

Painting Can Be Fun...At Any Age!

Sheila Nashofer

Ever since I heard of the newly-formed Sisterhood, I was anxious to learn more. Unfortunately, due to my hectic schedule, each wonderful activity they planned conflicted with a previous engagement.

Now that the summer arrived, however, there was no excuse for my not joining their ceramic painting night for ladies - especially when I found out how many of my friends were planning on attending! Well, no excuse except the fact that I have no artistic talents to speak of and maybe my "creation" would be the laughing stock of Elizabeth....

I conquered my fears and joined the Sisterhood at *Barbara's Ceramically Yours*, conveniently located in Kenilworth, and what a blast we had (to get an idea, take a look at the pictures on the opposite page, which come courtesy of Goldie Kornecki)! Approximately 25 ladies spanning the different generations in our community chose from a myriad of different art projects. You could design plates, mugs, mail holders, paper weights, candy dishes, pitchers and more...the choices seemed limitless, as did the paint colors and creative options.

As an added bonus, between each coat of paint there was time to schmooze and nosh from the delicacies provided by *One Stop Kosher*.

In what seemed like minutes, but in reality was several hours, the table was now filled with finished pieces of art, each representing the individuality of its creator - each beautiful in its own right - each a keepsake to remember of a truly fun and memorable ladies' night out (surprisingly, even my "creation" was quite respectable looking)!

The morale of this story is clear: the next time that you (or I) receive a flyer noting an upcoming Sisterhood event, try hard not to find an excuse...there's a great opportunity to socialize and truly enjoy Elizabeth community life. Don't miss out!



ELMORA SHUL YOUTH ON THE MOVE

Elie Bodner, Youth Director

We have planned so many wonderful events that children and teens can look forward to in the months to follow, and we hope that we will see great participation. Here's a quick overview- please save these dates!

1. *Succah* Decorating: Sunday, September 23rd, 10:30 AM - 12:00 noon in our Shul's *succah*
2. *Chol Hamoed Sukkot*, Sunday, Sept. 30th: High School "Pizza in the Hut" - pizza and entertainment by a mentalist in the Shul's *succah*
3. *Chol Hamoed Sukkot*, Monday, October 1st: popular trip to Hershey Park. There will be a bus leaving at 8:00 AM and returning at 8:30 PM. Tickets are already available for just the Park or in combination with the bus trip.
4. *Chol Hamoed Sukkot*, Tuesday, October 2nd: exciting trip to Fun Plex, 12:30 PM - 4:15 PM, for grades 2nd through 8th. There will be a pizza lunch in the Shul's *succah* prior to the trip, and transportation will be provided.
5. *Simchat Torah*: various programs for Middle Schoolers and a luncheon for all High Schoolers.

**** AND MUCH MORE TO COME ****

Note to all Collegiates: When making your *Simchat Torah* plans, please consider staying home to help with the *ruach* in your community. Thank you!

Fundraising Update

David Hornung

There were several fundraising efforts during the past year, and I would like to utilize this column to keep our members posted of the results. I am pleased to advise that all 100 Hebrew (Jaffa) Artsroll editions of the *Chumash* that were purchased were since sold and have been dedicated by members of our Shul. The *Chumashim* are now on our shelves for members to enjoy.

We have ordered 50 Hebrew-English (Stone) Artsroll editions of the *Chumash*, and have sold more than one-half of them to date. The balance is still available for dedication at \$50/*Chumash*.

Thanks to the participation of our community, the Elmora Shul has sufficient complete sets of *machzorim* in good condition to satisfy our needs.

With the advent of new window treatments, many people have come forth to dedicate a window treatment in honor or in memory of a loved one. There remain more opportunities for such donations at \$500/window, and I encourage anyone who is interested to see me personally for details.

It is a wonderful feeling to see the enthusiastic approach of our members to make donations as opportunities present themselves. I hope that this support will continue into the coming years, as new ideas develop to maintain and beautify our Shul.

Best wishes on behalf of Faigie and myself and our entire family for a *Ketivah Va'Chatimah Tova!*

CHERRY (or blueberry, or any other fruit filling!) CRUMB CAKE

Miriam Rosensweig

Note: This is a double recipe, which I tend to use. Use half of the dough for one pie and freeze remainder of dough for a quick pie when you need it.

3 cups flour
2 tsps. baking powder
1½ cups sugar
2 whole eggs
½ lb. margarine or less than one cup of oil
1 tsp. vanilla

Filling: fresh or fruit-pie filling

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Place all ingredients in one bowl and mix lightly by hand.
3. Use half of dough and freeze remaining half (if you choose).
4. Take ¾ of dough and press on bottom and sides of greased large round 9" pan.
5. Put any fruit filling on top.
6. Sprinkle remainder ¼ of dough on top to give crumbed effect.
7. Sprinkle cinnamon on top of crumbs, if desired.
8. Bake 40-50 minutes, until golden brown on top.

This cake can also be made with fresh apples and cinnamon for a great apple cake.

Think Before You Speak: An Introduction

It is our goal, in reprinting this article (edited version), to raise our own awareness of situations in which we want to "think twice" before we speak (or judge). We hope that our readers find it equally "chizuk oriented" as we prepare for the Yomim Noraim season.*

The *Chafetz Chaim* lists 31 *mitzvot* which may be violated when a person speaks or listens to *Lashon Hara* (abbreviated henceforth as L"H). This is a staggering number. Even though one does not generally violate them all in one shot, it is important to remember how carelessness can lead one into deeper trouble.

The central prohibition against unethical speech is from *Sefer Vayikra* 19:16 - "*Lo telech rachil b'amecha*" -- do not go about as a talebearer among your people. (To see the complete list of prohibitions and their sources, please see the *Sefer Chafetz Chaim* or its English adaptation, *Guard Your Tongue*, by Rabbi Z. Pliskin.) The verse cited in *Vayikra* applies equally to *Rechilus* and L"H. The *Chafetz Chaim* gives their exact definitions:

- **L"H** - any derogatory or damaging (physically, financially, socially, or stress-inducing) communication.
- **Rechilus** - any communication that generates animosity between people.

Rechilus is often the repeating of *Lashon Hara*. For example, Reuven tells Shimon that Levi is ugly (Reuven spoke L"H), and then Shimon tells Levi what Reuven said about him. Shimon probably made Levi angry with Reuven, which is *Rechilus*.

Although *Rechilus* seems more obviously derived from the verse, both as a cognate (*rachil/rechilus*) and a concept (talebearer), the Torah is prohibiting any type of harmful or negative speech in this commandment.

Only one type of L"H (lit. "evil speech") reflects lies. Speaking lies (slander) is called "*motzi shem ra*" - literally spreading a bad name. It's pretty easy to imagine how lies, and even exaggeration, can unfairly damage someone's reputation. There are two commandments that explicitly prohibit lying:

1. *Lo tisa shema shav* - you shall not utter a false report. (Ex. 23:1)
2. *Midavar sheker tirchak* - from a false matter you shall distance yourself. (Ex. 23:7)

One of the most fundamental commandments related to the subject of L"H is Leviticus 19:15 - "*B'tzedek tishpot amitecha*," in righteousness shall you judge your kinsman. This verse commands us to give the benefit of the doubt.

Very often there are situations in which several "stories" are possible. In the case of a G-d fearing person, we are expected to judge favorably, even to believe that there may have been facts of which we were not aware. Often gossip reflects a denial of the possibility of mitigating circumstances, which can shed light on the person's intentions or other background information.

*) from the two-page introduction to the Project Genesis Halashon class, <http://torah.org/learning/halashon/>.
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WELCOME!

Ettie & Dovid Schoenfeld
Jennifer & Josh Wise

CONDOLENCES

Rabbi Moshe Berger on the passing of his sister, Rivka Bela
Gabi Davis on the passing of her husband, Milton
Pessy Lalouch on the passing of her mother, Irene Rubin
Ina Prager on the passing of her husband, Herb
Harry Schlakman on the passing of his brother, Reuven
Adam Sternglass on the passing of his father
Rabbi Nathan Zemel on the passing of his sister, Hannah Pincus
Charlotte Zimmerman on the passing of her husband, Joel

HOT OFF THE PRESS

In an effort to keep our members well-informed, we have instituted this column with the most updated information available on a myriad of topics.

News Flash* Both the men's and the women's bathrooms have been beautifully renovated. A tremendous *y'yasheir kochacha* to Sol Kramer for dedicating himself to this project, personally arranging for the work to be done, and personally overseeing that work to its successful completion. Many thanks to Steve Ostrove and the members of the House Committee as well as to JEC Executive Director Steve Karp for their ongoing efforts to maintain and modernize our Shul's physical "plant."

News Flash* Our Programming Committee has been hard at work (beginning many months ago!) planning year-5768 events. Planned events through Teves include, *i'y'H*, a sumptuous Kiddush both on the evening of Simchas haTorah and on the following day of Simchas haTorah; a Shabbos luncheon soon thereafter; a Friday-night dinner in November; and the Shul's 60th Anniversary Dinner on December 15th, honoring Vivi and Dr. Steven Singfer (see next paragraph). Stay tuned for updates via our various channels, including but not limited to the weekly JEC bulletin, announcements in Shul, the Shul e-mail list, and the Shul Website calendar (<http://elmora.thejec.org/calendar/>).

News Flash* In a few short months, *i'y'H*, our Shul will have the great distinction of honoring an outstanding couple, Vivi and Dr. Steven Singfer. To say the least, the Singfers are a unique partnership dedicated to family and Yiddishkeit. We owe the Singfers a tremendous *hakaras hatov* for their dedication to our Jewish community. Please mark 15 December 2007 on your social calendar -- we look forward to seeing you!



“IT’S A BIG DAY IN ELIZABETH!”

David Cheslow, Chairman of the Elmora Shul Board

I'm writing this column while sitting in our sailboat on a dock in Norwalk, CT. Mindle and I have been spending our summer vacation cruising on the Long Island Sound.

We've been away for two Shabbatot. The first we spent in Huntington, Long Island at the home of Dr. Bob and Enid Gross.



The Grosses are good friends and also Machatonim to our Machatonim. Their son Jonathan is married to the former Chai Romanoff, daughter of Syndi and David Romanoff. The second Shabbat we kept the boat on the dock in Norwalk and walked to Beth Israel Synagogue about 3 miles away. We were invited to lunch and to spend the day with Rabbi and Mrs. Yehoshua Hecht and their family.

[Mindle (r.) and Enid preparing for Shabbat in Huntington, Long Island]

Each Shabbat Mindle and I were treated like celebrities; it's not too often that Shabbat guests arrive by sailboat. Once the initial excitement wore off, however, we were asked where we lived. When we told our hosts or the members of their Shuls, then we really became celebrities. Elizabeth's reputation is well known and highly respected. Everyone wanted to know if it's true that Elizabeth is really this united Frum community.

All of us can be proud of our Kehila; each of us has a role to play, and each of us can be a celebrity by volunteering to help build its spirit and its growth.

Best wishes to all for a Ksiva Vachasima Tova and a wonderful New Year of peace, good health and prosperity.

Thanks for reading,

Dave

calendar for mid-September through mid-October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
16 Tzom G'dalah	17	18 Elmora Shul Board meeting 8PM, JEC Board Room	19	20	21 Erev Yom Kippur 6:38p Candle lighting	22 Yom Kippur 7:40p Havdalah (45 min)
23	24	25	26 Erev Sukkos 6:29p Candle lighting	27 Sukkos I	28 Sukkos II Candle lighting	29 Sukkos III (Chol HaMoed D) 7:28p Havdalah (45 min)
30 Sukkos IV (Chol HaMoed D)	1 Sukkos V (Chol HaMoed III)	2 Sukkos VI (Chol HaMoed IV)	3 Sukkos VII (Hoshana Rabba) 6:18p Candle lighting	4 Simni Atzeret Elmora Kiddush and Hakafos @ night, JEC Levy Auditorium	5 Simchas Torah 6:14p Candle lighting Elmora Kiddush mid-morning, JEC Levy Auditorium	6 Parshas Bevechis 7:16p Havdalah (45 min)
7	8 Elmora Shul Board meeting 8PM, JEC Board Room	9	10	11	12 Rosh Chodesh Chesvan 6:40p Candle lighting	13 Parshas Noach Rosh Chodesh Chesvan 7:05p Havdalah (45 min) Community Luncheon [tentative] late morning, JEC Levy Auditorium