



JCC JCBM News

Editor—Karen Bartels
karen.bartels@verizon.net
fax 609-921-1899
phone 609-921-1811

Newsletter of the Jewish Community Center of Belle Mead **April 2005** Adar II - Nissan 5765

JCCBM

**253 Griggstown Rd.
Belle Mead, NJ 08502**

**Phone: 908-359-0420
Fax: 908-359-8848**

Regular office hours:
Mon- Fri 9:00-4:00

Rabbi

Michael Tayvah
RabbiJCCBM@earthlink.net

President

Ed Krisloff

Administrator

Clara Nelson
admin1jccbm@earthlink.net

Hebrew School Principal

Dori Daus

leebah@earthlink.net

2004-2005

Board of Trustees

1st Vice President
Janet Burns

2nd Vice President
Hy Grossman

Past President
Jim Ohls

Treasurer
Bob Goldman

Financial Secretary
Joan Weisblatt

Recording Secretary
Sharon Casper

Corresponding Secretary
Sheryl Rosenberg

Trustees

Karen Fridkis
Debbie Tesser
Andy Sokel
Audrey Starkman
Natalie London

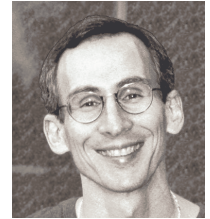
Affiliate: *Jewish
Reconstructionist
Federation*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The spring season has arrived, Passover is around the corner and our thoughts turn to renewal. During the next few weeks there will be several opportunities for you to "renew" your connection to the community of the JCCBM and also to the greater community of Somerset county.

We will be scheduling a spring clean-up day for the Temple. We would like to paint the inside of the building and update the landscaping in the front. We will need volunteers to help with these projects. If you are handy with a paint brush or a shovel, let us know. We will be sending out notices as to the exact date and time. I hope to see you there.

There are two events that involve the greater community in the coming months. One event is the annual MS walk with which we have participated in the last few years. We will be getting a team together to walk. There is also a need for volunteers to help organize and help out at the starting point/finishing line. The other event will be a blood drive co-sponsored by the Temple and our neighbors at the Evangelical Church across the street. Both events offer the opportunity to help the greater community we live in. Ed



UPDATE FROM RABBI MARGOLIN



Hello from the north! Michael suggested I send a note about what's going on with me and my family.

My congregation, Beth Jacob Synagogue, is in most ways the opposite of Belle Mead. There are 144 families, many of whom are single, and quite a few retired. We have a natural age spread, maybe tilted toward adults. This year, there are only twenty or so kids in the Hebrew School, and there are three b'nai mitzvah all year, plus one woman doing a bat mitzvah as an adult. And, since we're the only shul for about 45 minutes in any direction, we have a huge range of practice from classical Reform (mostly English, relatively short services) to

almost-Orthodox: people who keep strictly kosher, don't drive, write, or turn on lights on Shabbat, and are very particular on ritual things like when to bow during the Amidah and omitting certain prayers, including Kaddish, if there's not a minyan. Also, people quickly call out corrections during the Torah reading. That latter took some getting used to, but now I find it comforting -- the Torah reading is everyone's responsibility, not just the person officially reading. There are quite a number of people who read Torah and lead services. Since the range of practice is so wide, and people feel very strongly about their own practice, it makes for some interesting, sometimes contentious meetings.

There are some very talented people here, and many people are very knowledgeable in Judaism. The Torah study group is great, a changing group that ranges from four to seven who meet weekly. We begin with the portion of the week, and quickly move into a discussion that covers all sorts of ground. There's a wonderful guy in the Torah study group, Gene Levine, who just retired from doing administrative work with the Massachusetts courts, who has been putting really good energy into familiarizing people with the history of the shul and making suggestions about the administrative workings of the board. We do certainly have resources to deal with some of the arguments, but sometimes it's a toss-up whether the good energy or the difficult issues will carry the day. Never a dull moment.

Published by:

Calli-Graphics

cont'd on page 10

Committee Happenings

SISTERHOOD

The sisterhood invites all temple members and friends to join us on a docent-lead tour of the Princeton University Art Museum on the Princeton campus, April 10th. We are meeting at the museum entrance at 1:00 pm. A \$5.00 donation to the sisterhood will be charged to anyone joining us. In addition to the regular museum collection there is a special gallery show called Recarving China's Past: Art, Archaeology and Architecture of the 'Wu Family Shrines'.

Anyone interested in brunch/lunch can meet at Panera at 11:15 am located on Nassau Street across from the university. A new parking garage was built off Witherspoon Street making Panera an easy walk. If you need additional directions to the museum, go to www.princetonartmuseum.org or call 609.258.3788.

RSVP to Judi Edelson (908) 281.4253 by April 8th

B'NAI MITZVAH NEWS

Specifics of prayer lessons:

To give the reader more of an inside view of my teaching processes, I will elaborate on last month's piece and detail my methods as an instructor here:

I usually call a student's family five or six months before their Bar or Bat Mitzvah to arrange lessons. The lessons are weekly and a half hour long each. At the first one, I take some time to get to know the student, and begin to talk about B'nai Mitzvah with her/him.

Personally, I believe that in order to teach anyone effectively, one must first gain his/her trust. What I mean is, I want to know all of my students as people. I want them to like me, and laugh with me. There is no reason why learning shouldn't be enjoyable. So I try to establish a comfortable learning environment from the start. This sort of environment is one where questions can be asked freely at any time. I may not be able to answer all of the questions students might have for me, but I can certainly guide them in finding answers, provide a more experienced point of view, and encourage discussion. Judaism to me is a religion that is not only rich with a history of questioners; it also encourages its people to continue to question today. If we don't question, how can we learn? This is something I try to emphasize in my teaching.

During the first lesson with a student, I ask him/her to tell me about B'nai Mitzvah. What does it mean? What is it about? How does it feel to them? We discuss this. Sometimes I talk about how my own Bat Mitzvah was for me. I'm thankful that it is so clear in my memory, so that I can share it with them. This is one of the advantages of being such a young teacher, I always think. I myself only became a Bat Mitzvah five years ago, so the experience is still fresh to me. I always talk about my own views of B'nai Mitzvah, which are intertwined with my views on adulthood. In that first lesson, we explore B'nai Mitzvah as a step on the path to adulthood, a celebration of responsibility, and a declaration of commitment to a people. We talk about what it can mean to each student individually. We also begin to look at the prayers we will be studying together.

I urge my students to learn by listening. The more they hear the prayers they will sing, the easier growing comfortable chanting/singing them will be. It is important to me that the students understand their role in the B'nai Mitzvah service as a prayer leader. I explain that it is their job to convey the meaning of each prayer they sing to the congregation. Throughout the course of our lessons, we read translations of the Hebrew text and attempt to express the mood and meaning of the prayers in our delivery of them. This is a difficult task indeed, especially for a child who has never worked with her/his singing voice before. I always stress that if a child is working hard, that is enough. I don't expect everyone to sing in a trained, full-voiced manner, or even be able to obviously convey the different moods of prayers. The object is that the student understands that there is a difference. In fact, my entire object of teaching is that my students leave the experience with a deeper appreciation and understanding of that in which they are partaking.

As a student's Bat or Bar Mitzvah draws near, we begin to go over not only all of the prayers they have learned, but also how it will be for them to participate in the service. We sometimes talk about techniques for calming nerves. We examine the congregation and why they will be there. I emphasize the fact that this is a very joyous rite. Guests come out of love and support, and everyone is rooting for the child and his/her family. This is a good thing for a nervous student to remember.

When the actual service arrives, it is my hope that the student will feel prepared and as comfortable as possible. It should be a day they can remember with pride.

As for my own participation in and thoughts on the B'nai Mitzvah service, more next time! *Kate Fridkis*

We are here for you...

JFS
Jewish Family Service
of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties

- * Individual, Couples, Marital, Child, and Family Counseling
- * Career Counseling * Support Groups * Immigrant Support Network
- * Elderly and Caregiver Support * Kosher Food Pantry
- * Volunteer Opportunities

Most insurance plans / Medicare Accepted
Sliding scale

Cal (908) 725-7799 for more information
Located at 150-A West High St., Somerville

JFS is a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory social service agency
working to preserve and strengthen the quality of individual, family and community life based on Jewish values

JCC Donations

The JCC gratefully acknowledges the generosity of our members and friends.

Regular Donations

Members

Joseph Himelfarb & Janet Jones	Donation to the temple
Frank & Carol Jones	General Fund Donation
Natalie London	Donation to the building Fund In memory of Meyer London
Natalie London	Donation in memory of Thoraya Albarella, my aunt who passed away 02/13/05
Steve & Carrie Fischman	In honor of Jushua's Bar Mitzvah-Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Barry & Gail Weichman	Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Alan and Janis Todd	Memorial: Murray Burka
Joseph & Diane Wions	In memory of Murray Burka - Gail Weichman's father
Lawrence & Jacqueline Weitzner	In memory of Sharon Casper's brother-in-law, Yariv Herstein
Skouttchi Family	In honor of Aaron's Bar Mitzvah
Richard Cohen & Elizabeth Gouverneur	In memory of Louis & Carol Cohen
Eric Applegate & Deborah Tesser	Memorial Plaque in memory of Harvey Tesser
Kenneth & Janet Burns	In memory of Sharon Casper's brother-in-law Yariv Herstein
Kenneth & Janet Burns	In memory of Sue Grollman's father Ernie Ellis.
Joel & Joan Weisblatt	In memory of Harvey Tesser. Congratulations to the Skouttchi Family on the occasion of Aaron's Bar Mitzvah. In appreciation of Ed Krisloff for his devotion to the synagogue.

Please turn to pages 6-7 for a listing of donations in honor of Harvey Tesser.

GLORIA NILSON REALTORS® GMAC REAL ESTATE™

2161 Rt 206
Belle Mead, New Jersey 08502
Office: (908) 874-5191 x104
Fax: (908) 874-3434
Res: (609) 466-0146



ROBERT "BOB" FASS
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

In Sympathy

Our condolences to **Sharon Casper** on the sudden death of her brother-in-law Yariv Herstein.

Condolences to **Gail Weichman** on the death of her father Murray Burka, and also **Sue Grollman** on the death of her father, Ernie Elia.

Law Offices of Brian Cige

*Emphasizing Employment Law,
General Practice & Civil Litigation*

- Wrongful Termination
- Discrimination
- Harassment
- Severance
- Unemployment
- Breach of Contract


.....

- Wills, House Closings, Automobile
Accident and Personal Injury Cases

.....



7 East High Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
908-685-3775
- and -
475 Wall Street
Princeton, NJ 08540
609-683-5475
CigeLaw@aol.com



**DESIGNS FOR
DENTAL
HEALTH**

Richard M. Nadler, DMD, FAGD


450 Amwell Road
Suite L
Hillsborough
New Jersey 08844
tel. 908.359.6655
fax 908.359.1291
rmndmd@aol.com

609-921-1811

Calli-Graphics

Creative Computer Lettering, Artwork and Addressing for All Occasions

design your own CALLIE



Calligraphy
by Karen Bartels

CUSTOM ENVELOPE ADDRESSING FOR BAR MITZVAHS
BAR MITZVAH BOOKLETS PUBLISHED

Hebrew School Happenings

March Schedule

Sunday	Activity	Wednesday	Activity
4/3	class	4/6	class
4/10	class	4/13	class
4/17	class	4/20	class
4/24	NO CLASS	4/27	NO CLASS



Shabbat Superstars!

Dorothy Waskow	Kindergarten
Harry Waskow	Grade 4
Marissa Applegate	Grade 5
Mia Van Peenen	Grade 5
Gabriel Fridkis	Grade 7
Aaron Skoultchi	Grade 7
Jacob Fridkis	Hebrew High School



Jacob Burns, Danica Price, Erik Kopelson, Joel Chasnoff

March was filled with fun. Joel Chasnoff, a renowned comedian, came and did an Improv workshop with the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Graders. He started with a definition of Improv and went right into warm up exercises that included stretching arms and faces, projecting voices, enunciation, and self-expression



Bobbi Weisblatt, Jaime Thompson, Joel Chasnoff

Later in the hour, Joel had students play Improv games like those you might have seen on "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" that included telephone, acting out a scene in gibberish, and cocktail party. He finished up with a game wherein students had to explore what the interpersonal dynamics of some biblical figures might have looked like.

The candy sale was a raging success, raising \$968.20 for the school. Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser.

I do hope that all of the congregation's student-aged population will join us on April 6th for Wings of Witness. Jeffrey Schrier will be presenting this in-school workshops focused on tolerance between 5PM and 7PM. It is a monumental 18-ton sculpture in progress, constructed by learning youth with adult support. WINGS OF WITNESS is a massive project of memory and creativity that uses an art form to teach ethical behavior, and to build an immense community of participants. Over 34,000 youth from 23 states have built feathers from soda can tabs for "WINGS." The project will ultimately involve 50 thousand participants. If you are interested in learning more, please visit the website: www.wingsofwitness.org

Everyone baked Hamentashen last month. A few lucky parents got to help make and eat the samples.



Third Grade makes Oznei Haman with Lindsey Rosenthal

Kindergarteners made crowns to celebrate Purim. They talked about Shabbat, discussed mitzvot, and the Knesset. Fourth Graders competed to make a dress for Queen Esther. They also worked on look alike letters in script and the prayer Aleinu. Fifth Graders worked on a Purim Shpiel. Sixth graders have been playing lots of games in class. They played Family Feud to review basic Jewish ideas, such as famous women in the Tanach and cities in Israel. The sixth graders talked about famous Jews Albert Einstein, the prophet Isaiah, and Yitzhak Rabin. They also discussed the ethical dilemma involved when a veteran Basketball coach advised one of his players to foul another player, resulting in a broken arm. Seventh Graders discussed the plight of Anotoly and Natalia Sharansky.

As always, parents are welcome and encouraged to stay for the Prayers at the beginning of Hebrew School and visit our classrooms. The students and teachers are doing a great job.

Dori Daus,

Hebrew School Principal

HEBREW HIGH by Jake Fridkis

This month in Hebrew High we talked about Purim. Rabbi Tayvah led the discussions on the various aspects of the magillah. We had so much fun acting out the magillah in class that we decided to perform it at the temple's Purim celebration. It could be amusing (if you have a sense of humor). I hope that you came to see our performance on March 24th. I sincerely wish that I wasn't booed off the bema as the Hamanater.

In Ms. Lehman's class we started to watch a documentary on Hitler. It is very interesting. Next we plan to study Jewish immigration to Israel. *Jake Fridkis*

ON TO PASSOVER!



Passover / Pesah?

Passover is the most celebrated Jewish holiday of the year. More Jews have some kind of Passover observance than even attend services at the Awesome Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. What's the attraction to

Even while the Temple stood in Jerusalem, Pesah was a time for families to gather together. We even read in the Torah (ch. 12 of Exodus) that if there were not enough people in a family to reasonably eat the Passover roasted yearling lamb, they then had to gather others with them to have enough people. From earliest times, gathering people together was a key element to Pesah.

After the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, the ritual for Pesah evolved into the Seder we know. Our Seder is a combination of ancient Jewish teachings cast into the framework of the Hellenistic symposium (a la Plato). By taking a well known contemporary activity -- sitting over a ritualized meal and discussing key ideas which define us as a people -- and Judaizing it our ancestors created a powerful way of conveying who we are down through the generations. It is the power of the ritual upon us that makes it so popular.

Because the Seder is home based, the responsibility for pulling it off rests within each family. While this creates more work for everyone, it also fosters a laboratory for innovation. Over centuries more and more songs were added to the Haggadah. We see this in traditional editions where after the "end" of the seder is a section of songs. We are living in a time of enormous Pesah creativity. There are at least 250 editions of the Haggadah *in-print* every year! This means you have a huge choice in texts for your seder.

How to make sense of it all? Try Ira Steingroot's *Keeping Passover: Everything You Need to Know to Bring the Ancient Tradition to Life*. Steingroot, the Judaica buyer for Berkeley, CA's Cody's Bookstore, noticed the proliferation of Haggadot and books about Pesah and set out to create a guide. His delightful little book will help you to navigate the texts and the ritual in order to make your seder meaningful for you family.

It really helps a Seder along for everyone to have the same haggadah. To help your seders along, our congregation have multiple copies for two different

haggadot available for loan. The first is Shoshanah Silberman's *A Family Haggadah* an abridgement of the traditional seder geared for families with children up to age 9-10. We also have copies of a traditional haggadah in Hebrew and English available. I suggest using this haggadah with many supplementary readings to add some spice to your seder.

There are loads of seder materials on-line. Try <http://www.ritualwell.org> for materials with a feminist twist. You'll find rituals and readings for Miriam's cup, ideas for including Jewish women's historical experiences in the seder and even a ballad of "The Five Women" of the exodus! Just search under Passover for the list.

<http://www.reclaimingjudaism.org> is a rich source for retuning the way you comprehend Passover. Pull down the "practices" menu, and click on "holy days." When the next page loads pull down the menu to Passover.

A final word on Passover foods. While all Jews have not eaten the fermented and / or leavened derivatives and products of oats, wheat, rye, barley and spelt, there are many different customs across the Jewish world as to what other foods are fit for Passover. In my vegetarian & celiac spru family we eat rice and legumes (after carefully inspecting them before cooking!). If you have questions about these and other customs, please contact me.

We are blessed to live in an area where Pesah foods are easily available. (If you don't think so, ask me for stories about Passover living on an island!) Many products are certified kosher for Passover, clearly marked on their labels. There are also many products that are kosher for Passover while *not* marked as such! How to tell? In years past the Orthodox Union (the "OU" <http://www.ou.org>) and the Organized Kashrut Laboratories (<http://www.ok.org>) have published lists of products under their supervision what are indeed fit for Passover use while not marked. Not only are these products less expensive they are many of the products you use year round.

In all the ways we honor Pesah, my best wishes for a happy and kosher Passover! Rabbi Michael Tayvah



Donations to the Tesser Building Fund (Members)	
Joel & Joan Weisblatt	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Norman & Jeanne Schechter	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Harry & Kristina Wise	Harvey Tesser Building Fund
Edward & Susan Krisiloff	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Natalie & Richard London	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Frank & Carol Jones	Harvey Tesser Memorial Fund
Marc & Harlene Rosenberg	Tesser Mem Building Fund
The members of Kol Ahova including Jeff Israel, Nicole Sakowitz, Debbie Freedman & pianist Teresa Musial	Harvey Tesser Memorial Building Fund in memory of Harvey Tesser
Joseph & Diane Wions	Harvey Tesser Memorial Bldg Fund
Michael Kalison & Deborah Lampf	H. Tesser Building Fund
Charles & Thelma Canty	Harvey Tesser
Michael Arons	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Sokel Family	Harvey Tesser Building Fund
Robert & Peggy Fass	Harvey Tesser Bldg Fund
Belle Mead Dental Group Dr. Mark Lubitz	Harvey J. Tesser Mem Build Fund
Robert Eckardt & Jane Shapiro Eckardt	H. Tesser Building Fund
Fridkis Family	In memory of Harvey Tesser Harvey Tesser Mem Building Fund
Kenneth & Janet Burns	Building Fund in memory of Dr. Harvey Tesser

Donations to the Tesser Building Fund (Non-Members)	
Heidi Dreyfuss Belle Mead, NJ	In memory of Harvey J. Tesser
Bill, Kathy & Chris Witwer Skillman, NJ	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Frank & Rosalee Yurasko Bridgewater, NJ	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Richard Ehrmann Monmouth Junction, NJ	In memory of Dr. Harvey Tesser
Robert & Constance Abodeely Skillman, NJ	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Elaine & Stephen Shapiro Belle Mead, NJ	In loving memory of Harvey Tesser
Brian & Sharon Oloughlin Kendall Park, NJ	Tesser Memorial Fund
Marion & Jack Romer Princeton, NJ	In memory of Dr. Harvey Tesser
Sally E. Spener El Paso, TX	Harvey J. Tesser Memorial Building Fund
Philip & Anita Pearlman Aventura, FL	In memory of my cousin Harvey Tesser
Marshall & Mary Palmoski Belle Mead, NJ	In memory of Dr. Harvey J. Tesser
Carl & Diane Spalding Boston, MA	In memory of Dr. Harvey J. Tesser

D. Bruce & Catherine Windom Belle Mead, NJ	Building Fund Dr. Tesser
Robert J. Dileo Piscataway, NJ	Memory Dr. Tesser
Walter & Marcia Wilkes Mt. Holly, NJ	Harvey J. Tesser Memorial Building Fund
Wade & Lee Ann Martin Belle Mead, NJ	A memorial contribution for Harvey Tesser
Gerald & Kathrine Siegel Belle Mead, NJ	Memorial contribution-Harvey Tesser
Terrence M. Hurley Princeton, NJ	In memory of Dr. Harvey Tesser
Michael & Wendy Greenstein Woodstock, NY	In memory of Dr. Harvey Tesser for the Building Fund
Gerald & Lois Staffin Watchung, NJ	Harvey Tesser Building Fund
Arthur & Shirley Martin Belle Mead, NJ	In memory of Harvey Tesser, a dear friend.
Glenn & Tanya Beyer Miami, Florida	Harvey Tesser Memorial Fund
David & Ann Violette Belle Mead, NJ	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Peter Miller & Jacqueline Schreiber Princeton, NJ	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Burton & Viski Bauman Princeton, NJ	Harvey Tesser Mem Building Fund
Andrew & Majorie Glincher Sharon, MA	In memory of Harvey Tesser
The Rieurs Belle Mead, NJ	In memory of our cousin Harvey J. Tesser
Rhonda (aka Ronnie Cohen) & Mac Cohen Roslyn, NY	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Raritan Valley Country Club Bridgewater, NJ	In memory of Harvey Tesser
Thomas & Maureen Moritz Kendall Park, NJ	In memory of Dr. Harvey Tesser
Howard & Deborah Weinberg Wayne, NJ	In memory of Dr. Harvey Tesser
Michael & Rosemary Mraz Belle Mead, NJ	Memorial - Harvey Tesser
The Markey Family Flemington, NJ	In memory of Dr. Harvey Tesser
SCS Commodities Corp New York, NY	In memory of Dr. Harvey Tesser
Frank P. Colpini Hillsborough, NJ	Harvey J. Tesser Mem Fund
Victor & Joan Kevorkian Princeton, NJ	Harvey J. Tesser Mem Build Fund
Roland Heatherington Belle Mead, NJ	Harvey J. Tesser Mem Build Fund



JEWISH LIFE PRESENTS PROGRAM ON CATHOLIC CHURCH
AT THE TIME OF THE HOLOCAUST
SUNDAY, APRIL 3 AT SHIMON AND SARA BIRNBAUM JCC

Bridgewater, N.J.- Jewish LIFE (Learning Is For Everyone) is sponsoring a program about the Catholic Church at the time of the Holocaust on Sunday, April 3 at 10 a.m. at the Shimon and Sara Birnbaum Jewish Community Center (JCC), 775 Talamini Road in Bridgewater. Dr. Carol Rittner, RSM, is a Roman Catholic nun and is Distinguished Professor of Holocaust & Genocide Studies at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. She will present a program looking at Pope Pius XII, the man, and what kind of Catholic Church existed at the time of the Holocaust. Dr. Rittner addresses questions of whether Pope Pius XII could have curbed the Holocaust by vigorously condemning the Nazi killing of Jews and whether fierce criticism of the Catholic Church during World War II are fair.

The fee for the program is \$10 for Jewish LIFE members and \$15 for guests and includes a bagel breakfast. To register or to receive further information about the program, contact Laura Friedman, JCC Assistant Executive Director, at 908-725-6994 x213, or e-mail LFriedman@ssbjcc.org. Visit the JCC website at www.ssbjcc.org and go to the Jewish LIFE page.

**OHR TIKVAH JEWISH HEALING
CENTER**

Somerset * Hunterdon * Warren Counties



SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 17!

Coming Events:

**Pesach: Festival of Inner
Liberation**

Tuesday, April 12, 7:30 PM

Rabbi Mendy Herson, spiritual leader of Chabad of Greater Somerset County, will help us prepare for Pesach as we explore what imprisons us in our lives and how we can leave our own *mitzrayim*.

**Caring for Loved Ones with Eating Disorders:
Practical and Spiritual Strategies**

Sunday, April 17, 7:00 to 9:00 PM

No fee/ Donations welcomed

Ira Sacker, M.D., FAAP, founder and director of HEED Foundation (Helping End Eating Disorders) and author of *DYING TO BE THIN – Understanding and Defeating Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia – A Practical, Lifesaving Guide*, will give a talk on eating disorders and positive body image. Nationally recognized for his work in this area, Dr. Sacker is the director of the Brookdale University Hospital Eating Disorders Center and chief of adolescent medicine at Brookdale Hospital.

Leading the discussion session will be Associate **Rabbi Kim Geringer** of Temple Har Shalom and **Dr. Leslie Becker-Phelps**, a clinical psychologist trained in dealing with eating

disorders. They will address the Jewish spiritual issues and psycho-social issues and lead breakout sessions for participants to share their experiences and pose questions.

**For Wellness: Drumming a Path to Your Soul and
Community**

Sunday, April 17, 3:30 to 5:00 PM

Instructor: David Malchman - Fee: \$5.00

This program was a hit in March!! Join our circle of friends this month. It's fun! It's easy! Instruments are provided.

For Wellness: Stitching Through Time

Thursday, April 14, April 28, May 12, May 26:

7:30 to 9:00 PM - Instructor: Rena Strool - Fee: \$5

The popularity of working with yarn crosses age, gender and levels of experience. All are welcome to join our knitting circle to schmooze, nosh, create, learn, support and relax. We will work on inter-related projects that everyone will be able to accomplish. Feel free to select and bring your own yarns and hooks/needles. Call Ohr Tikvah to get a list of supplies. We will provide for those who may not have these materials. Beginners do not fear! Instruction will be near!

**HOAGLAND, LONGO, MORAN, DUNST & DOUKAS, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

JOAN ALSTER WEISBLATT

40 Paterson Street, Box 480

Tel: (732) 545-4717

New Brunswick, NJ 08903

Fax: (732) 545-4579

E-Mail: Joan_Weisblatt@HoaglandLongo.com

Invitations by Sharon

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS • WEDDINGS
BAR & BAT MITZVAHS
SIGN-INS & ACCESSORIES
HOLIDAY CARDS • STATIONERY
ONE STOP PARTY PLANNING



TOP DISCOUNTS

SHARON BERRY
TEL: (908) 369-8470
FAX: (908) 369-1368

87 BEECHWOOD CIRCLE
HILLSBOROUGH, NJ 08844



BORDERS

Bridgewater Commons

908-231-0111

Borders Books & Music

Sponsor of the JCCBM Bookfair



Youth Group News

January's blizzard cancelled the JCCBM's youth group day at the movies on January 23rd, but the other scheduled events went off without a hitch. The Regional Reconstructionist Youth Group met mid-month for a tikken olam project and the pre-teens had another pizza party. Look below for information about these events and the upcoming March activities.

JCCBM YOUTH GROUP

Barring another blizzard or other unknown obstacle the JCCBM Youth Group will have had a sleep-over at the synagogue on Saturday, February 19th. They can look forward to an evening havdalah service, dinner, a movie or two, and lots of time to socialize. Who knows, maybe they will even clear out the back room to prepare for the next day's painting bonanza? The teens will be chaperoned by Kate Fridkis. Much thanks to Kate, who willingly gave up her weekend to chaperone this event. Did anyone get any sleep?

SAVE THE DATE: March 19th, Saturday evening. In the planning stages now is an evening of laser tag. Please hold the evening open for a rollicking game of laser tag at one of the nearby laser parks. Details will follow via email and list serve. As always, we're looking for chaperones for this event. Call or email if you are available.

REGIONAL RECONSTRUCTIONIST YOUTH GROUP

The Regional Reconstructionist Youth Group met on Sunday morning, February 13th, at The Lord's Table soup kitchen in Trenton. The Lord's Table soup kitchen meets twice a month offering those in need a home cooked meal. Every two weeks an organization volunteers for the two part process. One group prepares a meal and the other groups sets up, serves, and cleans up. The RRYG volunteered for the latter. They set the tables, brought trays to each table and served chili, corn bread, salad, and dessert to the clients, and cleaned up from lunch. While waiting for the guests to arrive, they created Valentine's Day cards for the residents of an area assisted living facility. One of the youth group members commented that, "It was a new experience. It was a good thing to do and I would do it again. I recommend other people do it too." The youth group was also encouraged to bring toiletry items and gently used winter clothes. They came loaded with the above plus armfuls of donated bread and baked goods from ShopRite and Panera. The diners were not only served a hearty lunch, but many left with a supply of needed food and much appreciated winter clothing. Mazel tov to those of you who participated in this worthwhile event. Thanks to the parents who drove their teens and Josh who organized the event.

SAVE THE DATE: March 6. The next Regional Reconstructionist Youth Group event will take place on March 6 in the evening. It looks like it will be some sort of party at a local spot. Josh will email details to the youth group members.

SAVE THE DATE: April 1-2. Noar Hadash regional Kallah-Shabbaton at Camp Pinemere. Details will follow.

SAVE THE DATE: April 9 - Saturday evening. Yuri Lane concert

PRE-TEEN EVENTS

The 2nd Wednesday of the month is pizza time for the pre-teen set. Thanks once again to Andrea Bradley for purchasing the pizza and drinks for this fun evening of socializing after Hebrew School.

SAVE THE DATES: The second Wednesday evening of each month from 7:00 -8:00

MARCH 9 - This pizza social will be coordinated by Lori Konkowski. Thanks, Lori, for stepping in to make this happen for the children.

APRIL 13th - pizza social

May 11th - final pizza party

Shalom,

Karen Fridkis, youth group chair

kfridkis@comcast.net


ATTENTION: 8th GRADE STUDENTS

NEW THIS SEMESTER ONLY - A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY JUST FOR YOU

SUNDAYS 11:00 to noon

Starting in February students in the 8th grade are invited to join Rabbi Tayvah each Sunday morning from 11:00 to noon for a lively hour of discussion. This class promises to be an exciting peek into the wide world of Jewish education. Rabbi Tayvah has a wealth of information to share. Plus, he is rumored to possess an extraordinary number of Hebrew pop, hip hop, and klezmer CDs, which adds a distinct musical flavor to the experience. Take an hour out of your busy week at a reasonable time on Sunday mornings. Come to spend an hour with other 8th grade teens from our congregation. Come to join in discussions about current events, ethics, Jewish culture, spirituality, Torah, Jewish holidays, etc. Come and broaden your horizons in this important area of your young adult life.

Then in September, join the other teens in their weekly Hebrew High class. Come!



BORDERS®
Bridgewater Commons
908-231-0111
Borders Books & Music
Sponsor of the JCCBM Bookfair

cont'd from page 1

Meanwhile, of course, it's incredibly beautiful up here. We have a house that must have been first lived in by an architect -- big windows on the southern exposure, very small ones to the north, and unbelievable picture windows in the living room, which faces south and look out over an amazing view. I love the cold, and Disney, bless her, does very well in the ice. This winter has been pretty wimpy, as Vermont winters go, but it's still colder than NJ. We finally got some snow in March. Before that, NJ had more snow than Vermont.

Some amazing things about Vermont, if you're used to more metropolitan areas: There is only one area code in the whole state. I no longer have to give my area code to people every time I tell them my phone number. (It's 802-279-7195, if you'd like to call.) Montpelier is tiny, so any address in Montpelier is 10 minutes away at the most. I live 1.1 miles from the shul, which is 4 minutes by car. Montpelier is also incredibly hilly, which was a little scary at first. (If I could bicycle, it would take about two minutes to get to the shul and an hour to come home -- it's down a steep hill.) I love the casualness of the culture. A couple of days ago I saw two women in high heels, and I realized I hadn't seen high heels for months. Ditto make-up. I can lead services in blue jeans and a decent sweater and feel completely comfortable. I love it.

Sheri and Cory are doing well. Sheri and I got a civil union last fall -- no ceremony, just a signature on a form. We'd had a ceremony years ago, and if we'd had another it would have felt to both of us that the first one was somehow less valid. But it's the form that makes it official, and it feels very good. Cory turned 4 in December, so he's definitely a little boy and not a baby any more. The pre-school he goes to is great for him. He likes playing in the snow, but he doesn't particularly like the cold, so he doesn't stay out there very long. He's still into trucks and spiders.

So here we are. I'd love to hear from people. My phone number is above, and my email address is rabshana@sover.net. If you're planning a trip to Vermont, let me know -- it would be great to see you.

B'Shalom,

Shana, Sheri, and Cory



The JCCBM Gift Shop
is open each Sunday
10 am - 11 am

Questions?
Call Peggy Fass 609-466-0146
or Harlene Rosenberg 908-874-8283



Tree of Life

Purchase a leaf for \$54
to celebrate a *simcha!*
Each leaf includes
three lines of engraving.

Contact Shelley Nord
908-874-8464

KinderCapers

Now in its 12th full year, the JCCBM's non-sectarian pre-school for children 2-1/2 to 5 years old, offers a unique atmosphere, giving children a chance to explore, create, and, most importantly, learn to think and reason.

For more information, call
908 359-0160.



TIPS ON TRIPS and CAMPS

*A free consulting service specializing in
Overnight camps and programs for ages 8 - 18*

HELAINÉ ISAACS

609-497-3434 hh.isaacs@verizon.net

GREAT SUMMERS HAPPEN BY CHOICE,
NOT CHANCE!



APRIL 2005



What are blessings for if not to be shared?

What's going on at the JCC of Belle Mead, NJ?


April 2005

21 Adar II 5765 - 21 Nisan 5765

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 21 Adar II 6:06PM Shabbat @ Acorn Glen 5 PM Singing & Story-telling Kabbalat Shabbat worship service 7 pm Noa'r Hadash national youth group Shul-in @ Or Hadash, Ft. Washington, PA	2 22 Adar II 7:10PM Shemini: Lev. 9.1-10.7 Shabbat Parah Num. 19.1-22. Ezekiel 36.16-38 Noa'r Hadash national youth group Shul-in @ Or Hadash, Ft. Washington, PA
3 23 Adar II Leeba"h School 8:30 - 10:30 AM, 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM	4 24 Adar II	5 25 Adar II	6 26 Adar II Leeba"h School 5 - 7 PM Youth Education committee 7:30 PM	7 27 Adar II	8 28 Adar II 7:13PM Shabbat @ Acorn Glen 5 PM "Food for Thought" Kabbalat Shabbat Worship service 7:45 PM	9 29 Adar II 8:18PM Tazria: Lev. 12.1-13.17 Shabbat Hahodesh Exo. 12.1-20. Ezekiel 45.18-46.18 9:30 AM Shaharit service - Danica Price's Bat Mitzvah celebration 7:15 PM Yuri Lane concert RRYG
10 1 Nisan ROSH HODESH Num. 28.1-15. Leeba"h School 8:30 - 10:30 AM, 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM	11 2 Nisan	12 3 Nisan	13 4 Nisan Leeba"h School 5 - 7 PM	14 5 Nisan	15 6 Nisan 7:21PM Shabbat @ Acorn Glen 5 PM Musical Kabbalat Shabbat worship Service & honoring the month's birthdays & anniversaries 7:00 pm 4th garde service	16 7 Nisan 8:25PM Metzora: Levit. 14.1-32 II Kings 7.3-20.
17 8 Nisan Leeba"h School 8:30 - 10:30 AM, 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM MS Walk JCCBM youth group	18 9 Nisan	19 10 Nisan Board of Trustees meeting 7:30 PM	20 11 Nisan Leeba"h School 5 - 7 PM	21 12 Nisan	22 13 Nisan 7:28PM Shabbat @ Acorn Glen 5 PM -- Kabbalat Shabbat worship service 7:45 pm	23 14 Nisan 8:32PM/7:32PM EREV PASSOVER Ahare Mot: Lev. 16.1-24 Shabbat Hagadol Malachi 3.4-24. FIRST SEDER NIGHT
24 15 Nisan 8:33PM PASSOVER I Exo. 12.21-51; Num. 28.16-25. Joshua 5.2-15 No Leeba"h school	25 16 Nisan 1 L'Omer 8:34PM HOL HAMOED PASSOVER I Lev. 22.26-23.44; Num. 28.19-25.	26 17 Nisan 2 L'Omer HOL HAMOED PASSOVER II Exo. 13.1-16; Num. 28.19-25.	27 18 Nisan 3 L'Omer HOL HAMOED PASSOVER III Exo. 22.24-23.19; Num 28.19-25. No Leeba"h school	28 19 Nisan 4 L'Omer HOL HAMOED PASSOVER IV Exo. 34.1-26; Num. 28.19-25.	29 20 Nisan 5 L'Omer 7:35PM HOL HAMOED PASSOVER V Num. 9.1-14, 28.19-25.	30 21 Nisan 6 L'Omer 8:39PM PASSOVER VII (YIZKOR) Exo. 13.17-15.26; Num. 28.19-25. II Samuel 22.1-20

[;Candle Lighting, §Observance End. Times are for Belle Mead, NJ]

Committee Chairs	
Committee	Chair
Adult Education	Rabbi Michael Tayvah 908-359-0420 Rabbi.JCCBM@Earthlink.net
B'nai Mitzvah	Meryl Orlando 732-329-8945
Board of Trustees <i>3rd Tues.</i>	Ed Krisloff 908-359-0560
Building/Grounds/Decor	Andy Sokel 609-466-8749 Andsok@aol.com
By-Laws	Victor Elgort 908-874-8535 vselgort@nmmlaw.com
Education <i>1st Wed.</i>	Karen Fridkis 609-333-1119
Finance	Joan Weisblatt 908-874-3529
Fund Raising	VACANT ☹
Hospitality	Natalie London 908-874-6952
Life Cycle	Sheryl Rosenberg 908-253-7049 swellcourt@verizon.net
Long Range Planning	VACANT ☹
Membership	Hy Grossman 609-466-3859 Sharon Casper 609-430-0421 Debbie Tesser 908-904-0457
Men's Club	Bob Fass 609-466-0146
Newsletter	Karen Bartels 609-921-1811 karen.bartels@verizon.net
Nursery School	Debbie Lampf 908-466-4165 Peggy Fass 609-466-0146
Publicity	Janis Todd 609-799-8384
Religion <i>4th Tues.</i>	VACANT ☹
Sisterhood	Judy Edelson 908- 281-4293
Social/Activities	VACANT ☹
Technology	Barry Kirsch 908-359-7872
Tikkun Olam	VACANT ☹
Tree of Life Donations	Shelley Nord 908-874-8464
Youth Activities	Karen Fridkis 609-333-1119



CORPORATE GRAPHICS INC.
OFFICIAL PRINTER OF THE JCCBM NEWSLETTER

- DIGITAL COLOR COPYING • FULL COLOR PRINTING •
- FULL BINDERY • DIGITAL HIGH SPEED COPYING •
- FEATURING WIRE-O BINDING •

PHONE (908) 725-0600 FAX (908) 725-3737
170 ROUTE 206 SOUTH • HILLSBOROUGH, NJ 08844

© 2005 by JCCBM. All rights reserved. Permission required for reuse.

The JCCBM Newsletter is published monthly, except July. Deadline is the 15th of each month.
Every effort will be made to publish contributed items, but due to space restrictions, placement and format are at the discretion of the editor.
Advertising Policy. You can advertise in this newsletter to inform the community of your business or profession. Advertising is accepted based on its interest and applicability to our readership. Location in the newsletter is at the editor's discretion. The JCCBM does not necessarily endorse or vouch for the products and services of our advertisers. The newsletter is published 11 times per year (no issue in July). E-mail a file with the art to the editor, or provide camera-ready art on clean, white background. Advertiser responsibility to meet deadlines. Rates are low and must be paid in advance. For information and a rate sheet, please contact the editor.



The Newsletter of Jewish Community Center of Belle Mead

253 Griggstown Road, Belle Mead, NJ 08502

<http://www.jccbm.org>

Listserve e-mail: jccbm@lists.princeton.edu

Fulfilling the religious, educational and social needs of our Jewish community since 1982.

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Belle Mead, NJ 08502
Permit No. 11

Inside the Newsletter	
Page 1	President's Message/News from Rabbi Margolin
Page 2	Committee Happenings
Page 3	Donations
Page 4	Hebrew School Happenings
Page 5	From the Rabbi
Page 6	Donations in honor off Harvey Tesser
Page 7	Donations in honor off Harvey Tesser
Page 8	Jewish Community News
Page 9	Youth Group News
Page 10	News from Rabbi Margolin cont'd
Page 11	JCCBM calendar

April 2005

Deadline for next newsletter: **April 15th**