

CHI Dog Show

May 13, 2017



See pictures and article on pages 6 & 7.

Thank You

We would like to thank the following donors for their generous contributions during the month of May (as of May 20)

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In loving memory of Fred's mother, Dora Korngut

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Sisterhood Fund

Carol and Shelly Kleinman

In loving memory of Carol Crow-Nanez

Todah Rabah

A very special Thank you to **Kathy Klein** for all her work and expertise in putting together our wonderful Jewish Dog Show! Todah Rabah.

The Shofar

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parties.

Sisterhood



Not just because my precious Domino won the Spirit Award at last month's Dog Show, but that was truly an event for the memory books!

A very special thank you to Kathy Klein for all her diligent organization of awards and

activities for the dogs and their owners! And thank you to Jodi Chalmers for being a terrific Mistress of Ceremony, to Jerry Tanenbaum for helping with the judging, to Ruth and Ross Sedler for setting up the arena and beverage station, and to Rabbi Richard for his beautiful and touching collection of pet blessings.

And of course, thank you to all the participants who brought their cherished pets to share with each other and to get to know each other a little better through our pets!

Wishing everyone a very enjoyable summer!

Millie Baron

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Davar

"A Matter for Discussion"



So we had the first House of Israel Dog Show. Created and organized by Kathy Klein and emceed by Jodi Chalmers and buttressed by prayers and blessings for our long-haired friends, we spent a charming hour in the temple parking lot laughing and talking

about our love of the pet world. I grew up with dogs in my home. My mother still dotes on her schnauzer, Cara, who is treated with something approaching reverence in her Atlanta residence. I could say the same thing about our congregants who spoke so glowingly about their dogs, and yes a number of them have more than one sporting in their homes.

Pet blessings are not a new phenomenon, but it is clear they resonate with our feelings about animals that give us such pleasure in life. One of my rabbinic colleagues once suggested to me that we love our animals so much because they are *UNSCHULDIG*, which literally means "not guilty." In other words, they have no ulterior motives. That may be true about dogs; I'm not so sure about cats.

At any rate, as some of our activities close down for the summer, please know that I am always happy to speak to or see any of our congregants for any reason. So, if you wish, please call and make an appointment at your convenience.

Jeanne and I wish all of you a warm and relaxing summer. Jeanne will be joining me on the bima for the High Holy Day season, in a cantorial role, a first for us both. Services will continue on Friday nights and Torah study on most Saturday mornings throughout the summer months.

Stay safe and healthy!

L'Shalom

Rabbi Chapin

ARZA - World Union

The New "Nationality Law" Defines Israel as a Jewish State. What Could Be Wrong With That?

By Rabbi Neal Gold

On Sunday, May 7, a Knesset committee approved a long-gestating "Nationality Bill" that would certify as a Basic Law that Israel is, indeed, the world's Jewish State. Why would any Zionist oppose a law that is such a no-brainer?

Israel is a democracy without a constitution. David Ben Gurion originally intended to organize a constitutional committee after Israel declared independence, but the early days of the state called for different priorities—including fighting the War of Independence. In 1950, the Harari Decision determined that in lieu of a constitution, Basic Laws would be agreed upon that would serve as the foundational legal principles of the state; in essence, they would write a constitution chapter-by-chapter.

The new Nationality Bill (in Hebrew: hok hale'om) was approved unanimously by the Ministerial Committee for Legislation, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has called for the Knesset to pass it within 60 days. The bill would legislate aspects of the Jewish character of Israel: It establishes national symbols including the Israeli flag and Hatikvah as the national anthem; It asserts the Jewish right of return, and recognizes Jewish holy sites and the Hebrew calendar. It asserts that Hebrew is the country's official language, and would demote Arabic to "special status."

It calls for the government to strengthen ties between Israel and Diaspora Jewry. Anticipating critics, it declares "every resident of Israel, without distinction of religion or national origin, is entitled to work to preserve his culture,

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Life and Legacy Plan

So many of our congregants help CHI on a regular basis: memorials for our loved ones who have passed away, gifts in honor of an accomplishment such as a Bar Mitzvah, hosting Onegs, Sisterhood gifts, donations, etc. The LIFE AND LEGACY program is a thoughtful and loving way to make a post-death commitment of a future gift to CHI. NO FUNDS ARE ASKED TO BE GIVEN NOW!

L & L is a partnership program among CHI, JFAR (Jewish Federation of Arkansas) and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, to establish and promote a legacy that "ensures Jewish tomorrows." JFAR has offered a monetary incentive to CHI of \$5,000 if L & L receives 18 "Letters of Intent" by March, 2018. The donor signs the Letter committing to name CHI as a beneficiary in a Will, Trust, account, IRA, Annuity, or life insurance policy. The Congregation has reached the first goal of 18 Letters of Intent, and will receive an incentive gift. The second and final incentive gift requires an additional, new 18 pledges to sign a Letter of Intent.

There are no minimums and no contracts to execute. Simply contact one of the committee members and sign a Letter of Intent, stating your commitment to include CHI as a beneficiary at death. Karen Reagler, Sherrill Nicolosi, and Stuart Fleischner currently serve on the L & L committee. For additional information about how you can leave a legacy to CHI, to help sustain our Jewish presence in the Hot Springs area, or to join as a committee member, contact Karen, Sherrill, Stuart, or Rabbi Chapin.

Condolences

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Carol Crow-Nanez.

May God comfort you among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Editors Corner

L'Shalom or B'Shalom



While researching a d'var Torah a few weeks back, I stumbled on an article which cleared up an issue which had confused me for years. My sincerest thanks to Rabbi Heidi Cohen for steering me in the right direction.

At the bottom of most emails there is a "signature" consisting of our name, and some with a poignant quote from a favorite author or text. Depending on the type of email we send, there is the salutation -- "sincerely," "see ya soon," or any other of a host of salutations. Among Jews, you may see "kol tuv" (be well), or often 'l'shalom" Occasionally, however, you'll see b'shalom, a phrase I personally have used repeatedly. It turns out there is a big difference between the two salutations. On the surface, they both seem innocent enough -- 'to peace' and 'in peace' respectively.

To understand the difference, you have to go back to the parshah Vayeshev. Jacob sends Joseph off to check in on his brothers while watching the flocks. Joseph, donning his brand new, beautiful, technicolor dreamcoat, a gift from his father, goes out to the fields. But the brothers have had enough with this "favored son" and decide it's time to be rid of him. "And they hated him, and they could not speak with him peacefully (l'Shalom)" There, in the wilderness, a band of merchants just happens to pass by and the brothers sell Joseph to the traders. Returning home with the coat soaked in blood, the brothers tell their father that Joseph was killed by a wild beast, never to return again. Out of their contempt for Joseph, they could not bring themselves to bless him with the word "l'Shalom" as one speaks to the living, but rather they preferred to treat him like a dead person.

From Rabbi Simchah Roth in the book "From Aleph to Ze'ev", we read where Rabbi Avin ha-Levi says "When you take leave of a friend do not say, 'lech b'shalom' but say 'lech l'shalom,'

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In Act of Defiance, Hundreds of Reform Jews Hold Special Service at Western Wall

This was the first time in recent history that non-Orthodox Jews have held a Torah reading with women without interference.

Hundreds of Reform Jews from around the world held an egalitarian Torah-reading service on Thursday morning at an area of the Western

Wall deemed off limits to worshippers – and, despite initial concerns, they were not stopped. Neither did security guards at the Western Wall prevent them from bringing Torah scrolls into the Jewish holy site, as had been feared. nor did ultra-Orthodox worshippers praying nearby try to disrupt their service, as has often been the case in the past.



This was the first time in recent history, then, that non-Orthodox Jews have held a Torah reading service, in which women participated, with no interferences in the upper plaza of the Western Wall. The upper plaza is the area located right above and in full view of the traditional gender-segregated prayer plazas.

About 450 Reform Jews, attending the biennial conference of the World Union of Progressive Judaism, which is being held in Jerusalem this week, participated in the event.

"Our raison d'etre for gathering at the Kotel was to celebrate our movement's continuing commitment to egalitarianism," said Rabbi Daniel Freelander, president of WUPJ, the umbrella organization for the international Reform movement. "For most of the participants, this was the first time they were able to pray in the Kotel plaza as they do in their home congregations, with many sharing the prayer leadership and participation."

He said many were moved to tears as they ended

the service singing Hatikvah, the Israeli national anthem

Worshippers at the Western Wall are not allowed to bring their own Torah scrolls to the site but are asked instead to use the Torah scrolls available in the men's section. The Western Wall Heritage Foundation, the Orthodox-run organization that administers the holy site, does not make Torah scrolls available to women, however. For this reason, members of the Reform delegation attending the morning service decided to disregard the ban and bring their own Torah scrolls to the

Western Wall.

According to Rabbi Gilad Kariv, executive director of the Reform movement in Israel, security guards at the entrance to the Western Wall told them it was against regulations to bring the Torah scrolls in. The delegation members responded

that in their opinion, this restriction is unlawful, and proceeded to enter the site. They were not stopped as they walked through carrying five Torah scrolls.

Neither were they prevented from holding their Torah reading service in the upper plaza, which the Western Wall Heritage Foundation has deemed off limits for worship.

"This all goes to prove that when nobody mobilizes the masses against us, it is possible for us to hold a peaceful egalitarian service at this site," said Kariv.

Before the Torah reading service, the Reform delegation members held a joint bat-mitzvah ceremony for about a dozen South American women at the temporary plaza created for egalitarian prayer in the southern expanse of the Western Wall.

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CHI Dog Show, 2017

For everyone who was not able to attend our first dog show, you missed a lovely event. The weather was perfect and the dogs were all very well behaved. Thank you so much to Kathy Klein for suggesting and single handedly organizing such a lovely event.

The Rabbi opened the show with a service he had to bless our "furry friends." He had blessings for a variety of situations, but my personal favorite was read by Lynda Kass and I wanted to share it with everyone,.

If I greet everyone happily Instead of eying with distrust. If I didn't pass judgement, But accepted all. If I listened intently With understanding in my eyes. If I brought comfort All the time, no matter what. If I loved unconditionally, Without reservation. If I lived life more simply, Instead of worrying so much. If I played tirelessly And didn't work so hard. If I made people smile Just by my presence in the room. If I experienced true joy At the little Things in life.

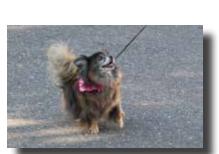
Then I'd be the perfect friend...

Just like my dog.





Laroux Sedler with friend Ross



Ruby Fox Kirsch



Everyone there walked their dog in front of the group and told us a little about their beloved family member. Kathy Klein, Jerry Tanenbaum and Jodi Chalmers decided the awards and then Jodi presented each dog with a ribbon.

Thank you to everyone who participated by sharing their dog with our group.



Kay and Mollie Fleischner

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Kay, Mollie and Murphy Fleischner



Madeline, Biscuit and Sassy Bull



Jodi and Mr. Smalls Chalmers



Lori, Bugsy and Louie Lewis



Stuart and Murphy Fleischner



Millie and Domino Baron

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ARZA- World Union

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heritage, language, and identity." It certainly sounds like a reasonable assertion of matters that are already widely agreed upon in the Zionist community. So what could be wrong? Politicians love laws that assert "obvious" values, but these laws often have subversive intent. Consider in America how, periodically, an antiflag burning amendment to the Constitution is proposed. Such legislation typically enjoys the embrace of politicians who want to establish their patriotic bona fides. After all—many Americans feel a pang in the heart upon seeing the stars and stripes being desecrated, a disturbance in the Force that makes us say, "There ought to be a law!" Unbridled emotions are a potent political force, and savvy politicians love to manipulate them. Therefore, legislation like flag-burning amendments is a great tool to obfuscate more controversial agendas, or to shore up support for political figures (who may be facing scandal).

Consider the Nationality Bill in this light. Of course as Zionists we love Hatikvah, the Israeli flag, and the Hebrew language. Of course Israel is our Jewish home. Of course we celebrate the Right of Return and Israel as a sanctuary for oppressed Jews anywhere.

But we have to ask: why now? Why is this legislation, which has been delayed in committee for years, surfacing at this moment?

Likud MK Avi Dichter said, "The Nationality Law is critical in a time like this, when elements from within and without are trying to reject the Jewish people's right to a national home in its country and the recognition of the State of Israel as the nation-state of the Jewish people." In other words, even though Israel's Jewish character is self-evident, we have to pass this law because of what our enemies say about us.

But are Israel's institutions—and its self-image—so fragile that they need this psychological self-inflation? Since when does the Palestinian Authority have the power to shape Israel's identity? In truth, this bill is the latest of a series of legislative assaults against Israel's democratic character. In recent months, Israel has passed a "protestor ban" which would bar entry to those (including some Jewish community leaders, such as the former CEO of the San Francisco Jewish Federation)

who have criticized the government or the settlements, and an NGO law that would forcefully restrain human rights organizations that receive a majority of their funding from overseas. These laws may have appealing aspects for some, but the cumulative effect is an assault against dissent and free speech, the hallmarks of a democratic society. In the meantime, the Chief Rabbinate and Haredi political parties continue to deny fundamental religious freedoms to Israel's non-Orthodox Jewish majority and to assault the democratic institutions of the state. For those who worry about the unrestrained power of religious fundamentalists—and the overwhelming majority of Israelis believe that the Chief Rabbinate has far too much power and drives Jews away from Judaism—there is much to be concerned about. The Nationality Bill, which asserts that the State is Jewish and urges strengthening ties with the Diaspora, does not take up the issue of Jewish pluralism. Is Israel to be an Orthodox Jewish State—or a state for all the Jewish people?

The denigration of Arabic functions in a similar way. Arabic has been accorded official status since the earliest days of the state; Israel's road signs, food labels, and messages on, for instance, danger zones or hazardous chemicals have all included Arabic. It is the day-to-day language of Israel's 1.8 million Arab citizens, 20.8% of the population (as well as the mother tongue of Israeli Jews who came from Iraq, Morocco, Yemen, or other parts of the Arab world). It is easy to see how the "demotion" of Arabic from official status is another message to Israel's Arabs that they are second-class citizens.

The democratic institutions of Israel should be a great pride to the Jewish people who just celebrated the 69th anniversary of the State of Israel. However, the democratic institutions of the state—which guarantee civil liberties to all its citizens, especially its minorities—remain vulnerable to extremists, and need to be preserved at all costs.

The Knesset should oppose the Nationality Bill. Israel would be far better served by enacting Basic Laws reaffirming its commitments to civil liberties and to the democratic freedoms of the press, assembly, gender equality, and religious expression.

Rabbi Neal Gold is Director of Program & Content for ARZA.

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June 2017 Parshiot

Naso

June 3, 2017

Completing the headcount of the Children of Israel taken in the Sinai Desert, a total of 8,580 Levite men between the ages of 30 and 50 are counted in

a tally of those who will be doing the actual work of transporting the Tabernacle.

G-d communicates to Moses the law of the sotah, the wayward wife suspected of unfaithfulness to her husband. Also given is the law of the nazir, who forswears wine, lets his or her hair grow long, and is forbidden to become contaminated through contact with a dead body. Aaron and his descendants, the kohanim, are instructed on how to bless the people of Israel.

B'haalot'cha

June 10, 2017

A "Second Passover" is instituted in response to the petition, "Why should we be deprived?" by a group of Jews who were unable to bring the Passover offering in its appointed time because they were ritually impure. G-d instructs Moses on the procedures for Israel's journeys and encampments in the desert, and the people journey in formation from Mount Sinai, where they had been camped for nearly a year.

The people are dissatisfied with their "bread from heaven" (the manna), and demand that Moses supply them with meat. Moses appoints 70 elders, to whom he imparts of his spirit, to assist him in the burden of governing the people. Miriam speaks

negatively of Moses, and is punished with leprosy; Moses prays for her healing, and the entire community waits seven days for her recovery.

Shelach

June 17, 2017

Moses sends twelve spies to the land of Canaan. Forty days later they return, carrying a huge cluster of grapes, a pomegranate and a fig, to report on a lush and bountiful land. But ten of the spies warn that the inhabitants of the land are giants

and warriors "more powerful than we"; only Caleb and Joshua insist that the land can be conquered, as G-d has commanded.

The people weep that they'd rather return to Egypt. G-d decrees that Israel's entry into the Land shall be delayed forty years, during which time that entire generation will die out in the desert.

Korach

June 24, 2017

Korach incites a mutiny challenging Moses' leadership and the granting of the *kehunah* (priesthood) to Aaron. He is accompanied by Moses' invet-

erate foes, Dathan and Abiram. Joining them are 250 distinguished members of the community, who offer the sacrosanct *ketoret* (incense) to prove their worthiness for the priesthood. The earth opens up and swallows the mutineers, and a fire consumes the *ketoret*-offerers.

A subsequent plague is stopped by Aaron's offering of *ketoret*. Aaron's staff miraculously blossoms and brings forth almonds, to prove that his designation as high priest is divinely ordained.

To read more complete descriptions of the weekly parsha, visit the CHI Website at_ http://hschi.org/Parsha_lp.html

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

June Anniversaries

Les and Diana Surfas	June 1
Ira and Stephanie Kleinman	June 8
Mark and Patti Fleischner	June 12
Anthony and Sherill Nicolosi	June 14
Stuart and Mary Klompus	June 15
Ross and Ruth Sedler	June 16
David and Cheryl Cohen	June 27

June Birthdays

Clarissa Kirsch	June 1
Sheldon Kleinman	June 4
Carol Kleinman	June 8
Ben Klompus	June 8
Andrea Parker	June 9
Mary Klompus	June 20
David Cohen	June 21
Kathryn Eisenkramer	June 23
Yossi Baron	June 28
Jerry Chalmers	June 30

L'Shalom or B'Shalom

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(Go towards peace peacefully). This is what Jethro said to Moses (Exodus 4) and Moses went on to success; David took his leave of Absalom by saying 'lech b'shalom' (2 Samuel 15:9), and Absalom went and got himself hanged! He says futher, when you take leave of the deceased (at the graveside) do not say 'lech l'shalom' but rather 'lech b'shalom.'

Rabbinic commentary suggests that the brothers said to Joseph, 'go in peace' instead of 'go to peace' – a hope that they would never have to see him again. In other wordss, the salutation the brothers gave their brother, 'lech b'shalom,' from their perspective, was almost the equivalent of saying, 'drop dead.'

So... 'to peace" or 'in peace." It's all a matter of opinion, of course, but I thought a little background might be worth a chuckle.

Refuah Shelemah

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

- John and Leslie Jamieson
- Sue Koppel
- Louis Kleinman
- JoAnne Reagler
- Robert Burns
- Rabbi Mark Miller

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.

Oneg Sponsors

Thank you to the following for sponsoring an Oneg during the month of June:

June 2	Betty Forshberg Cynthia Rephan
June 9	Jerry and Jodi Chalmers Larry and Carol Levi
June 16	Kim and Yossi Baron Oded Grenman
June 23	Kathryn Eisenkramer Saralee Stark and Wayne Phillips
June 30	Jerry and Fran Rephan Kathy Klein

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.

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June 2017 Yahrzeits

Kaddish Recited June 2

Tivkah Baron

Mother of Yossi Baron

Annie Marcus

Grandmother of Carol Kleinman

Nancy Kleinman

Mother of Sheldon Kleinman

Kaddish Recited June 9

Dora Korngut

Mother of Fred Korngut

Tillie Creim

Aunt of Joanne Reagler

Faye Kirsch

Grandmother of Steven Kirsch Grandmother of Mark Fleischner Grandmother of Stuart Fleischner

David Lockwood

Grandfather of Susan Siegel Grandfather of Diane Goltz

Samuel Schudmak, Sr.

Uncle of Louis Kleinman

Kaddish Recited June 16

Charles Bellin

Father of Ruth Sedler

Esteel Klompus

Mother of Stuart Klompus

Kaddish Recited June 23

Patricia Tanenbaum

Wife of Jerry Tanenbaum

Sterling Francis Gottlieb

Uncle of Barbara Morgan

Kaddish Recited June 30

Vicki Seligman

Mother of Diana Surfas

Morris Nathan Bauman

Father of Cynthia Rephan

Louis Brown

Father of Betty Forshberg

Roxanne Smalley Capotosto

Sister of Kim Baron

John Hearn

Husband of Phyllis Hearn

Molly Berkun

Mother of Ed Berkun

Mazel Tov

CHI members Shep and Myrna Taxer have a hunk to be *kvelling* about, as their grandson Jason King was signed as an Offensive Guard by the New England Patriots. Here are the details:

"Jason King, offensive guard, New England Patriots. 6' - 4", 303 lbs. King is also a strong lineman. He performed 35 reps on the bench press, which would have tied the best lineman at the Combine. But what makes King unique is his explosiveness for a big guy. His 31 – inch vertical would have tied the third-best of any lineman at the combine and his 9 – foot broad jump would have landed him in the top eight for his position group.

King's skillset matches with the modern NFL, which continues to prioritize speed and quickness over pure size. Pats coach Bill Belichick is a master at finding unique athletes and figuring out how to get them on the field. It's not hard to see what he liked about King."



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