

BETH EL NEWS

May - June 2018



Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro

Powerful Moments. Intense Memories. We all have them. We replay them over and over in our minds. One year ago, we celebrated my installation as the International President of the Cantors Assembly at our Gala **Col Kol - Every Voice Concert!** I feel it appropriate to say again, "Thank You." The idea of Every Voice is very important to me and I pray that we continue to use our voices for blessing and meaning. There were many powerful moments that night, but one of the most meaningful for me was placing the Cantors Assembly President's Torah into our beautiful ark.

Like each one of us, every Torah has its own story. The Cantors Assembly President's Torah also has a story. An antique collector was visiting a store in a little town outside of Poland when he noticed a parchment from a Torah. After establishing that the visitor was Jewish, he took him to see an old woman, a non-Jew, who, before the Shoah, was a nanny in a wealthy Jew's home. The Nazis were moving in and the wealthy man knew he and his family would be taken away. He asked the nanny to protect this Torah so she carefully buried it in her backyard where it remained for decades.

The Israeli business man was the first Jewish person to cross her path all of these years later. The Communist controlled Polish government considered the Torah national property and chances were they would never let it out of their country. Reminiscent of the movie, "The French Connection," they dissembled the Torah, piece by piece, and hid all of them strategically inside the empty spaces of his car: inside the doors, the fenders, under the hood. When they were safely out of Poland, they reassembled the Torah.

This little Torah, hiding no more, found safe shelter at *Yad VaShem*, Israel's Holocaust Memorial Museum. There it rested for some years until the Cantors Assembly agreed to purchase it and preserve it. We were able to restore its letters, heal its parchment and bring its songs back into the world. Now, it resides

in the Ark of the current President of the Cantors Assembly's Congregation for their two-year term of office. I am humbled and blessed that our shul is housing this sacred scroll.

I have seen many Holocaust Torah fragments encased in glass in other synagogues. I have seen entire Torah scrolls in museums. What makes this Cantors Assembly Torah so meaningful to me is that we are able to chant from it! In this way, we can still hear **Every Voice**, including the voices of those who came before us, keeping their memories alive.

Recently, I officiated at a Bar Mitzvah of a child of dear friends in California. I was able to bring this Torah with me. During the ceremony, we passed the scroll from generation to generation...and into the arms of the young man who lovingly held it as he chanted the Shema. The powerful message of this Torah is that we have survived and we will continue to survive. As your Hazzan, I serve as the authentic voice of Jewish worship. Hazzanim are the living bridge-spanning generations past, present and future, so that all ages may come together and forge profound and lasting connections with each other and with Gd.

There is a passage in the Zohar which states: "There is nothing in the world that has no voice." All of us have something unique about us, something that distinguishes us from everyone else. Every person can contribute unique gifts to enrich the community. I am thrilled to welcome Neshama Carlebach to our community on May 3 for our **Unity in the Community Concert** where we will be honoring our dear friend, Lynn Goldman Paul. Their voices are powerful reminders of our duty to unite the world through *Tikkun Olam*.

It is my dream that through song, prayer, music, and acts of loving kindness, we will continue to grow even closer to each other, to our shul, to our Jewish heritage, our Torah and to Gd.

Let us create more powerful moments together!

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**Shavuot is coming!
See page 13
for details!**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - JOSH LASTER



The High Holy Days Are Coming!

As I'm writing this, Rosh Hashanah is in just over five months. Wait, that doesn't sound right. Let me try again. ROSH HASHANAH IS IN JUST OVER FIVE MONTHS! There, that's better. That feels a bit more real to me. By the time you read this article, the count will be down to four months! That may seem like a long time from now, but if you consider that Erev Rosh Hashanah is six days after Labor Day, maybe that will give you some perspective on how close it really is.

We're starting our preparations at Beth El. High Holy Day Seating letters will arrive shortly after this edition of the Beth El News. You'll have the opportunity to choose Sanctuary or Social Hall as always. Many people loved the changes made last year with the adjustments to the Social Hall configuration and the addition of a coffee and nosh lounge on Rosh Hashanah. For those of you that made the request, we will still not be offering that same lounge on Yom Kippur! Our Beth El team has already started planning for the many components of the most sacred days of the year.

So I know that we are all geared up and ready to go, but **what should you be doing?**

- Make sure you get that seating request back to the office! This involves the timely payment of the appropriate percentage of your dues OR being set up with a plan for regular payments.
- When you receive the mailing for the Yizkor Book, send in your information by the requested date.
- Sign up as an Usher! We need to increase our volunteers that help to guide congregants inside the worship areas and just outside the entrances to these areas.
- Introduce friends and family to Beth El if you feel they should consider being a part of Beth El.

So now you are probably thinking that all of your late spring and early summer plans revolve around planning for the High Holy Days. Not at all! Watch your mail for more details about our fun summer programming and keep connected with your community from Beth El all summer long.

And by the way, you might be tempted to say that Rosh Hashanah is early this year, but it's not. It's right on time, on the same day it is every year, the 1st of Tishrei.

Best wishes for a fun and relaxing summer, and I hope to see you before Rosh Hashanah!

Congregation Beth El is seeking lead teachers, assistant teachers, and substitutes for our Early Childhood Center!

Are you looking for a job in a fun and friendly environment with a warm and inviting staff?

Work at Congregation Beth El ECC!

To apply for an immediate position,
email Debbie Beideman, ECC Director, at dbeideman@bethelsnj.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - DAVID BACKAL



In the coming weeks and months, you will begin to learn about a new giving program at Beth El called "Shomrim" or guardian. The word *shomrim* carries with it a deep level of responsibility, and is derived from *shamar* which means to guard, watch, or preserve. As members of Beth El community, it is our collective responsibility to guard and preserve our spiritual home.

"Shomrim" is an inclusive giving program which will allow us to fulfill our duty and make sure that Beth El has a long and prosperous future. As with most synagogues around the country, I am sure you know, annual dues only cover approximately 45% of our operational needs. The charitable support of our congregants is critical to the sustainability of our vibrant shul. The Shomrim giving program was designed to allow benefactors to commit one time on an annual basis to support the activities and needs of Beth El. Each giving level is inclusive of an annual membership and comes with many other exciting benefits, including access to Beth El fundraising events and other programming. I look forward to sharing more details about Shomrim and thank you for your support of our beloved congregation.

As I approach the end of my first year of having the great honor of being our President, I am reminded regularly of our mission:

"Beth El is our spiritual home. We create a warm and welcoming community where people of all generations are enriched by learning and inspired to discover their personal experience of Jewish life."

I have learned the full power of our spiritual home. We share simchas and sadness with our families, experience growth and hardship, and we listen and guide. Beth El opens our arms to so many in our community. This past year we studied our by-laws and made adjustments to what it means to be a member of our shul. We created an Inclusion Task Force to fully understand what Beth El looks like and feels like to all who enter. Again, we made changes to allow everyone who enters our beautiful building, congregants and visitors, feel comfortable and welcomed. On a daily basis we are learning and teaching what it means to be Jewish and how to become better individuals. Beth El is here for you and will meet you where you are and help you go where you need to be.

I want to thank all of you for your support of our shul and community. I know everyone participates to their personal level and we will continue grow together.

Join YoPro, South Jersey's newest Jewish Young Professionals Group!

*Out of college but haven't started a family
yet? YoPro is for you!*

To get involved, email Davida Chornock at
dchornock@bethelsnj.org or
Leora Waiche at lwaiche@bethelsnj.org

Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on events:
<https://www.facebook.com/yoprodsnj/>

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Adam S. Kaminer, President
1415 Marlton Pike East, Suites 501 & 510, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

SHARING OUR LIVES (AS OF MARCH 19)

BIRTHS:

Anna & Adam Kripitz on the birth of their son, Leo Isaak Kripitz
Bobbie & Steve Wenick on the birth of their great granddaughter, Hallel

B'NAI MITZVAH:

Alisha & Anthony Bellezza on the B'nai Mitzvah of their sons, Jason & Matthew
Sara & Richard Botoff on the B'nai Mitzvah of their grandsons, Jason & Matthew Bellezza
Frances Eisenberg on the B'nai Mitzvah of her great grandsons, Jason & Matthew Bellezza
Lauren Neff & Marc Neff on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Andrew
Marleen & Brent Schwartz on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Elyse
Myrna & Jeffrey Sorokin on the Bat Mitzvah of their grandson, Andrew Neff
Elisa & Richard Weitzman on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Halle
Mimi & Harold Weitzman on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Leo Schown

ENGAGEMENTS & MARRIAGES:

Barbara & Steven Davidoff on the engagement of their son, Brett, to Michelle Ritterman
Cheryl & Alan Finkelstein on the engagement of their daughter, Jillian, to David Brownstein.
Evelyne & Arthur Freiman and the late Erna & Harold Bratt on the engagement of their granddaughter,
Molly Sauer, to Dino Neral
Amanda Goldich & Adam Kaminer on their engagement
Sandra & Arnold Kaminer on the engagement of their son, Adam, to Amanda Goldich
Sherry & Stuart Sauer on the engagement of their daughter, Molly, to Dino Neral

BETH EL MOURNS the passing of:

Oren Klein, son-in-law of Iris & Steven Auerbach
Andrea Breslow, stepmother of Brett Breslow
Raisa Drigant, mother of Jenny Boroda
Robert Frischman, brother of Betsy Fischer
Alan Miller, brother of Debbie Morowitz

IN MEMORIAM OF OUR MEMBERS

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Henry Becker

Husband of May

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Terry Herskovits

Mother of Judith Wizmur

**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*

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

Samantha Whitney

May 5

Daniel Sorokin

June 9

Andrew Meltzer

May 12

Harry Turner

June 16

Jenna Serotta

May 26

Ilana Chase

June 16

Ava Schneiberg

May 26

Rivka Back

June 23

Raquel Sloves

June 2



Rivka Mikki Etta Back

Daughter of Leanne & Steven Back

Sister of Ne-eman Hunter

Granddaughter of Mona & Carl Back and Nancy & Peter Finn

Mitzvah Project:

Help raise money to help provide service dogs for people in need through Merlin's Kids



Jenna Allison Serotta

Daughter of Linda & Judd Serotta

Sister of Paul, Jonah, and Maya

Granddaughter of Carol & Howard Serotta and Carmela & Thomas Albers

Mitzvah Projects:

Volunteered at Philadelphia Girls Choir, 5-k at Eden Autism Services, and collected winter coats for Trenton public school children



Raquel Ava Sloves

Daughter of Juli & Glenn Sloves

Sister of Sophia and Benjamin

Granddaughter of Sheila & Samuel Mandel

Mitzvah Projects:

Shabbat with Seniors program and contributed to Women of the Wall



Daniel Sorokin

Son of Michelle & Evan Sorokin

Brother of Ashleigh and Steven

Grandson of Myrna & Jeffrey Sorokin

Mitzvah Project:

Raised money for relief in Texas and Florida after Hurricane Harvey and collected toys for Holton's Heroes for the children at CHOP



Harry Jay Turner

Son of Ellen & Ken Turner

Brother of Lily

Grandson of Bryna Klein and Shellie & Jack Turner

Mitzvah Project:
JFCS Food Pantry



Samantha Whitney

Daughter of Julie & Jason Whitney

Sister of Justin and Tyler

Granddaughter of Irene & Michael Sherman and Cheryl Whitney
Great-granddaughter of Flo Golberg

Mitzvah Projects: Donating money to Operation Smile and My Fairy Godmother - collecting and distributing prom dresses to girls who can't afford them



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WELCOME TO THE BETH EL FAMILY!



Lisa Melroy, Controller

Lisa is a senior level finance and accounting professional with strong leadership, team management as well as project and program management experience. Prior to joining Beth El, Lisa served as Director of Accounting at American Bible Society and Executive Director of Holy Cross Academy with the Diocese of Trenton. Early in her career, Lisa spent over 17 years in the corporate world as a Controller in both the insurance and banking industries. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from Rowan University and has held her Certified Public Accounting license in the State of New Jersey since 1998.

Contact: lmelroy@bethelsnj.org



Ayelet Mittelman, Assistant ECC Director

Ayelet comes to us with over twenty years of administrative and office support experience. Ayelet has demonstrated a record of excellence with marketing and customer service. Her knowledge of technology will help promote all of our wonderful students, families, teachers, and events on social media. She has a great understanding of teamwork, and her work ethic is strong.

You may know Ayelet as part of our ECC family already. Her daughter is Maya and her husband is Matt.

Contact: Amittelman@bethelsnj.org



Open to the
Community

Make a Splash at Congregation Beth El's CAMP KAITANA!

State of the art SPLASH PAD;
the first in the area and a safe and fun
alternative to a pool for young children.

JUNE 18 - AUGUST 10, 2018

- Run by our experienced and nurturing ECC staff
- For ages 2 through 6



For more information and pricing contact
Debbie Beideman, ECC Director
dbeideman@bethelsnj.org or
856.675.1166 x. 420

8000 Main Street, Voorhees, NJ 08043 | www.bethelsnj.org

Larry Abrams

For anyone who has had children in Religious School or Junior Congregation, Larry Abrams is a familiar face. Larry has taught in our Religious School for 12 years. During this time, he got to interact with bright kids, all of whom grew up in homes filled with books and printed material. In contrast, too many students in Lindenwold, the district where he teaches, had very little of this, and it showed in their speaking, reading, and writing. Larry thought for a long time about how to best level the playing field. Maybe collecting and giving books to babies and little kids could help!

About three years ago, Rabbi Krupnick came to a Men's Club meeting and challenged the men to be more involved in social action. This inspired Larry to put the word out to Beth El Religious School families to donate books for the underserved kids in his school district. Our congregants quickly answered the call by filling the collection bins! Thus, BookSmiles was born.

BookSmiles has collected over 40,000 gently-used children's books and they're just getting started. BookSmiles now has many sources, with an average of 5,000 books streaming in each month. They give the books away to students who never get taken to Barnes and Noble; rarely, do these kids get books as gifts. This connects to BookSmiles' mission to improve literacy by enabling all children to build their own libraries. Larry believes, "every child deserves a library... to own a hundred books in America should not be a privilege."

Larry's incredible passion for this program is part of the reason why BookSmiles has become so successful. His energy and enthusiasm has caught on to our B'nai Mitzvah students, who have collected books on Larry's behalf for their Mitzvah Projects. To Larry, "the best part of the program is to actually put smiles on kids' faces by giving them quality books! The other great thing about the program is to know that we're planting seeds. Kids who grow up surrounded by books are much more likely to become successful in school."

Please check out BookSmiles at <https://www.booksmiles.org/> and consider donating books, money, or time to help spread literacy in South Jersey.



Thank you so much to our generous Community Partners:

Comprehensive Pain Care Forman Family Foundation



MARVIN SAMSON FOUNDATION
Striving to Make Hope a Reality



The Community Partnership Program has been designed to connect local businesses to Beth El in an effort to raise funds on an annual basis.

Beth El has been connected to Camden County and more specifically the Cherry Hill and Voorhees area for nearly 100 years. Children start their education in our Early Childhood Center and continue on through our Religious School. Adults enrich their lives in our educational and cultural programs, and our community worships and celebrates together.

We pride ourselves on providing assistance to those in need.

By supporting Beth El, you are assuring the Jewish future of our area and sustaining an organization that is committed to supporting those in need.

Thank you for your consideration of this exciting new program. We look forward to your support.

If you are interested in being part of the Beth El Community Partnership Program, please contact Josh Laster at jlaster@bethelsnj.org or 856-675-1166.



Have you ever wondered how everything at your child's school gets done? In over 20 years in the field of Jewish Education I have learned that it takes a village to put together the ins and outs of a school in addition to providing our students with a quality Jewish education. It would take pages to list every single person involved in coordinating every detail of the Beth El Religious School. From the office staff, maintenance staff, to the faculty, without everyone working together, our school would not be the amazing educational institution that it is today. The PTG (Parent Teacher Group) works tirelessly supporting the Religious School and Hebrew High School. This organization of parent volunteers supports our school, and without them we would not be able to produce the creative and innovative programs or be able to provide our teachers with materials that are used in our classrooms. Our PTG truly makes a difference and we thank each and every member and volunteer who has given their time to make BERS an amazing place!

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank three amazing women for their incredible hard work. I would like to first thank Marla Glauser and Debra Kelberg. When I arrived two years ago (wow-two years have flown by!), Marla and Deb were the PTG co-chairs. Debra finished her term last year and Marla finished her term just a few days ago. These two amazing women have been an incredible support to me and the entire school, and I want to publicly thank them for their dedication in making sure our students receive the best possible Jewish education possible. We will miss you, but I know you are not that far away.

I would also like to thank Sarah Donsky, our educational administrator, who has been my right hand gal for the past two years. Sarah has been a staple here at Congregation Beth El for the past 27 years and will be leaving the Beth El community this summer. Sarah made my transition to Beth El seamless and I thank her for her support, dedication, and most of all her friendship. Sarah will be missed but we know that she will always be part of our Beth El Family. We wish her much success in her new endeavor.

Although we are saying farewell to some, we welcome new volunteers. I am thrilled to welcome as our incoming PTG co-chairs, Brandi Seltzer and Shari Shapiro. I know Brandi and Shari will welcome your help and if you would like to become involved in our school programming, please email them at bersptg@bethelsnj.org.

Tradition teaches us, "Lo alecha hamlacha ligmor," "It's not our job to finish the work..." The work of the PTG is ongoing and we need you. Come join us and become involved. We would love to have you! Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing everyone back in the fall!

V is for the valiant efforts you show each day
O is for the organization that you display
L is for the love you share with each child
U is for the understanding in your smile
N is for the need we have for your ability
T is for the talents that we all like to see
E is for everything you give to us
E is for everybody that thinks you're fabulous
R is for a reminder to come back next year because we would be lost without all of you here!





Since our last edition we have had our Wacky Science Assembly, Tales of a Giant Cookie Event, Tu B'shevat Seder, Magician Assembly, Kindergarten Open House, Purim Carnival and Parade, Dr. Seuss Day, Prayers, Pizza, and Pajamas, Betsy Fisher Groove Lounge, Matzah Factory, Passover Seder, and Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebration.



We are busy planning for our Summer Camp. Camp Kaitana 2018 is also open to the outside community. As our best ambassadors, if you have any friends that are looking for a fun and exciting summer program for their children, please tell them about Camp Kaitana and bring them along! As a token of appreciation, we will deduct \$25 from your camp tuition for every new family that registers.

Our experienced and nurturing staff who have worked throughout the school year at Beth El, will continue to be a familiar presence for your child transitioning to summer camp. They will encourage and guide campers through a range of activities including arts and crafts, cooking, sports, games, music and Jewish Enrichment. Younger campers will participate in Itsy Bitsy Creative Movement Classes and older campers will have fun learning the basics of different sports in Kick 'n' Flips Funtastic Fitness. All of our campers will enjoy water play on our Splash Pad! All of these activities will be incorporated into weekly themes such as Rock Stars, Buggin Out, Little Scientists, and Once Upon A Time Week. Spirit Days such as Disney Day, Luau, Crazy Hat Day, and Rainbow Day will provide campers with a fun and silly way to show

their Camp Kaitana pride. Each theme will be further enhanced by weekly special events and entertainment for our camper's enjoyment. We will say good-bye to summer and wrap up our camp festivities with a Camp Show that we are sure you will enjoy.

Summer camp will run from June 18 - August 10 this year. We will offer a multi-age week during the week of June 18 for those campers who will be attending other camps. We will also be offering Extended Summer weeks running from August 13- August 28. (Please note that the school will be closed on Wednesday, August 29, Thursday, August 30 and Friday, August 31 for Teacher Training In-Service Days).

If your child is not coming to Beth El for the summer but they are going to one of the area camps that offers busing, you can still drop your child off at Beth El and the camps can pick them up from here. We will keep them busy with games and craft activities either before or after camp and give you the convenience of full-day childcare, even in the summer. Please contact me for pricing. Make sure that you notify the camps of your choice for pick up and drop off.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our summer camp. We are looking forward to your child joining us for an enriching and positive camp experience here at Beth El's Camp Kaitana.

Shabbat birthdays, Bagel Wednesdays, and Pizza Fridays are fun days and if you need any forms please check on my table or ask me.

Important Dates:

May 4 Prayers, Pizza, and Pajamas
May 21 ECC Closed Shavuot
May 28 ECC Closed Memorial Day
May 30 Dance Recital
June 8 Prayers, Pizza, and Pajamas
June 14 Kindergarten Graduation
June 15 Last Day of School
June 18 First Day of Summer Camp

Please encourage your friends to register for Summer Camp and Fall and join our Beth El Family!



The inaugural winner of the Association of Jewish Libraries Jewish Fiction Award is ***The Weight of Ink***, by Rachel Kadish. I wrote about this terrific novel in a recent column, and had the honor of meeting the wonderfully talented author at our community's Festival of Arts, Books and Culture last

November, when she shared insights about her life and her writing. ***The Weight of Ink*** has history, suspense, memorable characters – in short, all the elements of a must-read. This is such a satisfying book --give it a try and see if you agree!

The Association of Jewish Libraries Award committee also recognized two honor books, one of which is ***Nine Folds Make a Paper Swan***, by Ruth Gilligan. I am especially pleased to see this book receive recognition, as it has otherwise not received the attention it deserves. There are three strands to this novel: one is about the experience of a young girl and her family who emigrate from Eastern Europe and end up in Ireland, the second is about a boy who is mute and forced to live in an institution, and the third is about a woman who is considering conversion to Judaism. Each story is compelling, and the deeply affecting ending brings the three strands together. Gilligan's style is impressively creative; this is not the easiest read, but it is so rewarding.

Both ***The Weight of Ink*** and ***Nine Folds Make a Paper Swan*** are on the library's fiction shelves. Can't make it in to borrow these or other books during library hours? Call the library (675-1166, ext. 503) to arrange a convenient pickup time.

As summer approaches, we look forward to easier schedules and more free time to enjoy ourselves with good books. Here are the books the library received this year – if you take a moment now to clip/print and save the list, you will have ideas for your summer reading:

- Albanese, L.: ***Stolen Beauty***
- Ball, B.: ***What to Do About the Solomons***
- Blume, D.: ***Botticelli's Muse***
- Cantor, J.: ***The Lost Letter***
- Carter, B.: ***We Were Strangers Once***

- Cohen, J.: ***After the Fall***
- Craig, C.: ***Miss Burma***
- Englander, N.: ***Dinner at the Center of the Earth***
- Fishbeyn, A.: ***The Matrimonial Flirtations of Emma Kaulfield***
- Goodman, A.: ***The Chalk Artist***
- Kadish, R.: ***The Weight of Ink***
- Korelitz, J.: ***The Devil and Webster***
- Krauss, N.: ***Forest Dark***
- Lemberger, M.: ***After Abel***
- Morrow, B.: ***The Prague Sonata***
- Murphy, D.: ***The Boat Runner***
- Patt, A., ed.: ***The New Diaspora, the Changing Landscape of American Jewish Fiction***
- Rosenfeld, D.: ***The Worlds We Think We Know, Stories***
- Segal, F.: ***The Awkward Age***
- Shankman, H.: ***They Were Like Family to Me, Stories***
- Silber, A.: ***After Anatevka***
- Silva, D.: ***House of Spies***
- Singer, J.: ***In the Shadow of Alabama***
- Sullivan, M.: ***Beneath a Scarlet Sky***
- Taitz, S.: ***Great With Child***
- Weil, J.: ***The Age of Perpetual Light, Stories***
- Zevin, G.: ***Young Jane Young***

The Library's **Short Story Discussion Group** will meet on **Thursday, May 24, 1:30 – 3:00 PM** in the Conference Room. This is our last session for this year; we will reconvene in the fall. Even if you haven't attended before, you are welcome to join us! For more information, call the library (675-1166, ext. 503)

Join Us For A Fun And Festive Evening For All!

A Taste of **Shavuot**

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018
at **Congregation Beth El**

Our Beth El Clergy invite you to join in our Shavuot services followed by a meaningful Tikun. An evening of celebration and inspiration for all.

8:00 PM – Mincha

8:30 PM – Food For Thought with Helene Krupnick
exploring how the Torah influences our “Smart Eating” choices

9:00 PM – Maariv and Havdallah
followed by a festive dairy buffet for all

9:15 PM – Hands-on cooking demonstration
with Sur La Table Chef Jerzy

Late Night Torah Talk with Rabbi Green
Manna, the Forbidden Fruit, Eating, and Guilt



Invite your friends, everyone is welcome!



For more information contact Tamar Barkan at
tbarkan@bethelsnj.org or 856.675.1166 x. 418

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Congregation Beth El's First Annual

Golf Outing!

AT WOODCREST COUNTRY CLUB

CHERRY HILL, NJ

THURSDAY, JULY 12

ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL ENJOY GOLF, BOXED LUNCH, COCKTAIL HOUR AND DINNER BUFFET



INDIVIDUAL GOLFER \$375



TEAM SPONSORS STARTING AT \$1,800



EACH TEAM WILL CONSIST OF FOUR GOLFERS

COMMITTEE: BEN LEVIN - EVENT CHAIR, JD ABRAMS, JEFF BROWN, ADAM KAMINER, DON MELTZER, STAN MELTZER, LYNN GOLDMAN PAUL, STEVE SCHWARTZ, AND GARY SHAPIRO

REGISTER AT [HTTPS://BETHELSNJ.ORG/GOLF-OUTING/](https://bethelsnj.org/golf-outing/)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

RESPONSES AND PAYMENT DUE BY JULY 2

For information,

contact Tamar Barkan tbarkan@bethelsnj.org 856-675-1166 ext 418



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
APRIL 29 9:00AM 7:50PM	APRIL 30 7:15AM 7:50PM	MAY 1 7:30AM 7:50PM	MAY 2 7:30AM 7:50PM	MAY 3 LAG B'OMER 7:15AM 6:00PM MINCHA 9:00PM MA'ARIV	MAY 4 7:30AM 6:00PM CELEBRATION SHABBAT 7:39PM	MAY 5 EMOR 9:00AM 7:45PM
6 9:00AM 7:55PM	7 7:15AM 7:55PM	8 7:15AM 7:55PM	9 7:15AM 7:55PM	10 7:15AM 7:55PM	11 9:00AM 6:00PM 7:46PM	12 BEHAR- BECHUKOTAI 9:00AM 7:50PM
13 MOTHER'S DAY YOM YERUSHALAYIM 8:30AM 8:05PM	14 7:15AM 8:05PM	15 ROSH CHODESH 7:15AM 8:05PM	16 7:30AM 8:05PM	17 7:15AM 8:05PM	18 7:30AM 6:00PM 7:53PM	19 BAMIDBAR EREV SHAVUOT 9:00AM 8:00PM
20 SHAVUOT 9:00AM 7:00PM YIZKOR 8:55PM	21 SHAVUOT 9:00AM YIZKOR 8:10PM	22 7:30AM 8:10PM	23 7:30AM 8:10PM	24 7:15AM 8:10PM	25 7:30AM 6:00PM 7:59PM	26 NASO 9:00AM 8:05PM
27 8:30AM 8:15PM	28 MEMORIAL DAY 8:30AM 8:15PM	29 7:30AM 8:15PM	30 7:30AM 8:15PM	31 7:15AM 8:15PM	JUNE 1 7:30AM 6:00PM CELEBRATION SHABBAT 8:04PM	JUNE 2 BEHA'ALOTECHA 9:00AM 8:10PM

NOTES:

- 1 - Last Day of Hebrew High
- 1 - Sing Hallelujah Concert at Kimmel Center - 8PM
- 3 - Unity in the Community Concert - 7PM
- 4 - Prayers, Pizza, and Pajamas - 5:30PM
- 6 - Religious School End of Year BBQ - 11AM
- 8 - Sisterhood Dine & Study - 7PM
- 10 - CoLeL Jewish Philadelphia Walking Tour - 10AM
- 15 - Red Cross Blood Drive - 2PM
- 15 - Sisterhood Rosh Chodesh - 7PM

- 17 - Sisterhood Challah Bake - 7PM
- 17 - High School Senior Send Off - 7:30PM
- 18 - YFG Shabbat in the Park
- 18 - Singles Shabbat - 8PM
- 19 - A Taste of Shavuot - 8PM
- 21 - ECC Closed
- 23 - Last Day of Religious School
- 24 - Library Short Story Discussion Group - 1:30PM
- 28 - ECC Closed
- 30 - Men's Club Torah on Tap - 8PM

SHACHARIT

MINCHA/MA'ARIV

CANDLE LIGHTING

HOLIDAY / SPECIAL

EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MAY 27 8:30AM 8:15PM	MAY 28 MEMORIAL DAY 8:30AM 8:15PM	MAY 29 7:30AM 8:15PM	MAY 30 7:30AM 8:15PM	MAY 31 7:15AM 8:15PM	JUNE 1 7:30AM 6:00PM <i>CELEBRATION SHABBAT</i>	JUNE 2 BEHA'ALOTECHA 9:00AM 8:10PM
3 8:30AM 8:20PM	4 7:15AM 8:20PM	5 7:30AM 8:20PM	6 7:30AM 8:20PM	7 7:15AM 8:20PM	8 9:00AM 6:00PM 8:09PM	9 SHELACH 9:00AM 8:10PM
10 8:30AM 8:25PM	11 7:15AM 8:25PM	12 7:30AM 8:25PM	13 ROSH CHODESH 7:15AM 8:25PM	14 ROSH CHODESH 7:15AM 8:25PM	15 7:30AM 6:00PM	16 KORACH 9:00AM 8:15PM 8:54PM
17 FATHER'S DAY 8:30AM 8:30PM	18 7:15AM 8:30PM	19 7:30AM 8:30PM	20 7:30AM 8:30PM	21 7:15AM 8:30PM	22 7:30AM 6:00PM	23 CHUKAT 9:00AM 8:15PM
24 8:30AM 8:30PM	25 7:15AM 8:30PM	26 7:30AM 8:30PM	27 7:30AM 8:30PM	28 7:15AM 8:30PM	29 7:30AM 6:00PM 8:14PM	30 BALAK 9:00AM 7:35PM

NOTES:

- 1 - YFG Closing Event
- 3 - Men's Club Breakfast & Speaker - 9:45AM
- 5 - Sisterhood End of Year Event - 6:45PM
- 7 - Habonim End of Year BBQ - 6PM

- 8 - Prayers, Pizza, and Pajamas - 5:30PM
- 15 - Singles Shabbat - 8PM

Men's Club



Larry Hanover, President
hanovers4@comcast.net

I've had many gratifying experiences as president of Men's Club, but none more than seeing so many new individuals not only regularly attending our events but rising into leadership roles.

In fact, given that I am writing this several weeks ahead of time, by the time this Beth El News reaches your mailbox, I will have just concluded my two-year term and, as of May 1, handed off the reins to one of those new faces, Adam Weissman.

Adam brings terrific energy, enthusiasm and knowhow and will do a tremendous job heading up Men's Club. He and wife Amanda came to Beth El only five years ago, but their love for the congregation has translated into a burst of activity, particularly in running the highly successful Shalach Manot program. Adam also put together our inaugural Simchat Torah Brew and Bottle Your Own Beer event and has helped aplenty with the Young Families Group, including with their successful Yard Sale. I know you join me in wishing Adam the best of success.

But he is not alone. For the first time in several years, I'm gratified to say, instead of having only two formal board positions – president and treasurer – as of this month, we have several men who have stepped up to fill slots, including multiple vice presidents and event chairmen.

I want to take the opportunity to thank the awesome men who have supported me through my term. Along with treasurer Mike Glass, they are: Larry Abrams, Bill Baranoff, Andy Bender, Jonathan Bennett, Stephen Boro, Jerry Bralow, Henry David, Bruce DuBoff, Craig Kessler, Rob Kolmins, Marty Rosenthal, Jeff Rutberg, Gary Shapiro, Marc Shenker, Bruce Tomar, and Yoel Weiss.

We're not done yet even though summer is near. We'll be barbecuing for Religious School on Sunday, May 6 and headed to a Philadelphia Soul arena football game with YFG for Jewish Heritage Day on Sunday, June 10. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sisterhood



Barbara Sharofsky, President
bsharofsky@gmail.com

Where has the time gone?? Spring is here, and we're still very busy! Thank you to all of you, especially the Board of Beth El Sisterhood, for making this first year as President so wonderful.

First, we all want to thank Amanda and Adam Weissman for all of their hard work to make our Shalach Manot project such a success. This was the second year that this dynamic duo has taken the helm, and we couldn't be more grateful for all of their hard work.

Our Rosh Chodesh program continues. Please stay tuned to your email for information about our final Rosh Chodesh Program (May 15). As always, we are so thankful to Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro and Charlene Green for their thoughtfulness and spiritual guidance at our Rosh Chodesh events.

We were fortunate to spend an evening with Neshama Carlebach on March 19, who shared her life experiences and some music. It was a warm and spiritual evening for all.

March Madness Co-Ed Challah Bake had a great turnout. Special thanks to Debbie Feinstein for chairing this program and making sure we have everything we need to create challah!

Our Party Showcase, on March 18, was a huge success....and so much fun! Thank you to Sharon Mindel, Renee Kessler and Laurie Grossman for chairing this fabulous event!!

Upcoming Events:

May		
	3	Unity in the Community Concert with Neshama Carlebach
	6	Mid-Atlantic Women's League Spring Conference at Beth El
	8	Dine and Study with Rabbi Krupnick
	10	Challah Bake
	15	Rosh Chodesh: It's a Woman's Thing
June	4	Closing Event

Come join Beth El Sisterhood and be inspired to be the best you!
Have a Fabulous Summer!!!

Habonim



Judy Simkin, President
lensim@comcast.net

If you are an EMPTY NESTER then Habonim is for YOU! There are no age restrictions or dues. The only requirement is that you are an empty nester and would like to stay connected to Beth El.

It has been a long cold winter and we are finally looking forward to spring and some warmer weather. We trust that you had a wonderful Passover holiday sharing the exodus experience with family and friends.

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, June 7, 6-8pm, and come out for our annual BBQ. The food is delicious, the company is great and the outdoor garden will sure to be in bloom. More information to follow.

If you would like to be included on our e-mail list please contact Barbara Brodack at bbrodack@comcast.net. We would love to keep you up to date on all of our events.

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 Chapel.

Oneg following services.

Join us!

May 18 ♥ June 15

Contact Norma Kamis:

(856) 662-7916 or normatrack@verizon.net

NIHUM AVELIM

Again, I want to thank the list of congregants who are at the ready when we need to fill a minyan at a shiva house. Although we have not needed your services recently, it is comforting to know you are available!

FRIENDS, if you know anyone who is ill and would appreciate a call, during their convalescence, please let me know.

Marsha Goodman
215.206.5182
Margood1941@gmail.com

Young Families' Group



Nikki Cohen, President
nicolecohen24@gmail.com

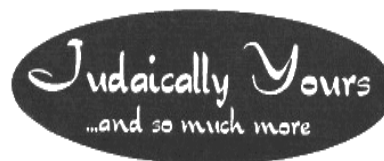
Finally, it is spring time!! I don't know about you, but I cannot wait to get outside on the playground and the sports fields with the kids! Now is also a great time to start planning our outdoor family activities.

Over the winter, YFG held a great Family Bingo event right as Religious School let out on a cold Sunday afternoon and we had so much fun! Lunch was served, great prizes were won, and everyone had a good time! We had some new families in attendance which was fabulous; so great to get to know everyone!!

We are gearing up for our Shabbat in the Park on May 18! This a pop up, bring your own dish or dessert, kind of event. It is not catered and we won't be ordering food to be delivered. Instead, YFG families will come together in the park and with the help of every family who attends, we will create a dinner for all to share and enjoy together on Shabbat. Keep an eye out for the flyer and more info to come!

As always, if you are interested in becoming more involved in the YFG, do not hesitate to reach out to me!

Happy Spring, see you all in the park!



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USY



Ari Kantor, President
 arikantor@comcast.net

Another day, another dollar; and as far as May 6 is concerned, that dollar is aimed towards the USY Tikun Olam Fund. In addition to fun programming, religious education, and Israel awareness, the hallmarks of USY include social action and tikun olam. The concept of tikun olam actually has its place in all services throughout the day, from Shacharit to Ma'ariv, in Aleinu. Found in the second paragraph with slightly varied vowels, tikun olam is used to describe Gd "perfecting earth." And while perfection isn't exactly a modest goal for any of us, that doesn't deter us from trying to make the world look a little more like it with every act of tzedakah.

The BEVUSY chapter extends an invitation to everyone in the community with a car to drive it down to Beth El on May 6 during Religious School and see how much closer their vehicle can get to perfection. Local USYers will be hosing and scrubbing your cars for \$5, which will collectively be allocated to the Tikvah Programs of Camp Ramah, in their mission to give every special needs camper the optimum Jewish summer camp experience, and to fundraising future USY events, where Beth El's teens will gather and ready for the next SA/TO program. We hope to see you there!

Unfortunately, in just a few months, my wonderful USY/Kadima experience will reach the end of its six year journey. It is too difficult to describe the impact that USY has had on my life, so I urge all Jewish teens to experience what USY has to offer for themselves and beat me to an eloquent, heartfelt catharsis. However, it is much more difficult for me to hold my head down on my way out, knowing that the BEVUSY chapter has its brilliant new Youth Director, Alicia Drozen, to look after it along with its outstanding board members including Harris Jayson, Rebecca Raush, Ben Sloves, and Julia Orel.

Although we are still months away from next year's opening event, Alicia and the board are already hard at work at getting a myriad of fun, enriching programs ready for next year's eager Jewish teens.



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ATTENTION COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS & PARENTS!

BETH EL'S COLLEGE CONNECTION COMMITTEE COMPLETED THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR PROJECT WITH THE PURIM PACKAGE

Thank you to all the volunteers* that helped to keep our Beth El college students connected to their synagogue and Jewish community by assisting with the packaging of over 330 boxes that were mailed this 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
- Student Mailing Address
- Parents' Name, E-mail Address, and Phone Number

ALL ADDRESSES MUST BE UPDATED ANNUALLY. PLEASE SUBMIT STUDENT'S ADDRESS EVEN IF PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED.

Deadline to submit information for the first package is Tuesday, August 21

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

*VOLUNTEERS: Gloria & Ira Back, Lynne Besen, Helene Blumenfeld, Natalie Clayman, Sharon Deutsch, Brenda Driben, Sherry DuBoff, Barbara Frantz, Marsha Goodman, Debbie Hochberg, Renee Kessler, Janet Kushner, Ann Miller, Alice Mohr, Hedda Morton, Illene Rubin, Karen Schlessel, Barbara Wilen, Risa Wittman, and Eileen Yaffa

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 Beth El office at 856-675-1166

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LANDS' END



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QUESTIONS? CONTACT SHIRLEY

YAFFA AT 856-675-1166 OR

SYAFFA@BETHELSNJ.ORG

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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 ___ Charitable Gift Annuities ___ Charitable Remainder Trust ___ Immediate Gift of Cash or Appreciated Assets ___

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

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Questions? Call Debbie Drachman at 856 -719-9485

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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 \$600.

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

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To all who remembered us
with Purim greetings

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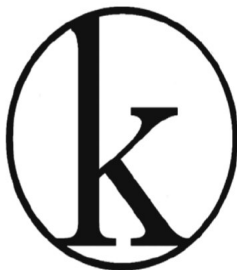
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