



Please join us for
a very special
Shabbat

Friday, March 7, 2008

5:30 PM

Join us for Hors D'oeuvres
Shabbat Rinah with the band.

Shabbat Dinner
(member home hospitality)

To be a Kosher Dinner Host or to join
another family at their home, complete the registration
form that was sent in our February flyer mailing or call
the synagogue office at 314-727-1747.

Volunteers welcome to help prepare and
set up the hors d'oeuvres.

We have 2 great events for you! Sunday, March 16

1 **Rabbi Moshe Druin returns to Shaare Zedek**
This visit is sponsored by the Leo and Sara Wolf Adult Education Fund
10 - 11 am – Explore Torah with Rabbi Moshe Druin
11 - 11:40 am – Letter fill-in*
1 - 5 pm – Letter fill-in*



*Be a part of it
Just Write It!*



This is a once in a lifetime experience

*You can participate in the Mitzvah of writing a Sefer Torah
by sponsoring a parsha, verse, word or letter.

**Call the Synagogue office to pledge
and schedule an appointment: 314.727.1747**

2 **USY Purim Carnival**
12 - 2 pm – Celebrate the joy of Purim
and support our Shaare Zedek teens



What's Inside

2	Mazal Tov!	9	CAJE
3	Rabbi's Message	10/11	Everyone Has A Story: Judith Rimel
4	Upcoming Programs	12/13	Purim Programs
5	HazzaNotes	14	Announcements
6	President's Gavel	15	Synagogue Tributes
6	Sisterhood	16	Yahrzeits
7	Men's Club	16	David Iken Fund
8	ECC	17	Sisterhood Tributes
8	Youth: Kadima/Noar/USY	18	Calendar
9	Shaare Shalom		

Shaare Zedek Synagogue

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Early Childhood Center: (314) 727-2565

Religious School: (314) 725-6230

Mark Fasman	Rabbi
Joanna Selznick Dulkan	Hazzan
Marvin Lerner	Ba'al Koreh
Marsha Birenbaum	Synagogue President
Melissa Berk	Youth Director
Chani Pinsberg	Religious School Director
Marty Schaeffer	Early Childhood Director
Cindy Ginsburg/Lisa Gellman	Sisterhood Co-Presidents
Mitch Shenker	Men's Club President
Jacob Shanas	USY President

Todah Rabah!

Haftarot for February

Joe Levy, Jake Shanas, Rabbi Allen Selis

Greeters for February

Amos Shamir, Steve Kayman, Larry Goodman,
Howard Belsky

Kiddushes for February

2-Synagogue, 9-Synagogue, Sisterhood, Teen Families

16 -Synagogue, 23-Men's Club

Mazel Tov!

Births

Jaron & Jennifer Asher on the birth of their daughter, Anna Juliet, on January 26th. Proud grandparents are David and Nira Asher-Geller.

Shiri and Adam Vogel on the birth of their son, Joshua Daniel, on February 2nd. Proud first-time grandparents are Chani and Rami Pinsberg.

Michael and Jessica Landy on the birth of their son, Benjamin Robert, on February 4th.

Anniversaries

Roger & Marcia Brockman
Hanley & Florence Cohn
Barry Freedman & Ava Ehrlich
Jim Fehr & Anne Glowinski
David & Lisa Gellman
Ben & Frances Kootman
Neil & Pamela Lazaroff
Jerry & Ida Legow
Donald & Hedva Levy
Michael & Noemi Neidorff
Jerry & Patty Padawer
Leon & Sylvia Schwartz



**Who: Middle School Students Only.
Grades 6-8.**

What: 500-1000 word essay.

When: April 1, 2008 Deadline.

How Much: Free to enter.

\$500 Grand Prize!

**For more information visit:
www.JewishHeritageContest.com
OR CONTACT:
admin@jewishheritagecontest.com**

A Message from the Rabbi

Rabbi Mark Fasman



Pesach looms ever closer! As it was back in 5765 and 5761, the first seder is on a Saturday night. This means that the fast of the firstborn is on Thursday, the search for chameitz is on Thursday night, and the burning of chameitz is on Friday morning. For those doing a quick calculation, you have already realized that this year we will have an extra day of “no-chameitz” – nine

days this year. What do we do on Friday evening for motzi? Just enough leaven is left – and carefully sequestered from your otherwise kosher l’Pesach home – for Friday evening and Saturday noon ... or else, you can make a motzi over egg matzah (since we must save the “real” matzah for the seder).

So why do we do it? Why *should* we do it? Why should we *continue* doing it? Let me suggest a reason other than masochism.

The year 70 CE is the year that the Romans destroyed the Second Temple. We call this the *churban*. The destruction of the Second Temple was the greatest watershed moment in Jewish history. Everything we do as Jews today, including the way we celebrate Pesach, was created in large measure by our Sages who lived during first centuries of the Common Era.

Their task was to create a sustainable nation living in dispersion (Diaspora) – a “nation” without land, without its own economy, and without any defense force. The Rabbis created a system that could be set up in any place that Jews lived. They transferred the sacrificial service of the Temple to the worship service of the synagogue. They created social welfare systems and educational systems and economic systems and ritual systems that could be adapted to any place at any time. Quite an achievement, wouldn’t you say?

Now I’m guessing that it wasn’t any easier to keep kosher in “the old days.” There were no freezers or refrigerators, no supermarkets with kosher sections. Homes were much smaller (where did they keep four sets of dishes?). It was hard enough just putting food on the table without having to create a massive number of restrictions (what animals you can and cannot eat, how they are to be slaughtered, what

can be mixed with what, and when?).

Ultimately the message of Pesach in our time is: Freedom Isn’t Free. We who live in the most affluent Jewish community in history have forgotten this message. We take our freedom for granted. We take our rights for granted. We take our ability to integrate fully into American life for granted.

Living in Egypt wasn’t easy, but the freedom of the wilderness was even harder in many ways. Living in the wilderness was hard, but conquering a land and establishing the institutions of a just and compassionate society was even harder. Living in the Land, maintaining it and defending it was hard. But exile was harder. Two thousand years of exile was very hard. (This is beginning to sound like *Dayeinu!*). And here we are today. Not hard at all, is it?

That is why we American Jews in our time need Pesach. The meticulous cleaning of our homes, preparations for our seders, the food restrictions, the inconveniences, the four festival days of missed work ... all of these are hard, and often expensive.

So why do we do this to ourselves year after year? Why should we value the difficulty and expense and personal inconvenience? Isn’t it better that life is easy? I doubt that any of us believe that we somehow *deserve* our relatively easy lives?

Pesach comes each year to remind us that our freedom is not free. American Jewish freedoms come at a cost. That cost is that, in a free society, we have to work even harder to affirm our Jewish identity. We have to work even harder to build strong communities and vibrant Jewish infrastructures. We have to work harder to transmit these values to our children and grandchildren.

So let us embrace the challenges of our preparations for Pesach. They remind us graphically just how valuable our freedom is. The cleaning and the buying and the arranging all help to remember just how many unearned blessings we have in our lives.

Don’t *enjoy* the work. Just remember that our difficult preparations for Pesach teach us just an powerful a lesson as the seder itself teaches us: Freedoms aren’t free. Meaningful Judaism isn’t free. We need to work at it. And the more we work at it, the more likely it is that we will find the meaning and the blessings we seek.

Important:

Cedars, JCC Unite for Adult Day Services

As of March 1, The Cedars will discontinue its day services, and refer participants to the services provided by the Jewish Community Center at 6 Millstone Campus.

The program is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm and provides meals and structured social activities for adults who need special care. The JCC program will offer free transportation to participants living within the surrounding area.

The mission of the JCC's Adult Day Services Program is to grant participants the highest amount of independence for as long as possible, while giving them the necessary support, tools and resources to maintain their dignity.

60's Plus Luncheon

March 13 @11:30 a.m.

Rogers & Hart Musical

Performed by Mary & Howard Sutherland & Carin Thyssen

At Shaare Zedek • \$6 per person
Call for reservations:
314-727-1747

ADULT EDUCATION

Join us for continuing Tjewdsday programming from 7-8:30 on Tuesday evenings.

This month, Rabbi Dulkan continues his "might of Midrash" study series with an in-depth look at Numbers on March 4 & March 18.

Watch for announcements of other March programs in Shabbat bulletins and synagogue emails.

COME HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

PLAN TO JOIN YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AT SHAARE ZEDEK THIS YEAR FOR THE SECOND PASSOVER SEDER

It's right around the corner!

Experience Sisterhood With All Your Senses...

A Special Perfume Sampling at Nordstrom

Sunday, March 9, 2008
at Nordstrom
47 West County Center
Des Peres, MO 63031

Location:

Meet at 11 A.M. in the Nordstrom cafeteria at the highway 270 entrance, take elevator to second floor elevator is across from the service center just inside the entrance!

Kosher Baked Lunch

- Asian Chicken or Salmon Salad 15.95
- Salmon or Chicken Wrap 18.50
- Tuna or Turkey Sandwich 18.50

Advanced reservations required.

Limited space - RSVP early!

Reservations available, please call 951-4126

Meet Pat Mullins

*Certified Fragrance Sales, Specialist of Fine Fragrances
Pat will provide samples and she will answer our questions and discuss myths*

Call for reservations by March 3
314-727-1747

Sponsored by
Shaare Zedek Sisterhood



HazzaNotes

Hazzan Joanna Selznick Dulkan

When a child becomes Bar or Bat Mitzvah here at Shaare Zedek, one of the first things many of them do publicly in the service is chant the words of the Sh'ma while holding the sefer Torah. Some of our 13-year olds are barely tall enough to be seen behind the scroll, yet their voices come through loud and clear. If you have witnessed this, you know that there is something extremely powerful about a young person proclaiming the six simple words of God's oneness while embracing the Torah. The Bar or Bat Mitzvah also proclaims the words, "God is one, great is our master, praised be God's name." The next line, even more powerful, is "Acclaim Adonai with me, let us exalt God together!"

The service of preparing to read Torah involves an invitation to the community to exalt God together. How? Through a communal reading of sacred text. As we prepare to read the parasha, we re-enact what it must have felt like on Mt. Sinai for the children of Israel. Moses does not simply go up the mountain, receive the Torah, and come down: as the Rabbi has taught us, he comes up and down, up and down, and the process takes over a month. In fact, Rabbis have argued that all of Jewish history up to the revelation at Sinai was preparation for receiving the Torah, all the way back to creation: "The Blessed Holy One peered into the Torah and created the world...and there is no beginning (reishit) but Torah." In the first commentary of Midrash Rabbah, on Parashat B'reishit (our first Torah portion), the Rabbis make an assumption that Torah existed by itself before the creation of the world, that Torah was God's blueprint. After the creation of humans, our journey through the generations and our slavery in Egypt – every painful and exalted moment was spent in ultimate preparation for receiving the Torah on Mt. Sinai.

In parashat Yitro, Moses is asked to prepare the people for the words they are to hear at Mt. Sinai. God says, "I will come to you in a thick cloud, in order that the people may hear when I speak with you and so trust you ever after." (Ex. 19:9). God goes on to give Moses detailed instructions on a 3-day process of purification in order to receive God's words and prepare to accept

and absorb God's awesome presence. Moses, in giving over God's instruction, im-

"Every day we unlock new mysteries and lessons from each letter, word and verse. Anyone who has studied Torah, ever, knows this: that the meaning of Torah depends on who we are and what we bring to the text at that moment."

PLICITLY SAYS TO THE PEOPLE, Gadlu L'Adonai iti, un'rom'ma

sh'mo yachdav! "Acclaim Adonai with me, let us exalt God together!" Let us all share in this experience of revelation! Let us all become aware of God's greatness at this sacred moment!

Needless to say, it may not be as exciting to us each time we have a Torah service as it was to our ancestors at Mt. Sinai receiving the Torah for the first time. But the Rabbis also teach that the revelation at Sinai is still going on today! Every day we unlock new mysteries and lessons from each letter, word and verse. Anyone who has studied Torah, ever, knows this: that the meaning of Torah depends on who we are and what we bring to the text at that moment. The liturgy of the Torah

service attempts to recreate this feeling of anticipation and awe, that what we are about to receive will never fully be within our comprehension. The words of the siddur hold in them the tremendous power of potentiality. We hope to emerge from the holding, blessing, chanting, of this sacred text, fundamentally changed.

Before we read the Torah, we parade it around the room to be kissed by the congregation, to bring God's words closer to God's people, and we sing again of exaltation. After we read the Torah, we again parade it around the congregation, and end with the sweet words and melody of "Etz Chayim Hi" – It is a tree of life to those who hold it close. When I stand at the open ark, singing Etz Chayim Hi with all of you, and I hear your voices raised in melody and harmony, it is truly a transformative moment. This year, as we write a Torah scroll together, we may come even closer to feeling what it must have been like to be at Mt. Sinai. If you haven't had a chance to hold the Torah, or get close enough to see the letters and words, this is the year to do so. The Torah service teaches us that every time we hear the words of Torah chanted from the scroll, it necessitates preparation, of body and soul, to ready ourselves for the continuing process of revelation.



President's Gavel

Marsha Birenbaum

There's so much going on, that I don't know where to begin! I would urge you to read this bulletin, as well as our computer Updates, to keep up with what's happening. Everyone is encouraged to participate in Shabbat Across America, either as a host or a guest, starting with our Shabbat Rinah service, on Friday, March 7. Then on March 13 we will be packing our Shalach Manot bags that every member of our congregation receives. And it's not too late to gather your friends (the smart ones!) for our Trivia Night. Then come for Schmaltz! our Purimspiel on March 20. Of course, we continue with our Tjewsdays, Adult Ed sessions, on Tuesday evenings. It's a good thing there's shabbat where we can rest and catch our breath.

A special welcome to all our new members, and todah rabbah to Gary Kodner and the Membership Committee for coordinating our New Member Shabbat last month. It was wonderful to see so many new faces, and we welcome you into our community. If you have any questions, please don't

hesitate to call me, the office, or any of our officers.

Rabbi Moshe Druin will be returning on March 16 for those of you who have not filled in a letter on our Torah. We are nearing our goal, thanks to the diligence of our Torah Project Committee, headed by Karen Aroesty and Peggy Nehmen. Even though we have almost reached our monetary goal, we have not reached the goal of having everyone in our Shaare Zedek community participate. We are all looking forward to the day when we dedicate the Mark Raiffie Torah and use it for the first time. It would make us very proud to be able to say that ALL of us are a part of this Torah. So please look inside your hearts and inside the Torah to see where you find yourself. There's a parsha, aliyah, verse, word or letter that speaks to every one of us. You just have to search for it. But believe me, the journey will be worth it! -Marsha

Sisterhood

Cindy Ginsburg & Lisa Gellman Co-Presidents

Hot off the press!! You are the first to hear about our new name. No, not what we are known as locally, but our new regional name. We are no longer Midwest Branch or Midwest Region. We are now a part of the newly formed "Intra-Continental Region." The Midwest Region and the Southwest Region are now officially combined. Transition committee members are working on developing new by-laws and budget guidelines for our new "Intra-Continental Region". This region now encompasses Mexico City, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado, Minnesota, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Canada. We will be having our first meeting in Colorado Springs June 27-30. Watch for more details to see how you can attend.

Here is condensed list of our upcoming Shaare Zedek Sisterhood events:

1. Nordstrom's Perfume Extravaganza, Sunday, March 9 at 11:00 am-look for further information in this issue of The News.

2. Tri-Sisterhood Torah Fund Program, Sunday March 9 at 5:30 PM-invitations went out in the mail. Dr. Eisen, Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary will be our guest speaker and musical entertainment will include our own Hazzan Dulkan. **Note, this is in addition to our annual Shaare Zedek Torah Fund Luncheon.

3. Shaare Zedek Torah Fund Luncheon, Sunday, April 6-look for further information in this issue of The News.

4. It's time to apply for YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS!! Do you have children attending Jewish Camps or organized Jewish Educational Residential programs/travel? Are you a current, and paid up member in Sisterhood for the past two years? If you answer YES to both of these questions, your child(ren) may be eligible for one of our scholarships. Contact Beth Rubin at barubin@goinet.com, 862-5407 or pick up an application in the synagogue office. Application deadline is April 30.

For more information on any of the above events, you can always contact me at 983-0607 or cindymnsn@charter.net. - Cindy



Men's Club

Mitch Shenker, President

This is a very busy time of the year for the Shaare Zedek Men's Club. On February 3, we participated in the World Wide Wrap with 6th and 7th graders from Shaare Shalom Religious School. On February 23, we celebrated our annual Men's Club Shabbat. Many thanks to Alan Schwartz for chairing this special Shabbat. On Sunday, February 24, Gerald (Gerry) Cohen was honored as the Shaare Zedek Men's Club "Man of the Year". Gerry was honored in recognition of his many years of dedicated service to the Minyanaires and for over 50 years of service to Shaare Zedek and the community. The President of the FJMC Midwest Region, SandyVictor presented the award to Gerry.

On Sunday, March 16, the Men's Club will sponsor a talk by Rabbi Moshe Druin. Rabbi Druin will speak on the topic "The Men of the Torah". The program will begin at 5:00 PM and at 6:00 PM we will break for the evening Minyan. After Minyan, everyone is invited to enjoy a deli dinner. We will also use this meeting as our March Men's Club Program meeting.

New Men's Club officers will be officially elected at this meeting. Please call the office to make your reservation so we can plan for the dinner.



During April, the Men's Club will host a series of three programs focusing on men's health. These programs are being planned by Dr. Randy Silverstein, an active member of the Men's Club. Please watch your snail mail and e-mail for additional information.

In closing, I would like to offer a thank you and a Yasha Koach to Dave Propper for the time he has spent over the last few years instilling new life into the Men's Club. We have become members of the FJMC and have won numerous awards. The Men's Club has become a much more visible presence within the congregation. Under Dave's leadership the Men's Club has thrived. - Mitch

SHAARE ZEDEK MENS CLUB PRESENTS THE SZMC MINI-MEDICAL SCHOOL

Don't miss this great opportunity for the general public to learn medicine from some of the country's top-rated physicians!

A series of one-hour lectures on Wednesday evenings from specialists in several fields.

• **Wednesday, April 2**

Ben Barzilai, MD- Cardiologist- Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiovascular Diseases, Washington University School of Medicine- Aortic and Mitral valve disorders

• **Wednesday, April 9**

Adam Kibel, MD- Urologist – Associate Professor, Division of Urologic Surgery, Director of Urologic Oncology, Washington University School of Medicine- Prostate Cancer

• **Wednesday, April 16**

Jaron Asher, MD- Psychiatrist- Medical director, Places for People, Mental health

• **Wednesday, April 23**

Randy Silverstein, MD FACP-Internist-Instructor, Department of Medicine, Washington University School of Medicine- How to Live Longer

Each lecture will include time for questions and answers and will take place in the Sarah Myers Room at Shaare Zedek at 7PM. Note: The classes are free, but registration is required by March 26 (space is limited). Please call the synagogue office at 727-1747 to reserve your spot.

Early Childhood Education

Marty Schaeffer & Tessa Katan

PURIM FUN IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

March brings the excitement of Purim to all of us-big and little children, alike! The last few weeks our Early Childhood Center teachers have been introducing the children to the Megillah, the story of Purim. Through activities like constructing groggers out of recycle materials, making hamantashen to place in their Shlach Manot baskets, and creating costumes for the ecc all school Purim celebration... we are having too much fun!

Our preschool Purim celebration and parade will be held on March 21 11:30-12:30. We encourage parents and grandparents of our ecc children to come join us for a morning of excitement and ruach! There will be a Purim spiel (play) performed by our Pre-K classroom, lots of singing and

dancing with Hazzan Joanna, shaking our groggers as we show off our costumes in a parade, and ending with a hamantashen nosh back in your child's classroom. We are looking forward to seeing you all there...remember to wear your costume!

Our next holiday celebration, Passover, will be Friday, April 11. Again the festivities will start at 11:30 a.m. with song, dance, and food. Please give us a call if you have any questions about our calander of events. - Tessa

Youth Programs

Melissa Berk, Youth Director



Winter Shabbaton

USY weathered the storm, literally. What troopers! In snow and ice, David Feldman, Eliot Markman, Jamie Rosenberg, Laura Rosenberg, and Jacob Bashkin came to the airport only to have their flight canceled. By 6AM the next morning they were back at the airport and ready to head off to the Wisconsin Dells for Winter Shabbaton. They saw old friends, made new friends, and celebrated

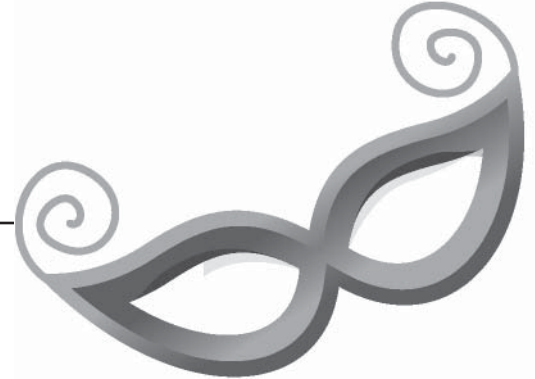
Shabbat, Emtza Style! Best of all, David Feldman performed Thriller in the USY Mr. Emtza pageant and was voted one of the top picks of all three judges! We can't wait for our next convention. Spring Kallah 2008 here we come!

Teen Shabbat

Teen Shabbat was a huge success exceeding all expectations. A special thank you to Lori Sheinbein, Hazzan Joanna Dulkan, Rabbi Fasman, Sara Myers, Jean Marx, Linda Kelting, Nancy Greene, Cindy Ginsburg, Monroe Ginsburg, and Micki Kingsley for their role in making Teen Shabbat 2008 a hit!

To all of the teens who participated, a round of applause. I know I speak for the entire congregation when I say, we are so proud of you! You led an amazing, beautiful, and inspirational, service! I invite and encourage each and every one of you to continue to participate in, and lead, services!

See you at Shul, *Melissa*



Teen Mini-Bootcamp

Experience a simulated Israeli Bootcamp with two IDF Soldiers from our Partnership 2000 community of Yokneam-Meggido.

They will:

- **Lead a series of drills and activities as they give you a feel for their training**
- **Hear the moving stories of their lives leading up to Israeli army service, what it's like to be in the army and their plans for the future.**

When: Sunday April 6, 2008
1:30-4:40 p.m.

Where: Shaare Emeth
11645 Ladue Rd.

Free of charge to all teens. For more information, please contact Karen Rader at 314-442-3756. Sponsored by CAJE.

Shaare Shalom

Chani Pinsberg, Education Director

The “World Wide Wrap” was a great success thanks to the cooperation of the Men’s clubs! The students in 6th through 9th Grade had the opportunity to put on *tefillin* as part of the World Wide Wrap program, as Conservative synagogues all across the country participated in a simultaneous ‘wrap session.’ It was fascinating for the students to hear that it was done all over the world!

Tu Bishvat was celebrated at school with fruit treats, and a *Tu Bishvat* Seder was conducted for the 1st and 2nd Grade students. The students tasted special, unique kinds of fruit that are among the seven species of fruit that grow in Israel.

Why do we have a *seder* on *Tu Bishvat*? About 500 years ago, in the city of Tsefat in Northern Israel, a group of scholars gathered to celebrate *Tu Bishvat*. Their leader, Rabbi Isaac Luria, led them in a brand new ceremony, which he had composed -- a *Tu Bishvat seder*. They ate the fruits of Israel and drank four cups of wine. They studied the parts of the Bible and the Talmud which mentioned trees. The *seder* was written down in a book called *Pri Etz Hadar*, the Fruit of the Goodly Tree.

The younger students had an experiential *Tu Bishvat*

program with many activities: eating the special fruit, planting grass seeds in a funny pot, and making a gift for the birds on the tree. What a busy morning!

At the end of the month the students are participating in Mitzvah Day activities. Some examples are: painting flower pots, packaging ready-to-cook food packets for Jewish Food Pantry, decorating “Happy Hats” for sick kids, and more. Mitzvah Day is a day dedicated to “*Tikkun Olam*” (repairing the world), with social action projects for people of all ages. The students are going to have lessons in the classrooms to go along with this special day.

The month of the second Adar is going to be celebrated in class with preparations for the holiday of Purim. **We encourage all students to come and hear the *Megillah* in the synagogue on Thursday, March 20th.**

Be Happy! It is Adar! *Chani*



CAJE

“...it was overturned...”-**Esther 9:1** This little phrase at the end of Megillat Esther is the source for much of our observance of Purim. It is the reason we dress in costume, behave raucously in shul, and get to the point where we can’t tell the difference between saying “Bless Mordechai and Curse Haman.” It also embodies some of what has been happening in our schools as well.

While we continue to work with you as the Jewish Community Hebrew School transitions to the congregation-based programs that will begin next year, we are pleased to announce that CAJE will continue working directly with teens in their post bar mitzvah years.

We are in the process of evolving to a new and more expansive vision of what it means to be a teen learning community, and there are many changes in the works for the coming year. Many of you have already been invited into the process as we have been gathering community input for the direction of our teen programs.

In the coming year, CAJE will continue to offer Jewish learning in an elective, classroom-based format similar to the current Hebrew High. Morah Maxine will become the director of the learning program, allowing Rabbi Ari to devote greater time and effort to CAJE’s teen initiative, our efforts to reach and engage the broader teen community through community-wide events and collaborative activities. Rabbi

Ari will continue to teach in the learning program and work with Morah Maxine as all of our teen programming evolves to better serve your needs. Please feel free to contact us if you have questions, concerns, or additional input as we plan for the coming year.

There are still a number of programs and events coming this year too.

Here’s the rundown:

The Conservative Community 3rd grade Shabbaton is on March 7th & 8th at Shaare Zedek. Hebrew School Spring Break for both branches is March 17th-20th with classes resuming on March 24th (East Branch) and 25th (West Branch). Pesach break is April 21st-24th with classes resuming April 28th (East Branch) and 29th (West Branch). Hebrew High’s Spring Break is March 20th & 27th with classes resuming April 3rd. The last day of Hebrew High and graduation ceremonies will be April 17th. Look for announcements about an exciting, community-wide, teen, Purim celebration on Thursday night, March 20th.

With best wishes for a topsy-turvy celebration,
Chag Purim Sameach,

Rabbi Ari & Morah Maxine



Everyone Has A Story

The Story of Judith Rimel

by Sima Needleman

When you first meet Judith (Judy) Rimel, you see her as a quiet, modest woman, but when you get a chance to talk with her, you're amazed at what lies beneath the surface. Judy was born in Krynki, Poland to Heschel and Gelia Stolarsky. According to Judy, Krynki was a revolutionary town in the sense that its Jewish population was divided between Zionists, whose goal was to establish a Palestinian state and the Bund consisting of Jews who were anti-Zionists. Judy was raised in a Zionist household.

Her family lived in a Jewish community. They didn't really have any contact with non-Jewish people. Although her father was not Orthodox, he conducted services at his weekly minyan as was the custom during the Haskala Period of Enlightenment. Education was an important value to both Judy's parents. Even though her father had little formal education, he was fond of reading good literature, and her mother was willing to do without certain things so that her children could attend good schools.

Judy was the middle child in a family of 7 children - 2 girls and 5 boys. As a child, Judy attended a *Tarbut* School, which was a Zionist private school where all secular and Hebrew courses were taught in Hebrew. In 1925, her father and an older brother immigrated to the United States, settling in Chicago where Judy's maternal grandparents were living. (Judy, her mother and other siblings were supposed to join them 4 years later, but because of the Stock Market Crash in 1929, immigration was suspended.) Meanwhile, her father, who worked in the leather industry in Chicago, sent money to his wife so that Judy and her sister could go to the Teachers Hebrew Seminary in Vilna, which was a private teachers' school. The money was just enough to cover room, board and tuition. Judy, who specialized in Kindergarten, graduated from the seminary 4 years later.

While she was a student, there were early signs of anti-Semitism. For example, Jewish boys were frequently beaten by non-Jewish Polish students; Jewish people were not permitted to shop in Polish stores; and, certain seats on buses were designated specifically for Jews. In spite of these restrictions, Judy feels that her teen years were good in many ways. That was a time before television. For entertainment, she and her friends spent many hours together singing or meeting in a park to read books or do their homework. The young people were very political and were actively involved in Zionist causes. Judy can remember having such great

discussions with her friends, but every one of them wished to leave Poland because life was becoming so hard. (And, in fact, many of her friends and acquaintances did leave, making *aliyah* or coming to the United States.)

Judy was 18 when she graduated from the Seminary. She taught Kindergarten the following year, and then in 1933, she, her mother, and 3 younger brothers were finally able to immigrate to the states and join her father and brother (who were now U.S. citizens) in Chicago. (It is interesting to note that immigration regulations allowed children of a U.S. citizen, who were 18 or younger, to enter the country, but Judy's sister and one other brother were older than 18. That brother immigrated to Mexico, and her sister unfortunately stayed behind and died in the Holocaust).

Soon after arriving in Chicago, Judy went to night school to learn English and then was able to get a job teaching Hebrew school. In 1937, she learned of an opening in a Hebrew school in Los Angeles and for one year taught there. When she returned to Chicago, Judy attended a Histadrut Campaign Conference in Chicago, where she met several people from St. Louis, including a young man named Albert (Al) Rimel. She and Al had much in common. They were both very active in the Zionist Movement and had similar ideas about so many things. Al was an outgoing person and took an active role in whatever cause, task, or project he believed in.

In December 1938, Judy and Al got married and settled in St. Louis, where Al was a grocery salesman. They lived in University City and became members of *Bet Yehudah* Synagogue on Westgate Avenue. Judy's teaching career took off. In the early years, she taught under the auspices of the Board of Jewish Education. In 1960, when the *Bet Haya'eled* Nursery School moved to *Shaare Zedek*, Judy was the head teacher. She was teaching kindergarten in the morning and Hebrew School in the afternoon. *Bet Haya'eled* closed in 1968, but Judy continued teaching at SZ under the auspices of the Central Agency for Jewish Education (CAJE) for almost 30 years. According to Zandra Ashkanazi, Judy "created her own curriculum" with a goal of giving the children "a complete Jewish Education and teaching them the rich Jewish traditions." Judy has many interesting stories from her years of teaching. A passage in the Talmud summarizes what Judy has come to believe. It says something like "I learned a lot from my teachers, but I learned more from my pupils." She gave an example of a boy who was pushing a girl away, and because Judy was afraid the girl would be hurt,



she “screamed” at him. He turned to her and said, “Mrs. Rimel, you don’t have to scream. You can just tell me, and I’ll listen.” Judy said, “After that, I never raised my voice to a child again.” Another touching incident that she related was once when the children were lying on mats on the floor during rest-time, she lay down next to one particular boy and asked him why he was crying. He answered, “How do you know I’m crying? I’m crying on the inside.”

Judy and Al started their family in 1939. They had two daughters, Shoshana (Shana) and Rina, who are 5 ½ years apart. Both girls attended the Epstein Hebrew Academy and graduated from University City High School. Judy is very proud of her daughters, who have recently retired, but who pursued their education with post-graduate degrees and became successful in their respective careers. Shana graduated from Washington University (Phi Beta Kappa), then got a Master’s degree from the University of Illinois in Champaign and eventually earned a law degree from Columbia University. When she retired, she was the CEO of City Bank of Delaware. Rina, after getting a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin in Madison, worked for 25 years for American College Testing (ACT) in Iowa and still resides there today. Judy’s one grandchild, Rachel, is Shana’s daughter. Rachel, who followed in the family tradition, earned a Ph.D. degree in the Classics from Columbia University and lives in New York City. Although her children live out of town, Judy and they have a very close relationship. They speak on the phone several times a week and spend their holidays together. Judy is so grateful for them and couldn’t ask for more.

Unfortunately, Al, who was a good husband, died an early death. He had a fatal heart attack in 1968. His sudden death was a great shock and a big adjustment for Judy. After 29 years of marriage, she had to learn how to take care of herself and to cope on her own.

Fortunately, Judy had many interests and talents from which to draw. It is her nature to be busy and participate in organizations on behalf of worthy causes. Even as a child and young woman, she was very active in the Zionist movement. Then for many years, even before Al died, she took an active role in the NA’AMAT - USA organization (formerly Pioneer Women), which she continued to do after his death. Luckily (because reading has always been her first love), she got a part-time job in a Jewish bookstore on Olive Street in U.C. in order to supplement her income. The store sold things dear to her heart - - Israeli products and books with Jewish content - - and Judy loved working there. Her routine for 22 years was to work in the store in the mornings and teach at *Shaare Zedek* in the afternoons. Currently, she lives at the Covenant House; and, as you enter her apartment, you’ll see at least 2 books and several magazines on her coffee table. She is presently reading *Suite Francaise* by Irene Nemirowsky and *The Mayflower* (a history of the United States) by Nathaniel Philbrick. (Judy’s books are in English, Yiddish, and Hebrew.)

Another interest of Judy’s was traveling. From 1968 until 2000, Judy made 12 trips to Israel. Every time she went to Israel, she marveled at being in the same place as the

prophets. In addition to Israel, Judy has taken 17 Elderhostel trips, which she loved. She thinks they are the best vacations because they include lectures, exercises and touring and because they’re a learning experience at which she has met many people who share her interest in learning. Furthermore, she likes to exercise. According to Judy, “if you have a healthy body, you have a happy mind.” Until Rabbi Fasman came along, she exercised and did water aerobics 4 days a week at the JCC. Now she skips Mondays so that she can attend his Monday morning classes, which she loves.

After reading, Judy’s second love was teaching (in general), but, she adored the Kindergarten and kindergarteners! She couldn’t see herself not teaching, and it was teaching probably more than anything else that sustained her after Al’s death. Singing, which is a big part of teaching small children, has always been a part of Judy’s life. She used to lead community singing and was often asked to sing *Hatikvah* or the “Star Spangled Banner” at various events; and, even though she wasn’t a member of Temple Israel, she joined the temple’s choir. Judy mentioned that she doesn’t watch TV; instead, she listens to music on her CD player. Although she enjoys classical music and attending symphonies, it is Yiddish and Hebrew songs that she listens to constantly at home. She stated that she selects a particular recording according to her mood.

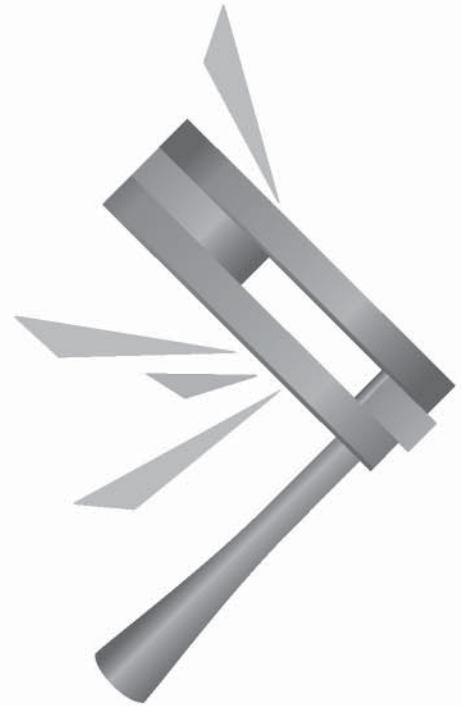
Judy Rimel is a modest woman. She doesn’t like to talk about herself, but she is a person with a very positive attitude, who genuinely enjoys her family, her Jewish heritage and all the good that life has to offer. Perhaps her greatest gift is the love she has for children, for learning and for teaching. As a result, she has passed on her parents’ value of reading and learning to her own children and to the hundreds of kindergarteners whom she has taught over the years. Unless you get to know her, you would never guess the substance beneath the surface.

HELP WANTED

**Purim is Coming
SZ Needs YOU!**

- **March 2-6**
Bake Hamentaschen
- **March 13**
Assemble Shalach Manot
- **March 16**
Deliver Shalach Manot

*Chag
Sameach*



PURIM AT SHAARE ZEDEK



MARCH 16

**CARNIVAL WITH GAMES, FOOD,
AND PRIZES
NOON - 2:00 P.M.**

MARCH 20

"SCHMALTZ: A GREASE PURIM"

STARRING

SZ FAMILY & FRIENDS

**AN ORIGINAL PURIM SPIEL BY HAZZAN JOANNA DULKIN
AND CAROL PESSIN**



*It's not too late to sponsor a
booth or donate a prize! Pick
up forms in the SZ office.*

TIME FOR SHALACH MANOT

Celebrate Purim with beautiful Shalach Manot bags filled with traditional and tasty holiday treats. Every Shaare Zedek member family will receive one so that we may all celebrate together. You can participate in this Mitzvah of giving Shalach Manot to Shaare Zedek families and others by adding your name to the Purim greeting scrolls that will accompany every bag.

• **PLATINUM GREETINGS: \$1000**
Your name is written on EVERY scroll
Plus send 10 non-member bags for free!

• **DIAMOND GREETINGS: \$500**
Your name is written on EVERY scroll
Plus send 5 non-member bags for free!

• **GOLD GREETINGS: \$118**
Your name is written on EVERY scroll!

• **SILVER GREETINGS: \$54**
Your name is written on 10 scrolls!

OR

Send a bag with your name on it to a Shaare Zedek family for \$9!

Send a bag with your name on it to a non-member for \$18
(+ shipping for out-of-towners)

Help load & deliver bags on Thursday, March 13th, at 7:30 pm.
It's "loads" of fun!

Call the office at 727-1747 for further information

Yes, I want to send Purim greetings as follows:

___ \$1000 PLATINUM GREETINGS

___ \$500 DIAMOND GREETINGS

___ \$118 GOLD GREETINGS

___ \$54 SILVER GREETINGS

___ \$9 Send a Shalach Manot bag to: _____

___ \$18 Send a Shalach Manot bag to: _____

(Use back of paper to list names of recipients & addresses of non-members)

My name is: _____

Make checks payable to Shaare Zedek Synagogue - **Orders must be received BY MARCH 6TH.**

The Evelyn Shanker Judaic Gift Shop at Shaare Zedek

Featuring an exclusive line of Judaica for Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, your home, holiday celebrations, and gifts.

314-727-1747

Open M-F 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Special Hebrew School Hours: Monday & Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Sunday hours by appointment.
Special arrangements may be made for weddings and bar/bat mitzvahs.

**DURING THE PURIM CARNIVAL
ON SUNDAY MARCH 16
SHAARE ZEDEK SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP
WILL BE OPEN
20% DISCOUNT ON THAT DAY**

REMEMBER: WE GIFT WRAP, AND WE ARE TAX FREE!

If you find something on line, we can get it for you.
We are here for you – please don't forget our beautiful shop when you have gifts to buy.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...

SHAARE ZEDEK TRIVIA NIGHT

MARCH 15

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM

GAME BEGINS AT 7:30

**LOCATED AT THE
HEIGHTS**

TABLES OF (8) \$160

**CONTACT BURTON BOXERMAN
AT 314-994-9133 OR
BABOX@MINDSPRING.COM FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.**

Sponsor a Kiddush to celebrate a simcha!

The Jewish Food Pantry Needs Our Help

For the month of March the Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry is looking for these specific items in order to provide well-balanced nourishment for the community in need:

1. Tuna Fish
2. Hearty Soups or Stews
3. Canned Pasta with Meat
4. Peanut Butter & Jelly
5. Hot and Cold Cereals (healthy)
6. Healthy Snacks

Items should be brought to the synagogue collection site near the elevator at the front entrance.

Who Wants To Be a Minyanaire?

We need your help to ensure timely minyans for our morning and evening services!

Weekdays Mon-Fri (7-8 AM)
Sunday mornings and civil holidays (8-9 AM)
Weeknights Sun-Fri. 6-6:30 PM
Shabbat mornings (8:45 AM)
Shabbat mincha

Everyone is welcome. Bring your friends...your spouse... the baby...the kids in their pajamas!
Breakfast on weekday and Sunday mornings!

Minyan – the Pause That Refreshes

Donations to the Synagogue

Shaare Zedek acknowledges with gratitude the following contributions:

GENERAL FUND

IN HONOR OF

Tami Klayman's Special Birthday
Miriam Pessin
Florence & Hanley Cohn
Sister Mary Ellen Tierney's Speedy Recovery
Jackie Ketcher
Gary Kodner's Birthday
Micki Kingsley
Michael Rauchman's Birthday
Micki Kingsley
Sara Gaiman's Speedy Recovery
Marshall & Sara Myers
Art Bahn's Speedy Recovery
Marshall & Sara Myers
Elliot Loo's First Birthday
Micki Kingsley
Nira & David Geller's new granddaughter
Marshall & Sara Myers
The New Torah Stand
Jerry & Rosalee Brasch

IN MEMORY OF

Molly Spector
Gertrude Hulbert
Alan Grimsky
Renee & Harvey Dobkin
Larry Goldstein
Marshall & Sara Myers
Burton & Benita Boxerman
Micki Kingsley
Shirley & Herb Fredman
Minette Hermelin
Myron & Rhona Yolcut

SAMUEL FRANK CHESED FUND

IN HONOR OF

Jerry Cohen's Beautiful Haftarah
Barbara Bianco
The birth of David & Nira Asher Geller's Granddaughter
Ann Frank
The birth of Jaron & Jennifer Asher's Daughter
Ann Frank
Sherri & Dan Weintrop
The Speedy Recovery of Peter Walker
Ann Frank
Bill Solomon's Recovery
Barbara Bianco

IN MEMORY OF

Genevieve Rife
Alice Fasman
Jeanette Stein
Rhoda Grimsky
Marty Hendin
Shaare Zedek Sisterhood
Larry Goldstein
Shaare Zedek Sisterhood
Jeanette Stein
Barbara Bianco

Yahrzeit of

Morris Raskas
Sylvia Silver
Sam Frank
Sherri & Dan Weintrop

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

IN HONOR OF

Rabbi Fasman's "Under 15 Minutes" Award
Sherri Weintrop
Howard & Phyllis Loiterstein's Mothers' Special Birthdays & the Gift of the Torah Stand
Joyce & Mitch Podolsky

IN MEMORY OF

Irene Mindell
Beth & Joe Levy

Hazzan's Discretionary Fund (Music)

IN HONOR OF

IN MEMORY OF

Larry Goldstein
Beth & Joe Levy

Faye Keyser Fund

IN HONOR OF

Marion Cohen's Birthday
Anonymous
Steven Schultz's Birthday
Anonymous
Michael Shanas' Birthday
Anonymous
Susan Walker's Birthday
Anonymous
Peter Walker's Birthday
Anonymous
Ryan Dulkan's Birthday
Anonymous
Joyce Gang's Birthday
Anonymous
Joseph Levy's Birthday
Anonymous

Lil & Buddy Spetner "Sweet Memories" Fund

IN HONOR OF

Julius Schwartz's speedy recovery
Alan & Helene Spetner

I.J. Zuckerman Scholarship Fund

IN HONOR OF

Nancy Haffner Reiter – Mazel Tov and Good Luck
Charlotte & Diane Singman
Zendra Ashkanazi's Special Birthday
Esther Zuckerman
Jerry Cohen's Man of the Year Award and Birthday
Esther Zuckerman
Martin & Barbara Becker's Daughter's Engagement
Esther Zuckerman

Donations to the Synagogue

Shaare Zedek acknowledges with gratitude the following contributions:

IN MEMORY OF

Larry Goldstein
 Esther Zuckerman
 Sylvia Schachter
 Esther Zuckerman
 Molly Spector
 Esther Zuckerman

SIDDURIM

IN MEMORY OF
 Molly Spector
 Marion & Jerry Cohen

RABBI ARNOLD ASHER LECTURE FUND
 IN HONOR OF

Jaron & Jennifer Asher's New Daughter
 Burton & Benita Boxerman
 Alan & Helene Spetner
 David & Nira Asher Geller's New Grand-
 daughter
 Burton & Benita Boxerman
 Alan & Helene Spetner

David Iken Memorial Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Rudy & Frances Oppenheim's
 anniversary
 Sidney & Sylvia Rosen
 Recovery of Shirley Seigel
 Hilda Markowitz
 Recovery of Edgar Wallis
 Hilda Markowitz
 Recovery of Jay Lipman
 Martin & Barbara Becker
 Myron Kopperman

IN MEMORY OF

Marty Hendin
 Martin & Barbara Becker
 Sylvia Schachter
 Martin & Barbara Becker

To make a contribution to the David Iken
 Memorial Fund, please contact Frances
 Oppenheim at 314-721-0026.

Yahrzeits

Irving Applebaum Ellen Temkin	Jackie Ketcher Frank Ketcher	Sidney Rosen Joe Rosen
Zendra K. Ashkanazi Albert Kass	Mark Korlin Albert Korlin Florine Korlin	Gloria Sirkin Kate Wishnuff
Irene Belsky Harry Chervitz	Bernie Kunitz Ruth Kunitz	Mollie Stone Sarah Dreyfus
Marsha Bernstein Joseph Ludwig	Marilyn S. Kunitz Arnold Singer	Erwin Taryle Adolph Taryle Mary Taryle Henry Taryle
Golda Burke Joel Burke	Beverly Leve Marla Shanker Evelyn Shanker	Sylvia Thea Bobette Thea Solomon Schukar
Irving Cassel Paul Cassel	Pat Leve Louis Leve	Phyllis Warner Ida Moldafsky
Ed Fitter Louis Fitter	Stan & Ruth Levy Joel Morton Levy	Margarita Weinstein Rose Schechtman
Lois Fitter Eli Levin Miriam Genedl Levin	Mitchell & Joyce Podolsky Erwin Podolsky	LaVerne Zeid Sol Gasmer Joel Radman
Michael Greenfield Rose Greenfield	Dennis & Laura Rainey Marvin Kling	Lonnie Zwibelman Wallace Zwibelman
Rhoda Grimsky Ruth Kunitz	Beverly Rehfeld Morris Slotnick Frances Stolnick	
Billy Handmaker & Betul Ozmat Stuart Handmaker	Judith Rimel Al Rimel	
Mildred (Mickey) Hoffman Morris Snitzer Aaron (Harry) Hoffman Samuel Hoffman	John Rose Sam Pogorelsky	

New memorial plaques have been installed in
 Guller Chapel to honor the memory of:

Alan Grimsky • Hymen Karsh • Rosie Kaplan • Dorothy Wolff

Sara Goodman Tribute Fund

The Sisterhood acknowledges with thanks the following contributions in support of our many projects. Tribute Chairman: Doris Lerner (314) 434-3676
1997 Seven Pines Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146

HONORS AND

Jerry Cohen – Man of the Year Award
 Zendra Ashkanazi
 Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Irwin Rosen – became President of Nusach Hari
 Rhoda Grimsky
 Bernie & Sue Kunitz
Micki Kingsley – Thank you for wonderful Women's League Shabbat
 Zendra Ashkanazi

BIRTHS

Barry & Carol Pessin – new grandbaby
 Dorothy Goldstein
Jaron & Jennifer Asher – new daughter
 Rhoda Grimsky
 David & Lisa Gellman
 Stan & Simmie Gellman
 Bernie & Sue Kunitz
 Sherry Kaplan
Bea & Hillard Young – new granddaughter and grandson
 Gerry Goodman
Nira & David Geller – new grandbaby
 Sherry Kaplan

BIRTHDAYS

Elaine Gollub
 Zendra Ashkanazi
 Micki Kingsley
Mildred Cutter
 Zendra Ashkanazi
Ruth Jacob
 Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
 Micki Kingsley
 Zendra Ashkanazi
 David & Lisa Gellman
Marion Cohen
 David & Lisa Gellman
 Micki Kingsley
Sylvia Rosen
 Ruth Jacob
Jerry Cohen
 Micki Kingsley
Bernie Kunitz
 Micki Kingsley
Becky Shimony
 Micki Kingsley
Ruth Ehrlich
 Micki Kingsley
Joyce Gang
 Micki Kingsley
Jack Kerman
 Micki Kingsley

RECOVERY

Micki Kingsley
 Rhoda Grimsky
 Dorrie & Marvin Lerner

In Memory

Carol & Bill Simon – in memory of Molly Spector
 Stan & Simmie Gellman
Pearl Hendin – in memory of son, Marty
 Jerry & Marion Cohen
Phyllis Katz – in memory of her mother
 Gerry Goodman
Hilda Markowitz – in memory of Bernie
 Gerry Goodman
Cheryl & Ken Stein – in memory of mother
 Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Suzie Broddon – in memory of brother
 Ruth & Stan Levy
Morris Lenga Family – in memory of Morris
 Ruth & Stan Levy
Nancy Present & Family – in memory of Frances Mariam
 Louise Kaufman & Gary Yavitz
David Surkamp & Family – in memory of Dolly Surkamp
 Louise Kaufman & Gary Yavitz

YAHARZEITS

Lily Kaufman
 Louise Kaufman & Gary Yavitz
Sam Fox
 Dorrie & Marvin Lerner

Condolences

The family of Esther Weaver who passed away on January 30th. Grandmother of Shelby (Rolf) Cooke and great-grandmother of the Cooke children.

The family of Jeanette Stein who passed away on February 4th. Mother of Kenneth (Cheryl) Stein.

To Michael Green on the loss of his mother, Ann Green.

The family of Betty Baker who passed away on February 9th. Wife of Harry Baker.

Mrs. Frieda Wormser, widow of the late Jack Wormser.

calendar

Shaare Zedek Synagogue
829 N. Hanley Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63130

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Men's Club Sport's Night...

*delicious and
a lot of fun for
everyone!*

