

# Kehillat Bet Hamidrash – The Kempsville Conservative Synagogue Newsletter

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David Proser

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Ed Landress (757-474-0601)

**1st Vice President**

David Rosenthal (757-499-4029)

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Sam Epstein (757-420-5891)

**Membership**

Libby Furst (757-467-2192)

**Ritual**

Sam Epstein (757-420-5891)

**Trustees**

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Harvey Eluto (2011)

Nathan Segal (2012)

**Treasurer**

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**Building/Daycare**

Charlie Firestone

**Financial Secretary**

Libby Furst (757-467-2192)

**Recording Secretary**

Jane Rosenman

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Phyllis Cowley

Bruce Finkelstein

Eli Siman-Tov

**Sisterhood President**

Helene Siegel

**Men's Club President**

Harvey Hoffman

**Programming/Social**

Alene Kaufman

**Newsletter**

Sam Epstein



Kempsville Conservative Synagogue

**(757) 495-8510**[www.kbhsynagogue.org](http://www.kbhsynagogue.org)

How very exciting for Kehillat Bet Hamidrash (KBH) - the Kempsville Conservative Synagogue - to plan and anticipate **our 30th Anniversary celebration** on Saturday, 28 NOV 2009. We continue to receive responses from old friends and new who want to participate in this event honoring Cantor David Proser and remembering how KBH got its start.

We hope all our KBH members will attend and enjoy the evening. Hy Dress of A Perfect Affair Catering Company will provide great **catered Kosher food**, with Beach Nuts offering **live music**. You can dance to oldies, beach music, salsa or swing and some Jewish tunes, whatever makes you move!

If you have any stories about Cantor Proser or our synagogue, please share them with Mr. Ed Landress (at (757) 464-0601) so we may include them in the program. Reservations are necessary, so please **RSVP by 14 NOV 2009** and do not forget to let us know if you plan to attend.

If by chance you have not received your invitation, please call Ms. Judy Saperstein at (757) 287-3887. Once again, we want ALL our members to attend and show our support for Cantor Proser and KBH.

There is also an opportunity to express your thanks with an ad in the program journal. Ads are from \$18 for a "mazel tov" one line ad to \$270 for a full page ad. We look forward to seeing you at this special celebration. Bring your dancing shoes and let's have a party!

Through the generosity of the **Legacy Heritage Fund Limited** and continuing support from the **Pincus Paul Charitable Trust**, our student rabbi Mr. Rubenstein will also visit KBH as follows:

26 – 29 NOV 2009	29 – 31 JAN 2010	30 APR – 02 MAY 2010
18 – 20 DEC 2009	12 – 14 FEB 2010*	14 – 16 MAY 2010
15 – 17 JAN 2010	02 – 04 APR 2010	

\* Snow date of 13 – 15 MAR 2010

Please read a **message from Mr. Rubenstein** attached to this *Newsletter*.

You may find **USCJ news** at [www.uscj.org/eNews](http://www.uscj.org/eNews).

Because **hunger lasts all year**, and *tzedakah* never goes out of season, we will continue to collect food in our lobby for the JFS food locker.

KBH welcomes our **new members, Mr. Ivan Anker and Ms. Marion Baydush**.

The congregation expresses its condolences to Ms. Gayle Sorrell and her family on the passing of her husband and our friend, Dick Sorrell, Jr.

*Mazel tov* to **Alene and Ron Kaufman** on the wedding of Jason Kaufman and Jessica Glasser.

**Election Day**

**Tuesday, 03 NOV 2009  
6:00 AM – 7:00 PM**

**Newsletter Inputs**

(printed with space permitting)

1. Via e-mail to [EpsteinSam@aol.com](mailto:EpsteinSam@aol.com)
2. Via letter to the synagogue c/o the Bulletin

Kehillat Bet Hamidrash – The Kempsville Conservative Synagogue  
952 Indian Lakes Boulevard  
Virginia Beach, VA 23464-5655

**Your Board Meets on the Second Wednesday of Each Month**

# Kehillat Bet Hamidrash – The Kempsville Conservative Synagogue Newsletter

Ms. Kaufman sends the following note:

On Saturday evening, at the *auf ruf* of our son and now daughter-in-law, Jason and Jess, Ron referred to the importance of our KBH community in his remarks during the service. Although we truly appreciate all that you do for us and mean to us, there are no words to express how moved we were by the phenomenal job everyone did to make this celebration a wonderfully fabulous one. Faced with the uncooperative weather, our perfectly planned outdoor barbecue quickly became an indoor event. Everyone pitched in and moved tables; the grillmasters positioned themselves at the three grills; and Rona, the kitchen master par excellence, gave her amazing crew their directions. I am afraid to thank specific people, but please know that Ron and I, as well as Jason, Jess, and their entire families, express our most grateful appreciation for a forever memorable event. We are so lucky to have each of you in our lives. *Todah rabbah*

Jewish Family Service (JFS) requests **new, unwrapped Chanukah gifts**, both practical and fun, for children and teens. They can also use store gift cards and monetary donations. Wish lists are available starting 01 NOV 2009. While always grateful for donations and monetary contributions, the deadline for *Chanukah* donations is 04 DEC 2009. Please make checks payable to JFS and send them to JFS, Attn: Sheryl-Lynn Makela, 260 Grayson Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4345. For details, please contact (757) 459-4640 or [smakela@jfshamptonroads.org](mailto:smakela@jfshamptonroads.org).

JFS also offers **Kosher Meals on Wheels**. For more information, please contact Ms. Clare Krell at (757) 321-2222.

Ms. Jane Rosenman established a method that allows members to **check out material from the KBH library** on *Shabbat* and holidays. Instead of signing your name on the checkout card, simply attach it with a paper clip behind your surname card (located in a blue plastic file container). The librarian can readily identify which family has a particular book.

Our library, made possible by the **Baron Family**, is a wonderful resource for leisure reading and learning. Now that you can check out books most of the time you visit *shul*, we hope members will drop by the library more often and take advantage of our many selections. Please contact Ms. Rosenman with your questions.

## Annual Synagogue Chanukah Celebration



SUN, 13 DEC 2009  
5:00 PM

The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA hosts **Families, Fundamentalism, & the First Amendment** on Friday, 06 NOV 2009, from 9:00 AM to 3:15 PM. Sponsored by the Institute of Bill of Rights Law of the William & Mary School of Law, the forum brings together scholars with expertise in the First Amendment; family and juvenile law; and law, religion, and culture. Registration is free and open to the public; to register, please contact Ms. Melody Nichols at [IBRL@wm.edu](mailto:IBRL@wm.edu).

United Synagogue Youth (USY) Kadima / Machar (grades 4 – 8) offers an **afternoon of bowling** on Sunday, 08 NOV 2009, from 1:00 – 3:00 PM EST at AMF Lanes on 2601 Lishelle Place in Virginia Beach. The \$12 fee includes 3 games, shoes, and snacks. Please RSVP to Ms. Beth Gross at (757) 721-7566 or [bgross.educationdirector@gmail.com](mailto:bgross.educationdirector@gmail.com). You must be a member to participate, with membership forms available at the bowling alley.

Temple Emanuel at 424 25<sup>th</sup> Street in Virginia Beach, VA hosts its **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Market** on Sunday, 08 NOV 2009 from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. For details, please contact Ms. Beth Gross at (757) 428-2591.

Tuesday, 10 NOV 2009 at 7:15 PM marks this year's **Hampton Roads Camp Ramah in New England Reunion and Prospective Camper Evening**. This event is a wonderful way for prospective campers and their families to learn more about Camp Ramah. The hosts will serve light snacks and refreshments. For questions and directions, please RSVP to Ms. Judy Rohn ([jsrohn@verizon.net](mailto:jsrohn@verizon.net)) and Mr. Aaron Kass ([aaron.kass@gmail.com](mailto:aaron.kass@gmail.com)) or (757) 409-9032.

Congregation Beth El at 422 Shirley Avenue in Norfolk, VA is having a **Vegas Night** on Saturday, 14 NOV 2009, at 7:30 PM. Price is \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door, with heavy hors d'ourves, dessert, and an open bar. For details, please call (757) 625-7821.

### Candle Lighting\*

FRI, 30 OCT	5:53 PM EDT
FRI, 06 NOV	4:46 PM EST
FRI, 13 NOV	4:40 PM EST
FRI, 20 NOV	4:35 PM EST
FRI, 27 NOV	4:32 PM EST
FRI, 04 DEC	4:31 PM EST

\*[www.chabadoftidewater.com](http://www.chabadoftidewater.com)

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The **Old Dominion University College of Jewish Knowledge** sponsors free college-level workshops at the Simon Family JCC (located at 5000 Corporate Woods Drive in Virginia Beach, VA). On 16 NOV 2009 at 7:00 PM, the talk is on *Interfaith Conflict and Resolution* for interfaith families. 14 DEC 2009, Art History Lecturer Rosa Motta talks about *Jewish Cultural Identity through the discovery of ancient coins*.

The Simon Family JCC also plans the following events. Please call (757) 321-2338 for details.

- **The Festival of Jewish Books and Authors** from 01 – 22 NOV 2009.
- Opening event at 7:00 PM EST on Sunday, 01 NOV 2009, **Rabbi Joseph Telushkin** presents *Code of Jewish Ethics, Part 2*. Limited seating; reservations strongly recommended. \$30 (\$20 JCC members) includes dessert. Call (757) 321-2338 for tickets.
- At 7:00 PM on Wednesday, 04 NOV 2009, Sally Srok Friedes, author of *The New Jew: An Unexpected Conversion* and Ernest H. Adams, author of *From Ghetto to Ghetto: An African American Journey to Judaism* **discuss their interfaith journeys**.
- **Jewtopia at the Roper** on Saturday, 07 NOV 2009 at 8:00 PM. This is a one-night-only event. Tickets are \$52, \$43, and \$35 depending upon location. Tickets are now available online at JewtopiaWorld.com or simonfamilyj.tix.com or by calling 321-2338.
- **Telushkin book discussions** between 7:00 – 8:00 PM on Monday, 09, 16, and 23 NOV 2009.
- **Baseball, Burgers and Books** on Sunday, 15 NOV 2009 from 5:00 – 5:30 PM.
- **Fall Festival** on Sunday, 22 NOV 2009 between 1:00 – 4:00 PM.

From 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM on Sunday, 22 NOV 2009, Temple Emanuel hosts a **Sunday School Spaghetti Dinner** to benefit the computer lab. Please call (757) 428-2591 for details.

Chabad of Tidewater hosts a **Shabbat Adventure** from 2:15 – 4:15 PM on Saturday, 05 DEC 2009. Please contact Ms. Rashi Brashevitzky at (757) 616-0770 or rashi@ganizzy.org for details.

Our synagogue expresses its appreciation for the following:

- **Temple Israel** for inviting KBH to their *Simchat Torah* services
- **Ron and Alene Kaufman** for hosting our student rabbi in their home during his first two visits to Virginia Beach and for providing dinner on *Shabbat Sukkot*
- a donation from **Mel and Arlene Losick** in **Memory of Dick Sorrell**
- a *mahzor* donated in **Honor of Malka Osmunson**
- a donation from **Mr. and Mrs. Goodman**
- a *sidur* in **Memory of Dick Sorrell** from **John, Jane, and David Rosenman**
- **Mel and Arlene Losick's** donation in **Honor of the Birth of Malka Osmunson**
- a donation in **Honor of Mr. Jason Rubenstein** from the **Berkovich Family**
- a donation from **Arlene and Mel Losick** in **Honor of the Wedding of Jason Kaufman and Jessica Glasser**
- a *mahzor* in **Honor of the Wedding of Jason Kaufman and Jessica Glasser**
- a donation from **Mr. Harvey Hoffman**
- a *mahzor* donated in **Honor of Jane Rosenman**
- the **Kaufman Family** for donating the food on our 24 OCT 2009 movie night
- the **Berkovich Family** for importing *Sallah Shabati* in time for movie night
- our *auf ruf* and *Sukkot* meal preparation volunteers, which include (as a partial list) **Mr. Stu Berman, Ms. Harriett Eluto, Mr. Lorence Osmunson, Ms. Phyllis Cowley, Messrs. Ed and David Landress, Ms. Heliene Siegel, Ms. Judy Saperstein, and David, Rennee, and Rochelle Lesser**. We also give special recognition to **Ms. Rona Proser** for her OCT 2009 efforts.



### KBH 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Saturday, 28 NOV 2009

- Cantor Proser Recognition Dinner
  - Live Music
  - Catered kosher food
- RSVP by 14 NOV 2009**

**Keep connected** for free! KBH and the community continue to offer programming, religious, and educational opportunities throughout the year. Cantor Proser makes up-to-date announcements at services, and we send updates via e-mail. To add your name to the KBH e-mail list, submit *Newsletter* inputs, or to receive the *Newsletter* via e-mail, kindly send your request to EpsteinSam@aol.com or call (757) 420-5891.

## Kehillat Bet Hamidrash – The Kempsville Conservative Synagogue

Dear KBH community,

I hope my words find you well. After two visits to Virginia Beach this past month, I count myself as blessed to part of the warm, tight-knit family that is KBH. I'm writing in this month's bulletin to share some words of *Torah* and a vision of programming for the coming year that grows out of them.

Through the stories of Abraham and his descendants – the stories we read during Shabbat services at this time of year – we can learn the basic dimensions of what it means to be Jewish. To me, one of the most powerful things about the Genesis epic is the way we hear about our ancestors' every kind of struggle and success. Abraham and Sarah (and their children and grandchildren) struggle with infertility, with the anxiety of living far from home, they negotiate with their neighbors, they accumulate wealth and become destitute. Each of these stories is not merely told alongside their struggles of faith, their loyalty to G-d and to one another: these stories are the content of their pleas to G-d and sources of both religious doubt and Heaven-directed gratitude.

Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob, Rachel, and Leah did not restrict their religious life to prayer. They traveled Jewishly, they conceived and raised children Jewishly, they worked Jewishly, they built communities and maintained relationships with neighbors Jewishly. And we should take them as our model.

In the name of this broad vision of what Jewish life can be, I am putting forward three programs to which I will be devoting my energy this year, and which I hope you will join me in making a reality.

First, this year is an extraordinary opportunity for KBH to take stock of its many strengths, and involve the entire community in crafting a vision statement which reflects the voices and desires of every member of this community. Coming together to celebrate and give form to the unique contribution each of you has to make to sustaining and growing this community is an opportunity to both consolidate and transform the synagogue's future.

Second, I am working to plan an interfaith weekend with a local church. This will be an opportunity for us to meet some of our Christian neighbors, and to speak with them about where we meet up and where we part ways.

Third, the Saturday night before *Shavuot*, 15 MAY 2010, I would like to organize a community-wide multiplex of Jewish learning. In renewing our relationship with *Torah*, we will study with text, film, and discussion as we bring together a diverse group of Jews and teachers to learn from one another in a modern version of the Kabbalistic observance of *Shavuot*.

Each of these ideas depends in large part on the energy and creativity that you bring to them as well. I hope that many of you will be excited by these ideas and volunteer to participate and even to lead them. In making these ambitious programs reality, we will be living out the rich Jewish life of the book of Genesis, and enriching our own lives and our community in the process. I encourage you to call me at (720) 319-8471, or to email me at [jasonbassirubenstein@gmail.com](mailto:jasonbassirubenstein@gmail.com), with your own ideas for these and other programs, and with your broader concerns, hopes, ideas, and questions about KBH and about Judaism.

I look forward to seeing you all the weekend of 27 NOV 2009, and to joining you in honoring David Proser and in celebrating KBH's first thirty years.

May the month of November bring joy and blessings to each of us, and to all of us together,

Jason Rubenstein