

Beth El Newsletter

We Belong Together



Hazzan: The Musical

May 16, 2024 at 6:00pm

Celebrating **HAZZAN ALISA POMERANTZ-BORO** for
20 years of dedicated and loving service to Congregation Beth El!





Dear Friends,

Thank you to the 100 families that have already contributed to the Bayit Va'Lev Capital Campaign. As a result of your generosity and commitment to the future of Beth El, the campaign recently passed the **\$1,000,000 mark in pledged funds!** And we will build on this momentum when you add your name toward reaching our goals. This milestone is a great opportunity to review why this campaign was launched during Chanukah:

- To retire our remaining 3.3 million dollar mortgage
- To ensure that dues, tuition, and fees remain as stable as possible and perhaps even be reduced over time
- To establish long-term endowments and funds for programming of excellence across our generations
- Hiring and retention of great teachers, clergy, professional and support staff
- Making sure no one is excluded from joining Beth El due to financial stress or strain
- To remain the synagogue that you are proud to be a part of, and to aim even higher toward inspiring everyone to live their fullest Jewish lives

If you have already pledged, thank you. If you haven't: Beth El needs you now.

As others have done for us, it is our opportunity to do for this and future generations. Your meaningful gift is the most important one.

With great gratitude,

The Bayit Va'Lev Campaign Committee

Neal Cupersmith, Chair Faye Shapiro, President

For more information

please contact Roberta S. Clark,
Development & Membership Director,
at rclark@bethelsnj.org or 856.520.8742



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Bernie & Eileen Yaffa
Shirley Yaffa

(List as of February 8, 2024)





It probably comes as no surprise to you that I believe in the power of music. There is so much potential for music to help improve our lives. In addition to adding meaning and strength to our lives, research has proven that music can help us be more functional and get a good night's sleep (well, maybe not for all of us!). Dancing with music can improve physical function and singing in a choir can ease loneliness and improve self-esteem. Most significantly, musical ability is often preserved in those who have suffered a stroke. I have personally witnessed this striking ability in those no longer able to speak who could still sing.

The most powerful song of our ancestors, Shirat HaYam, the Song of the Sea, which was first sung as we crossed the sea from slavery to freedom, is recited every morning. It is the central part of parshat B'shallach which was chanted on Shabbat Shira, the Shabbat of Song. We began services that morning with a Chanting Circle, enabling us to focus on a few words at a time instead of rushing through numerous words. It was both meditative and ecstatic and it helped us create deeper connections to the prayers. This practice gave us the opportunity to slow down and reflect on the words while allowing their profound meanings to flow through us. We closed our eyes as the chanting resonated within us. This prayer practice is acceptable and always available to you. I want to thank our chanting circle participants, our dedicated Adult Choir, our BEST kids' choir and Cantor Sher for filling our service with music, joy, learning and promise. Later that night, we hosted Neshama Carlebach for an uplifting concert of solidarity for Israel.

It is incredibly fulfilling when we gather together in song and in prayer! We are fortunate to have the opportunity to be thankful every day. In fact, our sages teach us that we are obligated to recite 100 blessings every day. There are so many moments worthy of gratitude in our lives. Even during the most challenging moments, we can live our lives with gratitude and focus on blessings.

We find the Hebrew word for blessing (*bracha*) again and again in the holy words of our Torah and in our siddur. In prayer, we use the phrase *Baruch Atah HaShem*, Blessed are You, Gd, as our formula to praise Gd who is a source of blessing. It is an acknowledgement of the abundance that comes from Gd and also used to draw us close. These blessings are meant to connect us to Gd and to each other in a deeper way.

Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, noted scholar and author on spirituality and mysticism, suggests that Torah is not real because it happened, it is real because it happens. Our text relates how Gd blessed our ancestors and also how people can bless each other. We can know more about what others are trying to say to us when we pay attention and respond. Our relationships are based on reciprocal actions and expressions of emotions. Each one of us has the ability to transform gratitude into powerful moments of action.

Music, prayer and active listening can all serve as amazing vehicles. As friend of Beth El songwriter Benj Pasek has written, *'There's a place where we don't have to feel alone... and every time that you call out, you're a little less alone.'*

As you listen, as you pray, as you pay attention to the stories of our ancestors and of your family and friends, consider what you can do to help others find this place at home, at work, at school and at our beloved Beth El. We can all be here for one another; just showing up is a mitzvah.

We are supported by hands that uplift us, even in the midst of a fall. We are urged on by eyes that meet us, even when we are too weak for a meeting. Ours are the arms, the fingers, the voices; ours are the hands, the eyes, the smiles. We are loved by an unending love. - Rabbi Rami Shapiro

I hope these words inspire you as much as they inspire me. Blessings for health, healing, love and peace,

Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Those who know me well know I love to cook and bake. And I especially LOVE to bake Hamantaschen! Lucky for me, Purim is fast approaching and I am so excited to get out my flour and rolling pin and get my hands dirty baking. Baking Hamantaschen is a long-time family tradition that goes way back. I remember baking

Hamantaschen with my mother every year when I was a child. And I'm pretty sure that, since I became a mom, I've baked them every year with my children.

Where did the concept of this three corner cookie filled with fruit filling even come from? I always thought that the triangular shaped cookie represented Haman's hat, and by eating them we are destroying Haman's memory. But the story of Purim takes place in ancient Persia, about 5th century B.C.E., long before the supposed tri-cornered hats were in fashion. One explanation is that Hamantaschen come from a German cookie, called a mohn-taschen which literally translates to mohn – poppy seed, and taschen – pocket, or poppy seed pocket. At some point in the 15th century, German Jews dubbed them hamantaschen, or "Haman's pockets," as a play on words that alluded to the rumor that Haman's pockets were stuffed with bribe money. Others have dug deeper into the meaning, suggesting that the poppy seeds represented Queen Esther's vegetarian diet while in King Achashverosh's palace since she

had to keep her Kashrut status a secret. Another, that the three corners are symbolic of the strength that Queen Esther derived from her three ancestors, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Lastly, regardless of what is inside your Hamantaschen, the filling is partially covered by the dough, just as Gd's presence was hidden in the Purim story.

Regardless of which symbolism resonates with you, I think we can all agree that Hamantaschen taste great and are a great way to connect us to this incredibly important survival story of our past. I encourage everyone to try baking Hamantaschen this year, even if you never have before. There are lots of recipes available on the internet, some as easy as using a boxed cake mix as the basis for the cookie dough. During this time of year, our supermarkets have many options for filling. If you'd like to know my favorite recipes, feel free to email me at president@bethelsnj.org and I will be happy to share them with you.

There will be plenty of opportunities to eat Hamantaschen with your Beth El family. On Saturday night March 23rd will be an adult Purim party with a full Megillah reading, and on Sunday morning March 24th we will have a family Megillah reading followed by our annual Purim Carnival and Mitzvah Mall. I wouldn't be surprised if some of those sweet, tasty cookies showed up at Shabbat services that weekend as well.

Wishing everyone a Hag Purim Sameach filled with plenty of delicious Hamantaschen!

Faye L. Shapiro

OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We are excited to share with you the latest updates on our ongoing efforts towards sustainability and energy efficiency. I am thrilled to share we recently completed the LED lighting replacement project throughout our entire building, complemented by the utilization of our large solar array to further maximize our energy savings.

The decision to upgrade our lighting system to LED technology was driven by our commitment to environmental stewardship and financial responsibility. LED lighting offers numerous advantages over traditional lighting, including longer lifespan, lower energy consumption, and reduced maintenance costs. The installation of LED lighting is just one aspect of our broader sustainability strategy. The synergy between LED lighting and solar energy allows us

to maximize our energy savings while exemplifying our commitment to environmental responsibility.

In addition to the environmental benefits, these energy-efficient upgrades have tangible financial advantages for our synagogue. By reducing our energy consumption and operating costs, we can allocate more resources towards our core mission and community programs. The savings generated from these initiatives enable us to reinvest in initiatives that enrich the lives of our members and support our broader philanthropic efforts.

As we celebrate this milestone, I want to express my appreciation to Mike Sherman and his company, Vanguard Building Solutions (www.vbs-energy.com) and to our solar vendor, Geoscape (www.geoscapecsolar.com). If you own and/or operate a commercial property, please consider these vendors as partners.

Josh Laster

SHOMRIM

GUARDIANS OF CONGREGATION BETH EL

שומרים

Shomrim is an inclusive giving program designed to allow benefactors to commit one time during the year to support the annual activities and operational needs of Beth El.

JOIN OUR GROWING LIST OF SHOMRIM MEMBERS

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The Brown Families – Sidney & Sandy and Jeff & Tracy
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BETH EL EDUCATION



“IT’S PURIM TIME!”

One of my favorite times of the year is Purim! On this festival, we celebrate how Queen Esther helped save the Jewish people of Persia from evil Haman! It is a holiday filled with noise, costumes, games, and yummy hamantaschen. But did you know that there are four mitzvot of Purim?

Megillat Esther: The first Mitzvah of Purim is that of the reading aloud of Megillat Esther, the Book of Esther, twice - once in the evening and once in

the morning. And this is a book that we encourage our children to make noise during the service every time we hear the name of Haman!

Mishloach Manot: The second Mitzvah of Purim is the giving of *Mishloach Manot* to our friends. *Mishloach Manot* are food baskets that we give to at least one person consisting of two items to ensure that everyone has a happy holiday. When Haman wanted to destroy the Jewish people, he said that we were “scattered and separate.” To prove Haman wrong, we show our unity by sending gifts to our Jewish friends.

Seudah: The third Mitzvah of Purim is a *Seudah*, a festive meal. Like every holiday, we celebrate with a traditional meal to celebrate the miracle of the holiday. We are basically fulfilling a commandment that tells us to “eat, drink, and be merry!”

Matanot L’evyonim: The fourth and final Mitzvah of Purim is the giving of *Matanot L’evyonim*, gifts to the poor. Although Purim is one of the most joyous holidays, we acknowledge that there are some who are unable to celebrate and therefore we fulfill the mitzvah of giving to the poor. There are a variety of ways to do this, including giving Tzedakah, or making donations of food or clothing.

We hope you will join us here at Beth El to fulfill all of these Mitzvot. Please join us for our **Family Megillah Reading and Purim Carnival** on **Sunday, March 24 at 9am**. We will begin the morning by listening to *Megillat Esther* read by our Beth El Religious School students. We will drown out Haman’s name with graggers and enjoy an entertaining Purim *Shpiel* (skit) to the theme of Barbie! Following the Megillah reading, everyone will have the opportunity to partake in a festive meal at our Purim Carnival with delicious snacks that will be available for purchase. Families will also be able to fulfill the mitzvah of *Mishloach Manot* through Beth El. Please check out the website for more information. And finally, families will have the opportunity to fulfill the mitzvah of *Matanot L’evyonim* at our Mitzvah Mall during the Purim Carnival where a variety of tzedakah projects and charities will be displayed by our B’nai Mitzvah students who are raising money for important causes.

You won’t want to miss Purim at Beth El this year!

Rabbi Nogah Marshall
Educational Director



As always, our ECC is bustling with excitement and activity.

Our Tu B’Shevat seder was a hit! The children loved trying a variety of delicious foods that grow on trees, and had so much fun listening to Rabbi Marshall read Tu B’Shevat stories and singing songs.

We had three wonderful Shabbat experiences with our visiting Rabbinic Candidates. We also reached the milestone of celebrating 100 Days of School! Our ECC students marked the occasion by learning to count to 100, bringing in 100 of something and some classes created special 100th day projects. We then celebrated *Read Across America* and *Dr. Seuss Day* with a visit from a special guest... the Cat in the Hat!

It’s hard to believe how much fun AND learning is happening here in our ECC!

Ayelet Mittelman
ECC Director



Mazal Tov

TO OUR B'NAI MITZVAH



JENNA & ALEXA MOLOTSKY - MARCH 2

Parents: Debbie & Lee Molotsky
Grandparents: Marcia & Henry Rabinowitz and Sharon & Stanley Molotsky
Mitzvah Project: Alexa and Jenna are holding a clothing drive

for Cradles to Crayons - Cradles to Crayons provides children living in homelessness or low-income situations with everyday essentials.



MARA LOWENBERGER - MARCH 10

Parents: Ellen & Michael Lowenberger
Siblings: Andrew Lowenberger
Grandparents: Ilene Berman & Bruce Klein, Marvin Berman(z"l), Mark & Patricia Lowenberger, Maxine Hargus & Bruce Humes.

Mitzvah Project: Mara and Jordyn created a business called, "Bracelets with Love" which distributed bracelet kits to hospitalized children. In addition, Mara donated to the Epilepsy Foundation and the JCC Camps at Medford Open Hearts Open Doors program in honor of her brother.



JORDYN SELTZER - MARCH 16

Parents: Brandi & Gregory Seltzer
Siblings: Hara Seltzer
Grandparents: Miriam & Robert Seltzer and Cindy & Herman(z"l) Wexler

Mitzvah Project: Jordyn participated in the "Walk to End Epilepsy" an organization very near and dear to her family. In addition, Jordyn and Mara created a business called, "Bracelets with Love" which distributed bracelet kits to hospitalized children.



BRIANNA CEDAR - APRIL 13

Parents: Staci & Jeffrey Cedar
Siblings: Matthew Cedar
Grandparents: Sam & Dorothy Feigenbaum and Carol & Bob Cedar

Mitzvah Project: Brianna is partnering with 'Leveling the Playing Field' collecting sports equipment and helping to sort and distribute it.

Congregation Beth El's Annual

Party Showcase!

Sunday, | 10:30am
March 17 | to 1:30pm

A One-Stop-Shop for all Your Wedding, B'nai Mitzvah, Sweet 16, or Any Other Celebration Needs!

Meet DJs, Event planners, Photographers, Hair stylists, Invitation Specialists, Decor professionals and more!

For more information, contact Valerie Linden: BEpartyshowcase@gmail.com

Social Action at CONGREGATION BETH EL

Beth El Social Action Committee continues to make a difference in the lives of others through a variety of mitzvah projects! Here are some recent highlights:

- Beth El's Chevra adult volunteers visited the *Ronald McDonald House* in Camden this past November. They made and served lasagna to the families and led a fun and interactive game of Thanksgiving Bingo.
- At Let's Do Shabbat Friendsgiving, presented by Achim Sheli & Kavod, attendees made Thanksgiving centerpieces that were donated to *Cathedral Kitchen* in Camden to brighten their Thanksgiving dinner tables.
- Volunteers prepared a delicious Christmas Eve dinner feast for the families at *Ronald McDonald House* in Camden. According to Josh Laster, the experience was "hands down one of the best activities my family has ever done together!"
- Morah Elana Doar and the ECC coordinated an overwhelmingly successful medicine and supplies drive for the IDF soldiers. In addition, the ECC raised more than \$4,000 for lone soldiers!
- In honor of the Super Bowl, we held a Sports Equipment Drive for *Leveling the Playing Field* (LPF). LPF distributes the equipment to schools, under-resourced youth groups, and community programs throughout the local area.

We thank everyone who has made a difference with their time and generosity! For more information, contact Alicia Drozen at adrozen@bethelsnj.org or Social Action Chair, Marla Rosenthal, at socialaction@bethelsnj.org

"Volunteerism and social action initiatives represent core values of our Beth El community. Where we can be of service we strive to meet any need that will help others to realize their potential, because we recognize that every human being is created in the image of God."

- Rabbi David Englander

Upcoming opportunities to put our values in action:

Red Cross Blood Drive – Thursday, February 29 from 2-7pm at Beth El

Volunteer Afternoon at Leveling the Playing Field Warehouse – Sunday, March 3 from 2:30-4:30pm. A hands-on volunteer opportunity for all ages!

Adult Volunteer Night at Ronald McDonald House – Sunday, March 10 at 4pm

Toiletries Drive for Operation Yellow Ribbon – Bring donations to Purim Megillah Reading on March 23 and Purim Carnival on March 24.

Mitzvah Mall – Sunday, March 24 from 10am – 12pm. Learn about and support the wonderful mitzvah projects of Beth El's B'nai Mitzvah students!

OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Boker Tov Program** - We need volunteers to make wellness calls to Beth El congregants who are elderly or sick. Do you know someone who would benefit from these calls? Please let us know!
- **Mourning Committee 'Nihum Avelim'** - Volunteers are needed to make condolence calls, help setting up a shiva house, and help get volunteers to make a minyan.

If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact **Marsha Goodman** at 215-206-5182 or margood1941@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

at a glance!



Prayers & Pajamas

Fridays, March 1 & April 5 at 5:30pm

Celebration Shabbat

Fridays, March 1 & April 5 at 6pm



KaHaL Book Club with Jaime Herndon

Sunday, March 3 at 10:00am

Volunteer at Leveling the Playing Field

Sunday, March 3 at 2:30pm [Details on pg. 9](#)

Habonim Author Event

Wednesday, March 6 at 7:30pm [Details on pg. 27](#)



Shabbat Dinner with Israeli Guest Speakers

Friday, March 8 at 7pm

Volunteer at Ronald McDonald House

Sunday, March 10 at 4pm



BookTok Live

Mondays, March 11 & April 8 at Noon

Sisterhood Hamantaschen Bake Off

Wednesday, March 13 at 7pm

Men's Club Schmooze & Brews

Wednesday, March 13 at 7pm



College Connection Purim Packing

Friday, March 15 at 11am

Tot Shabbat

Saturdays, March 16 & April 20 at 10am



KaHaL Lunch & Learn

The Nuts & Bolts of Purim
Saturday, March 16 at 12:30pm

Sisterhood Party Showcase

Sunday, March 17 at 10:30am [Details on pg. 8](#)



KaHaL & Habonim Movie Matinee

Sunday, March 17 at 12:30pm [Details on pg. 27](#)

Sisterhood "The Challah Prince"

Wednesday, March 20 at 7pm (at Congregation Kol Ami) [Details on pg. 16](#)



Erev Purim Megillah Reading and Adult Purim Party

Saturday, March 23 at 7:45pm

Family Megillah Reading, Purim Carnival & Mitzvah Mall

Sunday, March 24 at 9am [Details on pg. 13](#)



Life & Legacy/Shomrim Art Show Reception

Wednesday, March 27 at 7pm

Kavod Transgender Day of Visibility

Sunday, March 31



Service From the Heart

Sunday, April 7 at 10:30am

Men's Club Annual Rabbi Bike Ride

Sunday, April 7 at 12:30pm

Sisterhood Rosh Chodesh

Monday, April 8 at 7:30pm



Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 14 at 9:30am

Volunteer at BookSmiles Book Bank

Monday, April 15 at 7:30pm [Details on pg. 9](#)

Sisterhood "The Spice Detective"

Wednesday, April 17 at 7pm [Details on pg. 16](#)



KaHaL Lunch & Learn

The Nuts & Bolts of Passover
Saturday, April 20 at 12:30pm



Passover 2nd Night Community Seder

Tuesday, April 23 at 7pm

Let's Do Shabbat Freedom Café

Friday, April 26 at 7pm

Men's Club Shabbat

Saturday, April 27 at 9am



'The Great Akifomen Hunt' for Young Families

Sunday, April 28 at 10:30am

Questions? Contact **Alicia Drozen**, Events & Programs Manager at adrozen@bethelsnj.org or 856.281.9983



A strong Jewish Tomorrow is in YOUR hands

By leaving a gift to Congregation Beth El in your will or estate plans, your legacy commitment can ensure that our synagogue will remain part of South Jersey's vibrant and colorful Jewish community for generations to come.



To create your Jewish Legacy, contact Roberta S. Clark, Development & Membership Director | rclark@bethelsnj.org | 856.675.1166 x418



Please remember Beth El when you do your Estate Planning.

Leaving a legacy is simple: Bequest in a Will, Gift of Life Insurance, Gift of IRA or Pension Funds, Gift of Cash or Assets, Charitable Remainder Trust.

Contact Roberta S. Clark at rclark@bethelsnj.org

**Names in bold have formalized a commitment to Beth El*

Mira & Aaron Aumiller
Susan & David Backal
Cathy & Marc Backal
Marcia Baruch Bowen
Donna & Richard Bell
Pam & Bob Benedon
Jodi Berman
Helene & Alan Blumenfeld
Jocelyn Borowsky
Ronit & Chris Boyd
Beth & Josh Brodtkin
Amy & Eric Clayman
Herbert (z"l) & Thalia Cohen
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Debra Kelberg
Deborah Shore & Jonathan Korn
Helene & Rabbi Aaron Krupnick
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Suzanne & Victor Levy
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Jennifer Jagust & Yoel Weiss
Julie & Jason Whitney
Leah & Jason Wolf
Jeffrey Zeiger
Anonymous (2)

BELL LIBRARY NEWS



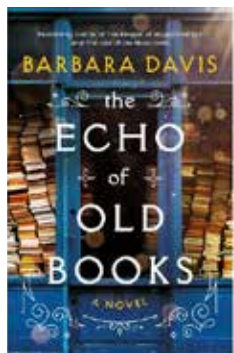
Amy Kaplan Congregation Librarian

What kind of fiction do you enjoy? Historical fiction, fictionalized biography, and even a taste of the paranormal await in these new books, available in your synagogue library.

Young people today might not recognize her name, but in 1945, everyone knew who Bess Myerson was. In "Bessie," author Linda Kass fictionalizes ten years in Myerson's life, beginning in 1936, when she was 12 years old. She was a talented pianist and attended the High School of Music and Art. The author focuses on actual events of her subject's life, at times mixing fact with fiction but staying true to Myerson's story. Despite the prevalence of antisemitism in the U.S. in the 1930s and 1940s, Bess Myerson became Miss America in 1945; she was crowned six days after the end of WWII. Later she was a spokesperson for the ADL in their Brotherhood Campaign to fight bigotry and hate, traveling throughout the U.S. In the 1980s she became a familiar figure in New York City politics. As "Bessie" shows, Myerson used her beauty, fame, and fierce determination to fight antisemitism and all forms of bigotry.



The chapters in "The Echo of Old Books" by Barbara Davis alternate between 1984 Portsmouth, New Hampshire and 1941 New York. In the 1984 story we meet Ashlyn, a rare book dealer who can sometimes actually feel the emotions of a book's former owners. In one case, she senses a romance between two authors, nicknamed Hemi and Belle. Hemi, a newspaper reporter, and Belle, a wealthy socialite, were lovers in New York in 1941. Against a background of antisemitism and war, each wrote the story of their romance, but their books were never published. Ashlyn, a book dealer and book lover, becomes deeply engrossed in the tragic story of Hemi and Belle. She has had a difficult life, but books have been a refuge, and her interest in the books by Hemi and



Belle will bring romance her way, too. This novel has elements of a treasure hunt story, a romance, and a mystery, and the unreliability of memory is a major theme. "The Echo of Old Books" is a page-turner, perfect for anyone who loves books – rare or new.

"We Must Not Think of Ourselves," by local author Lauren Grodstein, is a shining example of the power of historical fiction. This is the story of fictional Adam Paskow, a widower still mourning his wife, now reduced to sharing an apartment with other families when they are all relocated to the Warsaw Ghetto. Adam is recruited to join Emanuel Ringelblum's "Oneg Shabbat," the real-life group of ghetto dwellers who are documenting their lives for posterity. Adam augments his diary entries with interviews of his flatmates and some of the children in the English classes he leads. While the novel offers details of daily life in the ghetto, including the horrors of starvation and brutality, the focus is really on the individuals and their struggles to stay alive and maintain dignity and hope. Beyond the facts of life in the ghetto we get a moving account of the inner, emotional lives of these fictional, yet somehow very real, people. The author has noted that her inspiration for the novel was a trip to Poland, where she visited the Oneg Shabbat Archive.



The Library is open: MONDAY, TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY 9:30am – 12:00pm. To borrow books at other times please call (856-675-1166, ext. 503) or email akaplan@bethelsnj.org and I'll arrange for the book to be ready to pick up at the administrative office.



hear about what others have read (books do not have to have Jewish content). We'll meet on **MARCH 11 and APRIL 8, Noon – 1:00pm** in the library. Bring a dairy of vegetarian lunch if you wish, and we'll talk! For more information, call the Library.

The Library's BookTok LIVE is your place to talk about books! Join us for a lively discussion as we share updates about the books we're reading and

hear about what others have read (books do not have to have Jewish content). We'll meet on **MARCH 11 and APRIL 8, Noon – 1:00pm** in the library. Bring a dairy of vegetarian lunch if you wish, and we'll talk! For more information, call the Library.

FAMILY PURIM MEGILLAH READING & CARNIVAL Sunday, March 24th

9am-10am
Family Megillah
Reading, Shpiel
& Costume Parade!

Games
Shushan Haunted Castle
Hamantaschen
Toddler Town
Raffles

10am-12pm
Purim
Carnival!

10am-12pm
Mitzvah Mall

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Ice Cream
Bounce Houses
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Looking
back at...

Recent Beth El
Happenings



Beautiful evening at our Israel Solidarity Concert with Neshama Carlebach.



Tu B'Shevat Wine Tasting with Dr. Steven Kerbel.



Celebrating Tu B'Shevat!



Around the ECC... we love seeing these beautiful smiles!

Our **ANNUAL MLK DAY OF SERVICE** honored Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy and commitment to service with a morning of Mitzvah projects benefiting **15** different causes in the community. We also decorated thank you cards for IDF soldiers which were sent to the soldiers through multiple agencies including the Lone Soldier Project. At the event, volunteers of all ages packaged **120** care packs for the Attic Youth Center, made **300** activity books for the Sunrise Association to distribute to children's oncology units, prepared hundreds of cheese sandwiches and centerpieces for Cathedral Kitchen, made fleece blankets for Project Linus, decorated birthday cards for clients served by JFCS, created dog & cat toys for the Voorhees Animal Orphanage, colored thank you cards for the Voorhees Township Police Department, packaged cookies for Unforgotten Haven's Homeless Outreach Initiative, and created dozens of flower decorations for Lion's Gate and the VTPD with Eyal's Flowers. In addition, we collected more than **5,500** pounds of clothing along with thousands of pounds of other items for Goodwill and hundreds of books for BookSmiles.



Looking
back at...

Recent Beth El
Happenings

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Idan Chabasov

Wednesday, March 20

7pm at Kol Ami



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Yaniv Cohen

Wednesday, April 17

7pm at Beth El



@busyinbrooklyn

Chanie Apfelbaum

Wednesday, May 8

7pm at TBS



Catch them on Instagram!

Pricing: Sisterhood Members of any synagogue - **\$40** for individual event; **\$118** for all three events
Non-Sisterhood Members of any synagogue - **\$50** for individual event, **\$140** for all three events

Sponsorship: \$360 - Includes all three events, sponsorship listing, reserved seating, an apron,
signed copies of 'My Spiced Kitchen' and 'Totally Kosher,' and a meet & greet before the event (6pm)

Tickets: bit.ly/braidspicecook | **Questions:** Caryn Lieberman - caryn@kolaminj.org

(Adults 21+ are welcome)



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MAZAL TOV TO

B'NAI MITZVAH:

Caleb Enda son of **Lisa & Jeff Enda**

Riley Broad daughter of **Heather & Josh Broad**

Micah Fox son of **Missy & Bill (z"l) Fox**

BIRTHS & NAMINGS:

Felicia & Andrew Hurwitz on the birth of their son, and to grandparents **Barbara & Eric Frantz**

Zev Rose on the birth of his great-granddaughter, **Sophia Leah Engel**

Jodi & David Hoff on the naming of their daughter, **Aria**

Samantha & Jesse Gherardi on the naming of their daughters, **Magnolia** and **Lila**

Philip & Donna Starkman on the birth of their granddaughter, **Samantha Paige Rozenbaum**



ENGAGEMENTS & WEDDINGS:

Dr. Howard Hassman and **Lillian & Dr. Joseph Hassman** on the marriage of their son/grandson, **Jared to Madeline**

Drs. Elissa & David Waldstein and **Lillian & Dr. Joseph Hassman** on the marriage of their daughter/granddaughter, **Sophia to Sam Black**

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

Melissa Lubars starred *Supernakha* in the off-Broadway musical *Ramaavan, a Musical*, at the Cullum Theater

Dr. Tameika Minor received the 2024 Rutgers Health Distinguished Interprofessional Clinical Educator Award

Laura Gutin Petersen was one of the writers for the 2024 Emmy Awards

Campbell Schwarz, Jessie Atlas and **Ryan Stoopler** qualified for Cherry Hill East DECA states

Jeff Gottlieb was one of the panelists at the Jewish Business Network (JBN) of Southern NJ's Business Symposium

Jill Hulnick was appointed and sworn in as a member of the Cherry Hill Council

Jennifer Dubrow Weiss, CEO of the Jewish Federation of SNJ, was named one of the Top CEOs by South Jersey Biz

Dr. Joseph Hassman was recognized by the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) and was honored with the naming of the 'Joseph M. Hassman, DO '65 Family Medicine Center'

Dr. Howard Hassman was recognized by the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) for his dedication to philanthropy and was honored with the naming of the 'Howard A. Hassman, DO '83 Academic Center'

We want to celebrate everyone's simchas, accomplishments, and achievements.

Email Claudia Sternberg at cssternberg@bethelsnj.org to share your special news!

ZICHRONAM LIV'RACHAH

WE MOURN THE PASSING OF:

Robert "Bob" Lowenthal, father of Sheri (Barry) Livstone

Thelma Shaps, wife of Harvey Shaps, mother of Linda Shaps Shanin (Martin Shanin), aunt of Beth Liebman

Charles Middleberg, father of Lynne (Diego) Warszawski and Brenda (Alan) Pollack

Harvey Jacob, Past President (1987-89) and Leader in our community, husband of Beth Jacob, father of Sharon Jacob, Devon (Erin) Jacob and Galit (Avi) Haim

Judy Snader, Sister of Harvey (Ada z"l) Richards, wife of Jack Snader z"l, Mother of Janice Brockway, Ben Snader and Richard (Julie) Snader

Sheldon Golub, brother of Joan Adler

Janice Bushman, mother of Shera Shalit

Bill Fox, husband of Missy Fox, father of Justin and Micah

All life events as of February 6, 2023

CARING ACTS OF TZEDAKAH

AS OF JANUARY 31, 2024

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Gloria Back	Yahrzeit of Lottie Harris
Yvonne & Sam Brand	Joe Back
Yvonne & Sam Brand	Charles Middleberg
Alice Mohr	Isabelle Adler
Illene & Warren Rubin	Sylvia Lande

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Dr. Saul & Helene Bresalier	Wife of Dr. Garrett Hauptman
Sharon Grossman	Yahrzeit of Murray Weiner

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Barbara & Mark Collik	Charles Middleberg
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Faye & Gary Shapiro	Sheldon Golub
Faye & Gary Shapiro	Janice Bushman
Martin & Barbara Sharofsky	Yahrzeit of Jeannette Tomar

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Errol Cvern	Anita Farber

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Izaak Ivniitsky	Yahrzeit of Olga bas Boruch Mergold Geshtipelten
Hillel & Libby Lieberman	Warren Gumenick
Gail & Marty Raffner	Yahrzeit of Bernice Miller
Gail & Marty Raffner	Judy Snader
Gail & Marty Raffner	Yahrzeit of George Miller
Neal Weisman	Yahrzeit of Marianne Weisman

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The Enda family	Robert "Bob" Lowenthal
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Janet Kaufman	Yahrzeit of Robert Kaufman
Janet & Richard Levine	Janice Bushman
Kate Malamut	Janice Bushman
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Judy Pokrass	Yahrzeit of Sylvia Berman
Lori & Mike Philips	Janice Bushman
Melissa & Josh Strauss	Janice Bushman
Judy & Len Wizmur	Sheldon Golub
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Debbie Grossman & family	Yahrzeit of Frances Kolsky
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HAZZAN ALISA POMERANTZ-BORO DISCRETIONARY FUND (cont)

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Jeanette Foster	Yahrzeit of Lena Ellis
Ilene & Harry Grossman	Marvin Gess
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Myra & David Gutin	Sheldon Golub
Jaime Herndon	Kaleb Dressin
Sharla & Mort Kanovsky	Sylvia Lande
Sharla & Mort Kanovsky	Harvey Jacob
Sharla & Mort Kanovsky	Judy Snader
Ruth Katz	Judy Snader
Ruth Katz	Yahrzeit of Gloria Tobolsky-Hecht
Ruth Katz	Herman Mintz
Ruth Katz	Sheldon Golub
Ruth Katz	Harvey Jacob
Ruth Katz	Gerald Mintz
Victor & Suzanne Levy	Joseph Krassan
Sheila & Sam Mandel	Harvey Jacob
Martin & Barbara Sharofsky	Yahrzeit of Rober Tomar
Martin & Barbara Sharofsky	Yahrzeit of Solomon Sharofsky
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Technology Committee:

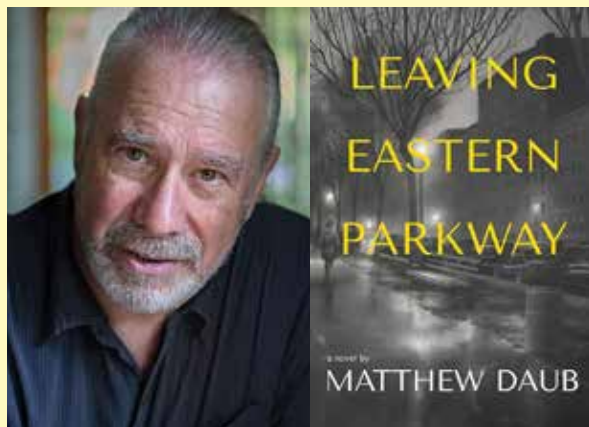
David Hulnick - davidari@gmail.com

Survivor Sisters

Contact ilene33@comcast.net, illenerubin@aol.com, or silverberg.heidi@gmail.com to connect to our support network for women with a diagnosis of cancer focusing on empowering and redefining life during and after treatment. You may also contact Hazzan.

We Remember our Dedicated Past Presidents ז"ל: Meyer Adleman, *Honorary President*, Harry Goldstein, *President Emeritus*, E. George Aaron, Morris E. Albert, Harry L. Barroway, Harry Berkowitz, Louis Berkowitz, Louis Cades, Herman Z. Cutler, Ronald Dubrow, Samuel F. Ginns, Arthur Goldman, Morris Handle, Allan E. Hecsh, Harvey Jacob, Israel Katz, Herbert T. Kolosky, Jacob Leventon, Morris Liebman, David H. Markowitz, Louis Markowitz, Leon Mickleman, Morton Mann, Benjamin Natal, Irving Natkow, Martin Odlen, Max Odlen, Joseph Ostrov, N. Herman Rappaport, Meyer L. Sakin, Jesse Satenstein, Milton Sternberg, Norman Stofman.

Habonim Author Event with MATTHEW DAUB



Wednesday, MARCH 6
7:30pm - 9:00pm

On Zoom only. To get the link, email
Judy Simkin at lensim@comcast.net

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MOVIE MATINEE SERIES



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SUNDAY, MARCH 17th

Lunch: 12:30pm | Movie: 1:30 - 2:30pm

\$20 per person | Mail completed check payable to
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Website: www.bethelsnj.org | Phone: (856) 675-1166 | Fax: (856) 489-3280 Beth El Newsletter

Congregation Beth El presents the 7th Annual Golf Classic & Game Day!



Tuesday, June 4, 2024
Ramblewood Country Club

7:00am: Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00am: Shotgun Start

11:00am: Game Day Brunch

1:00pm: Golf Lunch & Winner Announcements

4:00pm: Game Day End

Individual Golfer Registration: \$180

(Early Bird Price by April 1: \$160)

Game Day Registration: \$72

(Early Bird Price by April 1: \$54)

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Questions? Contact Alicia Drozen
at adrozen@bethelsnj.org

Register or become a sponsor at: bethelsnj.shulcloud.com/form/golfandgames2024