

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message The Current Election Cycle and Jewish Rights

In July 1655, Peter Stuyvesant, Director-General of the Dutch colony of New Netherland, returned to New Amsterdam from a diplomatic mission to the West Indies. Awaiting his attention were orders from Holland requiring him to attack the nearby colony of New Sweden on the Delaware River – in today's terms, this would mean conquering New Jersey from a base in New York.

As he issued conscription orders to raise a force strong enough to attack the Swedes and defend Dutch holdings, he was reminded again that his dream of a Calvinist-only colony had been spoiled by the recent arrival of more than a score of Jews from Holland and Brazil. The question that he now faced was: with so few people able to fulfill civic duties, should Jews be allowed a role in the colony's military?

For Stuyvesant, the answer was a resounding "no." His superiors in Holland may have overruled his plan to expel the first Jewish community of North America from his jurisdiction, but he could still remind them of their inferiority by imposing legal disabilities on them. Citing the "unwillingness of the trainbands to be fellow soldiers with the aforesaid nation," he outlawed Jewish military service in New Amsterdam, and

required a monthly tax of 65 stivers as penalty for this enforced exemption.

Enter the Jew Asser Levy, who filed a formal petition in November 1655 to either be allowed to stand guard like the other burghers or to have the discriminatory tax lifted. Though the records from his case are incomplete, it seems that the appeal went all the way to Holland, where it was ultimately granted. Levy eventually did keep watch in New Amsterdam, going down in history as the first Jew to win a civil privilege in territory that would become part of the United States.

In the 360 years since this incident, we have come a long way in terms of Jewish rights. At the macro level, America has been one of the most welcoming nations for Jews, where many of us have been able to lead lives of distinction in relative peace. While North Carolina was a notable holdout and didn't allow Jews to hold public office until 1868, Delaware had already granted this privilege in 1792. By way of comparison to the Old World, the period surrounding the American Revolution was the same time during which Poland – then home to the largest Jewish population in the world – was partitioned between three superpowers who



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Parashat Terumah

Torah: Ex. 25:1–27:19, 96 Pesukim
Hertz 326–336; Stone 444–463
Haftarah: I Kings 5:26–6:13
Hertz 336–338, Stone 1157–1158
Tefillot: Mashib Haruah

KJ Schedule

Ereb Shabbat

Friday, February 12th

Shaharit 6:25 am
Minha..... 5:00 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting 5:15 pm
Arbit / Kabbalat Shabbat.... 5:30 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, February 13th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer.. 8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am
Musaf 11:30 am

Minhah..... 4:30 pm
Se'udah Shelisheet..... 5:15 pm

Arbit 6:05 pm
Habdalah 6:20 pm

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Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored in loving memory of
Gershon ben David, z"l

Gerry Shapiro

by
Emma Shapiro

Condolences

to the family and friends of
Ellen Bell, z"l

the sister of our dear member, Karen
Dabby. May Hashem comfort them together
with all the mourners of Tzion



New KJ Bereavement Booklet

Rabbi Melhado is pleased to announce that our graveside service
booklet for visits on the *shiba*, *sheloshim*, and *yahrzeit*, has been
reformatted with English translation.

The booklets that we used for almost 40 years were Hebrew-only, and just a handful
of copies remain from the original 100. Though we wish that no family will need
them anytime soon, those who do will find a legible, accessible text in both Hebrew
and English.

The test version was introduced for the first time this week for the *sheloshim* of
Mollie Einy Konigsberg – may her family be comforted from Heaven.

KJ Schedule

(continued)

Weekdays

Sunday, February 14th

Shaharit..... 7:30 am
*This week's Talmud Torah classes cancelled
due to LA Marathon street closures*

Monday to Friday, February 15 to 19

Shaharit 6:25 am

Ereb Shabbat

Friday, February 20th

Shaharit 6:25 am
Minha 5:00 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting.....5:22 pm
Arbit / Kabbalat Shabbat 5:30 pm

In Memoriam

We remember yahrzeit anniversaries from
February 6 to 13, 2016. It is customary to
light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka &
attend Shabbat services.

4 Adar I / Shabbat, February 13th

Simy Bensabat *Simy bat Mesody*
Baacker Jalali *Baacker ben Avraham*

5 Adar I / Sunday, February 14th

Leah bat Mozli

6 Adar I / Monday, February 15th

Molly Jonah *Mazeltov bat Sara*

7 Adar I / Tuesday, February 16th

Gerry Shapiro *Gershon ben David*

8 Adar I / Wednesday, February 17th

Abraham Avrahamhy *Avraham ben Yosef*
Jacob Benjamin Elias *Yaacov Binyamin Elia*
David Kay *David ben Yaacov Yehuda*
Yehezkel

9 Adar I / Thursday, February 18th

Irena Stoler

10 Adar I / Friday, February 19th

Marcella Aslan *Masooda Aslan*

Refuah Shelemah

Abe Abraham • Moselle Amron
Sally Amron • Tilda Levy • Esther Duke
Mordechai Cohen • Sylvia Cohen
Miriam bat Yetta • Sassoon Ezra
Maurice Ovadia • Florice Newberry
Lev Hakak • Doris Moshi

Shabbat Shalom Umborakh

Wishing You a Peaceful Shabbat of Blessings

Rabbi's Message

(Continued from page 1)

scoffed at any notion of allowing their Jewish subjects a seat in government.

With this background in mind, we can see that Tuesday's New Hampshire primary is indeed a historic moment. Though Sanders may not be involved in Jewish life, he is the first born-Jew in America to ever win a presidential primary in his own right. Whether you support or oppose his brand of politics, he is the only member of our tribe about whom a majority of gentiles in one state has said "we would be ok with the idea of you being the highest authority in the land."

Love him or hate him – feel free to vote for him or against him according to your conception of the issues and your innate moral compass – but since Tuesday, it would be fair to say that the arc of Jewish rights in this country starts with Asser Levy and ends with Bernie Sanders.

Shabbat Shalom



Norma & Sam Dabby
Jewish Education Center

Kahal Joseph
Sunday School &
Talmud Torah

Friends Creativity
Jewish Learning

For information contact
Mrs. Hanna Elkouby
Director
424-283-0893

Events at KJ

Purim Baking

Sunday, March 13

*Join the fun & bake sweets for
KJ's Community Gift Baskets.*

Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 20

*KJ's celebration with amazing
games, fun rides & BBQ*

Mimouna

Sunday, May 1st

*Traditional celebration & com-
munity gathering after Passover*

Purim

Baking for Community Gift Baskets



Sunday, March 13th
10:00 am

Do a Mitzvah, Help Others &
Give to the Community
on Purim!

Have fun & bake traditional Iraqi treats for KJ's Purim gift baskets. Purim baskets are delivered to many individuals who live at a distance from our community or may be homebound and recovering on this festive holiday.

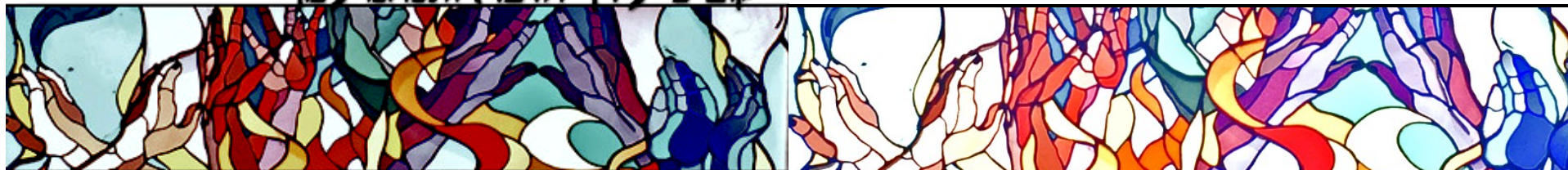
Donations in support of KJ Purim Baskets
are greatly appreciated. Please send to:

Kahal Joseph Congregation—Purim Baskets
10505 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A. CA 90025

For more information call the office at 310.474.0559
or e-mail yvettedabby@gmail.com



קום כי עליך הדבר, ואנחנו עמך



Arise, for this is your task, and we are with you

Guest Speakers at the Installation Ceremony

Kahal Joseph Congregation

JOYOUSLY INVITES YOU

TO CELEBRATE WITH US AT

THE INSTALLATION OF

Rabbi Raif S. Melhado

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: RABBI ASHER LOPATIN
PRESIDENT, YESHIVAT CHOVEVEI TORAH

SUNDAY, MARCH 6 - 26 ADAR I

INSTALLATION AT 5:30PM

CELEBRATORY DINNER TO FOLLOW

10505 SANTA MONICA BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA



RSVP BY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

KAHALJOSEPH.ORG/INSTALLATION | 310.474.0559

Rabbi Asher Lopatin

Rabbi Asher Lopatin is the president of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School, an Orthodox rabbinical school that teaches an inclusive, open and welcoming Torah. Previously, he was the spiritual leader of Anshe Sholom B'nai Israel Congregation, a modern Orthodox synagogue in Chicago, for 18 years. He received his ordination from Rav Ahron Soloveichik and Yeshivas Brisk in Chicago, and from Yeshiva University, as a Wexner Graduate Fellow. A Rhodes Scholar with a M.Phil. in Medieval Arabic Thought from Oxford University, Rabbi Lopatin is the author of numerous scholarly and popular articles.

Rabbi Chaim Marder

Rabbi Chaim Marder has served as the Rabbi of the Hebrew Institute of White Plains since 1995, having formerly served as the Rabbi of Congregation Beth Sholom in Providence, RI and associate rabbi at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale. He is a graduate of Yeshiva University, holds a Masters degree in Jewish History, and received his Rabbinical Ordination from RIETS, the rabbinical seminary of YU. He has served as a Vice President of the Rabbinical Council of America (RCA) and the Westchester Board of Rabbis, and is a member of the board of both the RCA and IRF (the International Rabbinic Fellowship). In addition to his work at the Hebrew Institute, he is a faculty member in the Department of Leadership and Professional Rabbinic Training at YCT Rabbinical School.

He and his wife Suzie have 7 children: Shira (and Jason Saibel); Ari. Akiva, Shoshanah, Ayelet, Yonina and Doni.