



The Centre Call

GERMANTOWN JEWISH CENTRE

www.GermantownJewishCentre.org

Volume 22, Issue No. 5

IYAR 5774

MAY 2014



By Rabbi Adam Zeff

What is Torah?

“Moses charged us with Torah, the heritage of the community of Jacob.”

Deuteronomy 33:4

This well-known teaching about Torah is traditionally one of the first verses that children are taught, and we still follow that tradition today. Rabbi Lewis and I always enjoy singing the song based on this verse (“Torah, Torah, Torah...”) with our youngest children in the Early Childhood Program on Friday mornings as we celebrate Shabbat together, parading with the Torah scrolls around the Magil Chapel. But this seemingly simple verse conceals a difficult question: What is this “Torah” with which Moses has charged us?

The word “Torah” is used frequently in the Bible, but scholars still debate to what this word refers. Does it indicate a particular teaching (“this Torah”)? A set of rituals (“the Torah of the Nazirite”)? A specific body of law (“the Torah of the Priests”)? A certain book of the Bible (e.g., Deuteronomy)? A collection of Biblical books (e.g., the Five Books of Moses)? The entire Hebrew Bible (Tanach)? The Bible plus the ancient rabbinic writings of the Mishnah, Midrash, and Talmud? Or perhaps, as the ancient rabbis themselves seem to argue, “Torah” refers to the sum total of all knowledge, Wisdom with a capital “W?” Jewish textual traditions contain support for all of these views of the meaning of “Torah” and more!

When Torah is given at Mount Sinai, there is confusion. The world seems to turn upside down and inside out, with lightning and thunder obscuring the vision and the hearing of those gathered to experience this moment of connec-

tion between heaven and earth. There is much debate in the Midrash about what, if anything, the Israelites could learn of the specific content of revelation in that moment. While that debate remains alive, it is clear from the text that the people have a powerful experience of Torah, even if its meaning has to be discovered and teased out later, in a process that stretches through the millennia and continues today. The idea that the experience of Torah comes before its content is reflected in the Israelites’ famous statement that “We will do and we will obey,” before they have heard any of the content of Torah.

After Sinai, the debate over Torah shifts to the question of which understandings of this revelatory experience are authoritative. Whose words count as Torah? The words of Moses? The visions of the prophets? What about the poetry of the Song of Songs? Are the interpretations of the rabbis – the “Oral Torah” – truly Torah? What about interpretations of non-rabbis? Minors? Women? Non-Jews? Although some boundaries are drawn, the ancient rabbis tend to be expansive in their vision of whose Torah is Torah, often including all of the possibilities I have mentioned, inside of Torah. In our community, we also take a wide view of whose Torah counts, and we pride ourselves on the diversity of voices that make up our understanding of Torah.

So where are the boundaries? What is Torah and what is not-Torah? The verse from Deuteronomy has something to teach us here as well. We find Torah in the relationship we forge with that moment at Sinai, the moment in which we were “charged” with Torah. We create

this relationship and make Torah our heritage when we connect ourselves to the revelations and interpretations of those who came before us, when we seek to understand the mysteries of life by joining in the amazing Jewish conversation that has lasted through the centuries. And we find Torah when we come together as a community of people who choose to link our lives to a tradition that began long before us and, G-d willing, will last long after us. To study the words of the Bible in isolation from the history of their interpretation and apart from a community that tries

continued on page 3

Program Highlights

**Tour of the Baseball Exhibit
at the National Museum
of American Jewish History**

May 1

Hazak Shabbat

May 3

Women’s Club Torah Fund Brunch

May 4

Young Families Retreat

May 9-11

**Red Cross Blood Drive
sponsored by Men’s Club**

May 11

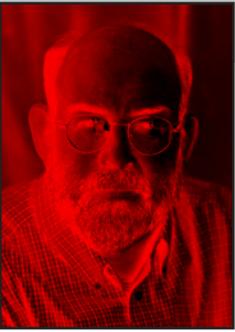
Hatufim (Israeli TV Screening)

May 14 & May 28

**Women’s Club Sharing Our Stories
Sharing Our Lives &**

**Israel 66 Celebration – featuring
GJC’s Melevah Malkah Band (offsite)**

May 18



President's Message

One Last Column for the Road

By Mitch Marcus, GJC President

This column is my last as president of Germantown Jewish Centre, my last chance to kvell in print about GJC. Here, in no particular order, are a set of personal observations of the past year at GJC and where we now stand:

First, and foremost, we have amazing rabbis and amazing professional staff at GJC. Equally amazing, we all seem to know it. The two comments I get most often when at Weaver's Way about GJC are (1) how strong and positive Rabbi Zeff's leadership is, and (2) how remarkably fortunate we are to have found Rabbi Lewis as our second rabbi. (Comments about Nina Peskin are slightly more varied, divided roughly evenly between (1) she's tremendously effective, (2) she's a mensch, and (3) she sings like an angel.)

Despite the risk of putting a kina hora on our finances, we are in very strong financial shape. For the first time in the past twenty years, due to efforts over that entire time, we now have almost 6 months of operating reserves to cushion unexpected financial bumps. Our 75th endowment campaign, spearheaded by Curt Ponz and initiated by my predecessor Chris Levin, has been a tremendous success, raising over \$1.4 million, with participation of over 360 households, 50 more than even our 60th campaign.

At a time when most synagogues are shrinking in membership, GJC is actually growing. We are now at about 525 family units, the largest we've been in many, many years.

Making this complex building accessible has been a gradual process over many decades. The Women's Club was responsible for putting in the elevator in the 1960s (or so), making the Silver Kiddush lounge and the Marcus Auditorium accessible. As I write this, we are days away from the instal-

lation of a new chair lift that makes the 2nd floor of the school building accessible to folks with restricted mobility, leaving only the Maslow auditorium with difficult access for some.

We have again put Israel back into a prominent place in our programming, responding to Rabbi Zeff's Rosh Hashanah challenge "to engage substantively with the issues surrounding Israel, ... to shape programs in ways that both acknowledge the diversity of our community's visions of Israel and encourage us to engage with each other in the spirit of *mahloket l'shem shamayim* (controversy for the sake of Heaven), focusing on learning, mutual respect, openness to each other, and deep listening." Building on Rabbi Zeff and Rabbi Lewis's "Tough Social Issues in Israel" course, our new Israel Programming Group, co-chaired by Joel Sweet and Josh Peskin, initiated two successful programs this spring, an Israel Speed Sharing event, and a bi-weekly group viewing of *Hatufim*, the Israeli inspiration for the Homeland TV show.

Our religious school and ECP are going strong. With Rabbi Alanna Sklover joining our staff as Rabbi Educator this year, there is a noticeable energy in the halls of our Religious School. Rabbi Alanna's smile and passion for experiential education have already changed the way our school operates, as has the first phase of implementation of the new curriculum developed by our Religious School Committee over the past few years. Our Early Childhood Program was most capably directed for most of this year by Jodi Gordon on an interim basis, who stepped in as Mindy Pitofsky, our ECP Director of many years, decided to retire. The ECP Director search committee, chaired by Craig Barkan, recently recommended unanimously and enthusiastically that we hire Jodi as Director of ECP, reporting that parents and teachers alike have been delighted with Jodi's presence. Jodi's move from Interim ECP Director to permanent ECP Director was

approved by the Executive Committee and we are delighted that she is going to be a continuing member of our staff team.

One of the great joys of being President has been learning how truly excellent and committed our professionals are, both the folks that everyone knows but also our "behind the scenes" staff, with roles largely unknown to many of our members. Gloria Geissler, our Finance Director, not only makes sure that we know exactly where we are financially, saving us money at every turn, but also quietly and efficiently mentors our lay leadership (me, for example!) in the conservative financial management and budgeting that keeps us on a steady course. Eric Word, our Maintenance Supervisor, in addition to the duties his title implies, manages a variety of complex building projects that have included over the past two years - conversion to a dual fuel heating system, recovery from the external electrical fire of last summer, installation of the chair lift, installation of our new security system, and others. Elana Shaw, our Program Director, coordinates, facilitates, and stage manages a remarkable stream of programming with more constrained resources than most of us imagine. Kate Lawn, Administrative Operations Manager, makes sure that all the details for absolutely everything else are taken care of, while making everyone who walks in feel warmly welcomed.

The collaboration between our rabbinic, professional, and lay leadership, between Rabbi Zeff, Executive Director Nina Peskin, Executive Vice President Mat Shapiro (our nominee to become GJC's next president), and myself, has been both deep and effective, a model for synagogues. Being part of this team has been a personal joy over the past two years. It has also been a great

continued on page 5



(January 2014 - March 2014)

IN CELEBRATION...

Joel Fish, on the publication of his new book, *101 Ways to be a Terrific Sports Parent*, and his interview on WHYY

David & Nahariyah Mosenkis, on the birth of their new grandson

Helen & Michael Feinberg, on the birth of their granddaughter Gabrielle Austin Feinberg

Isa Barnett, daughter of Wendy Schwartz & Benjamin Barnett & granddaughter of Elliott Schwartz, on becoming Bat Mitzvah

Nayan Klur, son of Joshua Klur & Nilmini Klur, on becoming Bar Mitzvah

Tillie Donover, daughter of Scott & Sandra Donover, on becoming Bat Mitzvah

Alexis Braverman, daughter of Rona Pietrzak & Amiel Braverman, and Charlie Gandelman, on their aufruf and wedding

Rebecca Rome, daughter of Jack & Susan Rome, on becoming Bat Mitzvah

Bonnie Buyum, on her 50th birthday

Caleb Rudick, son of Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick, on becoming Bar Mitzvah

David Kanthor & Burgandy Holiday, on the birth of their nephew Sami

Rabbi Jacob Staub & Michael Spitko, on the birth of their grandson

Mitch & Sue Marcus, on the engagement of their son Benjamin to Betsy Liekar

Leah & Norm Schwartz, on the marriage of their grandson, Yehuda Leib Schwartz, son of Raphael & Tanya Schwartz, to Rivka Aptowitzer, in Jerusalem

Marcy Landesberg, on her 87th birthday

Rabbi Julie Greenberg, on the publication of her new book, *Just Parenting: Building the World One family at a Time*

Judy Schwartz, on the birth of her great granddaughter

IN MEMORIAM

Lewis John Goldberg, father of **Jacob Goldberg** & grandfather of **Jared, Hannah and Gabe**

Ruth Feinberg, mother of **Michael Feinberg** & grandmother of **Josh & Ari**

Robert Michaels, father of **Gina Michaels**

Rabbi Ezra Spicehandler, father of **Rabbi Reena Spicehandler** & grandfather of **Ari & Elana**

David Striar, grandfather of **Jessica Shapiro**

Rabbi's Message *Continued from page 1*

to plumb their meaning today may be an interesting exercise, but it is not Torah. Torah requires linking ourselves to both history and community. As we move toward re-enacting the moment of Sinai on Shavuot, may we be blessed to experience a closer relationship to revelation, a more intense link to the past, and a stronger connection to each other. "This is Torah, and I must study it" (Babylonian Talmud 62a).



Shabbat Chai-Lites

May 2 & 3

- Carlebach Shabbat • Hazak Shabbat
- Kol D'mamah • Torah Yoga for Kids
- Musical Marching Minyan • Pirke Avot (offsite)

May 9 & 10

- Minyan Masorti (9:30 AM) – Mazal tov to Elisheva Hollo, daughter of Elana & Juha Hollo, on becoming Bat Mitzvah
- Torah Yoga for Kids • Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit
- Pirke Avot/Social Justice Text Study (offsite)
- Family Retreat Weekend (offsite)

May 17

- Minyan Masorti/Cherry Service (9:30 AM) – Mazal tov to Avi Wolnek, son of Becky & Ivan Wolnek, on becoming Bar Mitzvah
- Torah Yoga for Kids • Pirke Avot (offsite)

May 24

- Pirke Avot (offsite)

May 30 & 31

- Kol Zimrah
- Cherry Service – Mazal tov to our Confirmation Students and their families
- Pirke Avot (offsite)

June 6 & 7

- Carlebach Shabbat
- Minyan Masorti/Cherry Service (9:30 AM) – Mazal tov to Ariadne Miller, daughter of Minna Ziskind & Gavi Miller, on becoming Bat Mitzvah
- Kol D'mamah • Musical Marching Minyan

June 14

- Cherry Service – Mazal tov to Jared Taylor, son of Jessica Baskin Taylor & Thomas Taylor, on becoming Bar Mitzvah
- Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit

June 21

- Cherry Service – Mazal tov to Abigail Levy, daughter of Jonathan Levy & Claire McCusker, on becoming Bat Mitzvah

June 28

- Kol Zimrah

Kabbalat Shabbat/Carlebach Shabbat/Kol Zimrah
Fridays at 6 PM

Shabbat Morning

Services at 10 AM (*unless otherwise noted above*)
Kol D'mamah at 10 AM
Musical Marching Minyan at 10:15 AM
Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit at 11 AM

Shabbat Morning Kids Space - Room 305

Kids are welcome to play Shabbat-friendly games in Room 305 - bring your own and some will be provided. Please respect the space, clean up after yourselves and put all games away after use.

Member Spotlight

by Linda Kriger



Irene and Bernard Feldman

"She'll be in a wheelchair, she has dark hair and she's very pretty," is how the attendant at the front desk at Sunrise Assisted Living in Abington described Irene Feldman, a longtime member of Germantown Jewish Centre, who hadn't arrived back from a shopping trip with her aide, Ethel.

Now 93, Irene has outlived her husband, her five siblings and most of her contemporaries at GJC. Irene remembers GJC when it was, as she put it, still "over a garage on Emlen St." Her memory for people, places and events in her life is remarkably keen.

Irene was the youngest of six children, two brothers and three sisters, the oldest of whom was 15 years older than she. "I don't have anyone now," she said, with a resigned grin and then moves on to her memories. "My mother was an amazing woman," she continues. "She ran more organizations and helped more people when they came over from Europe. She helped them get settled and still had time to help other people in the community. My father was wonderful, too."

Her mother died of cancer when Irene was 16, and her father moved his family in 1937 from Germantown to an apartment on Ellet St., very near where GJC is now. The semi-detached houses across the street were not yet built. When Irene first moved to the neighborhood, the land across from her apartment was forest.

Irene was initially involved in the shul founded by her parents in Germantown, called Ohavas Chesed, on West Rittenhouse St., just off Germantown Avenue. When she was six, the cornerstone of Ohavas Chesed, which Irene said was the first synagogue in Germantown, was installed in the

building. Her eyes shone as she remembered the ceremony. "We marched, the band was playing, everybody was dressed in white, non-Jews marched along with us, black and white. It was a very big thing." Her father became president of the synagogue and her mother president of the women's auxiliary. Years later, Ohavas Chesed merged with B'nai Jeshurun, then on Stenton Ave, which much later became B'nai Tikvah-B'nai Jeshurun on Paper Mill Road in Erdenheim.

Irene attended the Fidler School in Germantown, Roosevelt Junior High School on Washington Lane and Germantown High School, where she met her first Jewish classmates. "All my friends were non-Jews until I went to Germantown high school," she said. "I was informed immediately about the two tables in the lunchroom where the Jewish kids collected and I met them." Four of her high school friends are still living. One is 94 and others 93 and she is still in touch with them.

Irene met her husband, Bernard, when she was 16. He saw her one night, got her phone number and called her. She attended Temple University for two years and by that time World War II had broken out. "Bernie and I decided we wanted to get married. So I told my father and he said, 'Marriage and school don't go together. You make the decision.'"

They married when Irene was 19 and Bernie was 21. "The marriage was the most amazing thing," she said. "It was wonderful." Bernie was shipped off to war when their daughter, Rivvy, was 2½ and didn't come back until she was five. They were married 53 years, until Bernie's death 22 years ago. Starting when her youngest daughter was 14 and for for 25 years thereafter, Irene taught adult education at various sites around the city of Philadelphia.

Irene's involvement with GJC began when her oldest daughter, Rivvy, was seven years old. Not only did her own family join Germantown, so did her two brothers and their families. In fact her brother and sister-in-law, Isadore and

Jean Dashevsky, donated a silver breastplate for one of the Torahs that sits on the bimah in the Charry sanctuary. The Torah her grandfather brought from Europe and gave her father, also sits on the bimah. Of Irene's three daughters, Rivvy, Susan and Judy, only Judy, the youngest, became bat mitzvah, which was a brand new concept at the time.

When her family became members of GJC, Irene remembers a very different synagogue than the one that now exists, with its multiple services, casual clothing, and informality. She remembered a full choir and an organ and the thrill of the pageantry on the high holidays.

She also remembered the social events with nostalgia. "We had formal affairs at GJC," she recalled. "We had wonderful formal dinner dances for Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve, when we came dressed up. It was so beautiful." On Kol Nidre night, she says, officers of GJC would line up to make their procession to the bimah, holding Torahs, just as they do today. The difference was, they were wearing tuxedos. She also remembered putting on stage shows at GJC.

Perhaps one of the reasons Irene has lived this long is that she doesn't live in the past. She understands that new generations are doing religion in new ways. Irene feels GJC had gotten more intellectual than spiritual in recent years, although she thinks the trend is reversing. "I think the young people who have taken over are doing a wonderful job. The Centre is so much stronger now than when people started moving away. It doesn't really matter what they wear. Our time was just a different time. Everyone was formal."

One change that Irene said was difficult "and this has to do with me, was that they did away with a lot of the English readings during the holidays and unless you know how to read Hebrew, it was difficult. But I followed on

continued on page 5

Member Spotlight

Continued from page 4

the English page. I didn't want it all in English, but I felt a loss when English prayers got fewer and fewer."

Irene didn't have much formal Jewish education – she quit Sunday school at her parents' synagogue. "My total experience as far as the Germantown Jewish Centre is wonderful and anything that became less than wonderful is my fault, not the synagogue's," she said. "I should have studied Hebrew and taken classes."

She found Hebrew School in her own youth stultifying. "Hebrew school then isn't what Hebrew school is today," she said. "The entire world is so different now. It takes getting used to. There are lots of wonderful things happening now and we've gone into a cycle that's so amazing, it's almost like learning a new language."

Irene sees why the religious services at GJC of today are nothing like what she experienced as a young mother. "I see why they wanted to change the format we'd used all those years," she said. "It's a religious holiday, not a get dressed up holiday." But nostalgia for grand formality of the past makes its way back into her consciousness. "In England, I believe, the Jews on Kol Nidre night wear tails and high

hats. It's very nice even for that moment you're living it."

Going back to GJC in the 1950s, Irene shut her eyes for a moment and said, "There was something exciting about the high holidays, just closing your eyes and listening to that beautiful choir. It made such an impression on my children and they were always so proud to see their Dad on the bimah." Bernard was comptroller of GJC in those days.

Her health and the distance from GJC mean that Irene hasn't come to high-holiday services in three years. Still, she describes herself as spiritual. Asked what she means by that, she answered this way.

"I found it as a child. I always felt a close connection to God. As a child, I was very frightened at night. I always said my prayers. I still say the same prayer I've said since I was 6 years old. Ohavas Chesed was run by the Hebrew Sunday school society, and they weren't teaching Hebrew then. But they did a wonderful job of instilling a feeling of God. When I was a kid and I went to Sunday school, you just got this feeling."

This is the prayer she was taught. "Heavenly father, now that the day is over, and the quiet night has come, I ask you once more to bless me before I sleep. Forgive me if I have done anything wrong during the day and help me to be

better tomorrow. Take care of my parents and all those I love. Watch over us while we sleep that we may wake again to the light of thy love."

Irene says that as a child, "I felt encompassed by that prayer. So when I'd feel scared to death, I'd put the covers over my head and say that prayer. It worked for me."

Says the woman who lost her mother in the middle of her teenage years, "The most wonderful thing is that I've lived long enough to see my three daughters become women. The relationship is very different than when you lose your mother at 16. I'm a great grandmother. My daughters all live far away in California and Colorado, but they're here very often."

Her oldest daughter, Rivvy Neshamah, who lives in Boulder, Colorado, has written a book called *Recipes for a More Sacred Life*. Rivvy, the next generation, took what she learned from her mother and ran with it. As it says on her website, "Rivvy Neshama is a writer, editor, and community organizer whose spiritual path draws from many sources: Eastern and Western religions, Native traditions, Sufis and shamans, and her mom."

"Life is amazing," Irene says. "It's quite a journey."

Hazak

Programming for Adults 55+

By Hazak Co-Chairs, Cherie Goren & Sonia Dishler

Thankfully we were in between snow storms on March 9 for a fantastic program with Gratz College history professor and GJC member, Michael Steinlauf on Polish Jewry then and now. Overall our Sunday morning programs have been quite successful this year and we plan to schedule more in 2014-15.

Upcoming this Spring, please join us for Hazak Shabbat on Saturday, May 3, it's a wonderful way to honor the seniors of GJC. Hazak members will participate in leading the service and Hazak will host a delicious kid-dush. If you are interested in partici-

pating in the service in some way, please contact Sonia Dishler. Our monthly book group meets on Wednesdays at 10 AM, please join us on May 14 and June 11. Also stay tuned for more details about our next program on Sunday, June 22.

Hazak is the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism's organization for Jewish men and women, 55 years and older. The name HAZAK is an acronym. The het stands for Hokhma (wisdom), that zayan for Ziknah (maturity) and the kuph for Kadima (looking ahead). The Rhea Shils Chapter of Hazak at Germantown Jewish Centre has offered programs that appeal to a wide audience since 2003.

President's Message

Continued from page 2

pleasure working with GJC's Executive Committee, in another effective collaboration. Working in teams where many voices are heard, disagreements are all for the sake of Heaven, and wise voices win out, is always a pleasure. Similarly with the GJC board. We have set out a new model for committees in a major bylaw revision, clarifying how committees work with professional staff, and begun to set out formal policies on a range of hard issues, with strong discussions followed by, in my view, wise decisions. I thank you all for your thoughtfulness, your time and your dedication.

This is a wonderful place. As far as I can tell, it keeps getting better.

Women's Club News

Barb Menin and Dena Lake, co-presidents of Women's Club

PURIM BASH

Our annual Purim Bash on March 8th was a huge success! After a winter that inundated us with snowstorms and snow accumulation, everyone welcomed the *Under the Boardwalk* theme. The colorful beach towel table decorations and bathing suits strung overhead along with favorite boardwalk fare was a harbinger of sunnier skies and warmer days. The choir performed another original Purim Spiel and we all danced to Michael Lazar's records.

WOMEN'S SHABBAT

In keeping with GJC's Judaism & the Arts programming theme this year, the Scholar in Residence for Women's Shabbat on Saturday, April 5th was Theatre Ariel. They lead us in an interactive Torah study and an

afternoon performance of ten-minute plays unmasking the stories of women from biblical text entitled *UNMASKED Jewish Women from Page to Stage*. Adena Potok, President of Theatre Ariel's board, facilitated this creative women's Shabbat.

Theatre Ariel is Pennsylvania's only professional theatre dedicated to illuminating the social, cultural and spiritual heritage of the Jewish People. They create and produce new and established work that reflects on the global Jewish experience. Theatre Ariel enlightens, entertains and enriches audiences through the telling of Jewish stories, celebrating the laughter and lessons of the shared human experience.

TORAH FUND

The Women's Club Torah Fund brunch will be Sunday, May 4th. This

year's Torah Fund nominee is Kathy Amrom. Dr. Elizabeth Bloch-Smith will speak on *Ancient Balabustas: Women's Lives in Biblical Israel*.

For further information contact Judy Schwartz (judyschwartz38@gmail.com) or Bev Somerson (beverly@securityoffice.com)

WOMEN'S INTERGENERATIONAL GATHERING

The next Women's Intergenerational Gathering is Sunday, May 18th at 10:00 AM.

The topic is *What do we know about our parents' lives before we were born (Immigrants from where? What kind of work did they do?)*

For further information contact Maxine Feldman (maxfeldman1709@aol.com) or Sue Sussman (Susan@Americoach.org).

PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

GJC's Jewish Book Reading Group

We meet at Germantown Jewish Centre in the Quitman Library. We read fiction and nonfiction books of Jewish interest written mostly, but not solely, by Jewish writers and chosen by the group.

Volunteer group members lead the discussion. For more information, contact Vilma Lieberman at vilmablue@yahoo.com or 215-885-5753.

May 13

The Lost Wife

by Alyson Richman



June 10

People of Forever Are Not Afraid

by Shani Boianjiu



*Combine our monthly special in May (10% off Challah Boards, Knives and Covers) with the Early Bird Special for 20% off our already low, low prices.

**Early Bird Special:
10% off**

*purchases made between
12 pm and 3 pm Tuesdays thru Friday.*

Sunday: 9:30 - 12:30	Wednesday: 12:00 - 7:30
Monday: Closed	Thursday: 12:00 - 5:00
Tuesday: 12:00 - 7:30	Friday: 12:00 - 5:00

While flowers bloom and birds sing
Leslie, Marcy and Connie are bustling
Making sure that the Shop
Is bright and new
With wonderful things just for you.
You will need some presents
For Mother's Day.
There are purses and scarves
And if I also might say,
Jewelry, bowls, dishes and a vase
For every conceivable taste.
And for that very smart child who has
graduated and is now ready to fly
There are clocks, and watches, and books to buy.
And Father's Day will soon be here
So there are items which will put a sparkle in his eye.
A hostess gift? A present for a friend?
You'll find it here, again and again.
And lest we forget, and none of you will,
We have the best Judaica on Mt. Airy hill.
Too much to list, and it's all the best,
So come early, come often, and never forget,
We wrap that present with a big bright bow,
And we take credit cards as you know.

Purim Bash



Purim Mishloah Manot Tzedakah project another success!

This year we collected just over \$2,700; after covering the expenses of putting together the gift baskets, we were able to donate a total of more than \$1,600 to four organizations that help fight hunger locally and nationally – Weaver's Way Community Garden at Stenton Manor, Mazon, Female Hebrew Benevolent Society and Northwest Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network.

In addition to the more than 60 families that donated funds to the project, a special thank you to Genie Ravital for organizing the project and these additional volunteers for their hands on work:

Betsy Teutsch
Michelle Friedman
George Stern & his friends from Texas!
Ameet Ravital
Rona Pietrzak
Nina Israel
Phill Goldberg
Abby Weinberg
Hadassah Weinmartin
Yehudah Weinmartin
Sheila Erlbaum
Yossi Ravital
Danielle Stillman
Leila Stillman Utterback
Helen Feinberg
Gloria Geissler
Melissa Klein



Tani Nevins Klein
Tamara Cohen
Toby Kessler Cohen
Eleanor Brownstein
Elana Shaw, Takia Raneri, Rabbi Alanna Sklover & Gloria Geissler from the GJC Office

Early Childhood Program (ECP)



Spring is in the Air at ECP

By Jodi Gordon, ECP Director

GJC's Early Childhood Program (ECP) is bustling with creative energy and many opportunities for the children to explore and discover. We celebrated Purim with a very festive Purim parade, singing songs and baking hamantashen. We truly enjoyed the retelling of Megillat Esther by Rabbi Adam and Rabbi Annie as it brought a deeper meaning to our holiday activities.

April means Spring finally arrived and we celebrated Passover! Each of our ECP classes was extremely busy

preparing for Passover including searching their rooms for Chametz, making our own matzah and designing their own seder plates! The Gesher, Bonim, and Gan katan classes came together for a very special Seder lead by Rabbi Annie and Rabbi Alanna. Our infant and toddler rooms celebrated with their own individual mini seders where they tasted some of the delicious and symbolic foods found on the seder plate, sang songs and pretended to trek across the desert!

We look forward to May and a

school wide Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebration. We will board an El-Al airplane for an imaginary trip to Israel where we will visit a Shuk, sample some Israeli foods at a Tel-Aviv café and dig for shekels in the sand. We will end our trip to Israel with a little Israeli dancing and a good nap!

We will also be celebrating Grandparents and Special Persons Day at ECP on Friday, May 2. We are so excited to celebrate Shabbat with all of our special visitors!

Men's Club News



Men's Club co-President Rod Griffith (right) congratulates Elaine & John Frank, this year's Passport to Israel fundraiser grand prize winners

Adult Education 2014/5774

Please review the chart below for our courses at a glance. Advanced registration is requested for all courses. Contact the office to register.



Title	Instructor	Timing	Dates	Cost Members/ Non Members
Shabbat in Community: Papercut Mural	Mindy Shapiro	Tuesday 10 AM–Noon and/or 7-9 PM NEW DATE & TIMES	May 27 NEW DATE & TIMES	\$10/15 (per session— you may register for one or both) NEW Reduced Fees!

Religious School

Bridging the Generations and Making Learning Real

By Rabbi Alanna Sklover

As we conclude the third blessing of the Amidah, we chant, “L’dor va dor nagid godlecha, u’netzach netzachim k’dushatcha nakdish רודל ותשדק סיחצנ חצנלו, ךלדג דיגנ רודו שידקנ – From generation to generation we will tell of Your greatness, and from strength to strength we will sanctify Your holiness. For me, this is not only a piece of liturgy, but also a daily reminder of the critical place in our tradition for intergenerational learning and living. It speaks to the importance of fostering a strong connection between the generations, allowing ritual and rite, values and history, music and wisdom to fill the mouths and imaginations of the next step in the great journey of the Jewish people. It is through this cyclical, intergenerational, relationship, the liturgist suggests, that allows us to truly tell of the greatness and the holiness of Divinity.

Often times, this transmission

occurs within the context of the family – around the dinner table, on trips to Israel and other places with ancestral ties, when looking through photo albums, playing catch with an old baseball mitt, or cooking a special recipe together on the eve of a holiday. But I want to suggest that, in addition to these modalities, the Synagogue setting, especially in one like ours, presents a wonderful opportunity to explore rich new ways to explore and live out the kind of intergenerational relationship described in our liturgy.

In our “Community of communities,” we are blessed to have so many talented, skilled, and passionate people who come from such a diverse array of backgrounds – Jewishly and professionally – who help keep our community strong. What would it look like to bring these skills, this passion, and the wellspring of wisdom alive in the GJC community across the threshold of our classrooms and into the lives of our students?

In my imagination is a scenario in

which each of our classes is connected with a maven (an expert) within our congregation: a storyteller, an artist, the child of a Holocaust survivor, an historian, a lawyer, a rabbi, a medical ethicist; someone who would work with the teacher to make a certain aspect of the curriculum come alive in a new way. Through the benefit of the maven’s life experience and wisdom, students will build a new and more personal – more real – connection to material that was previously merely academic. In the lens of Jewish education, is there really any better way to “sanctify Your holiness”?!

This question of “L’dor va’dor nagid godlecha”, is the one I sit with today – and that which I invite you to help me think about as we move into the next school year. May we go from strength to strength together, and inspire our students, children, and grandchildren to not only come along on that journey with us, but take up the mantle and make it their own!

**Special Thanks to the Wolfe Family Foundation
for generously supporting programming at GJC**



GERMANTOWN JEWISH CENTRE
• YOU'RE INVITED •

of Family? Fun Day & Spring Concert

• SAVE WITH ADVANCED TICKET PURCHASES • SEE REVERSE FOR DETAILS •

SUNDAY, JUNE 1st • FESTIVITIES BEGIN at 4PM

.....

honoring **LESLIE & CURT PONTZ**

.....

- Please join us for our
- ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT
- FUNDRAISER with a twist!
- We will honor and celebrate
- LESLIE & CURT PONTZ. It will
- be fun for everyone from age
- 0-99 and beyond.

CIRCUS MAGIC: 4PM | Join us for some circus magic entertainment & refreshments.

CHANA ROTHMAN & FRIENDS LIVE: 5PM

Singer/songwriter, musical community organizer, and educator, CHANA ROTHMAN is a Mt. Airy resident and GJC member. Tinges of reggae, worldbeat, folk, and hip-hop infuse Chana Rothman's Hebrew-English tunes with rhythm and positive vibes. Her hour-long performance will be uplifting, highly participatory and kid-friendly.

See reverse for details on ticket prices and sponsorship opportunities.



**GERMANTOWN
JEWISH CENTRE**

400 WEST ELLET STREET | PHILADELPHIA, PA 19119
GERMANTOWNJEWISHCENTRE.ORG | 215.844.1507



**YES! I/We would like to honor
Leslie & Curt Pontz
and support GJC
Spring Concert Family Fun Day 2014**

I/We will be a:

- Pillar* \$3,600 Benefactor* \$2,500 Patron* \$1,000

** includes 4 tickets, preferred seating and mention in the program*

- Sponsor** \$500 Donor** \$250 Friend** \$125

*** includes 2 tickets, preferred seating and mention in the program*

Yes, I/we will be using my/our tickets; # of tickets I/we intend to use _____

I would like _____ general admission tickets @ \$20 each (at the door is \$25)

I would like _____ student, senior or teen tickets @ \$10 each (at the door is \$15)

I would like _____ children's tickets @ \$5 each (at the door is \$10)

•RSVP by May 21 for sponsorship inclusion in program

•Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5 more

.....

Please charge my Visa/MC (3% handling fee)

<input type="text"/>	-	<input type="text"/>	-	<input type="text"/>	-	<input type="text"/>	Exp	<input type="text"/>	/	<input type="text"/>	CCV	<input type="text"/>
							MM/YY				Code	

Check enclosed, made payable to *Germantown Jewish Centre*

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Tel (_____) _____ **Email** _____

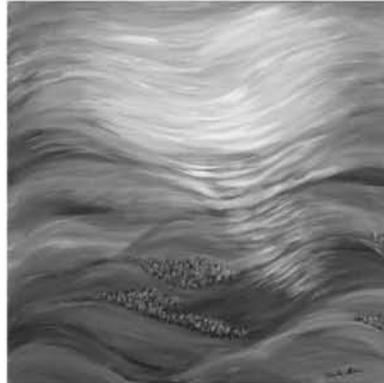
Signature _____

Thank you for your contribution.

Germantown Jewish Centre
400 West Ellet Street Philadelphia PA 19119
Tel: 215-844-1507 Fax: 215-844-8309

Shavuot Night of Study: Revelation & the Arts

*at Germantown Jewish Centre in partnership with
Mishkan Shalom, Or Hadash, P'nai Or,
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College & Tikkun Olam Chavurah
Tuesday, June 3*



6:30-7:45 PM

Revelation & the Arts

A variety of activities appealing to adults and children

8:00-9:30 PM

Recreating Sinai - Keynote Program

9:30-10:00 PM

Creative Ma'ariv Service

10:00 PM-5:00 AM

All-Night Learning Sessions, Movement, Prayer & Beit Midrash (Study)

Join us for all or part of the time

5:00-6:00 AM

Creative Sunrise Service

**If you are participating beyond 10 PM, please bring dairy or pareve snacks to share
Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the Mitzvah Food Project**

There are opportunities for socializing and noshing throughout the evening and overnight into the morning



Germantown Jewish Centre
400 W. Ellet St.
Philadelphia, PA 19119
215.844.1507

www.germantownjewishcentre.org

The fastest way for your contribution to be processed is for you to fill out a Contribution Form (available in the office or on our website) and return it to the office along with a check. Or just send in a check with a note.

Contributions For the period of January, 2014 through March, 2014

Todah Rabbah!

Sincere thanks and appreciation to those who remember to honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions.

FUND	BY	OCCASION
Adult Education Fund	Linda Dzuba Maura Sostack	in memory of Rose Pinkenson, mother
Bess Schick Memorial Fund	Dena & Ed Lake	in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone in honor of Eric Word & the GJC Maintenance Staff in memory of Ruth Feinberg, mother of Michael Feinberg refuah shleimah to Debbie Stern, on recovering from knee surgery
Camp Scholarship Fund	Berel & Susan Sternthal	in memory of Lillian Stearman, grandmother
Chesed Fund	Beth Stearman Lynne & Art Ellis	in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein
Early Childhood Program Fund	Berel & Susan Sternthal Neil Kitrosser & Diane Ajl Mitchell Berk & Beth Stearman	in memory of Josh Goldblum & Deborah Fishman, on the birth of their grandson in honor of Mark Smith & Liz Bloch-Smith, on the birth of their grandchild in appreciation of Anna & Phill Goldberg, for their friendship & support
General Fund	Shelley Weber Dan & Marcy Bacine Albert & Peninah Berdugo Mitchell Berk & Beth Stearman Mikael Elsila & Dina Pinsky Lynne Furman Harry Kissileff Judd Levingston & Hillary Kruger	in memory of Benjamin Marged, father in memory of Lewis John Goldberg, father of Jacob Goldberg in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone in memory of Hyman Oliver Schneier, father of Joel Schneier in honor of Mitch & Sue Marcus, on the birth of their granddaughter in memory of Nathan Klieman, father in memory of Bertha Reisman, grandmother in memory of Julia R. Kissileff, mother in memory of Ruth Feinberg, mother of Michael Feinberg in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone in honor of Rona Pietrzak & Amiel Braverman, on the wedding of their daughter, Alexis Braverman & Charlie Gandleman refuah shleimah to Howie Langer in honor of Rona Pietrzak & Amiel Braverman, on the wedding of their daughter, Alexis Braverman & Charlie Gandleman in honor of Jose, Eric & the GJC Maintenance Staff, for all of their help & assistance with Caleb's Bar Mitzvah in honor of Nina, Kate & Elana, for all of their dedicated assistance with Caleb's Bar Mitzvah
Hazak Fund	Bev & Ira Somerson Marna Sternbach Berel & Susan Sternthal Cy & Rennie Cohen Sonia Dishler Sam Feinberg Cherie Goren	in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein in memory of Maurice Sternbach, father in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone in memory of Victoria M. Howitz, niece in memory of Henry Feinberg, brother in memory of Gitel Feinberg, mother in memory of Leo Fleischman, father refuah shleimah to Aaron Weber

Contributions *Continued*

Hazak Fund	Berel & Susan Sternthal Aaron Weber	refuah shleimah to Hilda Minkoff in memory of Samuel Weber, brother in memory of Ida Weber, mother in memory of Sylvia Elfant, mother in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine refuah shleimah to Steve Asher
Interfaith Hospitality Network Fund	Janet Elfant Tamar & Sam Magdovitz	
Israel Affairs Fund	Cecile & Sam Merion Carol & Marty Kaplan Marcy Landesberg Cyrilla Rosen Leah & Norman Schwartz	in memory of Dorothy Snellenburg, sister of Marcy Landesburg refuah shleimah to Mitchell Berk refuah shleimah to Hilda Minkoff in memory of Dorothy Snellenburg, sister of Marcy Landesburg in honor of Mitch & Sue Marcus, on the birth of their granddaughter in honor of Marty Kaplan, on his 84th birthday in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein in honor of Helen & Michael Feinberg, on the birth of their granddaughter, Gabrielle Austin in memory of Cecelia Creshkoff, grandmother in honor of Raphael & Tanya Schwartz, on the marriage of their son, Yehuda Leib to Rivka Aptowitz in honor of Carol & Marty Kaplan, on the birth of their great grandson, Snir David Boutavia
Israel Garden Fund	Norman Schwartz Evelyn Caplin Mitchell Hirsch & Sylvia Lifschitz Catherine E. Niallon David Picker	in memory of Hannah Garnick Good, mother in memory of Herman Barash, uncle in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone in memory of Alice "Rainy" Loraine Ebert, grandmother in memory of Morris Picker, father
Kiddush Fund	Andrea Brockman & Vincent DiLorenzo Berel & Susan Sternthal	in memory of Milton Sanders, husband of Freida Sanders and father of Susan Weiss in honor of Joyce & Sheldon Eveloff, on their 50th wedding anniversary
Library Fund	Marilyn Barr Ruth Rosenthal	in memory of Edward I. Greenstone, father in memory of Robert Rosenthal, son
Minyan Masorti Memorial Shabbat Fund	Wendy Weingarten	in memory of Robert M. Traub, father in memory of Rose Weingarten, mother-in-law
Music Fund	Dan & Marcy Bacine Michael Blackman John Frank Chuck & Martha Schleifer	in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone in memory of Lillian Frank, mother in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein in memory of Betty Schleifer, mother
Prayerbook & Ritual Item Fund	Chuck Schleifer Alan Mendelsohn & Mindy Shapiro	in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine in memory of Hyman Oliver Schneier, father of Joel Schneier in memory of Paul Actor, father of Neil Actor in honor of Alexis Braverman & Charlie Gandelman, on their wedding in honor of Rabbi Zeff & Cheryl Bettigole, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Mati Zeff
Program Fund	Mitchell Berk & Beth Stearman Doug Lerner & Ken Cohen	

Contributions *Continued***Rabbi Lewis' Discretionary Fund**

Michael Beer in memory of Seymour Beer, father
 Mitchell Berk in memory of Mollie Needleman, grandmother
 Brenda & David Laigaie & in appreciation of Rabbi Lewis, for her help & support during
 Roselle Numerof Sid's passing
 Chuck & Lyndall Miller in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine
 in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone
 Catherine E. Niallon in memory of Bonnie Ebert Clark, mother
 Barbara Pearson in memory of Morris Balis, grandfather
 Charlotte Peitzman in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein
 Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick in honor of Rabbi Lewis, for her wonderful mentoring of
 Caleb for his Bar Mitzvah
 Leah & Norman Schwartz in honor of Joyce & Sheldon Eveloff, on their 50th wedding
 anniversary
 in honor of Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick, on the Bar Mitzvah of
 their son, Caleb
 in honor of Jack & Susan Rome, on the Bat Mitzvah of their
 daughter Rebecca

Rabbi Zeff's Discretionary Fund

Dan Bacine in memory of Nathan Bacine, uncle
 in memory of Jeanette Bacine, mother
 Michael Beer in memory of Seymour Beer, father
 Lila Booth in memory of Elizabeth Wolfman, mother
 Geof Margo in memory of Eli Margo, father
 Linda & Jeff Needleman in honor of Ed & Dena Lake, on their daughter's engagement
 Frances Friedmann Neiman in memory of Bernie Goldstein, father of Mrs. William Winters
 Catherine E. Niallon in memory of Theoris M. Ebert, grandfather
 Roselle Numerof in appreciation of Rabbi Zeff, for his help & support during
 Sid's passing
 Pearl Raz in memory of Estelle Admonit, mother
 Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick in honor of Rabbi Zeff, for his meaningful support for
 Caleb's Bar Mitzvah
 Michael Sivitz in memory of Sidney Sivitz, father
 Jacob Staub & Michael Spitko in memory of Ruth Feinberg, mother of Michael Feinberg
 Susan & Ken Weiss in memory of Ruth Feinberg, mother of Michael Feinberg
 Sheila & Alex Avelin in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the
 Religious School

Religious School Fund

Dan & Lila Berman in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the
 Religious School
 Rebecca Meyer & Kevin Bernstein in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the
 Religious School
 Lawrence & Ellyn Charap in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the
 Religious School
 Richard & Linda Feder in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the
 Religious School
 Connie & Sam Katz in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the
 Religious School
 Janet Kroll in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the
 Religious School
 Brenda & David Laigaie & in appreciation of Rabbi Sklover, for her help & support during
 Roselle Numerof Sid's passing
 Judd Levingston & Hillary Kruger in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the
 Religious School

Contributions *Continued*

Religious School Fund	Nathan Martin & Abby Weinberg	in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the Religious School
	Genie & Ameet Ravital	in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the Religious School
	Sue Rochman	in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the Religious School
	Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick	in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the Religious School in honor of Rabbi Alanna Sklover, for her enthusiastic support of Caleb's Bar Mitzvah
	Stefanie & Alex Seldin	in memory of Anne Kalcheim Zaslow, mother of Rebecca Zaslow
	Steve Weinberg & Elisa Goldberg	in honor of Dove Rosenberg, for 18 years of teaching in the Religious School
Social Action Fund	Barbara Bloom	in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine
	Chana Bonn	in memory of Hirsh Segal, loved one of Ruth Segal
	David & Betty Ann Fellner	in memory of Ruth Feinberg, mother of Michael Feinberg in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone
	David Fellner	in memory of Werner Fellner, father
	Mitchell Hirsch & Sylvia Lifschitz	in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine
	Maxine Margolies	in memory of Irene Margolies, mother
	Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick	in honor of Sharon Webber, for reading Torah at Caleb's Bar Mitzvah
	Debbie Stern	in memory of Myron Schoen, father
	Kathy & George Amrom	in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Herb Levine in memory of Ruth Feinberg, mother of Michael Feinberg
	Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick	in honor of Devorah Lissek, for reading Torah at Caleb's Bar Mitzvah
Torah Restoration Fund	Judy Schwartz & Jay Seitchik	in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein
	Joan Silver	in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein
	Berel & Susan Sternthal	refuah shleimah to Phyllis Kauffman in memory of Polly Wright, mother of Patty Wright Finestone
	Florence Kobran	in memory of Samuel Z. Kobran, husband
	Curt & Leslie Pontz	in honor of Sheldon & Joyce Eveloff, on their 50th wedding anniversary in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein in memory of Ruth Feinberg, mother of Michael Feinberg in honor of Jack & Susan Rome, on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Rebecca in memory of Robert Michaels, father of Gina Michaels
Women's Club	Florence Kobran	in memory of Samuel Z. Kobran, husband
	Curt & Leslie Pontz	in honor of Sheldon & Joyce Eveloff, on their 50th wedding anniversary in memory of Seymour Meyers, partner of Marilyn Silberstein in memory of Ruth Feinberg, mother of Michael Feinberg in honor of Jack & Susan Rome, on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Rebecca in memory of Robert Michaels, father of Gina Michaels
	Curt Pontz	in memory of Selma Goodman, aunt
Youth Activities Fund	Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick	in honor of Chip Becker, for reading Torah at Caleb's Bar Mitzvah
	Joan Stern	in memory of Charles B. Stern, husband

Thanks to GJC Men's Club
for sponsoring this event



GJC's July 4th Sh-BBQ

Join us for a
pre-Shabbat BBQ,
followed by
Kabbalat Shabbat
Under the Stars
Family-Friendly!

Friday, July 4

Exact timing, costs,
registration & other details to
follow



Germantown Jewish Centre
A community of communities

400 West Ellet Street
Philadelphia, PA 19119
215-844-1507
www.germantownjewishcentre.org



SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2014 ■ NOON - 5 PM

**On the Waterfront at Penn's Landing, Philadelphia
Rain or shine!**

Join the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia as we celebrate Israel's 66th year of independence. This will be Greater Philadelphia's largest and most entertaining celebration of Israel and Jewish culture.

Musical headliner: David Broza

Israel Independence Day is the perfect way for everyone to spend the afternoon. Highlights will include:

Delicious Food

Lag B'omer Ga Ga Sports Area

K'NEX Flag of Israel

A Mitzvah Project

Mummers

Craft Vendors

Community Organizations

jewishphilly.org/israel66



Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

One People ■ One Community ■ One Federation™

Presenting Partner



Silver Partner



Bronze Partner



Sponsors

A Sharp Production
Center City Film and Video
Goldenbergs Peanut Chews

MONTEFIORE CEMETERY COMPANY

Family-Owned and Operated for 103 years

Our Promise To You...

Mitchell Berk and our dedicated, professional staff will treat you with warmth, compassion, understanding and sensitivity.

Whether you want to talk with someone about pre-arrangements or just need help finding a loved one, we at Montefiore are here to help.

Montefiore Cemetery is proud of upholding Jewish traditions. The cemetery offers Jewish families a beautiful resting place with character and a wide variety of options.

And, as always...

- ✧ No vaults required.
- ✧ 0% Interest on all purchases
(Interest-Free Financing offered, in accordance with Jewish Law)
- ✧ 100% Interest in taking care of your family with dignity and respect.



Protect Your Family Through Pre-Planning



MONTEFIORE...

*Serving the Jewish Community...
Preserving Our Tradition*

600 Church Road • Jenkintown, PA 19046
215-663-1250 Ext. 201
email: MitchellJBerk@yahoo.com

Sesame/Rockwood Camps

**SESAME DAY CAMP • CAMP ROCKWOOD
ROCKWOOD ADVENTURES TEEN TRAVEL**

- Day Camp: 4 to 8 Week Sessions
- Mini-Day Option (3, 4, & 5 year olds)
- American Red Cross Swim Program
- Arts & Outdoor Adventure Activities
- Extensive Sports Program
- Great Lunches, Snacks & Much More!
- Teen Travel Program: 1 to 8 Week Options for 6th thru 9th Grades
- Door-to-Door Transportation

Food served is not under Kosher supervision.

Offering Your Child the Finest in Caring Staff, Diverse Programming & Outstanding Facilities.

Howard & Dale Batterman, Owners/Directors

610.275.CAMP www.srdaycamps.com

TAILORED TRANSITIONS SWITCHED

you can too!

“ Other banks treated us like a number. Valley Green Bank shows genuine interest in our business and sincerely wants to help maximize our potential. ”

VALLEY GREEN BANK MAKES YOU FEEL RIGHT AT HOME.

STARR OSBORNE, TAILORED TRANSITIONS
VALLEY GREEN BANK CUSTOMER SINCE 2012

VALLEY GREEN BANK

You count with us.

www.valleygreenbank.com
Mt Airy* | 215.242.3550
Chestnut Hill* | 215.242.1550
Radnor | 610.995.2265
Center City | 215.569.2265

*Hours: Weekdays 8 to 6

Tutoring for Reading and Language Arts

Wilson Reading System Certified

Ellen Reese
Tel: 610 668 9865
Cel: 267 971 7970
e-mail: emr@telegraphics.com

PERSONAL TRAINER

Zachary Segal, NASM CES PES
(215) 688-6241
www.threadmovement.com
NASM Certified Fitness Trainer

“Training for Health Through Effort, Flow, and Focus”

Train In-Home or at Local Gym

Members of GJC for over 25 years

Elfant & Wissahickon
— REALTORS —

*People are our business
Real Estate is our service*

www.NeilKugelmanTeam.com

Chestnut Hill 215. 431. 5095
8039 Germantown Ave. 215. 247. 3600 X228
Rittenhouse Square 2000 Pine St.

ISRAELI DANCING

Sundays at 10 AM
\$5 per session

For more info call Tamar Magdovitz at 215-247-9614



Germantown **Jewish** Centre

400 West Ellet Street
Philadelphia, PA 19119

First Class Pre-Sort
U.S. Postage
PAID
Horsham, PA
Permit No. 179

Inside Centre Call

- Rabbi's MessagePage 1
- President's MessagePage 2
- Shabbat Chai-LitesPage 3
- What's New in the MishpochePage 3
- Member SpotlightPage 4
- HazakPage 5
- Women's Club NewsPage 6
- Little ShopPage 6
- People of the BookPage 6
- ECPPage 7
- Adult EducationPage 8
- Men's Club NewsPage 8
- Religious SchoolPage 8
- Spring ConcertPage 9
- ShavuotPage 11
- Contributions (begin on)Page 12

(215) 844-1507 fax: (215) 844-8309
Web: www.GermantownJewishCentre.org

Please submit all articles via email to
program@germantownjewishcentre.org.
Deadline for the Summer Online Only Issue is June 2.



Mitchell P. Marcus
PRESIDENT

Adam Zeff
RABBI

Annie Lewis
ASSISTANT RABBI

Nina Peskin
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alanna Sklover
RABBI EDUCATOR

Gloria Geissler
FINANCE DIRECTOR

Jodi Gordon
EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

Elana Shaw
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Leonard D. Gordon
RABBI EMERITUS

Rod Griffith & David Fish
MEN'S CLUB CO-PRESIDENTS

Barb Menin & Dena Lake
WOMEN'S CLUB CO-PRESIDENTS

Affiliated with the United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism

Save the Dates

Spring Concert & Family Fun Day
honoring Leslie & Curt Pontz
June 1

Shavuot Night of Study: Revelation & the Arts
June 3

Women's & Men's Club Installation
June 8