



OUR TEMPLE

Notes from the president

Helping JCC should benefit Temple as well

By Herb Karasin
President

As I write this, Passover is approaching, though by the time this Bulletin gets to you the holiday will have passed. Passover coming so late in the springtime always has special meaning. The season, if not the holiday, is significant because of the change that is taking place, change from the long cold winter. Change to the bright, light and lush days of spring. Actually, the holiday also is concerned with change, the change

our ancestors experienced as they left slavery in Egypt and set out to their own land and freedom.

The Temple and our larger community are also looking ahead to changes. The Jewish Community Center is in the process of remaking itself. It is in the process of completing the sale of its longtime home and is going through the process of reforming itself. Until the final form takes place, it is seeking temporary housing for some of the programs which have become such an

important part of our community.

We are discussing with them the possibility of housing their Early Learning Department for the coming year in the Temple building. As we see it, this could benefit all of us.

I say this for a few reasons. First, I believe it is important to note the obvious fact that our Temple and the JCC are related organizations. Actually more than related. Many of our members are also

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From the Rabbi's study

Community a vital part of every B'nai Mitzvah

Last month, you all should have received invitations to my daughter Naomi's upcoming Bat Mitzvah. Holly and I hope that you will join us on the morning of June 14 to celebrate this milestone in Naomi's life. (If you have not yet returned your post-cards to tell us if you are coming, *please* do so now.)

Rabbi Brian Michelson

I know that many people wonder if they should attend an event where they do not know the child well or have not been specifically invited by the family to attend. What I want you to

know is what I tell all our Bar and Bat Mitzvah students. The people they do not know in our congregation serve a very important purpose.

Bar or Bat Mitzvah is a moment when a child acknowledges that they are beginning the process of becoming an adult member of the community or congregation. The invited guests, the friends and extended family, are all important, but they may not be part of the child's religious community. It is not as hard to stand up in front of the people who love us and to make a declaration as it is to say the same thing before others whom you do not know or do not know well. It is those people who represent the congrega-

tion and by extension the whole of the Jewish people. It means the promises that are made and the responsibilities undertaken are not merely before the people who will forgive us if we fail, but before the entire community and God.

Thus, I would invite you to join me any and every Bar or Bat Mitzvah that we celebrate at the Temple. By attending you are truly doing something important.

In addition, as the end of the school year approaches, it is time for us to say farewell to our student-cantor, Joanna Alexander. In May Joanna will become a fully invested cantor and take her place in the world of working clergy. On behalf of all of us, I want to thank Joanna for her service to Oheb Sholom. Her voice was a welcome addition to our services. Her love of Jewish music was something she tried to pass on to our Religious School students and the members of the Junior Choir. We have been fortunate to have watched Joanna grow as a Jewish professional. I know that all of you join me in wishing Joanna and her husband, Jacob, all success as they enter a new phase of their lives. We hope that she will keep a little bit of Oheb Sholom in her heart as she moves on.

May-June Highlights

- Friday, May 2** — 4th grade Shabbat service, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, May 3** — Shabbat service, 10 a.m.
- Sunday, May 4** — Member photos taken at Temple (also May 11)
- Friday, May 9** — Sisterhood Shabbat, 7:45 p.m.
- Friday, May 16** — New Member Shabbat, 7 p.m.
- Sunday, May 18** — Israel Independence Day Celebration (see flyer)
- Wednesday, May 21** — Sisterhood Fashion Show, 6 p.m.
- Sunday, June 1** — Annual congregational meeting, 4 p.m.

**All services at 7:45 p.m. unless otherwise noted
Babysitting available for 7:45 Shabbat services.**

*Bulletin sponsored by
Maxine and Dick Henry
in memory of
of our beloved daughter Jane*

Religious School News**Thanks to everyone who made it a great year**By **Judy Synnamon***Religious School administrator*

I find it amazing that another school year is almost over. Thank you to Linda Bram and Cindy Chronister for their unending commitment to the leadership of the Religious School committee and to Rabbi Michelson for his guidance. This year has had its share of challenges and accomplishments, as do all years. Thank you also to our teachers, who have been very dedicated and creative in their lessons. Thank you to Cindy Chronister and Holly Michelson for their very informative Teacher Workshops.

Our School Shabbat Services were always informative and entertaining. I was very proud to see our students step up into a leadership role. Our joint programs with KZ were also very successful. They provided another opportunity for our students to get together and learn with other Jewish students from our community.

Did you know that Gratz College courses will be offered in our community this fall for students in grades 8-12? It will be a wonderful opportunity for teenage students to meet others their age and take Judaic courses from a nationally accredited Jewish Institution. If there are enough 11th and 12th graders, college credit courses will be offered. If you have questions, call Jayne at the JCC at 610-921-0624 or e-mail jfr-



Gerald Fierst, a Judaic storyteller, entertains students from our Temple April 13 during a special Passover program at Religious School.

jaynek@comcast.net.

Israel will be turning 60 this year. The Jewish Federation will be providing free transportation to Philadelphia so the Reading Community can join with the Philadelphia celebration on May 18. Reservations for bus seating must be made in advance. Please refer to the enclosed flyer in the newsletter.

Important Dates to Remember

Friday, May 2, 6 p.m. – Grade 4 will be conducting the Service. Family Night Dinner will follow the Service.

Sunday, May 11 – The last day of Sunday School Classes at RCOS

Sunday, May 18 – Students and their families are urged to attend Israel's 60th Birthday in Philadelphia

Tuesday, May 20 – Last day of Hebrew School. It will also be our final Isaac's Community Night Dinner. Please see flyer insert.

Friday, June 6 – Confirmation and Teacher Appreciation Shabbat, 6 p.m.

Have a wonderful and relaxing summer.

Special thanks . . .

to Carol Cohn and Carole Kutscher for sponsoring challahs in April and May

Have you considered remembering the Temple in your will?

ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

Editor: Mark Nemirow

Assistant editor: Donna Oaks

To get an item in the bulletin, contact Mark at Marknem@aol.com or 610-370-2533, or contact the Temple office.

Last bulletin until September

Deadline for September bulletin: Aug. 5

Book Group

Sunday, June 1

after the Temple's annual general meeting.
We are reading "Kabbalah: A Love Story"
by Larry Kushner

The Temple Online

www.ohebsholom.org

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PRESIDENT

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members there. Also, its activities that are directed to benefit the entire Jewish community, clearly are beneficial to our members. Also, even for those who are not JCC members, certainly we acknowledge our mutual relationship in the larger community. A number of the children who attend the Early Learning programs of the JCC are children of Temple members. For these children, the move will be more of a return to a place they already know well. For other children, the Temple will be new to them. I hope we make them feel welcome. Personally, I look forward to seeing a gaggle of small, smiling children, whether familiar faces or new ones, in the Temple.

The arrangement that is being discussed is to last only a temporary period of time

— one year. During that time we will each be able to see whether or not a longer-term arrangement seems to make sense for each of the organizations. We will not now be obligating ourselves to anything longer than a one-year arrangement.

Also, the arrangement being discussed involves virtually no physical changes to our building to accommodate this program. At the conclusion of the period of time the program remains with us, the JCC will be responsible, at its cost, to reverse the minimal necessary changes that have been made. The arrangement being negotiated will result in payment by the JCC of a fair assessment of our costs so that we will not experience a financial loss for our effort. As I see it, if we are able to come to a final resolution of the necessary details, we

will be helping to keep an important program for our larger community in operation during this temporary period until the JCC completes its future plans.

I hope this brief description of this situation is helpful to the Bulletin readers. One lesson I have learned during my brief tenure as president is how easily rumors can grow and spread, especially in the absence of good information. I am reminded of the part in Joseph Heller's book, "Catch 22" in which the main character begins to worry about a rumor spreading through his Army air base during the war. When it is pointed out that he was the one who made up the rumor in the first place, he says, "Well, it still may be true." A good rumor has staying power, whether or not it is true.

May Simchas

Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs. Yair Oziri	May 1
Mr. & Mrs. Paul D. Cohn	May 11
Radene Gordon-Beck & Hugh Beck	May 15
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Karp	May 16
Mr. & Mrs. Neal Schneider	May 25
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney L. Symons	May 25
Dr. & Mrs. David Bender	May 28
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Karasin	May 28
Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Horowitz	May 29
Dr. & Mrs. Lee Radosh	May 31

Birthdays

Dr. Susana Caro	May 1
Herb Karasin	May 1
Hilde Gernsheimer	May 2
Lin Langlois	May 3
Anne Seltzer	May 5
Catherine Schultz	May 7
Barbara Perilstein	May 9
Chip Karasin	May 10
Jason Kraft	May 11
Paul Kozloff	May 13
Brett Chronister	May 14

Joseph McIver	May 14
Eve Pardo	May 16
Karen T. Robinson	May 16
Steven W. Levine	May 18
Nancy Knoblauch	May 22
Harriet Baskin	May 23
Jennifer Hausman	May 26
Janet Gernsheimer	May 27
Galen Glassmire	May 27
Norbert Salpeter	May 27
Janine Ure	May 29
Jeanine Levy	May 31

The ceremonial wine for the Community Passover Dinner was donated by Roz Hyman in memory of the extraordinary life of Emmanuel Dimitriou.

"I Remember RCOS when . . ."

Please join us for Shabbat services

Friday, May 23, at 7:45.

Longtime Temple member **Gene Friedman** will share his recollections of growing up at Oheb Sholom.

Special thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Joe Shore for their generous contribution to the Sisterhood Florence Frank Offering Fund in honor of their 50th anniversary

Our 2008 high school graduates

Mara Schneider, daughter of Neal & Lori Schneider

Abby Gelb, daughter of Steve & Susan Gelb

Lily Scott, daughter of Jon & Alva Scott

Abigail Cohn, daughter of Paul & Jo Cohn

Special Guest Speaker

For our Shabbat service **Friday, June 20** at 7:45, our guest speaker will be Daniel Tuksar, who works in Philadelphia on behalf of the Jewish Agency for Israel. He works with Pennsylvanians interested in moving to Israel. The native of Croatia will tell the fascinating story of how he belatedly discovered what it means to be a Jew and how he fell in love with the Jewish homeland

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Miriam Sapriel
Renee & Harvey Seidel

In memory of Nat Weisbaum and
Devera Gutterman
Cantor Gerald Miller & Bonnie
Friedman

In honor of Mark's conversion
Mark & Karen Robinson

In memory of Anne Coopersmith
& Herman Nevitt
Sande and Neal Nevitt

In memory of Phillip Knoblauch
Nancy Knoblauch

In honor of Catherine Schultz
earning her PhD
Nancy Knoblauch

In memory of Kate Gross
Mildred and Ivan Gordon

Building Fund

In memory of Helen Lax, cousin
of Roz Hyman, and Marie
Torise, grandmother of
Linda Bram
Donna Oaks

In memory of Malcolm
Rosenthal
Norma & Marty Beckerman

In memory of Richard J.
Yashek, Jochen Jaschek, and
Lucy Jaschek
Rosalye Yashek

In memory of John
Himmelberger
Barbara Nazimov

Congratulations to Sandee &
Neal Nevitt on their grandchild
Geri and Mark Nemirow

General Fund

Wishing Claudia Strauss a
speedy recovery
Hilde Gernsheimer

To thank my friends for all the
cards & donations made in the
memory of my grandmother
Scott & Linda Bram

Library Fund

In memory of John
Himmelberger
Wendy Neuhs

Landscaping Fund

For the Jahrzeits of Philip
Satinsky and Norma Perilstein
Michael & Barbara Perilstein

With thanks to all who sent me
Uniongrams in honor of my
birthday
Jeri Kozloff

Greater Temple Fund

In honor of Jeff Sternlieb's 60th
birthday
Victor & Dena Hammel

Life of the Temple Fund

In memory of Jimmy
Mendelsohn
Harriet Leisawitz
Barbara Baker

Florence Frank Offering Fund

To Mrs. Edith Mendelsohn in memory of her son
Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Asher

To Phyllis Rosenthal in memory of her husband
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Friedman
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brok
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Symons
Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Asher

To Mr. and Mrs. Neal Nevitt on the birth of
a granddaughter
Mrs. Nancy Knoblauch

To Mr. Paul Eisenberg for a speedy recovery
Mrs. Nancy Knoblauch

To Mark Robinson in honor of his conversion
Mrs. Nancy Knoblauch
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Friedman

To Mrs. Marion Kozloff in honor of her
100th birthday anniversary
Mrs. Helen Rappoport
Mrs. Hilde Gernsheimer

To Jeri Kozloff in honor of her birthday
anniversary
Mrs. Helen Rappoport

To Joseph Goldstein for a speedy recovery
Mrs. Helen Rappoport

To Dr. and Mrs. Seth Rosensweig for their
wedding anniversary
Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Asher

To John Himmelberger for a speedy
recovery
Mrs. Dorothy Schlanger

Kindly send Florence Frank Offering
Fund contributions to Mrs. Marilyn
Frank, Phoebe Village, 9 Reading
Ave., Wernersville, PA 19565; or Mrs.
Shirley Friedman, 107 Primrose Lane,
Wyomissing, PA 19610.

Perpetual Memorials

May 1-3

Ernestine Fisher
Harry Stern

May 4-10

Mark Freedman
Harry Sack
Irving Imber
Charles Schwartz
Joseph H. Chivian
Nathan P. Cohen
Emil Bernheimer
William Gilbert
Helen P. Freedman

May 11-17

Liebmann Katz
Joseph Goldsmith
Clara F. Israel
Herman Hammel
Minna R. Austin
Paula Katz
Israel Losch
Louis Heibron

May 18-24

Karl Simon
Selma Katz Simon
Ilse Simon
Joseph W. Cohen
Hortense Grotta

Lena Holzman

Matthew H. Small
Celia A. Cooperman
Jacob Rudnick
Simon Knoblauch
Helen M. Echenberg

May 25-31

Minnie Freedman
Minnie Winston Hirsch
Leah Livingston Winston
Libbie Tamor
Julius Ehrlich
Rachel K. Loeb
Samuel R. Frankel

**Celebrate Israel's 60th
birthday with a free trip
to Philadelphia.
See insert for details!**

The Jane Henry Memorial Fund


The Jane Henry Memorial Fund is not just a
camp fund for youth. It will help anyone in
need, particularly young people.

In memory of Malcolm Rosenthal
Barbara Schneiderman


In memory of Jimmy Mendelsohn
Jim Rothstein & Sharon Scullin

In memory of Eli Skais
Bobbie Singer

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