News briefs

Friday night service
April 5, 7:45 p.m. Hostesses are Jennifer and Denise Havenar. Please support our Jewish community by attending.

JNF Tree Certificates
Jewish National Fund Tree Certificates are the perfect way to offer condolences or congratulations. The cost is $18 per tree and a certificate is sent to whomever you designate. As a special, a three-tree certificate may be purchased for $36. Also available are memorial or mazel tov cards. The cost for either of these is a minimum of $10. All it takes is a phone call to Jean Rosenbaum at 713-432-7182 and a check to Hadassah Treasurer Janet Bright. It's easy and a great way to support Hadassah's many outstanding projects.

Natalie on the mend
Natalie Altman is back home and doing much better after being in the hospital and rehab for a few weeks.

Our condolences
Our condolences to John Havenar on the death of his father, Harold Oran Havenar. Graveside services were held Feb. 26 in Lake Charles, La.

Looking for the Glassers?
If you remember Marc and Susan Glasser and would like to contact them, their new address is 14689 Wood Creek Court, Perrysburg, OH 43551.

Birthday celebrants
Happy birthday to these April celebrants: Burton Manne (April 10), Beverly Manne (April 11), Andrea Havenar (April 11), Robin Irwin (April 12), Sharon Wilkenfeld (April 15) and Elisabeth Aczel Wallock (April 19).

Annual business meeting April 18
The annual Hadassah business meeting and election of officers will be held on Thursday, April 18, at 7 p.m. at the community building. Hostesses will be Shana and Karen. Please be sure to attend this, our only annual business meeting. There will be a special presentation for the Hadassah Centennial Locks. Our yearbook kickoff also will begin. We always need everyone's ideas and help to make our biggest fundraiser a success.

March of Remembrance April 6 in Baytown
Faith leaders in Baytown have made a practice of coming together for charitable efforts. However, on Saturday, April 6, they will join forces for a different reason: a Holocaust March of Remembrance.

The Holocaust March of Remembrance is a nationwide interdenominational effort to stand alongside the Jewish people in their remembrance of Yom Hashoah, "The Catastrophe." Following the inaugural march for the Houston area held in Kingwood in 2012, the effort has spread citywide in 2013 with seven marches over two days in the Houston metro area on April 6-7.

The Baytown event will begin and end at Faith Presbyterian Church at 3900 Main St. A brief opening ceremony will begin at 1 p.m., followed by a two-mile prayer walk ending at Faith Church. A memorial service will follow at 3 p.m.

Al Marks, a Holocaust survivor of four concentration camps, will share his experience as the keynote speaker.

For more information, contact Joan Linares or Karen Aarons.

Holocaust Museum fundraiser gets CKI touch
On March 3, an overflow crowd packed the Holocaust Museum Houston's Herzstein Theater for a musical treat in commemoration of its 17th anniversary. The evening program featured Al Marks as emcee, the operatic voices of husband and wife Antonio and Dalma Boronkai Rodriguez, and CKI's own Karen Aarons on piano.

Titled "From the Budapest Opera House to the Gates of Auschwitz," the evening was dedicated to Hungarian opera singer and doctor, Ferenc Fellner, who was imprisoned in the same camps with Al. He heard the music when the camp commander would order Dr. Fellner to sing opera. But when the time came that the Germans ordered the prisoners into a tunnel to be buried alive, Dr. Fellner refused and organized the survivors to stand strong and not to enter the tunnel.

The selections included arias and duets from "The Merry Widow," "The Gypsy Baron," "Rigoletto" and "La Traviata," among others. The wonderful voices of both tenor Antonio and soprano Dalma enchanted the audience with their operatic stylings and swept them away to beautiful places. Karen's accompaniment enhanced the experience.

There are rumors of an encore performance. Don't miss it if you get a second chance!

— Martha Raskin

If you have an item to include in Baytown Jewish Community News, please email it to: mcberk@earthlink.net