



The Shofar

July-August, 2018

Congregation House of Israel

9 Tammuz - 20 Elul, 5778

Hear Ye, Hear Ye

Now is the time for all wonderful women
To join CHI Sisterhood.

You might be tempted to ask WHY?

- Annual Congregation meetings to sponsor
- Friends with which to socialize
- Parties to host
- Seders to organize
- Latkes to fry

(Just to illustrate a few good reasons why)

So, please continue your support by joining Sisterhood
this year.

Dues remain at \$36.00 per person
Daughters of CHI \$18.00

Lunch at our first meeting on Monday, August 27, 11 a.m.,
Burgauer Hall, will be FREE to those who have paid by
Monday, August 13, 2018

Please send your check to:
Ruth Sedler
152 Blue Heron Dr
Hot Springs, AR 71913

Thank You

We would like to thank the following donors for their contributions (as of June 20, 2018)

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Steven and Clarissa Kirsch

In beloved memory of Steven's Grandmother, Faye Kirsch

Fred Korngut

In beloved memory of Dora Korngut, Fred's mother

Yossi and Kim Baron

In beloved memory of Meier Baron Yossi's father

In beloved memory of Tikva Baron, Yossi's mother

Sheldon and Carol Kleinman

In beloved memory of Nancy Kleinman, mother of Shelly Kleinman

In beloved memory of Annie Marcus, Carol's grandmother

Ross and Ruth Sedler

*In beloved memory of Ruth's father, Charles Bellin
In honor of Mark Fleischer*

From Diana, Les and the Surfes Family

In honor of Rabbi Chapin and his wife Jeanne, for their years of leadership and friendship



The Shofar

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Congregation House of Israel

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Distributed free to members, prospective members, local clergy and other interested parties.

Mazel Tov

Sophie Fleischer graduated May 20th, 2018, Magna Cum Laude from Lakeside High School.

She has received four scholarships for college to attend the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville:

- The Leadership Scholarship from the University of Arkansas
- The Academic Challenge Scholarship from the State of Arkansas
- The Mary Lumpkin Scholarship from the Lakeside Alumni Association.
- Academic Challenge Scholarship from the Arkansas Department of Higher Education

She currently is a cabin counselor at URJ Henry S. Jacobs Camp. However, she was just promoted to Camp Song Leader at the camp.

Needless to say, her parents and family are very proud.

Reb Shelly's Desk



I join with everyone in our congregation in saying "Thank You" to Rabbi Richard for his seven years of leading our congregation. Not only was he our rabbi, but a dear friend, as well. And a special "thank you" to

his wife Jeanne, for sharing the rabbi with us. We wish them both good health, much happiness and all things wonderful as they begin their newest adventure back in Florida.

As you read this, we're coming up on the 4th of July, American Independence Day. You might wonder what that has to do with us as Jews, but there's more history than what you would think.

If Ben Franklin had his way, the Great Seal of the United States might have featured Moses instead of a bald eagle, according to Yale Professor Philip Gorski in his work, "American Covenant: A History of Civil Religion from the Puritans to the Present.

Moses was one of several Hebrew prophets admired first by the Puritans, who created the early American colonies, and then the revolutionaries who led those colonies to independence.

The Puritan cry for reform became the patriot call for revolution. On July 4, 1776, the United States declared its independence, and the Continental Congress named Franklin and future presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson to form a committee to design a Great Seal.

In fact, a hand-written note of Franklin's design showed 'Moses standing on the shore, and extending his hand over the sea, thereby causing the same to overwhelm Pharaoh who is sitting in an open chariot, a crown on his head and a sword in his hand.'

However, Benjamin Franklin didn't include in his

Continued on page 9

Mazel Tov

Hearn Baby Naming

On Thursday, July 19, we had a very special Baby Naming celebration in honor of the births of two new grandchildren of CHI member Phyllis Hearn.

Proud and excited new parents are Laura and Todd Sussman of Brooklyn, New York, who welcomed son, Grady Sussman, and Michael and Shangrila Hearn of Pacifica, California, who welcomed daughter, Indy Hearn. The two cousins were born within two weeks of each other.

Rabbi Chapin conducted the ceremony, which welcomed the children into the Jewish faith. The ceremony was attended by many other members of the Hearn family. Following the ceremony, all segued over to Ambrosia to celebrate this wonderful day.



ARZA - World Union

“It’s Complicated...”

That the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is complicated is an understatement, but what do these words mean?

“Every argument that is for [the sake of] heaven’s name, it is destined to endure. But if it is not for [the sake of] heaven’s name -- it is not destined to endure. What is [an example of an argument] for [the sake of] heaven’s name? The argument of Hillel and Shammai. What is [an example of an argument] not for [the sake of] heaven’s name? The argument of Korach and all of his congregation (Pirke Avot 5:17).”

In the parsha Korach, we read of a major argument within the Israelite tribe between Korach and Moshe. In this fight, God makes a clear judgment regarding who is right and who is wrong and metes out a severe punishment that removes Korach and his followers from the community. Though we find the violence of this story horrifying, in the increasingly polarized world in which we live, many people appear to embrace the definite and immutable judgment displayed in the text.

No issue is debated more within our community than the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Firebrands on all sides can be uncompromising and absolute in their views. The vast majority of people, though, engage with this issue knowing that it is complicated. In fact, on a recent ARZA mission trip to Israel, “it’s complicated” was a popular refrain that was uttered with such frequency that it became almost comical.

But what do we mean when we say “it’s complicated”? It is, in fact, a true statement, but tone and intention and context can lead these two little words to have many meanings.

“It’s complicated” can be said to express the fact that the greatest minds of several generations have tried to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and have failed. Diplomats, academics, think tanks, and politicians have dedicated their careers to solving this bloody conflict. Speeches have been given, books and articles have been written, and yet we do not appear to be anywhere near the end of the conflict—nor is there an obvious path to this

endpoint that so many desire.

“It’s complicated” can be an invitation to learn, to engage deeply with complex issues and multiple narratives. Read the Torah and the Koran, memorize major and minor historical dates and figures, dive into specific issues like borders, refugees, settlements, Jerusalem, water, security concerns, and ideologies. Understand where compromise is possible and what the general public on both sides is willing to accept.

Yet sometimes “it’s complicated” is not used to express any of these nuances. To those with absolutist views, this phrase can be used to placate and dismiss those with whom they disagree. There is no intention of diving into the complications, and these two words are a polite-sounding way to say, “be quiet, you just don’t understand” or put more bluntly, “shut up, you’re wrong.” Still others mean, “you’re not able to comprehend what is going on, and I don’t have the patience to enter into a debate with you.” When used in these ways, “it’s complicated” become words that lead to alienation, creating ruptures in the community like those seen in this week’s parasha.

Let us be clear, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is indeed complicated. Serious Israel education must involve a deep dive into the complexity of the conflict, the current reality in Israel/Palestine, and the geo-politics of the broader Middle East. It must also involve an intricate reading and internalizing of multiple narratives. It must assume that the learner has capacity and commitment to engage with complexity in ways that are age appropriate, expanding and adding more each year.

As with any argument for the sake of heaven, let us approach this with passion and conviction in our positions, and a genuine thirst for knowledge. Let us also approach this with a desire to understand how our partners in conversation are approaching the issue, because, after all, it is quite complicated.

Shabbat Shalom,

Josh

Rabbi Josh Weinberg is the President of ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America. He was ordained from the HUC-JIR Israeli Rabbinic Program in Jerusalem, and currently lives in New York.

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Jewish Women Can Divorce in Israel Without a ‘Get’ Under New Law

Non-Israeli Jewish women can seek a divorce in the Israeli rabbinical courts, including in cases where the husband refuses to grant one, under a new law passed by the Knesset.

The new government-sponsored law, which will extend the reach of the state-run religious legal bodies beyond the borders of the Jewish state, is designed to help *agunot* — “chained” women who have been refused a religious bill of divorce and cannot remarry under Jewish law, the Times of Israel reported.

The law will be in effect for three years. It was brought to a final vote after a controversial passage was removed, which stated the law would have applied to civil unions as well as Jewish religious marriage ceremonies. The softened government bill also placed limits on the jurisdiction of the Israeli religious courts in debating international cases, restricting their reach to the divorce itself, rather than other divorce-related matters, such as financial agreements and child custody.

Under Jewish law, a marriage cannot be dissolved unless the man consents to give a *get*. Rabbinical courts cannot force a man to give his wife a *get*, but in Israel, they can impose harsh sanctions.

Mazel Tov



Sharon and Michael Waxler will be welcoming a baby granddaughter in August. Their daughter-in-law, Torie, wife of their son, Brian, is excitedly opening a gift at a baby shower hosted by dear friends of Sharon.

Jacobs Camp, 2018

Summer Camp at Jacobs is always a wonderful holiday for our campers as they meet up with old friends, make new friends and just have a wonderful time learning and playing with friends. This year, Sophie Fleischner returned to Jacobs as a Counselor.



Tillie Reagler with friend



Hannah Reagler (top bunk, right) with friends



Louis Reagler



Mimi Reagler (on the floor) with friends



Photo above: Mimi Reagler with friends.



Hannah Reagler

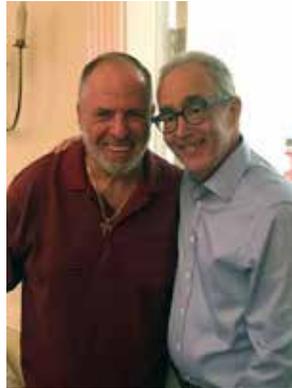


Below left: Camp Counselor Sophie Fleischner (1st row left) with friends.

Rabbi Richard Farewell Party



Betty, Karen and Carol



Oded and Richard



Yossi, Richard and Kim



Hal and Sue



Rabbi Richard Chapin with his wife Jeanne, retiring from seven years of service to House of Israel, and returning to their home in West Palm Beach, Florida



Cynthia and Betty



Patti and Mark



Marie and Glenda



Above center: Ruth and Ross Sedler.



Steven, Richard and Stuart

Photo lower left: Our talented musicians Bob and Barbara, who entertained so wonderfully throughout the evening.

Our sincerest thanks to Clarissa Kirsch and Barbara Morgan for snapping all these pics and getting them over to me in zip time. ~ Shelly

Refuah Shelemah

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

- Louis Kleinman
- Ken Baim
- Annette Baim
- Imy Marcus
- Robert Burns
- Susan Brown
- Jean Gershner
- Jerry Tanenbaum

Please offer prayers that they all have a full and speedy recovery.

If you are aware of anyone needing spiritual or any sort of assistance, please let Barbara Morgan know. Our Caring Committee is here to help all of our members in any way we possibly can.

Mazel Tov



Nathan Kirsch, son of David and Glenda Kirsch, received his Medical Doctorate from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas, on June 2, 2018. Dr. Kirsch is moving to Las Vegas, Nevada, where he will be a resident in Internal Medicine at the University of Nevada Medical School.

Calling All Mah Jongg Players

Marvelous Mah Jongg Mania

Date: August 5th

Place: Congregation Agudath Achim
7901 West Street
Little Rock, AR 72205

Serving kosher hot dogs from
11:30 until 12:45

Play begins at 1:00 p.m.

Door prizes Raffle Refreshments

- 1ST place winner \$250
- 2nd place winner \$150
- 3rd place winner \$100

Special accommodations for novices

Register on line at LRsynagogue.org



Pre-register by July 20th and receive an extra
5 raffle tickets

Registration Fee: \$40.00

Call Arlene Margolis [501-352-54120] or Ellen
Lowitz [501-231-9513] for more information
or to register on the phone.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Anniversaries

Mick Stoyanov and Millie Baron	July 14
Barbara and Norm Bushee	July 15
Yossi and Kim Baron	August 16
Ken and Annette Baim	August 19

Birthdays

Lou Siegel	July 3
Les Surfes	July 12
Sue Koppel	July 13
Neal Gladner	August 8
Melissa Lax	August 8
Millie Baron	August 12
Anthony Nicolosi	August 21
Fran Rephan	August 21
Diana Surfes	August 21
Cynthia Rephan	August 28
Hal Koppel	August 30
Fred Korngut	August 30
Sheldon (Shep) Taxer	August 30
Hannah Reagler	August 31
Miriam (Mimi) Reagler	August 31
Ruth Sedler	August 31



Thank you to the following for sponsoring an Oneg during the months of July and August:

July 6	Dennis and Anita Williams David and Glenda Kirsch
July 13	Jerry and Fran Rephan Cynthia Rephan
July 20	Hal and Sue Koppel David and Karen Reagler
July 27	Shelly and Carol Kleinman Michael and Sharon Waxler
August 3	Yossi and Kim Baron Oded Grenman
August 10	Jodi and Jerry Chalmers Steven and Clarissa Kirsch
August 17	Lynda Kass Ross and Ruth Sedler
August 24	Sharon Ball and Jerry Tanenbaum Ira and Stephanie Kleinman
August 31	Sisterhood in honor of Reagler B'not Mitzvah

Reminder: If you are scheduled for an upcoming Oneg and need to change dates, please find someone to switch with and then let Ruth Sedler know so the information printed in the bulletin will be correct.

From the Rabbi

Continued from page 3

drawing the moments just before the Sea split and the Jews crossed to freedom. There was a moment when no one seemed capable of acting, with the Egyptians behind them and the Sea of Reeds before them. According to a midrash, although Moses had commanded the sea to split, nothing happened until one man took it upon himself to jump into the waves, and then the waters split.

We Jews have a name for people like that; They are called “*nachshonim*” in the tradition of Nachshon, the Prince of Judah.

Standing in front of the Sea of Reeds, with the Egyptian army in pursuit, when the people cried out as one in fear, what did God tell Moses? “... tell the Jewish people to go forward;” One man confronted his fears and leaped into the water, and the seas parted.

He affected not only himself and his family, but the future of the Jewish People.

We never know who will have what effect on whom, or when.

L'Shalom

Shelly

July - August Yahrzeits

Kaddish Recited July 6

Sely Simon Seligman
Father of Diana Surfas

Dorine Calcote Williams
Mother of Dennis Williams

Ruth Holtzman
Mother-in-law of Fred Korngut

Kaddish Recited July 13

(No Yahrzeits)

Kaddish Recited on July 20

William Kaufman
Father of Barbara Bushee

Gertrude Kaufman
Step-mother of Barbara Bushee

Bernice Lockwood Goltz
Mother of Diane Goltz
Mother of Susan Siegel

Eugene Kirsch
Father of Steven Kirsch
Uncle of Mark Fleischner
Uncle of Stuart Fleischner

Kaddish Recited July 27

Flora Meyer Lockwood
Grandmother of Susan Siegel
Grandmother of Diane Goltz

Marcia Prushansky
Mother of Carol Kleinman

Sandra Boley
Sister of Sherrill Nicolosi

Joseph Zibrack
Father of Sharon Ball

Kaddish Recited August 3

Israel Barenblat
Father of Betty Kleinman
Grandfather of Ira Kleinman

Rachel Barenblat
Mother of Betty Kleinman
Grandmother of Ira Kleinman

Robert Gartenberg
Husband of Elaine Gartenberg

Nelly Kass
Mother-in-law of Lynda Kass

Etta L. Jacobson
Mother of Harriett Marcus

Jacob Falk
Grandfather of Louis Kleinman

Kaddish Recited August 10

Jonathan Byrd Morgan
Husband of Barbara Morgan

Phillip Taxer
Father of Sheldon (Shep) Taxer

Kaddish Recited August 17

Lee Staffin
Mother of Myrna Taxer

Herman Glen Hobbs
Father of Glenda Kirsch

Meier Baron
Father of Yossi Baron

Alton R. Colombe
Step-father of Donovan Ball

Paula Hirsch
Sister of David Kirsch

Selma Schneider
Grandmother of Elaine Wolken

Kaddish Recited August 24

Albert Louis Ruskin
Father of Phyllis Hearn

Herbert Erwin Harris
Father of Barbara Morgan

Kaddish Recited August 31

Samuel Jacobson
Father of Harriett Marcus

Bruce Staffin
Brother of Myrna Taxer

Sam Taub
Father of Betty Feir

Weekly Parshah

July, 2018

Pinchas

Numbers 25:10 - 30:1

July 7, 2018

Aaron's grandson, Pinchas, is rewarded for his act of zealotry in killing the Simeonite prince Zimri and the Midianite princess who was his paramour: G-d grants him a covenant of peace and the priesthood.

The five daughters of Zelophehad petition Moses that they be granted the portion of the land belonging to their father, who died without sons; G-d accepts their claim and incorporates it into the Torah's laws of inheritance.

Moses empowers Joshua to succeed him and lead the people into the Land of Israel.



(c) 2002 Sarah Krana

Matot – Masei

Numbers 30:2 - 32:42

July 14, 2018

War is waged against Midian for their role in plotting the moral destruction of Israel, and the Torah gives a detailed account of the war spoils and how they were allocated amongst the people, the warriors, the Levites and the high priest.

The tribes of Reuben and Gad (later joined by half of the tribe of Menasseh) ask for the lands east of the Jordan as their portion in the Promised Land, these being prime pastureland for their cattle. Moses is initially angered by the request, but subsequently agrees on the condition that they first join, and lead, in Israel's conquest of the lands west of the Jordan.

Devarim

Deuteronomy 1:1 - 3:22

July 21, 2018

On the 1st of Shevat (37 days before his passing), Moses begins his repetition of the Torah to the assembled Children of Israel, reviewing the events that occurred and the laws that were given in the course of their 40-year journey from Egypt to Sinai to the Promised Land, rebuking the people for their failings and iniquities, and enjoining them to keep the Torah and observe its commandments in the land that G-d is giving them as an eternal heritage, into which they shall cross after his death.

Moses also recounts some more recent events: the refusal of the nations of Moab and Ammon to allow the Israelites to pass through their countries; the wars against the Emorite kings Sichon and Og, and the settlement of their lands by the tribes of Reuben and Gad and part of the tribe of Menasseh; and Moses' message to his successor, Joshua, who will take the people into the Land and lead them in the battles for its conquest: "Fear them not, for the L-rd your G-d, He shall fight for you."

Va'etchanan

Deuteronomy 3:23 - 7:11

July 28, 2018

Moses tells the people of Israel how he implored G-d to allow him to enter the Land of Israel, but G-d refused, instructing him instead to ascend a mountain and see the Promised Land.

Moses predicts that, in future generations, the people will turn away from G-d, worship idols, and be exiled from their land and scattered amongst the nations; but from there they will seek G-d, and return to obey His commandments.

Our Parshah also includes a repetition of the Ten Commandments, and the verses of the Shema, which declare the fundamentals of the Jewish faith: the unity of G-d, the mitzvot to love G-d, to study His Torah, and to bind "these words" as tefillin on our arms and heads, and inscribe them in the mezuzot affixed on the doorposts of our homes.

Weekly Parshah

August, 2018

Eikev

Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25
August 4, 2018

In the Parshah of Eikev (“Because”), Moses continues his closing address to the Children of Israel, promising them that if they will fulfill the commandments (Mitzvot) of the Torah, they will prosper in the Land they are about to conquer and settle in keeping with G-d’s promise to their forefathers.

Moses also rebukes them for their failings in their first generation as a people, recalling their worship of the Golden Calf, the rebellion of Korach, the sin of the Spies, their angering of G-d at Taveirah, Massah and Kivrot Hataavah. But he also speaks of G-d’s forgiveness of their sins, and the Second Tablets which G-d inscribed and gave to them following their repentance.

Re’eh

Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17
August 11, 2018

“See,” says Moses to the people of Israel, “I place before you today a blessing and a curse” -- the blessing that will come when they fulfill G-d’s commandments, and the curse if they abandon them. These should be proclaimed on Mount Gerizim and Mount Eibal when the people cross over into the Holy Land.

A Temple should be established in “the place that G-d will choose to make dwell His name there” where the people should bring their sacrifices to Him. A false prophet, or one who entices others to worship idols, should be put to death; an idolatrous city must be destroyed.

The mitzvah of charity obligates a Jew to aid a

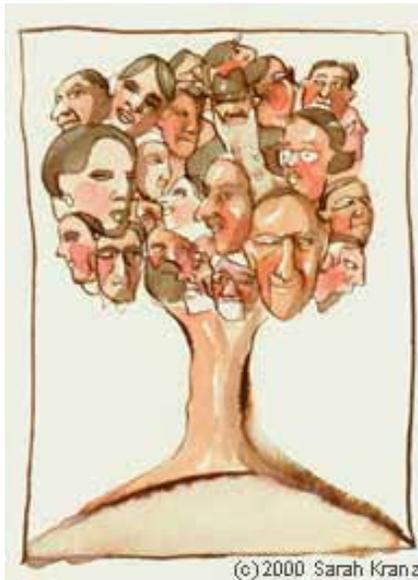
needy fellow with a gift or loan. On the Sabbatical year (occurring every seventh year) all loans are to be forgiven. All indentured servants are to be set free after six years of service.

Shoftim

Deuteronomy 16:18 - 22:29
August 18, 2018

Moses instructs the people of Israel to appoint judges and law-enforcement officers in every city; “Justice, justice shall you pursue,” he commands them, and you must administer it without corruption or favoritism. Crimes must be meticulously investigated and evidence thoroughly examined -- a minimum of two credible witnesses is required for conviction and punishment.

The Parshah concludes with the law of Eglah Arufah - the special procedure to be followed when a person is killed by an unknown murderer and his body is found in a field - which underscores the responsibility of the community and its leaders not only for what they do but also for what they might have prevented from being done.



Ki-Teitzei

Deuteronomy 21:10 - 25:19
August 25, 2018

Seventy-four of the Torah’s 613 commandments (mitzvot) are in the Parshah of Ki Teitzei. These include the laws of the beautiful captive, the inheritance rights of the first-born, the wayward and rebellious son, burial and dignity of the dead, the returning of a lost object, sending away the mother bird before taking her young, the duty to erect a safety fence around the roof of one’s home, and the various forms of kilayim (forbidden plant and animal hybrids).

Also recounted are the judicial procedures and penalties for adultery, for the rape or seduction of an unmarried girl, and for a husband who falsely accuses his wife of infidelity.