...please, if you have not

already done so, send in

your membership forms.

Jewish Community of Amherst

היהודית של אמהרסט



Jewish Reconstructionist M Federation



April 2008

Adar II/Nisan 5768

Vol. 7. Issue No. 4

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

April $4 \sim 7:02 \text{ pm}$ April $11 \sim 7:10 \text{ pm}$ April 18 ~ 7:18 pm April 25 ~ 7:25 pm

Times shown are 18 minutes before sunset for Amherst, MA

Special Events

April 20 JCA 2nd Seder

April 27 "Sophie Tucker" JCA Benefit Concert

Meetings

April 2

Religion Committee

April 3

Board Meeting

April 7 Chesed Committee

April 8

Tikkun Olam Committee

April 23

Fundraising Committee

Pesach

begins Saturday, 3 April 19th



MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT John Loeb, 253-0336, JolBioSol@aol.com

Please help me understand something!

Over the past several weeks I have observed and been part of some of the finest offerings the Jewish Community of Amherst has to give. I am not merely referring to our normal array of activities which, in and of themselves, are extraordinary. I am referring to the over-

whelming success of our auction and even greater still, the significantly profound display of concern,

caring and respect shown for one of our most active members due to the sudden loss of his wonderful wife. The JCA is at its finest when the need for community is at its pinnacle. These recent events make me feel incredibly proud and appreciative of our community.

Now let me explain my call for help. How is it possible for the same members who were part of the events mentioned above, who are wonderful and active supporters of the JCA, to fail to do something as simple as return a membership form? Do they take the community for granted? I do not think so. Do they expect us to be there in their time of need? I would hope so. Do they fail to understand how necessary these forms and their dues are? Perhaps so!

B'nai Mitzvah

April 5 - 4:30 PM Timothy Bobrowski

April 12 - 4:30 PM Gabriel Kaufman

Imagine how difficult it would be if you only got paid when your employer got around to it. Or worse yet, what would happen if you could not predict your income and were not certain if you were even employed. How then would you know what income to expect and how to plan in dealing with your most

basic family necessities? This is the predicament we face every year from a number of ongoing members of the JCA. For some reason, individuals do not send in membership forms at the time they are requested, making

long- and short-range planning a difficult (if not impossible) task. It is only after much effort on the part of our already busy board members that these individuals do send in their forms.

At our March meeting, the JCA Board spent some time considering solutions to this annual problem. We considered offering incentives to people who send their forms on time, but wondered if we should have to. It was also suggested that we send out more letters and expend limited JCA funds on additional mailings, but decided that it would be a waste of time and money. I welcome any help or suggestions with this problem to ensure that board members can spend their valuable time working on vital community projects rather than on the phone cajoling members to send in their membership forms.

So please, if you have not already done so, send in your membership forms.

continued on page 3

CHESED COMMITTEE

The Chesed Committee assists JCA community members in times of joy, sorrow and need. We coordinate volunteers who provide the following services to the community: welcoming new babies with a menorah; providing meals, rides to appointments, errands, and visits for those who are ill or in need. In addition, when there has been a death, we transport prayer books for Shiva minyans and provide a fruit platter or bagels and cream cheese. If you have a need, know of someone in need, would like to join our Committee or be added to our list of volunteers, please contact the JCA office at 256-0160 and a Chesed Committee member will be in touch with you.

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 David Dunn Bauer

Rabbi Emerita Sheila Weinberg

Rabbi Emeritus Yechiael Lander (586-1137)

Education Director: Jody Rosenbloom (256-0160 ext. 203)

President: John Loeb (253-0336)

First Vice President: Lisa Perlbinder (230-3055)

Second Vice President: Ted Trobaugh (549-5468)

Third Vice President: Eli Kwartler (253-2929)

Treasurer: Alan Peterfreund (253-5485)

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

Chesed Committee: Please call the office (256-0160)

Office Administrator: Marcia Howard (256-0160)

Administrative Assistants: Bonnie Webster, Pam Cummings (256-0160)

Events Co-ordinator: Linda Cooper (256-0160 ext. 207)

A complete listing of committees and chairs can be found on the JCA website at: http://www.j-c-a.org/committees.html

NEWSLETTER

Editor/Graphic Designer: Aaron Bousel

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

Proofreader: Reed Alper

Deadline for the May issue is April 13th

April 2008, Vol. 7, Issue No. 4 Newsletter is published 11 times per year. Subscription price is included in JCA membership.

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.

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

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

Rob Okun: 253-9372 raokun@verizon.net

Melanie Lewis: 323-4155 mslewislaw@aol.com

Haim Gunner:

haim gunner@yahoo.com.

RABBI LIAISON COMMITTEE

The charge of the Rabbi Liaison Committee is:

"To provide an effective process that will expand and enhance both the functional and personal relationship between the Rabbi and the JCA community"

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 Bauer.

Aaron Bousel 253-3544

Judy Glaser 253-9607

Haim Gunner 549-0447

Ruth Kane-Levit 548-1083

Eli Kwartler 253-2929

DEVARIM: WORDS FROM RABBI DAVID DUNN BAUER



I LOVE the way the JCA is framing the week of Pesach this year. It's up to each of us to fill the week well.

Pesach strikes notes of solemnity and celebration. *Avadim Hayinu*! We commemorate our centuries of slavery in Egypt. We eat *Matzah*, *Lechem oni*, the bread of afflic-

tion, and we acknowledge the cost in human life and suffering of our liberation through the 10 plagues. At the same time, we gather as friends, family, community around the seder table and feel more closely connected to other Jews as at no other time in the year.

Make your reservation NOW for our community seder on Sunday night, April 20th, as we sing, eat, pray, talk, and rejoice together.

In preparation for this one week, we rid our houses of *chametz*, anything leavened, anything with the tangy richness of yeast and fermentation. Practically, it is spring cleaning time. Spiritually, we can make use of this process to find a strong core of integrity and determination to make our lives and world better, free of pharaonic oppression. This is not about theory or prayer, this is about *tikkun olam*, repairing our broken world, especially the fractures in society for which we are responsible.

As a people who experience grief and revulsion at Pharaoh's edict to drown our first-born, we don't take the imagery lightly. If we as a country have not rid our security forces of the hateful practice of waterboarding, of torture, by the time Pesach begins, then we must speak out, cry out as the Israelites did, until our voices are heard in heaven

and around the earth. Torture is never right. Torture corrupts the torturer even as it injures its victims. And our national military experts testify, it brings us nothing. It does not elicit reliable testimony. (see www.rhr-na.org)

When we emerge from Pesach this year, on Sunday night

This is not about theory

or prayer, this is about

tikkun olam, repairing

our broken world....

April 27th, we will be led by one of the great rebellious voices in contemporary Jewish history -- Sophie Tucker. Broadway actress and playwright Carol Fox Prescott (also a Jewish teacher and - I'm so proud! - my cousin!) will entertain and

energize us with her one-woman show, "Some of These Days" reintroducing us to Sophie Tucker's life, wit, and art. Tucker was a pioneering Jewish feminist and a central figure in New York Jewish culture in the heart of the 20th century. The woman was chametz personified. So after the performance, we'll head for the social hall for pastries and beer, symbolizing the full richness of life from which we abstain during the holiday week. (see pages 13 & 15 for more information.)

This year the JCA mindfully shares matzah together at the start, and pastry together at the end of the holiday. Seder then Sophie. Salt water then beer. And in the middle, let's fight pharaoh, wherever we find him in our lives.

B'virkat shalom - with a blessing of peace, Rallri Bauer





A Special "Thank You" to
Nick Seamon and
The Black Sheep Deli and Bakery
for providing us with a
wonderful brunch on Purim

President's column from page 1

And finally and most importantly – the JCA wants all individuals to feel welcome as appreciated members of the community, no matter what their personal or financial circumstances may be.

b'shalom, John Loeb



RELIGION COMMITTEE

Paul Charette, Co-chair, 860-559-4926, Cyclone411@charter.net Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser, Co-chair 413-774-5796, shapiro-rieser@comcast.net

RELIGION CALENDAR

Shabbat HaChodesh, Parashat Tazria Leviticus 12:1-13:39

April 4, Friday

5:30 PM

Intergenerational Family Service followed by potluck supper

April 5, Saturday

10:00 AM

Reconstructionist Service (main sanctuary)

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

Masorti Service (small sanctuary)

Service will be led by community members

D'var Torah: To be announced

There will be Torah study led by John Clayton following

kiddush

4:30 PM- Mincha Service Bar Mitzvah: Timothy Bobrowski Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

63 80

April 6, Sunday- Rosh Chodesh Nisan

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Shabbat Metzora, Leviticus 14:1-15:33

April 11, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

Potluck supper and program following the service

Program: Jill Meredith Berlin on Bruce Davidson's portraits

April 12, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Catherine Madsen

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer 4:30 PM- Mincha Service Bar Mitzvah: Gabriel Kaufman Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

B

April 17, Fast of the Firstborn- Search for Chametz

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Shabbat HaGadol, Leviticus 16:1-18:30

April 18, Friday

6:15 PM

Carlebach Style Service

Service Leader: Rhonda Shaprio-Rieser Oneg following the service (no potluck supper)

April 19, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leaders: Rabbi Bauer D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer

> ജ ഉാ Pesach

April 19, Saturday

Passover begins at Sundown

April 20, Sunday

9:30 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

6:00 PM

Second Seder at JCA

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Shabbat 7th Day Pesach Exodus 13:17-15:26, Numbers 28:19-25

April 25, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

April 26, Saturday

10:00 AM- Service with Yiskor Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer D'yar Torah: Rabbi Bauer

B

This year, once again, the JCA will be hosting a seder on the second night of Peasach.

Please see page 12 or the JCA website for more information.

MAKE SURE YOU REGISTER EARLY AS THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF PLACES AVAILABLE AND IT FILLS UP QUICKLY.

KIDDUSH SPONSORS

March 15-

Lori Friedman and James Young, in honor of their son Asher Friedman Young becoming Bar Mitzvah

April 5 (Mincha)-

Paul Bobrowski and Abby Coren in honor of their son Timothy Bobrowski becoming Bar Mitzvah

April 12 (Mincha)-

Oran Kaufman and Danielle Barshak in honor of their son Gabriel Kaufman becoming Bar Mitzvah

Please make sure you speak to Linda Cooper and fill out a Kiddush/Oneg sponsor form to assure that the date you want will be reserved.

FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAM, APRIL 11

Jill Meredith Berlin will speak on artist Bruce Davidson's portraits. See page 18 for more information.

WEDNESDAY MORNING MEDITATION SERVICE

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.

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.

MASORTI LAY-I FD SHARBAT MINYAN

The Masorti Minyan continues to meet on the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 am.

All are welcome to attend, including families with children, and to take a leadership role.

For details contact: Catherine Madsen, 253-2930

FOOT STOMPING MELODIES FOR WELCOMING SHABBAT

The next Carlebach-style service will be on April 18th

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

There will be no potlcuk supper following the service this month, but there will be an oneg.

THE PROCESS OF REPLACING OUR CHUMASHIM CONTINUES:

Our only source of revenue for this is from your donations to the prayer-book 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.

Donating a chumash is a wonderful way of acknowledging a special occasion or honoring a loved one while also making an important contribution to the JCA.

YOU ARE NEEDED ON TUESDAY MORNINGS!

Every Tuesday morning several people meet in the small sanctuary for a morning service. Often, we are not able to make a minyan and what's frustrating is that more often than not we are eight or nine people. This is a wonderful way to begin your day. The service begins at 7:30 and is over by 8:30. Latecomers are always welcome. Your attendance could make the difference between someone being able to say Kaddish for a loved one or not. Please consider coming when you can.

Check the JCA website at:

www.j-c-a.org/services.html

for updated religion calendar information.

EDUCATION NEWS

Jody Rosenbloom, Director of Education, 256-0160, ext. 203



Celebrating Israel's 60th Birthday

Students will spend the week of May 4th celebrating Israel's 60th birthday in a variety of ways. All grades are working on songs about Israel during their music time on Sundays. All these songs will be sung during Learner's Minyan on May 4th. Fifth Graders, who have been learning about Israel during the year, will host an afternoon of activities on Wednesday, May 7: including a presentation about Operation Rehovot, our sister community.

Becoming B'nai Mitzvah: A Conversation for 4th Graders and Their Parents

Sunday, May 4 from 10-11:30 am

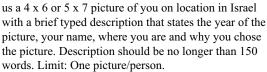
Our congregation is delighted to have students formally become b'nai mitzvah by leading services, chanting Torah and/or Haftarah, and doing mitzvah projects towards tikkun olam, repairing the world. Interested students and their parent (s) are required to participate in a series of workshops to help in this process of becoming b'nai mitzvah. JCA School and Lander Grinspoon Academy Fourth Grade students are invited to join Rabbi Bauer for this initial meeting of exploration and information. Fifth graders and parents who did not attend last year are welcome.

Wanted: Pictures of JCA Members in Israel

For a special "Israel's 60th Birthday" display in the JCA Hall

Submit by Sunday, April 23, 2008

JCA School would like to show students the joys and challenges of Israel as experienced by our community. Please bring



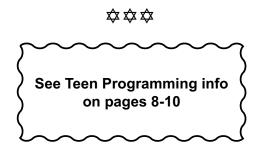
Teaching Assistants will put these submissions together in a collage to be hung in the hall during the month of May. Pictures will not be returned.

Thanks To:

- Room Parents, Debra Evans, Cheryl Edgerly, Lisa Blain, Anna Robbins, and the school families and teen contributors for helping with the Purim raffle donations.
- Debra Evans and Elizabeth Trobaugh for their efforts bringing together 5th graders to attend Saturday Shabbat services together twice! (Due to a snow cancellation)
- Susan Weinstein for organizing a sleepover for the 5th grade girls.
- Marilyn Kushick for teaching 5th grade about Operation Rehovot.

Fundraiser Reminder, Bring Us Your:

Boxtops for Education, Dean's Beans orders, and your recyclable computer printer cartridges – Every little bit helps our school.



Calendar

| Sat,, Apr. 12 | Shabbat Shalom class (10:30-12) 4-6 year olds with parents | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Sat, Apr. 19 | Erev Passover - First Seder | | | |
| Sat, Apr. 19- Sat. Apr 26 | No Classes-Spring Break | | | |
| Sun, Apr. 27 | Classes Resume | | | |
| Sun, May 4 | Indroduction to Bar/Bat Mitzvah- Grade 4 with parents, 10-11:30 am 11:45 am- All School Israel Sing at Learner's Minyan | | | |

More Reasons to support The Dean's Beans Organic Coffee Fundraiser.....

OK, so you know that Dean's Beans coffee is organic, fair trade, kosher, and offered at a great price, but did you also know that:

- 1) You can order any blend that Dean's Beans offers (in addition to the JCA blend)?
- 2) Once the pre-paid orders are delivered and separated, they are ready for pick up in the JCA kitchen anytime the building is open—not just on the official, Sunday pick-up date when they are set out on the lobby bench?



- 3) Gold's Gym members may opt to pick-up their orders at the facility's front desk?
- 4) You may place a standing, pre-paid order for multiple months, eliminating the need to remember monthly order deadlines?
- 5) Chai tea bags and dark chocolate covered beans are also available?
- 6) We've raised over \$3,000 in profits since 2005 to help the religious school meet its budget requirements???

So, what are you waiting for? Get your name on the Dean's Beans email list and order this month! Contact Sue Weinstein: susanweinstein1@yahoo.com or 548-9552.

Thanks to all of our supporters for contributing to the success of this fundraiser!

The next order date: March 30th Pick-up (in the lobby): April 6th



Don't forget to bring in your **Box Tops for Education**. Each one you bring in helps to support our Synagogue!

A JCA CAI FNDAR

The fundraising committee of the JCA has a new project in mind – a desk engagement calendar. We have been consulting with Temple Sinai in Longmeadow where they have been producing such a calendar for 59 years! The calendar has room for ads. It contains all the information about Jewish holidays, religious school schedules, synagogue events, etc. It also is possible to include birthdays and anniversaries of members of the congregation.

We think this project has tremendous potential for building community and raising a substantial amount of money on an annual basis. It would be an attractive, useful addition to our desks. Sound like a winner? We think so BUT... We need your help to make this idea a reality. Would you be willing to work on a committee for this project? If so contact John Loeb, JolBioSol@aol.com or Joan Temkin, j.temkin@comcast.net. Help make this happen!

JCA Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 10:30 - 4:00

Wednesday 4:00 - 6:00 pm & Sunday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm for Religious School support.







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TEEN PROGRAMMING CALENDAR **April 2008**

> Officer Meeting 5:30pm Confirmation Class with

> Confirmation Class with

Rabbi at Food For

Thought Books

Rachael 6-8pm



Volunteer to cook dinner and serve at local Homeless Shelter 4-8pm

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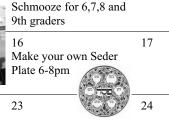
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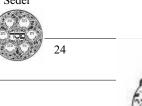
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- 4/2-5:30pm Confirmation Class Officer Meeting @ JCA
- 4/2–6-8pm Confirmation Class with Rachael @ JCA; Dinner provided
- 4/6- 4-8pm Cook and Serve Dinner at Local Homeless Shelter (meet and pickup at JCA- parents needed to volunteer to drive); Dinner provided - Free to Chai members, \$8 for Alef members and 6th graders, \$12 for non-members. Open to 6-12th graders.

Being Jewish at College

4/9- Time TBD Confirmation Class with the Rabbi at Food For Thought Books; Dinner Provided.

Panel 6-8pm

30

- 4/13 4pm Pioneer Valley Film Festival "Mechina" @ Smith College Hillyer-Graham Auditorium. In Israel, military service is mandatory for all teenagers after high school graduation. Living with her cousin Amitai and his five friends as they prepare for their army service, film director Maital Guttman uncovers the complexity of being young and idealistic in a time of war. Open to 6-12th graders.
- 4/16 5:30-7:30pm Make Your Own Seder Plate @ JCA- Open to 6-9th graders, Dinner Provided. Free to Chai members, \$8 for Alef members and 6th graders, \$12 for non-members.
- 4/27 2-4:30pm **SPARK! Volunteer for Service**—Come volunteer at the Center for Extended Care. New members welcome!
- 4/30 6-8pm Being Jewish at College Panel for 9-12th graders to learn about being Jewish at College, dealing with questions about Israel, addressing Anti-Semitism, and finding resources. Great opportunity for parents and teens to start thinking about the next step. Free to all. Refreshments served.

Want more info? Contact the teen adviser Rachael at rbgoren@gmail.com or 256-0160 x208. These programs are partially funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation Teen Initiative.

Volunteer to Help Hunger and Homelessness

Sunday, April 6th 4-8pm Meet & Pickup @ JCA Open to 6-12th graders

> Chai Members- free 6th graders- \$8 Alef Members - \$8

Non-members-\$12

RSVP by 4/3 to jcateens@gmail.com

Join your friends with JCAT to help make a difference in someone's life. We will be making a dinner and then going to Jessie's House in Amherst to serve the meal. Afterwards, we will return to the JCA for some discussion.

This is a great opportunity to practice Mitzvot and do your part to help hunger and homelessness in the Valley.

<u>Please note:</u> Parents are needed to help driving and cooking in the JCA kitchen. Please email the teen director at teendir@j-c-a.org if you can volunteer to help out.

Confirmation Class students receive 4 credits for participating in this event.



This program is partially funded by the generous support of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation Teen Initiative and is sponsored by the Jewish Community of Amherst Teen Programming.





CONFIRMATION CLASS APRIL CALENDAR OF CLASSES, ELECTIVES & EVENTS

*=MANDATORY

April

- 4/2 5:30pm @ JCA: Confirmation Officers Meeting
- 4/2 6-8pm*: Confirmation Class with Rachael (2 credits, Dinner Provided)
- 4/6 4-8pm: Volunteer to help hunger and homelessness (4 credits)
- 4/9 Time TBD*: Confirmation Class with the Rabbi at Food For Thought Books (2 credits, Dinner Provided)
- 4/13 4pm— Pioneer Valley Film Festival at Smith College (2 credits)
- 4/27 2-4:30pm at Center for Extended Care: SPARK! Volunteering with the elderly (3 credits)
- 4/30 6-8pm—Being Jewish at College Panel—parents invited (3 credits)

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June 30 – August 8

Three, two-week sessions, M-F 8:30- 4 PM

- Arts & Crafts with Jewish Themes
- Song, Theatre, Yoga, Dance Electives
- Swimming in the Amherst College Pool
- Field Games & Sports, including the infamous "Gaga"
- Tikkun Olam and Environmental Projects
- Daily Snack & Lunch in the Amherst College Dining Hall
- Weekly Family Kabbalat Shabbat Event

Located at Amherst College, and providing a joyful, creative, spiritually rich and educationally sound summer day camp experience.

Registration Forms may be downloaded at: www.j-c-a.org
For further information, contact us at: 413-256-0160 x250 or shemesh@j-c-a.org
Partial scholarships available through the generosity of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation

Camp Shemesh is affiliated with the Jewish Community of Amherst, and not Amherst College.

Camp Shemesh must comply with the regulations of the MA Dept. of Public Health and be licensed by the board of health.

SECOND NIGHT SEDER AT THE JCA SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2008, 6:00pm

Please join us for a delicious meal and spiritually uplifting experience in the JCA Social Hall led by Rabbi Bauer.

All are welcome: members, non-members, extended family, out-of-town friends, students, and interested non-Jews who wish to experience the joy of this central Jewish event.

The meal will be strictly Kosher for Passover, cooked in a mashgiach certified kitchen.

All items pareve with the exception of the chicken entrée.

- Fresh made Gefilte Fish
- Pareve Matzah Ball Soup
- Assorted Salads
- Entrée
- Tri-Color Roasted Potatoes
- Dessert

Entrée choices are:

- Poached Salmon
- Vegetarian Kugel

(Potato and assorted vegetables)

- Breast of Chicken a l'Orange*
- Chicken Nuggets*
- *served according to JCA kashrut guidelines

Adults: \$29

Children: \$18 (half portion entrée or chicken nuggets)

Accommodation will be made for reduced price or free meals if needed.

Please indicate the amount you are able to pay on the form (held in confidence).

Your response and full payment is due immediately!

Please don't put this off if you plan to attend.

The caterer must order sufficient Kosher for Passover ingredients.

We have a deadline of April 4th for entering our order!

Questions? Requests? Paul Charette (860) 559-4926 cyclone411@charter.net

JCA Passover Seder - Sunday, April 20, 2008, 6:00 pm RSVP by April 4th

| ADULT ENTREES: QTY | \$29 Total | CHILD ENTREES: QTY | \$18 Total |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Salmon | \$ | ½ portion Salmon | \$ |
| Chicken | \$ | Chicken Nuggets | \$ |
| Vegetarian Kugel | \$ | ½ Vegetarian Kugel | \$ |
| NAMES(S): | | GRAND TO | OTAL: \$ |
| Email: Phone: | | | |

Send checks (made out to Paul Charette) and this form to: JCA Passover Seder, c/o Paul Charette, 21 Arlington St., Chicopee, MA 01020

CAROL FOX PRESCOTT AS SOPHIE TUCKER

Sunday, April 27 7:00 PM at the JCA

An evening of Chutzpah! Passion! Chometz! Dancing!

The Fundraising Committee is proud and excited to present "Some of These Days – A Jewish Woman's Journey through Chutzpah, Passion and Pastries" a one-night performance about the connection between Carol Fox Prescott, the singer and interpreter of this musical play, and Sophie Tucker, the great American Jewish singer and personality. The core connecting link between the two women is independence, originality and a love of Judaism. The core of Sophie's unique personality is expressed in the songs she chose to sing – "My Yiddishe Mama", "The Last of the Red Hot Mamas" and others

Please join us for this fundraiser and a celebratory good time!

After the show, we'll move to the Social Hall for a post-Passover celebration. A dessert buffet, raffle, beer sales and other surprises are planned, including dancing to music from Sophie Tucker's time to the present.

\$30 per person. Please reserve early! Reserved tickets will be held for you at the door. Guests will be seated in the order in which they arrive.

Mail a check to the JCA, Sophie Tucker Event, 742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002. We will send you a confirmation by mail or email (if provided).

Drop off check or cash at the JCA Office, in an envelope marked "Sophie Tucker." We will send you a confirmation by mail or email (if provided).

Questions? Please contact: stevewoolf@comcast.net subject: "Sophie"

See the flyer on page 15



Passover 2008

April 19th-26th

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Commemoration of Yom Hashoah at the JCA

MAY 4TH 7 PM

We have a very special program thisyear. **Anita Schorr** who survived four years as a teen-ager in concentration and labor camps will present a dramatic presentation of those years. Ms. Schorr has spoken to a number of school and college groups about her experiences. Complimenting the program will be the voices of **Mak'hela** who will include songs written by **Victor Ulmann** while he was in Theresienstadt where Anita Schorr was first sent.

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SOME OF THESE DAYS

A Jewish Woman's Journey through Chutzpah, Passion & Pastries



An evening with

CAROL FOX PRESCOTT as SOPHIE TUCKER

APRIL 27, 2008 7:00 P.M.

Jewish Community of Amherst Join us for a one-night special performance! This fundraising event includes show, dessert buffet, dancing and other special treats. \$30.00 per person.

| Please check and attach to your payment: |
|--|
| Enclosed is my check (made out to the JCA) fortickets. We will send you a confirmation. Your seats will be reserved and your ticket(s) will be given to you at the door. Please mail payments to the JCA, 742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002 |
| Attached is my check (made out to the JCA) fortickets. We will send you a confirmation. Your seats will be reserved and your ticket(s) will be given to you at the door. If you drop off your payment at the JCA Office, please attach this slip, and put in an envelope marked "Sophie Tucker" and the Office staff will forward. |
| I would like more information on the event - My phone and/or email address is: |

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PASSOVER RAP by JCA member Rebecca Fisher

Narrator

Well maybe it's odd Or maybe all right, But here is a poem For Passover night

Miriam

I'm Miriam, Moses' sister
I put that baby in the river
And watched from the reeds while Pharoah's daughter
Pulled out the cradle from the water.

And really things could have gone much worse: I fixed it so mother became Moses' nurse.

Pharoah's Daughter

I raised that boy up like a prince, But he found God and I haven't seen him since.

Aaron

And I'm Aaron, Moses' bro I gotta do his talking cause he's kinda slow –

Slave

And I ain't nuthin' but a Hebrew slave Spend my whole life workin' on Pharoah's grave.

Pharoah 1

Well I'm Pharoah, favored of Ra My rule goes down to Nubia, And I'm reachin' for Ethiopia While I'm tradin' with Mesopotamia.

I got people building statues of me That are gonna last till eternity (or at least – till a poet named Shelley)[footnote Ozy-mandias] Anyway, that Moses cat Turned out to be a real brat: He kills a guy and runs away and then comes back to free the slaves!

Yocheved

I'm Yocheved and I come from Midian When I saw the stranger I knew he was a cityman Egyptian clothes and blood on his hands And pretty soon Moses became my man. That's right, I'm Yocheved, Moses' wife And living with him has been some kind of life.

When the man wants water he beats on a stone And I seen him talking to bushes, alone.

We wandered the desert but what can you do –
(Sung to the tune of the last line of Beautiful Dreamer) It ain't easy being married to a Jew.

Moses

My name is Moses, and I thought it odd
The very first time I talked to God
From a bush on fire the great Voice spoke
When the bush didn't burn I knew it was no joke –
And He said, "Go get your people free,"
And I looked back and I said, "Why me?"
And God said when they see what I can do
Even Pharoah will listen to you."

So I went back to Egypt land And among the slaves I found my clan And I told Pharoah to let my people go; Everyone knows that he said, "No!"

He told the slaves to make bricks from mud, So I turned the Nile water to blood – But Pharoah had a hardened heart – So nine more plagues had to start.

continued on next page

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continued from previous page

Darkness came without a morn And the death of the first born; All over Egypt people cried When even the first born cattle died, So finally Pharaoh relented And to our departure consented.

Pharoah 2

Well I'm Pharoah, ruler of all And releasing the Jews was a tricky call – They built our cities, they built our graves – Can you raise a monument without slaves? But frogs and death and hail and boils -I let them go with Egypt's spoils. His Yahweh put on quite a show After ten plagues they had to go. I changed my mind and we gave chase To tell the truth, it wasn't much of a race: They were on foot, we in chariots proud, And we would have caught up it if weren't for that cloud.

That funny cloud made it hard to see, But we caught up with them finally. They got to the sea and they somehow crossed Even then I didn't know how much would be lost. When I saw the Hebrews on the other side I ordered my army to buck the tide. When I saw them sink beneath the waves I thought, "Maybe I don't need those slaves." I went back alone to Egypt's glory And that's my last part in this story.

Desert Slave

We were out in the desert and just for a laugh, We made Aaron make us a golden calf. After a lifetime of captivity

We thought we were due some festivity; But when Moses saw us going wild He said the law had been defiled. I guess he couldn't take a joke: He threw those tablets and they broke. Then Moses went back up the mount And brought back commandments, ten by some count.

Desert Slave 2

We walked in the desert with aching feet, Nothing to drink and nothing to eat And we told Moses to take us back, And Moses gave the rock a whack. Out from the rock did water spew, And we gathered manna with the dew.

Miriam

I walked with our people Right through the sea A miracle That made us free When we reached the far shore I saw my chance And pulled out my timbrels And started to dance.

And in all those years in the desert lands It was I who found water amid the sands.

Narrator

That's all I have for now, my friends, Tho' I wouldn't say the story ends: The people did receive the Law, Still much revered as the Torah.

So eat your matzoh And drink your wine. And thank Yah we're free To have a good time!





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News from the Tikkun Olam Committee

The JCA will be conducting its Annual Food Collection at the Amherst/Hadley Stop and Shop on Thursday-May 1, Friday-May 2 and Sunday-May 4. JCA volunteers are needed in 2-hour shifts to make this effort a success. Food is collected to help stock the Amherst Survival Center's Emergency Food Pantry at a critical time, as summer approaches. Food collections and donations to the Survival Center are reduced significantly during the summer, but the need continues, especially for children out of school meal programs. We need your help to continue this outstanding community project.

Please call Arnie Alper at 549-0438.

The next meeting of the Tikkun Olam Committee will be on Tuesday, April 8, 8:30-10 a.m. in the JCA library. New members are always welcome.

JCA ADULT READING GROUP

The fourth meeting of the reading cycle for the JCA Adult Reading Group will take place on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room. The book for discussion is **Triangle** by Katharine Weber. It is available in paperback.

It is a novel about the 1911 Triangle Shirt waist factory in New York which killed 146 workers, most of them women, and galvanized efforts to reform working conditions in sweatshops. The novel "carefully, and wrenchingly, allows both the reader and Rebecca, the grandaughter of the oldest living survivor of the fire, Esther, to discover the secret truth about Esther and the Triangle without spelling it out; it is a truth that brings home the real sufferings of factory life as well as the human capacity to tell the stories we want to hear." (Publisher's Weekly Review).

This is the last meeting of the adult reading group for the year, which goes from September through June. New group members are always welcome.

If you have any questions, please call Ken Talan at 253-2248.



Music Has No Boundaries

A joint concert in honor of Mrs. Josephine Daniels Fulilove presented by

Mak'hela:

The Jewish Chorus of Western Massachusetts

The Freedom Choir of Springfield

Featuring the World Premiere of "Go Down, Moses" a new arrangement by Clifton J. Noble, Jr.

Commissioned by Mak'hela in honor of our friendship with The Freedom Choir

Sunday, April 13, 2008 at 5:00 pm

Alden Baptist Church 649 State Street Springfield, Massachusetts

Free admission, donations welcome

More Details at: <www.makhela.org>

ART TALK:

Bruce Davidson's Portraits April 11, 7:30 p.m.

Bruce Davidson, noted Magnum documentary photographer, has made evocative portraits of artists, writers, musicians, actors and other cultural celebrities (Isaac Bashevis Singer, Arthur Miller and Marilyn Monroe, Leonard Bernstein, Allen Ginsburg). He has also used the portrait format to capture society in transition in the 60s and 70s (civil rights era South, New York's Lower East Side, Brooklyn). Dr. Jill Meredith Berlin, who has collaborated with Davidson on museum exhibitions and writing projects, will present an overview of his unique vision and anecdotes of his experiences.

This talk will take place after Friday evening service and a potluck dinner. The Friday evening service begins at 6:15 pm. All are welcome to attend all or any part of the activities.

The Social Committee.

Newsletter Advertising Rates

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| JCA Member | \$ 160.00 | \$ 536.00 | \$ 1232.00 | |
| rate per issue | | \$ 134.00 | \$ 112.00 | |

Advertise in the JCA Newsletter

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

By advertising you can:

- Help support the cost of producing the newsletter
- Let the community know about your products and/or services.
- Increase your business!



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Community Announcements

Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival

March 23-April 17, 2008 More than 30 films, concerts and special events are part of this year's Jewish Film Festival.

Suspense, drama, comedy, history, heartwarming, challenging, joyful, disturbing, hopeful, fun, musical- the Jewish Film Festival has it all.

Films at UMass

Palestinian prisoners and the evacuation of Jewish settlements in Gaza are the subjects of two Israeli films being shown at UMass, as part of the Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival.

The films are:

Hot House

Thurday, April 3 at 7:30pm.

Storm of Emotions

Monday, April 7 at 7:30pm.

Both films will be shown in the UMass School of Management Auditorium. Tickets \$8 (free with UMass ID). More information at www. umass.edu/jewish or 545-9642.

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B'nai Tzedek Celebrates 10 Years with a Tzedakah Fair

On May 20, young people from our congregation will celebrate their commitment to philanthropy at the annual B'nai Tzedek banquet, to be held at Springfield's Sinai Temple.

This year, in celebration of the tenth year anniversary of B'nai Tzedek, there will be a Tzedakah Fair. Local Jewish non-profit organizations will make their case to the teens one-onone in a casual market atmosphere, allowing members much more immediate information on which to base their decisions. The 5:30 p.m. fair will be followed by dinner, awards, and performance by Joel Chasnoff, a cutting-edge Jewish comedian who has been cracking them up on the Hillel circuit.

This event is by invitation only, and space is limited. B'nai Tzedek members and Jewish nonprofits will receive invitations and RSVP cards in the mail; RSVP is due this spring. Please save the date of May 20!

x x x

Israel @ 60

Celebrate israel's 60th Birthday at

Hoop It Up For Israel!

May 18, 2008, Noon - 4:00 pm at the Basketball Hall of Fame

Play with the players!: Tal Brody & Micki Berkovitch (Maccabi Tel Aviv players)

plus

Israeli Dance, Face Painting, Bounce House, Arts & Crafts, israeli Food

Go to:

www.jewishwesternmass.org for details.

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AdoptonLink

AdoptionLink will present a free information meetings about international and domestic adoption Programs on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at Jewish Family Service, 16 Armory Street Northampton, MA and Thursday, March 27, 2008 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at AdoptionLink, 475 Sum-

ner Ave (Rear), Springfield, MA.

For more information, or to register, please call AdoptionLink at 413-746-2027.

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Western Mass. Jewish Genealogical Society

April 7, 2008 at 7:00pm Forbes Library, 20 West St. Northampton, MA

"Visiting Your Ancestral Town"
With Miriam Weiner

Have you thought about walking in the footsteps of your ancestors and been frustrated because "everyone who knows anything has passed away?"

You will be surprised at what you can still find out.

Please bring the name of at least one ancestral town with you to the presentation.

Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Our speaker, Miriam Weiner, is an author, lecturer and journalist and currently serves as the president of the Routes to Roots, Foundation, Inc.

She also coordinates individual and family tours to the "old country" and offers archive research services to those who want to know more about their roots.

x x x

Gan Keshet Pre-School

Gan Keshet Preschool is accepting enrollment applications for the 2008-09 school year. For additional information and/or to arrange a visit, please contact our Director, Wendy Stein at 584-3593 x204.

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continued on next page

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Hadassah's Annual Youth Aliyah Potluck Dinner

Sunday, April 13, 6 p.m. Easthampton Lathrop House 100 Basset Brook Drive

Please bring a dish: A-H-appetizer or salad; I-P-main dish; P-Z-dessert

Entertainment by Kolot, UMass' Jewish Acapella Group

Also,

Two speakers who lived in Israel as Teens & Young Adults:

This is a fundraiser for Youth Aliyah so we request a minimum donation of \$18.00. If you are unable to attend please send your donation to our treasurer: Neta Bolozky, 3 Evergreen Lane, Amherst, MA 01002

 $\triangle \triangle \triangle$

Beyond Genocide at Smith College

Contemporary illuminated manuscripts reflecting the legacy of genocide

Artist and author: Amy Fagin

April 1 - May 20

Please go to: www.hgf.org/uploads/ 140Smith%20flyer.pdf for more information.

x x x

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



Community announcements should be brief and of interest to the local Jewish community. Announcements will be listed as space permits.





















A Literary and Arts Trip to Israel - May 17^{Th} - 28^{Th} , 2009

The JCA is planning a very exciting trip to Israel that will focus on the arts, literary and religious innovations of the Jewish State. Participants will engage directly with the artists, writers, and religious innovators that give contemporary Israel its unique vibrancy. Our daily activities will include:

- encounters with authors to discuss their stories, essays, and articles;
- visits to studios and art galleries, talking with artists about their creative process and their life in Israel;
- studying Jewish text in the new, egalitarian batei midrash (houses of study) that have sprung up in recent years; and
- trips to the Bezalel Art School, stunning historic sites around Israel, the Museum of Islamic Culture,

music and theatrical performances, exploring the unparalleled religious and cultural splendor of the country.

We will combine our immersion in Israel's art and culture with explorations of the geopolitics of Israel as well as daily life in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. There will be plenty of free time to explore on your own. The tentative itinerary is online at www.j-c-a.org and the budget will be on the site within two weeks. This trip is open to any interested person in and outside of our congregation. All individuals residing in Western Massachusetts are eligible for a Harold Grinspoon Foundation grant of up to \$1000 for Israel travel. Go to www.hgf.org to download an application.

If you are at all interested in the May 2009 trip, please contact Karen Loeb at (413) 253-0336 or email at kloeb@comcast.net.

DONATIONS

Annual Giving

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Chesed Committee

In Memory of Cathy Peterfreund (Amy Rothenberg & Paul Herscu)

Children's Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Cathy Peterfreund (Eva & Norman Brown)

In Memory of Sid Myers (Eva & Norman Brown)

In Memory of Warren Weinberg, father of Barbara Burkart (Eva & Norman Brown)

JCA General Fund

In Memory of Elaine Moore, mother of Brenda Miller (Goldie & Stanley Miller)

In Memory of Cathy Peterfreund (Judith & Jonathan Souweine)

In Memory of Manny Jacobson (From friends of Manny, given to the JCA by Manny's son David)

In Memory of Cathy Burke Peterfreund (Judith & Allen Davis and Karen & John Loeb)

In Honor of Alan Peterfreund and family (Judith & Allen Davis and Karen & John Loeb)

Alan Peterfreund

Prayerbook Fund

In Memory of Cathy Peterfreund, wife of Alan, mother of Rebecca and Sean, mother-in-law of Bil Zarch and Eirin Krane Peterfreund (Patience & Aaron Bousel)

In Appreciation of Tobi Sznajderman and the Auction Committee (Patience & Aaron Bousel)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of Catherine Burke Peterfreund (Fran Saed)

In Memory of Warren Weinberg (Fran Saed)

In Memory of Robert Rubin (Fran Saed)

Alan Peterfreund

In Honor of Eli Charney Perkin's Brit Milah (Madeleine Charney)

In Memory of Linda Sinapi's mother, Adelina Sinapi (Karen Hoffman)

In Memory of Cathy Peterfreund (Judy & Allen Davis)

In Memory of Adelina Sinapi, mother of Linda Sinapi and mother-in-law of Catherine Carulli (Patience & Aaron Bousel)

CONDOLENCES

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

Adelina Sinapi, mother of Linda Sinapi Josef Weizenbaum, father of Sharon Weizenbaum and grandfather of Zoe Weizenbaum

MAZEL TOV

To Madeleine Charney on the birth of Eli Charney Perkins





















The Deadline for the May Newsletter is **April 13**th

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 If someone in your family, or someone you know in the community, is ill and/or in the hospital, please contact Rabbi Bauer or 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.

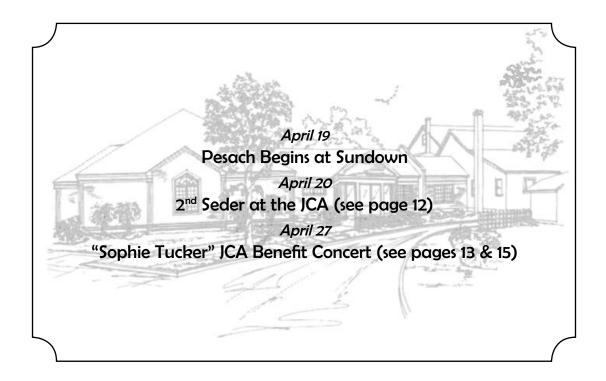


Jewish Community of Amherst

April 2008 25 Adar II ~ 25 Nisan 5768



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|------------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| 30 | 31 | 25 ADAR II | Wednesday 26 ADAR II | 3 27 ADAR II | 4 28 ADAR II | 5 29 ADAR II |
| Dean's Beans Order Deadline | | 7-30 am Shacharit Minyan | 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 12 Noon Text Study 6:00 pm Confirmation Class - Elective wrap-up 7:00 pm Adult-Ed Class with Rabbi Bauer 8:00 pm Religion Committee | 7:30 pm Baord Meeting | 17:02 5:30 pm Intergenerational Family Service followed by Potluck Supper | Tazria Parashat Hachodesh 10:00 am Reconstructionist Service 10:00 am Masorti Service 4:30 pm Mincha Service Bar Mitzvah: Timothy Bobrowski |
| 6 I NISAN | 7 2 NISAN | 8 3 NISAN | 9 4 NISAN | 10 5 NISAN | 11 6 NISAN | 12 7 NISAN |
| XXRosh Chodesh Nisan Dean's Beans Pickup | Chesed Committee | 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 8:30 am Tikkun Olam Committee | 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation Confirmation Class at Food for Thought Books with Rabbi Bauer (time to be determined) | | 117:10 6:15 pm Service followed by Potuck Supper and "Art Talk" by Jill Meredith Berlin (see page 18) | Metzora 10:00 am Service 10:30 am Shabbat Shalom for enrolled 4-6 year olds 4:30 pm Mincha Service Bar Mitzvah: Gabriel Kaufman |
| 13 Newsletter Deadline | 14 | 15 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan | 11 NISAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 12 Noon Text Study 7:00 pm Adult Ed Class with Rabbi Bauer | 17 12 NISAN Kitchen Kosher l'Pesach | 18 | 19 14 NISAN 14 NISAN 15 NISAN 16 NISAN 16 NISAN 17 NISAN 18 NISAN |
| 20 15 NISAN | 21 16 NISAN | 22 17 NISAN | 23 18 NISAN | 24 19 NISAN | 25 20 NISAN | 26 21 NISAN |
| © Passover - Day 1 9:30 am Service No Religious School 6:00 pm 2nd Seder at JCA (see page 12) | | ᄎ Passover - First Intermediate Day 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan | ZPassover - Second Intermediate Day 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation No Religious School 5:00 pm Fundraising Committee | XPassover - Third Intermediate Day | 117:25 XPassover - Fourth Intermediate Day 6:15 pm Service | XPassover - Day 7 10:00 am Service with Yiskor No 7th Grade |
| 22 NISAN Religious School Resumes 7:00 pm "Sophie Tucker" JCA Benefit Concert (see pages 13 and 15) | 28 23 NISAN | 29 24 NISAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan | 30 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 7:00 pm Adult Ed Class with Rabbi Bauer | | | |



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