

The Shofar

April, 2011

26 Adar - 26 Nisan 5771

Congregation House of Israel
501/623-5821

Rabbi Jerome Fox

President	David D. Reagler
Treasurer	Elaine Wolken
Administrator	Karen Holcomb



Congregation House of Israel Membership Seder First Night of Passover Monday, April 18, 2011 - 5:00PM

RSVP to Temple Office NO LATER THAN April 6th
chi.ksh@gmail.com or leave message at Temple Office 623-5821

For those who are not having a home Seder, we will be holding a Potluck Participatory Seder led by Rabbi Jerry at the synagogue starting at 5:00 sharp on Monday, April 18th.

If you would like to bring your personal matzoh plate for your table, please let us know when we call. Please join us as we come together to celebrate Passover - it is always a delicious and spiritual experience. If you have a Passover Hagadah, feel free to bring it.

After our meal, we will designate our children as our agents, to find the hidden matzah, the hidden other part of our people's life in Israel, and bring it back to the table. By doing so, our children will teach us that we cannot complete the telling of our people's story of redemption without bringing Israel to the table.

One half of a people is not enough to create a full Jewish future. One half of a people is not enough to allow us to sing with joy, *L'shanah ha-ba'alt bi'Yerushalayim* - Next year in Jerusalem!

RSVP is mandatory by April 6, 2011 to the synagogue at 623-5821 or email chi.ksh@gmail.com. Please include the number of adults and children for whom you are making reservations. We will call you back as to what to bring. This is a GUIDED potluck.! Everyone who attends the group Seder is asked to participate in the Seder, bring food and help clean up afterwards.



April Services

Friday April 1

Shabbat ha-Hodesh Tazria

Rabbi's Topic: "Better than God?"

Friday April 8

Shabbat Metzora

Rabbi's Topic: "The Return to Healing and Wholeness"

Friday April 15

Shabbat ha-Gadol (Aharei Mot)

Service with Torah reading D'var Torah

Friday April 22

Shabbat Hol ha-Mo'ed (Pesah)

Family Service

Saturday April 23

Monthly Saturday morning service

Followed by kiddush luncheon

Friday April 29

Shabbat Kedoshim

Prayers and songs for Yom ha'Shoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) will be said.

Rabbi's topic: "The Commandment to Interfere"

Join us as we celebrate the naming of Elin Hannah Gordon, grand-daughter of Betty and Louis Kleinman

4:15-5:15 Weekly Torah Study

5:15-6:00 - Oneg Shabbat

6:00 - Services

You Are Invited

Betty and Louis Kleinman invite you to the naming of their newest grandchild, Elin Hannah Gordon at Shabbat services on **April 29th**. Elin is the daughter of Rachel and Adam Gordon of Louisville, Colorado.

Before the ceremony to be led by Rabbi Fox, a very special Oneg will be sponsored by the proud grandparents and her new aunt and uncle, Stephanie and Ira.

The entire CHI Family is invited to attend this very joyful occasion.

Rabbi's Message



What Constitutes a Jew?

Did you know that the following well-known people were Khazars: Steven Spielberg, Andrea Mitchell, Mark Zuckerberg, Bernie Madoff, Lek Walesa (?), Kirk Douglas, Barbara Streisand, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, Lauren Bacall, Theodore Hertzl. George

Gershwin, Leonard Bernstein, Benjamin Netanyahu and Ehud Olmert?

According to an anti-Zionist website all of the above, and probably most of us here at CHI as well, have no right or claim to the State of Israel, because we're really Slavo-Turkish Khazars from Southern Russia.

The same website shows videos of Mongolian-appearing tribal people who are also supposedly related to us Khazars. It seems that any Jew with light or medium hair, or a wide face could not be descended from the people in the Bible. Guess who are, according to the website: Right! The Palestinian Arabs!

It's difficult enough when this is disseminated on an anti-Israeli website, it's even worse when a professor from Tel Aviv University writes a book upholding this theory. Shlomo Sand's book, *The Invention of the Jewish People*, has made my blood boil! His publishing this book, originally in Hebrew, in Israel, proves that Israel certainly has freedom of the press!

According to Sand, the overwhelming majority of today's Jews are not biologically connected with Biblical Israel. Instead they are the descendants of non-Israelite converts who converted to Judaism during the last 2,500 years. The ancestors of today's Jews are Greco-Roman converts from around the Mediterranean Sea, Iraqi and Kurdish Jews are from the Mesopotamian kingdom of Adiabene whose royal family converted in Roman days. The Yemenite Jews are descended from Himyarite Arabs who converted to Judaism. The Ethiopian Jews from Ethiopians who did the same. The bulk of the North African and Sephardic Jews are from converted Berbers, and the Yiddish speaking Ashkenazic Jewish world hails from the conversion of the Turkic Khazars in the 8th century of the Common Era.

Sand's contention is that Jews form a variety of religious communities with no connection to Palestine. There is no denying that many loyal converts have entered Judaism and that that process continues to this day. I often notice that if it weren't for our Sabbath-attending converts we'd seldom have a minyan! Incidentally many rabbis report the exact same observation.

Continued on page 4

Sisterhood

Spring is finally here!! It's been a long, cold, snowy winter, and I think we are all glad to shed the heavy sweaters and coats and enjoy all of our outside activities.

We had to cancel our February luncheon with the residents of Levi Towers due to the ice and cold. On April 4th, they will be our guests for a fun-filled luncheon including entertainment by the barbershop quartet (quite a popular and talented group of gentlemen). Our hostesses, Cynthia Rephaqn, Gail Greenberg, Betty Forshberg, Patti Fleischer, Ruth Sedler and Jean Gershner will be providing a delicious meal.

Before the luncheon, we will be holding a VERY IMPORTANT Sisterhood meeting. Please make every effort to be at the temple promptly at 11AM so we can finish our meeting before our guests arrive.

Among the items we will be discussing:

- The nominations for Sisterhood Woman of the Year Award and voting for same. Secret ballots will be handed out at the May meeting, and the recipient will be announced at the High Holiday services.
- A presentation of the slate of proposed Sisterhood officers for the coming year as well as nominations from the floor before we vote. New officers will be installed at our May meeting.
- Temple Congregational Seder preparations. We will need chairpeople as well as volunteers to set up, etc.
- Final plans will be discussed for the Yom HaShoah program at Garven Gardens on May 1st.
- We will be planning our final meeting which is scheduled for May 2nd.

If there are any items you wish to put on the agenda, please let me know (litelady1@yahoo.com) no later than March 31st.

As you can see, we have quite a lot of business to discuss before we start the "fun" part of the meeting. Hope to see everyone there.

It is so important to the Temple as well as to Sisterhood to have YOUR support and ideas.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all of their hard work during this very busy holiday season. Both our children's and adult Purim events were extremely successful. To all those who participated and brought food -- thank you so much.

Carol Kleinman
President

**Come See What You Can Do
For Sisterhood
Come See What Sisterhood Can
Do For You!**

Next Meeting
Monday, April 4, 11AM

Hope to see YOU there!

*Without YOU, we are
one woman short*

Mazel Tov

CHI Sisterhood is so pleased to announce the recipients of our 2011 Camp Jacobs Scholarships.

Each of these three students sent in delightful essays on why Jacobs is important to them and what they like best.

The winners are:

- Sophie Fleischner
- Louis Reagler
- Tillie Reagler

We look forward to hearing from them on their camp experiences when they return.

Have a great summer!!

Rabbi's Message

Continued from page 2

Likewise, during my career, I've met hundreds of individuals with Jewish ancestry who do not practice Judaism in any meaningful way. Milton Himmelfarb wrote decades ago that "our imports are always better quality than our exports".

Sands goes on to contend that the Palestinian Arabs are the true Judeans and Israelites. He believes that the bulk of the Judeans were never expelled by the Roman conquerors and that Judea and Galilee were heavily Jewish until the coming of Islam in the 7th century. Then the Jewish peasantry, the Am ha-Aretz (people of the land) gradually adopted the Islamic religion and Arabic language.

Again, I do believe that many Palestinian Arabs have Israelite-Judean, as well as Canaanite, Aramean, Phillistine, Greco-Roman and Arab ancestors. I've written before that about half the Arab villages and towns in the land of Israel have Hebrew names!

However, I find it hard to believe that all those Jews would convert en mass to Islam. By the 7th Century CE, Judaism was a highly developed religious-system. I cannot imagine most Jews leaving Judaism for another faith, especially if they were not physically forced to do so.

Nevertheless, accepting the premise that there is no pure race of people, neither Palestinians nor Jews, one needs to ask, don't the practicing Jews have a legitimate connection to the land of their (spiritual) ancestors?

It is we who recite every Pesakh: Avadim hayyeinu l'Pharoah b'Mitzrayim ("We were slaves to Pharoah in Egypt") What's more relevant the person who literally could trace his lineage back to a Biblical Israelite slave ancestor of 3,300 years ago, or a person who makes this statement and who each year and truly identifies with the story?

Don't people who may not be of pure Israelite lineage, but who identify with Jerusalem - as we recite at the end of the Seder - l'Shanah ha-ba'ah Beerooshalayeem - not have a place in the earthly Jerusalem?

Rabbi Jerome Fox

April Bimah Honors

April 1st - Larry Levi, Joanne Reagler

April 8th - Carol Kleinman, Mary Klompus

April 15th - Alfred Lewald, Ed Berkun

April 22nd - Mary Watermann, Betty Forshberg

April 29th - Dennis Williams, Anita Williams

April Schedule

Afternoon Tutorials:

Monday and Wednesday after 1:30PM - April 4, 6, 11, 13, 20, 27 (*Please notify Rabbi Fox at the office, 623-5821, if your child is unable to attend their tutorial*)

No tutorials Monday April 25

Activities Schedule

Sundays - April 3, 10, 17, 24

Religious School 9:30AM-12 Noon (no RS 4/24)

NOTE: Religious School on Sunday April 10th will include a Model Wedding at 11:15 AM

Choir 1-2:30 PM

AE Liturgical Hebrew 2:30-4 PM

Wednesdays - April 6, 13, 20, 27 - 6-7:30 PM

Thursday - April 7, 14, 21, 28 - 4:30 PM

Sunday - April 3 - 4PM - **Religious School Board Meeting**

Monday - April 4 - 11 AM - **Sisterhood meeting and luncheon** following with guests from Levi Towers

Monday - April 4 - 5:30 PM - **Temple Board Meeting**

Schmoozers & Fressers

Saturday 4/16 at CHI
Topic will be "Finding Your Comfort Level in the Passover Observance"

Congregational Passover Seder 4/18- 5 PM at CHI

This will be a participatory pot luck style dinner with all congregants being assigned a Passover dish to prepare.

Rav Todot for An Intergalactic Purim March 13, 2011

To our Main Characters:

King Jabbasueras (as himself)
Voice of Matthew Cabibi-Wilkin

Queen Vashiacious
Alitz Cabibi-Wilkin

Queen Esther Amitalah of Nabooalem
Lindsey Atchley

Mprdeplembee
Zak Cabobo-Wilkin

The Evil Darth Hamana
Sophie Fleischner

Miniature Darth
Westley Kleinman

The Sorceress (Hermione Granger)
Alitza Cabibi-Wilkin

To the CHI Choir

Carole Fox (Director)
Sonia Burris
Bridget Cabibi-Wilkin
Matthew Cabibi-Wilkin

Alitza Cabibi-Wilkin
Pearl Roth

Songs and Parodies

Carole Fox
Sonia Burris

Bridget Cabibi-Wilkin

Miss Tootan Contestants

Princess Varda of Gatanya
Mimi Reagler

Zakanah, the Bearded Princess of Melaviv
David Reagler

Princess Hemdah of Sashod
Tillie Reagler

Princess Zaira of Neersheba
Hanna Reagler

Gavohah, 3 headed Princess of Failat
Dennis Williams

Palace Guards, Servants and Mouth Wipers

Cooper Bull
Louis Reagler
Isaac Cabibi-Wilkin

Tivon Cabibi-Wilkin
Westley Kleinman

Stage Crew, Scenery, Costume & Prop Makers

Rabbi Fox
Carole Fox
Barney Burris
Daryn Cabibi-Wilkin
Bridget Cabibi Wilkin

Lewis Mathis
Carrie Mathis
Kay Fleischner
John Gillham

To **John Gillham** for videoing the performance and for all of his assistance on the audio.

To **Stuart Fleischner** who took photos of our "stars"

To **Bridget Cabibi-Wilkin** for making the Shallah Manot baskets..

To all who helped with the luncheon: **Joanne Reagler, Bridget Cabibi-Wilkin, Linda Svartzman, Anita Williams, Karen Reagler and Madeline Bull.**



Thank You

Tribute Funds are a meaningful way to celebrate, congratulate, honor, recognize, praise, remember or commemorate anyone on any occasion.

The following donations were received in March:

General Fund

Louise Levi - In memory of Bernice Sherman Wanda Hunter

Fred & Harriette Korngut - In memory of Sandra Rans and wishing a speedy recovery to Joseph Korngut

Ross & Ruth Sedler - In memory of Craney Bellin

Barbara Schlesinger - In memory of Howard Schlesinger

Rabbi Jerry & Carole Fox - In memory of Pinhas Grenman and Marion Gottlieb. In honor of John Gillham's Torah on March 4th. In honor of Adam Tanenbaum's special musical service on March 4th.

Harold Duke - In memory of Marion Gottlieb

Jonathan & Barbara Morgan - In memory of Marion Gottlieb

The Fleischner Family - In memory of Marion Gottlieb

Religious School Fund

Shelly & Carol Kleinman - In memory of Max Prushansky

Todah Rabbah

Bridget & Daryn Cabibi-Wilkin and Lewis and Carrie Mathis who helped Rabbi Fox orient a large adult class from the Assembly of God Church who brought a Torah scroll they had obtained. We read the 10 Commandments, the beginnings of Leviticus and the beginning of Tzav (Lindsey Atchley's Torah portion).

To Adam Tanenbaum, who led us in a beautiful NFTY-style service on Friday night, March 4th, and to his grandfather, **Jerry Tanenbaum**, for his informative introduction about Jewish liturgical music.

To John Gillham for his excellent D'var Torah on March 4th.

To Sonia and Barney Burris and Hal and Sue Koppel who stayed an extra hour on Friday, March 4th to aid Rabbi Fox as he answered questions from our guests from First United Methodist Church and showed them a Torah scroll.

To Jodi and Jerry Chalmers for lending us their pizza ovens and the dough to make hamentaschen on Sunday March 6th.

To the parents and kids who baked - the **Cabibi-Wilkin Family, the Kleinman Family and the Reagler Family**. Thanks to **Annette Baim and Ruth Sedler** who participated.

To Jerry Tanenbaum and Carole Fox for leading the Schmoozers and Fessers group on Saturday night, March 19. Jerry gave us meaningful insight into the life of Debbie Friedman, z"l and Carole prepared a selection off Debbie Friedman's songs taken from phonograph records and cassette tapes. And thank you to **Mary Watermann** for hosting the evening.



Mazel Tov To CHI member, Joanne Reagler, on receiving the Tikun Olom Award at the JEAR banquet at the Peabody Hotel in Little Rock. Pictured from left to right: David D. Reagler (also President of CHI), recipient Joanne Reagler, Rifka Ziemke, David Reagler, Sr. and. Karen Reagler.

We are all so proud and grateful for all of the wonderful things Joanne does for the Hot Springs Community as well as Congregation House of Israel.

Jerry Tanenbaum to Receive Sherut L'Am Award from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion



Rabbi David Ellenson, President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), will award Jerry Tanenbaum the Sherut L'Am Award at Graduation Ceremonies in Cincinnati on Thursday, May 19, 2011, at Isaac M. Wise Temple. The Sherut L'Am award recognizes exceptional service to the College-Institute or to the Jewish People. Prior recipients have included Debbie Friedman, z"l, and Ilene and Stanley

Gold. Tanenbaum will be honored for his years of dedicated service to the Jewish people as Chairman of the Yad B'Yad Task Force of the World Union for Progressive Judaism and Governor Emeritus of HUC-JIR. Tanenbaum will also be confirming Graduation and Honorary Degrees and bringing congratulations and greetings at Ordination from the Union for Reform Judaism.

Since 2002, Tanenbaum has served as Chairman of the Yad B'Yad Task Force of the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ). He served as Senior Vice President of the WUPJ and a member of the WUPJ Management Committee from 2001-2004. In 2000, Tanenbaum was the recipient of the WUPJ's highest honor, the International Humanitarian Award. Since 1988, he has been a member of the Executive and the International Assembly of the WUPJ, receiving Honorary Life membership.

Tanenbaum has worked closely on WUPJ's Shomrei Torah program. The program, which began in 1984, was created with the goal of requesting that congregations with many Sefrei Torah send one to a congregation in need, sharing the gift of Judaism. The program has since provided Sefrei Torah to over 100 congregations around the world. Rabbi Ellenson states, "The Shomrei Torah program that Jerry Tanenbaum initiated is genuinely a wonderful service he has performed for our people through the World Union."

Tanenbaum has served as Chairman of ARZA/WUNA, the North American Board/World Union for Progressive Judaism, Hot Springs Documentary Film Institute, Youth Committee, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Small Congregations Committee Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and Henry S. Jacobs Camp Committee and many other leadership positions..

Tanenbaum graduated from Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, with a BBA degree in Economics.

Commemoration, Hope and Peace - A Coming Together

Yom HaShoah, an International Day of Remembrance! An ecumenical observation.

**Sunday, May 1st, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Garvan Gardens, Anthony Chapel**

Initiated by the Congregation House of Israel Holocaust Remembrance Education Project and other interested citizens.

This is an invitation to all members of Congregation House of Israel and people of all faiths to join us in prayer and song to remember all victims of genocide. The focus of the service is to bring all people in our community together to actively create an environment of tolerance and peace in our everyday lives here.

Our Rabbi Fox will open the service, remembering all the 6 million Jewish and 6 million non Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Among other clergymen participating will be Reverend David Wilson, retired Methodist Minister, and Reverend John McCallum, 1st Baptist Church, Reverend Leon Massey and others. Laura Rosenberg, Director of the Hot Springs Music Festival, will create and direct the musical part of the program. Carla Mouton, Holocaust Remembrance Educational Project member, will moderate the event. Various individuals and other non profit groups in the community will participate in this free, sixty (60) minutes program.

John Wells, Director of Garland County Library and co-chairman of the Holocaust Committee, and Patti Fleischner have been instrumental in creating the program. We thank John and the library staff for their continual help in making programs like this available to the community.

Please come, bring your families and friends. This program has been written up in the Memphis Jewish Scene current magazine. We hope to have guests from all over the South. Be proud of your synagogue and yourself in what all of us are trying to achieve. Our goals are high! Our dream is that this will make a significant impact on the lives of all who attend and many in our communities.

Joanne D. Reagler,
Co-chairperson.

Oneg Thanks

Thank you to everyone who sponsored an Oneg Shabbat during the month of March. What better way to celebrate special events or just share for Friday night as we welcome the Shabbat as a family.



Oneg Hosts/Hostesses for April

If you cannot host a scheduled Oneg, please arrange for another congregant to take your place.

4/1		Patti & Mark Fleischner Jodi & Jerry Chalmers
4/8		Sue & Hal Koppel Gail & Irv Greenberg
4/15		Pearl & Jerry Roth Susan Siegel Diane Goltz Madeline Bull
4/22	Pesach	Mary Beth & Brian Trubitt Karen & David Reagler
4/29		Betty & Louis Kleinman Stephanie & Ira Kleinman

President's Message



I want to congratulate Lindsey Atchley on her Bat Mitzvah. Her mother, Lisa, and her Grandmother, Carmi, and the rest of Lindsey's family also deserve many good wishes.

I grew up in a small town in eastern Arkansas and my folks drove over an hour to Reli-

gious School each week.

Lindsey and her family drove two hours each way, and made many, many more sacrifices in order for Lindsey to complete her training. Their dedication deserves respect. I thank Rabbi Jerry for, diligently, training Lindsey. Besides working with her during religious school, he conducted classes by phone and worked with the busy schedule of a teenager.

We, at Congregation House of Israel, are proud to be a part of Lindsey's Jewish community.

Also, congratulations to our Religious School Purim Play Players, set builders, script writers, costume engineers, pot-luckers, and sisterhood executives. We all had much fun.

Thank you to Carol and the rest of Sisterhood for providing Henry S. Jacobs Camp Scholarships to our campers. As a parent of two of those campers, we are thankful and honored.

My heart is heavy with many of the difficulties we face here in Hot Springs. But then I think about the tens of thousands of Japanese who have lost their family and friends, their homes, and their livelihoods. We have roofs over our heads and food to eat and a strong Jewish community.

We should be thankful every day.

David D. Reagler

Find Us on the Web at www.hschi.org

Care and Concern

Prayers are offered for the physical and emotional health of members, family and friends at services on Friday.

We wish Refuah Sheleimah to:

- Bill Eisenkramer** - Husband of Kathryn Eisenkramer
- Ruth Kahn** - Mother of Karen Weinberg
- Stanley Kahn** - Father of Karen Weinberg
- David Kalin** - Father of Kate Tobakos
- Maria Kalin** - Mother of Kate Tobakos
- Andrea Kleinman-Parker** - Daughter of Louis and Betty Kleinman
- Dr. Irwin Lax**
- JoCarroll Lewald** - Wife of Alfred Lewald
- Joanne Reagler** - Wife of David Reagler
- Susan Siegel** - Wife of Lou Siegel
- Daryn Wilkin** - Husband of Bridget Cabibi-Wilkin
- Mara Wolf** - Daughter of Sonia Burris

Please remember to inform Carol Kleinman (992-3194) or Betty Forshberg (623-3438) if you or someone you know is ill, in need of help or has experienced a death in the family. If there is anything you want or need, please let one of us know. We are here to help.

In the News

A very proud Stuart and Kay Fleischner shared this very good news with fellow congregants:

Sophie won "Top First" for her solo jazz dance at Robinson Auditorium in Little Rock. It was in the KIDS ARTISTIC REVUE NATIONAL DANCE COMPETITION"

This was her first competition of 2011. Her next competition in dance will be at Robinson Auditorium again in the NEXSTAR DANCE COMPETITION the weekend of March 25-26.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY Yom Huledet Sameach!!

- **Barbara Morgan** 4/4
- **Carole Fox** 4/6
- **Larry Levi** 4/7
- **Annette Baim** 4/14
- **Brian Waxler** 4/14
- **Rachel Kleinman** 4/16
- **Lillian Bruckner** 4/16
- **Jordan Chalmers** 4/18
- **Stuart Fleischner** 4/22
- **Betty Kleinman** 4/23
- **Alexander Wright** 4/23
- **Gary Lax** 4/29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY Mazel Tov!

- **John & Janet Gillham** 4/5
- **Bill & Kate Tobakos** 4/10

April Yahrtzeits

We honor the memories of the following people during the month of April:

Kaddish recited April 1	
Sandra Rans	3/31
<i>Sister of Harriette Korngut</i>	
Betty Kaplan Uzick	3/31
<i>Mother of Regina Faulkner</i>	
<i>Wife of Louis Uzick</i>	
Patsy Kallsnick	4/1

Kaddish recited April 8	
Jetta Benedikt	4/2
Hattie Kleinman Travis	4/2
Michael Goldenberg	4/2
<i>Brother of Sonia Burris</i>	
Adolph Uzick	4/3
Shirley Kunarsky	4/3
<i>Mother of Larri Strautman</i>	
Eva Brown	4/4
Don Kallsnick	4/4
Max Prushansky	4/4
<i>Father of Carol Kleinman</i>	
Dena Zoblotsky	4/4
<i>Mother of Harry Zoblotsky</i>	
Bertha K. Marcus	4/7
<i>Mother of Imy Marcus</i>	

Kaddish recited April 15	
Hilde Heimlich	4/10
Isaac Regowsky	4/11
Crane Bellin	4/11
<i>Mother of Ruth Sedler</i>	
Harold Gottlieb	4/13
Milton S. Meyer	4/15
Julius Rosofsky	4/15
<i>Father of Carole Fox</i>	

Kaddish recited April 22	
Alfred M. Cohen	4/18
Sam Zipkes	4/19
Laurence Lockwood II	4/19
Jayne Earl Kilby	4/20
<i>Mother of Howard Kilby</i>	
Suzanne *Suzi) Rosenzweig	4/20
Julius Leiber	4/21
Irma Chalmers	4/22
<i>Mother of Jerry Chalmers</i>	

Kaddish recited April 29	
Abe Kalin	4/24
<i>Grandfather of Kate Tobakos</i>	
Albert Marshall Wise	4/26
<i>Father-in-law of Jerry Tanenbaum</i>	
Fannie Hurwitz	4/26
Carrie Fellheimer Weil	4/28
Howard Schlesinger	4/28
<i>Husband of Barbara Schlesinger</i>	
Sadye Levy	4/29

May their memories all be for a blessing

Please Read and Take Action

A friend of mine (non Jewish) shared this article that appeared in the Hot Springs Village Voice last week. A number of us here have called Mr. Walton who really doesn't understand what was wrong with saying "no jewing down".

While he has withdrawn his ad from the Voice, we must stop this type of behavior and words before it starts to run rampant in our community.

Please take the time to call Mr. Walton at 321-9761 or 454-2699 and let him know that the community finds his behavior unacceptable.

Carol Kleinman

WALTON'S AUCTION SERVICE

454 Broadway
Hot Springs AR 71913

NO YARD SALE / NO ESTATE SALE

Let Walton's Auction sell your merchandise to a crowd of competitive bidders for maximum results.

No haggling, no jewing down, no hassle.

We will sell on consignment or just buy it out right.

We will buy complete or partial estates.

**Give us a call at
501-321-9761 or 501-454-2699**

Religious School

We hope you enjoyed both our Purimspiel and the Hamentaschen we made for the luncheon. We thank **Jodi & Jerry Chalmers** so very much for their amazing assistance with that project!

We are also very proud of our **Lindsey** - she did an awesome job at her Bat Mitzvah celebration. We know that she will continue to be an asset to our community.

We have more goings-on in April, of course: a model wedding on the 10th, a model Pesach Seder on the 17th, and a week off for Pesach break on the 24th. Still, Gan will manage to learn about Moses, Shin, Tav, & Pesach; Alef will study Rosh Chodesh, Bearing a Grudge, Matzah, the letters Samech and Sin, & the vowel "ay"; Hay will find out about Ometz Lev, Tzedek Tzedek Tirdof, and Anavah; and Khet will concentrate on the Holocaust.

Visit from Assembly of God Church members

On Wednesday, March 16th, a bus load of adult students from the Assembly of God Church brought a special object to our Colloquial Hebrew Class - an ancient Torah Scroll from Egypt. It had no etzei chayyim and appeared as if it may have been made from deer skin, rather than the more typical sheep parchment. Rabbi Fox welcomed everyone to come in close around the scroll as he read from it, explaining what he was reading as he went along. He then spent some time answering questions and showing some pictures from other sources that related to the Torah portion from which he had read. The visitors asked to see the sanctuary, so they were welcomed in & received explanations of Jewish history in the south, our memorial plaques, the bima, the ner tamid, the aron ha-kodesh, the stained glass windows and others of our artifacts. The ark was opened so they could see our Torot, and the Torah dressings were explained as well as our reasoning for treating the scrolls in special ways. The participants asked more questions & said they wished they could stay much longer, before thanking us profusely & going on their way. Several also mentioned seeing the photo of Jabbasuerus in the paper, being intrigued, & wishing they could have come to the play. It was a very successful interfaith exchange!

Bal Tashchit

Even though over-consumption and waste production are relatively recent environmental issues, Judaism has been tackling these problems since Talmudic times! The Jewish law of Bal Tashchit, which prohibits us from being wasteful or unnecessarily destructive, is rooted in the Biblical commandment to not destroy fruit-bearing trees while laying siege to a city:

"When, in your war against a city, you have to besiege it a long time in order to capture it, you must not destroy its trees, wielding the ax against them. You may eat of them, but you must not cut them down. Are the trees of the field human to withdraw before you into the besieged city?" Dvarim (Deuteronomy) 20:19

The Talmudic rabbis understood these verses as a prohibition against any type of willful destruction and expanded this injunction into the general law of Bal Tashchit, which disallows wasteful or destructive behaviour. We are instructed by the rabbis to not use more than what we need, to not needlessly destroy anything, to not use something of greater value when something of lesser value will suffice, and to not use something in a way that it was not meant to be used (which would increase the likelihood of it being broken or destroyed).

After the completion of the Talmud, rabbinical scholars continued to reflect on and develop the principle of waste reduction. In Hilkhhot Melakhim, Maimonides wrote: Whenever someone destroys a useful artifact, or rips clothing, demolishes a building, plugs up a spring, or senselessly destroys food, it violates the negative mitzvah of Bal Tashchit. Such actions are disgraceful. (6:10)

Reducing the amount of waste we produce is a core Jewish value, just like Feeding the Hungry. As a community, we can do both of these mitzvot simultaneously by being thoughtful about what we do with leftovers from our functions. Whenever we have a community meal, we need to first ask if any of our own community can take home & use any leftovers. If there are no takers, someone should bring any usable food to Jackson House, the food bank that CHI supports. When JH provides lunches, they are happy to supplement the usual soup and sandwiches with any kind of salad, taco, cheese, cakes, or anything else available. They also hand out fresh or frozen food to those in need. If there are no members available who can drop these off, please ask Rabbi Fox if he knows someone who can, as there is nearly always someone who can get the leftovers there in a reasonable amount of time. Similarly, there are congregants who are more than happy to take leftover plastic items #1 and #2 to the recycling center rather than seeing them go into the trash and then the landfill.

Taking these simple steps to reduce waste & recycle affirms our status as partners with God in repairing the world - Tikkum Olam.

Bridget Cabibi-Wilkin

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If you have any comments or suggestions for The Shofar, please let either Karen Holcomb or Carol Kleinman know.

Upcoming meetings or Temple events? Please let us know so we can put them in The Shofar.

Remember - Shofar deadline is the 20th of the month, so please have all articles, reminders, etc. sent to Carol (litelady1@yahoo.com) prior to that date.