

Did you miss the first session of the shul's Sacred Crafts series?



Teacher Jennifer Asher looks pleased by the progress Rabbi Mark Fasman is making on his mezuzah box.

See all your SZ friends as they made mezuzah boxes on page 13...and join them for the next project in the Sacred Craft Series.

Do you think you know everything there is to know about Joe and Julie? Find out on pages 8-9.



Save the Date USY Kinnus Thanksgiving Weekend

It's time to *Just Write It!*

Join us Sunday, November 11 at 10:30

Shaare Zedek welcomes SoferOnSite: Scribes, Educators and Master Storytellers for the opening ceremony and the first letter writing event.

See details on page 17

Torah Fund Time

It's Torah Fund time again and soon you'll be receiving a "Please Invest in Conservative Judaism" letter one more time. Please make your checks payable to Shaare Zedek Sisterhood Torah Fund and mail to: Ruth Levy, 942 Wild Cherry Lane, St. Louis, MO 63130. For more information, call Ruth at 727-7279.

The Torah Fund supports our Theological Institutes.

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Mark Fasman	Rabbi
Joanna Selznick Dulkan	Hazzan
Marvin Lerner	Ba'al Koreh
Marsha Birenbaum	Synagogue President
Marty Schaeffer	Early Childhood Director
Iris Hinderliter	Youth Director
Chani Pinsberg	Religious School Director
Cindy Ginsburg/Lisa Gellman	Sisterhood Co-Presidents
Dave Propper	Men's Club President
Jacob Shanas	USY President

Todah Rabah!

Haftarot for October

Howard Belsky, Herb Fredman, Karen Karabell,
Harriet Shanas, Alan Spetner,

*Special thank you to High Holiday Haftarah
readers Mendel Rosenberg, Alan Spetner and
Marshall Myers*

Greeters for October

Laura Rainey, Patsy Spector, Joan Barzilai,
Susan Roth

Kiddushes for October

October 13

Alan & Helene Spetner and Sherry Kaplan

October 20

Amos & Barbara Shamir

SHABBAT SERVICES FOR EVERYONE

Babysitting (1-5 years)

10:00 a.m. in the Early Childhood Center

Fun and games for those too young to experience the other options, complete with snacks and juice

Family/Youth Services (K-4th grades & families)

10:25 a.m. in the Guller Chapel

A lively and engaging service led by adult guests, including Andrew Rehfeld, Michael Raileanu, Alice Fasman, and Joyce Olshan for our younger members. The services are designed as an age-appropriate combination of prayer, song, stories, and discussion of Jewish themes. In December, we will have a song fest of everyone's favorite Chanukah songs; in February, a discussion of Tu B'Shvat complete with a feast of fruit; in March, we will prepare for Purim with story and song; in April, we will have a Passover-themed service; and in May, we'll celebrate Israel's Independence Day.

Shacharit in the Sanctuary

8:45 a.m. in the Epstein Sanctuary

All are welcome in the sanctuary for our main service. Children are welcome; they are especially encouraged to attend towards the end for Adon Olam and other prayers before helping the Rabbi and Hazzan with Kiddush.

Mazel Tov!

Wedding Anniversaries for November

Steve & Darien Arnstein

Martin & Barbara Becker

Stanford & Rosalie Berger

Mark & Alice Fasman

Michael Greenfield & Claire Halpern

Maurice & Rachel Guller

Harold & Karen Karabell

Marvin & Doris Lerner

Rubin & Beverly Leve

Stanley & Ruth Levy

Edward & Marla Myers

Robert & Beth Ostroff

Jerrold & Rosalyn

Schwartz

Donald & Joanne Singer

Marc & Elaine Tenzer

Zev & Lori Yudovich



A Message from the Rabbi

Rabbi Mark Fasman



Lots of people know the significance of the number 613 in Judaism. Of those who do know that 613 is a special number, most know that it is the number of mitzvot. And most of those people know that a *mitzvah* does not mean a good deed, but rather a divine imperative. But relatively few understand that there are *mitzvot* and there are *mitzvot*. That is, there are the 613 *mitzvot* that come directly from the Torah (called *d'oraita*) and there are many additional *mitzvot* that come from the rabbinic tradition (called *d'rabbanan*).

In the Conservative Movement, we take *mitzvot* seriously. We are more willing to reinterpret *d'rabbanan mitzvot* than the Orthodox. We do not tinker with *d'oraita mitzvot*.

One example of a *d'oraita mitzvah* is that it is forbidden to work on the following days: Shabbat (Ex. 20:10); the first or the seventh day of Passover (Ex. 12:16); on Shavuot (Lev. 23:21); on Rosh Hashanah (Lev. 23:25); on the first and eighth (*Shemini Atzeret*) days of Sukkot (Lev. 23:35-36); and on the Day of Atonement (Lev. 23:28). (The Mishnah and Talmud specify precisely what is meant by “work.”)

There is no *d'oraita mitzvah* that prohibits egalitarian worship – that restriction is *d'rabbanan*. There is no *d'oraita mitzvah* prohibiting the use of musical instruments on Shabbat and Festivals – any restrictions explicit or implied are strictly *d'rabbanan*. We know that musical instruments were part of the Temple worship service on Shabbat and Festivals.

But apart from all these details, people are people. We get upset about changes from “the way it has always been.” And perhaps rightly so. I realize that most Conservative Jews choose to live in our secular culture while maintaining specific Jewish practices. And many of these individuals are willing to (or feel obligated to) work on Shabbat and Festivals (even in violation of specific *d'oraita* prohibitions). Many are also somewhat lax with *d'oraita* food restrictions.

Although many make thoughtful compromises to their halakhic observances outside of the synagogue, we somehow find it far more difficult to accept changes to synagogue practice – the synagogue becomes our last bastion of traditional ritual and halakhic observance. We may be lax in our kashrut outside of the synagogue, but we expect the shul to be strictly kosher at all times. We expect the synagogue to maintain the practices of our parents' and grandparents' generations when it comes to public ritual and kashrut, even though we may be more lax in our own generation.

I have heard both Orthodox and Reform Jews criticize us for being hypocritical because of our inconsistencies in our attitudes towards synagogue versus home observance.

And yet, these inconsistencies are the very hallmark of Conservative Judaism for the past century. Conservative Jews are willing to live with inconsistencies. They are the consequence of our core value: a commitment to living in our secular culture while maintaining a serious commitment to Jewish tradition. We all know that the secular culture and Jewish tradition are often in conflict with each other, so we do the best we can to navigate these often turbulent waters.

The times continue to change. And Conservative Jews continue to change. In our time, it is clear that mainstream Conservative Jews are far more flexible in accepting changes to our mode of synagogue worship, such as the addition of musical instruments to the traditional text of the service in order to increase joy and participation in Shabbat and Festival services. It is the way that we create our own unique Conservative identity within the spectrum of contemporary Jewish values and practices.

Rabbis sometimes forget how hard it is to live an observant life and still participate in non-Jewish culture. Rabbis do not have to make hard choices concerning where we will be on Shabbat or on Shemini Atzeret or on Shavuot.

I try very hard not to point a finger at anyone's level of Jewish observance. I believe that we will all stand as individuals before the *Kaddish Barukh Hu* to answer for our own choices, not for the choices that others make.

That does not mean that I will stop encouraging every member of this congregation to increase your level of Jewish observance, at home as well as at synagogue – because it is the right thing to do, because it *is* possible (even if inconvenient), and because it enriches your lives and the lives of everyone in your family.

The Hazzan and I are working seriously to make this congregation a vibrant and spiritually satisfying Conservative congregation. Shaare Zedek is not Orthodox – we have not been for decades now. Several years ago I grew out of my “Orthodox-envy.” I will not measure myself by Orthodox or Reform standards and expectations.

If anyone comes to any of our services, from daily minyan to Shabbat morning to Shabbat Rinah, that person would know in a few moments that we are a Conservative congregation. We are egalitarian and use

continued on next page

Rabbi continued

musical instruments (as well as contemporary melodies); at the same time, the service is very traditional, mostly in Hebrew. Visitors would not mistake us for Reform; they would also not mistake us for Orthodox. It seems to me that this is a good thing.

If our changes are aesthetically displeasing to some, they are nevertheless made with careful consideration of halakhah – as articulated by the halakhic experts of our movement. We know *d'oraita mitzvot* and *d'rabbanan mitzvot* as well. They have both a vote and a veto in our decisions regarding ritual practices at Shaare Zedek.

I am answerable to a magnificent tradition ... I do not take this lightly. But I am *not* answerable to the local Orthodox community, even though I have deep respect for our Orthodox neighbors. Whatever the Hazzan and I try is in order to better meet the needs of our Jewish community and specifically this congregation.

We certainly do not hope to alienate our membership. But any change we make will make some very uncomfortable. And making no changes at all will be distasteful to others. I have been deeply impressed by the flexibility that so many of you have shown to the changes – even when you do not necessarily like every change we have made. And I thank you for your willingness to change with us.

Tradition is alive and well at Shaare Zedek. So is change.

2007 ST. LOUIS JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES EXCITING LINE-UP OF AUTHORS & ENTERTAINERS

Actor, author, comedian Paul Reiser will open the 29th annual St. Louis Jewish Book Festival being held **November 4 through 14** at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) in Creve Coeur. More than 21,000 people are expected at this year's Festival to hear Hollywood casting directors, the South Beach Diet Doctor, Miss Manners and the more than 30 other authors who will be discussing their books during the course of the festival.

All Festival programs are open to the public, run 60 to 90 minutes, include audience question-and-answer periods and are followed by a book signing with the authors.

Festival series tickets, which are good for admission to ALL Festival programs, including the Concert Event and the Special Family Event, cost only \$60 each. Tickets are available in the synagogue office.

The St. Louis Jewish Book Festival *is the largest Jewish Book Festival in the United States*. For more information on the Festival and authors, visit the website at www.stljewishbookfestival.org.

November B'nai Mitzvah



November 10

David Weinstein



November 24

Greg Markman



Dear SZ Friends and Family,

**Thank you all for the cards and tributes
in honor of the birth of my
great-granddaughter, Lilly Tama.**

**May you have a Healthy and Sweet New Year.
Sherry Kaplan**

HazzaNotes

Hazzan Joanna Selznick Dulkan

Just a few days before writing this article, I met with a couple in my office who expressed that they wanted to deepen their Shabbat observance. They planned to come to shul more often on Friday nights and Saturday mornings, but wanted to know how to bring Shabbat into their home. Like this couple, so many of us want to deepen our observance somehow and are not sure where to begin. I often tell people that my first real date with Ryan twelve years ago, on a Friday night, included an improvised Kabbalat Shabbat on the plaza of a synagogue (we had arrived too late for services) followed by dinner at a restaurant. Neither of us grew up in an observant home, yet both of us became interested in observance through our college and post-college years. The more we learned, the more we wanted to do: our journey to a Shomer Shabbat household took years of adding and adding, subtracting and subtracting, until we reached a rhythm that became Shabbat: a day apart.

Start by lighting candles. This is the famous Chabadnik's advice to one who comes inquiring about how to keep Shabbat. It is a simple thing a family can share on a Friday night who otherwise is running in a hundred different directions. The Talmud established that households should light one candle, to provide light at the Shabbat table. This provided necessary light for a rare post-sunset evening meal, but also warmth and ambiance. In the thirteenth century, the medieval Ashkenazi community instituted the practice of lighting two candles, one for each mention of Shabbat in the 2 versions of the 10 commandments: in the Torah, the fourth commandment appears once as "Shamor" – **Observe** Shabbat and keep it holy, and once as "Zachor" – **Remember** Shabbat and keep it holy. In the Sephardi community, seven Shabbat candles are to be lit, corresponding to the seven days of the week. Still in other households, there is one Shabbat candle lit for each member of the family, or each of the children. And if you live alone, you may choose to light more candles to bring the light of Shabbat into the house. Pick a tradition that speaks to you, or embrace the tradition of your family. Light candles, and gradually, you may want to add other rituals around the candlelighting: giving tzedakah, sharing about your week, singing songs, listening to Shabbat music as you prepare the candles. For many families, erev Shabbat is the night everyone eats dinner together, beginning with Kiddush and motzi. Some families come to services each week and rejoice with us at shul, playing rhythm instruments or singing along with the Shabbat Rinah band.

The most important thing, I tell people like this couple who came to see me, is that you are on a *path*. That your Jewish journey never ends, that you are always inspired to new heights and new challenges. Bringing Shabbat into your home does not have to be an immediate, radical shift in the family fabric, where everyone abruptly changes their routine, but it does require a process of accommodation: of adding rituals and subtracting distractions, of subtracting the external pull of "the real world" and adding the pull of the Divine



presence. Adding and adding, subtracting and subtracting, to eventually reach a point where Shabbat is a true day apart. Perhaps the endpoint you reach one month or one year is where you feel comfortable, but be open to the fact that a point of equilibrium sometimes becomes a waystation along a longer journey.

So, light one candle, or two, or seven – make Shabbat part of your household fabric in a small way so that it becomes, as Heschel said, an island in time. And if Shabbat is already part of your weekly rhythm, think of a small way to augment your observance that adds meaning and beauty to that 25 hours, whether it's reading a Jewish book, taking a nap, coming to Mincha/Ma'ariv services and joining us for singing and study: find that one way to bring Shabbat a little closer to your heart.

Life Long Learning Proudly Presents

The Might of Midrash Study Series

Rabbi Ryan Dulkan will share his knowledge and insights to a less frequently visited side of Torah: the Midrash. Delving into the depths of learning and enlightenment accumulated by the Rabbis over the ages, Rabbi Dulkan will lead study and discussion based on the insights of the Midrash.

As the year progresses Rabbi Dulkan will lead us in a series covering the Midrash for each of the books of the Torah. Join us in learning with Rabbi Dulkan on **TJEWSDAYS (Tuesdays)** as part of our Lecture Series from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.:

Schedule:

Exodus	November 27 & December 11
Leviticus	January 8 & February 12
Numbers	March 4 & March 18
Deuteronomy	June 3 & June 17

These classes are given at **no charge** to Shaare Zedek Members and guests.

President's Gavel

Marsha Birnbaum

My mother used to tell us that her favorite holiday was Thanksgiving because it was a holiday that all of us, meaning all Americans, could celebrate. A national holiday that wasn't religious, if you will. Certainly we all have a lot to be thankful for; our families, friends, good health, and a community with which to share. In other words, our Shaare Zedek community. Every day, three times a day, in the Amidah, we thank God for the privilege of being able to say "thank you" for all the wonderful things God has put on this earth. In the booklet Rabbi Fasman gave us at Purim 2006, "Count Your Blessings, 100 Prayers for a Day," are blessings for almost every occasion. Saying some of these blessings will help us be more sensitive to everything around us, from seeing a rainbow, to seeing or even smelling something wonderful in nature, to hearing thunder, to wearing something new for the first time, and returning safely from a long journey. All of these are opportunities to be thankful that we are alive and to appreciate that life and to elevate our life to one of holiness, one that's closer to God.

Hopefully by now you've received your *Just Write It!* brochure and invitation to join us in our opening ceremony

on November 11 as we kick off our year-long Torah writing project. This will be your chance to learn about the project and to see how the letters are filled in. I know that you will be inspired to want to participate and find just the right place in Torah to endow what's meaningful to you.

Also throughout the year, there will be our wonderful TJEWS DAYS, Adult Education Night here at Shaare Zedek, planned by Pam Ross, our Adult Ed Chair. These evenings will be devoted to learning more about Torah through a variety of ways: hands-on art, cooking, and, of course, studying the Torah itself. We know that you will become even more engaged with Torah and with the SZ community by participating in these evenings. So mark your calendar! And we look forward to seeing you in our community. -Marsha



Shaare Shalom

Chani Pinsburg

I hope that all of you had a meaningful holiday period. Now, that the holidays are over, we do not anticipate any interruptions until Thanksgiving with one exception – the Educator's Fair on November 4th.

School was held during *Chol hamo'ed* (the Intermediate Days of Sukkot), when the students had the opportunity to visit the Sukkah. The students enjoyed saying the blessing and shaking the *Lulav* and *Etrog* in all directions. Students from the 1st Grade to the 8th Grade worked in groups, the older students helping the younger ones to build and fly kites. Yad Layeled, the Children's Memorial of the Ghetto Fighters' Museum at Kibbutz *Lochamei Hageta'ot* in Israel, began an annual kite-flying event and would like schools from all over the world to join them. The unique connection between the kites and Sukkot actually occurs on *Shemini Atzeret*, when we add the verse "*Mashiv haru'ach umorid hagashem*" to the *Amidah*. These words, "who causes the wind to blow and the rain to fall," are added to the *Amidah* until Passover, since it is the rainy season in Israel.

So how is this story connected to kites? Janus Korzcak, a teacher and a pediatrician, ran an orphanage in the Warsaw Ghetto during World War II. Before the war, in 1938, he was in Palestine for Sukkot, and found himself in an open field in the Galilee. As he felt the power of the wind he said, "The wind is a gift that the kite gives to the child."

Our kites carried messages of hope, health, and peace

up toward the heavens. This project was creating a direct link to the children in Israel in the celebration of Sukkot as well as many other schools of the Conservative Movement in the United States, thanks to Serene Victor, National Consultant for Synagogue Education at the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

There were many more activities that took place in the month of October: Students had the opportunity to see the Torah unrolled as part of the celebration of Simchat Torah. The young students from Kindergarten to the 3rd Grade visited the Zoo with their families to see Noah's animals. This was one of the Family Connection programs that we are adding this year.

On October 28th we held our 5th Open House. It is really evident that we are becoming one community. There was a positive atmosphere in the air!

On Sunday, November 4th, the teachers are going to be engaged in studying with their peers in the Jewish community at the CAJE Educators' Fair. This is the biggest event for Jewish educators in the St. Louis community where teachers can enrich their professional development. -Chani



Sisterhood

Cindy Ginsburg & Lisa Gellman Co-Presidents

Our annual Sisterhood Supper in the Sukkah was a success again this year. We had almost 50 women and men join us for our popular Baked Potato Bar. The weather was perfect for dining in the Sukkah. Thank you to Rabbi Fasman for helping us expand our knowledge of the holidays.

Thank you to Dorothy Goldstein for making arrangements for the evening and to Sue Propper for making sure we had a great meal. Ava Small, Louise Kaufman-Yavitz, Peggy Nehman, and several last minute volunteers worked in the kitchen and Sukkah. We appreciate all of your help!

Shaare Zedek Sisterhood financially supports our dairy and meat kitchens. We would like you to know we have a new dairy kitchen dishwasher. Thank you to Arleen Kerman for the many hours spent researching, purchasing and installing our newest purchase.

Calling all parents and grandparents of college students. Please contact Ann Frank at 434-5603, stop in the Judaica



Shop, or call the office at 727-1747 to have a Hanukkah Package sent to your college students. Hanukkah comes early this year so the deadline is **Monday, November 19.**

Shaare Zedek is co-sponsor of the Jewish Book Festival. We are co-sponsoring Judith Martin, "Miss Manners". Be sure to join us on Tuesday, **November 13th** at 7:00 p.m. for this special event at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Thank you to Marilyn Kunitz for being our representative for the Jewish Book Festival.

Men's Club

Dave Propper, President

With the holidays now behind us, the Shaare Zedek Men's Club will be kicking off the programming year in concert with our Sisterhood with the upcoming Shaare Zedek Garage Sale. As you may have noted from last month's Synagogue Bulletin, we have a busy year ahead of us.

One of the suggestions for a future program has been a Scotch Tasting event! While doing some research on the subject, I ran across this interesting bit of "Helpful Halacha" (courtesy of the FJMC web site) relative to the Kashrut of "scotch," which you might find noteworthy.

Question: A number of clubs are running scotch tasting as a men's club program or for a Men's Club board meeting. Can they use scotch in sherry casks or with sherry wood finishes?

Answer: Some scotches: Abelour, Balvenie (12 year old), and Black Bushnell are aged in sherry casks or in the case of Abelour a cask with a sherry wood finish. Some kashrut organizations, (Star-K and OU) do not recommend their usage. They reason that the casks are used to age non-kosher wine. Wine can be considered not kosher if it falls into one of two categories, Yayn Nesech (wine used for religious purposes that are not Jewish) and stam yanamm (plain old wine). The first category refers to wine that was made to be dedicated as the Mishne tells us in honor of Aphrodite. Most wine today does not fall into this category. The second category is your normal everyday non-hechshered wine which

is not forbidden for use. In fact some authorities permit the making of a kiddush over non-hechshered wine, except during Passover.



A decade ago, everyone accepted scotch in sherry casks. Today as a result of shifts to the right in the Orthodox Movement a number of people do not though a number of rabbinic authorities do permit it. We would suggest for personal use one would decide depending upon their feelings of about the use of stam yanamm. For a synagouge function we would suggest that you consult your rabbi.

Additional news from FJMC about their new joint publication in concert with Women's League and the USCJ:

CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism is an exciting new joint venture between the FJMC, United Synagogue and Women's League. For the first time our three organizations that represent the lay members of our movement have come together to produce a bigger and more comprehensive look at Conservative/Masorti Judaism.

CJ replaces the flagship publications of our three organizations including the FJMC's renowned Torchlight Magazine. The journal will be published quarterly and has a projected distribution of nearly 300,000 homes. Your first edition should already have been delivered to you.

Everyone Has A Story

The Story of Joe and Julia Iken

Sima Needleman

Everyone knows Joe and Julie Iken, but there are some things about them that you probably don't know. Joe's parents, Ben and Celia Iken, settled in St. Louis after emigrating from Russia. Joe, who was born on March 16, 1923, was the youngest of their 6 children. Joe's parents were in the grocery business and lived in an apartment above their store. Initially, they lived on Division Street, then Franklin Avenue, but when Joe was five years old, they moved to 4554 Page Boulevard. That was four doors from Shaare Zedek and where Joe lived until he got married. (Joe thinks his family joined the synagogue at that time, which means that he has been a member of Shaare Zedek for 79 years!)

Two of Joe's siblings died before he was six years old, and because the three surviving brothers were quite a bit older, Joe was raised like an only child. Later, his parents welcomed into their home two of Joe's first cousins, whose parents were unable to care for them. For a number of years, there was no extended family in St. Louis, but when Joe was about five years old, his aunt, uncle, their two children, and Joe's maternal grandmother moved here.

Joe attended Riddick Elementary School through 8th grade. It's interesting to note that Joe's parents learned to speak English well enough to manage on a daily basis, to own and operate a grocery store, and even to buy investment real estate, a four-family flat (that they converted to eight apartments) and two other pieces of property. However, they never learned to read and write English. Consequently, Joe said that he signed his own report cards all the way through 12th grade.

Joe's Bar Mitzvah took place at Shaare Zedek in 1936. The next year, his father died. His mother was a strong and capable woman and was able to manage on the income from their rental property. Joe went to Soldan High School where he "made two letters in track!" Joe says that he was an average student until he reached college. Then he became more serious about school and started getting all A's. While in high school, Joe earned money by working in a grocery store on Saturdays. That was easy because all three of his older brothers owned grocery stores by then.

All the way through his teen years, Joe was very active in scouting. Boy Scout Troop #119 at Shaare Zedek was an important part of his life. In time, he became the Assistant Scout Master. Another youth group also impacted his life during those years. Joe explained that the NCJW established a neighborhood community center in a house on Page Boulevard (next door to Shaare Zedek) and called it "The Council House." There, young Jewish boys and girls could meet for supervised activities. It was at Council House where Joe

met Julie. He was a member of the Council House's Boys' Club, and she was in the Girls' Club. They were both 12 years old, and both have fond memories of the first director of Council House and his wife, Morris and Ethel Soglow, who had a tremendous influence on the youngsters and were wonderful role models. Joe and Julie had a close relationship with the Soglows long after their Council House days.

Joe graduated from Soldan in January, 1941. Because he couldn't start college until September of that year, Joe enrolled in the Rubicam Business School, where he took typing and bookkeeping classes. In the fall, he entered the St. Louis College of Pharmacy where he and other Jewish students started a Jewish Fraternity (since the existing fraternities at that time excluded Jews). During his first year, Joe continued to work in his brother's grocery store on

Saturdays. He was surprised to learn that Julie was now working there, too. She was a telephone order clerk. He offered to drive her home that day, and that was the beginning of their courtship.

In March, 1943, Joe's studies were interrupted when the Army called him into active duty. One month later, he and Julie became engaged, but marriage had to wait. At first, the Army, which needed engineers, sent Joe to college in Illinois to study engineering, but then took him out of that program and put him in the Signal Corps where he was trained to install telephone lines and to repair switchboards. Next, Joe was supposed to join a unit in the South Pacific, but a chest x-ray showed a spot on his lung. He was diagnosed with TB and discharged to a Veterans Hospital in Excelsior Springs, MO, where he stayed on bed rest for 2 years. In June, 1946 he came home to St. Louis.

Let's stop here and take a closer look at Julie's early years. Of Harry and Leah Silberman's 5 children, Julie was number three. She was born on November 9, 1923 in East St. Louis and lived there until she was 10 or 11. While attending the Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, Julie went to Sunday School at the Agudas Achim Synagogue. Although her parents had a grocery store, times were hard for them during the Depression. Her father lost his business, and the family moved to St. Louis where her father started a bottle and scrap iron business. Julie attended the Washington Elementary School, and her family first lived on McMillan Avenue about a block from Shaare Zedek. At that time, Julie went to the shul's Sunday School and Hebrew School and was an active member of Council House's Girls Club. While at Soldan High School, Julie took (not French or Spanish, but) two years of Hebrew. After graduating from Soldan in June, 1941, Julie enrolled in the Rubicam Business School

"...the support of their loving family and friends and the strength they received from one another got the family through that difficult time."

and completed its secretarial curriculum, after which she was placed in a clerical position. However, Julie worked in her new job a very short time because she became ill and was taken to Jewish Hospital where she had mastoid surgery. She was in the hospital 6-8 weeks, and there decided that she wanted to become a nurse rather than continuing to work in clerical positions. As soon as she could, she enrolled in the Jewish Hospital School of Nursing. She joined the Cadet Nursing program, which would have prepared her for military service after graduation. But during her training, Julie decided that she wanted to provide nursing care in people's homes.

When she graduated from the School of Nursing in July, 1946, Julie did two things: she married Joe on August 11, 1946, and she began working for the Visiting Nurse Association. In fact, she was the family bread-winner because Joe had two more years of pharmacy school. After graduating from the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, Joe was hired to work in a pharmacy on South Jefferson Street.

Joe and Julie started their family in 1949. Larry was their first child. He was followed by Richard, David, Ron, Harvey and Linda. The eight of them lived in a 5 room apartment on Cates Avenue in University City; when Julie's father died, her mother came to live with them too. Years later, they bought a house at 6953 Raymond Avenue in University City, where they lived until 1996.

In 1955, Joe bought a Rexall Pharmacy on 18th and Lafayette Avenue and renamed it Joseph's Rexall Drugs. According to Joe, for the next 35 years, he worked such long hours in his store that "Julie practically raised their children by herself." However, when Joe was home, he devoted his time and attention to the family. He remembers going to three different baseball games on the same Sunday, and the children remember family trips across the country.

Although their son David passed away in the summer of 1968 in a drowning accident when he was 15 years old, the support of their loving family and friends and the strength they received from one another got the family through that difficult time. According to their children, the family learned from David's death how important it is "to celebrate every day." Joe and Julie make a habit of celebrating every happy occasion with their five married children, 18 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Just last year, there were two simchas to celebrate; one was Joe's second Bar Mitzvah and the other was their 60th wedding anniversary.

In their 61 years of marriage, Joe and Julie have had a rich and full life together, taking an active role in each organization they joined and each cause they espoused. The Epstein Hebrew Academy, Shaare Zedek and the Jewish War

Veterans have all benefited from their time and effort. All of their children went to the Epstein Hebrew Academy, and Julie was very actively involved in the school all those years. In appreciation for her outstanding and dedicated service to the school, she was awarded the Woman of Valor Award in 1971.



Julie and Joe Iken celebrate 61 years of marriage

Also, Joe and Julie have been active, lifetime members of Shaare Zedek and have supported every program and activity that the shul has sponsored. Among other things, Joe was Membership Chairman, President of the Men's Club and Vice President of the synagogue. Julie served as Sisterhood President and both have been members of the Board of Directors. In appreciation of their service to the synagogue and their great support of Israel, they were honored at the shul's 1985 Israel Bond Dinner. In addition, Joe received the 2007 Man of the Year Award from the Midwest Region of the Fed-

eration of Jewish Men's Clubs. Finally, one of Joe's passions is the Jewish War Veterans. He feels strongly that it is important that the non-Jewish Community knows that Jews did their share, serving in the armed services in every war in which the U.S. was involved. Consequently, Joe in 1949 became a charter member of the JWV Post # 644; Julie joined the post's Auxiliary and was elected its first President. Meanwhile, Joe was selected Commander of the local post and later Commander of the Department of Missouri JWV. In addition, Joe for many years has chaired the city-wide Memorial Day Program of the JWV. On that day, the veterans along with Boy Scouts place over 4,500 flags on the graves of Jewish veterans. Joe still recruits new members.

Looking back, Joe and Julie are very proud of the fact that they have "paid for 31 years of college." (Their 5 children not only earned bachelor degrees, but some have advanced degrees as well.) The Iken's have much to be proud of. They are special people who are devoted to each other and their family, who reach out to others, and who have made the world a better place.

Sima Needleman has been interviewing Shaare Zedek members for her column "Everyone Has a Story." If you would like to be interviewed or have a suggestion of someone who might like to be interviewed, please call Barbara Bianco at 314-727-2399.

TO MY SHAARE ZEDEK EXTENDED FAMILY
I deeply appreciate all the tributes, cards and gifts that I received during my recent illness. I am doing much better and your prayers have helped me recuperate quicker. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Julie Iken

Early Childhood Education

Marty Schaeffer & Tessa Katan

Over the last month, the E.C.C. children have enjoyed learning about the fall holidays. They tasted sweet apples, listened to Rabbi Fasman blowing the shofar, sang songs under the sukkah with Hazzan Joanna, and touched the delicate torah using a yad.

As we progress into November, we are looking forward to exploring autumn and all the exciting things that come with it. The changing of the leaves, Thanksgiving, brisk nature walks. And learning about tikkun olam.

Throughout the school year, not just during the month of November, our E.C.C. staff encourage the children and families to take an active part in tikkun olam (repairing the world) and giving to others. Through mitzvot, tzedaka, and bringing in food items for the Food Pantry we try to give back to the community.

We are looking forward to our all-school Thanksgiving feast on November 20th. Our parents always enjoy spending time with their children at the Center.

Jewish Community Hebrew School

Rabbi Ari Vernon & Maxine Weil

*“... Give thanks to God, and bless God’s name.
For God is good; God’s love is forever...”
A Psalm of Thanksgiving (p.s.100)*

As we approach Thanksgiving, we are reminded of all the wonderful people and opportunities in our lives. We are blessed with a marvelous community of learners. Each of our students brings unique skills and talents which contribute to the success of our schools. Our teachers are fabulous resources of Jewish knowledge and personal example. And, of course, we are grateful for the support of our students’ families and the congregations that are committed to the success of our school programs.

We’re excited that our Hebrew School Shabbaton program gets started this month, and are again grateful for the collaboration of Solomon Schechter along with our congregations in encouraging all Conservative students to participate in this community Shabbat experience. Our kick-off Shabbaton for 5th graders will be on November 9th-10th at B’nai Amoona. If you still need to register, contact Morah Maxine at (314) 442-3757 or mweil@cajestl.org. Shabbatonim for

Youth Programs

**Iris Hinderliter
Youth Director**

Shalom! September has been a busy month for USY! We had a SZSL-wide Apple Picking Program at Eckert’s Farm in Belleville and USY-led services for the High Holidays. The services were led by USY board members Jake Shanas, David Feldman, and Eliot Markman. Jake, David, and Eliot did a wonderful job of engaging their friends in meaningful prayer and discussion for the holidays. And, of course, no one can forget that Kinnus is just around the corner! This year the convention will be held in Omaha, NE over Thanksgiving Break. We hope you can join us!



Live. Love. Learn Jewish.

other students in 3rd-7th grade will be held in the coming months.

The Jewish Community High School is finally getting into a weekly groove. We’re looking forward to **November 18th, and the 3rd Annual Yom Limud: A Day of Discovery for Jewish Teens**. 300 teenagers will gather at Shaare Emeth from 10am-1pm in the spirit of Jewish exploration. It’s an opportunity to investigate areas of Jewish life not usually in the school curriculum and to learn with people who are usually not available to you. Of course, where else can you just hang out with such a big group of other Jewish teens without leaving town? All Jewish teens in grades 8-12 are encouraged to participate. For more information, contact Rabbi Ari at (314) 442-3758 or avernon@cajestl.org. You can also find information at www.cajestl.org.

We hope everyone has a wonderful month and enjoys the day off on November 22nd.

Happy Thanksgiving to All,

Rabbi Ari Vernon

Morah Maxine



The Need for Blood Never Stops Help Save a Life

The Jewish Social Action Network in partnership with the JCC is sponsoring a Blood Drive

Sunday, November 18, 2007
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

at the Jewish Community Center
Carolyn H. Wohl Bldg. at 2 Millstone Campus Drive

Blood supplies decline as the winter months approach.
Please try to put this on your calendar. Your donation will really **save a life**.

To register to give blood (or any questions concerning the Blood Drive),
please call Micki Kingsley at 314-997-4479.

THE JEWISH FOOD PANTRY NEEDS OUR HELP

For the month of November the Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry is looking for these specific items in order to provide well-balanced nourishment for the community in need:

1. Tuna Fish
2. Healthy Soups
3. Canned Potatoes
4. Peanut Butter & Jelly
5. Cereal (healthy)
6. Personal Care Items

Items should be brought to the synagogue collection sites near the entrances.

For further information, please contact
Louise Levine, 636-227-1259.

The Evelyn Shanker Judaic Gift Gallery at Shaare Zedek

Featuring an exclusive line of Judaica for Bar/Bat Mitvah, your home, holiday celebrations, and gifts featuring:

tallitot	artwork
kippot	jewelry
tefillin	prayer books
music	seder plates
mezuzot	wedding gifts
candlesticks	b'nai mitzvah fits
kiddush cups	challah plates

Call Ann Frank for a personal shopping appointment for B'nai Mitvah or wedding gift registry.

314-727-1747

Open M-F 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Special Hebrew School Hours: 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Sunday hours by appointment.

Evelyn Shanker Gift Shop

Chanukah Special

**1st Candle
December 4!**

Open Sunday

November 4

10:00 am to 2:00 pm



Take 20% off everything
(except books)

If we don't have it, we will order it for you.
How about a Chanukah hat!

Have you been in the Gift Shop lately? It's beautiful!
When you shop here, you support:

- The Synagogue
 - The Early Childhood Center
 - USY
 - Camp Scholarships
 - The Kitchens
- and so much more!





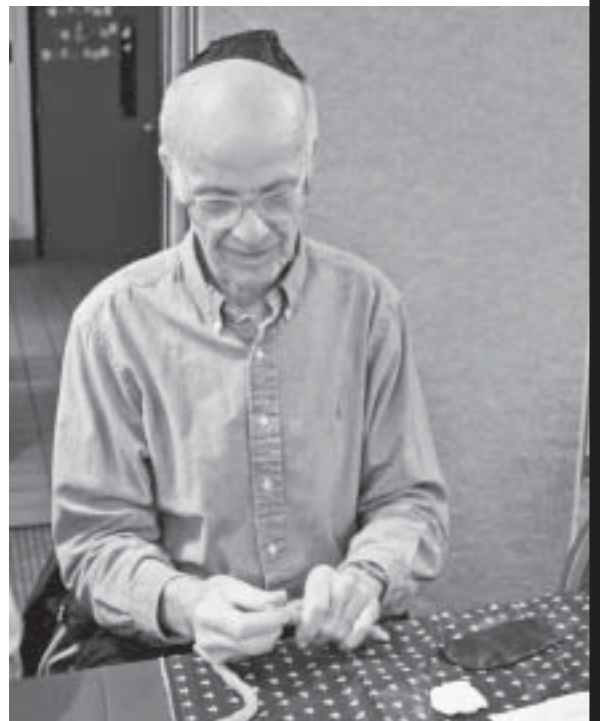
*(l. to r.)
Ellen
Wooten
helps Cindy
Ginsbury
choose just
the right
clay block
for the
image she
wants to
make on her
mezuzah
box.*



(l. to r.) Benita Boxerman and Rhiannon Kaye examine some of the sample mezuzah boxes made by teacher Jennifer Asher



(l. to r.) Sherry Kaplan, Karen Rader, and Marsha Birenbaum work diligently on their boxes, using simple tools like wooden dowels, plastic knives, and toothpicks.



(above) David Geller measures the length of the clay he is forming to be sure it will fit properly on his mezuzah box. (below) samples of the finished boxes display the great variety and creativity of the students as they await final steps to harden.



(l.) Shelley Shray creates narrow, even rolls of many colors of clay to use on her mezuzah box.



Sara Goodman Tribute Fund

The Sisterhood acknowledges with thanks the following contributions in support of our many projects. Tribute Chairman: Doris Lerner (314) 434-36761997
Seven Pines Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146

Births

Helene & Alan Spetner – granddaughter, Lilly
Stan & Ruth Levy
Kate Blumenfeld
Phyllis Warner
Mollie Stone
Ava & Harvey Small
Lois Fitter
Arlene & Jack Kerman
Irene Belsky
Marion & Jerry Cohen
Dorothy Goldstein
Stan & Simmie Gellman
Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Amy & Chad Doughty – daughter, Lilly
Dorothy Goldstein
Phyllis Warner
Sherry Kaplan – great-granddaughter, Lilly
Phyllis Warner
Irene Belsky
Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Mollie Stone
Marion & Jerry Cohen
Lois Fitter
Alan & Rhoda Grimsky
Stan & Simmie Gellman
Stan & Ruth Levy
Ava & Harvey Small

New Home

Irene Belsky
Kate Blumenfeld
Ruth Jacob
Kate Blumenfeld

Happy New Year

Rabbi Mark Fasman
Sylvia Thea
Hazzan Joanna & Rabbi Ryan Dulkan
Sylvia Thea

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Mrs. Sylvia Holtzman – in honor of grandson's Bar Mitzvah
LaVerne Zeid

Engagement

Barbara & Marty Becker – their daughter, Jody
Phyllis Warner
Dorrie & Marvin Lerner

Recovery

Julie Iken
Kate Blumenfeld
Sylvia Thea
Phyllis Warner
Marion & Jerry Cohen
Stan & Simmie Gellman
Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Ava & Harvey Small
Irene Belsky
Lois Fitter
Dorothy Goldstein
Arlene & Jack Kerman
Stan & Ruth Levy
Mollie Stone
Sara Gaiman
Stan & Simmie Gellman
Julius Schwartz
Ruth Jacob
Irvin Hoffman
LaVerne Zeid

In Memory

Rabbi Fasman – in memory of Uncle Jacob Levin
Lois Fitter
Dorothy Goldstein
Audrey Berns – in memory of sister
Alan & Rhoda Grimsky
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Fitter – in memory of cousin
LaVerne Zeid
Lee Bass Family – in memory of Elly
Gary & Louise Kaufman Yavitz

Donations to the Synagogue

Shaare Zedek acknowledges with gratitude the following contributions:

GENERAL FUND

IN HONOR OF

Julie Iken's Speedy Recovery
Hanley & Florence Cohn
Marshall & Sara Myers
Hilton Epstein's recovery
Millie Mellman
Hazzan Dulkan's Beautiful CD
Leo Bressler
The Volunteers who Prepared Shul for Holidays
Leo Bressler
Julius Schwartz's speedy recovery
Marshall & Sara Myers
JoAnn Raskas' 70th Birthday
Aunt Joan & Family
My High Holiday Aliyah
Murray Kalina

IN MEMORY OF

Judge Harold Satz
John & Debbie Greenberg
Max Kaufman
Stanley & Elaine Gollub

EARLY CHILDHOOD RENEWAL FUND

IN HONOR OF

Amos Shamir
Hazzan & Rabbi Dulkan

IN MEMORY OF

YAHREZIT OF

Cecile Zimbalist
Ruth Hartstein

SAMUEL FRANK CHESED FUND

IN HONOR OF

Julius Schwartz's speedy recovery
Ann Frank
Julie Iken's speedy recovery
Ann Frank
Sylvia Silver
All those who made the High Holidays so enjoyable
Ann Frank

YAHREZIT OF

Dolly Raskas
Sylvia Silver

HAZZAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND (MUSIC)

IN HONOR OF

Barry & Annalee Zweig's daughter's marriage
Friends of Barry & Annalee Zweig

Julie Iken's Speedy Recovery
Helene & Alan Spetner
Julius Schwartz's Speedy Recovery
Helene & Alan Spetner

IN MEMORY OF

Hazzan Dulkan's grandmother, Judith
Florence & Hanley Cohn

ANN BORNSTEIN SCHWARTZ FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Lester Bricker
Leon & Sylvia Schwartz
Eleanor & Eugene Goldstein & Family

HERMAN SHANKER EDUCATION FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Ruth Zangwill's daughter, Carol
Beverly & Rubin Leve

LIL & BUDDY SPETNER "SWEET MEMORIES" FUND

IN HONOR OF

Alan & Helene's First Grandchild
Fred & Cecile Spiegelman
Zendra & Mel Ashkanazi
Gayle & Joe Levy & Family
Sylvia Silver
Elaine & Marc Tenzer
Sherry Kaplan's Great Granddaughter
Fred & Cecile Spiegelman
Zendra & Mel Ashkanazi
Amy & Chad Doughty's First Child
Gayle & Joe Levy & Family
Lilly Tama Doughty's Baby Naming
Anne Madden

IN MEMORY OF

Bill Adler
Zendra & Mel Ashkanazi
Rhoda & Sandra Schwartz's son and grandson
Estelle & Fred Handler

SARA & LEO WOLF EDUCATION FUND

IN HONOR OF

Alan & Helene Spetner on birth of their granddaughter
Sara & Leo Wolf

David Iken Memorial Fund

Recovery of Julia Iken

Phyllis & Phillip Katz
Mel & Zendra Ashkanazi
Sherry Kaplan
Ruth Katz
Martin & Barbara Becker
Irv & Jo Cassel
Sidney & Sylvia Rosen
Alvin Werner
Harvey & Carol Friedman
Mitch & Joyce Podolsky
Victor & Donna Caltagirone
Andrea & David Alhadeff
Barbara & Don Rubin
Bob & Elly Rubin
Scott Rubin & Stephen Moore
Kathi & Stuart Rosenberg
Sylvia Covitz
Burton & Benita Boxerman

Recovery of Gwen Sosna

Sherry Kaplan

Happy, healthy, and sweet New Year to
Hazzan Dulkan & family

Sherry Kaplan

Sherry Kaplan's great granddaughter

Martin & Barbara Becker

Alan & Helene Spetner's granddaughter

Martin & Barbara Becker

Rudy & Frances Oppenheim

Happy New Year to Rudy & Frances Oppenheim

Sidney & Sylvia Rosen

Leo & Sara Wolf's services to Shaare Zedek & the
community

Sidney & Sylvia Rosen

November Yahrzeits

Myron Applebaum
Aaron Applebaum
Rose Goldman

Stanley Goldstein
Dave Goldstein
Fred Handler
Morris Handler

Benita Boxerman
Irma Weissman Silberman

Mildred (Mickey) Hoffman
Laura Snitzer

Jerry Cohen
Jean Cohen

Murray & Maxine Kalina
Maurice Kalina

Hanley Cohn
Conrad Cohn

Robert Lerner
Fay Lerner

Robert Diamond
Marvin Diamond

Jutta Soffer Levy
Sam Fass
Larry Soffer
Steven Soffer

Ed Finkelstein
Harvey Finkelstein

Lois Fitter
Sylvia Levin

Sara Myers
Pat Raskas

Eric Flug
Edna Flug

Rudy & Frances
Oppenheim
Saul Bixhorn

Ann Frank
Esther Ellman

Pat Rosen
Cecile Zimbalist

Julia Friedman
David Friedman

Erwin Taryle
Cecil Taryle

Stan Gellman
Gus Gellman

Sylvia Thea
Cecil Taryle

Byron Goldenhersh
Mildred Goldenhersh

Frieda Wormser
Sam Napers

Edward Goldenhersh
Mildred Goldenhersh

Esther Zuckerman
Pearl Zuckerman

Nancy Goldstein
Louis Leve

Condolences for October

The family of Charlotte Miceletti, sister of Maurice and aunt of Mark Goffstein, who passed away on September 15th.

The family of Judith Steiber, grandmother of Hazzan Joanna (Rabbi Ryan) Dulkan and great-grandmother of Zac and Jesse Dulkan, who passed away in Connecticut on October 5th.

The family of Sam Goldstein, brother of Stanley (Nancy) Goldstein and Suzie (Alan) Broddon, who passed away on October 12th.

Join us Sunday, November 11 at 10:30

Shaare Zedek welcomes SoferOnSite:
Scribes, Educators and Master Storytellers for the
opening ceremony and the first letter writing event.



It's time to *Just Write It!*

Sunday, November 11 at 10:30

Our entire Shaare Zedek family is invited to join us for the opening ceremony as we begin the year-long Torah writing project.

The first section of the newly commissioned Torah will be brought by our sofer for a special morning of celebration and dedication.

Join us as members who have already made a commitment to the *Just Write It* project fill in actual letters with the sofer. It will be an historic event for Shaare Zedek!

We need your help

Review the pledge brochure that was mailed to you and select your financial commitment. Your contribution not only helps us complete this unique mitzvah of Torah writing, but also helps raise needed revenue for our synagogue.

To participate in letter filling, you must pledge!

There will be additional opportunities in the coming months for your family to also participate in letter filling, and we want to include everybody! If you have questions about participation, please contact the Synagogue office or any member of the Torah Project Committee.

We are excited to share this coming year of fulfilling the mitzvah of writing a Sefer Torah, as we come together to *Just Write It!*

Generous donors have already made possible the initial stages of our Torah creation.

Participate in the mitzvah of writing a sefer Torah by sponsoring a parsha, verse, word or letter.

Shaare Zedek Synagogue
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St. Louis, MO 63130

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Use your eScrip Card and the shul will receive money
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It's Free...It's Easy... Sign Up Today!

- 1** Pick up your free eScrip Card at the Shaare Zedek office.
- 2** Activate the card on the web or by phone
- 3** Go shopping as you normally do!

Shaare Zedek will make more money every time another congregant joins.

Call the office at 314-727-1747 for more information.