

BETH EL NEWS

May - June 2017



Col Kol, Every Voice

Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro

“Every morning, when I wake up, I open up my eyes and say ... thank you, *HaShem*, for my *neshama*, and for giving me another day!”

Before my feet even touch the ground, I recite the Hebrew words of *Modeh/Modah Ani*, thanking Gd for returning my soul to me. I say this passage before I get out of bed to help me begin each day with gratitude and remind me to continually focus on blessings.

I am grateful to Gd and to my parents for the blessing of my voice, but sometimes, as we all do, I take my blessings for granted. A few months ago, I had laryngitis and completely lost my voice. Or, so I thought. I was not voiceless, but I had to find alternate ways to be “heard”. I gesticulated. I used my body and facial expressions to convey my message. When it was not *shabbat*, I wrote notes. It was frustrating and exhausting to use alternative means of communication. It made me appreciate my voice even more. Losing my primary means of communication made my belief that every voice counts resonate deeply.

How do we use our voices? As your *Hazzan*, I lead you in the *Barchu*, our official call to worship. However, the *Barchu* is not only a call to worship...we are being called to bless Gd. A few years ago, we had the good fortune to hear Noah Aronson in concert at our shul. He composed a melody for *Barchu* which included these English words: “Am I awake? Am I prepared? Are you listening to my prayer? Can you hear my voice? Do you understand?”

What does this unique invitation mean to us? Each day we are instructed to bring holiness into the world. Do we

position ourselves to see such moments in every day as an opportunity to affect change? Do we allow ourselves to approach our lives as sacred interactions?

It is my prayer that we all use our voices in meaningful ways. Be attuned to the voices of others. Be sensitive to the many different kinds of voices that surround us. Bring blessings to each day’s moments and interactions! Every voice counts. This is why I chose the theme **Col Kol, Every Voice**, for the Gala concert on May 24. I am grateful to everyone who has worked so tirelessly to bring this concert to fruition and humbled to have **you**, my Beth El family, contribute your voice to this wonderful evening. The outpouring of love and support overwhelms me. Let us continue to use our voices for blessing.



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - JOSH LASTER



The intricacies of running our successful synagogue are numerous. As a religious non-profit organization, we have the unique opportunity to not only connect with our investors (members), but to also serve as a beacon of Jewish Community in this wonderful area of South Jersey. Beth EI serves as a light to our families, a celebration of Jewish living, and as a prominent presence both physically and spiritually. The operations that deliver this “product” to our community are a result of collaboration between lay leaders and staff.

I started at Beth EI officially on October 1, 2015. That means in just five short months, I'll be celebrating my two year anniversary. And believe me, those five months will fly by in no time at all. Much has been accomplished during this time, and all of it has happened under the visionary, astute leadership of our outgoing president, Lauren Soll.

Lauren Soll was the perfect president for me to begin my tenure as your Executive Director. As a lay leader, she has dedicated immense time and effort to the success of Beth EI. She has served not only as a leader to the families of Beth EI, but as a mentor and guide to me for current day to day operations, as a reliable source of details involving the synagogue pertinent past operations and a trusted advisor and partner when making crucial decisions that impact our future operations. She often gave me thanks in public and written forum for my hard work and dedication. Her words are appreciated, but the truth is that it is her hard work and dedication that inspires me to give my all, and she inspires others as well. Thank you, Lauren Soll. I will miss you as our president, but I look forward to many more years of working together as you assume the ranks as an esteemed Past President.

And a word to our new president, David Backal... Lauren set the bar very high and I'm very excited to begin our work together! There is still much to be done...



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - DAVID BACKAL



As I write my first President's Message, I'd like to thank **you**, my Beth El and spiritual family, for the opportunity to serve as our Shul's President. It is truly both a privilege and an honor to stand in a long line of successful and productive presidents. I'd also like to personally thank Lauren Soll for serving as President for the past two years. Lauren has devoted so much of her time and effort to make Beth El a one-of-a-kind synagogue and left a clear path for me to follow, although it will be very difficult to fill her shoes. Thank you Lauren for all that you have done, you were a wonderful President and you should be extremely proud of yourself!

My family has been members of Beth El for the past 70 years. From my Grandfather, who attended services regularly, to my mother, who was a student in our Religious School. My parents raised my brothers and me at Beth El and in a conservative Jewish household, and now Susan and I have done the same with our family. We have shared many life-cycle events with Beth El and our community. I can honestly say, with pride, when it comes to our Jewish life and learning, L'dor v'dor.

I have personally been actively involved with Beth El for over 20 years. From a board member and then President of Young Associates (now our Young Families Group), to the many committees, programs and events, then onto the Board of Trustees, Executive Committee and now this wonderful opportunity. I can promise you that I will serve as President to the best of my ability.

In my experience, to be a successful leader you need to have a strong team. I have that team, and I look forward to working with Karen Schlessel, Josh Brodtkin, Adam Sackstein, Tami Bogutz Steinberg, Stuart Sauer, Cathy Backal, Karin Elkis, Faye Shapiro, Ben Levin and Jason Whitney as my Executive Committee. With this team, along with my relationship with our Board of Trustees (including many Past Presidents), our All-Star Clergy and our office staff led by our Executive Director, Josh Laster, I am confident Beth El will have a bright future. All that being said, our Shul truly runs on the input, experience and activity of our Congregation. You make Beth El happen and I invite everyone to reach out and get involved at your own personal level. You will definitely be rewarded!

May and June are extremely exciting months at Beth El. We have many graduations to celebrate along with confirmation, concerts, a blood-drive, BBQs, USY Dinner, last days of school and first days of ECC Camp. All of this surrounding our Beloved Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro being installed as the International President of the Cantors Assembly. If you haven't heard by now, we are having what is sure to be a memorable celebration to honor Hazzan, the Every Voice Gala Concert. What a night that will be! Hope to see you there.

As you can see, there is something for everyone. Please check our website or calendar for specific dates and times of each program.

I also want to thank my family in advance for what lies ahead over the next couple of years. Thank you to my beautiful wife, Susan and our two wonderful children, Daniel and Amy.

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BIRTHS:

Marilyn & Steve Roth on the birth of their grandson, Andrew Graham Roth

Rita Schuldiner on the birth of her great grandson, Maxwell Benjamin Turetsky

B'NAI MITZVAH:

Jenifer & Orin Atlas on the B'nai Mitzvah of their children Jake & Alexa

Beth & Brian Dworkin on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Aidan

Daena & Larry Ehrlich & Kevin Heller on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Juliet Heller

Jaimie & Andrew Finberg on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Gregory

Ruth & Larry Katz on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Riley Katz

Ellen & Michael Lowenberger on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Andrew

Rachel & Daniel Natkin on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Ethan

Audrey & David Pecarsky on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Noa.

Sheri & Jason Pecarsky on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Noa

Arlene & Ed Plasky on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Jonah Wassersug

Stephanie & Jeff Rappaport on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Marisa

Debbie & Mike Silver on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Salena

Jennifer Jagust & Joel Weiss on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Shira

ENGAGEMENTS, MARRIAGES:

Ellen & Ken Barmach on the marriage of their son, Jeffrey, to Jessica Cohen

Binyamin Stone on his engagement to Yaffa Stone

SPEEDY RECOVERY:

Barbara Brodack

Bill Bronstein

BETH EL MOURNS the passing of:

Helene Bogutz, mother of Tami Bogutz Steinberg

Robert Collik, brother of Mark Collik

Uldine Rosenberg, mother of Alan Rosenberg

Ida Roth, mother of Steven Roth

IN MEMORIAM OF OUR MEMBERS

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Sam Goldstein

Husband of Marjorie

Father of Esther Harris Yankowitz

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Romayne Small

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Toby Zeff

Mazal Tov to all our B'nai Mitzvah of May & June

Hannah Leibowitz
Jamie Goldberg
Sabrina Kushner
Julia Edelman
Elyse Kratchman
Max Becker

May 6 2017
May 13, 2017
May 13, 2017
May 13, 2017
May 20, 2017
May 27, 2017

Cara & Melody Dias
Nathan Wolf
Alexa Segal
Eva Woods
Ashleigh Sorokin

June 3, 2017
June 10, 2017
June 10, 2017
June 17, 2017
June 17, 2017



Max Becker

Son of Meredith & Andrew Becker

Brother of Sam and Elana

Grandson of Susan & the late Ivan Gordon and Barbara & the late Kenneth Becker

Mitzvah Project: Raising money for the Lone Soldier Center in Memory of Michael Levin



Julia Dayle Edelman

Daughter of Zachary & Danielle Edelman

Sister of Jackson & Reid

Granddaughter of Andrew & Susan Edelman, Jody Lahn, Pennie & Paul Messaros, and Charles Lind

Mitzvah Project: Working with Jewish Relief Agency

Cara Alyssa Dias & Melody Serena Dias

Daughters of Heidi Handler & Alan Dias

Sisters of Benjamin Dias

Mitzvah Project: Susan G Komen Race For The Cure



Jamie Goldberg

Daughter of Gloria & Mitch Goldberg

Granddaughter of Frances & Marvin Weiss, Harold Goldberg, and Gloria S. Goldberg Z'L

Mitzvah Project: Partnered with Community Recycling in their Shoe Recycling program.



Elyse Kratchman

Daughter of Barry & Donna Kratchman

Sister of Kameron

Granddaughter of Sheldon & Kathy Kratchman (Judie Kratchman) and John & Shirley Fletcher

Mitzvah Project: Collecting tzedakah for St. Jude's Children's Hospital and leading movement classes for Project Lev (special needs)



Sabrina Kushner

Daughter of Dale Kushner-Brooks & Ira Brooks

Sister of Lorri, Helene, Stuart, Sherri, & Dan

Granddaughter of Phyllis Kushner

Mitzvah Project: Volunteering at Brookdale Assisted Living & with special needs program at school



Ashleigh Brooke Sorokin

Daughter of Michelle & Evan Sorokin

Sister of Daniel & Steven

Granddaughter of Jeffrey & Myrna Sorokin

Mitzvah Project: Joined with Horton's Heroes to collect toys and deliver them to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.



Hannah Leibowitz

Daughter of Melissa & Lee Leibowitz

Sister of Adam

Granddaughter of Stanley & Charli Leibowitz; Great-granddaughter of Erwin Goldman, Ruth & Jonas Weiser

Mitzvah Project: Volunteering at Café Europa, a monthly lunch for Holocaust survivors, and will be sponsoring the September program



Nathan Wolf

Son of Leah & Jason Wolf

Brother of Emma Wolf

Grandson of Esther & Stan Goodman, Wendy Smith, and Jerry Wolf

Mitzvah Project: Soles4Souls creates sustainable jobs and provides relief through the distribution of shoes and clothing around the world.



Noa Rose Pecarsky

Daughter of Sheri & Jason Pecarsky

Sister of Lia

Granddaughter of Cecile & Yale Rapport and Audrey & David Pecarsky

Mitzvah Project: Creating and selling beaded bracelets and donating proceeds to The Nicole Schiffman Foundation



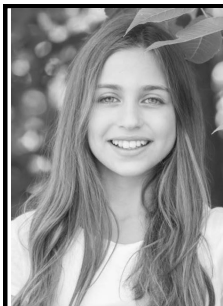
Eva Woods

Daughter of Ed Woods & Jennifer Dollinger-Woods

Sister of Aidan

Granddaughter of H. Richard Dollinger (Z"l) and Marsha Z. Dollinger

Mitzvah Project: Participated in Beth El's Cook For A Friend, JFCS's Food Sorts, and Café Europa



Alexa Segal

Daughter of Elana & Gady Segal

Sister of Jordan

Granddaughter of Pam & Lew Bornstein and Edith & Max Segal

Mitzvah Project: Participated with Cozies 4 Chemo and volunteered at Ronald McDonald House

Our Shabbat Kiddush is a wonderful way to celebrate your Simcha with our Beth El community!

- * Birth/Baby Naming * Wedding/Auf Ruf *
- * Milestone Birthday * Anniversary *
- * Graduation * Bar or Bat Mitzvah Anniversary *
- Other Special Occasion *

To coordinate your event, please contact Tamar Barkan at 856-675-1166 ext 418 or tbarkan@bethelsnj.org



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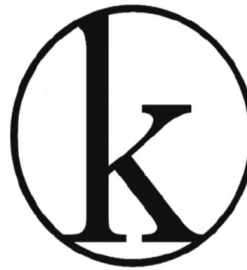
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**May 2017
Iyar - Sivan 5777**

NOTES AND EXCEPTIONS

		MONDAY, MAY 1: YOM HAZIKARON	7:15AM
		TUESDAY, MAY 2: YOM HA'ATZMAUT	7:30AM
<u>SHACHARIT (MORNING) SERVICES</u>		SUNDAY, MAY 14: LAG B'OMER/MOTHER'S DAY	8:30AM
MONDAY & THURSDAY	7:15AM	WEDNESDAY, MAY 24: YOM YERUSHALAYIM	7:30AM
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY	7:30AM	FRIDAY, MAY 26: ROSH CHODESH — SIVAN	7:15AM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY	9:00AM	SUN—MON, MAY 28—29: MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND	8:30AM
		TUESDAY, MAY 30: EREV SHAVUOT	7:30AM
		WEDNESDAY, MAY 31: SHAVUOT DAY 1	9:00AM
		THURSDAY, JUNE 1: SHAVUOT DAY 2/YIZKOR	9:00AM

Candle Lighting

Mincha (Afternoon) Ma'ariv (Evening) Services

	SUNDAY, APRIL 30—THURSDAY, MAY 4	7:50PM
7:40PM	FRIDAY, MAY 5: <u>CELEBRATION SHABBAT</u>	6:00PM
	SATURDAY, MAY 6	7:50PM
	SUNDAY, MAY 7—THURSDAY, MAY 11	8:00PM
7:47PM	FRIDAY, MAY 12	6:00PM
	SATURDAY, MAY 13	7:55PM
	SUNDAY, MAY 14—THURSDAY, MAY 18	8:05PM
7:54PM	FRIDAY, MAY 19	6:00PM
	SATURDAY, MAY 20	8:05PM
	SUNDAY, MAY 21—TUESDAY, MAY 23	8:10PM
	WEDNESDAY, MAY 24: EVERY VOICE GALA CONCERT	
	MINCHA ONLY (IN SANCTUARY)	5:50PM
	MA'ARIV ONLY (IN CHAPEL)	8:55PM
	THURSDAY, MAY 25	8:10PM
8:00PM	FRIDAY, MAY 26	6:00PM
	SATURDAY, MAY 27	8:10PM
	SUNDAY, MAY 28—MONDAY, MAY 29	8:15PM
8:03PM	TUESDAY, MAY 30: EREV SHAVUOT	
	TRADITIONAL SERVICE & LEARNING	8:00PM
	MINDFULNESS MINYAN	8:00PM
9:11PM	WEDNESDAY, MAY 31: SHAVUOT/YIZKOR	7:00PM
	THURSDAY, JUNE 1: SHAVUOT	8:15PM

**June 2017
Adar—Nisan 5777**

SHACHARIT (MORNING) SERVICES

NOTES AND EXCEPTIONS

MONDAY & THURSDAY	7:15AM	THURSDAY, JUNE 1: SHAVUOT DAY 2/YIZKOR	9:00AM
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY	7:30AM	SUNDAY, JUNE 18: FATHER'S DAY	8:30AM
SATURDAY	9:00AM	SATURDAY, JUNE 24: ROSH CHODESH — TAMMUZ	9:00AM
SUNDAY	8:30AM	SUNDAY, JUNE 25: ROSH CHODESH — TAMMUZ	8:30AM

Candle Lighting

Mincha (Afternoon) Ma'ariv (Evening) Services

	THURSDAY, JUNE 1: SHAVUOT	8:15PM
8:05PM	FRIDAY, JUNE 2: <u>CELEBRATION SHABBAT</u>	6:00PM
	SATURDAY, JUNE 3	8:20PM
	SUNDAY, JUNE 4—THURSDAY, JUNE 8	8:20PM
8:09PM	FRIDAY, JUNE 9	6:00PM
	SATURDAY, JUNE 10	8:20PM
	SUNDAY, JUNE 11—THURSDAY, JUNE 15	8:25PM
8:12PM	FRIDAY, JUNE 16	6:00PM
	SATURDAY, JUNE 17	8:25PM
	SUNDAY, JUNE 18—THURSDAY, JUNE 22	8:30PM
8:14PM	FRIDAY, JUNE 23	6:00PM
	SATURDAY, JUNE 24	8:30PM
	SUNDAY, JUNE 25—THURSDAY, JUNE 29	8:30PM
8:14PM	FRIDAY, JUNE 30	6:00PM
	SATURDAY, JULY 1	8:25PM

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Jacob Alexander Ferman
Solomon Noah Friedman
Noam Gavriel Glanzberg-Krainin
Mackenzie Nicole Glassner

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Noah Maltzman
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Gavriela Rebecca Weitzman
Micah Joshua Weitzman
Tamar Jo Wohlberg
Alexander Eli Woods

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June Eisner

If you know of a member who should be spotlighted in the Beth El News, please email Davida Chornock at dchornock@bethelsnj.org with their name and reason for nomination.



מה נשתנתה השנה הזאת מכל
השנים ?

**HOW IS THIS YEAR DIFFERENT
FROM ALL OTHER YEARS?**

When asked to write before Passover for publication in June – the end of our school year, it seems right to boast about our accomplishments with a popular Passover song.

...שבכל השנים...

IN ALL THE YEARS...

We have an amazing program with special school activities like gym and music.

הזאת... השנה

THIS YEAR...

We added an Art class and also Library. Children are able to express themselves in art through different media – clay, weaving, loose parts, and building. Every Monday our children go to the library to hear a story and to pick a book to take home.

...שבכל השנים...

IN ALL THE YEARS...

Our talented teachers were struggling with accommodating children with Special Needs.

הזאת... השנה

THIS YEAR...

We invited, to join our staff, a special needs coordinator to help teachers provide an adequate support to our children with Special Needs and their families. We received grant money to enable us to open a Sensory Room with equipment suitable for our young students.

...שבכל השנים...

IN ALL THE YEARS...

We collect *Tzedakah* and perform *Mitzvah*.

הזאת... השנה

THIS YEAR...

We collected over \$600.00 in *Tzedakah* money, some of which we donated to the Animal Shelter and with some we bought winter gear for children in poor neighborhoods. With the help of our ECC families we shipped three suitcases with shoes to children in Uganda. Our Kindergarten class went twice this year to the Lion's Gate to visit with their residence and celebrate holidays with them.

שבכל השנים...

IN ALL THE YEARS...

We help young children separate from their pacifier.

הזאת... השנה

THIS YEAR...

We inaugurated a Pacifier Tree in our back yard. A new home for our children's pacifiers and also a way to "help our tree grow".

...שבכל השנים...

IN ALL THE YEARS...

We have great After School Activities such as Soccer, Art, dance and karate.

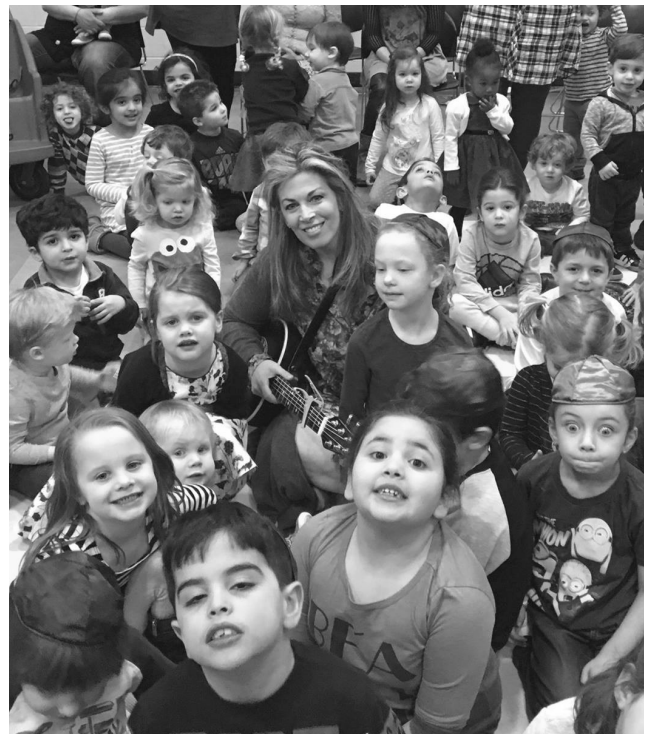
הזאת... השנה

THIS YEAR...

We added a Suzuki Violin class. An opportunity for our students to learn music through playing a musical instrument.

Elija's cup, on Passover – symbolizing the future messianic redemption; and Miriam's cup of water – symbolizing hope and renewal in present time, with both in mind, we look forward to a summer of planning yet another "different" year with renewed teachers, families and activities

The teachers and staff join me in wishing you a safe "not too hot" and restful summer.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO HAZZAN FROM
THE ECC FAMILY.**



Our Journey Countinues

It is not merely a coincidence that the end of the academic year falls around the time of Shavuot; the day that God revealed himself to all of Israel. On this day, the people of Israel accepted the Torah eagerly and willingly saying, “Naaseh V’Nishman”-“we will do and we will hear”. We learn on Shavuot that dedication to Judaism never ceases. As the academic year closes, and as we plan for the coming year, I would like to look back on a fulfilling year of how we have truly fulfilled the mitzvah of Na’aseh V’Nishma, of keeping God’s commandments.

We had an amazing year at Beth El Religious School, Hebrew High School. In addition to regular class, many special events took place. The Youth Choir performed at a number of events, the Vav class took a Tashlich trip, and the High School met and learned with Israeli Rocket Scientist Ari Sacher. Students in grades Bet thru Vav participated in a Sukkot Experience making candy designs of the word “Ushpizin” and fulfilled the mitzvah of dwelling in a Sukkah and shaking of the Lulav and Etrog, the entire religious gathered together for a community Hanukkah celebration, Megillah Reading, and school wide Passover Model Seder. Our year truly was filled with activity!

Although the school year is ending, our journey is not complete. We learn at the end of the Five Books of Moses that the people of Israel have yet to reach the Promised Land. Our Jewish Journey is everlasting. The goal of a quality Jewish education provides a foundation of Judaism that motivates each person to strive to lead their lives as Jewish as possible and to create a yearning to continue the study of Torah throughout their lives.

While our students will be on vacation this summer, we here at Congregation Beth El will be working hard over the summer planning our upcoming year. I am very excited, as part of our journey, to introduce to BERS a new program for students in Daled Thru Vav (4th-6th grade) called “The Great Stories” Program. “The Great Stories” Program is a curriculum geared towards providing our students with the tools to explore the universe of Jewish knowledge. Over a course of three years (when one begins in 4th grade) students will be exposed to Four Great Story Timelines that present the development of Jewish history and culture from per-biblical times through the present day. These Great Stories provide a framework and a context for all of the students’ future Judaic studies. The Four Great Stories are: The Story of How Jews Talk to God, The Story of How Jews Tell Their Stories, The Story of Jewish

Communities, and The Story of the Jewish Homeland. Beginning in the fall students will study The Story of How Jews Talk to God for an hour on Sunday mornings. Students will have the opportunity to study the Great Story through a variety of mediums of their choice ranging from art, music, cooking, creative writing, drama, and more. I look forward to introducing this innovative program into the Beth El Religious School. Stay tuned for more details!

On a personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire Beth El community for graciously welcoming me and my family into your community. We are honored and blessed to be part of this incredible family.

Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you all in the fall!

Save the Date!

- May 5 Confirmation
- May 7 Gan Graduation
- May 9 Bet Concert
- May 12 Vav Graduation
- May 14 No School
- May 18 Last Day of High School
- May 21 Last Day of Religious School-End of the year picnic (11:30am)

Shabbat

- May 6 Daled Shabbat
- May 20 Bet/Gimmel Shabbat

Yasher Koach to our recent Torah Readers:

- James Harris
- Samantha Hassman
- Lydia Heisler
- Dylan Kratchman
- Isabella Laster
- Kyle Lehrfeld
- Isaac Linden
- Talia Miller
- Sophie Neuwirth
- Eliana Ostroff
- Aaron Reichenberg
- Miranda Rosenbaum
- Talya Shapiro
- Mikayla Shenker
- Ryan Stoopler

Men's Club



Larry Hanover, President
hanovers4@comcast.net

My first year as president of Men's Club has been gratifying in many ways. I have enjoyed getting to know so many of you at our events. I hope our efforts have brought learning, social action and fun into your lives.

I am also glad that so many of you turned out for our open board meeting on April 25. It was great to talk directly to our men and cultivate ideas to build on the successes of 2016-17. This club is only as good as the input you provide, so just contact me at hanovers4@comcast.net if you couldn't come but have ideas on how to build our future and make the club more meaningful to you.

Please keep **Sunday, May 21 at 11:30 AM** in mind. That's the fun-filled synagogue end-of-year barbecue, where Men's Clubbers provide the grilling muscle.

I want to take a moment to thank some of the volunteers who have helped make Men's Club so special this year. Mike Glass (treasurer), past presidents Yoel Weiss and Gary Shapiro, and kitchen-meisters Craig Kessler, Bruce DuBoff and Lou Lenoff played a tremendous role as always. I also want to thank Bill Baranoff, Jerry Bralow, Henry David (regional Man of the Year), Ray Katz, Jeff Rutberg, and Bruce Tomar (international board Vice President) for their contributions.

Also, Larry Abrams was honored at the synagogue's annual board meeting as our Volunteer of the Year for his help with numerous events, including organizing our Men's Club Shabbat service and a successful book donation for children in need. We had a terrific five-part Torah on Tap series, and I'm grateful to our maestro, Rabbi Andy Green, and our organizer, Andy Bender. Adam Weissman and wife Amanda ran an incredibly successful Shalach Manot effort. Wherever there was scotch involved, Adam Benn was there, and Glenn Sloves led our Tour de Shuls bike team. Thank you all.

Enjoy the summer.

Sisterhood



Renee Kessler, President
rbkess@comcast.net

Let Sisterhood help you chase the winter chill away and welcome spring with these upcoming programs.

Saturday, March 4 is Sisterhood Shabbat. Come and share in the warmth of the morning where Sisterhood women will be taking the honors. Then, join us after services from 12:30-1:30 in the Garden Room for Sisterhood High Tea featuring fancy desserts, tea and stimulating discussion

Thursday March 16 join us in the kitchen for Challah Baking. Participation is limited to 30 women. Sign up on line at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4ea8aa22ab9-challah2>

Sunday March 26 we'll be rockin' the house at our 9th annual Party Showcase! Bring your friends and meet the vendors who will help to make your next mitzvah an affair to remember. This event is free, open to the public and something you won't want to miss! If you know a vendor who would like to participate, please contact Sharon at samindel@yahoo.com

Tuesday, March 28 is Rosh Chodesh, It's a Women's Thing welcomes in the new month of Nisan with song, activities and friendship. Join Hazzan, Charlene and other BE women to celebrate.

Tuesday, April 18 is Wine, Dine and Study with Rabbi Krupnick. Put this special night on your calendar and plan to join us.

Thursday, April 20 join us in the kitchen for Challah Baking. Participation is limited to 30 women. Look for sign up links beginning in April

Wednesday, April 26 is Rosh Chodesh, It's a Women's Thing welcomes in the new month of Iyar.

Sunday, April 30 is a Multi-generational Tea and special doll naming ceremony.

And finally, a huge yasher koach to Amanda and Adam Weissman who chaired this year's very successful Shalach Manot project. Packages will arrive on Sunday, March 12.

Join us for one, more or all of these events and experience the warmth of Sisterhood! Sisterhood is open to all BE women and we welcome your participation and ideas.

Young Families' Group



Mira Aumiller, President
msaumiller@yahoo.com

Our last Young Families Group event of the year will not disappoint. Thank you to the 14 families that have signed up for our YFG Retreat. Planning is under way and we are really excited about it.

After this June retreat, I will be passing on the leadership of Beth El's Young Families Group to Nikki Cohen. Nikki should be a familiar face to everyone. She has multiple kids in our ECC and religious school and can frequently be found at Beth El. She has been an invaluable help to me in running YFG events for the last two years and Beth El is lucky have a devoted, hard-worker like Nikki.

I look forward to seeing everyone at many more YFG and Beth El programs and thank you for all the support.

Habonim



Judy Simkin, President
lensim@comcast.net

On Sunday May 7 a trip is planned to the Sam Azeez Museum of Woodbine Heritage and Synagogue. The synagogue and museum were founded in 1891 by Russian Jewish settlers. The synagogue is still in use for special occasions. A private tour of the facility begins at 10 am and there is no charge.

Following the tour we will lunch at the Dionysus Greek restaurant which is very close to the synagogue. The cost of the lunch will be the responsibility of each individual.

Since the destination is within driving distance, we will meet at Beth El by 8:45 and will form a caravan. Please respond to Judy Simkin at 856-829-2651 or lensim@comcast.net to express your interest. Responses are due by Sunday, May 1. This should prove to be a very interesting and informative day.

Please join us Tuesday, June 13 we will be holding our annual end of the year BBQ. It will be held in the courtyard of Beth El . The evening will begin at 6:00 and the cost will be \$25.00 per person. Checks should be made out to Beth El Habonim and mailed to Mort Kanovsky at 9 Anvil Court Cherry Hill 08003. Be sure to come out and spend the evening with your Habonim friends.

Sunday June 25 at 2:00 in the afternoon a block of tickets have been reserved for the show JERRY'S GIRLS. The show will be held at the Independence Studio on 3 at the Walnut Theater. This is the music of Jerry Herman from Hello Dolly, Mame, La Cage Aux Follies. Mack and Mabel. The cost of the tickets are \$38 . Please make your reservations early. Checks should be mailed to Mort Kanovsky at 9 Anvil Court Cherry Hill 08003

For more information, please contact Judy Simkin at 856-829-2651 or lensim@comcast.net

This space is not big enough to write everything the Beth El Early Childhood Center has to offer - call 856-675-1166 to schedule a visit!

Flexible – A la carte child care options
Free Membership to Synagogue

After school activities to include Suzuki Violin,
Sports, Dance

State of the Art room for variety of art exploration
Special Needs coordinator on staff

Sensory Room to assist with additional child
development activities and guidance

Full Day KG and KG enrichment classes
Extracurricular activities taught by experts

Experienced and tenured teachers

Fun and interactive Friday morning – Shabbat
program

Children bake Challah every Friday

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



**BELL LIBRARY NEWS—AMY KAPLAN,
CONGREGATION LIBRARIAN**

Meir Shalev is one of Israel's finest writers. His newly translated novel, **Two She-Bears**, is a complex novel of love, compassion, murder - and vengeance - on a moshava. Years after three alleged suicides in the moshava, Ruta Tavori, a teacher of history and Bible, tells an interviewer about one of these deaths, which was in fact a murder that had great consequences for her family. Shalev, in an interview, notes that the origin of the title of the book is a Biblical story about the prophet Elisha, in 2 Kings. When Elisha was taunted by children, he cursed them in the name of the Lord and two bears came out of the forest and killed 42 children. Shalev says "I guess I had a burning need to depict vengeance because it is a very powerful emotion, basic, that exists in everyone." The author was born on Israel's first moshav, and his rich descriptions of daily life in an agricultural settlement transport readers to a different place and time.

Leaving Lucy Pear, by Anna Solomon, is an engaging story about class and family with lots of period detail. It is 1917, and Beatrice Haven, an unmarried Jewish girl from a wealthy family, has just given birth. She hides the baby under a pear tree at her uncle's house, knowing that a large, local Catholic family will find the baby when they come, as they always do, to gather the pears at night. Bea's life does not go as she had hoped, and a decade later she returns to her uncle's house to seek peace and respite from her sadness. She hires a nurse to care for her ailing uncle, not knowing that the nurse is the woman who, years before, took the abandoned baby and named her Lucy Pear.

Much needed support for the Library comes from our generous donors. This year's Jewish Book Month fundraiser was once again successful, thanks to your participation. This list completes our Jewish Book Month donor list that began in the last issue of the Beth El News:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ira Brooks | Hedda and David Morton |
| Marcia and Arnie Cohen | Renee Rudolph and David |
| Arlene and Harris Colton | Lieberman |
| Rachael and David Green | Sharon and Steven Usdin |
| Freda Kleinburd | |

Todah Rabah to all who support the Library.

The Library's Short Story Discussion Group will meet on Thursday, March 23 and Thursday, April 27, 1:30 – 3:00 PM in the Conference Room. Please note these dates and plan to join us – even if you've never attended before – for our always-engaging conversations. For more information, call the Library 856-675-1166 x 503.

After summer closure, library will reopen Sept 11

SINGLES SHABBAT

Meet people of all ages in a warm environment! Shabbat service is FREE and open to ALL! Held every third Friday of the month at 8 PM in the small Chapel. Oneg following services.

Join us!

May 19 ♥ June 16

Contact Norma Kamis:
(856) 662-7916 or normatrack@verizon.net



Sunday: 9am-12noon	Wednesday: 9am-5pm
Monday: Closed	Thursday: 9am-5pm
Tuesday: 9am-5pm and 7-8pm	Friday: 10am-12noon
	Saturday: Closed

**ATTENTION COLLEGE BOUND
STUDENTS & PARENTS!**

**BETH EL'S COLLEGE CONNECTION PROJECT
WILL BEGIN ACCEPTING ADDRESSES FOR THE
2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR** IN JULY**

**Help us keep our Beth El college students
connected to their shul and Jewish community.
We provide holiday packages and Beth El news
updates throughout the school year.**

**If you would like your student to participate in this
free program, please submit the following
information to Ann Miller at ALM4SP@aol.com or
(856) 428-5145**

Student Name	Student's e-mail address
Name of School/Class Year	School Address
Parent Name and Phone #	

ALL ADDRESSES MUST BE UPDATED ANNUALLY

****Information must be submitted
BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2017**

**For more information call
Gloria Back (856) 428-6368**

**Sponsored by the David Back
College Connection Fund.
Anyone wishing to make a donation to the College
Connection Fund may do so by calling the office at
856-675-1166 x 139**

FACES OF BETH EL



2017 Annual Meeting Honorees



Our Beth El members and students at AIPAC Policy Convention in Washington, DC



Our newest members at the first ever New Member Welcoming Ceremony

CARING ACTS OF TZEDAKAH (AS OF APRIL 5)

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Lisa & Scott Stegall & Billy Levin	Yahrzeit of Marc Levin
Beth Teitelman	Honorable Judge Saul Teitelman

DAVID BACK COLLEGE CONNECTION FUND

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DONOR Gloria & Ira Back	IN MEMORY OF Yahrzeit of Lottie Mandel Harris
Natalie Clayman & Family Ronda & Steve Manders Alice Mohr	All our loved ones Sam Goldstein Yahrzeit of Eli Adler

BELL LIBRARY FUND

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Barbara & Martin Brodack	Birth of grandson of Amy & Barnard Kaplan
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Michele & Scott Taroff	Special birthday of Renee Kessler
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CARING ACTS OF TZEDAKAH

HAZZAN ALISA POMERANTZ-BORO SPECIAL FUND

The following contributions were made in appreciation of Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro:

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The following contributions were made in appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Krupnick:

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Rabbi Aaron Krupnick -
Shalach Manot

IN HONOR OF

Bar Mitzvah of Andrew
Lowenberger
Rabbi Aaron Krupnick Doctor
of Divinity, honoris causa!
Rabbi Aaron Krupnick Doctor
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IN HONOR OF

Robin Sue & Bill Landsburg -
Shalach Manot

CARING ACTS OF TZEDAKAH

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GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

THE TREE OF LIFE

LEAF: Purchasing a leaf on Beth El's Tree of Life, located inside the Shabbat and Holiday entrance to our building, is the perfect way to commemorate a significant life-cycle event.

Remember your wedding, birthday, anniversary, children's B'nai Mitzvah or other accomplishment by having a leaf custom engraved for \$275.

STONE: For a more significant addition to the Tree of Life, please consider purchasing a stone to adorn the bottom of the artwork. Each stone is custom engraved onto an all natural surface and promises to be a source of great family pride for years to come. The cost for each stone is \$550.

To order a leaf or stone, please call the Beth El office at 856-675-1166

Beth El is a Member of the "Jewish National Fund Affiliate Program"

There is **NO** easier way to earn money for Beth El & support Israel at the same time. **The procedure is as simple as a click!**

Go to our website: www.bethelsnj.org Click on "support us"/"shop here" and then Jewish National Fund to make your purchase/donation.

Tell your friends, families & other congregants. Congregation Beth El will reap the rewards.

Plant Trees in Israel, Greeting Cards, Water Certificates, Honor Book Certificates, etc.

Every order placed, Beth El gets 20% commission.

For questions, call Debbie Drachman at 856 -719 -9485

SCRIP PROGRAM

Support Beth El by shopping at your favorite stores!

IT'S AS EASY AS 1,2,3:

1. Click on "Buy Scrip" under Quick links on bethelsnj.org
2. Place your order online
3. Pay by phone or by check and pick up your order at Beth El

The Scrip program helps support educational programming for children and adults at Beth El

Take advantage of our new home delivery! (select neighborhoods)

Use scrip for Holiday Dinners!
Shoprite, Whole Foods, Kibitz Room, Acme, Classic Cake.

Use scrip for your daily needs!
Staples, CVS, Bed, Bath & Beyond, American Eagle, Macy's, Barnes & Noble, Amazon, AND SO MUCH MORE!

Memorial Room

Honor your loved ones by purchasing a plaque (\$575) in our Memorial Room.

Additionally, the names and yahrzeit dates will appear on the digital screen, scrolling during the yahrzeit week, high holidays and other chaggim.

Contact Beth El for more information at 856-675-1166

PATHWAY TO INSPIRATION

Do you wish to honor a loved one, that special simcha, a child's favorite teacher, or the memory of someone special? Personalized bricks make a lasting and unique gift.

The cost of a personalized brick starts at \$180 for the first brick and \$118 for every brick thereafter when multiple bricks are purchased together.

To order a personalized brick, please call Davida Chornock at 856-675-1166 ext. 409

NEIGHBORHOOD DELIVERY - CAPTAINS FOR SCRIP

Help deliver scrip orders to families in your neighborhood Volunteer a small amount of your time and make a big difference at Beth El

For more information on Neighborhood Captains, contact Debbie Hochberg at dsh26@comcast.net

Volunteers Needed in the Beth El Office

If you can donate a few hours, please call Shirley Yaffa at 856- 675-1166 or syaffa@bethelsnj.org Thanks in advance for your help.

WORK THE GIFT SHOP

We need volunteers to work in **Judaically Yours** Please contact Linda Lazarow at: 856-424-3893 or llazarow@msn.com

GREETERS /SUBSTITUTE GREETERS WANTED

SHORT HOURS • NO PAY • LOTS OF SATISFACTION

Greeters welcome people & direct them to the sanctuary, coat room, etc., or offer assistance as needed. Greeters are at the entrance from 9:15am to 10:35am.

For information email or phone Mort Kanovsky at kanovsky@juno.com or 856-424-9372.

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 Email _____ Phone # _____

Volunteers Needed & Greatly Appreciated

To do occasional light weeding, light trimming & container watering of Beth El's gardens.

Please contact Sharon Deutsch at 856-296-7730 or maggied989@yahoo.com



Beth El is an active participant in a charitable Endowment initiative under the auspices of the Jewish Community Foundation and funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Please remember Beth El when you do your Estate Planning. Our Committee will be happy to discuss various options with you. All of us thank those who have helped to ensure Beth El's future.

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ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE

Giving Today to Secure Tomorrow

Making a commitment to Beth El's Endowment Fund will help ensure funds will always be available to support & enhance the many important, religious, educational & communal services that Beth El provides to its members & community.

There are many ways to participate: make an immediate contribution of cash, appreciated securities, real estate, art work or other collectibles; include a bequest to Beth El in your will; designate Beth El as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy; establish a donor advised fund dedicated to the support of Beth El; establish a charitable gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust.

For more information as to how you can participate in building Beth El's Endowment for the Future, please complete this coupon & return it via 1st class mail or e-mail.

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Street: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Please send me information on participating through: Bequests Life Insurance Donor Advised Fund
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I have already included Beth El in my estate plans. Please let me know how my plan can be included in Beth El's *Endowment for the Future*.

Return to: Congregation Beth El, Endowment for the Future, 8000 Main Street, Voorhees, NJ 08043
 E-mail: jlaster@bethelsnj.org

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BETH EL NEWS EDITOR
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Celebrate Your Simcha at Beth El

Whether your Simcha celebration is a Bris, Bar or Bat Mitzvah, Wedding or other special occasion, Congregation Beth El provides the ambiance, beauty and professional experience with every detail to make your event truly memorable.

- One of South Jersey's largest and most beautiful event facilities with seating for up to 500 people and a 1300 square foot dance floor
- Landscaped courtyard with paved patio for outdoor celebrations
- Imported Jerusalem stone and marble throughout the entry and expansive lobby set the tone for your elegant affair.
- Choose from many of the finest Kosher caterers

For information about Beth El's Facility rental for your next simcha, please contact Tamar Barkan at tbarkan@bethelsnj.org or (856) 675-1166 ext. 418.




Israel's Independence Day!

CAFÉ 69:
Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration

Tuesday, May 2, 2017
6:00PM – 7:30PM

See insert for more information



Celebrate Shavuot

Mind, Body & Soul

At Congregation Beth El
Tuesday, May 30, 2017
6:15PM Community Dairy Dinner

Join Our Beth El Clergy for an Evening of Learning for the Entire Family.

See insert for details