bernard Schanowitz ♦ Yachel Wender ♦ Reva Zussman

### May 30

Lester Berry ♦ Louis Bobroff ♦ Ellen Chayet ♦ Sam Danenberg ♦ Sylvia Golub ♦ Bernard Iroff ♦ Abraham Jacobs ♦ William Jaffe ♦ Leon Leibowitz ♦ Sam Nius ♦ Ethel Rosenberg ♦ Sarah Sachs ♦ Hyman Strauss ♦ Benjamin Togonal ♦ Sarah Weinstein ♦ Melba Werfel ♦ Harriett Zalkin

# JAHRZEIT

## TEMPLE BETH EL

### May 1

Joseph Ades ♦ Rae Allen ♦ David M. Baker ♦ Jeff Cox ♦ John Martin Elston ♦ Dorothy B. Goldberger ♦ Mary Connor Hepworth ♦ Alvin Kirsner ♦ Mathilde Wolff Levi ♦ Joseph Levitt Sr. ♦ Naum Safro ♦ Mark Ian Simon

### May 8

Flora Brody ♦ David Bush ♦ Mary Lillian Dees ♦ Abraham Factor ♦ Arthur Factor ♦ Angela Gold ♦ Shirlie B. Goodfriend ♦ Mary Ella Hicks ♦ Fannie Kreisberg ♦ Milton Lebovitz ♦ Robert Lewis ♦ Hannah Licht ♦ Rivkah Ribak Ovits ♦ Rabbi Aaron Panken ♦ Dorothy Sachs ♦ Carl Silver ♦ N. George Tucker ♦ Nick Wadsworth ♦ Harry Walowitz ♦ Deborah Wertheim ♦ Sydel Ida Wertheim ♦ Rose Kipnes West ♦ Bess Zipser

### May 15

Joice Brown ♦ Verne Canner ♦ Saralee Cohn ♦ Margaret Crohn ♦ Lucie A. Fribourg ♦ Morris Goldfarb ♦ Mary Haller ♦ Hymen T. Kern ♦ David Nathan Koffman ♦ Manuel Leimsidor ♦ Thelma Leitson ♦ Rosa Ostrovskiy ♦ Marjorie Pardee ♦ Gilbert H. Parish ♦ Ethel Rosenberg ♦ Sheldon Rosenberg ♦ Ruth Kronenberger Sherrill ♦ Cecelia Zimmerman

### May 22

Lawrence Arnold Allen ♦ Dan Altshuler ♦ Althea Almeda Brakebill ♦ Louis Brenner ♦ Bea Jaffe ♦ Sam Kadison ♦ Frances Dickey Patton ♦ David Prial ♦ Minnie Victor ♦

### May 29

Uriel Alayev ♦ Katherine Caller ♦ Harry Goldberger ♦ Alexander Gompertz ♦ Carolyn Greif ♦ Rose Bank Gudis ♦ E. Max Kesselman ♦ Maurice Konigsberg ♦ Stephen Lieberman ♦ Anny I Marx ♦ Jakob Marx ♦ Harold Pomerantz ♦ Joseph Sandberg ♦ Nathan Harry Smith ♦ Harvey Smuckler ♦ Katherine B. Soss ♦ Charles Clarence Strasburger ♦ Annie S. Taylor ♦ Flint Wolf ♦ Jasper Wolf ♦ Esther Yadgaroff

# Hadassah HIGHLIGHTS

HADASSAH  
THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST  
ORGANIZATION OF  
AMERICA, INC.

HADASSAH  
Knoxville

## Hadassah Shabbat Weekend Super

As we gathered at Mary and John's home for the **Super-Duper Soup Party**, Hadassah long-time members, associates, new Hadassah members, prospective members, and guests were treated to a wonderful evening at the lovely home of Mary Evars-Goan and John Goan. The Souper-Duper dinner party took place on March 1. Everyone was treated to four choices of Mary's homemade soups, plus appetizers, salads, desserts and an open bar. Board members also contributed many of the mouth-watering culinary selections. The atmosphere was warm and inviting, and a wonderful time was had by all. It was a great program and a fabulous end to a very busy Hadassah weekend. We thank Mary and John for their gracious and generous hospitality.



A Special thank you to all for making our **Hadassah Shabbat** weekend so special. Shabbat Services at Temple Beth El and Heska Amuna Synagogue were led by Hadassah Knoxville members, chairpersons, and board members. HADASSAH THE POWER OF WOMEN WHO DO!

Thank you, Norma James, for weaving Henrietta Szold into Temple Beth El's Friday night service. Thank you, Mary Ann Merrell for your patience, guidance and organizing aliyahs, perfect (Hebrew and English) readings that fit each member at Heska Amuna services. Thank you to Mary Linda Schwarzbart who gave the D'var Torah on the history of the artwork within Heska Amuna Synagogue, relating it to the parashah, and information about the cutting-edge research at Hadassah Hospitals, as well as some history of the hospitals. This weekend could not have been complete without the leadership and direction from Rabbi Alon Ferency. Thank you.

We are very grateful for our VP of Education, Revital Ganzi for coordinating both services. We hope you enjoyed Revital's creativity and delicious Potluck Kiddush on Saturday at Heska Amuna.

## Hadassah Large Certificates Program Open to All

We gratefully acknowledge donations received. Participation in the Large Certificates Program is available to everyone, whether you are a Hadassah member or not. If you would like to receive e-mail notices when certificates are opened, or for more information, contact Mary Ann Merrell at [hadassahcertificates@gmail.com](mailto:hadassahcertificates@gmail.com).

### Buy a Tree or Water Certificate and Perform a Double Mitzvah!

What better way to celebrate a birthday or special occasion than by purchasing a certificate to plant a tree in Israel?

**One Tree \$18 or  
Ten Trees \$150 (Circle of Trees)**

You may designate a name for certificates in memory of someone, sending get well wishes, honor a birthday, anniversary, birth, marriage, engagement or simply support Israel's reforestation and water purification projects.

Contact Joyce York at [joyceyork12@gmail.com](mailto:joyceyork12@gmail.com)





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THE ISSUES YOU CARE ABOUT...**

**WOMEN'S RIGHTS  
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JEWISH VALUES & SOCIAL JUSTICE**

# CONNECTION IS POWER

**Together, we have the power to heal the world.** Annual membership is only \$36 and helps Hadassah address key issues of the day.

**Help us connect with new members.**

**hadassah.org/connect**  
contact Andrea Cone

**hadassahknoxvilleac@gmail.com**  
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the power of women who DO™

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## 2020 Hadassah Knoxville Membership Directory Updates

Please make a note of the following updates to keep the membership contact information current in your 2020 Hadassah membership directory.

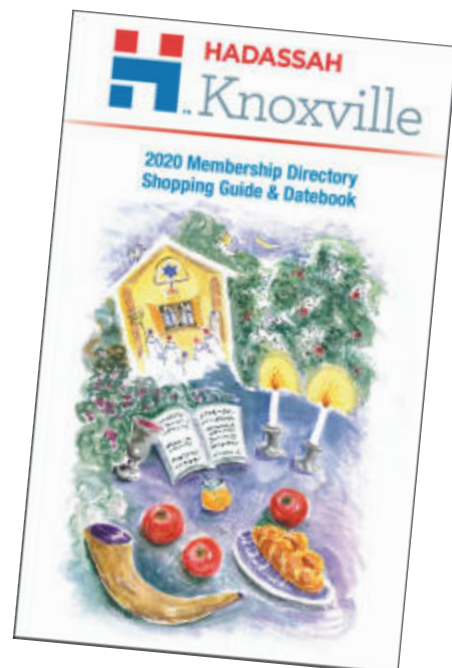
- ★ Susan Ring - (908) 500-1541
- ★ Annette Winston - (865) 599-9199
- ★ Evelyn Oberman - (865) 386-5004 - *designingideas865@gmail.com*
- ★ The area code for Robin Brown, Barbara Holz, Missy Noon, Susette Panitz, Gilya Schmidt, and Chaya Silver should be (865)

Updating the Hadassah database is a year-round activity. If you move or change your phone or e-mail, please notify Barbara Mintz at *barbara@bmintz.com*.

All directory expenses, such as graphic design, printing, and mailing have been paid. We are counting on our advertisers and supporters to pay for their ad space at this time, if this has not already happened. Proceeds from this directory support Hadassah projects. Thank you for your patronage!

### Hadassah Directory Rates:

- Full page \$185
- Half page \$115
- Third page \$100
- Quarter page \$85
- Memorials – Full page \$100, Third page \$50, Text only \$25
- Professional Listings \$36 or \$18 with ad placement



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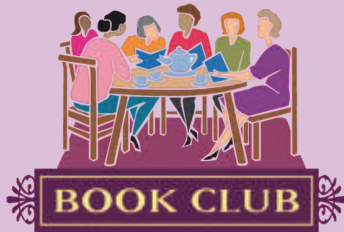


### Coming Soon:

- ◆ Dinner & a Movie
- ◆ Shabark in the Park
- ◆ Breakout Games

Contact Abby at 865-310-8323 or [Abby@Niad.net](mailto:Abby@Niad.net) for information.

*Get involved with EVOLVE, Hadassah's young women's network. Evolve is an exciting initiative created by Hadassah to engage the next generation through customizable events to discover how Hadassah empowers its members and supporters to make a difference by providing opportunities for education, advocacy, philanthropy, personal growth and Jewish continuity.*



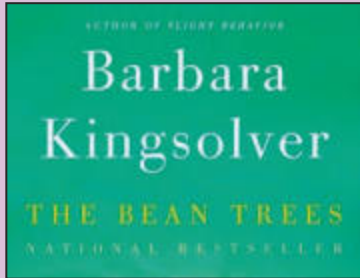
## Hadassah Book Club News

All Jewish women of the greater Knoxville area (and friends) are welcome to join us

We hope to see everyone for our **Tuesday, May 19** Hadassah Book Club meeting. We hope to meet at **7:30 p.m.**, in the coffee shop area of the Barnes and Noble Book Store on Kingston Pike. We will discuss *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver.

If necessary, we may try to meet using ZOOM.

- **June 16:** *The World That We Knew* by Alice Hoffman



**Questions?** Please check the Hadassah webpage at <https://jewishknoxville.org/hadassah> or contact Barbara Mintz at [barbara@bmintz.com](mailto:barbara@bmintz.com) or (865) 363-4149

# Hadassah Highlights

## Knoxville Chapter of Hadassah

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Andrea Cone President  
[hadassahknoxvilleac@gmail.com](mailto:hadassahknoxvilleac@gmail.com)
- Laura Floyd Treasurer  
[floydfam@knology.net](mailto:floydfam@knology.net)
- Shuli Mesa V.P. Programming  
[shulime@gmail.com](mailto:shulime@gmail.com)
- Revital Ganzi V.P. Education  
[revitalganzi@gmail.com](mailto:revitalganzi@gmail.com)
- Harriet Glasman Recording Secretary  
[harrietglasman@gmail.com](mailto:harrietglasman@gmail.com)
- Mary Ann Merrell Corresponding Secretary  
[mamerrell@yahoo.com](mailto:mamerrell@yahoo.com)
- Laura Floyd Advisor  
[floydfam@knology.net](mailto:floydfam@knology.net)

### GENERAL BOARD

- Arrangements Debra Ellis
- Book Club & JNF Program Peggy Littmann
- Bulletin/*Ha'Kol* Harriet Glasman
- Condolence Cards Betty Golub
- Directory Bookkeeper Laura Floyd
- Directory Chair Jill Weinstein
- EVOLVE SPARK Abby Kaplan
- Greeting Cards *vacant*
- Historian/Yearbook Jenny Pfeffer
- HMO Luncheon *vacant*
- HUB Advisor Bonnie Boring
- JNF Tree & Water Certificates Joyce York
- Large Certificates Mary Ann Merrell
- Layettes Batya Boxt
- Leadership Development Mary Linda Schwarzbart
- Membership Nancy Britcher
- Parliamentarian Marian Jay
- PRAZE Harriet Cooper
- Records Administrator Barbara Mintz
- Sunshine Correspondence Betty Golub
- Social Media Jean Begue
- Youth Aliyah Mary Evars-Goan

## Celebrate Motherhood with a Hadassah Layette

By Batya Boxt

Hadassah sends layettes to women who have a new baby or grandbaby. A layette is a card from of all us congratulating them on the new baby!

When I receive information about a future Hadassah member's arrival, I will email all of you. If you are interested in having your name included on the layette, please email me back and let me know.

**If you don't have a layette account**, please send me a check to set that up. I'd recommend \$25 to start. If you need to replenish your account, please send that check to me as well. So that my address isn't distributed publicly, please email me to request my address. Let me know how much money you'd like to donate to the layette and I'll deduct that amount from your layette account. When the account is low (around \$5), I'll email you so you can refill it.



**Please contact me at [batyabox@gmail.com](mailto:batyabox@gmail.com).**



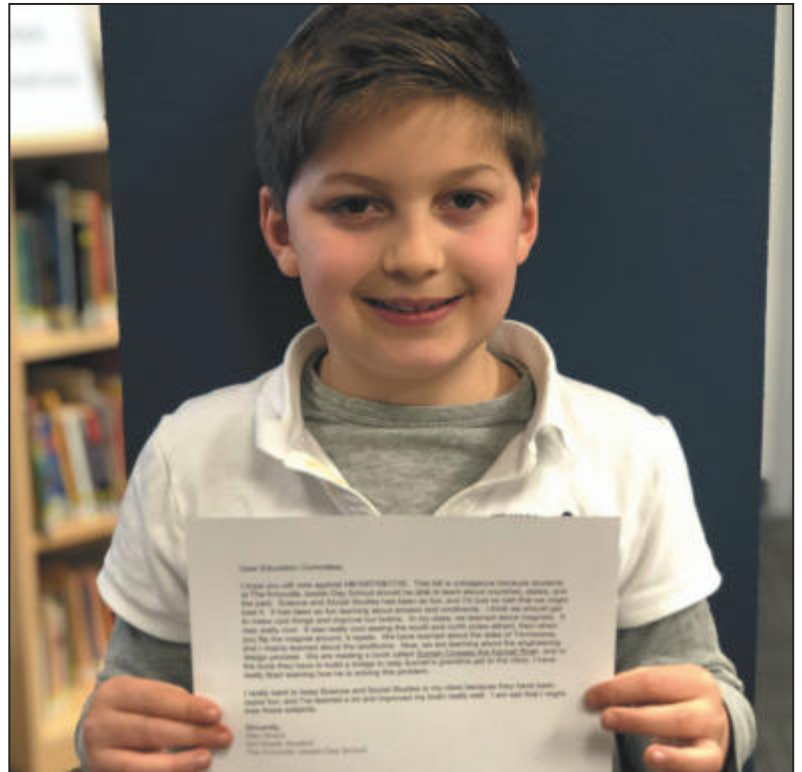


# Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School

## Persuasive Writing for the Real World

Second/Third grade students began a new reading unit on main ideas/details and a new writing unit on persuasive writing. These students have done an incredible job of working across the curriculum to bring their ideas together into high-quality written work. Each student began by creating a brainstormed list of topics on which they want to write, in order to persuade their readers to do or believe something. These topics range from new toys to classroom procedures to the national government. After working their way through the writing process on several topics, the kids are now confidently writing to convince their friends, parents, and teacher.

At KJDS, we strive to show students how their learning connects to the world around them. Students are encouraged to create for an authentic audience. Recently, our students were inspired to use their recently acquired persuasive writing skills to write to members of the Tennessee State Education Committee regarding a bill that came up for a committee vote. Several students wrote to ask members to vote against HB 1687/ SB 1735. These persuasive letters showed not only their skills in writing, but their love for science and social studies. I was proud of them and their ability to use their voices and talents for the benefit of students all over the state.



Max with his letter. He received a reply from Representative Bill Dunn that stated the standards were not going to be changed.

*Dear Education Committee,*

*I hope you will vote against HB1687/SB1735. This bill is outrageous because students should be able to learn about countries, states, and the past. Science and Social Studies has been so fun, and I'm just so sad that public school students in kindergarten through second grade might lose it. I loved learning about erosion and continents. I think all students should get to make cool things and improve our brains. In my class, we learned about magnets. It was really cool. It was really cool seeing the south and north poles attract, then when you flip the magnet around, it repels. We have learned about the state of Tennessee, and I mainly learned about the landforms. Now, we are learning about the engineering design process. We are reading a book called Suman Crosse the Karnali River, and in the book, they have to build a bridge to help Suman's grandma get to the clinic. I have really liked learning how he is solving this problem.*

*I really want to keep Science and Social Studies for all students because they have been super fun, and I've learned a lot and improved my brain really well. I am so sad that public school students might lose these subjects.*

*Sincerely,*

*Max Wood*

*3rd Grade Student*

*The Knoxville Jewish Day School*

## Students Learn About Atypical Assessments

When you hear the word assessment, you may think of a test, 20 questions, and a percentage that will end up representing a letter grade. In KJDS's 4/5 classroom, assessment is much more than that. Students recently worked on two assessments in the form of research projects that they would surely deem as their favorite way to "take a test."

Throughout their unit, the class learned about the initial interest in the establishment of the 13 colonies and how plants, animals, and humans rely on each other in an ecosystem. To wrap up the unit, students were tasked with creating an advertisement for a colony to future settlers in social studies, and a model of an ecosystem displaying how plants and animals rely on each other in science. Students began by conducting specific research relating to a colony and separately, an ecosystem of their interest.

This assessment, in the form of a project, not only allows students to share what they have learned creatively, but also gives students a chance to become experts in something they are personally interested in learning about. For example, in social studies, students learned about the different regions that made up the colonies and about the daily life of settlers. With this project, they were able to apply this general knowledge about the 13 colonies and make connections in their own research of a specific colony like Delaware and Connecticut.

Ms. Julien used this same approach for science class. Her class learned about the parts that make up a food chain and how energy is transferred from producers to consumers. Each student then had the choice to research a specific ecosystem of their choice. These projects provided moments for students to apply their general knowledge and become an expert on topics that we may not be covered as an entire class. In addition to gaining knowledge, these projects have also allowed students to work on refining the Executive Functioning skills of planning and time management. By using a checklist and rubrics, students navigated these projects confidently and with pride. Projects for teachers provide valuable assessment, and for students, they are a chance to express individual learning creatively. At the end of the project, students received a final grade, but they gained much more than a percentage or a letter, they gained research experience, the practice of applying of prior knowledge to new content, and the chance to show off their creativity.



Students are very proud of their science projects. Each student researched an ecosystem of their choice.

## KJDS Moves to Online Learning with Classes, Activities, Morning Meetings, More



Above: The KJDS Challah bake went virtual with students and community members joining online to bake with Morah Dana and Miriam Esther.



Above: KJDS continues its tradition of Friday afternoon Shabbat Party. Lev leads the sing-a-long as families join in. This is one way we keep our school community connected.

Left: First graders are reading to understand the "main idea" with Mrs. Haskins at home. Teachers learned to teach on a virtual platform and to go live with new materials for all our classes, including Hebrew, music, art and P.E.

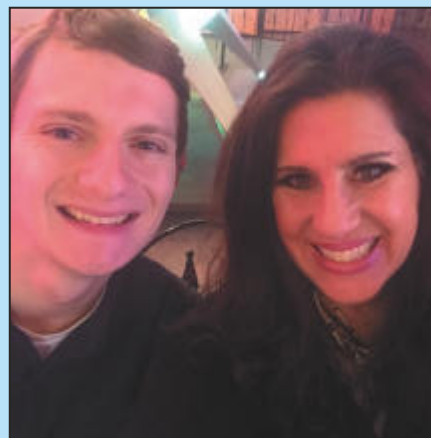
## KJDS Builds Confidence, Leadership and a Strong Jewish Identity

By Bonnie Boring

Our little boy, Camden, began KJDS with great anxiety about speaking in front of others, and then he was cast as Baloo in the *Jungle Book* at KJDS. He surprised everyone with a strong stage presence! Ever since that experience, Camden presents with great confidence and consistently receives very high marks. Honestly, I think a signature trait of a KJDS student is confidence when speaking to adults and other children. As I see them out and about in the community, I am constantly amazed at how KJDS students and alumni present themselves. When Camden transitioned to middle school and high school at Webb he was well prepared academically and socially. He enthusiastically joined the band, tennis team and the theatre department. Camden's confidence and leadership skills have continued to show in college. He is a campus RA and was recently elected to be on the executive board of the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity. In addition, this year he will be the boys' village director at Camp Manitowa.

As importantly, Camden has maintained a strong connection to his Jewish identity, which had been nurtured at KJDS. He didn't hesitate about taking off from school in order to observe the Jewish holidays. In high school, he joined BBYO and eventually became his chapter's president. In college, he is active in Hillel and the only Jewish fraternity on campus.

I am so grateful for the leadership skills, overall confidence and strong feeling of Jewish belonging that Camden developed at KJDS.



*Camden gained confidence during his time at KJDS. The family is still very involved in Jewish life in Knoxville.*

### Real World Math

Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students recently explored math in the real-world of ways, at the gas pump. They were tasked with figuring out how much money their teacher would need to fill her tank. The students knew how many gallons the gas tank held.

They then looked at the gauge to figure out which fraction of the tank needed to be filled. Next, the students learned the price of gas. They figured out how much it would cost their teacher to fill up, once they made their prediction, they then piled into the car and headed to the gas station to test their hypothesis. They were correct. So, they offered their services to other KJDS staff, and they were able to let others know how much money they should be prepared to pay when it was time to fill their tanks.



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## Where Are They Now....

### Ben Ebel

Ben Ebel, a KJDS graduate, is currently a stellar senior at Clayton Bradley Academy, where he is enrolled in honors classes. He has been accepted into the Honors Program at the University of Tennessee and is deciding between that program and a similar program at Tennessee Tech. Ben plans to pursue a degree in computer engineering.

As a fifth grader at KJDS, Ben was an awesome Charlie Bucket. This experience got him hooked on theatre! He has continued to excel in the arts playing Doody in *Grease*, Jack in *Newsies* and most recently, Benny Southstreet in *Guys and Dolls*. Ben also played the trumpet in middle school and received a superior ranking in sixth and seventh grades.

As for sports, Ben stays fit by weightlifting. He is also currently teaching gymnastics and taking tumbling classes at Gymnastics Counts in Maryville. Ben was also on the CBA cross country team in in tenth and eleventh grades.

Ben's love for all things STEM began at KJDS and has continued through his high school years at Clayton Bradley Academy. For Ben's Junior LEEP (Leadership Experience and Exploration Program) class, he shadowed engineers at a Knoxville company called Local Motors. He gained first-hand experience on their 3D printed autonomous bus line, as well as their 3D printed crisis vehicle, designed to deliver supplies to areas in need after natural disasters. For his Senior Capstone project, Ben worked for more than 80 hours and created an original video game. The game is written in a computer language that he taught himself last summer. This year, Ben participated in the RHIT Autonomous Challenge, in which high school students from across the country compete to see who can make the most efficient self-driving car. Ben's role on his team was to optimize the computer code so that the car would go as fast as possible without going off the tracks. Sadly, the competition was cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak, but the team knew from trial speeds that their car would be successful.

Ben's Jewish identity is strong. He is active in CTeen and attended the yearly Shabbaton in NYC. Ben commented that it was one of the best experiences of his life and encouraged anyone who has the opportunity, to attend.

Go Ben! Your KJDS community is so proud of all that you have accomplished!



*Ben standing with the Local Motors crisis vehicle. He looks forward to a future in the field of computer engineering.*

## Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School

### KJDS Staff and Board

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Louise Lindsay  
**Innovation Coach**

Ann Ely  
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Katie Lusk  
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**2-3rd Grade Teacher**

Fran Julien  
**4-5th Grade Teacher**

Revital Ganzi-Sagiv  
**Hebrew Instruction Consultant**

Dana Maman  
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### The Way We Were in 1970 On the Way to a BBYO Convention

BBYO members (left to right) Ronda **Robinson**, AJ **Robinson**, Phoebe **Diftler**, and Barbara **Shipper** pause on the tarmac at McGhee Tyson Airport for someone to take a photo of them while on their way to that year's BBYO district convention in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Ronda's parents, Sandy and Alfred **Robinson**, and AJ's mother and brother, Natalie and Pace **Robinson**, live in Knoxville. Phoebe's parents, Joyce (nee **Robinson**) and Harold **Diftler**, recently moved to California after living in Knoxville for decades.

Thanks to Ronda and AJ for their efforts to identify the year.



Send your photos of "The Way We Were" (identifying who, what, when, where) to [archives@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:archives@jewishknoxville.org), or contact the archivist at (865) 690-6343.