

Selling Chametz -- Mechirat Chametz

Background

Owning or being in possession of *chametz* during Passover is traditionally prohibited. The custom of *mechirat chametz* was devised to help Jews that were in food or liquor industries to keep the holiday without suffering serious financial loss. The merchant stored the *chametz* and then designated the local rabbi to sell the *chametz* through a legal document to someone outside of the Jewish community. The *chametz* was then bought back through a legal document at the end of the holiday; thus, the merchant could again use his food and liquor stock for sale.

At the Kehillah

Today, this legal transaction can be of help to anyone *kashering* their home for Pesach. As part of your Passover cleaning, *chametz* that you are unable to discard can be stored away in a sealed cabinet and ritually sold through arrangements made by Rabbi Jen. If you would like to add your home's *chametz* to the sale, just mail or drop off the form below **by Thursday, April 13, 5 pm**. This authorizes Rabbi Jen to make the sale on your behalf.

Signing up and Feeding the Hungry

It is customary to make a donation to feed the hungry as part of selling one's *chametz*. You can include with your form a check made out to "Mazon" to help fulfill this mitzvah.

Return this form to Kehillah Synagogue (1200 Mason Farm Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514) along with checks to Mazon:

I, _____ authorize Rabbi Jen Feldman to sell the chametz in my
possession located at _____.

Signature

Please don't forget to make your donation to Mazon!