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# the Shofar

may 1996

A publication of Congregation Shaar Hashalom

16020 El Camino Real

Houston, TX 77062

(713) 488-5861

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## *From the Rabbi . . .*

I know that many people were involved in trying to remove the Christians' New Testament from the reading list of the 9th grade English pre-advanced placement summer reading list at Clear Lake High School. Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you - those of you who wrote letters, those of you who spoke to administrators, and those of you who spoke directly to school personnel - for your interest and support and personal effort in this matter.

To be a congregation means to band together around the Jewish values we hold in common. This is a great example of how we are



banding together on issues of concern to us as well as to the Jewish community as a whole. I am proud of all of us and I hope you are too.

Congratulations to all of the 1996 Confirmands. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Confirmation service on Saturday, May 25, at 9:30 A.M.

And congratulations and mazel tov to the 1996 high school graduates. Congregation Shaar Hashalom will always be your congregation. I am sure that all that you have learned here about your faith will, with G-d, be with you wherever you go.

**Rabbi Stuart Federow**

## **COMMITMENTS THEN & NOW: RELEVANT LESSONS FROM SINAI**

Congregation Shaar Hashalom and the Jewish Center of Clear Lake invite you to attend a special adult education session on Saturday, May 18, 1996 from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM at Brookwood Elementary School.

This session is free and open to the community and is presented by Roberta S. Clark of the Bureau of Jewish Education. RSVP to the Synagogue office (488-5861).

## **About the Speaker**

Roberta S. Clark received dual Master's degrees in Jewish education and Jewish studies from Gratz College in Philadelphia. A native Galvestonian, Ms. Clark grew up in Houston as an active participant in the local Jewish community. She recently returned to Houston after serving as Director of Professional Development and later Coordinator of Community Programs at the Commission for Jewish Education in West Palm Beach, Florida. Currently, Ms. Clark is the Coordinator of Adult Education Programs of the Bureau of Jewish Education, a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston.

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## *From the President . . .*

By now you have undoubtedly heard that our beloved Clear Creek Independent School District had included the New Testament on its list of required reading for ninth grade advanced English. Rabbi Federow encouraged all of us to write letters of protest to appropriate persons to try to get this decision reversed. I am aware that one congregant has made phone calls to school officials and Rabbi Federow and another congregant have written letters. I can't stress how important it is that we respond in greater numbers. The response of one official to the phone call was that this was the first complaint the principal had heard and she didn't see anything wrong with the requirement. What empathy for the concerns of minorities! Following is the letter I have written. I don't hold it out a paragon.

Mrs. Nina Zoch  
9th Grade Principal  
Clear Lake High School  
2929 Bay Area Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77058

Dear Ms. Zoch:

Due to a schedule conflict, I was unable to attend the session on March 26 for parents of eighth graders who will enroll at Clear Lake High in the coming academic year. However, my wife did attend, and she and I are both very disturbed by the report that the New Testament will be a required text for the advanced English curriculum. Surely, of all the literature available in the English language, it was not necessary to choose this particular item.

Presumably, you are unaware of the fact that your student body is comprised of a diverse cultural and religious mix. Or perhaps (more likely, I believe), you are very cognizant of this fact and have chosen on some flimsy pedagogical basis to not-so-subtly submit the Hindu, Buddhist, Moslem, Jewish and atheist students to indoctrination in the religion of the majority.

To make clear where I am coming from, I am Jewish. I converted to Judaism fourteen years ago, having been raised in Christianity. It is not my purpose to debate the merits of the two religions---my choice speaks for itself. But this was a personal choice, borne of my study of the two religions and my constitutionally-guaranteed right to make that choice. I am prepared to accept whatever religious choices my children make in the future, but I will assure that they have the opportunity to make those choices on an informed basis without the interference of peer and teacher pressure.

This is the crux of my objection. In my opinion, it is inconceivable that classroom discussion and examinations on a topic which is so subject to personal interpretation and emotions and has engendered so much violence and inhumanity over the centuries can be presented in an unbiased, analytical fashion; and out of respect for students who profess other beliefs, it seems disingenuous even to suggest that this is

possible.

I ask that you put yourself in the position of parents and students of a minority faith. Suppose, for whatever reason, you and your family lived in a Moslem state. What would your reaction be to your teen-age children being required to study the Qu'ran as a part of a required course? I ask that you consider the words of Hillel, one of our sages of the last century B.C.E., "That which is abhorrent to you, don't do to another." As I recall, a similar quote is attributed to Jesus at a later date.

As a CCISD taxpayer and the parent of two students, I resent the use of my tax dollars to aid Christian proselytizing and I demand that you reconsider the decision to include this text as a mandatory part of the curriculum. Further, I would like to know the identity of the individuals and/or committees responsible for this decision so that I may take whatever personal steps I deem appropriate to assure that they are not in a position to commit such acts of disrespect in the future.

If this letter needs to be addressed to someone other than yourself or one of those copied, I trust that you will forward a copy to the concerned person.

Sincerely,

Rex D. Hemme

cc: Dr. John Wilson  
Superintendent of Schools  
Clear Creek Independent School District  
PO Box 799  
League City, Texas 77574

Ms. Sheryl Johnson  
President, Board of Trustees  
Clear Creek Independent School District  
1002 Wave Crest Lane  
Houston, Texas 77062

Dr. N. K. Olendorf  
Head of Curriculum  
Clear Creek Independent School District  
PO Box 799  
League City, Texas 77574

Anti-Defamation League  
4635 Southwest Freeway  
Houston, Texas 77027

ACLU of Texas  
PO Box 132047  
Houston, Texas 77219

I hope this inspires many of you to write your own letters.

**Rex Hemme, President**

## Men's Club Bookfair

It's that time again. The Shaar Hashalom Men's Club is again sponsoring a Book Fair. The fourth annual book fair will be combined with the synagogue picnic sponsored by the Men's Club. So search your house for books that you have read and would like to share with others. You can even return the books you bought last year and we will sell them again. Children's books are especially in demand but we will gladly accept books of all kinds. Donate your books to the Men's Club for a triple mitzvah:

1. by cleaning out your house of books you no longer read
2. by helping raise money so that the Men's Club can sponsor the

school picnic, help build the school's playground, and other activities

3. by providing others the opportunity to enjoy books at low, low prices

Take advantage of this opportunity to do a triple mitzvah and bring those books for resale at the Men's Club Fourth Annual Book Fair. A box for donated books will be placed under the table in the synagogue hallway to receive the books. We will even pick up the books at your house if there is a problem in getting them to the synagogue. Just call me, Isaak Abramovitz, at 333-4493.

**Isaak Abramovitz, Men's Club**

### OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

President	Rex Hemme	286-8806
VP - Finance	Isaac Rosen	474-3764
VP - Ritual	Diane Rosenfeld	486-7152
VP - Education	Mike Goldberg	280-0666
	Felicia Bank	286-3848
Recording Secretary	Alan & Barbara Cain	488-7116
Corresponding Secretary	Elaine Ackel	480-0113
Financial Secretary	Neil Ostrosky	486-5239
Treasurer	Martin Coppersmith	480-0759
Past President	Leonard Levine	486-9549
Membership	Rosalind Lively-Berger	480-8410
	Nancy Cohen	291-9192
Facilities	Stuart Bank	286-3848
Publicity	Anita Osman	488-3356
Fundraising	Don Brand (bagels)	480-3449
	Allen Kufert (grocery certif.)	480-4281
Shofar	Hedy Wolpa	334-3740
	Ellen Rosen	474-3764
Bingo	Maurice Najer	471-4582
	Susan Kitmacher	480-9716
Social Action	Steve Friedman	436-1492
Sisterhood President	Pia Greenberg	482-5497
Men's Club	Carl Schwanke	286-6712
Rabbi	Stuart Federow	499-8080
Secretary	Barbara Holder	488-5861
School Principal	Nitsana Lazerus	480-1032
Gift Shop	Sheilla Goldberg	280-0666
Kitchen	Jennifer Briscoe	334-5539

## New member spotlight

**Jessie and Maurice Najer** and family have been with our congregation for about a year and really like the Clear Lake Jewish community because of the member involvement in our synagogue. In fact, many of us will be working Bingo with Maurice, our new Bingo co-chair, on Sunday evenings. Maurice is hoping to improve Bingo attendance with more publicity. Maurice likes the idea of a fundraising activity that reaches into the community for support and growth.

There are three Najer children, all enrolled in our school: **Allon**, 12 years old; **Sydelle**, 9 years old; and **Gabriel**, 6 years old. Allon and Sydelle are musically inclined, playing the clarinet and the violin respectively. Gabriel hasn't quite decided on his specialty, yet! Allon is in the 1997 Bar/Bat Mitzvah class.

Maurice is an attorney in private practice in LaPorte, and Jessie can be found at work at Norman Frede Chevy here in Clear Lake. Work and three busy children don't leave Maurice and Jessie a lot of spare time, but they both enjoy dinner and a movie when a night out is available.

Maurice's family came to America in 1961 from Israel. His father was originally from Poland but after World War II, he was given an opportunity to leave and he chose Palestine, where he met Maurice's mother. An uncle, who also survived the concentration camps, invited the family to come to America, and Houston was their destination.

Maurice and Jessie met at an apartment complex in Houston, Jessie having moved here from Mexico with a job opportunity. They have been married 13 years.

## **Todah Rabah**

- ◆ to **Mike Goldberg** for his donation of books to the synagogue library.
- ◆ to **Men's Club** for installing the new playground equipment.



We welcome articles and information for the Shofar. We prefer a PC disk (Word, WordPerfect, Write, ASCII or text file) or e-mail (rosen@radph6.mda.uth.tmc.edu). Put disk or printed copy in the Shofar mailbox at the synagogue, or call Hedy (334-3740) or Ellen (474-3764).

## Ritual Report . . .

The Congregation Seder, held on Thursday evening, April 4, 1996, was attended by a grand total of 104 adults and children. Traditional foods on individual Seder plates were followed by a kosher for Passover Bar-B-Que chicken dinner. The success of the event was due to the cooperative efforts of a number of congregants.

**Rabbi Federow's** leadership of the Seder service was both forceful and funny. Some interesting props used by the rabbi illustrated the plagues of hail and locusts, and everyone's attention was held throughout. Afikomen prizes for both children and adults were provided by the rabbi.

The lowered cost of this year's Seder was mainly due to not using a professional caterer. In effect, we catered it ourselves, using great-tasting pre-cooked kosher chickens and other kosher-prepared foods. Side dishes were cooked and donated by congregants. Between \$300 and \$400 was raised, and will be used for a good cause.

Special thanks go to my co-chairs, **Reina Sher-Kraft** and **Judy Gibbs**. Reina made all of the wonderful matzah ball soup in the synagogue kitchen, with help from **Ida Berezin**. Judy made a huge amount of delicious *haroset*, while **Debby**

**Angel**, who picked up the paper goods for us, cooked all of the carrot side dish.

**Blanche Abramovitz, Miriam Devin, Judith Jackson** and **Paula Bhimani** provided baked potatoes, and **Linda Truman, Pia Greenberg** and **Elaine Ackel** boiled eggs. Desserts were brought by **Ida Berezin** and **Tracey Manusov**, who also helped set up, and by **Sue Keitelman, Roz Lively-Berger, Miriam Devin, Mary Beth Weiss** and **Jan Coppersmith**.

**Russell Gibbs** and **David Rosenfeld**, who bought and donated an electric carving knife, cut up forty-five chickens the morning of the Seder. (They actually ate some chicken later, anyway!) **Jen Briscoe, Shirley Sher, Reina Sher-Kraft** and **Florence Cohen** kashered the kitchen for Passover. Reina has been the "extra hand" we needed throughout the amazingly brief period of time we had to prepare this event, taking charge when both Judy and I had to leave town briefly.

Those who made cash donations will be thanked elsewhere; their generosity is very much appreciated.

**Diane Rosenfeld, Ritual Chair**

## May Onegs

May 3 **Ida and Lou Diamond** in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of **Jenny Diamond**

May 10 **Paula Bhimani** in honor of the anniversary of **Mia Bhimani's** Bat Mitzvah

May 17 **Nurit Mittlefehldt** in honor of the anniversary of **Raffi Mittlefehldt's** Bat Mitzvah

May 24 **Parents of the 1996 Confirmands** in honor of the Confirmation of their children: the **Kitmachers, the Levines, the Greenberg-**

**Niemczuras, the Rosens, the Rosenthals**

May 31 **Kari and Mark Sokolow** in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of **Danielle Sokolow**

Sisterhood coordinates the Oneg Shabbats, but everyone - not just Sisterhood members - is invited to host an Oneg. You may host an Oneg to celebrate a special family event, or to celebrate Shabbat. Please call **Jennifer Briscoe (334-5539)**, Sisterhood Kitchen V.P., with the date you would like to host an Oneg.

## Education Report . . .

Many thanks to all parents, teachers, TA's, and students for helping to prepare for and to participate in the Passover seder at the synagogue on March 31. The students sang and read beautifully and **Rabbi Federow** presented a memorable seder for all to enjoy. Thanks to parents who brought supplies and who cooked; there was plenty of food. Special thanks go to **Leslie Schwanke**, previous Education co-chair, and to **Felicia Bank**, new co-chair, for their help. **Barbara Holder** and **Tracey Manusov** also put forth extra efforts in preparing for the seder and cleaning up afterwards.

TEACHER APPRECIATION SHABBAT is May 17th. We hope all students and parents will attend to show their appreciation to their teachers and TA's for their hard work all year long.

Registration for the next school year will be held the last Sunday of Religious School, May 19. Please watch for information coming home with your children. The school will need to know how many students to expect next year so books and supplies can be ordered. PLEASE REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**Nitsana Lazerus, Education Coordinator**

**Families must be in good financial standing in order to enroll their children in Religious School. Call Neil Ostrosky, Financial Secretary (486-5239), or Isaac Rosen, Financial Vice-President (474-3764) if you have a question or need more information.**

## Contributions

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

from Jan and Martin Coppersmith and daughters  
for the speedy and complete recovery of Lisa Federow  
from Diane, Allen and Joseph Kufert  
in memory of Robert Franklin, father of Diane  
from Judy, Russ and Stuart Gibbs  
in memory of Bernice Gibbs, mother of Russ  
from Judy, Russ and Stuart Gibbs  
in memory of Hanna Rosenfeld, mother of David  
from Benjamin Falk  
in memory of Samuel Falk, father of Benjamin  
from Edward and Sue Keitelman  
in memory of Hannah Rosenfeld, mother of David  
from Wendy Kane and Dale Calcarone  
in memory of Ellie Karbowski, wife of Terry Karbowski

### **General Fund**

from Goldie and Joseph Wosk  
in honor of Paula Bhimani

### **Prayerbook Fund**

from Alan, Barbara and Melissa Cain  
in memory of Hanna Rosenfeld, mother of David

### **Library Fund**

from Alan, Barbara and Melissa Cain  
in honor of Tamar Hemme's Bat Mitzvah  
from Alan, Barbara and Melissa Cain  
in honor of Rex and Amira Hemme's reaffirmation of  
their wedding vows

### **Building Fund**

from Judy, Russ and Stuart Gibbs  
for the speedy and complete recovery of Molly Rovick  
for the speedy and complete recovery of Al Lapidus  
for the speedy and complete recovery of Burt Cohen  
for the speedy and complete recovery of Greg Stein  
from Pia Greenberg and Tom and Doc Niemczura  
in memory of Roseanne Clark  
from Pia Greenberg and Tom and Doc Niemczura  
in memory of Hanna Rosenfeld, mother of David

### **To sponsor Congregation Shaar Hashalom's participation in the Leadership Development Workshop of the Community Outreach program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, to be held on April 21**

from Diane and David Rosenfeld  
in loving memory of Frances Kerman  
in honor of the birth of Paul Keitelman  
in honor of Doc Niemczura winning the ninth grade  
division of the CCISD Science Fair  
in honor of Goldie and Kenneth Wetcher's anniversary  
in memory of Robert Franklin, father of Diane Kufert  
in honor of the birth of Aliza Jane, the first grandchild  
of Goldie and Kenneth Wetcher

### **Education Fund**

from Devora and Israel Paz  
in memory of Eliezer Horowitz, father of Devora

## **[Bat Mitzvah announcement - Danielle Sokolow]**



The award for the March  
*Mensch of the Month*  
was given to  
**Talya Lazarus**  
for outstanding help  
to her mother.

5th grade class

### **May candlelighting**

May 3	7:42 p.m.
May 10	7:47 p.m.
May 17	7:51 p.m.
May 24	7:55 p.m.
May 31	7:59 p.m.



## **In the Jewish Community**

The HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON is searching for names of all survivors, living and dead, from the greater Houston area to be listed on a wall of survivors in the Museum. Those who settled here but later moved away may also be listed. "Survivors" include those who left their homeland after 1933 to escape Nazi persecution as well as those who survived the war. Please include addresses and phone numbers of the living survivors and your own name and phone number for verification. Mail, fax, or call in names as soon as possible to Laura Schwartz, Holocaust Museum Houston, 5401 Caroline, Houston, 77004, phone 942-8000 x105, fax 942-7953.

## Food Drive

In the First Annual Purim food drive held recently,, Congregation Shaar Hashalom, several other Houston area synagogues, the Jewish Community Center, and Randalls Food Markets, joined together to collect food for the Houston Food Bank, which serves over 400 social service agencies in the greater Houston area. The drive collected over 8,660 pounds of food - enough to sustain Meals on Wheels, food pantries, homeless shelters, and other food agencies for several weeks.

The Food Bank normally collects about 375 pounds of food during a one-day food drive. Since the early spring is a slow time, the Food Bank was doubly appreciative of the vast quantity of food collected by the Jewish community.

The following list indicates the participants and the number of pounds collected by each:

United Orthodox	620 pounds
Shaar Hashalom	751 pounds
Beth Israel	981 pounds
JCC	1,004 pounds
Emanu El	2,116 pounds
Beth Yeshuran	3,188 pounds

A special "thank-you" goes to **Ida Diamond** for coordinating the food drive for our congregation and for preparing and distributing flyers.

## MEN'S CLUB

Ron Zaguli hosted our April Breakfast. Special thanks to Ron and Amy for a great breakfast and for sharing their home with us.

There were some who said it couldn't be done, but we did it! By the time you read this you'll see that the Burger King Slide Set has been rebuilt and is a new addition to the synagogue playground. Our Sunday school kids should already be getting good use out of it. Many man-hours were invested in the project and we had broad support from a majority of our membership in the destruction/construction effort. Thanks to all who helped.

The time for the Congregational Picnic is upon us. We'll have great food; a clown and games for the kids; volleyball, softball, and horseshoes for teenage and beyond kids; a book sale and bingo; and great park facilities (a nature walk, herb garden, and playground equipment.). Best of all it's FREE to Shaar Hashalom Members. DON'T MISS IT. See the notice elsewhere in this issue for more specific information regarding time & date.

Calendar of Upcoming Men's Club activities:

- o April 28 Museum of Health and Medical Science
- o May 19 1 P.M. Congregation Picnic
- o June Men's Club Banquet at Gulf Greyhound Park
- o July Men's Club Membership Breakfast, free to prospective members

**Carl Schwanke, Men's Club President**



### Yahrzeits

May 1	Russell Gibbs, Sr.	Father of Russell Gibbs
May 5	Samual Feldman	Grandfather of Kenneth Unger
May 8	Ella Ross Simms	Wife of Bertram Simms and Mother of Joan Lapidus
May 10	Albert Rosenberg	Father of Arlene Leboe
May 20	Sophie Peters	Mother of Paula Schulman
May 21	Moshe Finchelstain	Father of Israel Paz
May 26	Bernard Schulman	Father of Harvey Schulman
May 30	Wallace Unell	Brother of Ellen Rosen
June 4	Murray Ressler	Father of Susan Grinbaum

For additions or corrections to the yahrzeit list, please call Barbara at the synagogue office (488-5861).

Roseanne Clark, a member of Shaar Hashalom for many years, passed away recently. Managing editor of the *Texas Medical Center News* since 1988, Rosanne developed the paper into an award-winning publication and doubled its circulation. During her career, Roseanne won numerous honors, including awards from the Harris County Medical Society, the Houston Press Club, and Women in Communications.

Roseanne was a member of Sisterhood and served on its Board as historian.

She is survived by her parents and a brother.



## *Fundraising Report . . .*

Sunday, April 21, was Fundraising's Super Bagel Sunday. Thanks to all congregants - adults and kids - who pre-sold bagels by the half-dozen for this event. Almost 300 dozen bagels were sold!! Thank you to all and congratulations to Fundraising for a super event.

Grocery gift certificate coupons are still available. The synagogue receives a percentage of your total bill from local grocers when we use these coupons. Also, the Men's Club has Congregation Shaar Hashalom Share Cards that can be used at Kroger when you do not use your gift certificates. The card is scanned at the checkout before your groceries are scanned. 1% of your food bill goes to the synagogue. Call Alan Kufert to get a card (480-4281).

## SISTERHOOD

*The Fashion Show is Saturday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m.!* This is a family event! So please come on down to the synagogue and join us for a fun evening. Yes, there'll be food! Yes, there will be a silent auction -- for some really great stuff, too! **Risa Stein** is the Chair for this annual event, so you know this will be quite an evening you will not want to miss! If you would like to help, please call Risa at 474-3307.

*The Flower Bulb Fundraiser is underway!* All of the plants will be imported from Holland. They are beautiful (and very affordable)! For more information or to place an order, please contact **Sue Keitelman** at 474-5045. You'll also be able to place orders at the fashion show.

Okay, Onegs! **HELP! Providing food for the onegs is the responsibility of the congregation, not Sisterhood.** Sisterhood coordinates the Oneg schedule. Sisterhood provides the challah, punch and paper goods. The Ritual Committee supplies the wine and grape juice. The congregants are supposed to help keep the custom alive of having something special to eat in celebration of Shabbat. In the past, we've had friends who team up and host onegs together. We've also paired up people (men & women) who didn't have someone to host one with. We have had families share the celebration of their life cycle events and accomplishments this way. What better way to give thanks! (Plus, as very learned Rabbi once told me -- if we don't celebrate our loved ones' achievements, who will?) We still have a lot of slots open on the Oneg Schedule. If you are unable to host an Oneg, but would like to help, a minimum donation of \$10 would be greatly appreciated. Someone from Sisterhood would then use the money to buy the food and put it out. **If you would like to help coordinate one of the pot luck dinners or host an Oneg, please contact Jennifer Briscoe at 334-5539.** This truly is a wonderful way to honor your friends and family! Please help keep a beautiful tradition alive!


*In a final note, this is my last report as Sisterhood President.* In July, I will be turning over the gavel to our new Co-Presidents. I wish them much success as they begin an experience to treasure forever. Over the last two years, the experiences I have had and the people I have had the pleasure of getting to know have made my two terms so special to me. Letting go of the position will be awkward because of that. On the other hand, I must admit I am looking forward to letting someone else have all the Sisterhood records to decorate their bedroom with. (And believe me, the Sisterhood records are the perfect accent for any home!) Don't worry, I am not going away. In a way you could say I am getting a promotion. At the Women's League For Conservative Judaism Southwest Branch Meeting, May 3-5, in Austin, I will be officially inducted in as their Financial Secretary. Congratulations, mazel tov and best wishes to all of the new Sisterhood officers who will be installed for the coming year! Take advantage of the experience you are about to embark on! You get what you put into it . . . and if you do it right, it's the best!!!

**Pia Greenberg, Sisterhood President**

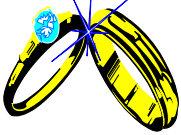
### [political ad - Ida Diamond for Clear Laker City Water Authority director]

political ad paid for by the Ida Diamond family

Happy Birthday to		May 25	Hannah Parker Melinda "Goozie" Brand Sandy Ostrosky
May 1	Ruth Feitelson Bill Robertson	May 26	Katie Angel
May 2	Nancy Platt Jenna Rosenthal	May 30	Danielle Sokolow
May 3	Brad Fike		
May 4	Scott Manusov		
May 6	Shelly Kapsack		
May 7	David Rosenfeld		
May 10	Alan Simon		
May 13	Harvey Schulman		
May 17	Jay Greene		
May 19	Howard Crupain		
May 20	Lauren Polt		
May 22	Ben Diamond		
May 23	Laura Platt Josh Schulte		



For additions or corrections to the birthday list, please call Barbara at the synagogue office (488-5861).

Happy Anniversary to		
May 7	Sam and Nancy Platt	
May 9	Roger and Maxine Curtis	
May 12	Jon and Michelle Kocen	
May 18	Susan and Bill Robertson	

For additions or corrections to the anniversary list, please call Barbara at the synagogue office (488-5861).

[announcement of USY meeting]

### Mazel tov

**Michael Wollner** for being accepted to Baylor Medical School. He will begin August '96.

**Andrew Wollner** for graduating this month from Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio.

**Talya Lazerus** for being the Mensch of the Month, selected by Blanche Abramovitz' 5th grade class. Talya won this honor for her outstanding help to her mother, Nitsana Lazerus.

Several CSH middle school students were inducted into the Junior National Honor Society:

<b>Lauren Polt</b>	<b>Courtney Rosenthal</b>
<b>Jason Gillman</b>	<b>Melia Robertson</b>
<b>Rafi Mittlefehldt</b>	<b>Jenny Diamond</b>

Several CSH students from Clear Lake High School were inducted into the National Honor Society:

<b>Anna Levine</b>	<b>Laura Rosen</b>
<b>Yonatan Mittlefehldt</b>	<b>Jenna Rosenthal</b>

**Pia Greenberg** for being elected Financial Secretary of the Southwest Branch of Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

**Wendy Kane** for opening her new Italian restaurant, DA VINCI'S, located at 622 FM 1959, near Ellington Field.

**Laura Rosen** for being selected Varsity Cheerleader at Clear Lake High School.

[announcement of Confirmation Class services]

**Until further notice, Barbara Holder, congregation secretary, will be in the office the following hours:**

**Monday through Friday  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

This recipe is one of **Sharon Polt's** favorites. She has brought it to many Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, and always to rave reviews

#### BLACK BOTTOMS

##### white mixture

1 egg  
8 oz. pkg. cream cheese  
1/3 c. sugar  
1/8 tsp. salt  
6 oz. pkg. semi-sweet choc. chips

Beat together egg and cream cheese. Add sugar and salt. Beat until smooth. Add chocolate chips. Put aside.

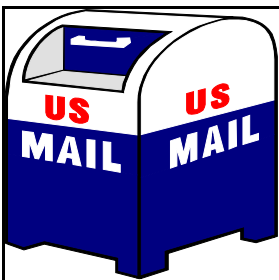
##### chocolate mixture

1-1/2 c. flour  
1 c. sugar  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/3 c. oil  
1/4 c. cocoa  
1 c. water  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1 T. vinegar

Beat above ingredients thoroughly. Line mini-cupcake tins with paper liners. Fill cups 1/2 full of chocolate mixture. Spoon 1 tsp. of white mixture on top. Bake 15 min. at 325°.

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announcement - congregation picnic



Do you have a student who attends school out of the area? Would you like your student to receive a copy of the *Shofar* each month? If your answer is yes, call Ellen (474-3764) or Hedy (334-3740) with the name and complete address and we will add your student to the *Shofar* mailing list.

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### Jewish Scout Retreat

**The Jewish Boy Scout/Cub Scout Retreat scheduled for last month has been rescheduled for May 17-19. Applications, available on the front table, must reach the scout office by May 5. For further information, call Andrew Gould (480-2244) or Bill Robertson (286-0022).**

## Sisterhood Gift Shop

Sunday mornings  
during religious school

or call

Sheilla Goldberg 280-0666  
C.J. Brand 480-3449

Susan Robertson 286-0022  
Nancy Cohen 291-9192