

Established in 1892



CONGREGATION  
KNESETH ISRAEL

Lifelong Learning

Embracing Diversity

Building Community

Meaningful Observance



## From the Rabbi's Study

Back during Chanukah, the Chai School/Confirmation kids interviewed people who were attending the Chanukah Bazaar. The question was something like, "What do you like best about Judaism?" Or "Why are you Jewish?" The number one answer was "The food!" The second answer was "Community."

There is no question that food is important in Judaism. Much of our religion is based in the home celebrating holidays and Shabbat. Many of our traditions revolve around food. Apples and honey, latkes, hamantaschen, matzah ball soup. Each

holiday has its flavor. And there are great debates. Apple sauce or sour cream? Fluffy or sinker matzah balls? Latkes or hamantaschen? And if you are from a Jewish culture other than Ashkenazi, you might be more familiar with dishes that include dates, figs, pomegranates, honey, bulgar, chickpeas. That's great. Those tastes and recipes enrich us all.

The Torah has much to say about how we eat. We know the basics. No pork or shellfish. No mixing milk and meat. The whole system is called keeping

*continued on page 2*



## President's Message

Three years ago I told you how honored I was that you placed your trust in me to lead CKI, and I hoped that I would be able to meet your expectations. At this time, I want to thank you for continuing to trust me, I hope that I met at least most of your expectations. I always strove to do what was best for the common good to maintain and grow the CKI community, even when it may not have been my favorite choice.

From my first introduction to CKI eight years ago, I was amazed with its extraordinary diversity and inclusion,

from the very young to the mature and experienced. It was important to me to ensure that CKI continued to be a safe and comfortable place for all and a leader in the Elgin community. Going forward, I know that all of you, Rabbi Margaret, the amazing Board and officers, and cadre of Past Presidents will support the CKI pillars of Lifelong Learning, Meaningful Observance, Embracing Diversity, and Building Community.

As always, I wish you good health and well-being, and contentment. I hope

*continued on page 3*

### In this issue

- Say Hello! 2
- Donations 4
- Birthdays 5
- Parashat 5
- Hadassah 6
- Ritually Speaking 7
- Yahrzeits 8
- Torah School 9
- Cemetery Update 10
- CKI Blood Drive 11
- Vegan Vs. Meat 14
- Calendar 16

### SAVE THE DATE!

May 6 Gale Jacoby Hadassah Holocaust Presentation  
May 14 CKI Annual Meeting  
July 14 Elgin Hadassah Mahjong

**RABBI MARGARET FRISCH KLEIN**

[rabbi@ckielgin.org](mailto:rabbi@ckielgin.org)

**HEATHER BAUMANN WEISER**, Director of Education

[cki.educator@gmail.com](mailto:cki.educator@gmail.com)

**ROBIN COYNE**, President

[robincoyne@outlook.com](mailto:robincoyne@outlook.com)

**PEG LEHMAN**, Office Manager

[cki@ckielgin.org](mailto:cki@ckielgin.org)

# From the Rabbi's Study Continued...

kosher, or kashrut. It is an authentic way to be Jewish. To do Jewish.

Much has been said about why G-d commanded that we shouldn't eat pork or shellfish. One thought is that like observing Shabbat and putting up a mezuzah, it differentiates us from the surrounding cultures. Keeping kosher made it difficult to eat with our neighbors. It separates us. But the root of the word "kadosh," holy, is separate. So that might be a good thing. These days it doesn't have to keep us separate. We can find kosher food everywhere, without even leaving the Fox River Valley. It can, however, increase our holiness and draw us closer to the Divine. If we think about these rules every meal, then we are aware that there is something bigger than ourselves. For me, that's holiness.

Here at CKI we have a kosher kitchen. We use kosher meat, kosher cheese, kosher wine. We separate meat from milk. Everything needs to have a hekhsher, a label, certifying that it is kosher. I have the responsibility of assuring the kashrut of the kitchen. It's really not hard, but some people are intimidated by all the rules. If you have a question, please ask.

Later this month, on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM we will have the opportunity to participate in a unique debate. Is Meat Eating or Veganism the more authentic Judaism? Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz and I will debate this on Zoom. Mayim Bialik describes Rabbi Shmuly this way: "A young hip well-dressed down-to-earth Modern Orthodox rabbi and teacher with connections in so many areas; he is a

really brilliant and inspiring guy." She is correct. He is brilliant. A great writer, author of several books, and one of the most compassionate guys I know. He is a vegan, and he sees this as an essential part of his Judaism.

I will need your help. Feed me your best arguments as to why Jews can eat meat as an authentic expression. (If you are a vegan, feed me those arguments too!) Then show up on Zoom on May 19 and vote for the best debater. A donor from Rabbi Shmuly's organization is granting the winning team a \$5,000 prize. Whatever happens, this will be a fun morning with much to learn about why food might just be the most important expression of Judaism in our community.

—Rabbi Margaret Frisch Klein

## Say Hello!

**Stefanie Byk** lives in South Elgin with her six year-old-daughter, **Aliyah**. Stefanie joined CKI to help Aliyah develop her Jewish identity. She enjoys hearing about Aliyah's Torah School activities and appreciates the relationships she is building with the other parents and members of CKI.



Stefanie works as a Business Process Analyst managing procedures, external communications, and employee feedback for the Payments Solution Center teams at JPMorgan Chase, Elgin site. Stefanie is also a member of her company's Volunteer Leadership Group, where she helps coordinate events for employees to participate in aiding local organizations such as Anderson Animal Shelter, the Crisis Center, and Food for Greater Elgin.

She enjoys walking, animals, and finding adventures for her and Aliyah to do together.

Stefanie can be contacted at [s.byk528@comcast.net](mailto:s.byk528@comcast.net) or call her at 630-478-5438. If you see Stefanie, say hello!



To reach Rabbi Margaret, please call her cell number after 8:00 am, except on Mondays or Shabbat: 978-590-8268. In case of emergency (hospitalization or death) please call, leave a message, and Rabbi will get back to you promptly. If there is an illness in the family or the loss of a loved one, call CKI @ 847-741-5656 so that your CKI family can reach out and be of help.

## CKI BOARD MEMBERS

**President** – Robin Coyne  
**Immediate Past President** – Risa Cohen  
**Executive Vice-President** – Jerry Niederman  
**VP Ritual Chair**—Gene Lindow  
**Treasurer** – Charlie Neuman  
**Financial Secretary** – Sandi Phelan  
**Recording Secretary** – Barbara Edelstein  
**VP of Education** – Barb Razowsky

## CKI COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**Adult Education** – Myrna Rosenbaum  
**Bylaws** – Rachel Newby  
**Cemetery** – Larry & Elaine Steinberg  
**CKI Cares** – Judi Tepe & Barb Edelstein  
**Director of Education** – Heather Weiser  
**Fundraising** – (available)  
**HaKol Editor** – Peg Lehman  
**CKI Music Director** – Stewart Levin  
**House Manager** – (available)  
**Keruv** – (available)  
**Kitchen** – (available)  
**Membership** – Dick Johnson  
**VP Men's Club**—Ken Jacoby  
**Publicity** – Brad Burker  
**Roth Scholarship** – Maureen Manning  
**Tikkun Olam** – (available)  
**Vision** – (available)  
**Youth Activities** – (available)

To contact, call CKI at 847-741-5656

## President's Message Continued

that you will always find things to be joyful about!

—Robin Coyne



### Thanks...

The Zimmermans want to thank those who attended lunch after Shabbat Zahor services on March 23 for supporting us in celebrating our "nearly spring" birthdays.



**May 7th @ 9:00 am**

Check your email or contact Rabbi Margaret at [rabbi@ckielgin.org](mailto:rabbi@ckielgin.org) for more information.

### CKI Office Hours

The CKI building is **OPEN**  
and Peg is in the office.  
To reach the office, call 847-741-5656 during  
office hours, Monday—Friday:  
10:30 AM – 3:30 PM

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

When writing a check, make it payable to  
**Congregation Kneseth Israel, NOT CKI.**  
Please note what the money  
is intended for.  
Thank you!

## CKI Book Club Schedule 2023—2024

Date	Book	Author	Time
July 18 (Tues.)	The Observant Wife	Naomi Ragen	10:30 am
August 15 (Tues.)	On Division	Goldie Goldbloom	10:30 am
October 17 (Tues.)	The Prison Minyan	Jonathan Stone	10:30 am
Nov. 21 (Tues.) at Gail Borden	Mr. Perfect on Paper	Gene Meltzer	10:30 am
December 19 (Tues.)	Bookish People	Susan Coll	10:30 am
January 16 (Tues.)	Dreamers of the Day	Mary Doria Russell	10:30 am
February 20 (Tues.)	The Three Muses	Martha Anne Toll	10:30 am
March 19 (Tues.)	Ten Year Gone	Jonathan Dunskey	10:30 am
April 16 (Tues.)	If All the Sea Were Ink	Ilana Kurshan	10:00 am
May 21 (Tues.)	Kantika	Elizabeth Graver	10:00 am
June 11 (Tues.)	Taking Miracles Seriously	Michael Zedek	10:30 am

### **Generous Donations**

#### **GENERAL FUND**

##### **Donations**

- Douglas Bakley
- Wanda & Perry Pitzele

##### **Condolences to Aaron Schwartz & Family, on the passing of his father, Jordan Schwartz**

- Jana & Bill McFarlane
- Charlie & Helen Neuman
- Brad Burkner & Anita Hornung
- Shira Coffee

##### **Thanks for the great aufruf for Jacob & Alyssa: Rabbi Margaret & Stew & his crew!**

- Jana & Bill McFarlane

##### **In memory of Nathan Niederman's yahrzeit**

- Jerry Niederman

##### **Donation for Purim**

- Marczak Family

##### **To Hillary Schneider & family in memory of Arlene & Jeff**

- Brad Burkner & Anita Hornung

##### **In honor of the Zimmermans, in celebration of their 80th**

- Brad Burkner & Anita Hornung

##### **To Rabbi Martin Scharf & family, in memory of Roberta**

- Brad Burkner & Anita Hornung

##### **In memory of Leonard Winner**

- Kevin & Sandi Phelan

##### **In memory of our grandfather Leo**

- Dick & Sue Johnson

##### **Mazel Tov to Emily Shankman & Mike Maloney on the birth of their son Ethan**

- Brad Burkner & Anita Hornung

#### **GENERAL FUND**

##### **Mazel Tov to Jacob McFarlane & Alyssa Patterson in celebration of their aufruf & upcoming wedding**

- Brad Burkner & Anita Hornung

#### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

##### **In honor of the Zimmerman's & Robin Coyne's birthdays & Simon & Rabbi Margaret's anniversary**

- Vern & Judi Tepe

##### **Congratulations on Rabbi's renewed contract**

- Sherry Weisman

##### **In honor of uniting Sam Steinberg & Jennifer Gilliana in marriage**

- Elaine & Larry Steinberg

##### **In memory of Jordan Schwartz**

- Earl & Debbie Sternfeld

#### **CLARA WECHTER ED FUND**

##### **To Aaron Schwartz & family, in memory of your father**

- Dick & Sue Johnson
- Paul & Risa Cohen

##### **To Jana & Bill McFarlane, congratulations on Jacob's marriage**

- Ron & Barb Razowsky

##### **To Arthur & Wendy Shankman, congrats on the new grandchild**

- Ron & Barb Razowsky

##### **To the Winner Family, in memory of your father, grandfather Lenny**

- Dick & Sue Johnson
- Ron & Barb Razowsky

##### **To Shira Coffee in memory of Philip**

- Ken & Gale Jacoby

##### **Happy 80th Birthday to Chuck & Nancy Zimmerman!**

- Ken & Gale Jacoby

### **Special Funds**

The following funds are available to receive your generous donations:

- **Clara Wechter Education Fund** – Supports Torah School and Adult Ed
- **General Fund** – For multi-purpose use
- **Jerome & Lillian Roth Scholarship Fund** See the President.
- **Building Security Fund** — EPD security for special CKI events
- **Memorial Plaques** – \$300
- **CKI Youth Fund** – Supports programs for our synagogue youth
- **Prayer Book Fund** – Siddur is \$36; Chumash is \$60
- **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund** – Needs decided by Rabbi
- **Seltzer Music & Cultural Arts Endowment Fund** – Jewish cultural enrichment programs
- **Simon C. & Ruth L. Kaplan Torah Fund** Repair of Torah scrolls
- **Sisterhood** – Supports women's group's various projects
- **Blossom Wohl Flower Fund** – Pulpit flowers
- **Sisterhood Vision Fund** – Large-type Siddur is \$50
- **Tree of Life** – Leaf \$125; Dove \$500; Rock \$1,250
- **Major Gifts** – \$5,000 and up. See the President

**Parashat HaShavu'a:  
Weekly Torah Portions**

<b>May 4</b> 26 Nisan	<i>Parashat Aharey mot—</i> Leviticus 16:1-18:30 Haftarah Amos 9:7-15
<b>May 11</b> 3 Iyyar	<i>Parashat Kedoshim</i> Leviticus 19:1-20:27 Haftarah Ezekiel 22:1-19
<b>May 18</b> 10 Iyyar	<i>Parashat Emor—</i> Leviticus 21:1-24:23 Haftarah Ezekiel 44:15-31
<b>May 25</b> 17 Iyyar	<i>Parashat Behar—</i> Leviticus 25:1-26:2 Haftarah Jeremiah 32:6-27

**May Birthdays**


Ron Bass	May 1
Nancy Braus	May 3
Samuel Hillman	May 4
Marsha Nicholas	May 8
Leonard Kofkin	May 11
Wendy Shankman	May 11
Myron Goldman	May 13
Jeanette Pacanowski	May 13
Emily Neilon	May 16
Keith Nicholas	May 17
Karen Schlack	May 17
Wendy Barrash	May 17
Edith Harper	May 18
Jenny Trygar	May 19
Aliyah Carthen	May 19
Rachel Newby	May 21
Risa Cohen	May 21
Robert Bloomberg	May 21
Diane Agins	May 23
Al Bender	May 24
Terry Morris	May 24
Emily Burker	May 24
Sarah Goldman	May 28
Blossom Wohl	May 31
Patrick Harper	May 31

**May Anniversaries**

Malcolm & Terry Morris	May 1
Dave & Liz Bromet	May 25
Chris & Jeanette Pacanowski	May 27
Aaron & Mindi Schwartz	May 28
David & Joelle Rockwood	May 30



*Click the button to Donate or Pay Your Dues*



*Click the button to find us on Facebook*



## For Cardio Health, Self Care Is More Important Than Ever

Since October 7, stress levels in Israel and for Jews around the world have been understandably high. That's why it's all the more important to focus on self care, says Dr. Donna Zfat-Zwas, MD, MPH, director of the Linda Joy Pollin Cardiovascular Wellness Center for Women at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem.

"One of the important things that we've learned during this time is many of us have felt guilty about taking care of ourselves. How can I go and do something nice for myself when

they're fighting a battle?" Dr. Zfat-Zwas said. "What we've learned is we have to do these things. We have to be kind to ourselves, so that we can keep on going and give the support, be there for our children, for our significant others, for our parents and for the greater community."

To this end, the Pollin Center has made it one of its core missions to care for the caretakers, "For what we call the 'sheroes,'" Dr. Zfat-Zwas said.

That includes women who are taking care of their kids by themselves while their spouses are fighting in Gaza, grandmothers who are taking care of their grandchildren, so that their daughters can work while their husbands are fighting in Gaza, and

caretakers at all levels.

"All these people also need to be caring for themselves," she said. "It's overwhelming, but at the same time that we're running around, we need to do the things for our own self to maintain our health, from eating right to exercising to finding out the ways that we can reduce our stress."

While heart disease is the number one killer worldwide of both men and women, symptoms present themselves differently in women than in men, and women are often under-diagnosed and undertreated.



Hadassah raises awareness about the causes and risks of heart disease and empowers women everywhere to take charge of their heart health. Today, 80 to 90 percent of heart disease is preventable — and each of us can help.

Heart Disease is the # 1 cause of death among women worldwide. One in three women over the age of 20 has some form of cardiovascular disease.

*Risk Factors for a Heart Attack which you CANNOT control:*

Family history of early onset heart disease, over age 55 for women, congenital heart defects, race/ethnicity.

*Risk Factors YOU CAN control:*

Smoking, high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol and high triglyceride levels, poor eating habits, lack of physical activity, diabetes and pre-diabetes, alcohol consumption and stress.

Reduce your risk factors. Visit your healthcare professional on a regular basis. Know your numbers. Be your own advocate, take action!

**Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) named as 1 of the world's leading hospitals**

Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) was named as one of the world's leading hospitals in oncology, cardiology, and smart technologies, according to Newsweek's 2024 global rankings. HMO is listed alongside leading hospitals including Mayo Clinic, Cleveland Clinic, Mount Sinai, and Johns Hopkins in the United States, and large centers from Europe, South America, and elsewhere.

The hospital ranking report published by the magazine presents 300 hospitals from around the world with the best departments in the fields of oncology, cardiology, and other specialties.

### Upcoming Elgin Hadassah Programs

**5/6/24** — SAVE THE DATE ! May 6 at 7 pm. Gale Jacoby returns to share Holocaust experiences with Hadassah and CKI guests, documents and letters and reminiscences of her parents' and inlaws' travels during WWII.

**6/9/24** — "Antisemitism: A Challenging Discussion," a discussion led by ADL spokesperson Trent Spoolstra on Sunday at 2 P.M. in a member's home. Registration, entry fee, and waiver may be completed online so as to receive details about the location. SAVE the DATE!

# Ritually Speaking

## Family Haftarah

The Ritual Committee has created a new program that is designed to enhance the concept of *L'Dor v'Dor* (from generation to generation) for our CKI families. This volunteer program is scheduled for every second Shabbat of each month, and it will debut on May 11 with the Aaron, Mindi, and Zach Schwartz family.

The program is simple and is designed to have families of all ages and generations participate in the service. First, the family participants will be honored with the Maftir Aliyah. After which the recitation of the before and after haftarah blessings. The Haftarah can be recited in Hebrew, English, or a combination.

Just imagine the possibilities of participants:

Parent/child	Parent/sibling	Sibling/sibling	Grandparent/grandchild
Uncle/niece	Aunt/nephew	Cousin/cousin	<b>and more...</b>

In honor of an anniversary, birthday, an anniversary of a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, a monumental achievement in life, fulfilling a dream, or just because it would feed your soul, please consider celebrating by sharing your simcha with your CKI family. Feel free to reach out to Rabbi Frisch Klein or Gene Lindow to select your date and whether you would also like to sponsor a kiddush that weekend as well.

May 11	<b>Schwartz Family</b>
June 8	open
July 13	<b>Lipski-Rockwood family</b>
August 10	open
September 14	open
November 9	open
December 14	open



I thank you in advance for making this program a success. **“If it is to be, it is up to we.”**

Gene Lindow  
CKI Ritual Chair  
[cki.ritual@gmail.com](mailto:cki.ritual@gmail.com)

## Yahrzeits Page

We recall with loving memory those whose yahrzeits are commemorated during the coming weeks, and those whose names are read in the synagogue at Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services during May. It is appropriate for members of their families to be present when these names are read.

Name	Date Observed	Date of Service	Name	Date Observed	Date of Service
Ben Mehr	May 4	May 3 & 4	Mary Fischer*	May 18	May 17 & 18
Ruth Mintzer	May 4	May 3 & 4	Ellen Jo Hein	May 18	May 17 & 18
George Pondel	May 4	May 3 & 4	Marvin Berger*	May 19	May 17 & 18
Milton Ginsberg*	May 5	May 3 & 4	Marilyn Horn	May 19	May 17 & 18
Brian Baumann	May 6	May 3 & 4	Sarah Pinter	May 19	May 17 & 18
Karen Goldstein Goren	May 6	May 3 & 4	Syrell Byk	May 20	May 17 & 18
Dan Knopoff	May 6	May 3 & 4	Shirley Simon*	May 20	May 17 & 18
Leah Liss	May 6	May 3 & 4	Ed Korn	May 21	May 17 & 18
Marc Garson	May 7	May 3 & 4	Joseph Nerove*	May 23	May 17 & 18
Anne Goldman	May 7	May 3 & 4	Molly Morris	May 24	May 17 & 18
Bessie Silvan*	May 7	May 3 & 4	Sylvia Greenfield	May 25	May 24 & 25
Stanley Pinter	May 8	May 3 & 4	Sarvelle Lorsch	May 26	May 24 & 25
Carl Cohen	May 9	May 3 & 4	Seung A Kim	May 27	May 24 & 25
Eve (Leah) Kucuy	May 9	May 3 & 4	Abraham Wohl*	May 28	May 24 & 25
Copol Leavitt	May 9	May 3 & 4	Herman Goldstein*	May 29	May 24 & 25
Nahum Mariasis	May 9	May 3 & 4	Ruth Zimbley*	May 29	May 24 & 25
Pnina Mariasis	May 9	May 3 & 4	Marcia (Mendelson) Spies	May 30	May 24 & 25
Marc Garson	May 10	May 3 & 4	Bessie Fisher*	May 31	May 24 & 25
Belle Freund	May 11	May 10 & 11	Ruth Bialson	Jun 3	May 31 & Jun 1
Sadie Lascoe*	May 11	May 10 & 11	Edward T. Brody	Jun 3	May 31 & Jun 1
Milton Nitzberg	May 11	May 10 & 11	Alexander Seltzer	Jun 3	May 31 & Jun 1
Herold Rifken*	May 11	May 10 & 11	Larry Lipsky	Jun 4	May 31 & Jun 1
Louis Vopner*	May 11	May 10 & 11	Allen H. Steinberg	Jun 4	May 31 & Jun 1
Erwin Coyne	May 12	May 10 & 11	Gladys Fox	Jun 5	May 31 & Jun 1
Herman Fischer*	May 14	May 10 & 11	Robert Friedman	Jun 5	May 31 & Jun 1
Sadie Salnick	May 15	May 10 & 11	Harriet (Shevelenco) Kass	Jun 5	May 31 & Jun 1
Paul R. Fields*	May 16	May 10 & 11	Michael Fosco*	Jun 6	May 31 & Jun 1
Arthur R. Levine*	May 17	May 10 & 11	Bryan Adam Rozansky	Jun 6	May 31 & Jun 1
Bernie Spies	May 17	May 10 & 11	Harry Weiser	Jun 6	May 31 & Jun 1
Milton Wohl*	May 17	May 10 & 11	Norton T. Burstein*	Jun 7	May 31 & Jun 1

There are two dates listed above on our yahrzeit list. The **first** is the **actual date of the yahrzeit, and memorial candles should be lit on the preceding evening.** The **second** are the **days of the services at which the name is read.** An **asterisk** after a name indicates that a plaque is affixed to the Memorial Tablet.

Kindle the Shabbat Candles		and HAVDALAH Candles	
Fri May 3	7:36 pm	Sat. May 4	8:46 pm
Fri May 10	7:44 pm	Sat May 11	8:53 pm
Fri May 17	7:51 pm	Sat May 18	9:00 pm
Fri May 24	7:58 pm	Sat May 25	9:07 pm
Fri. May 31	8:03 pm	Sat. Jun 1	9:13 pm

NOTE: Shabbat ends 50 minutes after candle lighting time on Saturday nite



## Torah School

Shalom,

Rabbi Margaret and I try to create Jewish memories of Torah School. We try to create experiences that leave long-lasting, positive Jewish memories. Our memories from this year started outside. We began the school year at CKI Rosh Hashanah Prep in August. There were apples, honey, a presentation about the importance of bees, and a teacher performance of an Earl parody to "Love and Marriage."

Next there were baking round challahs, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah! There were apple stories, games, creating storms, and inviting guests from MCJC. There were children's activities as well as Tashlich and shofar blowing.

Thanksgiving came, and we went to Jewel to see if we could plan, budget, and buy a family Thanksgiving feast. Everything purchased was then donated to the Community Crisis Center!

Hanukkah brought the "Magical Hanukkah Extravaganza." It was a whole group effort to bring latkes, hot dogs, art, and a magician. Of course, there were magical facts about dreidel spinning and menorah lighting as a community!

January brought MCJC to us to celebrate Tu B'Shevat with a seder, art project, and planting! The lettuce, parsley, basil, and other herbs were later donated to the community crisis center.

March brought our "Come Together Purim." Memories of packing lunches, face painting, jail, shaving balloons, and making and eating hamantaschen still linger! There were also 40 dozen hamantaschen that were sold and dozens more donated!

In preparation for Passover, we cleaned, learned the 4 questions, stumped the rabbi with questions, and tried items on the seder plate! Who could forget burning the chametz outside? Lots of memories!

May 5th will be our last day of Torah School for the school year! New this year was First Friday Family Shabbats. The first Friday of every month was family Shabbat at CKI. There were stories told, challah eaten, and friendships made. We can't wait to continue next year with more memories!

Of course, thank you to our schoolteachers: Rabbi Margaret, Jordana Salinas, Sam Steinberg, Lila Chavez, and Earl Sternfeld.

In Perkei Avot there is a statement, "I have learned much from my teachers. I have learned more from my colleagues than my teachers. But I have learned more from my students than from all of them."

Thank you for loaning us your children to teach us so much this year! If you are interested in continuing your child's Hebrew Coaching over the summer, let me know! We are in the process of formalizing what it will look like!

We are beginning to plan for the next school year. Watch for a survey to come your way! If you know anyone interested in our hands-on, Jewish memory-making, social Torah School, send them my way!

B'Shalom, Heather



## Cemetery Committee Regroups

We are the new chairpersons for the CKI Cemetery Committee. If you did not know, since the early 1960s, CKI has owned a section of the Bluff City Cemetery. This occurs through a generous donation from the Seigle family.

We are both interested in cemetery history, going on tours, and assisting in cleanup efforts. This started when we were both children, traipsing along with our parents to Waldheim in Forest Park to attend to and pay respects to our family plots. Therefore, we bring to this chairmanship a great respect for, and interest in, keeping the legacy of the CKI Cemetery for those already interred there, along with those whose final wishes include burial in the section.

At this point, we are going through the files, looking towards an update of the bylaws and veteran's list, and providing advance planning {or immediate care} for what is an inevitable part of the traditional and beautiful Jewish Life Cycle.

For further information, or to join the Cemetery Committee, please email us at [fredturtle@comcast.net](mailto:fredturtle@comcast.net)

Elaine and Larry Steinberg



### CKI Book Club

Reading just seems to be a learning opportunity for most of us and reading books either written by Jews or about Jewish life is a wonderful way to connect and build community. A community of readers, that is.



We meet once a month, usually on the third Tuesday of the month either in person or on Zoom for a lively discussion of that month's book. Our May book is Kantika by Elizabeth Graver, "...a dazzling Sephardic multigenerational saga," according to its publisher.

Our discussions are member led, very informal, with no homework assignments. Please contact [juditepe@gmail.com](mailto:juditepe@gmail.com) 630-250-7686 if you are interested in joining the book club.

### Hello Mahjong players,

Please save the date and join Elgin Hadassah for an afternoon of Mahjong.

Save The Date: Sunday, July 14th, 1:00 p.m. at CKI.

Liza Bachrach has graciously volunteered to teach those of you who are newbies or need a refresher course.



Please watch for more info and feel free to invite friends; Just be sure to send Robin Seigle the names and email addresses so she has a running list of how many to expect. ([robin.seigle@gmail.com](mailto:robin.seigle@gmail.com)) Thanks, hope to see you then!

# BLOOD DRIVE

Hope springs  
eternal

**DONATE  
BLOOD**

**Sunday  
May**

**5**

**9:00am - 1:30pm**

**Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.**

**PHOTO ID IS REQUIRED.**

**Congregation Kneseth Israel  
Community Blood Drive 9am-1:30pm**

330 Division St. Elgin, IL.  
Blood Drive will be held in Social Hall.

To schedule an appointment scan the QR code below or use link:[bit.ly/kneseth5](https://bit.ly/kneseth5) or call (800) 7TO-GIVE or go to [www.versiti.org/IL](http://www.versiti.org/IL)

Appointments appreciated; walk-ins welcome!

**EVERY DONOR WILL SAVE UP TO 3 LIVES!**

Call (630) 723-2589 with eligibility questions.

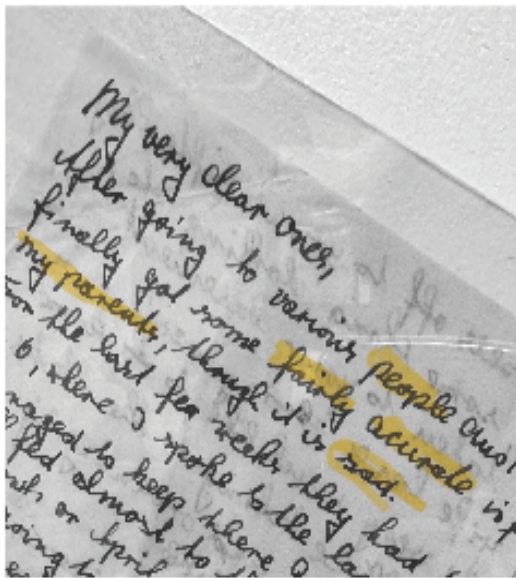


# Letters Tell Stories of the Holocaust

Presented by Elgin Hadassah  
Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:00pm

## Holocaust Remembrance Day

In-person at  
Congregation Kneseth Israel, 330 Division Street, Elgin, IL 60120



Gale Jacoby will share stories of her family's experiences during the Holocaust as revealed in letters and documents.

This in-person experience will provide the opportunity to view some of these documents firsthand.



Open to the Public. No Fee.

To register:

Email [rxman1216@gmail.com](mailto:rxman1216@gmail.com)

Subject Line: Letters Presentation

*Parental discretion advised. Material appropriate for over age 12.*

Waiver signature required at entry.

[www.hadassah.org/midwest](http://www.hadassah.org/midwest) | [midwest@hadassah.org](http://midwest@hadassah.org) | 847.206.1100 or 248.603.5030  
Chicago location: Hadassah Midwest, 900 Illinois Blvd., Suite 205, Northbrook, IL 60062  
Detroit location: Hadassah Midwest, 6030 Grand Lake Rd., West Bloomfield, MI 48303  
HADASSAH, THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC.  
©2024 Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. Hadassah, the logo and Hadassah the power of women who DO™ are registered trademarks of Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.



## The Soup Kettle Scoop

Thank you to those who volunteered on April 30. We could not do this community program without the generous support of the CKI family.

Our next Soup Kettle is **July 30** and once again we'll need volunteers to help cook, serve, and clean up from 3:30 to 7:00 pm.

When we have enough volunteers, we can work in "shifts," as we know your time is valuable. Please contact either one of us to volunteer. Thank you!

Barb Razowsky: [barbrazowsky@gmail.com](mailto:barbrazowsky@gmail.com) or Judi Tepe [juditepe@gmail.com](mailto:juditepe@gmail.com)



## ACTS OF CHESED



**Thank you** to those who have pitched in to make CKI warm and welcoming (and safe). Many times, things are done very quietly and anonymously, so if you did something that isn't acknowledged, please know that your deed was greatly appreciated—

**Danielle Lindow & Josh Raben** for distribution of Passover Wine Sale.

**Kara Morgan** for cleaning the kitchen storage closet.

**McFarlanes** for sponsoring the Oneg Shabbat for Jacob & Alyssa's aufruf.

**Josh, Sarah, Otis, & Myron** for snacks for First Friday Family Shabbat.

**The Castro Family** for hosting Chai Babies.

**Torah School Parents** for cleaning the social hall between Torah School and the Pomerance Celebration of Life.

**Neilons** for providing wine and challah for Emily's bat mitzvah.

**Elaine Steinberg, Jana McFarlane, & Josh Stober** for cleaning the kitchen after the Neilon bat mitzvah.

# VEGAN VS MEAT

A debate about what is authentic Judaism!  
To be held on zoom for members of Congregation  
Kneseth Israel of Elgin, IL

**Sunday May 19 @ 11am CT**



**SHAMAYIM**  
Jewish Animal Advocacy

**Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz**



Congregation  
**Kneseth Israel**  
Elgin, Illinois

**Rabbi Margaret Frisch Klein**



## PURCHASE A LEAF DOVE OR ROCK FOR CKI'S TREE OF LIFE

Have you noticed the "Tree of Life" on the social hall wood-paneled wall with the engraved leaves and rocks? This work of art has been a major CKI fundraiser since the 1960's and is a special way to memorialize AND honor those in our CKI congregation, while also raising needed funds for our synagogue.



Purchasing a leaf, dove, or rock is a wonderful way to donate to CKI *and* get something beautiful in return! The prices are as follows: \$125 to purchase a leaf, \$500 for a dove, or \$1,250 for a rock. You can honor a teacher or mentor, acknowledge the birth of a baby, celebrate a birthday, wedding, anniversary, bar/bat mitzvah, or give as a Hanukah gift. Of course, this is also the perfect way to memorialize the loved ones we have lost. To make this fundraiser even more affordable, consider "chipping in" with other members to purchase a leaf, a dove, or a rock.

Thanks so much in advance for your support and allowing us to continue this meaningful tradition. Use this link to order online:

<https://www.ckielqin.org/tree-of-life-orders.html>

Help us make a difference at CKI with your generous contribution to our Tree of Life.

Robin Seigle

[robin.seigle@gmail.com](mailto:robin.seigle@gmail.com) or call 847.426.8426

**CONGREGATION  
KNESETH ISRAEL**  
330 Division Street  
Elgin, Illinois  
60120-5685

Building Community  
Embracing Diversity  
Meaningful Observance  
Lifelong Learning

Return Service Requested



## May 2024 Shabbat Services: Fridays @ 7:00 PM; Saturdays @ 9:30 AM

May 2	Torah Study Zoom	4:00 PM	May 14	Adult Intermediate Hebrew	5:30 PM
May 3	First Friday Family Shabbat Service	5:30 PM		CKI Annual Meeting	7:30 PM
	Kabbalat Shabbat Services Hybrid	7:00 PM	May 15	Ha Kol Submissions Due	
May 4	Shabbat Services Hybrid	9:30 AM	May 16	Torah Study Zoom	4:00 PM
May 5	CKI Blood Drive	9:00 AM	May 17	Shabbat Zimrah Services Hybrid	7:00 PM
	Last Day of Torah School	9:00 AM	May 18	Shabbat Services Hybrid	9:30 AM
May 6	Yom HaShoah		May 21	CKI Book Club	10:00 AM
	Hadassah Program with Gale Jacoby	7:00 PM		Adult Intermediate Hebrew	5:30 PM
May 7	Java & Jews	9:00 AM	May 23	Torah Study Zoom	4:00 PM
	Adult Intermediate Hebrew	5:30 PM	May 24	Kabbalat Shabbat Services Hybrid	7:00 PM
	CKI Choir Tune Up Rehearsal	7:00 PM	May 25	Shabbat Services Hybrid	9:30 AM
May 9	Torah Study Zoom	4:00 PM	May 27	Office Closed for Memorial Day	
May 10	Kabbalat Shabbat Services Hybrid	7:00 PM	May 28	Adult Intermediate Hebrew	5:30 PM
May 11	Shabbat Services Hybrid	9:30 AM	May 30	Torah Study Zoom	4:00 PM
May 14	Yom HaAtzma'ut		May 31	Kabbalat Shabbat Services Hybrid	7:00 PM