

# Kol HaLev Happenings

The Newsletter of Cleveland's Jewish Reconstructionist Community

DECEMBER 2012

## THE PEOPLE VS. EVE: A DECISIVE WIN FOR KHL

The split verdict rendered in *The People vs. Eve* did not provide a decisive win for either the prosecution or the defense. The jury (comprised of the more-than 300 people in attendance) found Eve guilty on the charge of theft but not guilty on the charge of sedition.

The trial was a clear win for Kol HaLev, however, as it raised more than \$17,000 for the congregation, exceeding last year's mock trial in both attendance and fundraising. In the 2011 trial, *The People vs. King David*, the biblical king was found guilty on charges of murder and conspiracy to commit murder.



The complicated event, featuring the trial itself, a panel discussion on the challenging cultural and theological issues enmeshed in Eve's legacy and a dessert reception for sponsors and patrons is the culmination of a year-long planning effort by a dedicated committee of Kol HaLev members. Congratulations to the committee on providing a well organized evening of insight and entertainment. Kol HaLev extends thanks to *The People vs Eve* Planning Committee: Judy Harris (chair), Halle Barnett, Maxine Collin, Leah Gilbert, Judy Harris, Celia Jennings, Sue Pelleg, Heidi Gorovitz Robertson, Rabbi Steve Segar, Greg Selker, and Alan Weinstein.

Thanks also to the more than 30 Kol HaLev members who attended the event and also served as volunteers. Planning will soon begin on next year's trial, *The People vs. Abraham*.



And in case you missed the trial, you can hear a broadcast of *The People vs. Eve* on 90.3 WCPN on Thursday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. (Photos, by Bruce Jennings; are continued on [page 4.](#))

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### WEEKLY UPDATE

Robin Holzman

### YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

Lynn Liebling

### YOUNG FAMILIES/TOT SHABAT

Rachel Williams

**JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: FRI. DEC. 14**

As I write these words, there is the faintest appearance of the possibility that Israel and Hamas may be nearing a cease-fire agreement that would bring the current hostilities to a halt, at least for the moment. It is my fervent prayer that by the time you are reading these words, that possibility will have become an actuality. Going through this crisis has re-raised for me in some very concrete ways the difficulty we in our community, and many other Jewish communities as well, have with promoting helpful conversations about Israel. There are at least two aspects that I see to this difficulty.

The first is that we here at Kol HaLev represent a diversity of perspectives when it comes to analyzing the dynamics of middle eastern politics and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We are, by the way, a microcosm of the entire American Jewish community in this regard and of the Israeli Jewish community as well. The way that we tend to deal with this reality is by completely refraining from entering into the conversation out of fear that doing so would almost certainly lead to painful and unproductive exchanges that could not but have a negative impact on our sense of communal cohesiveness. It feels to me that even as we choose to avoid having these discussions, we nonetheless end up using a significant amount of psychic energy simply on refraining from them, energy that perhaps could be made available for much more generative purposes if it were not needed to hold back our collective impulse to address a topic of central importance to a large percentage of our community.



*Noa Eshkol, Celebrating Circle, tapestry.*

I would like to suggest that when we back away from engaging in conversation about Israel in a political context, we tend to do so because we imagine the process would involve people with differing viewpoints trying to convince one another of the correctness of their own position. This is certainly how things often go, but it is not the only way to approach having such a discussion.

There is a very well-developed model of dialogue that frames the purpose of this kind of conversation as one of deepening our understanding of how someone with a perspective different from our own came to that perspective and having that person do the same for us. It is not about proving anything to anyone. It is about learning to hear and to enter into another person's experience and thought process and coming to appreciate that their point of view is an authentic expression of those things. I believe that we are capable of having such conversations, given that the interest and desire is present for them to take place.

While talking with someone in this kind of framework is not meant at all to create agreement between two diverse perspectives, it is often the case that when people can dig a little deeper into the context of one another's thinking, they discover that they actually have some shared values and commitments that are motivating their respective directions of inquiry; something that they would otherwise never have discovered.

*[continued on page 10](#)*

Rabbi Steve is available to meet with Kol HaLev members on a range of issues by appointment on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. Contact him by phone at the office (216-320-1498) or at [rabbisteve@kolhalev.net](mailto:rabbisteve@kolhalev.net) to schedule a meeting time.

# THE PEOPLE VS EVE PHOTO GALLERY

Photos by Bruce Jennings



Just after the *hagim* (holidays), Kol HaLev began a new initiative, Hebrew and prayer for non-day school children in 3rd-6th grades. The program is named *Nesiya* (Journey), as we believe that we are all on our own educational and spiritual journeys. *Nesiya* focuses on traditional elements of decoding Hebrew, and it also teaches children about prayer from a Reconstructionist perspective. There is nothing else like it in Cleveland and we are fortunate to have our very own Jodi Solomon, an extremely accomplished Jewish and Reconstructionist educator, developing the curriculum. Here is a bit about Jodi Solomon in her own words:

I began teaching Hebrew informally and unexpectedly while waiting for my brother at Cleveland Hebrew School one day in the early 80's. A child who had been sent out of class for behavior (and it turned out he had learning differences) was in the office, and, being the helpful, inquisitive person I have generally been, while we waited I helped him with the lesson with which he was struggling. The principal was so pleased, that she asked if I wanted to work with him on a regular basis. I did, of course, as he was a good kid, and I was clearly available. Within two weeks, I had a small class and my own classroom of similarly extraordinary children. From this, I was invited a few years later to work on curriculum at the (then) Bureau of Jewish Education for students with special needs. I worked with Isidore Reisman *z"l* (of blessed memory) and Pearl Turner *z"l*.



Jodi Solomon

I have worked in Jewish education all over the Greater Cleveland area. I have taught Sunday school and Hebrew to individuals, small groups and classes independently and in most of the non-orthodox synagogues here. I have been an administrator for two of them, and I have been adjunct faculty at Kent State University in the Hebrew and Judaics department. I have also been a part of the Greater Boston Jewish educational community, most recently as the library media specialist for the Gann Academy, a pluralistic Jewish high school which I would love to explore the possibility of duplicating here in Ohio. I also helped to develop the Keshet School, an alternative Hebrew Afterschool program, which I would also like to duplicate here.

I live in Chesterland, in the house in which I grew up (we bought it from my parents) with Larry, Ilana, Ziv, two cats and four rabbits. I currently teach Information Media and Technology at Heights High Legacy School, although I do miss being in a library. I am making a collection of degrees, and currently have a Bachelor of Arts in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, a Master of Judaic Studies, a Master of Education (curriculum and instruction design and elementary ed), and a Master of Library and Information Science. My mother says one more and I can trade them in for a doctorate, or a hotel, in any event.

Jewishly, I enjoy studying Mishnah, among lots of other things, but that is the one that tends to surprise people. I attended orthodox synagogue and socialist Yiddish school until I was 11ish, and have had a wandering path that led to Kol HaLev, my spiritual and Reconstructionist home.

~Jodi Solomon

We look forward to sharing more about *Nesiya* as the year progresses.

Kol Tuv,  
Robyn

# KOL HaLEV Intergenerational Hanukkah Party & Latke ThROwDOWN!



**Saturday,  
December 15, 2012  
5:00 - 7:00 pm  
at the Ratner School**

Celebrate Hanukkah with Kol HaLEV and participate in the first ever KHL Latke Throwdown! In the Latke Throwdown, experts in the latke-making world (that's you) will share a taste of their amazing talent and compete for the honor of Best Latke. Our two esteemed judges will be Mordechai Kaplan (founder of Reconstructionist Judaism) & Achad Ha'am (founder of cultural Zionism).

There will be activities for all ages including singing, music, dreidel, crafts, and lively conversation with friends.



**Bring your favorite latkes!  
Savory, sweet, we want them all!**

Bring your favorite instrument to play, your family's hanukiah for our communal lighting and a parve/dairy dish to serve 10-12 people.

A-H – dessert or drink

I-P – main dish

Q-Z – salads/side dishes

Everyone - Latkes

In keeping with our goal of becoming a more sustainable community, we encourage members to bring their own reusable plates, cups, utensils and napkins to our potluck.



## Yahrzeits

*They are now a part of us, as we remember them*

Members of Kol HaLev will mark the following yahrzeits during December:

**Renee Pincus** - mother-in-law of Joyce Goldstein

**Mary R. Manny** – mother of Meg Manny

**Marguerite Dresden** – aunt of Phyllis Maris

**Adolph Kohn** – father of Ron Kohn

**Jerome Pincus** – father-in-law of Joyce Goldstein

**Charles R. Friedman** – father of Joyce Wolpert

**Alfred Rosenberg** – father of Sue Biagianti

**Julius Kelman** – father of Sam Kelman

**Sadie Ritz (Sussel)** – mother of Muriel Chasin

**Eli Samplin Marks** – father of Phyllis Maris

Kol HaLev members may include the yahrzeit of family in KHL Happenings by submitting the name of the deceased, the relationship to the member and the date of death, including the year, in either the secular or Jewish calendar to [Judy@kolhalev.net](mailto:Judy@kolhalev.net).

## HAGIGA GALLERY



*Fun with Sheira Director-Nowak from Camp JRF on November 3, 2012*



*Peter Small as Moses on November 17, 2012*

## BOARD REPORT

MOLLY BERGER, SECRETARY

The Kol HaLev Board of Trustees met on Nov. 12 at Bill Scher-Marcus's home. Bill gave a d'var Torah, after which the minutes of the October board meeting were approved.

Pete Robertson's treasurer's report noted that just over 80% of member families have made dues commitments totaling approximately \$148k. Pete is confident that we will meet our dues commitment budget. Dues collection currently is 47% of commitments. Pete will be sending statements to members reflecting commitments, donations and payments since July 1.

Greg Selker and Halle Barnett gave a Mock Trial update. With five days left, we were already at last year's income level and expected more from ticket sales at the door. We anticipated earning \$15,000 to \$17,000 from the Mock Trial after expenses. This is short of our budgeted amount due largely to fewer corporate/foundation sponsorships received than had been anticipated.

The board sends kudos to Judy Harris for organizing this year's mock trial and thanks everyone at Kol HaLev who contributed in some way to the event!

Kol HaLev was one of 50 congregations supporting the interfaith "Arts of Thanksgiving" program held at B'nai Jeshurun on Nov. 19. The event featured music, art, dance, sculpture and painting. Our co-sponsorship was made possible through the Rabbi's Discretionary Budget; the board may elect to revisit the topic in the 2013-14 budgeting process to formalize our participation next year.

The Board had an extended conversation about fundraising. Like most synagogues, membership dues cover only a portion of operating expenses: the balance is made up by various kinds of fundraising events. This year's budget anticipated \$30k of fundraising income. We have a goal of 100% participation in this year's fundraising drive based on each individual's/family's ability to give at even a nominal level.

A draft lease for our expanded office space should be available soon and will be circulated to board members on a voluntary basis for review and comment. We may need help moving, particularly books. We need a conference room table and chairs and identified a few members who might be willing to donate them.

The next Board meeting will be held Monday, Dec. 10 at Leah Kamionkowski's home (216-464-2940), 9 Chelsea Court, Beachwood; all Kol HaLev members are welcome.

## LUNCH AND LEARN

Please join us for a Lunch & Learn session on Dec. 1 at 1 p.m., following Shabbat morning services and the kiddush. Debra Schein will lead us in a discussion about Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights.

This year's series will explore various ways to connect to God through the annual cycle of holidays and festivals. Discussions will provide a Reconstructionist perspective, using Mordecai Kaplan's book, *The Meaning Of God In Modern Jewish Religion* as a resource (no advance reading necessary).

Please bring a parve/dairy and nut-free dish to share. If you need childcare or have any questions, please contact Karal Stern at [karals@roadrunner.com](mailto:karals@roadrunner.com) or 216-862-9041.



We are all connected. The invisible threads that pull us together and sometimes apart are revealed when we look for them and sometimes when someone else points them out.

We can experience and witness the same set of events in Israel and because of the differences between our lives and families, we see it very differently and have a difference in opinion of the causes leading up to the events and what the politicians and military should be doing. Our words can lead to misunderstandings and pain because how those words are received and heard

is very different from the way that we expect them to be. One individual does not speak for the community. But the community has a responsibility to respect every member and to care for all of our members.

We have many members who have family and friends living in Israel. We are all relieved that a truce has been reached. While in San Francisco in early November, my taxi driver was Palestinian. When I told him that I had a son living in Israel, he and I began a conversation that neither of us could have had if we were in Israel. His concern was that my son shouldn't kill Palestinians. My concern is that Palestinians shouldn't kill Israelis. We both hoped for peace. We all hope for the day that our Israeli families and friends can live in peace with their Palestinian neighbors. The path to that peace is not clear, but we should clear the boulders from the path and fill in the potholes.

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**One individual does not speak for the community. But the community has a responsibility to respect every member and to care for all of our members.**

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Our community values every member's involvement and opinions. We need to remember to listen to each other so that we can learn from each other. We won't always agree on the political and social issues that we face, but we should be able to say what we believe and have that listened to without feeling threatened. We should also remember that what we say is not always what is heard.

Maya Angelou talks often about the rainbows in the clouds. When the events around us are overwhelming, we need to look for our rainbows in the clouds, those who guide us, who we can learn from. And then we can be someone else's rainbow.

Our community also needs our financial support. The membership dues pay for only a portion of our expenses. We are able to enjoy a wide variety of programming, adult education and youth education because of the financial support in addition to dues that we receive from our generous members.

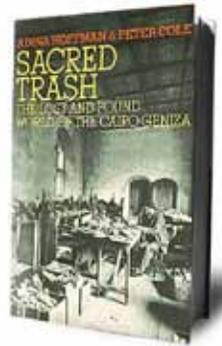
Several of our members have agreed to match funds given to Kol HaLev by Dec. 31. We need the financial support from all of our members. Our goal is 100% participation in this campaign. Please join us and send a check or make a commitment, due by June 30, 2013, to allow this vibrant, active and exciting community to thrive.

*~Barb*

## HUG HASEFER: BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The December book group meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 27, at 7:30 at the home of Anita Cohn. We will discuss *Sacred Trash: The Lost and Found World of the Cairo Geniza* by Adina Hoffman and Peter Cole. (304 pages, a Kindle edition is available)

From Amazon: In *Sacred Trash*, MacArthur-winning poet and translator Peter Cole and acclaimed essayist Adina Hoffman tell the story of the retrieval from an Egyptian geniza, or repository for worn-out texts, of the most vital cache of Jewish manuscripts ever discovered. This tale of buried scholarly treasure weaves together unforgettable portraits of Solomon Schechter and the other heroes of this drama with explorations of the medieval documents themselves—letters and poems, wills and marriage contracts, Bibles, money orders, fiery dissenting tracts, fashion-conscious trousseaux lists, prescriptions, petitions, and mysterious magical charms. Presenting a panoramic view of nine hundred years of vibrant Mediterranean Judaism, Hoffman and Cole bring modern readers into the heart of this little-known trove, whose contents have rightly been dubbed “the Living Sea Scrolls.” Part biography and part meditation on the supreme value the Jewish people has long placed on the written word, *Sacred Trash* is above all a gripping tale of adventure and redemption.



The books for 2013 will be announced on the web page named below in early December and in the January Newsletter.

All KHL members are welcome to attend. For more information about the group, look at our web page ([http://www.kolhalev.net/book\\_group](http://www.kolhalev.net/book_group)) and contact Kevin Weidenbaum ([KJW@oberlin.net](mailto:KJW@oberlin.net)) to be added to the group's email list.

Rabbinic Corner, [continued from page 3](#)



Noa Eshkol, *Village in South Lebanon*, tapestry.

Now, to the second aspect of our Israel conversation problem. It is that too much of all Israel conversation is focused solely on the political and military challenges regardless of which perspective they are framed by. While the political arena is a very significant part of Israeli reality, there is a lot more to Israel than this. We have had an interest group focused on learning about Israel off and on a number of times over the years, but it's been close to a year since one of these groups last met.

I would like to propose that we look at the possibility of setting up two parallel groups that would have Israel as their focus. One would be mostly focused on learning about internal developments within Israeli society in the realms of the arts and sciences, religion, etc. The other group would be for our members who would really like to break the barrier of our tacit prohibition on the discussion of differences of opinion on Israeli politics, but not by engaging in debate. Rather, the group would be structured so that there could be tangible growth in people's understanding of and respect for perspectives different from their own. I can think of no greater contribution we could make to the broader Jewish community than to be a model for the possibility of this kind of conversation.

~Rabbi Steve



## STAR TREK YIDDISHKEIT?

As a boy, one of my favorite television shows was *Star Trek* (the original 1966-69 series) which had just entered a long and prosperous life in syndication. My enjoyment was related less to the exotic landscapes and advanced technology than to the deeply human themes that were explored and the cultural touchstones that were evident. Years later, it occurred to me that many of these stem from Jewish religious concepts, culture and history. I wondered whether others had noticed the same phenomenon. My web search turned up several websites dedicated to various Jewish / Star Trek connections. One of the best is a site (<http://www.trekjews.com>) created by Rabbi Yonassan Gershon, through which I learned about his related book, *Jewish Themes in Star Trek* (Lulu Press Inc., 2009, ISBN 978-0-557-04800-7). I highly recommend this book if you are a fan of any of the Star Trek TV incarnations or movies. Here are just a few of the many topics Rabbi Gershon explores:

- Producer Gene Roddenberry (not Jewish) was famously hostile to all organized religion. Jewish themes were incorporated into scripts (unintentionally in many cases) by Jewish writers and the show’s two main stars — William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy — both of whom are Jewish.
- The episode entitled “The Enemy Within” explores humankind’s *yetzer hara* and *yetzer ha tov* (evil and good inclinations, respectively) when Captain Kirk is split by a faulty transporter into two individuals: one good but weak and indecisive, the other evil and strong but paranoid. We see through the story that both the *yetzer hara* and *yetzer ha tov* — in the right proportion — are essential to a healthy, integrated personality.
- It is widely known that the famous “Vulcan salute” introduced to the show by Leonard Nimoy’s character Mr. Spock was inspired by the Priestly Blessing he observed as a child growing up in an Orthodox shul. Nimoy peeked from beneath his father’s *tallit* (prayer shawl) to observe the male *kohanim* (descendants of the high priest Aaron) blessing the congregation while holding their arms out, hands forming the Hebrew letter *shin* (first letter of *Shaddai*...the Almighty).
- Mr. Spock, a character who is half Vulcan and half human, struggles with living in two worlds. This dichotomy, which originally attracted Leonard Nimoy to the role, is very familiar to Jewish Americans. Mr. Spock and Captain Kirk grow to be good and deeply loyal friends, but coming from different worlds a certain tension exists between them. From a “religious spectrum” standpoint, Kirk can be viewed as the “assimilated Jew” while Spock is clearly Orthodox.



*Spock, portrayed by Jewish actor Leonard Nimoy, demonstrates the Vulcan salute.*

*[continued on page 12](#)*

## HESED

We send condolences to Mike and Kareen Caputo and their sons, Kevin, Julian and Roman, on the loss of Mike's mother, Aline White Caputo, may her memory be a blessing.

We send condolences to Amy and Jonathan Herzenstein and their children, Zoe and Noah, on the loss of Amy's father, Norman Reuven, may his memory be a blessing.

We send *refuah shleymah* to

- Selma Gwatkin, recovering from hip surgery
- Anita Cohn, recovering from a back injury
- Bruce Fallick, recovering from a broken foot
- Carol Karabin for continued recovery from a recent illness.

Connections, [continued from page 11](#)

- There are many other Jewish themes found throughout the series as well as examples of Yiddish humor, grammar and even language in a few places.

Although this is not mentioned in Rabbi Gershom's book, the producers of the NBC series *Frasier* paid homage to the Jewish / Star Trek phenomenon in an episode in which Frasier wants to give his son a blessing in Hebrew at his bar mitzvah ceremony. Instead of transliterated Hebrew, a friend provides — unbeknownst to Frasier, who is not Hebrew-literate — a blessing in transliterated Klingon (a fiendishly difficult and guttural language spoken by the arch-enemies of Star Trek's "United Federation of Planets")!

May Star Trek provide you with a rich source of connections with core Jewish ideas, history and cultural touch points . . . and to quote Mr. Spock, *May You Live Long and Prosper!*

### EXTRAS:

- Actor Leonard Nimoy explains his invention of the Vulcan salute. <http://youtu.be/jmkDOzjfSSY>
- Actor Kelsey Grammer of the TV show *Frasier* inadvertently gives a bar mitzvah blessing in Vulcan. <http://youtu.be/SGZV6fsotYo>

## WOMEN'S GROUP SHABBAT POTLUCK DINNER

All KHL women are cordially invited to a Shabbat Potluck Dinner at the home of Maureen Dinner, 249 Blossom Lane, Orange, on Friday, Dec. 21 at 6:30 pm.

Please RSVP to Maureen at [Maureendinner@gmail.com](mailto:Maureendinner@gmail.com) or 440-914-0404. Bring a parve/dairy dish; if you know what you're bringing, letting Maureen know will help with food planning.

Maureen's home is off Miles Rd. between Brainard and Lander in the Villas of Orange. Turn into The Villas of Orange (you enter on Blossom Lane); after the first stop sign, make a right. Her house is on the left at the end of the street.

Questions? Contact Happy Wallach at 216-283-4058 or [happyhkw@aol.com](mailto:happyhkw@aol.com).

## GREATER CLEVELAND CONGREGATIONS

### Health Care Team Report

Now that the election is past, Medicaid expansion moves to the front burner in Ohio and across the country. Given that the federal executive branch and the Senate are committed to upholding the Affordable Care Act, and that voter turnout in Northeast Ohio was higher-than-expected, the GCC is in a strong position to make a compelling case to Governor Kasich about the importance of expanding Medicaid to 800,000 uninsured Ohioans.



One of the key moments in the Medicaid expansion campaign will be the release of a study by a team at Ohio State University. This report will offer an independent analysis of the cost of Medicaid expansion, as well as the cost savings and economic benefits to the state. It is expected that this study will demonstrate that Medicaid expansion will cost significantly less than the Kasich administration currently predicts, and that the economic and fiscal benefits will more than pay for the cost of expansion.

**Kol HaLev has committed to bringing at least 18 members to a Medicaid Expansion Action Assembly** Thursday Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. at Olivet Institutional Baptist Church. We hope to have a large turnout to demonstrate GCC member congregations' support for Medicaid expansion, or possibly to thank Governor Kasich for including it in his budget proposal. Kol HaLev will either have a bus or carpool to this event. If you are interested, please contact any member of the GCC Core Team: Allen Binstock ([ABinstock@aol.com](mailto:ABinstock@aol.com)), Lynn Liebling ([LLiebling@sbcglobal.net](mailto:LLiebling@sbcglobal.net)), Dick and Donna Weinberger ([drw508@gmail.com](mailto:drw508@gmail.com)), Karly Whitaker ([karlywhitaker@yahoo.com](mailto:karlywhitaker@yahoo.com)), and Rabbis Shawn ([szevit@comcast.net](mailto:szevit@comcast.net)) and Steve ([rabbisteve@kolhalev.net](mailto:rabbisteve@kolhalev.net)).

### Human Rights Shabbat

Saturday, Dec. 15 is our annual Human Rights Shabbat. Led by Allen Binstock, the service will focus on health care justice and the Medicaid expansion initiative of Greater Cleveland Congregations.

## KVELLS

**Molly Berger** received a prestigious award for her book *Hotel Dreams: Luxury, Technology and Urban Ambition in America, 1829-1929*, which was published in 2011. Molly's book tells the story of luxury hotels developed in major American cities like New York, Chicago, and San Francisco over the course of a century in which technology advanced by leaps and bounds. It was singled out by the Society of History of Technology to receive the Sally Hacker Prize, awarded to historians whose work is "clear, accessible, and useful to a broad public audience."



The American Historical Review raved that *Hotel Dreams* is "rigorously researched and elegantly written" and "a must-read" for those interested in the history of technology, urban architecture, and consumer culture. Molly is an instructor in the Department of History and associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. ~Hannah Baxter

Who will we be kvelling about next month? Send good news of weddings, anniversaries, births, milestone birthdays, academic or career achievements, awards, etc. to [newsletter@kolhalev.net](mailto:newsletter@kolhalev.net).

# CONTRIBUTIONS

Kol HaLev gratefully acknowledges contributions from:

- **Martin and Dorothy Gelender** in honor of Eric Kisch's 75th birthday
- **Barb Truitt** in memory of Molly Berger's brother, Jerrold Winger
- **Susan Golden** in honor of Leah Kamionkowski's bat mitzvah
- **Mario and Roberta Tonti** in honor of son Matthew becoming a Rabbi
- **Paul and Marilyn Kostansek** in honor of Sue Pelleg's bat mitzvah
- **Marcia and Monroe Elbrand** in honor of the birth of Leah Kamionkowski's new grandchild, in honor of the marriage of Leah Kamionkowski's son Daniel, in honor of Leah Kamionkowski's bat mitzvah
- **Ralph and Selma Gwatkin** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Selma's mother, Lillian Schwartz
- **Amy Pittel** in honor of David Conn's bar mitzvah
- **David and Lynn Liebling** in honor of the Adult B'Nai Mitzvah group
- **Nancy Rubel and Dan Klein** in honor of the Adult B'Nai Mitzvah group
- **Dick and Deena Epstein** in honor of the Adult B'Nai Mitzvah group and in honor of Caleb Segar's bar mitzvah
- **Barbara Wechsler** in honor of Rosh Hashanah 5773, the Scheins, the Segars and all good Cleveland friends
- **Amy and Jordan Berns** to Education Fund in honor of Caleb Segar's bar mitzvah
- **Dr. Stuart and Roberta Sears** in honor of Lila Hanft's bat mitzvah
- **Abe and Muriel Chasin** in honor of the Adult B'Nai Mitzvah group
- **Happy Wallach** in honor of the Adult B'Nai Mitzvah group of 10/27/12
- **Ron Kohn** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Betty Kohn
- **Myron and Nora Stern** in honor of Leah Kamionkowski's bat mitzvah
- **Arthur Lieberman** in honor of the Adult B'Nai Mitzvah group
- **Joseph and Nancy Naylor** in honor of Sue Pelleg's bat mitzvah
- **Florence Abrams** in honor of Sue Pelleg's bat mitzvah
- **Brian and Mary Ann Proctor** in honor of Sue Pelleg's bat mitzvah
- **A. and J.R. Nosse** in honor of Sue Pelleg's bat mitzvah
- **Barbara Pophal** in honor of Sue Pelleg's bat mitzvah
- **Neil and Arline Bognar** in honor of Sue Pelleg's bat mitzvah
- **Eda Weiss** in honor of Caleb Segar's bar mitzvah
- **Renee Siegel** in honor of Caleb Segar's bar mitzvah
- **Lyn and Mervyn Tuckman** in honor of Leah Kamionkowski's bat mitzvah
- **Judy Harris and Alan Lipson** in honor of the Adult B'Nai Mitzvah group
- **Paul and Lynda Rippner** in honor of Leah Kamionkowski's bat mitzvah
- **Ralph and Selma Gwatkin** in honor of the Adult B'Nai Mitzvah group



GRADUATIONS | ANNIVERSARIES | BIRTHDAYS | NEW GRANDKIDS | AWARDS . . .

Send email & photos to [newsletter@kolhalev.net](mailto:newsletter@kolhalev.net)

Share the news! **Kvell!** Spread the joy!

# CALENDAR

Sat., Dec. 1	10:30 a.m.	<b>Shabbat Service</b> preceded by Torah Discussion at 9:30 a.m at Ratner Chapel; <i>Vayishlach</i> ; Service leader: Rabbi Steve; Discussion leader: Rabbi Steve; kiddush co-hosted by Juanita Fish and by Marilyn Litvene
	9:15 a.m.	<b>Philosophical Inquiry with the Parasha</b> for 5th and 6th grade Hagiga students in the Art Room. Light breakfast will be provided; please be prompt
	10:30 a.m.	<b>Hagiga.</b> Magshimim family day with Rabbi Jeff focused on the 25th anniversary of Summit Sunday
	10:45 a.m.	<b>Tot-Parent Shabbat Program</b> for families with children in preschool and under in Rooms 113 & 114. The program is about a half an hour. Babysitting is available before and after Tot Shabbat, also in Rooms 113 & 114.
	12:30 p.m.	<b>Camp Wise Information Session</b> following kiddush in the library at Ratner
	1:00 – 2:00 p.m	<b>Lunch &amp; Learn Series</b> will begin with a discussion led by Deborah Schein about Hanukkah ( <a href="#">more info on p. 8</a> ). Please bring a parve/dairy and nut-free dish to share. If you need childcare or have any questions, contact Karal Stern at <a href="mailto:karals@roadrunner.com">karals@roadrunner.com</a> or 440-781-3318.
Sun., Dec. 2	7:30 – 9:30 p.m	<b>Recon 101</b> at the home of Arthur Lieberman, 4125 Giles Road, Moreland Hills. RSVPs requested but not required to <a href="mailto:a.lieberman@roadrunner.com">a.lieberman@roadrunner.com</a> . You can come to this session without attending the others.
Wed., Dec. 5	7:30 p.m.	<b>Adult Ed Committee Meeting</b> at the home of Arthur Lieberman, 4125 Giles Road, Moreland Hills, 440-893-0712
Fri., Dec. 7	8:00-10:00 p.m.	<b>Youth Dessert Potluck</b> at the Segar/Getz home, 22149 Westchester Rd., Shaker Heights, 216-658-9996. For info, contact Ma'ayan ( <a href="mailto:youthdirector@kolhalev.net">youthdirector@kolhalev.net</a> )
Sat., Dec. 8	10:30 a.m.	<b>Member-Led Shabbat Service</b> at the home of Arthur Lieberman, 4125 Giles Road, Moreland Hills, 440-893-0712; <i>Vayeshev</i> ; Service leader: Kol HaLev member; kiddush co-hosted by Sarah Sobel and by Howard Sobel and Joanne Federman
	3:30-5:00 p.m.	<b>Torah Study</b> at the home of Leah Kamionkowski, 8 Chelsea Ct., Beachwood, 216-464-2940; the topic will be Midrash related to Joseph .
	Sundown	First night of <i>Hanukkah</i> : <i>Hag Sameach</i> (Happy Holiday) !
Sun., Dec. 9	2:00 p.m.	<b>Maltz Museum Tour</b>
Mon., Dec. 10	7:30 p.m	<b>Board Meeting</b> at the home of of Leah Kamionkowski, 9 Chelsea Ct, Beachwood, 216-464-2940; all Kol HaLev members are welcome.

# CALENDAR

Tue., Dec. 11	8:30 – 9:30 a.m	<b>Schmooze with the Rabbi</b> the Stone Oven on Chagrin.
Thu. Dec. 13	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Broadcast of <i>The People vs. Eve</i> on FM 90.1 WCPN.
Fri., Dec. 14	<b>Deadline for the January issue of <i>Kol HaLev Happenings</i></b>	
Sat., Dec. 15	10:30 a.m.	<b>Shabbat Service</b> preceded by Torah Discussion at 9:30 a.m at Ratner Chapel; <i>Miketz</i> ; Service leader: Rabbi Steve and Kol HaLev member; Discussion leader: Kol HaLev member; kiddush co-hosted by Dick and Donna Weinberger and by Dan Klein and Nancy Rubel in honor of Sarah’s 18th birthday
	9:15 a.m.	<b>Philosophical Inquiry with the Parasha</b> for 5th and 6th grade Hagiga students in the Art Room. Light breakfast will be provided, please be prompt;
	10:00 – 10:30 a.m	<b>Intergenerational Learners Service</b> in the Chapel; Rabbi Steve will lead a 30-minute service open to anyone in the community who would like to learn a little more about the Shabbat morning service.
	10:30 a.m.	<b>Hagiga</b>
	10:45 a.m.	<b>Tot-Parent Shabbat Program</b> for families with children in preschool and under in Rooms 113 & 114. The program is about a half an hour. Babysitting is available before and after.
	5:00 -7:00 p.m.	<b>Hanukkah Intergenerational Celebration</b> and Latke Throwdown at Ratner; kiddush co-hosted by Brent and Kate Weinstock and by Robin Shell. <a href="#">More info on p. 6.</a>
Sun., Dec. 16	7:30 p.m	<b>Recon 101</b> – location TBA.
	TBA	<b>Youth Group “Last Day of Hanukkah” party</b> , details TBA. For info, contact Ma’ayan ( <a href="mailto:youthdirector@kolhalev.net">youthdirector@kolhalev.net</a> )
Fri., Dec. 21	6:30 p.m.	<b>Women’s Group Shabbat Dinner</b> at Maureen Dinner’s, 249 Blossom Lane, Orange, 440-914-0404. <a href="#">More info on page 12.</a>
Sat., Dec. 22	10:30 a.m.	<b>Musical Shabbat</b> at Ratner Chapel; <i>Vayigash</i> ; Service leader: Rabbi Steve; kiddush co-hosted by Jane and Ernie Logsdon and by Robin Holzman
Thu., Dec. 27	7:30 p.m.	<b>Book Group</b> at the home of Anita Cohn, 2112 Acacia Park Drive, #106, Lyndhurst, 440 446-9336. More info on <a href="#">page 10.</a>
Sat., Dec. 29	10:30 a.m	<b>Member-Led Shabbat Service</b> in a member’s home; <i>Vayechi</i> ; kiddush co-hosted by Joyce Goldstein in honor of her children coming home and by Sharon and Stuart Schultz; watch the Weekly Update for details.

The newsletter calendar is accurate to the best of our knowledge at the time of publication. However, dates and venues for KHL events do sometimes change. To keep abreast of any changes, read the Weekly Update which is emailed to all members on Thursdays, or check Kol HaLev’s [website calendar.](#)

## ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

*Kol HaLev Happenings* is the newsletter of Kol HaLev, Cleveland's Jewish Reconstructionist Community. This digital newsletter can be read onscreen in Adobe Reader or printed out on paper. Please email [newsletter@kolhalev.net](mailto:newsletter@kolhalev.net) with comments, complaints, corrections, suggestions, or notices for upcoming issues. [Back issues of Kol HaLev Happenings](#) can be downloaded from the [Kol HaLev website](#).

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# Kol HaLev Happenings

The Newsletter of Cleveland's Jewish Reconstructionist Community

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