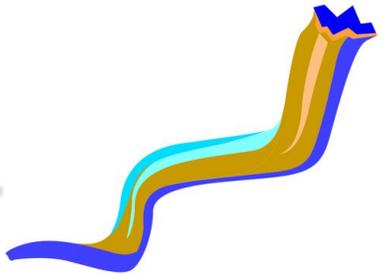


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Mishkan Torah Trumpet



Published by Mishkan Torah Synagogue, Greenbelt, Maryland

May 2010

HAIL TO THE CHIEFS!



Fourteen Mishkan Torah Presidents attended the Gala celebration in their honor on April 25. From left to right: Arnold Strasser, Stanley Forster, Ralph Mollerick, Gary Kohn, David Herschler, Steven Mirsky, Linda Spevack, Anthony Kritt, David Spevack, Mark Silverstein, Jordan Choper, Rober Goldberg-Strassler, David Stern, and Paul Architzel. (More on page 12) Photo by Janet Mirsky

SECURITY AWARENESS IS PRESIDENT'S FOCUS

by Steven Mirsky

Dear Friends,

Lately, news headlines have been full of senseless violent acts such as the shootings at the Pentagon and Ohio State University. Synagogues and Jewish Organizations worldwide continue to be subject to vandalism, fire, theft, and worse (e.g. the Holocaust Museum).

What can we do to ensure the safety and security of our Mishkan Torah community? The answer is that, just as we rely on volunteers for many functions in operating and maintaining our synagogue and school, so can we together

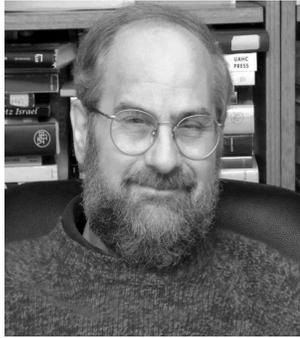
keep Mishkan Torah safe and secure. I have listed some suggestions to promote safety.

- If you notice suspicious persons repeatedly photographing, or sketching details of our building, call the Police.
- If you see unoccupied vehicles parked in front of Mishkan Torah on Ridge Road or in the fire lane for any period of time with no explanation, call the Police.
- If you enter the building and hear an alarm or smell smoke, immediately leave the building and call the Police.

Continued on page 4

RABBI PRAISES LATE POLISH PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT TO JEWISH COMMUNITY

As many of you already know, on April 10 a plane carrying President Lech Kaczynski and dozens of other Polish officials crashed near Smolensk, Russia. They were on their way to the



Katyn Forest to attend a ceremony marking the seventieth anniversary of the mass murder of some 20,000 Polish army officers who were slaughtered at the order of the Soviet dictator, Josef Stalin. This was not to be President Kaczynski's first visit to a site that figures hugely

in the collective memory of the Polish people. Two years ago, he brought along Poland's current chief rabbi. There, the politician insisted on showing the cleric a memorial plaque erected for Rabbi Baruch Steinberg, the Polish army's World War II-era chief rabbi, who was murdered with all the others.

Examples of the late president's dedication to Poland's small Jewish community and to Israel read like the refrain of the Passover seder song *Dayeinu*: "It would have been enough if ..." As mayor of Warsaw before winning the presidency in 2005, Kaczynski donated public land and money for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, scheduled to open in 2012. In 2008, as president, he restored Polish citizenship to the 15,000 Jews exiled in 1968 by Poland's Communist government in the throes of an anti-Semitic frenzy. Kaczynski was among Europe's top political supporters of Israel. Israel's former ambassador to Poland, David Peleg, has noted that Kaczynski lobbied against the Goldstone report criticizing Israel for its actions in the 2009 Gaza war. He also upgraded military, economic, and cultural cooperation between Israel and Poland. He was the first head of state to visit Israel after the 2006 Lebanon War, and he expressed clear sympathy with Israeli concerns over Iran, saying that "some regimes understand only force."

Lech Kaczynski opposed anti-Semitism by emphasizing the shared history of Jews and Poles. Of course, as any Jew who lived in Poland between the world wars can attest, anti-Semitism has a long and inglorious history in Poland. But it was not always that way. Jewish settlers first came to Poland in the early 1200's as refugees from the Crusades and the other persecutions that plagued the Jews in medieval western Europe. Because Poland was one of the last countries in Europe to adopt Christianity, during much of this the Church was not yet strong enough to prevent social or personal relations between the local populace and the Jews. As a result, for several hundred years the Jews of Poland enjoyed a Golden Age. A royal charter granted them the right to engage in commerce, trades and the independent professions. The same charter also defended their personal and property rights, and granted them the right to conduct their internal affairs in accord with Jewish law and tradition.



Poland's President Lech Kaczynski, left, passes a lit candle to the country's chief rabbi, Michael Schudrich, right, as Israel's Culture attaché, Alon Simhayoff, center, looks on during a Hanukkah celebration in Warsaw in 2008. Kaczynski's visit to the Nozyk Synagogue marked the first time that a Polish president visited a synagogue in his country during an actual religious service.

Photo and caption by AP

Furthermore, Jews enjoyed equality before the royal courts and the freedom to move wherever they liked within the territories of the kingdom.

Continued on page 3

LESSONS IN POLISH-JEWISH HISTORY . . . from page 2

By 1650, 450,000 of Europe's 550,000 Jews resided in the Polish-Lithuanian kingdom, making it one of the most vital and significant Jewish communities in existence between the expulsion from Spain in 1492 and World War II.

There is even a legend that holds that King Casimir the Great fell passionately in love with a Jewish woman, appropriately named Esther. Whatever the truth of this legend, it reflects the reality of mixed marriages in the early days. As in any frontier society, the first Jews in Poland were mostly single men who had emigrated from more established communities. Upon arriving in Poland, they set up small workshops and businesses which employed local Slavic slaves. In the normal course of affairs these men desired to found families. By Jewish law, after seven years they were required to free their slaves. Often the owner, when his female slave continued working with him after her release, proposed that she remain with him as his wife and undertake the management of the household as an equal partner, all on condition that she convert to Judaism. (This could also explain why so many Jews from this region have blond hair and blue eyes.)

Clearly, the picture was not all rosy. Marriages between Jewish men and Polish women aroused the anger of the church authorities who consistently strove to prevent Jews from participating in the life of the general community. (Even today, one of the most viciously anti-Jewish voices in Poland is that of the renegade Catholic radio station Radio Maryja.) When the Black Death ravaged much of Europe in 1348, Jews were accused of poisoning the wells, and those in at least some of the cities were slaughtered. In 1648, the Ukrainian Cossacks under Bogdan Chmielnicki rebelled against the Polish aristocracy. Many of the magnates escaped; so the Cossacks diverted their wrath to the Jewish traders who often managed the landlords' estates. Tens of thousands of Jews were massacred.

During the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Poland disappeared as a state and the bulk of its Jews sank into the poverty that many fled to America to escape. These poorer Jews had little if any contact with Polish culture. They lived in a closed off Yiddish-speaking, Orthodox world. But some Jews did maintain a precarious hold on a middle class standard of living life and a European outlook on life. Such Jews were drawn to Polish culture and the Polish language. It was members of this class who fought alongside Polish Christians to liberate the country from its Russian occupiers in 1794, in 1831, in 1863 and again during the First World War. Such Jews took comfort from the views of a few Polish intellectuals, notably the poet Adam Mickiewicz, who hoped and worked for the same event. The slogan "for our and your freedom" had considerable influence within the Polish-Jewish intelligentsia by the end of the nineteenth century.

But the rise of Polish national fervor, accompanied by the development of a Polish middle class, tended to embitter Polish-Jewish relations. The founding of the National Democratic Party in 1897 was symptomatic of the growing anti-Semitism of the period. The economic and political roots of this anti-Semitism were clearly expressed in 1912, when the Jews' active support of a Socialist candidate in an election in Warsaw resulted in a boycott of Jewish businesses by the National Democrats.

On the eve of World War I relations between Poles and Jews were strained to the utmost. Jewish life in Poland between the wars was characterized by both cultural dynamism and economic and political conflict. Beginning in the late 1920s, as the Depression hit Poland with particular severity, popular discrimination such as economic boycotts, attacks on students at the universities, and quotas in some liberal professions resulted in a desperate situation for many Jews.

Continued on page 4

SECURITY CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT . . . from page 1

- If you observe any individuals enter or leave the synagogue or school building through windows or doors that are damaged, call the Police.
- If you observe any individuals pacing outside the synagogue during services, call the Police.
- If a person who is acting suspiciously enters our building, don't confront him or her, but leave the premises and call the Police.
- If a strange size, shape, stained, or poorly addressed (with no return address) package is left in front of Mishkan Torah, leave the area and call the police.
- If you hear or witness windows being broken, don't confront the person(s) you may have observed, but do call the Police.
- If you answer a telephone call at MT that is a verbal threat or warning, be courteous and calm, write down as much information as you can, and pay attention to the caller's voice and background sounds. After the call has ended, call the Police. Please do not hesitate to call the Police.

The Greenbelt Police emergency phone number is: 301-474-5454.

Yes, it may turn out that what you observed was indeed a member doing something legitimate for our synagogue, but better to make an erroneous report than to have a potentially dangerous situation go unchecked.

When you are attending a synagogue function, you can also help keep us secure. When you first open the building, do a quick surveillance of the lobby, the sanctuary, and the office to make sure nothing is out of place. During the event, keep an eye out for strangers entering the building; someone needs to ascertain why they are there.

When the event is over, please clean the areas you used. Lights off, kitchen clear of food crumbs, garbage outside, heat turned down/ac turned up. Check all doors and windows, and set the alarm properly. Pay attention to what your brain is telling you; it sees more than your eyes. We can all help to keep our beloved Mishkan Torah safe and secure for all of its members.

KACZYNSKI'S LEGACY IS SIGNIFICANT FOR JEWS AND FOR ISRAEL . . . from page 3

Though no outright anti-Semitic legislation was enacted in Poland, as it was elsewhere in Eastern Europe at the time, the Polish government did not oppose economic discrimination against the Jews. In the second half of the 1930s, physical attacks against Jews became more frequent, with pogroms occurring in various towns from 1935 until the first half of 1938, when the government began to clamp down on the violence. Some 90% of Poland's 3 and a half million Jews perished in the *Shoah*.

Kaczynski Was the First...

It is in this context that Lech Kaczynski will be remembered. He was the first Polish president to attend a service at a Polish synagogue, the first to celebrate Chanukah at the presidential palace. On the day of his funeral, mourners packed Warsaw's Nozyk Synagogue, while some 100,000 Poles filled the nearby streets as the president's coffin passed by in a procession. It was one of the great ironies of

Polish history that a nationalistic, ultra-conservative Catholic who may have counted some anti-Semites as his supporters was a pivotal figure in the post-Communist healing of grudges that have so long divided Poles and Jews. Kaczynski's death, as tragic as it may be, is not likely to set back Polish-Jewish or Polish-Israeli relations, insiders say.

Prime Minister Also an Ally

The role of president is largely ceremonial in Poland; the government is run by the prime minister, currently Donald Tusk. Tusk and his cabinet are considered allies of Israel and the United States, and are friendly to Jewish concerns. "Fifteen years ago, such a calamity would have serious repercussion, but today relations are well established," said Andrzej Zozula, executive director of the Union of Jewish Communities in Poland. "The interests of all are more important than one man, even a person such as Mr. Kaczynski."

SISTERHOOD SAYS . . .

by Irene Spector

The April 17 and 18 theater events, featuring performances of Here's Julius and Nicole Burton's Fred and Frieda, were wonderful, and although Sid and I were unable to attend we have heard that both performances were well-received and were a great way to spend a weekend in the spring.

Sunday, May 2 - Seventh Annual Vintage

Jewelry Sale. Just in time for Mother's Day. Call Eva Choper for details and to offer your help.

Thursday, May 27 - There is a change in plans and we will be enjoying a vegetarian dairy dinner, no charge, thanks to Alyce Strasser. Don't fret, ice cream may be available, too. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7. We will be collecting small sample-size toiletries for the Women's Shelter. Also, we will be playing some ice-breaker games to complete the evening. See you there!

Sunday, June 13 - Debbie Brenner has arranged for a lovely luncheon as we also enjoy a sightseeing boat ride out of Baltimore. Watch for precise details and RSVP quickly as only 50 places have been reserved.

Our thoughts are with Eva Garin whose mother Sonia suffered a fall and is in the good hands of Eva and family, Sonia's caregivers. We wish her a speedy recovery.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Mitzvah Cards: Call Becky Hirsch at 301 345-4029 for her always speedy, efficient service.

Catering: Alyce Strasser our catering maven at 301-441-1353 who is always ready to help as you plan your *simcha*.

Gift Shop: Call Alyce Strasser (after 10:30 a.m. please) to arrange an appointment for you to choose from a beautiful selection of jewelry, ceramics, glassware, and ritual objects for any special occasion.

RHYME TIME

The flowers are all a-bloom, the bees are busy too
Our Sisterhood calendar is filled to the brim with many activities to do:
An election, a dinner a donor boat ride all listed here
As we come to the end of a very busy year.
For the May election - one thing more
Please see the Slate of Candidates - April Trumpet on page four.

Q: What happens when you put the Mishkan Torah Men's Club into the kitchen?

A: Mother's Day Pancake (and Matzah Brei!) Breakfast, that's what!

Q: Where will this breakfast be?

A: Mishkan Torah, 10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD.

Q: When?

A: Sunday, May 9, 2010, at 10:30 a.m.

Q: Do I have to be a Mother to participate?

A: Not at all. All women are welcome!



For more information, call 301-474-4223

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1 <i>Shabbat Emor</i>		9:30 a.m.
2 <i>Lag B'Omer</i> + Vintage Jewelry Sale		
7 <i>Erev Shabbat</i> Family Services		7:30 p.m.
8 <i>Shabbat Behar/Bechukotai</i>		9:30 a.m.
9 Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast		10:30 a.m.
12 <i>Yom Yerushalayim</i>		
14 <i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services		8 p.m.
15 <i>Shabbat Bamidbar; Keter Shem Tov</i> Honors the Spectors		9:30 a.m.
18 <i>Erev Shavuot (Tikkun Leil Shavuot – All-Night Study)</i>		10 p.m.
19 First Day of <i>Shavuot</i> – Sunrise <i>Shacharit</i>		Sunrise!
20 Second Day of <i>Shavuot</i> ; Traditional Service – <i>Yizkor</i> Recited		9:30 a.m.
21 <i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services		8 p.m.
22 <i>Shabbat Naso</i>		9:30 a.m.
28 <i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services		8 p.m.
29 <i>Shabbat Beha'alotecha</i>		9:30 a.m.
31 Memorial Day observed		

MAY YAHRZEITS

May 7

Lloyd T. Darr
Marilyn Haber
Joan Schabb
Dr. Louis Fishkind
Dr. Hans Wodak*
Jerry Silverman*
Jacob Shapiro

May 14

Bernice Gloria
Silverstein*

Till Bergemann*
Anna Rose
Seymour Kaplan*
George Koss*
Joseph Valoris
Ben Herman*
Louis Lieberman*
Michael Sokal
Sylvia Schoenberg*
Lillian Englander
Greenbaum*

Isaac Yedid*

May 21

Abe Chasanow*
Murray Daniel
Shapiro*
Jennie Migdal
Moshe Josef Carmel*
Harry Morton
Sarah Kirschenbaum*
Sarah Chasnoff*
Ruth M. Rosen*

Esther Krasnick

May 28

Fanny Phillips*
Rose Epstein*
Terry Neveleff
Morris Milgram
Jacob Kramer*
Abraham Schwartz*
Bertha Schwartz*
Ida Brown

JUNE PREVIEW

4 <i>Erev Shabbat</i> Family Services		7:30 p.m.
5 <i>Shabbat Shelach Lecha</i>		9:30 a.m.
11 <i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services		8 p.m.
12 <i>Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Tammuz (Parshat Korach)</i>		9:30 a.m.
18 <i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services		8 p.m.
19 <i>Shabbat Chukat</i>		9:30 a.m.
20 Father's Day		
25 <i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services		8 p.m.
26 <i>Shabbat Balak</i>		9:30 a.m.
29 Fast of 17th of <i>Tammuz</i>		

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS

Yahrzeits

Mona Baumgarten for Reuven Baumgarten
 Jan Bloom for Harry & Marcella Levine
 Judy Briskman for Harry & Marcella Levine
 Jerry & Yvonne Brodsky for Beatrice Brodsky
 Gladys Chasnoff for Abe Chasnoff
 Leonard & Rhea Cohen for David Cohen
 Joel Cohen & Ethel Harris for William Harris
 Dottie & Cary Finder for Reva Finder
 Shalom Fisher for Ethel Fisher
 Ira Kalfus for Hannah Kalfus
 Steve, Janet, & Rachel Mirsky for Fay Mirsky
 Alan Orenstein for Hilda Barren
 Raphael, Susette & Billy Panitz for Esther Panitz
 Claire Rogal for Dorothy Sura Rogal
 Marsha Salzberg for Mollie Schlosser
 Ina Shapiro for Benjamin Gordon
 Irene & Sid Spector for Richard Bruce Axelrod
 Linda & Dave Spevack for Gert Spevack & Joseph
 Shander
 Diane & Mort Tuckman for Esther & Isaac Yedid
 Carol Valoris for Lillian Valoris

High Holiday President's Club

Richard Cember
 Beth & Phillip Williams

Bima Fund

Laurie Siegel in memory of Lorraine Siegel

Sustaining Fund

Ira Kalfus in honor of Rae Brooks

In Honor of Nadine Wobus for Judith & Ira Eisenstein JRF Award

Janet Davis
 Mishkan Torah Mahjongg Maniacs
 Bill Schwartz & Chris Doyle
 Diane & Mort Tuckman

Hail to the Chiefs

In Honor of our Past Presidents

Don & Sheila Anderson
 Paul Architzel & Stephanie Goodwin
 Angie Carmel
 Jordan & Eva Choper

Janet Davis
 Lois, Sam & Mimi Fields
 Shalom Fisher
 Robert & Judy Goldberg-Strassler
 Joan & David Goldenberg
 Arlene Gottlieb & Chaz Miller
 Dave & Evey Herschler
 Steve & Janet Mirsky
 Mel & Judy Morganstein
 Raphael & Susette Panitz
 Frank Pearlman
 Hal Rappaport
 Jeffrey & Sara Rosen
 Richard & Ellen Rubin
 Bill Schwartz & Chris Doyle
 Sid & Irene Spector
 David & Audrey Stern
 Alyce & Arnold Strasser
 Diane & Mort Tuckman
 Susan & Stephen Ungar
 Sue & Steve Weiss

Keter Shem Tov

In Honor of Sid & Irene Spector

Mona Baumgarten & Rabbi Jonathan Cohen
 Sylvia & Irving Belsky
 Beulah Bukzin
 Lois, Sam & Mimi Fields
 Arlene Gottlieb & Chaz Miller
 Eileen (DeeDee) Jackman & Gary Jackman
 Mary Kaigler-Schaffer & Andy Schaffer
 Fran & Ira Lapidus
 Mishkan Torah Mahjongg Maniacs
 Mel & Judy Morganstein
 Jeffrey & Sara Rosen
 Fan Schein
 Bill Schwartz & Chris Doyle
 Susan Shinderman & George Daves
 Julie Spector
 Rachel Spector-Thompson
 Mark Swanson
 Diane & Mort Tuckman

CHOIR DIRECTOR TO DEBUT JUNE 6

On Sunday, June 6, 2010 at 4 p.m., Mishkan Torah Choir will make its debut with a new choir director, Rachel White. We've been working hard, learning new songs and bringing back a few old favorites. We are also opening up some time during the program for a sing-a-long. So come ready to listen, sing, and learn something new.

We also have another way to show you care. Friends of the Choir come in 4 categories: Basses: \$18, Tenors: \$36, Altos: \$54, and Sopranos: \$72.

June 6 will be filled with music, ruach, and just plain fun. Look for our flyer on page 13 in this month's

The Sisterhood Gift Shop

Has everything you could possibly want in the way of

- ✧ planning for simchas,
- ✧ preparing for holidays,
- ✧ adding to collections, and
- ✧ establishing a Jewish home.

Be sure to call Alyce Strasser
(after 10:30 a.m., please)
to set up an appointment
to see the wide assortment of gift item.

HELP THE CITY OF GREENBELT

In 1992, the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Alliance, of which Rabbi Cohen is a member, established the Emergency Relief Fund to be administered by the City of Greenbelt. The fund is to help people who are residents of Greenbelt, in short-term emergency situations and may face eviction.

The criteria for receiving monies from the fund (usually \$300 to \$400) is that the recipient has to prove they have the rest of the month's rent or mortgage and that they will be able to make next month's payments. Checks are made out to the mortgage company or apartment management.

Because of the large number of requests in the recent past, the fund is now almost depleted. The City has sent out an appeal to all religious, civic and community organizations for contributions to help replenish this account.

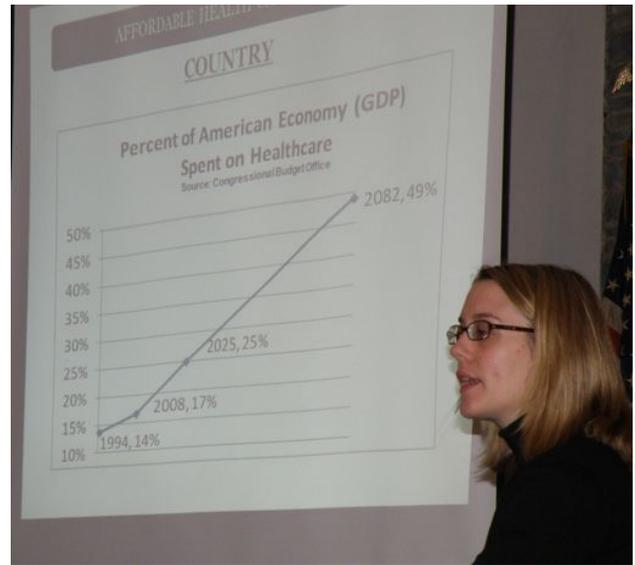
Please consider making a donation to this worthy cause. Contributions can be made to City of Greenbelt Emergency Relief Fund and sent to Office of the City Manager, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD. 20770.

For additional information, please contact Ronnie Scotkin at her home phone (see synagogue directory) or at Greenbelt CARES (301)345-6660.

SOCIAL ACTION IN ACTION

By Andrea Weiss

On Sunday, April 18, thirty-two people attended a Social Action program on the new United States health care law. Ruth McDonald, Legislative Aide to U.S. Representative and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer's office, gave a power point presentation on the law and then generously responded to audience questions. (As I was unable to attend the presentation, I am summarizing the notes taken by David Norken, who was responsible for creating this wonderful program. Many, many thanks, David.)



Ruth McDonald illustrates benefits of new health care legislation.

following: a tax on very high end insurance plans (not slated to go into effect until 2018), with some exceptions for high risk occupations, and cost control boards which can recommend cuts if expected savings do not materialize.

We consider ourselves very fortunate to have had the opportunity to have this information presented to us by someone so knowledgeable and to have had a forum for asking a variety of health care questions.

Second Annual Benton Parks Food Drive

Our second piece of news is that on May 1, we will kick off our second annual Benton Parks Memorial Food Drive. For many years Benton served Mishkan Torah as the chairperson of the Social Action Committee. Benton cared deeply about helping the needy in our community. To honor his memory, we established this food drive last spring.

The drive was so successful that we thought we would do it again! As we did last year, we will be collecting nonperishable food items and grocery store scrip for the needy of Greenbelt. To spur the congregation into action, we are relying on members' competitive instincts. And also their desire to win our prize! Please see our flyer on page 10 for specific details about how your group can participate.



Denis Munoz (Systems Administrator), Ruth McDonald (legislative Assistant) and Terrance Taylor (Deputy District Director) came to Mishkan Torah from Congressman Stevy Hoyer's office. Photos by Steven Mirsky

Ms. McDonald explained that several benefits will go into effect this year, including an end to lifetime limits on health insurance benefits, a ban on exclusion for pre-existing conditions for children, and the ability to keep children on parental insurance policies until they turn 26. She explained that, in order for insurance premiums not to skyrocket, the ban on exclusion for pre-existing conditions in adults will not go into effect before 2014, when the mandate for all to purchase health insurance goes into effect. Getting younger, healthier Americans into the system early will help to spread the risk.

Ms. McDonald also summarized the mechanisms that will be put in place to contain the costs of the increases in coverage. She explained that experts had recommended the



THE 2ND ANNUAL BENTON PARKS MEMORIAL FOOD DRIVE



INDULGE YOUR COMPETITIVE SPIRIT.
HELP THE NEEDY.
HONOR BENTON PARKS.
EAT OUT ON US.

Mishkan Torah committees, clubs, and other groups will once again compete against each other for the honor of donating the most non-perishable food items and grocery store scrip dollars to the needy in Greenbelt.

This Food Drive is sponsored by the Synagogue's Social Action Committee. Last year's drive was a great success with approximately \$946 donated in food and scrip. Let's see if we can break \$1000 this year!

- WHEN:** The Food Drive and Competition will take place from May 1 through the date of the Annual Membership Meeting in June.
- TEAMS:** Teams will consist of various Mishkan Torah Committees, such as Children's Education, Religious, Finance, Choir, Men's Club, and Sisterhood. Those not in committees can create their own as long as they contain no fewer than five people and register with the Social Action Committee.
- HOW:** Teams will get one point for each can of food or non-perishable item donated or for each dollar of grocery store scrip donated. Mark bags of food with the name of your committee or team and place them in the Synagogue coat room outside the sanctuary. Purchase grocery store scrip through Ronnie Scotkin. The donations will be collected by the Social Action Committee and taken to the food pantry at St. Hugh's Catholic Church, which provides food to all comers, no questions or religious affiliation asked. Scrip will be donated to Greenbelt Cares.
- PLAYING:** The Social Action Committee will keep the Congregation posted at least weekly by email so that committees can assess the competition. We may also announce bonus points via email.
- CONTACT:** David Norken will coordinate the food drive. Contact him at 301-261-0685 and dnorken@comcast.net to register your group's participation and ask any questions. You may also contact Andrea Weiss at 301-680-0526 and andrew111@aol.com. Scrip donations will be handled by Ronnie Scotkin, who will take your orders by phone and keep track for us.
- THE PRIZE:** The winning group will be awarded a \$50 gift certificate to the New Deal Restaurant. The winner will be announced at the Annual Membership Meeting.

**Can Anyone Beat the Children's Education Committee?
Can Your Group Win?**

Mishkan Torah Presents the
9th Annual Keter Shem Tov Day
honoring founding members



Sid & Irene Spector

Please Join Us On
Saturday, May 15, 2010
9:30 a.m.

Hug 2 Clowns Today!



Luncheon Immediately Following Services

Please fill in this form and return with your Luncheon Reservation by May 1, 2010.

Names* _____ Phone# _____

Attending _____ adults @ \$25 _____ children under 13 @ \$12.50 \$ _____

I/We'd like to make an additional donation in their honor. \$ _____

I/We are unable to attend but would like to make a donation in their honor. \$ _____

Checks payable to Mishkan Torah TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

**List names the way you want them to appear in the Program Book on the Donors and/or Attendees Page.*

WAYS & MEANS TRUMPETS "HAIL TO THE CHIEFS"

by Dan Lowery



"Hail to the Chiefs" was a truly memorable evening! We all enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Alyce Strasser and her Sisterhood catering staff. That (and a little wine) put us in a celebratory mood. Phil Greenfield and Steve Mirsky as emcees kept the evening rolling with very funny and witty transitions. Nadine Wobus performed to a delighted Mishkan Torah audience. Becky Silverstein followed, and the roars grew louder. Ben Greenfield amazed us with his talented voice. And then Josh Rosen, performing solo for the first time in public, made us all smile proudly,

with his same broad grin he exhibited between the Mozart movements. Evey Herschler and Jeff Rosen were very funny in their mock press-conference skit. Phil and Jeff's vaudeville number was a highlight of the evening. Rabbi Cohen added to the occasion with a perfect mixture of seriousness and levity in his remarks. Dick Rosenzweig and Shalom Fisher took us on a trip down memory lane to the early history of our shul.

The thirteen living presidents present were honored with a personalized hand-colored print created by Marsha Goldfine. But once the attendees saw dessert being served in the back, the printed schedule was a thing of the past. The finale was sung while people were schmoozing and eating cake. And I quickly ran through my "thank you" list forgetting some people.

So I now want to add the following acknowledgments (together with those mentioned above): David Charney for his piano tuning; Yoni Charry for sound; and our piano accompanist Arielle Bayer. I didn't get to present Steve Mirsky with his personalized Marsha Goldfine plaque but I did this at the cake table. But most importantly, I didn't thank the incredible Ways and Means Committee (Frank Pearlman, Jordan Choper, Eva Choper, Angie Carmel, Phyllis Oresky, Arlene Gottlieb, Hal Rappaport, and Jackie Kling). I can't tell you how much work and angst went into this program. It is an honor to head such a committee.

Please don't forget our final three programs of the year: Coffee Klatch (May 2nd before the Jewelry Sale), Keter Shem Tov (see page 11), and the Choir Concert June 6 (see flyer on page 13).

Costume and Vintage Jewelry Sale

Sunday, May 2, 2010

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Mishkan Torah Synagogue

10 Ridge Road

Greenbelt, Maryland 20770





Mishkan Torah Choir Spring Concert



Sunday, June 6, 2010 at 4 p.m.

Ticket Reservations

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

	# of Tickets		Cost
Adults: \$10 in advance (\$15 at the door)	_____	@ \$10	\$ _____
Under 13: \$5 in advance (\$10 at the door)	_____	@ \$ 5	\$ _____
TICKETS TOTAL:	_____		\$ _____

Friends of the Choir:

Bass Level: \$18 Tenor Level: \$36
 Alto Level: \$54 Soprano Level: \$72+ \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Tickets plus Friends of the Choir) \$ _____

For Ticket Reservations Please Contact

Dan Lowery 301/441-9342 or lowery3@comcast.net

Or mail this form to
Mishkan Torah, 10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

SHAVUOT TRADITION WILL KEEP YOU UP AT NIGHT

by Rabbi Jonathan Cohen

Almost 500 years ago, Jewish mystics in Sefad originated two fascinating and delightful customs: an all-night study vigil, called *Tikkun Leyl Shavuot*, and the symbolic marriage between God and the Jewish people, with the Torah as the wedding ring.

At Mishkan Torah we commemorate both customs. Please join us at 10 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, May 18. We will start by reading under the *huppah* the *ketubah* (or marriage contract) between God and Israel. Then we will adjourn to study. Back by popular demand are Mark Silverstein's trivia quiz and Frank Pearlman's midnight readings. Study groups led by Rabbi Cohen and lay members of the congregation will take place until sunrise. Between study groups, people will consume copious quantities of cheese cake and other dairy delectables (good tasting and good for your arteries)! At sunrise, we will *dahven* a quick but intense *shacharit* service before heading off to our homes for some well deserved sleep. (Every year some people who have drifted away during the night actually come back to join the *minyan*.)

You don't have to keep yourself awake all night to participate. Come for as much or as little of the night as you like.

On Thursday, May 20 at 9:30 a.m., we will hold a full *yontiff* service with Torah reading (the Ten Commandments, no less!) and *yizkor* will be recited.

**MISHKAN TORAH SYNAGOGUE
10 RIDGE ROAD
GREENBELT, MARYLAND 20770**

FIRST CLASS MAIL
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FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO CONTACT ANY MEMBERS OF THE MISHKAN TORAH FAMILY,

PLEASE PHONE THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE AT 301-474-4223

Please submit articles, pictures, suggestions, and flyers to Arnold Brodsky by the 20th of each month unless announced otherwise.