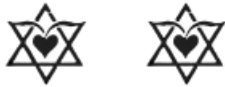




CANDLE LIGHTING

August 5 ~ 7:47 pm
August 12 ~ 7:38 pm
August 19 ~ 7:28 pm
August 26 ~ 7:17 pm

*Times shown are 18 minutes
before sunset for Amherst, MA*



SPECIAL EVENTS

August 5
Shabbat Under The Sky

August 8
Erev Tisha B'Av
Service and
Reading of Lamentations

August 21
Interfaith Iftar Dinner

August 31
Red Cross Blood Drive



MEETINGS

August 3
Education Committee
Ritual Life Committee

August 24
School Committee

Message from Co-president

Guy Wood, 802-387-5676, guy@svcable.net

Those who found a home for the JCA in the 1970s and built this community had vision, dedication, determination, and chutzpah. What they created celebrates our joy in being Jewish, affords us opportunities to really come to know each other, nurtures our community's spiritual journeys, engages us in lifelong learning, gives us many ways we can act to heal our world and share our commitment and caring for Israel.

Ten years ago the Kehila Campaign moved us through a crucial stage when it successfully funded a major transformation of the JCA building, most notably with the building of the new social hall, into what we have now.

Since then we have not had another major initiative. The JCA Board of Directors has voted for a Combined Annual and Building Fund Campaign to be launched this summer which will provide us with an opportunity to translate some timely goals and values into action and will allow us to achieve some significant changes in the building. Our goal is \$100,000 for building needs and the annual operating funds. The first change you might notice by the High Holidays will be the stained glass art being designed for the main entryway. Two other major goals are part of this Capital Campaign, raising over sixty thousand dollars in much needed repairs and renovations for the building and, so that you will be only asked to make this kind of contribution once this year, having the Campaign carry the funding for the annual campaign (that we do every year) to the level it was raised last year. We are asking your whole-hearted support to make it successful.

This is one of those times when our sense of community becomes more alive. The manner in which we meet the challenges and

opportunities of growth will stand as a measure of our values and as a tangible statement of our commitment to the future of the JCA and the larger Jewish community. We urge you to be a part of the spirit of the pioneers who created the JCA over 35 years ago and led us into having the wonderful community and building we have today.

Over the next couple months, you will see more information of what the entryway will look like, a prioritized list of renovations and improvements, and ways you can learn about and participate in this action.

I am pleased to be informing you of the Campaign Team. We team members, listed below, are committed to ensuring that it not only reaches these attainable goals but does so in a way that honors the JCA's values and builds on the foundation created by those who came before.

b'shalom,
Guy

Capital Campaign Team Members

David Sharken, chair
Alan Peterfreund
Haim Gunner
Eli Kwartler
Jerry Friedman
Guy Wood
Phil Weilerstein
Rabbi Ben Weiner
Steve Woolf

August 2011
Av/Elul 5771
Vol. 10, Issue No. 7

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST, INC.

742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002
 (413) 256-0160, fax (413) 256-1588
 Religious School (413) 256-0160 ext. 203
 email: info@j-c-a.org; On line at: www.j-c-a.org

Rabbi Benjamin Weiner

Rabbi David Dunn Bauer (2003-2010)

Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg (1989-2002)

Rabbi Emeritus Yechiael Lander

Director of Lifelong Learning: Jody Rosenbloom (256-0160 ext. 203)

Director of Teen Programming: Rachael Goren-Watts (256-0160 ext. 208)

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday: 10:30 - 4:00

Wednesday: 4:00 - 6:00 & Sunday 9:00 - 1:00
 (When Religious School is in session)

Board of Directors

Officers:

Co-Presidents: Guy Wood (802-387-5676)

Eli Kwartler (253-2929)

Co-First Vice Presidents: Ted Trobaugh (549-5468)

Eva Rosenn (549-6672)

Second Vice President: Richard Cohen (256-6145)

Third Vice President: To be announced

Treasurer: Michael Burkart (256-8139)

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Marcia Black, Barbara Freed, Gerald Friedman,
 Molly Goren-Watts, Oran Kaufman, Fred Levine,
 Margaret Mastrangelo, Lisa Perl binder, Andra Rose,
 Sarah Thomson, Phil Weilerstein, Janis Wolkenbreit, Peter Wood

Membership: Robyn Miller (549-4060), **Oran Kaufman** (548-8139)

Office Administrator: Marcia Howard (256-0160, info@j-c-a.org)

Administrative Assistants: Susan Thomas, Eric Delisle (256-0160)

For information about using JCA space including
 renting the Social Hall, contact:

Events Coordinator: Karen Loeb (256-0160 ext. 207)

For a list of committee chairs and members, go to:
<http://www.j-c-a.org/committees.html>

Please refer to your Guidebook for contact information.
 (If you have not received your Guidebook, call the office.)

NEWSLETTER

Editor/Graphic Designer: Aaron Bousel

(Voice: 253-3544, Voice & Fax: 253-3846; news@j-c-a.org)

Proofreader: Sarah Thomson

Deadline for the September issue is August 12th

August 2011, Vol. 10, Issue No. 7

Newsletter is published 11 times per year.

Subscription price is included in membership.

Chesed Committee

The Chesed Committee assists JCA members in times of joy, sorrow and need, coordinating volunteers to help with meals, rides, errands, visits, shiva minyans, and other needs. We also welcome new members and babies! Please contact us if you would like to join the committee or be added to our list of volunteers.

Also, if you, someone in your family, or someone in the community is ill, hospitalized, or in need of assistance, please contact us right away. Even if visits or phone calls are not desired, it is important to us as a community to be aware of the health and well-being of our members and their families. We realize that providing this kind of information feels awkward to many people, but it is an important facet of being in community. We cannot help if we do not know.

Contact the Chesed Committee through the JCA office at 256-0160.

Beit Shalom Committee

The Beit Shalom Committee is available to members of the JCA congregation wishing assistance in addressing personal differences that have arisen between individuals, among committees, or with those in leadership positions within the JCA. Accordingly, if you have concerns or disagreements, or feel a desire to enhance communication with another member, a committee, or leader, please contact a Beit Shalom Committee member to facilitate this process. All such communications will be kept strictly confidential unless agreed upon differently by the participants.

Committee members are:

Eva Metzger Brown: 256-8066
 embrown13@comcast.net

Josette Henschel: 213-0186
 josette.henschel@aic.edu

Rob Okun: 253-9372
 raokun@verizon.net

Kitty Talan: 253-2248
 kittytalan@comcast.net

Haim Gunner: 549-0447
 haim_gunner@yahoo.com

The High Holidays Committee

The High Holidays Committee welcomes your comments and constructive suggestions about how services are structured and we also invite you to volunteer to assist with making it all happen. Please email Paul Charette (pcharette@lightingaffiliates.com) about service structure and content or Bob Solosko (rbsolosko@verizon.net) to offer to volunteer in any capacity.

B'Shalom,

Bob Solosko and Paul Charette, co-chairs

JCA 2011 High Holidays Service Schedule Times to be Determined

Rosh Hashanah Eve – September 28

Reconstructionist Service

Teen Schmooze/Service

Masorti Service

There will be an oneg following each service.

1st Day Rosh Hashanah – September 29

Reconstructionist Service

Masorti Service with Musaf

Shofarot Program for ages 10-12

Family Service

Tashlich at Groff Park

2nd Day Rosh Hashanah - September 30

Masorti Service with Musaf

Alternative Service to be determined

Kol Nidre – October 7

Reconstructionist Service

Masorti Service

Yom Kippur/ Shabbat – October 8

Reconstructionist Service

Masorti Service with Yizkor and Musaf

Shofarot Program for ages 10-12

Family Service

Minchah/Ne'ilah Service

Sukkot - October 12 (at sundown) until October 19

Reconstructionist Service October 13 morning

Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah - October 20

Shemini Atzeret Service morning

Simchat Torah Celebration evening

Rabbi Liaison Committee

The purpose of the Rabbi Liaison Committee is to:

- Act as a channel between the rabbi and the congregation for the communication and processing of comments, issues, and complaints,
- Further increase the effectiveness of the rabbi-congregational relationship,
- Provide a way for people who are hesitant about contacting the rabbi directly to do so.

We encourage you to contact any member of the committee whenever you feel there is an issue that you would like them to consider with Rabbi Weiner.

Please be assured that all information is confidential.

Amy Mittelman 256-0883, amGU@hampshire.edu

David Levit 548-1083, dblevit@crocker.com

Aaron Bousel 253-3544, abousel@comcast.net

Barbara Burkart 256-8139, barbruth@comcast.net

Ted Slovin 253-3518, tslovin@acad.umass.edu

Deb Fine 256-1572, zohar01@comcast.net



Ritual Life Committee

Paul Breyer-Charette, Co-chair, 860-559-4926, pcharette@lightingaffiliates.com
 Sarah Thomson, Co-chair, 413-253-2930, allset22@verizon.net

RELIGION CALENDAR

August 1, Monday- Rosh Chodesh Av



Shabbat Chazon, Parashat Devarim
Deuteronomy 1:1- 3:22

August 5, Friday

5:30 PM

Shabbat Under The Sky at Groff Park
 There will not be a service held at JCA
 See pages 5 & 8 for more information

August 6, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



August 8, Monday- Erev Tisha B'Av

8:00 PM

Service and reading of Lamentations
 Tisha B'Av (the 9th day of the month of Av) is a fast day which marks the destruction of the first Temple in Jerusalem by the Babylonians in 586 B.C.E. and also of the second Temple by the Romans in 70 C.E.



August 9, Tuesday-Tish B'Av

7:30 AM

The regular Tuesday minyan will meet.



Shabbat Nachamu, Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11

August 12, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

August 13, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



Check the JCA website at:
www.j-c-a.org/services.html
 for updated religion calendar information.

Shabbat Ekev, Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25

August 19, Friday

6:15 PM

Carlebach style service and potluck supper
 Service Leader: To be announced

August 20, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



Shabbat Re'eh, Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17

August 26, Friday

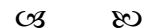
6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

August 27, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



August 30/31, Tuesday/Wednesday- Rosh Chodesh Elul



Shacharit (morning) Minyan

The Tuesday morning minyan is a wonderful way to start the day. Join with us in gratitude for the many blessings in our lives. Your presence is a gift that allows those who are in mourning or celebrating a yahrzeit to be able to say Kaddish. Please join us once a month, or **every Tuesday morning from 7:30-8:30 a.m.** Try it! It's amazing how energized your day will be!!

Meditation Minyan

Each Wednesday at 7:30 AM there is a morning service of meditation, prayer and singing. This is a very special time to sit in quiet in the beauty of our small sanctuary. You do not have to be a meditator to join the service. Come try it out and see what it can do for the rest of your day and week.

Kiddush and Oneg Sponsors

June 4-

Alan Peterfreund and Susan Mosler in honor of their engagement

Rabbi Weiner and Elise Barber in honor of Elise's graduation from cantorial school

Ellin Bousel in honor of her son Aaron's 60th birthday, and Aaron & Patience's wedding anniversary

July 2-

Elissa and Bernie Rubinstein in honor of their wedding anniversary

If you would like to help with or sponsor a kiddush, please contact Karen Loeb at: 256-0160 ext. 207

In keeping with our new plan for kiddushes, we are asking people attending kiddushes on Saturdays to bring a vegetarian side dish or salad to share, if they can.

The JCA will provide a casserole, challah, drinks and dessert.

If you are not able to bring something, you are still most welcome.

Family Service in September

Because the first Friday in September is also the beginning of Labor Day weekend, we are rescheduling the Family Service and pot luck supper to September 9th. There will be a regular Friday evening service, beginning at 6:15 pm, on September 2nd.

Torah Reading Co-ordination

If you are interested in reading Torah and would like to schedule a time to read, please contact:

Gordon Freed, 256-0355, g.freed@comcast.net (for reading in September)

Randi Stein, 549-0526, randistein@earthlink.com (for reading in October)

Foot Stomping Melodies for Welcoming Shabbat

The next Carlebach-style service will be on August 19th at 6:15 pm.

The melodies are beautiful, the spirit/ruach is incredible.

There will be a potluck supper following the service.

First Friday Night Service and Potluck Supper

Please join us on the first Friday of each month at 5:30 pm for a brief child oriented service followed by a potluck supper. Although the service is geared towards young children, it contains all the elements of a regular Friday evening service, including mourner's kaddish. People of all ages are encouraged to attend. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Please note that this service will be held on the second Friday of the month in September.

Chemical Sensitivities

A number of our members have allergies to perfumes, colognes and other fragrances. Please try to minimize the use of these products when coming to the JCA. Thank you.

Shabbat Under the Sky – Picnic Series in August

You're invited! Bring your friends!

This August, across the Pioneer Valley, Jews will connect with each other and their tradition with music, conversation, kid-friendly activities, and picnic in beautiful outdoor settings. Choose from one or several: **August 5 in Amherst's Groff Park** off Route 116; **August 19 at East Longmeadow's Heritage Park**, and either of **two picnics on August 26 in Greenfield at the Green River Swimming & Recreation Area, Nash's Mill Road and Look Park in Northampton**. All take place from 5:30-7:30. Come rain or shine. No prior knowledge of Hebrew or Jewish liturgy needed. The picnics are free and open to the public, although Look Park charges a per car entry fee, bikers and walkers can come free via the Bike Trail.

Gatherings will include shofar blowing practice for the upcoming Jewish New Year. Three picnics will offer a puppet show and the fourth a jam by local musicians. The Greenfield picnic features a swimming hole to cool off. Each program includes a short, guided musical service to welcome the Sabbath ("Kabbalat Shabbat"). Organizers will provide challah bread, juice, and dessert. Participants should bring their own vegetarian picnic dinner or in Greenfield, a vegetarian potluck item. The East Longmeadow picnic offers the option of purchasing sandwich wraps if pre-ordered by August 10th. For more details and directions visit www.RekindleShabbat.org or email rekindle@jewishwesternmass.org

This series is sponsored by Rekindle Shabbat, a program of the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, supported by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and Bill and Lynn Foggie. Co-sponsors include the Springfield based "Try a Synagogue" initiative (B'nai Torah, Temple Beth El, and Sinai Temple); also Beit Ahavah/Florence, Congregation B'nai Israel/Northampton, Gan Keshet Pre-School/Northampton, Jewish Community of Amherst, Lander-Grinspoon Academy/Northampton, Temple Israel/Greenfield, and the PJ Library.

For more information: rekindle@jewishwesternmass.org or Jenna at 413 439-1954.

Please note that there will not be a Shabbat service at the JCA on Friday August 5th. We hope you'll come to Groff Park and enjoy the activities!

Education News

Jody Rosenbloom, Director of Life Long Learning, 256-0160, ext. 203



Report Card for our 2010-11 Education Priorities

We are heading into the final year of our five-year education plan. Following our plan, we have focused on 1) **Lilmod B'Yachad** (Learning Together) -Building a strong community through learning and Shabbat, 2) **Kol H'Amim** (All Peoples): Linking with Reconstructionism and collaborating in the region, 3) **Shalom Bayit** (Peace/Wholeness in the Home): Achieving financial stability and appropriate staff and volunteer resources in education programs and initiatives and 4) **Gevurah** (Structure/Discipline/Focus): Building on the successes and unique strengths of the JCA community. In JCA School we also identified three specific goals: 1) Continuity (children want to get to know teachers, classmates and the material) 2) Flexibility (options other than traditional classes, more community learning activities) and 3) Quality of teachers/learning experience. As we reflect on this past year:

- We **enhanced holiday programs** open to families and adult community members. In November and February, we brought the community together for **Shabbat B'Yachad** to include school age children and their families in place of Sunday School. A Shabbat morning family service with multiple approaches to Torah study. **Upcoming:** Expand holiday connections, Shabbat morning service options with Shabbat B'Yachad and **Tot Shabbat**.
- We **experimented with brit limid/learning covenants:** Some students were monitored for Hebrew independent study in addition to our standard program. **Upcoming:** Improve assessment, monitoring and goal setting protocols for children and parent communication.
- **Enrichment through the arts:** At JCA School, every month we sing together & learn new songs with a music specialist. Adults were treated to Persian/Sephardic Jewish music. For Hannukah and Tu B'shvat, we brought in a puppeteer and students in several grades developed skits to share with other classes. Students participated in beautifying ritual objects, hiddur mitzvah. And we continue to publicize regional events such as the Jewish Children's Book Illustrators exhibit and the Maccabeats.
- **B'Tzelem Elohim/In God's Image: A Parent Support/Education Group Building Jewish Identity for Children with Special Needs:** We have an on-going group, open to new members, that was founded in 2009-2010 to discuss participation and modification

that allow for greater Jewish identity and practice for families both at home and in the Jewish community. And we developed school admission protocols for children with special needs.

- **New initiatives for the fall:** 1) An **Israel Emissary** will be working at JCA School in the fall, 2) we will be building links between our **garden** and related Jewish values, and 3) we will be working with **Havurah Ketanah**, our portal for families with young children, to expand programming and outreach.
- **On Going:** This year **JCA Teen Programming** included regional initiatives JV Corps working at the Amherst Survival Center, "It's a Girl Thing" monthly new moon groups for girls, and hosted several social events e.g. the dreidle dance. Synagogue youth group participation has declined but teens had a great field trip to Boston and the confirmation class, of 4 students, met regularly with Rabbi Weiner. **Upcoming:** Regional planning meetings resulted in all synagogues having lower teen demographic counts and tightening their belts, less programming for this year but maintaining strongest programs. Next confirmation class is scheduled for fall of 2012. Significant staff turnover also affecting programming.
- **Adult Education took a huge leap** under the leadership of Rabbi Weiner. Scholar in Residence committee was reconstituted, an Intro to Judaism class offered, and a variety of speakers engaged for Friday evenings. **Upcoming:** Adult Education collaborations between JCA committees and the niche for JCA specific offerings in the region.
- **Camp Shemesh** is well on its way this summer with

continued on next page

Calendar

Fri, Aug. 5	Shabbat Family Service at Groff Park, 5:30-7:30
Fri, Sept. 9	Shabbat Family Service at 5:30 followed by pot luck supper
Sat, Sept. 10	Opening Day for 7th graders with their parents, 10:00 am
Sun, Sept. 11	Opening Day for Grades 1-6 and Shalom Sunday from 10:00 am-12:15 pm. Parents are invited and expected to attend their child's opening program.

continued from previous page

leadership transitions both on the committee and with the directorship. **Upcoming:** Clarifying links and supervision within camp and between camp committee and JCA infrastructure.

- There has been significant change in funding and organization structure regionally and nationally that affects Jewish institutions and their members. A contingent of lay leaders and staff attended the **Jewish Outreach Institute** training in Springfield to study participation and membership recruitment. **Upcoming:** Selective implementation of relevant strategies.
- **On Going:** Successfully localized **administrative support** for teens, school and camp. This has improved communication, technology support, and record keep-

ing. **Upcoming:** Website update and exploring social media options.

The Education Committee shares responsibility to build, coordinate and vitalize lifelong education at the JCA and monitor our progress (co-chairs **Andra Rose** and **Ariella Schwell**). The School Committee focuses specifically on formal education in grades PK-7 (chair, **Deborah Evans**). Both committees need new members. If you are interested, please contact the chair directly or Jody Rosenbloom at eddir@j-ca.org or 413-256-0160.

Thank-You To:

Felicia Mednick and friends for the donation of books.
The Wolfwood family for children’s books and games.

Opportunity For JCA Members To Support “Backpacks Project.”

The JCA has been participating with other faith communities in the Interfaith Opportunity Network (ION) in Amherst. The ION has enthusiastically agreed to support the Amherst Schools in their backpacks project, which intends to provide a backpack loaded with grade-appropriate school supplies to the approximately 200 elementary grade children in the Amherst Schools who qualify for the free/reduced lunch program.

We have a box in the entryway of the JCA to collect these supplies. Please help by bringing NEW supplies from the following list....the supplies must be collected by August 15, and will be brought to the schools all at once

NEEDED:

Assignment books	Drawing Paper	Glue sticks
Backpacks	English Dictionary	Markers
Colored pencils	(regular and picture)	Pencils (#2)
Construction paper	Erasers	Pencil sharpeners
Crayons	Folders	Rulers

Thank you, Judy Glaser, ION representative

JCA Adult Reading Group

JCA Adult Reading Group: The 1st meeting of the year of the ARG will be on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 7:30 PM in the JCA library. We will be discussing the novel, *The Invisible Bridge*, by Julie Orringer. It is in paperback and has received very positive reviews. Come join us; new participants are always welcome! Any questions, please call Ken Talan, 253-2248.

Dean’s Beans Coffee Fundraiser Season 5 Wrap-Up



While sales were less than in the previous season, a \$1,700 profit for the JCA’s Dean’s Beans Coffee fundraiser is a respectable amount given our economic climate. Thank you to our consistent and loyal supporters!

Season 6 continues in September at which time all coffee prices will increase by a buck (the increase was added to our costs in May).

Jodi Levine has taken over for Sue Cinner as coordinator, and she will email the new order form to those of you who are on the coffee listserv.

To get on the list, email Jodi at: wildchildtiedyes@comcast.net.

Season 6 order forms will also be available in the JCA lobby or on the JCA website.

Please continue to support this fund-raiser which also benefits indigenous coffee growers around the globe.

Dean’s Beans Organic Coffee Great Coffee Great Cause (still a) Great Price



Shabbat under the Sky

August 5

Groff Park
Amherst

August 19

Heritage Park
East Longmeadow

August 26

Look Park & Green River Rec. Park
Northampton Greenfield

All dates

5:30 - 7:30 pm
rain or shine



Experience Shabbat ritual & songs in a family-friendly, open-air setting.

Enjoy a short musical service to welcome Shabbat, songs, stories, a puppet show, and shofar blowing (practice for the New Year). Connect with friends and meet new ones.

Bring your own vegetarian picnic dinner (Northampton/Amherst/East Longmeadow) or a potluck item (Greenfield). See website for option to order box dinner for East Longmeadow gathering. Challah, juice, and dessert provided at all gatherings.

Presented by Rekindle Shabbat, a program of the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, supported by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and Bill and Lynn Foggie.

Co-Sponsors: The Springfield based "Try a Synagogue" Initiative (B'nai Torah, Temple Beth El, and Sinai Temple); Belt Ahavah/Florence, Congregation B'nai Israel/Northampton, Gan Keshet Pre-School/Northampton, Jewish Community of Amherst, Lander-Grinspoon Academy/Northampton, PJ Library, and Temple Israel/Greenfield.

info
and directions
www.rekindleshabbat.org

More information on page 5 of this Newsletter

Stop & Shop Food Collection

CONGRATULATIONS!!! to those who helped make the JCA food/money collection at the Stop & Shop in July a great success! Over 2,300 pounds of food were collected and brought to the Amherst Survival Center for distribution to those in need. \$300 was collected as well. The food was particularly needed to help stock the Emergency Food Pantry during the summer when collections and contributions slack off but demand does not.

Many thanks to volunteers Aaron Bousel, Sara Berger, Dave Schimmel, Pearl-Anne Margalit, Fay Zipkowitz, Tom Plaut, Hill Boss, Ken Talan, Ann Armon, Judi Fonsh, Amy Kroin, Max Radin, Esther Mercer and Arnie Alper.

Monthly Cooking Volunteers as well as Subs Needed for Not Bread Alone

The JCA Committee for Not Bread Alone has several openings for monthly cooking volunteers, beginning October 2011.

Our committee is responsible for the cooking shift (9:30 - 12:00) and the cleanup shift (12 - 1:30 p.m.) of the midday meal at Not Bread Alone, Amherst's local soup kitchen, on the second Sunday of each month. Volunteers usually commit to either the a.m. or p.m. shift and commit to at least one year's service. Substitutes are also needed to be on call to fill in when regular volunteers cannot be there. Volunteering at Not Bread Alone is a mitzvah - and it's fun. Teens are welcome too.

To volunteer, or for more information, please contact Devorah Jacobson at devorahj@comcast.net or (413) 256-6431.

Welcome New Members

This month we will begin a new tradition of briefly introducing new members in the newsletter. We are hoping to use the Newsletter as one more forum for members to make connections with each other.

Welcome to new JCA members; **Vera Broekhuysen and Michael Lis**. Vera and Michael live in Sunderland and are engaged to be married next June. Vera will be starting Hebrew College in the Fall, studying to become a cantor. Now she is working as an EMT in the area. Mike is a PhD student in Polymer Science Engineering at Umass, Amherst. In their free time, Vera and Mike enjoy rock climbing, hiking and listening to live music. Mike's favorite Jewish food is kugel and Vera who enjoys cooking makes her own knishes!!



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413-256-8351

20 Gatehouse Rd
 Amherst
 Corner Route 9 & Gatehouse Rd

Visit Our Website at
www.nathanagencies.com

Create Your Jewish Legacy...

What will be your legacy?

Bring your charitable dreams to life with a planned gift to the JCA through the Create a Jewish Legacy of Western Massachusetts program. There are many different ways to leave your own legacy. Your legacy can reflect everything that is most important and meaningful to you. The act of creating a legacy empowers you to complete the work of your heart, and to enjoy the peace that it brings. You are assured that your work will continue and the Jewish future will be bright.

...through a gift in Your Estate

To learn more, please contact David Sharken, chair of JCA's Ldor Vdor committee at 413.297.5500 or ledorvador@j-c-a.org or go to www.jewishlegacywesternmass.org



Leave a Jewish Legacy



*A welcoming, egalitarian synagogue affiliated with the
Jewish Reconstructionist Federation*

What does it mean to be a member of the JCA?

Open House for New and Prospective Members

Tuesday, September 13, 2011
5:30-7:00 PM in the JCA Social Hall

Meet Rabbi Ben Weiner, our board and other members,
learn about our community, educational opportunities,
plans for the High Holidays and for the upcoming year.

Pizza, salad and dessert

742 Main St. Amherst, MA

For more information:

info@j-c-a.org or call Oran Kaufman, 256-1575




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Annual Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture -- 2011**September 11, 2011, 1:30 PM****ISRAEL AND THE EMERGING PALESTINE**

Lecture by Dr. Bernard Avishai

Respondent: Jeffrey Robbins

Dr. Bernard Avishai, a distinguished economist and public intellectual, splits his time between Jerusalem and Wilmot, N.H. He has taught at Duke University and M.I.T. and serves as a consultant to large global development groups such as KPMG LLP and the Monitor Group. He has served as technology editor to the Harvard Business Review and has contributed many articles to newspapers and magazines, including The New Yorker and the New York Review of Books. He recently contributed an op-ed to The New York Times (February 7, 2011) entitled The Israel Peace Plan That Still Could Be. He is currently adjunct professor of business at Hebrew University, Jerusalem. His book, *The Hebrew Nation: How Secular Democracy and Global Enterprise Will Bring Israel Peace at Last* appeared in 2008.

Attorney Jeffrey Robbins will respond to Professor Avishai's remarks. Mr. Robbins is a practicing attorney with Mintz Levin in Boston. He has served on a number of governmental commissions and was twice appointed as a United States delegate to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva, Switzerland, by President Clinton. In 2007 he was the recipient of the Human Rights Award from the Boston chapter of the American Jewish Committee. He has contributed articles on the Middle East to the Wall Street Journal, the Christian Science Monitor, the Boston Globe, and the Boston Herald. Attorney Robbins is chair of the Israel Advocacy Committee of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Boston.

A discussion period will follow the remarks by Dr. Avishai and Mr. Robbins.

The program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

*It is sponsored by the World Jewish Concerns and Action Committee of the JCA
with the help of the Northampton-Amherst chapter of Hadassah.*

Contact person: Yaffa Gunner: ybg@comcast.net

Jewish Federation Network and New Israel Fund**Frieda Howards, Chair**

*On behalf of the Jewish Federation Network and New Israel Fund
we'd like to thank the following people for their generous contributions:*

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Eva Goldwater	Edith L. Perman-Allen	Elaine and Arnold Trehub
Yaffa and Haim Gunner	Barbara Perman	Rabbi Sheila Weinberg
Eric and Yehudit Heller	Barbara and James Pistrang	

Two interfaith Iftars in Amherst!!

Hampshire Mosque sponsored Iftar on August 5 Iftar in the synagogue...at the JCA Sunday, August 21

The Muslim month of Ramadan will be observed beginning this August. During Ramadan, Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset, and break their fast with an evening meal called the Iftar, which is often a gathering of friends and community.

For several years in our community of Amherst, the Turkish Cultural Center and the Rumi Club at UMass have hosted a community Iftar at a local faith community thru the Interfaith Opportunities Network (ION), a lay interfaith network that strengthens communication for the purposes of education and collaboration. Last year at the Methodist Church there was delicious food, good fellowship, interesting table conversation and a brief talk about Islam.

This year there are two opportunities to attend an interfaith Iftar in Amherst.

On Friday, August 5, the Hampshire mosque has invited the community to an Iftar at the North Congregational Church.

And on August 21, the JCA is providing the space for the Iftar hosted by the Turkish Cultural Council and the Rumi Club. This Iftar will be vegetarian in order to comply with our kashrut policy.

If you would like to join with the interfaith community for either of these Iftars **please call Judy Glaser at 253-9607 or e-mail her at judy-glaser@comcast.net**. Judy is currently the JCA representative to ION. Members of each of the faith communities in Amherst are invited to both Iftars, so there are limitations on the space reserved for each community.

Visual Arts Committee

The Visual Arts Committee would like to announce that the photography of Kip Fonsh will be our next exhibit in the Hall Gallery. The show was hung at the beginning of July and will be on view during the summer. Kip both records reality and abstracts reality. These photos capture moments in local and foreign settings and are awash in color. We know that you will enjoy them.

The Committee would also like to remind the congregation that although we have an exciting line-up of exhibitors, we encourage all artists among the membership to let us know if they would like to be a Gallery participant. It's exciting that we have so much talent to draw from. It must be something in the air of the Happy Valley. Please contact Carol Kaminsky at cats_kaminsky@verizon.net or Anita Page at apage@english.umass.edu

Mak'hela

Mak'hela, the Jewish Chorus of Western Massachusetts, is holding an Open Rehearsal on Tuesday, September 13, at 7:30pm at the Lander-Grinspoon Academy (LGA Schechter), 257 Prospect St. in Northampton. Prospective members are welcome; we seek choral singers for all voice parts. Mak'hela performs diverse music from our Jewish heritage: classical tradition, sacred and secular music, folk and world music, in Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, and English. We strive to build sacred bridges to understanding and respect, using the universal language of music. Mak'hela rehearses every Tuesday evening at LGA Schechter, and performs in synagogues and concert halls throughout the Pioneer Valley.

For more information, contact Bonnie Mikesh at bpmikesh@comcast.net, or 413-567-3297, or visit us online at www.makhela.org.

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Through this division we hope to respond to your suggestions and concerns more promptly. Please feel free to contact either of us with your concerns and/or suggestions

Guy Wood	Eli Kwartler
Agendas	Administration
Beit Shalom	Cemetery
Building & Grounds	Finance
Chesed	L'Dor v'Dor
Chevra Kadisha	Membership
Education & School	Nominating
Camp Shemesh	Leadership
Fundraising	Personnel
High Holidays Planning	World Jewish Concerns
Ritual Life	
Shomerim	
Tikkun Olam	

The Deadline for the September Newsletter is August 12th

All submissions MUST be made either by e-mail or e-mail with a file attached.

If you do not have access to a computer or email, please contact the editor.

PLEASE RESPECT THE DEADLINE!

Thank you, Aaron Bousel,
news@j-c-a.org 253-3544

Have you checked out the JCA Judaica Store lately? Books by JCA members and others, siddurim, chumashim, tallitot, mezzuzot and many lovely gift items. You can shop whenever the office is open. You can also shop online at: <http://jca.judaicabeautiful.com/>

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In honor of Alan Peterfreund and Susan Mosler's engagement (Judy & Allen Davis)

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Eric Sawyer & Cheryl Zoll

Richard Madowitz & Karen Helfer

Camp Shemesh Scholarship Fund

Robert Brainin

Ruth Hutton

Lisa Perl binder & Tom Porter

Genelle & Michael Rudd

Chesed Committee

Mazel Tov to Ellen and Jack Middleton on the marriage of their son, Seth. (Robin and Ted Diamond)

In honor of Aaron Bousel's 60th birthday

(Elissa & Bernie Rubinstein)

In memory of Peppy Barer, mother of Ruth Love Barer

(Elissa & Bernie Rubinstein)

General Fund

Eva Goldwater

Lewis & Caden Mainzer

Tamar Shadur

Rebecca & Michael Aronson

Elinor Levine & Scott Nielsen

Mathew Lebowitz & Jill Shulman

To honor the marriage of Susan Mosler & Alan Peterfreund (Eva & Norman Brown)

In memory of Peppy Barer, mother of Ruth Love Barer (Judy & Allen Davis)

In memory of Peppy Barer, mother of Ruth Love Barer (Elinor Levine & Scott Nielsen)

In memory of Stanley Wax (Elinor Levine & Scott Nielsen)

In honor of Aaron Bousel's 60th birthday and

Aaron & Patience Bousel's wedding anniversary

(Margaret Mastrangelo & Devorah Jacobson)

In memory of Sylvia Winston (John & Kate Hersey)

In honor of Aaron Bousel's 60th birthday

(Barbara & Michael Burkart)

In memory of Lucille Ines Mercer, mother of A. Esther

Mercer on her Yahrzeit (A. Esther Mercer)

In memory of Peppy Barer, mother of Ruth Love Barer (A.

Esther Mercer)

Ritual Life Committee

In honor of Aaron Bousel's birthday and Aaron & Patience

Bousel's wedding anniversary (Judy & Allen Davis)

Prayerbook Fund

In honor of Aaron Bousel's 60th birthday

(Jeff Cohen & Lori Holder-Webb)

In honor of Aaron Bousel's 60th birthday

(Richard Cohen & Eliza Gouverneur)

In memory of Peppy Barer, mother of Ruth Love Barer

(Richard Cohen & Eliza Gouverneur)

In honor of Aaron Bousel's 60th birthday and Aaron &

Patience Bousel's wedding anniversary

(Yaffa & Haim Gunner)

In memory of Peppy Barer, mother of Ruth Love Barer

(Aaron & Patience Bousel)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Kevin & Sallie Deans Lake

Alan Peterfreund & Susan Mosler

Frances Saed

Kathleen Rubin

In honor of Elise Barber's graduation from Cantorial school

(Judy & Allen Davis)

In memory of Ruth Levinson, mother of Linda Seidman and her sister Alice (Linda & Irv Seidman)

In honor of Elise Barber's graduation from Cantorial school

(Yaffa & Haim Gunner)

In memory of Jack Fine, father of Larry Fine (Fran Saed)

In memory of Peppy Barer, mother of Ruth Love Barer

(Fran Saed)

In memory of Ruth Slovin, mother of Ted Slovin

(Fran Saed)

For a speedy recovery of Neil Brigham, partner of Marcia

Howard (Fran Saed)

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Condolences

We offer our sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have recently died:

Peppy Barer, mother of Ruth Love, Susan and Eden,
grandmother of Racheal, Jessica, Joy, Gregg, David and Alison

New or Returning Members

We warmly welcome the following people to the JCA community:

Vera Broekhuysen and Michael Lis
Eric Sommers & Lee Jennings
Deb Neubauer & Doug Donnell

If someone in your family, or someone you know in the community, is ill and/or in the hospital, please contact the Chesed Committee by calling the office (256-0160).

Even if visits or phone calls are not desired, it is important for us as a community to be aware of the health and well being of our members and their families. We cannot help if we don't know.

The process of replacing our chumashim in the sanctuary continues.

Our only source of revenue for this is from your donations to the prayerbook fund.

Please consider aiding this effort.

Donations of any amount are gratefully accepted, however a minimum donation of \$65.00 is required for a book dedication plate.

Newsletter Advertising Rates

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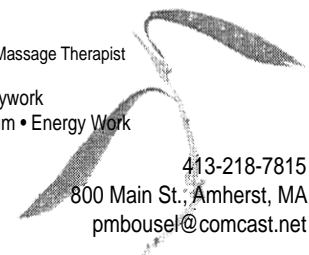
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Community Announcements

Gan Keshet Pre-school

Gan Keshet Jewish Community Pre-school of the Pioneer Valley is now accepting enrollment applications for the 2011-12 school year! We offer a rich, nurturing, play-based Judaic/Secular environment where children, families and staff of diverse backgrounds together explore "being a community".

Next school year we will be offering both part and full day options until 5:15 p.m. We are a Right Start School. Eligible families can receive a HGF Right Start Grant from \$500-1000 towards their child's tuition. Questions? Please contact our Director, Wendy Stein @ 413-584-3593 ext. 204 or at director.gankeshet@verizon.net.

Career Opportunities at The Harold Grinspoon Foundation Director, Jewish Film Festival And Outreach Programs

The Harold Grinspoon Foundation's Jewish Arts & Culture initiative seeks a dynamic, self-directed, and personable team player to coordinate several

cultural programs and services for the Pioneer Valley Jewish community in Western Massachusetts including

- The Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival
- Culture Connect
- Unsung Heroes Award Program

PJ Goes To School Educator

PJ Library is seeking a dynamic, sharp, self-directed educator with knowledge of early childhood and Jewish education to provide professional development and create curricular resources to work with the PJ Goes to School initiative.

Full-time position based in West Springfield, Massachusetts. Frequent travel required.

Accountant

The Harold Grinspoon Foundation is developing a new position within its administrative team. This individual will support current operational activities and participate in new initiatives of the foundation.

- Three to Five Years of Accounting (CPA Designation or Public Accounting Exposure Preferred)

- Intermediate Microsoft Office, Database, and Web Technologies
- Systems Implementation and Integration

Please visit our website for more detailed information www.hgf.org.

Meditation Group

Thursday Morning "Lecha Dumiyah Tehillah"* Meditation Group
Every Thursday in the CBI Library, from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Led by Rabbis Nancy Flam and Sheila Peltz Weinberg

Please know that is not an instructional group. Rather, each of us comes with our own silent meditation or prayer practice and draws strength and affirmation for our deep, inner work by being together in community.

- Arrive & Settling In: 8:00 – 8:15 a.m.
- Setting of Kavvanah/Teaching: 8:15 – 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to begin silent meditation: 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to end silent meditation: 8:55 a.m.

* "To You silence is praise."
Psalm 65:2

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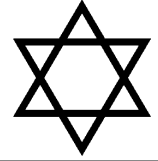
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August 2011
 1 Av ~ 1 Elul 5771



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 ^{1 AV} ✠Rosh Chodesh Av	2 ^{2 AV} 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	3 ^{3 AV} 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 10:00 am Education Committee 7:30 pm Ritual Life Committee	4 ^{4 AV} 7:00 pm Board Meeting	5 ^{5 AV} ⚡7:47 5:30-7:30 pm Shabbat Under The Sky at Groff Park No services at the JCA (see pages 5 and 8)	6 ^{6 AV} ⚡Devarim 10:00 am Shabbat Services
7 ^{7 AV}	8 ^{8 AV} ✠Erev Tisha B'Av 8:00 pm Service and Reading of Lamentations (see page 4)	9 ^{9 AV} ✠Tisha B'Av 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	10 ^{10 AV} 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation	11 ^{11 AV}	12 ^{12 AV} ⚡7:38 6:15 pm Shabbat Services	13 ^{13 AV} ⚡Va'etchanan 10:00 am Shabbat Services
14 ^{14 AV}	15 ^{15 AV} ✠Tu B'Av	16 ^{16 AV} 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	17 ^{17 AV} 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation	18 ^{18 AV}	19 ^{19 AV} ⚡7:28 6:15 pm Carlebach style Service followed by pot luck supper	20 ^{20 AV} ⚡Ekev 10:00 am Shabbat Services
21 ^{21 AV} 7:30 pm Interfaith IFTAR Dinner (see page 12)	22 ^{22 AV}	23 ^{23 AV} 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	24 ^{24 AV} 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 7:00 pm School Committee	25 ^{25 AV}	26 ^{26 AV} ⚡7:17 6:15 pm Shabbat Services	27 ^{27 AV} ⚡Re'eh 10:00 am Shabbat Services
28 ^{28 AV}	29 ^{29 AV}	30 ^{30 AV} ✠Rosh Chodesh Elul - Day 1 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	31 ^{1 ELUL} ✠Rosh Chodesh Elul - Day 2 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 10:30 am Red Cross Blood Drive			

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August 5
Shabbat Under The Sky (see pages 5 & 8)

August 8
Erev Tisha B'Av (see page 4)

August 21
Interfaith Iftar Dinner (see page 12)

August 31
JCA Red Cross Blood Drive