

January / February 2015



Please Join Us On Saturday, January 10, 2015 for Congregation Beth El Men's Club and Sisterhood

ART AUCTION

ARTWORK PROVIDED BY: MARLIN

PREVIEW AT 7 PM · AUCTION AT 8 PM

Admission Prices: \$15 per person/\$10 for seniors

DOOR PRIZE • WINE & CHEESE HORS D'OUVRES • DESSERT & COFFEE

Major Credit Cards Accepted Featuring Art In All Media & Price Ranges Isabel Simon Memorial Scholar in Residence Program

Featuring: Rahel Musleah

February 6 - 7



1st Friday Dinner and Program (Vegetarian Indian Cuisine)

5:45PM Service 6:30PM Dinner

Jewish Calcutta through Music and Memory

A fascinating personal story mirrors the story of Calcutta's Jews with humor, poignancy and song

Shabbat Morning

From Shipwrecks to Maharajas:

The Jews of Bombay and Cochin Questions & Answers at Kiddush Luncheon

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We are frequently reminded about the advantages of being part of a large Congregation. As President I looked forward to working with and learning from our Rabbi and Hazzan. However, there are so many other learned members and teachers associated with our Congregation.

One such teacher who I have had the good fortune of working with is our Educational Director, Yaffa Fuchs. Recently, Yaffa and I were discussing an issue and in order to further explain her view she quoted the Talmud. Not only was the quote impressive, it was very effective to prove her point and to teach to me an important lesson in life and leadership. Please allow me to share.

Basically, Yaffa was explaining to me that simply because someone is in a position of authority, such as a teacher, a manager or yes, even a synagogue President, this does not justify using authority to embarrass or belittle. Many times we are tempted to prove we are correct by showing another's flaws. And yes,

it is very tempting. Yaffa quoted Rashi who explained that insulting someone and embarrassing them is a kin to killing them. Although there is a mitzvah to giving constructive criticism, this mitzvah does not give one license to criticize the sinner in public, since the other will become embarrassed and ashen-faced. (Indeed, the term "mortification" in English refers to this phenomenon as well).

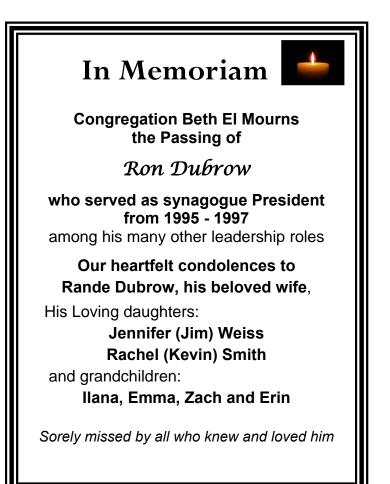
It is an honor to be President of our Congregation and as my term flies by (this is my next-to-last article as President), I will continue to try my best to promote our Congregation while incorporating all that I learn. With the recent lesson learned, I hope to improve. We are indeed a large and more importantly, an impressive Congregation. We are so fortunate to have so many talented and skilled professionals and I am always amazed by our scores of volunteers, many of whom who do so much simply because it is the right thing to do.

Finally, I want to thank our Congregation for stepping up and responding to our request to satisfy our mortgage in order to secure our legacy. And, I want to remind everyone that it is not too late to step up and make sure that we finish our job and satisfy our mortgage. Our goal is to reach \$7,000,000 to retire our mortgage and to allow us to provide even more educational and social programing and charitable work and with just a little more help we will get there. Please call our office to confirm your commitment or contact me if you need any information.



Cover: The Isabel Simon Memorial Scholar in Residence Program and Sisterhood & Men's Club Art Auction

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RABBI'S MESSAGE



Rabbi Aaron Krupnick The Bedrock of Jewish Life

"The sun sets, to rise again" – Robert Browning

It was the most cataclysmic event in Jewish history since slavery in Egypt. The Temple in Jerusalem had stood for nearly 500 years. It had taken only

fifty years to rebuild the Second Temple on the ruins of the one Solomon had built and this one stood for just as long as his. But, now it was gone. Standing by the shattered stones who could possibly fathom the number of sacrifices brought there by Jewish pilgrims from around the world? Who could possibly recall in all its complexity the awe and wonder that most sacred space evoked? And, now it was gone; reduced to rubble by the Romans. The year was 70 C.E.

But then, as if they were seeds blown by the wind after a heavy storm, small centers of Jewish worship took root throughout the known world. First in Israel and then gradually, scattered across North Africa, Southern Europe and the Middle East, groups of Jews banded together and founded their own centers of Jewish worship and learning. They built modest gathering places at first where the community could come together. They built them for the elderly who could still remember the Temple in all its splendor and they built them for themselves to maintain a sense of continuity. They built them to educate the next generation, their children, so that through study, they too could feel that sense of wonder and belonging and peoplehood, even without the magnificent Temple and all the sensory experiences that surrounded it. In time those communities prospered and they built larger and more ornate houses of study and worship and they took on the Greek word "synagogue" which means exactly that.

As years went by and those communities took root; more than one synagogue would sprout up in a town or a city, sometimes several in one place. The people of the synagogues came together to look out for one another, putting into action the values and ideals that they had learned within the walls of their on houses of study and worship. They started community centers and federations. They organized groups to look after the poor, the ailing and the marginalized. They founded hospitals and institutions of higher learning to take care of their own. The leaders of those efforts came, of course, from the synagogues that were the bedrock of Jewish life. The synagogues were what inspired those early builders of Jewish community. Those men and women were well aware of the fact that without their individual houses of worship and study none of the other, larger communal institutions could have ever come to be.

We, of course, are the direct descendants of those community builders. We too recognize that without strong synagogues none of those other, larger communal institutions would be possible, or even necessary. Synagogue is where the values and ideals, the morality and shared sense of purpose are instilled in each successive generation. It is in synagogues that the next generation is taught that they must take care of the elderly, the infirmed and the marginalized. It is in synagogues that a sense of communal responsibility is instilled. It is in synagogue that the stories of our People, dating back to Temple times and beyond, are told and retold with reverence and respect. It is in synagogue that the wonder and awe and sense of Gd's nearness can be felt as it was long ago.

Our synagogue continues to support and nurture and educate and inspire. This is the sacred work that we do together.



SPEEDY RECOVERY: Dr. Joe Hassman

B'NAI MITZOT:

Patricia Bourke on her Bat Mitzvah

Suzi & J.D. Abrams on the Bar Mitzvah on their son, Max

Kelly & Eric Shore on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Daniel Shore

Lisa & Marc Stofman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Samuel Stofman

Eleanor Stofman on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Samuel Stofman

Jennifer & Jeffrey Apell on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Joshua Apell

Evelyn Harris on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Max Abrams

Ilene & Michael Weinberg on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Matthew Weinberg

Alan & Cookie Weinberg on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Matthew Weinberg

Jane & Jeffrey Broder on the B'nai Mitvot of their children Madeline and Emma Broder

Jerold & Erica Rothkoff on the B'nai Mitvot of their sons, Gregory and Evan Rothkoff

Ruth & Alan Respler on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Hannah Silver

Edwin & Maxine Ladov on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Cory

ENGAGEMENTS / MARRIAGES:

June and Steve Eisner on the marriage of their daughter, Jodie, to Doug Apell

Lila Eisner on the marriage of her granddaughter, Jodie Eisner to Doug Apell

Hermie & Morty Mann on the marriage of their grandson, Eli Saline to Megan Moore

Rita & Alan Kagan on the engagement of their daughter, Laurie Kagan

BIRTHS:

Jeffrey & Rhonda Meltzer on the birth of a son, Jeremy Saul Mark & Ronni Reiner on the birth of a grandson, Bowie Nelson Lesser

Jay & Jeanette Adler on the birth of a grandson, Ryan Trey Adler

BETH EL MOURNS the passing of:

Helene Cooperman, mother of Ron Cooperman

Leonard Berman, husband of Estelle Berman

Jackie Herskowitz, mother of Jeffrey Herskowitz & Lisa Fox Joseph Horowitz, father of Alexis Ogen

Harriet Meltzer, wife of Donald Meltzer, mother of Michael, Mason & Alec Meltzer

Julia Mansfield, daughter of Herbert & Ethel Lubars, sister of Nancy Lubars

Ivan Gordon, husband of Susan, father of Meredith Becker

Ralph Shenker, father of Marc Shenker

Jeffrey Schwartz, brother of Rick Schwartz

LIFE AND LEGACY PROGRAM



Beth El was recently given the opportunity to participate in a charitable Endowment initiative under the auspices of the Jewish Community Foundation. The program is funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in order to foster an awareness of the importance of Endowments to the future of any charitable or religious organization. The Grinspoon Foundation offered an unrestricted \$5,000 grant, during each of the first two (2) years of the program, to any organization meeting certain criteria.

Assuring JEWISH TOMORROWS The Grinspoon Foundation challenged all of the participating organizations – and almost every Jewish organization in our area is participating – to obtain at least eighteen (18) Endowment commitments during each of the first two (2) years of the program. Our committee is pleased to advise you that **Beth El was the first** of the organizations involved to meet and surpass the Grinspoon Foundation challenge. **We have already qualified for the first of the \$5,000 grants** in less than half way through the first year of the program.

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.

* Anonymous
* Anonymous
* Anonymous
David & Susan Backal
Cathy & Marc Backal
Donna & Richard Bell
Pam and Bob Benedon
Jocelyn & Mark Borowsky
* Beth & Josh Brodkin
Amy & Eric Clayman
Fran & Neal Cupersmith
* Leila & Adam Cupersmith
June & Steven Eisner & Family
Myra & David Gutin

Our Life and Legacy Donors

- Deborah & Edward Hochberg Beth & Harvey Jacob Adam Kaminer * Amy & Barnard Kaplan Jerome Katz Alison & Andrew Keim Deborah Shore & Jonathan Korn Helene & Rabbi Aaron Krupnick * Michael Landsburg Leon & Fran Levy Victor & Suzanne Levy Judy & Don Love * Sheri Pecarsky (Jason) Lynn Goldman Paul
- * Arlene & Ed Plasky Harry & Hilary Platt Ilene Rosen & P. Todd Rowan Sharon & Adam Sackstein Karen & David Schlessel & Family * Harriet Schulman Gary & Faye Shapiro * Jennifer Sholder Glenn & Juli Mandel Sloves Lauren & Jonathan Soll Stuart & Judith Wasserlauf Jennifer & Jim Weiss * New participant

GOOD AND WELFARE

Dear Beth El Family,

In my role as Director of Community Life and Membership, I am always looking for ways to better service our Beth El community. To that end, I invite you to contact me if you become aware of a fellow Beth El member in need. Whether it be a meal, helping to organize a ride to a local Doctor or just a kind word of support from our clergy, we are here to help. Beth El is very fortunate to have some wonderful volunteers who have offered their time to assist where they can; I am here to help facilitate that help.

A heartfelt thank you for making Congregation Beth El your home.

Shari Techner Smith, Director Community Life and Membership <u>ssmith@bethelsnj.org</u> 856-675-1166 x 417 IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM The Beth El Family mourns the passing of Helene Cooperman

Beloved mother of Ron Cooperman

IN MEMORIAM

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Leonard Berman

Beloved husband of Estelle Berman

IN MEMORIAM

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Harriet Meltzer

Beloved wife of Donald Meltzer Mother of Michael, Mason & Alec Meltzer





I hope everyone is ready to start off 2015 with some fabulous events with Sisterhood! We do have a lot scheduled in the next few months so hopefully there will be something for you.

First I want to thank Ryna Alexander for chairing our Chocolate Tour at Michel Cluizel. What a delicious night that was! And a big Yasher Koach to Debra Kelberg, our Membership VP, for organizing our Paid-Up Membership dinner with guest speaker Allen Salkin from The Food Network. Boy, did we learn a lot of inside scoop on our favorite TV chefs. And lastly, a big thank you to our Torah Fund Chairs, Renee Rudolph and Debbie Drachman for helping with a beautiful Torah Fund brunch at TBS.

On Saturday evening, January 10th we will be joining forces with Men's Club to sponsor a spectacular Art Auction at Beth El, with artwork provided by Marlin Art Gallery. Doors open at 7pm for preview, with auction beginning at 8pm. Admission is just \$15 per person, \$10 for seniors, for a night out with wine, hors d'overs, desserts and lots of great art work and collectibles. All are invited.

Back by popular demand, on Wednesday, February 4th at 7pm, is our Tu B'Shvat Yoga night. This was incredible last year as we relaxed, stretched and renewed our bodies and refreshed our souls while we learned about nature and the new year for trees. Delicious Tu B'Shvat treats for all afterwards. Bring a yoga mat or towel and wear comfortable clothes.

On Saturday, February 14th we will be having Sisterhood Shabbat. This is a great morning in shul during which many of the Beth El women take a part in the service. A delicious Kiddush luncheon follows for all in attendance. Come support our women, learn what Sisterhood has been up to for the past year and see what Rabbi charges us with for the coming year.

February also brings one of our biggest fund-raisers, the mitzvah of Shalach Manot. The commandment of mishloach manot, giving gifts on Purim, comes from a verse in the Book of Esther after the Jewish people have been saved from annihilation, "They were to observe them as days of feasting and merrymaking, and as an occasion for sending gifts to one another and presents to the poor." (9:22) Please consider participating in the mitzvah of sending Shalach Manot through Beth El, and also consider helping with packing and delivering. We will be packing bags on February 22nd and delivering on Sunday March 1st.

Lastly, please mark your calendars and save the date for our Annual Party Showcase on Sunday March 22nd. And, also back by popular demand, our New York Trip with Hazzan will be on Sunday April 26th. More details to follow. And, don't forget about our weekly Wednesday morning minyan and breakfast discussion every Wednesday morning.

(continued on next column)



Best wishes for a happy, healthy 2015 to everyone. The past couple of months featured some great programs including Torah on Tap (now featuring Binyamin Stone) and the Man of the Year dinner, where we honored Rabbi Krupnick, (if you haven't seen our humorous video presentation, let me know and I can send you a link). We also had our annual bowling night and three amazing lecturers.

Our next board meeting will be Tuesday, January 13 at 7:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Torah on Tap will have sessions in both January and February so come on out to the Dubh Linn Pub and warm up with good spirits and great conversation!

On Saturday, January 10, Men's Club and Sisterhood will be hosting an Art Auction. The auction is a major fundraiser for us, which allows us to support the shul in many ways. You can show your support just by attending what we expect will be a fun evening.

On Sunday, February 1, we will hold the annual Phil Podell Memorial World Wide Wrap, with breakfast to follow after the shaharit service.

If anyone is interested in becoming more involved in Men's Club or has a good idea for programming, please send me an email or walk up to me in Beth El to tell me. We can always use more volunteers and more ideas. We can grow our Club and support our synagogue, but we need your help. Please join us.

I hope to see you soon.

Yoel Weiss - President

Sisterhood has meals available for congregants facing difficult times

Our Chesed freezer is fully stocked with individual and family sized meals that can be delivered.

Please contact Renee Kessler,

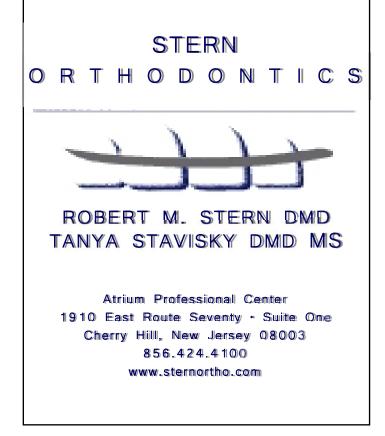
429-2258. Rbkess@comcast.net

(Sisterhood continued)

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of these great events. And, please bring a friend and help us spread the word about Sisterhood, a group of women of all ages and stages, coming together for friendship, learning, growing and giving. There is truly something for everyone and we hope you will give us a try. You won't regret it.

B'Shalom, Faye Shapiro, President

BE CLUBS





Social Action would like to thank the Beth El community for its support of our November food drive for Jewish Family and Children's Services. JFCS serves so many families in need in and around our community and our collection made a difference in the lives of many.

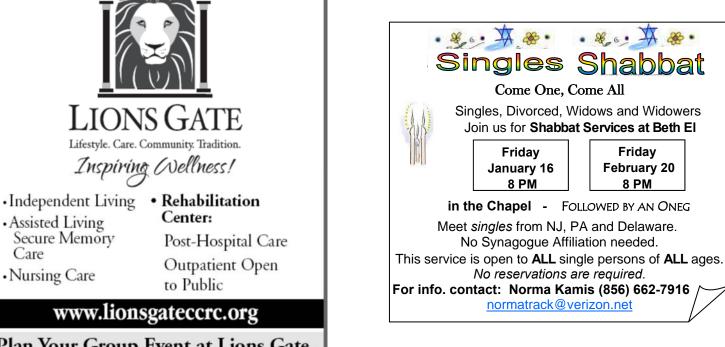
Also, thank you for your support in making our December partnership with JFCS a success. We helped to fulfill the specific holiday gift wishes of those in need. Our Early Childhood Center and Religious School supported this effort by providing Holiday presents from the JFCS clients' wish lists. We also collected Target Gift Cards to give to those recently affected by the Voorhees Hermitage Fire. Lastly, we collected toys, games and other holiday gifts to donate locally to children who would not otherwise have a present to open for the holidays.

For January, we will be collecting winter clothing for Frank's Place, A day shelter for the homeless in Camden.

In February, Social Action will be celebrating American Heart Month with a special project. Stay tuned for more details.

Please let us know if you would like to join the Social Action committee and/or if you have any ideas for collections or mitzvah projects.

Rachel Miller and Leah Wolf Social Action Co-Chairs



Plan Your Group Event at Lions Gate. Call 856-782-1200. ⊉

LIONS GAT

Assisted Living

Nursing Care

Care

Secure Memory

Center:



Beth El Kvells for our Community Leaders

Mazel Tov to Ilana Weiss on receiving the Justin Matthew Wolfe Teen Leadership Award recognizing her leadership and involvement in the community.

Mazel Tov to Valerie Linden being honored as our **synagogue nominee for the Federation Young Adult Division YAD award for Volunteerism**. Val will receive her award at a celebration gathering on February 28, 2015.



BETH EL WELCOMES BACK CONGREGANTS WHO RECENTLY RETURNED FROM ISRAEL

David Plaut Joan Cooper

If you have recently returned from a trip to Israel, please let our office know. Email Bhirn@bethelsnj.org

First Friday' s At Beth El



Join congregants & clergy for a monthly congregational Shabbat Experience.

An evening of Shabbat togetherness for all ages

First Friday of <u>EVERY</u> month. Open to All. For more information please contact Shari Smith at ssmith@bethelsnj.org

MAZAL TOV

Olivia Cohen

and Phoebe Cohen

Hebrew Names:

Yosefa Shird (Olivia) Pazia Mi'rea (Phoebe)

Daughters of:

Scott & Zina Cohen and Kandy Cohen

Alexis Cohen

Sisters of:

Granddaughters of:

Elaine Cohen and Ginny Fletcher

Torah Portion

Miketz * December 13, 2014

Olivia & Phoebe's Mitzvah/Tzedakah Project: HIAS Coat Drive



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856-235-2524 104 Kings Highway, Moorestown, NJ 08057 fax-856-722-9240 www.bmdvets.com



January **#BrandURLife:**

How to Incorporate Your Resume into Social Media

7:30pm - Tuesday, January 6 NO FEE; Open to the community

Pam Rosenberg presenting

Member of Congregation Beth El & President of Resumes4Life, a consulting company that empowers clients to better promote their brand through social media & professional resume.

1st Friday Family Service and Dinner

5:45pm Service - 6:30pm Dinner (Fees and RSVP's required) Friday, 1/9 (2015), 2/6, 3/6, 5/1, 6/5 Celebrate Shabbat with a multi-generational Family Service & Dinner. Enjoy an engaging discussion with our Clergy on a relevant topic.

Library Short Story Discussion Group

1:30pm - 3:00pm - Thursday, January 22, February 26 Amy Kaplan presenting

The Men's Club Breakfast & Speaker

9:45am: after Minvan: Social Hall C NO FEE, RSVP to Yoel Weiss Sunday, January 25

Shabbat Shirah (the Shabbat of Songs)

Saturday, January 31 - Main Sanctuary A special Shabbat Service with participation of all the Beth El Choirs



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Life happens. Let's talk about it.

February

The Phil Podell Memorial World Wide Wrap

9:00am - Sunday, February 1 (No fee)

Join Men's Clubs around the world for a "How To" service with Tallis and T'fillin for men, women & students. Grade 6 & up. Breakfast is included.

Services 101B

7:30 - 9:00pm; Tuesday, February 3 Rabbi Aaron Krupnick presenting The origin of the Siddur and its message for the modern reader.

Pirkei Avot: Timeless Wisdom for the Modern Age VII

The Journey Continues

12:00pm - Wednesday, February 4, 11, 18 FEE \$36.00 for the serices Rabbi Aaron Krupnick presenting

Sisterhood Tu B'Svat Yoga

7:00pm - Wednesday, February 4 Social Halls A & B

A relaxing evening of yoga while learning about the spirituality of Tu B'Shvat, the new year of the trees. Bring a towel or yoga mat & wear comfortable clothes. Light refreshments provided, corresponding to the symbolic fruits of Tu B'Shvat.

The Isabel Simon Memorial Scholar in Residence **Progrram featuring Rahel Musleah**

1st Friday Dinner & Program

5:45pm Service; 6:30pm Dinner

February 6 & 7

FEES & RSVP's required

Jewish Calcutta through Music and Memory A fascinating personal story mirrors the story of Calcutta's Jews with humor, poignancy & song.

> **Shabbat Morning** From Shipwrecks to Maharajas: The Jews of Bomba y and Cochin

Question & Answer session at Kiddush Luncheon

Sisterhood Shabbat

9:00am - Saturday, February 14 Main Sanctuary; NO FEE Shabbat of prayers, good food and spiritual growth.

Library Short Story Discussion Group

1:30pm - 3:00pm - Thursday, February 26 Amy Kaplan presenting

Mind, Body & Spirit

7:30pm - Thursday, February 26 Michael Epstein

The star of Season 3 Extreme Makeover shares his arduous journey back to health.

NEWS FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER Megan Nachod, Director

January and February are a quieter time of year in the ECC. Although we have special events planned throughout the upcoming months, it will be a few months before we gear up for more holidays and all of the learning that Purim and Pesach involve.

That doesn't mean that we give Tu B'Shevat short shrift, however. Even when it is cold and blustery outside, we'll still be celebrating the birthday of the trees and looking forward to the return of the blossoms that mark the start of Spring. We'll be sure to eat a variety of fruit that comes from trees when we hold our Tu B'Shevat Seder. Stay tuned for photos of our event!

We'll be celebrating International Food Day in January. Every class will spend time learning about a different part of the world before they prepare a dish from the region. They'll share their creation with the other children in a school-wide celebration.

Enrollment for the 2015-2016 school year begins in January and Beth El members and current ECC families have priority enrollment. We'll start enrolling in early January so be sure to contact us for information on the program. We have many options for your family, from child care hours from 6:45 AM-6 PM to part-day preschool hours and programming that lasts the whole year. Check out the website <u>www.bethelsnj.org</u> for more information on our program or give us a call at 856-675-1166, x 420 for more information on our program.



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Award Winning Family B'Yachad Programs in January/February:

Gimmel (3rd Grade) Family B'Yachad My Siddur

Sunday, January 11 @ 9:30AM

Third Graders and their parents will learn about the siddur, the prayer book that our children receive during their Chag Hasiddur and Consecration Service, Friday, March 13, 2015. They will also have an opportunity to create a special siddur cover for the

occasion. Each siddur cover will be unique with the child's Hebrew name on it including a design of their choosing. This year, parents will get an opportunity to dialoque with Rabbi Krupnick in a special session created just for them. Parents should make every effort of attending this pro-



gram with their child or make arrangements to have their child 'adopted' by another family.

"Shabbat in a Box" A Gan Family B'Yachad Program Sunday, January 25, 2015, 9:30AM

Special Component for parents with Rabbi Krupnick!



Our youngest children and their parents will have an opportunity to experience the 'Shabbat' feeling, learn the beautiful customs and traditions of Shabbat, create Shabbat heirlooms and have a blast, as they participate in our Gan Family B'Yachad, Shabbat in a Box Program. Families will spend the morning creating their own Shabbat Box, complete with chal-

lah, Kiddush cup, candle sticks and challah cover. They will get to braid and bake their own challah, learn the blessings associated with each mitzvah and have a great time circling through the many activities around the room. A big surprise finish is planned for the final activity. Stay tuned for more results, but whatever you do, DO NOT MISS this amazing Family B'Yachad Program.

Bet (2nd Grade) Family B'Yachad: Havdallah: Spice & Spirit Sunday, February 1, 2015



The Havdallah program gives our families an opportunity to learn the mitzvah and customs associated with Havdallah. They discover the reasons for the different components of the Havdallah service, learn the three blessings and create their own kit. A beautiful ceremo-



tuned for details.

ny closes the program. We expect all our parents to attend, but should you not be able to, please arrange for your child to be 'adopted' by another family.

Ma Nishtana: Journey through the four Questions, An Aleph (1st Grade) Family B'Yachad Program

Sunday, February 8, 2015

1st Graders and their parents will enjoy 'traveling' through the Four Questions as they learn about Pesach in a fun and interactive way. On the way they will learn to chant the Ma Nishtana, act out the story of Pesach. create attractive and useful art projects and prepare some Passover delicacies. Each station will have something to do with the theme of the program, 'Ma Nishtana".



Parents are to arrange to have their child "adopted" by another family should they not be able to attend.

Please Note: School for the children begins at 9:00 AM as usual. We hope you'll join us for this exciting program.

Phil Podell Memorial World Wide Wrap Sunday, February 1, 2015, 9:00AM - 10:00AM



Beth El families whose children are in Grades 6 - 10 will have an opportunity to participate in the biggest tefillin outreach program of the year, where the Federation of Jewish Men's Club will

try to have all Jews everywhere try to put on T'fillin, World Wide Wrap, Sunday, February 1, from 9 - 10:30AM, (http://

www.worldwidewrap.org/et05decwrap.html.) In conjunction with the B'nai Mitzvah Program, (Tallit & T'fillin) this program invites all families from 6–10 grade to come and learn about the mitzvah of putting on t'fillin and enjoy breakfast courtesy of Men's Club. All Religious School children in grade 6 whose parents attend the program, will be excused until 10:30AM.

Let's make this a real happening! Please join us on the 1st. This invite is for everyone, Hebrew High students, that means you too! Bring your tallit and t'fillin if you have one. If you don't, come anyway! We'll share!

Kitta Hey to Visit the National Museum of American Jewish History, Philadelphia, PA. Sunday, February 1, 2015

A very exciting hands-on and interactive program is planned for 5th Grade. They will be visiting the National Museum of American Jewish History right across the river. They will be leaving from Beth El at **9:15AM** by bus and will return about 1:00PM. Stay

New Session of Chugim (clubs) to Start January 25.

BETH EL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL (continued)

Beth El Religious School



FREE GAN (Sunday School Kindergarten)

Mazel Tov to our B'naí Mítzvah of the Month



No Membership Required! \$100 Registration for the whole year! Sundays: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Your Child will:

- . Learn about his/her heritage
- Learn about Israel
- Practice his/her Hebrew
- Learn lots of Hebrew songs
- . Learn to love being Jewish
- . HAVE LOTS OF FUN!





January Service Times

Every Shabbat morning

in the Chapel

	Junior Congregation with Larry Abrams & Chaim Respes 3rd - 6th grades 10:15AM - 12:00PM Every Shabbat morning in the Chapel	Teen Services 10:30AM - 12:00PM Once a month In Beit Midrash January 3	Minyan Katan Grades K - 2 11:00AM - 11:45AM In Sanctuary Ext. B January 17, 31	Tot Shabbat with Lauren Williams Up to age 4 & their parents 11:00AM - 11:45AM In Sanctuary Ext. D January 17, 31
F	ebruary Service Times			
	Junior Congregation	Teen Services	Minyan Katan	Tot Shabbat
	with Larry Abrams &	10:30AM - 12:00PM		with Lauren Williams
	Chaim Respes 3rd - 6th grades 10:15AM - 12:00PM	des In Beit Midrash 00PM	Grades K - 2 11:00AM - 11:45AM In Sanctuary Ext. B	Up to age 4 & their parents 11:00AM - 11:45AM In Sanctuary Ext. D
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February 7

 Sports Clinics
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 Judaic Programming

 Creative Arts
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 Judaic Programming

 Creative Arts
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 Excellent Staff Ratio

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 Check out our Camp Video at www.jcccampsatmedford.org



February 14, 28

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February 14, 28

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BELL LIBRARY NEWS

Amy Kaplan - Congregation Librarian



New Year...new books. Why not start 2015 with a great novel? We have plenty to choose from including:

In the Courtyard of the Kabbalist by Ruchama King Feuerman, is a book you won't see in the windows of bookstores, and you're not likely to stumble across it on Amazon. Let me assure you though, that this book is a gem. Here we have the

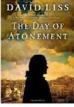
story of Isaac Markowitz, a haberdasher from NY with no mazel, who moves to Jerusalem and meets a Hasidic rabbi.

The rabbi dispenses advice to the many faithful followers who gather in his courtyard. Isaacs's managerial skills lead the rabbi to hire him as his assistant. One day Isaac has a chance encounter with Mustafa, a devout Muslim, deformed from birth, who is employed as a Temple Mount janitor. In the course of his daily cleaning, Mustafa finds an ancient artifact; this sets the drama in motion.



Meanwhile, the rebbe grows more ill and ultimately passes away, and Isaac must take his place. Set in the 1990s as the Oslo Accords are beginning to fail, the story explores the humanity of these two men. The writing is intelligent and sophisticated as the author spins a tale in the mode of Malamud and other great storytellers.

David Liss has a new book, The Day of Atonement. Liss



emerged on the literary scene in 2000 with A Conspiracy of Paper, a novel that was based on research he did for his PhD. At that time he introduced Benjamin Weaver, a Jewish ex-boxer who works in London as a "thief taker", i.e., he catches thieves. Weaver appears in this new novel as a mentor to Sebastiao Raposa, whose parents sent

him away from Lisbon to London to excape the especially cruel Portuguese Inquistion. The 13 year old Sebastiao spends a decade in England, where Wever teaches him how to use his fists and his wits to catch thieves. Sebastiao has a different objective, however, and he returns to Portugal to seek revenge upon the Jesuit priest responsible for the death

of his parents. Liss always researches his novels with great care, exploring the larger social and economic influences, and this book is no exception. **The Day of Atonement** depicts a cataclysmic event in Lisbon in the 18th C that has a profound effect on the city and its inhabitants.

Yemen's Jewish community is one we don't often read about in fiction. Nomi Eve takes takes us inside this unfamiliar world in her new novel, **Henna House**. The story depicts the Damari family, starting in 1923. In Yemen at that time, there existed an "Orphan's Decree," a (real) law that allowed Muslims to forcibly remove and adopt fatherless Jewish children. Five-year-old Adela Da-



mari grows up with the fear of this happening to her, as her father is in poor health. The only way to avoid such a castastrophe is to betroth her, and at age eight she is betrothed to a cousin who moves away, but reappears when Adela is older. Meanwhile, when Adela is entering her teen years, an uncle and his family move to the Damaris' village. The uncle's wife is a healer and a henna dyer, and we learn the importance of henna in this Jewish culture. The story follows tumultuous events as World War II looms. This historical novel brings the history of the Jews of Yemen to light in an entertaining and engaging way.

The Library's Short Story Discussion Group is going strong. This monthly discussion group is open to all - come out and enjoy the conversation and camaraderie! We will meet on Thursday, January 22 and Thursday, February 26, 1:30 -3:00PM in the Conference Room. For more information, please call the Library (ext. 503)

Library's Short Story Discussion Group

Our dates for the coming year (all are Thursdays, 1:30pm – 3:00pm in the Conference Room)

2015

January 22, February 26, March 26, April 23, May 28



To let us know if any of your personal information has changed... addresses, e-mails, phone numbers, etc.. The next time you send in a payment or call, let us check to make sure we have your information correct.

> Thank you, Laura Bruzzese-Coscia

COMMEMORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

THE TREE OF LIFE

LEAF: Purchasing a leaf on

Beth El's Tree of Life, which is 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, or your 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 the purchase of 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 the leaf or stone, please phone the Beth El office.

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

ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE

Giving Today to Secure Tomorrow

Making a commitment to Beth El's Endowment Fund will help ensure funding 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 EI; 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: _____

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Please send me information on participating through:

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Charitable Remainder Trust

Immediate Gift of Cash

or Appreciated Assets ____

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

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 haggim.



Phone the Beth El office for more information.



Congregation Beth El is an **Amazon Affiliate**

Purchases generate a 4% Rebate Use the Congregation Beth El website:

http://www.bethelsnj.org as the portal Click on "Support us" and then click on Amazon. Entry to the Amazon site will

follow automatically We have seen more activity in



our account with the recent purchases of iPods and TV's, in addition to books and other items.

Beth El reaps more income with MORE volume in sales.

It is really simple...give it a try

Questions: Please contact Mort at Kanovsky@verizon.net

NOVEMBER MINCHA TIMES



Congregation Beth El January, 2015 Tevet - Shevat 5775

SHACHARIT (morning) SERVICES:

<u>***Sunday 9:00 AM***</u>

Monday & Thursday 7:15 AM Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 7:30 AM Saturday 9:00 AM

Note & Exception Below:

Exceptions For Morning Service

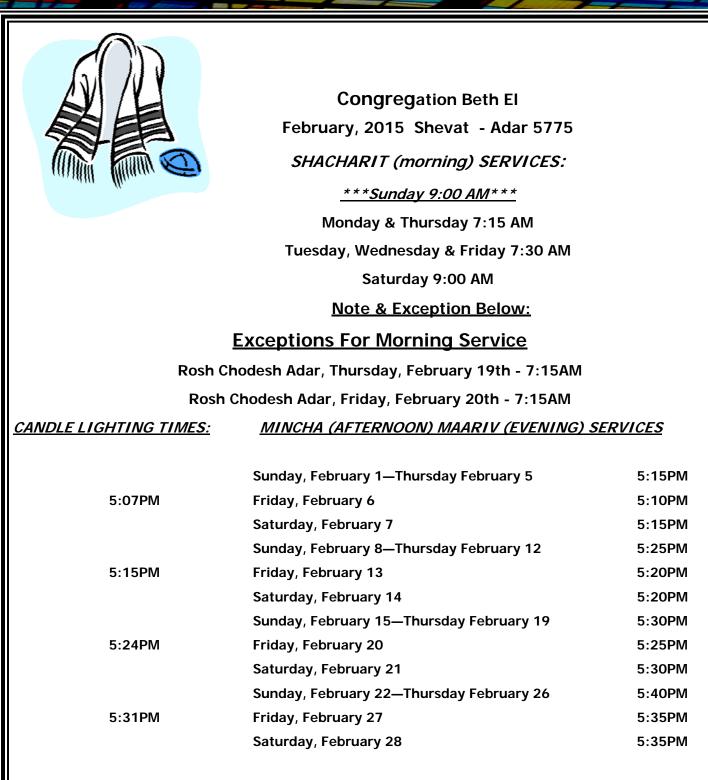
Fast of 10th of Tevet, Thursday, Jan. 1 - 7:15 AM Rosh Chodesh Shevat, Wednesday, January 21 - 7:15AM

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES:

MINCHA (AFTERNOON) MAARIV (EVENING) SERVICES

	Sunday, December 28th—Thursday January 1	4:40PM
4:29PM	Friday, January 2	4:30PM
	Saturday, January 3	4:40PM
	Sunday, January 4—Thursday January 8	4:45PM
4:35PM	Friday, January 9	4:40PM
	Saturday, January 10	4:45PM
	Sunday, January 11—Thursday, January 15	4:50PM
4:42PM	Friday, January 16	4:45PM
	Saturday, January 17	4:50PM
	Sunday, January 18 —Thursday, January 22	5:00PM
4:50PM	Friday, January 23	4:55PM
	Saturday, January 24	5:00PM
	Sunday, January 25—Thursday, January 29	5:05PM
4:59PM	Friday, January 30	5:00PM
	Saturday, January 31	5:05PM

DECEMBER MINCHA TIMES



CARING ACTS OF TZEDAKAH

AS OF DEC 8, 2014)

ALAN RICHMAN CHILDREN'S RECREATION FUND IN HONOR OF DONOR Bar Mitzvah of Oliver Adler

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B'nai Mitzvot of Madeline & Emma Broder IN MEMORY OF

Wedding of Kenny Gold,

Wedding of Jodi Eisner Appel,

Jackie Herskowitz Harriet Meltzer Harriet Meltzer Jackie Herskowitz

Julia Mansfield, Harriet Meltzer Jackie Herskowitz

SPEEDY RECOVERY Shirley Yaffa

IN MEMORY OF Harriet Meltzer Harriet Meltzer

IN APPRECIATION OF Assistance of Debbi Silverman

IN HONOR OF Sarah Kaplan's wedding

IN MEMORY OF Yahrzeit of H. Davis Diane Weinberg's Brother, Gene Jackie Herskowitz

SPEEDY RECOVERY Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro

Shirley Yaffa

IN HONOR OF Bar Mitzvah of Max Abrams Birth of Grandson to Barbara & Mark Collick

BETH EL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND-PROJECT LEV DONOR IN HONOR OF

The following contributions were made in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Patti Bourke: Bonny Hohenberger & Nathan Farbman, James & Eileen Mc Sparran, Harriet Schulman, Sandy Wolf, Margie Blum

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IN MEMORY OF Mrs Lappin

IN MEMORY OF

Frimi Orel

IN MEMORY OF Ella Katz Harriet Meltzer Yahrzeit of Mother, Joyce Lorber Harriet Meltzer Louis E. Waxman Leonard Berman

Baby Naming of Amanda & Adam

IN MEMORY OF Leonard Berman

IN HONOR OF

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SPEEDY RECOVERY

The following contributions were made for a speedy recovery to Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro: Carol & Joel Fleisher, Janet & Bob Kaufman, Nikki & Len Feldman, Susan Dashoff-Ellman, Sam & Dorothy Feigenbaum

Mark & Lisa Stofman

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Max Abrams Jodi & Steven Kalodner Ronda & Jeff Meltzer

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JERRY YAFFA

CREUTZFELDT JAKUB DISEASE RESEARCH FUND DONOR SPEEDY RECOVERY

The following contributions were made for a speedy recovery to Shirley Yaffa: Phyllis Hecsh, Elaine Waxman, Fran & Neal Cupersmith, Carol & Joel Fleisher, Elaine & Herb Horowitz, Joan Feinberg, Len & Nikki Feldman, Evelvn Harris, Robin Sue and Bill Landsburg & Family, Suzi & J.D. Abrams, Marty & Esther Zoblin

Gloria & Ira Back

Yaffa Fuchs, Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro IN HONOR OF

60th Wedding Anniversary of

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IN MEMORY OF Sister of Ellen Rivkind

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IN APPRECIATION OF Rosh Hashanah Honors

IN MEMORY OF Rose Poulshock. Jackie Herskowitz

IN MEMORY OF Harriet Meltzer, Helene Cooperman

SPEEDY RECOVERY Renee Shapiro, Shirley Yaffa John Kravitz

IN MEMORY OF Julia Mansfield. Gail Raffner's Sister **RABBI AARON KRUPNICK SPECIAL FUND** DONOR

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IN MEMORY OF

Ella Katz

The following contributions were made in memory of Harriet Meltzer: Sandra & Arnold Kaminer, Harriet Schulman, Howard & Gerry Abramsohn, Aileen & Bruce Levine, Audrey & David Pecarsky, Cookie & Allan Weinberg, Richard & Janet Levine, Joyce & Walt Stein

The following contributions were made in memory of Jackie Herskowitz: Suzi & J.D. Abrams, Carol & Joel Fleisher, Barbara & Mark Jacobs, Suzanne & Victor Levy, Jackie & Bill Pearson, Adam & Stacy Rose

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IN HONOR OF Birth of Matthew Cedar Sam Stofman's Bar Mitzvah

Wedding of Jodi Eisner Bar Mitzvah of Sam Stefan

Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Weinberg Lou Gold's Special Birthday Marriage of Son of David Lieber man & Renee Rudoph. Birth of Grandson to Mark & Ronni Reiner, Bowie Nelson Lesser Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Miller

DONOR



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IN APPRECIATION OF

The following contributions were made in appreciation of Rabbi Aaron Krupnick: Carol & Joel Fleisher, Max Abrams, Jodi & Steven Kalodner, Jennifer Ostroff, Ronda & Jeff Meltzer

Ellen L Hodges Gail & Marty Raffner Nikki & Len Feldman Kay Wetzstein

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IN HONOR OF

Marriage of Jodie Eisner & Doug Appel

IN MEMORY OF

Yahrzeit of Jacob "Jacobo" Farber, Barbara & Joe Walkes. Brenda Goldwasser Sandy Levenson



Sisterhood Torah Fund Pin



Nichum Avelim **Caring for Mourners**

Congregation Beth El strives to reach out to our congregants when they experience the loss of loved ones. The Caring for Mourners Committee provide support to our families during their time of need. The committee is available to offer the following:

- Provide the Guide to Mourning Practices booklet
- Set up the shiva home
- Deliver prayer books and chairs to the shiva home
- Organize minyans in the shiva home

Please contact Marsha Goodman at 215.206.5182 or margood1941@gmail.com if you need more information

Notice: If for any reason you do not get a Yahrzeit notice for a loved one, please call Shirley in the Beth El Office to let her know. Thank you



IN HONOR OF The Wedding of Kenny Gold

Special Birthday of Sharon

IN MEMORY OF Phillip Schatz

TO HELP.....

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 <u>dsh26@comcast.net</u>

WORK THE GIFT SHOP

We need volunteers to work in **Judaically Yours Gift Shop**.

Please contact Linda Lazarow at: (856) 424-3893 or Ilazarow@msn.com

HELP IN THE OFFICE

Volunteers Needed for a variety of office projects, i.e. stuffing, labeling, mailings, etc.. Please call Shirley at 675-1166 or email Syaffa@bethelsnj.org if you can donate a few hours. Thanks in advance for your help.

CARING FOR MOURNERS COMMITTEE NIHUM AVELIM

Volunteers needed to assist Beth El members with their shiva needs. (setting up for shiva, cleaning up, bringing meals, etc).

> Please contact Marsha Goodman margood1941@gmail.com



I can drive....

One Shabbat a month Every Shabbat Evening Services

Email _

VOLUNTEER FOR THE BELL LIBRARY

Phone #

Amy Kaplan is looking for volunteers support. Please contact Amy at: akaplan@bethelsnj.org with the hours you are available.

Thank you in advance for your help.

S GREETERS / SUBSTITUTE GREETERS WANTED

SHORT HOURS • NO PAY • LOTS OF SATISFACTION TRAINING PROVIDED

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. At that time, they may join the congregation (if they wish).

A BE Board member is usually assigned for specific Shabbats, but we do need substitutes. For information email or phone Mort Kanovsky at Kanovsky@juno.com or 856.424.9372.

Donate to the Kippot Eox

Spring clean your drawers of your unused, "collectable" Kippot. All Kippas are welcome regardless of a memorable name or date. Help Beth El fill the Kippot Box and find more drawer space at the same time.

Thank you.





To the volunteers that answer the call whenever we need help, *please know how much you are appreciated!* Shirley



Sunday - 9AM - 12 NOON

Monday - By appointment

Tuesday 9AM - 5PM & 7PM - 8PM



Wednesday 9AM - 5P

Thursday 9AM - 5PM

Friday 10AM - NOON





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