



HAPPY PURIM

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HAPPY PASSOVER

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YOM HaSHOAH COMMEMORATION

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

Recently the Canadian Jewish News ran an article entitled "What Jews Can Learn from [the Netflix series] The Crown". The series presents the life of Elizabeth II in the early years of her monarchy. I grew up in a home where the Royal Family was of great interest, especially because my grandmother was from England. I binge-watched the show and can't wait for the next season. The article comments on how the show portrays the Queen balancing royal tradition with modernity, such as through televising the coronation. The authors note that as Jews we have also had to balance interpretations of Halachic requirements with basic human needs.

Finding this balance is part of our essence as a traditional-egalitarian shul. Recently the Board has been discussing how to find balance in our building renovation between Halacha, with its prohibition against using electricity on Shabbat and Chagim, and the compelling need to remove barriers to participation in our services and programs.

Certain devices that are widely used to achieve accessibility such as assisted-hearing headsets and automatic door openers are electronically operated. We are looking to install an elevator with a Shabbat option, but how should we proceed if we find that the constant operation of the elevator disrupts the service because of its proximity to the sanctuary?

To help us find the right balance, our Ritual Committee, in consultation with Rabbi Elkin and the Executive and as approved by the Board, has developed excellent Narayever Accessibility Guidelines. These can be found on our website at narayever.ca/narayever-accessibility-guidelines.

We are currently seeking approval from the Ontario Municipal Board for our building renovation plan. Once we receive approval, we will be calling a meeting of the congregation to vote on the plan and its budget. We will also vote on a process to help the board make decisions about accessibility devices that take into account tradition and Halacha.

I would like to form an Accessibility Committee to offer the Board advice when determining accessibility solutions within the context of the shul. If you would like to join this committee please contact me, as your help would be invaluable.

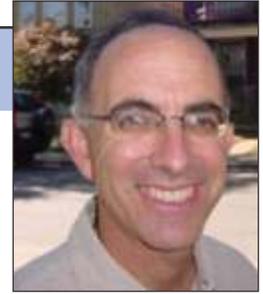


We will be holding an information session on Sunday, March 26, at 7 pm to update you on the building plan, costs, and the capital campaign. Watch Narayever Net for more details.

I wish you in advance Pesach Sameach.

Liz Bohnen, President, Narayever Board of Governors
president@narayever.ca

RABBI'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

What is God's role in the unfolding of human history? At this time of year, we prepare to celebrate Purim, a holiday in which God is notable for His absence as the Jews of Persia are saved from the wicked devisings of Haman. By contrast, one month later we celebrate Pesach -- a holiday which emphasizes God's role in the redemption of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage to the exclusion of human actors. Even Moses, the great leader of the Exodus, goes unnamed in the haggadah. What are we supposed to make of these seemingly mixed messages? Where is God's hand in the historical events happening in our own time?

Many people of faith see God's involvement in everything that happens on earth. Everything that happens, happens because God wills it so. Sometimes people get sick. Sometimes people get better. Sometimes the person you like wins the election, sometimes not. Sometimes people are saved from their oppressors. Sometimes they aren't. It's all God's will, and God operates in a realm that is beyond our understanding.

Our Jewish tradition maintains a strong faith in God, but does not mandate a belief in this level of divine involvement in the unfolding of events on earth. Many of our sages understood that a faith which insists on that belief could lead to an unhealthy passivity among its adherents. If everything that happens is determined by God, then why should I act to make my situation, or that of my neighbours, or the world, better?

And yet as a people with a strong faith in God's love and caring for His creatures, going all the way back to Genesis, we have not wanted to sever entirely the link between God and what happens to us in our lives. And so we find ourselves going back and forth between being Purim Jews, taking action as best we can to address our challenges as Mordecai and Esther did, and being Pesach Jews, praying for God to intervene in human history and help us because we could never hope to solve our overwhelming problems ourselves. Somewhere in the middle is a place where we know that it is up to us to act, but at the same time hope that God will inspire us with the wisdom and courage to know what the right thing is to do when the time comes, comfort us when things go wrong, and help in ways we may not understand at the time.

Finding the faith that makes sense to us, and also challenges us, is the goal our tradition sets for us at this time of year.

Chag Sameach!

Rabbi Ed Elkin
rabbi@narayever.ca

On February 3 downtown communities and their clergy stood together in hope and peace following the Quebec City tragedy, welcoming their Muslim brothers and sisters to their Friday prayers at the Dawah Muslim Centre on Bloor Street West.





Sunday March 5

Hamentaschen Bake

from 11 am - 2 pm

Please join members of the food committee to prepare hamentaschen for Purim. It's fun for the whole family (we promise not to judge your corners). The rolling, cutting, pinching and filling starts at 11 am and ends at 2 pm.

Lorne Cappe

food@narayever.ca

Please help us reuse and reduce!
 Donate gently used or never opened toys and games for Purim prizes ASAP. Your outgrown toys are another child's most desired item. The toy box is near the coat rack.

Saturday March 11

Young Families Purim and Havdalah

from 5 - 7:15 pm

We will hold a pre-Purim event for young families, including a costume parade, shortened Megillah reading, presentation of the shul's shpiel and carnival. A light dinner will be included. The event will finish with Havdalah.

Saturday March 11

Community Megillat Esther reading

starts at 7 pm

Come, listen to Megillat Esther, see this year's shpiel *Return of the Jew-di*, frolic, play games and parade.

Sunday March 12

Megillat Esther will be read during Sunday morning services.

Pesach this year begins on Monday night April 10.

We wish the entire Narayever family a

chag sameach!

חג פסח שמח וכשר!



■ Services

Yom Tov services will be held beginning at 9 am on Tuesday April 11 (with Tefilat Tal), Wednesday April 12, Monday April 17 and Tuesday April 18 (with Yizkor). On Shabbat Chol HaMoed Pesach, April 15, we will hear a perek of Shir HaShirim. Please note we do not serve kiddush lunch during Pesach.

■ Shabbat HaGadol Shiur: see page 9 for details.



■ Seder Matching

Every year we endeavour to match shul members with other Narayever families for a Passover seder. If you would like to be hosted for a seder or if you would like to open your seder to guests from the shul, please contact Alexa Sulzenko at fn.meal.matching@gmail.com or 416.408.5564.

■ Tzedakah

Please consider helping others of limited means observe a proper Pesach. One way to participate in the mitzvah of maot hittin is to contribute to the National Council of Jewish Women's food drive. This drive provides Pesach food for over 10,000 people in the GTA, and the NCJW must raise \$125,000 to serve all in need. To donate, either go to <http://www.ncjwc-ts.org/> or call 416.633.5100. Delivery day is Sunday April 2 from 8:30 am - 12 pm – let them know if you can help deliver. If you would like a Pesach food basket from NCJW, contact NCJW directly.

Are you in need of financial assistance, to keep a kosher yontif? Rabbi Elkin has special funds set aside for members of the congregation in this situation, so don't be bashful! Please contact the rabbi, in full confidence, at 416.487.4200, or rabbi@narayever.ca.



■ Authorization of agent to sell hametz – mekhirat hametz

There are four ways we fulfill the biblical mitzvah of ridding ourselves of hametz before Passover: 1. We clean our homes. 2. We burn any remaining crumbs. 3. We verbally declare that any hametz in our possession is worthless, nullified, and no longer owned by us. 4. In order to ensure that there is no question about our intent to remove hametz from our possession, we sell hametz to a non-Jew.

You will have to do the cleaning, burning, and nullification. But we can assist you in the sale of the hametz, if you delegate that authority to me by sending in the form below.

You may either drop the form at the shul, or mail it to 187 Brunswick Ave., M5S 2M4, or fax it to 416.927.0486, or scan/email it to *admin@narayever.ca*.

We need to receive the form by Thursday April 6 at the latest in order to take care of this for you.



PESACH - HAME TZ FORM Due by Thursday April 6, 2017

I, _____, (acting on behalf of and with the authorization of my entire family) hereby authorize Rabbi Edward Elkin to act as my agent to sell the hametz that may be at my home, at my place of business, or elsewhere, in accordance with the requirements and provisions of Jewish law. I have placed my hametz and mixtures and objects containing hametz in specially designated storage areas within my home, which is at:

First Address: _____

Second Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please join us for an Information Session on March 26th at 7 pm at the shul. We will have updated information on the renovation approval process and on funding prospects.

Last fall, we applied for a zoning variance which is a necessary first step in the renovation process. In December, the Committee of Adjustment turned down our application. Our neighbours had expressed concerns that our plan would make the shul too big, would create too much activity, and bring too many cars to the street which would cause additional parking difficulties.

We feel that these concerns are not justified and have appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board. We have been assigned a hearing date in June.

We wanted to take the opportunity during this waiting period to remind the congregation of our goals for this renovation. The proposed design, which includes an elevator located at the front of the building, will make our shul accessible to those with mobility difficulties and will provide additional programming and administration space as well as a study for Rabbi Elkin who currently must work out of a home office.



Artist's representation of the Narayever renovation

LGA Architectural Partners have developed a design that we believe will meet our current and future needs, and will enable us to remain consistent with our place in the neighborhood. Above you can see a rendition of the new design, as it would look from the street. To learn more about the proposed design and plans, please be sure to attend the information session on March 26. You may also contact either of the co-chairs of the Building Task Force, Harry Schachter and Anna Pace, at buildingtaskforce@narayever.ca. There's also a detailed FAQ on our website at www.narayever.ca.

The shul has been studying and debating this project for more than a decade. There have been too many occasions when guests of our shul have struggled with our stairs. We also know of shul members for whom the indignity and difficulty associated with negotiating the building are simply unmanageable, and who have decided not to attend. We believe, passionately, that this situation is neither acceptable nor tenable. The number of people affected by our shul's accessibility restrictions is only going to grow as the population ages. While the Building Task Force and Narayever leadership is keenly aware and respectful of the expense and organizational challenges involved in this renovation, the simple fact remains that we cannot be an accessible and inclusive community without change.

Natalie Fingerhut, Building Task Force
buildingtaskforce@narayever.ca

Tanakh Study Group

Our shul has for many years offered opportunities for adult learning after kiddush lunch on Shabbat. We often have special programs with invited speakers present in that slot. But on weeks when there is no invited speaker, Rabbi Ed leads a hearty group of adult learners who want to know and understand our Hebrew Bible better. After a few years of reading the weekly parasha, this group decided to explore later books in the Tanakh. We have read the section known traditionally as the Neviim Rishonim – the books of Joshua, Judges, I and II Samuel, and I and II Kings. In the month of February, we concluded the book of II Kings, and we are now beginning our study of the great prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah is the source of some of the most profound and inspiring passages in biblical literature. Many of his words were chosen by later generations of Jews to be incorporated into our service as haftarot or liturgical selections. We will learn that there is not one, but at least two Isaiahs whose words are incorporated into the book by that name. As we read, we will try to understand what the institution of classical Israelite prophecy was all about, and consider what spiritual, ethical, and political message it may have for us today.

As we begin this new book, this would be a wonderful time for new people to join this informal study circle. There is no commitment to come every week. Feel free to check it out, and join us upstairs in the back office after birkat hamazon whenever you can.

Yiddish Poems About Shabes • Saturday, March 18 • 1:30 pm
Post-kiddush program with Dr. Sheva Zucker

In 1922 the Soviet Yiddish poet Peretz Markish wrote, “Has anyone straying out there/Encountered my radiant Sabbath?” If Markish, living in a somewhat repressive Soviet regime, could write of longing for the Sabbath and its radiance it is no surprise that many Jewish poets dealt with the same theme. Can Jews have that radiance in their lives without strictly observing the Sabbath or does such radiance come only with a pious life? Come read the poems of Peretz Markish, Yankev Glatshteyn, Alexander Shpiglbat and Rashel Veprinski to see how they wrestled with this question.

Dr. Sheva Zucker has taught and lectured on Yiddish language, literature and culture on five continents. She is the academic director of the Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish Language, Literature and Culture, currently under the auspices of Bard College and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research and has taught Yiddish for many years in the program. She is executive director of the League for Yiddish and the editor of its magazine *Afn Shvel*. She is the author of the textbooks *Yiddish: An Introduction to the Language, Literature & Culture, Vols. I & II* and editor and producer of *The Golden Peacock: Voice of the Yiddish Writer*. Her research and translations focus mostly on women in Yiddish literature.

The Spiritual and The Political at Our Seders: Shiur with Rabbi Elkin
Shabbat Hagadol • April 8 • After Kiddush

Passover is a holiday about freedom, but what kind of freedom do we celebrate on this holiday? The idea of freedom has spiritual meaning, but also political meaning. This is a year when many members of our community are feeling very passionate about political developments in the world around us. When we apply the message of the holiday to contemporary political issues at our seders, what do we gain? What are the pitfalls of making these connections? Join Rabbi Elkin for this pre-Passover discussion.

Reuven Sholzberg, Adult Education Chair
education@narayever.ca



Our Annual Yom HaShoah Commemoration

Sunday April 23 at 7 pm

Please join us as we come together to honour the memory of those murdered in the Shoah.

Mincha will begin at 6:45 pm and the full Holocaust Remembrance ceremony will follow from 7 to 8:30 pm. We will listen to readings and music, light memorial candles, recite the names of family members who perished, and participate in song and prayer. This is an important event in our annual shul calendar. Members young and old are encouraged to take part. Special Yom HaShoah commemorative candles will be available for pickup at the shul starting a few weeks prior to the commemoration.



SAVE THE DATE

Our annual Yom HaZikaron Commemoration and Yom HaAtzmaut Celebration

Tuesday May 2, 7 - 8:30 pm

Watch for details in Narayever Net

PESACH IN A SYRIAN REFUGEE CAMP

Sunday April 2, 10:30 am

Last year Narayever member Jessica (last name withheld for security reasons) spent the first night of Pesach, and the following two months, in a refugee camp in Greece where she translated for Syrians who had survived the perilous journey by boat to the Greek islands and were being detained under the terms of the Safe Third Country agreement between the EU and Turkey.

Join us as she shares her experience of what Syrian refugees go through to find safety, and her understanding of what the Safe Third Country agreement meant for Syrians.

Jessica is a PhD candidate in Religion at the University of Toronto, where she works on the development of Greek philosophical ideas in medieval Arabic thought. She lived in Syria for two years before the war began, and currently works as a volunteer interpreter for Syrian newcomers to Canada as much as she can.



INITIATING A RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE AT THE NARAYEVER

We are currently looking at ways our congregation could support the recommendations in Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission and work towards greater reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada (especially within our own Jewish community). This initiative will include several events and other opportunities over the course of 2017 as we hope to draw attention to the colonial context of Canada's 150th birthday and find ways to support and learn about the continuing resilience of Indigenous peoples on Turtle Island.



For more information about efforts underway, or to become involved in this work, please contact Pippa Feinstein.

ANNOUNCING OUR 2017 YOM KIPPUR APPEAL RECIPIENTS

Over this year's High Holy Days, our community was able to raise over \$69,000 for charities here in the GTA and in Israel. Below are this year's recipients of our Social Action Fund:

Heart to Heart which brings 10 Jewish Israeli and 10 Palestinian Israeli youth to Canada to spend time with one another and hear from and interact with the Jewish, Muslim, and Arab communities in the GTA. Through these experiences and dialogues they are encouraged to help promote peace in Israel upon their return home.

Jewish Free Loan which is a micro-financing organization that provides interest-free loans to members of the Jewish community in need, helping them to be financially self-sufficient and maintain their dignity during times of financial hardship.

Jewish Family and Child Services' Passover Assistance Program which provides a community seder and other assistance to those living in poverty during pesach.

The Downtown Jewish Community School which requires funding for enrichment programs for its students throughout the year. Many members of our community have attended or had their children attend the DJCS.

Ve'ahavta's Mobile Response to Homelessness which is dedicated to responding to the needs of the marginalized and vulnerable – both Jewish and non-Jewish – via a van that provides food and harm reduction supplies to Toronto's homeless community.

Krembo Wings which provides much-needed recreational opportunities for marginalized children and youth with disabilities in Israel. The organization is also dedicated to providing safe spaces for cross-cultural understanding between its diverse attendees as well as important dialogues about inclusion of those with special needs in Israel.



Kehilla an organization that champions affordable housing initiatives responsive to the needs of the Jewish community in the GTA.

First Interfaith Out Of The Cold Program which provides some much needed relief to the homeless in Toronto. Many members of our congregation have been very active with Out of the Cold for a number of years.

Merchavim is an Israeli non-profit dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion in schools across the country. Narayever funding will be put towards their "Art of Kulanana" program which provides an opportunity for 9 – 12 year olds from diverse backgrounds (Arabic Israeli, secular and ultra-orthodox Jews, and others) to get to learn about one another and build bridges between their communities through various art projects.

Kashouvot is an Israeli initiative that brings pastoral care into medical and community settings across the country. Its model is unique as it provides spiritual care for ill people in healthcare institutions, something that isn't otherwise institutionalized in Israel.

Leket is Israel's largest food bank and food rescue network. It collects and redistributes excess food across the country in order to feed those in need.

Dualis offers employment and vocational training opportunities to economically and socially marginalized members of Israeli society in order to assist them in their efforts to become self-sufficient.

Pippa Feinstein, Social Action Chair
socialaction@narayever.ca

COMMUNICATIONS

Issues of privacy are an ongoing concern in the digital age. A number of concerns raised by parents recently have prompted the Communications Committee to evaluate our privacy policy and make some changes that we feel are necessary for the privacy and safety of our members and their children. From now on, children's names will no longer be published in any shul publication and photos of children will appear only with parental permission.

Announcements regarding the birth of a child or grandchild will name only the parent or grandparent and refer generically to the birth of a son/daughter or grandson/granddaughter.

Parents enrolling their children in bar/bat mitzvah classes will also be asked to sign a waiver allowing us to use their child's name in our announcements and on the board outside the shul.

Susan Starkman
Communications Committee Chair

Twice this winter, the social hall brimmed with congregants, young and old; brightening dark nights and dancing to the thought of spring in Israel.

70 members celebrated Chanukah, Motzei Shabbat December 24, with a delicious meal prepared by Rachel Zilberg, a silly movie, and singing led by Sabrina Friedman. We were also enlightened by the visiting scholar Rabbi Michael Lerner's words that a central message of Judaism and Chanukah exists in the possibility of transforming our present times of despair to a bright future through Tikkun Olam.

On Tu B'shvat, Saturday evening February 11, the dynamic and musical Erica Denburg and Sabrina Friedman enchanted the nearly 60 celebrants at a young family Tu B'shvat Seder with a non-stop Seder, songs, dances, books, and games. After havdalah, Jared Peck, Sabrina, Erica and Sarah Colman led a rousing medley of Tu B'shvat and folk songs. The evening was tempered by congregant Dianne Saxe, the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, who reminded us that the Jewish responsibility for the environment can be addressed in part by an essential Tikkun Olam; writing to ask your municipal, provincial and federal representatives what they are doing to promote action on climate change issues.

Thank you to Erica Denburg, Gill Lefkowitz, Timothy Hunt, Ann Komaromi, Leisa Hirtz, Jared Peck, Sarah Colman, Constantin Socalski, Rabbi Elkin and Sabrina Friedman for helping to plan and organize our celebrations.

Jill Magen, Celebrations Chair
celebrations@narayever.ca

MEMBERSHIP & SHUL COMMUNITY

The highlight of my year as Membership Chair is definitely the havdalah service held to welcome new members to the Narayever. On January 14, new members, board and membership committee members, Narayever staff and our ShinShinim gathered at Rabbi Ed and Linda's home to mingle over a scrumptious meal prepared by our own Rachel Zilberg. It is very exciting for me to have an opportunity to meet new congregants, most of whom I have spoken with by phone, and discover what drew them to us. Our pride in our shul is certainly contagious. We are hopeful that this year's new members will be with us for a long time and we will have the opportunity to share in their life cycle events. Thank you to all who helped plan this event and those who attended.

Narayever is always open to welcoming new members. If you have friends or family who may be interested in joining our community please encourage them to check us out either in person on any Shabbat or on our website at www.narayever.ca. We can also be found on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/FirstNarayever. I am always available by phone or e-mail to answer membership related questions.

At Narayever nobody is denied membership due to an inability to pay full fees. There is a significant cost to this policy. I encourage those who are able to help to contact the shul office and donate to our Membership Subsidy Fund.

David Barkin
membership@narayever.ca



2017 has kicked-off to a great start for members of our young community. Looking at March and April of 2017, we've got exciting and meaningful programming planned for our children and youth. Here you'll find information on leadership opportunities as well as ongoing and upcoming programming for a range of age groups.

■ Shabbat Morning Programs

Our regular Shabbat programming for young people continues every week. See <http://narayever.ca/youth-programs/> for details.

■ Bat/Bar Mitzvah Class

Our trip to the Mikveh in January was a great success. Everyone learned about the history and contemporary relevance of the mikveh ritual, and three brave souls in our class made the meaningful decision to actually immerse. Many questions were answered, and a great time was had by all. While Sabrina was in Israel, shul member Abigail Carpenter-Winch provided a substitute class lesson for the Narayever BBM class on Tzitzit and Tefillin. A huge thanks to Abigail for all of her efforts and for a great class.

■ Teens

Our Chalutzim program is geared to teens (grades 8 - 12) and gives them the chance to relax, socialize and enjoy programming that is created and tailored for their enjoyment. A major goal of Chalutzim programming is to get the chance to meet and get to know our ShinShinim, Yahav and Yuval. All are welcome! After a successful first Chalutzim Shabbat in December, our second will be on Saturday March 18. The ShinShinim's program will begin immediately after services, and will last approximately 1.5 hours. Watch for details in Narayever Net.

■ Leadership Opportunities

Are you 13 - 18 and looking to begin gathering some work experience? For more information, contact me at narayeverfyec@gmail.com or visit <http://narayever.ca/youth-programs/> and fill out an application.

■ April Young Families Event

Sunday April 30, from 2-3:30 pm. Watch for details in Narayever Net.

TAKE ON A ROLE ON YOM HaZIKARON - Tuesday May 2, from 7 - 8:30 pm

The ShinShinim are looking to our community's youth (ages 11-19) to take on roles in the annual Yom HaZikaron/Israeli Remembrance Day commemoration event on Tuesday May 2, 7 - 8:30 pm. Do you have a special talent, such as playing a musical instrument, singing, visual art, public speaking or technical skills? Rehearsal Schedule: • Monday April 3, 7 - 9 pm • Saturday April 29, 8:30 - 10 pm • Monday May 1, 6 - 9 pm • Tuesday May 2, 4:30 - 6:30 pm.

Please RSVP to Sabrina with your interest by Sunday March 26, 2017.

Sabrina Friedman, Family and Youth Engagement Coordinator FNC
sabrina@narayever.ca

SHINSHINIM IN THE BIG CITY

Dear Toronto Diary,

We have been here for almost 200 days! Mind-boggling, right? We've had the best time in the last 5 months and we thought that we would share with you some of the insights we've noticed about the differences between Toronto and Israel.

Firstly, we wish we could be like cell phones - turn ourselves off when it gets below -5 degrees. This place is so cold.

Secondly, you learn to appreciate the little things about home once you move away. The little things like speaking your mother tongue and being familiar with where you are.

Time goes by so quickly here. This feels like one of those life experiences you can only process once it's over. We want to make the most of the time we have left here and to really get to know as many people as we can in the best way. The main way we hope to do that is through our upcoming March/April programs at the Narayever:

- Purim on Saturday evening, March 11
- Chalutzim Shabbat (grades 8 - 12) on Saturday March 18
- Chug Ivrit Sunday March 26, 7 - 9 pm
- Movie night "The Band's Visit" Tuesday April 4, 7 - 9 pm
- Yom HaZikaron/Yom HaAtzmaut event Tuesday May 2, 7 - 8:30 pm

Until next time, Yahav and Yuval



Booking Bar and Bat Mitzvahs for 2019

Is your daughter or son approaching the age of bat / bar mitzvah?

We're now booking BBMs for 2019! Check out the shul website for everything you'll need to know about booking and celebrating your simcha as a member of the Narayever community.

For more information, please contact either the office or Simon Houpt, chair of the BBM Committee, at bbm@narayever.ca

SHUL MATTERS

HOSTING A SHINSHIN

Every year, the Narayever sponsors two young Israelis to become a part of our community. These young people are two of twenty-five youth who have been selected to volunteer in Toronto through the Jewish Federation's Israel Engagement program. We choose the Narayever's "ShinShinim" based on their enthusiasm, intelligence, creativity, and 'fit' with our community.



This year, our ShinShinim are Yahav Gal and Yuval Mor. If you have been to shul on Shabbat morning, attended a community dinner, been to any special celebrations, had a child in the Bar/Bat Mitzvah class, been to a "Chug Ivrit" at Aroma, watched or discussed a movie at a Narayever Movie Night, or attended a Chalutzim event, you will know them well. Our ShinShinim bring Israel to life for Narayeverniks of all ages and interests.

In late August, our new ShinShinim will arrive in Toronto, eager to share their relationship with Israel with our community. One of the most rewarding parts of the ShinShinim program is hosting a ShinShin in your home. Hosting is a three-month commitment. We are looking for families with children living at home who are interested in this very special opportunity. We are beginning to choose host families now!

Itay "so fun" Sofan couldn't have a more appropriate nickname. This kibbutznik is down to earth, helpful, hardworking, supportive and has a very positive, "ready for anything" attitude.

Gal "ma'agal" Grinberg has a unique, understated confidence and charm about her that immediately draws people in. She is genuine, perceptive, caring, creative and stands out as an encouraging leader who always finds a way to elevate those around her.

Both Gal and Itay have been to Toronto on a short-term delegation with the Diller Teen Fellows Program and have experience staying with host families. They are thrilled to be joining our Narayever community.

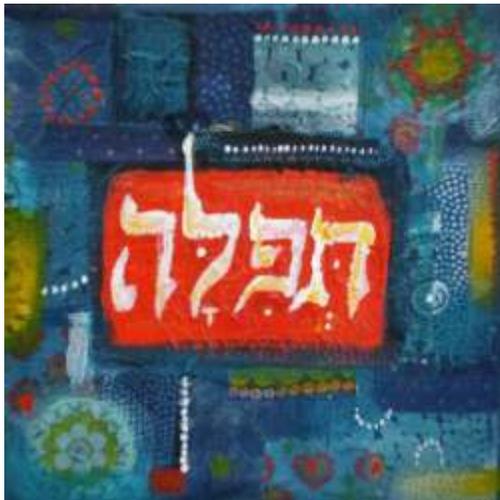
For more information contact me and I will be happy to speak with you about the ins and outs of hosting a ShinShin. Through our relationships with the ShinShinim, we engage with Israel in a deep and meaningful way. We also share our special, inclusive downtown sensibility with two exceptional young people.

Marcia Beck, ShinShinim Lay Leader
becklevine@gmail.com



My teacher, Rabbi Larry Hoffman, one of the leading contemporary experts in Jewish liturgy, writes that, "Perhaps first and foremost, prayer is a delivery system for committing us to the great ideas that make life worth living, because ideas that are ritually construed empower us to do what we would otherwise never have the courage to do. Prayer moves us to see our lives more clearly against the backdrop of eternity, concentrating our attention on verities that we would otherwise forget. It imparts Judaism's canon of great concepts and moves us to live our lives by them."

To be moved in this way, and to move others in this way, is perhaps one of the most sacred callings. In an age where more and more often we are looking for courage; where the time for action feels, perhaps, impending - we cannot forget the power of prayer, which calls us to attention, reflection and then, yes, action. It is, perhaps, the best place - maybe even the only place - to start.



It was a wonderful experience to share my D'var Tefillah at Narayever in January. It was particularly nice to find that my teachings inspired some of you to express interest in learning how to lead the community in prayer. We are always adding to our roster of Tefillah leaders, so please don't hesitate to contact me if you're considering learning as well!

May each of us find prayer to be a meaningful element of our lives - individually, and communally.

Rabbi Emma Gottlieb
tefillah@narayever.ca

MAZEL TOV TO...

- Ann Komaromi, for receiving the AATSEEL 2016 prize for the best book in literary and cultural studies for her book *Uncensored: Samizdat Novels and the Quest for Autonomy in Soviet Dissidence*
- Jennie Lai and Jason Applebaum, on the birth of their son
- Ryan Peck, for being awarded the Sidney B. Linden Award by Legal Aid Ontario
- Rhona Phillips Carniol and Ben Carniol, on the birth of their grandson
- Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press, on the birth of their grandson
- Hilary and Ron Goldenberg, on the birth of their grandson

מזל טוב!

SHUL MATTERS



COORDINATING SHABBAT SERVICES 7 things you didn't (necessarily) know about service coordination

■ By Michal Er-el and Ben Carniol

It's been almost two years, since two key congregation members, Dalia Margalit and Jeroham Singer left the Narayever. Over the years the Narayever relied on them to

volunteer their time and energy to organize, coordinate and lead Shabbat services. Their departure left a big gap that needed to be filled and that's when we became involved. In preparation, we met with Rabbi Ed and later with Dalia and divided the role between us. We thought we would interview ourselves to share some of our experiences so far, and to let you in on a few lesser-known facts:

■ What made you agree to become a service coordinator?

Ben: It's a way of volunteering for the Shul, and "giving back" for the many spiritual and social benefits we receive by attending Shul on Shabbat.

Michal: I considered it an honour and was very touched that Narayever leadership trusted me with this important responsibility.

■ What part/s of the role are you enjoying the most?

Ben: Experiencing the smiles, contentment, and warm cooperation by congregants when they are asked and agree to have an aliyah, hold Rabbi Ed's tallis for his prayer for the children, open/close the ark or participate in Hagba (lifting the Torah) and Gelila (dressing the Torah).

Michal: I enjoy helping the service run smoothly and feel moved and grateful when a congregant is trying something new for the first time, be it leading a part of the service or opening the ark.

■ What do you find challenging?

Ben: Getting to Shul early when it's my turn to be the service coordinator; keeping track of who has which aliyah since we can't write any notes on Shabbat.

Michal: I find it stressful when there are very few people at the shul right before the Torah reading begins, especially when a person who asked for an aliyah is not yet there when we start the service.

■ What have you learned so far- about the congregation, about yourself?

Ben: That the vast majority of the congregation is eager for participation and feels that receiving an honour is an honour. Being name challenged it's good for me to learn names of congregants. I learned that I can find spaces to daven during the service even while focusing on what needs to be done next and that it is possible for me to keep track without writing down names of who has been asked for which aliyah.

SHUL MATTERS

Michal: I've learned (once again!) about the kindness of our congregants: People are always willing to help, either by taking on an honour, bringing up the wine for Kiddush, putting back the Rimonim on the Torah or by helping out in the kitchen when the service runs early. I've learned that we are somewhat unique in offering non-members and visitors an aliyah, and I now remember most of the members who are a Kohen or a Levi. I've also learned that I can overcome some of my deep-rooted shyness in order to fulfill this role.



■ What message would you like to convey to Narayever members?

Ben: Thank you so much for your cooperation, even when occasionally I forget to pull out your card, so that you need to give your Hebrew name to the Gabbai.

Michal: Thank you for your support and for understanding when "glitches" happen. We would like to encourage everyone to learn one role that they have not tried before, especially leading a part of the service. Every small piece contributes to the intricate mosaic which is Shabbat service, as beautifully captured by our new Tefillah Coach and Coordinator, Rabbi Emma, in her recent Dvar Tefillah. (<http://narayever.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Rabbi-Emma-Gottlieb-Dvar.pdf>)

We would like to thank Rabbi Ed, for his friendly, up-beat manner in facilitating our role, for his leadership in "moving the service along" so that we are able to fit our role within that process, for identifying who is a Kohen, Levi, who could be asked to lead Kiddush. We are so blessed to have a Rabbi who, among other wonderful attributes, remembers names and faces.

Things members may not know...

1. We typically hand out most honours for the day by 9:55 am.
2. Women are invited to do Hagba- let us know if you're interested!
3. Summer time is a great way to practice your leading skills in front of a smaller crowd. Also if you come early, you are almost guaranteed to have an aliyah.
4. There is no need to explain to us why you are choosing not to accept an honour; feel free to politely say no, so we can move on and find another person who is willing.
5. Aliyot requests are received by the Wednesday before the Shabbat on which you'd like an aliyah (aliyot@narayever.ca). A longer notice is much appreciated; it allows us to plan the service and ensure that everyone who has a yahrzeit (or other special event) can receive an aliyah.
6. We keep a log of members' preferences; you can let us know during lunch if you have a strong like or dislike of a certain role.
7. We now have options for gender-neutral language in calling people up for an aliyah! Please contact Rabbi Ed or Michal if you'd like to discuss the language that would fit you.

TWO GALS AND A HATCHBACK COMPLETE A JOB FOUR YEARS IN THE MAKING

■ By Janet Horowitz

The January day dawned thankfully clear and mild as two intrepid Narayeverniks, former Centennial Committee Chair Micky Fraterman and archivist-in-training Janet Horowitz, loaded a silver hatchback with four large cartons and set out for the shul's storage facility on Tycos Road. We were wrapping up a task that began nearly four years earlier, when the idea of creating an exhibit for the Narayever's 100th anniversary got its start.

The process of creating "Traditions and Transitions: 100 Years of the First Narayever Congregation" began in 2012 with a series of meetings of volunteers. As the concept expanded and the proposed venue moved from our social hall to the Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre, more experienced hands were required: Sharoni Sibony, a shul member and manager of the Jewish Life Department at the MNjcc, was called in as curator; the Ontario Jewish Archives, the Museum Studies Department at U of T and many talented individuals gave us the benefit of their expertise. Stories, photos, and documents were submitted by a host of contributors, both members and non-members. After two years of planning, collecting, captioning, writing, drawing, interviewing and synthesizing, "Traditions and Transitions" was launched on October 1, 2014 and ran for the entire month.



Janet Horowitz and Micky Fraterman

What happens to an expired exhibit? Long after takedown a representative from the Ontario Jewish Archives examined all our source material and exhibition pieces. Those deemed appropriate for the OJA archives were taken to its climate-controlled facilities at the Lipa Green Building.

Among that long list were the obvious: meeting minutes; membership lists; newsletters. But some were unique: records regarding the court case that arose as we planned to become egalitarian; original documents used for researching our centennial celebrations; albums documenting our play "SHTICK!" and our trip to Israel; photographs of events hosted by the congregation; and nine video interviews with individuals connected to the historical development of the shul.

The "leftovers" that stayed behind comprised the entire centennial exhibit-- documents, drawings, signage, photographs and a DVD of it all. These were carefully inventoried, wrapped, packaged, and labelled for storage, hopefully protected against the ravages of time, perhaps to be someday exhumed and repurposed in a new incarnation by another generation of Narayever members.

And so, after residing over 25 months in the nooks and crevices of an Annex house they were on their way to a final home. Wending our way through the warren of lockers we found the Narayever room. Space was at a premium, but after surveying the territory we spied some open area on the highest shelf. Without benefit of climbing rope or belaying devices we climbed a small mount of boxes and set our memorabilia in place, where it will now keep good company with our High Holy Day machzorim, curtains for the gym, and Ark. Suffused with a feeling of great satisfaction at having a longstanding task finally completed, the moving personnel left the locker, turned in the key, and celebrated with coffee at a local café.



A VIBRANT YIDDISH CULTURE

■ By Paul Pascal

Canadian ethnographer/anthropologist Wade Davis tells us that 6,000 - 7,000 distinct living languages were documented in the twentieth century. Of those, fully half have become extinct in our lifetime or will soon be extinct. Some observers have put the rate of extinction at one language every two weeks. More recently, other ethnographers have recalibrated that rate to be “only” one language every three months. In his TED lectures, Davis takes on those who are “fine with” the death rate of languages, i.e., those who assert that a world where everyone will speak the same language will be a more unified, cohesive

world. “Okay,” retorts Davis (in English, obviously, and to an English-speaking audience), “and are you ‘fine with’ that if the one universal language were Yoruba [a language of central Africa], or Cantonese?” What would it mean to you if it is you, asks Davis, who lose that key to your entire culture and way of life? “A language is more than vocabulary and grammar,” he reminds us. “It is the essence of a civilization, the indispensable portal to its wealth of wisdom, history, and creativity; a unique expression of the human imagination and heart; an old-growth forest of the mind.”

Davis’ wake-up call should have particular resonance for us as Jews. The prevailing notion today is that the Jewish people has a single distinctly Jewish language, namely Hebrew. A century or so ago this position was neither obvious nor the consensus. On the contrary, it was hotly contested in Jewish circles, and the linguistic centrality of Hebrew was the result of conscious decision-making that shut out Yiddish and other Jewish languages as less legitimate, with Hebrew as victor, emerging out of fractious and acrimonious debate and clash within the Jewish world. Its acceptance and status were far from an organic evolution.

It will likely be no news to readers of this article that as a living, spoken language, Hebrew, at the turn of the last century, was dead. Not to put too fine a point on it, Hebrew was already essentially dead even in the ancient Land of Israel for six centuries before the Jewish expulsion by the Romans in 70 C.E. During those six centuries, starting from the first Jewish expulsion, perpetrated by the Babylonians, our ancestors spoke the language of their oppressor, Aramaic, which was eventually elevated to its position as a second Jewish holy tongue.

Some readers may be surprised to learn that even in our own day there are at minimum 27 distinctly Jewish languages worldwide. Most of them are, as we can infer from Davis’ advisory, struggling for survival (in part, at least, due to the “Jewish language wars” referred to above).

Because the majority of them bear names that hyphenate “Judeo-” with a language spoken by an ethnic population among whom Jews lived and mingled, it is tempting to view such Jewish tongues as mere dialects or tweaks of their surrounding languages, but in fact most of them can be considered languages in their own right.

They are distinct from their counterparts in their phonology (pattern of speech sounds); in the way in which new words are formed; in their grammar and syntax; in their admixture of words with specifically Jewish significance and of words that reflect the migrations of its Jewish speakers; and so on.

Most of these languages use the Hebrew alphabet or a variant of it. Examples include Judeo-Tat (spoken by Caucasus Mountain Jews), Judeo-Marathi (spoken by Bene-Israel of India), Yahudi (Iraqi Judeo-Arabic), not to mention the more widely known Ladino (also known as Judezmo or Judeo-Spanish) and Yiddish.

MOTHER TONGUES

At the turn of the twentieth century, Yiddish was the first language of 80% of world Jewry. (To be clear, that is 80% of all Jews worldwide, not 80% of only Ashkenazi Jews.) Even so, it was often derided as a bastardization of German—not a real language. Journalists and authors writing in Yiddish sometimes tried to add what they thought was “legitimacy” to Yiddish by an infusion of modern German vocabulary, their efforts referred to as “Daytshmerish”. Furthermore, when Yiddish terms needed to be transcribed into English, this was done using German spelling rules, such as in words like “schtick” (rather than “shtick”), “Bei Mir Bistu Shoen” (instead of “Bay Mir Bistu Sheyn”), “mensch” (for mentsh), and so on. (This practice, happily, was reduced—to a degree—later in the century, once transcription of Yiddish into the English alphabet was given its own uniquely Jewish standardization by the philologists and historians working with an institute known as YIVO, first in Vilna and later transferring to New York. The story of YIVO is worthy of a Narayever article of its own, to say the least.)

Yiddish is no more a bastardization of German than French is a bastardization of Latin. Indeed, a unilingual German speaker today would be at sea attempting a fluid conversation in Yiddish, given its vast component of Hebrew and Slavic vocabulary, given the many words in Yiddish which, while Germanic in origin, went into disuse by Germans 800-900 years ago (much as Chaucer’s English did for Anglophones), given its sentence structure so unlike German’s, as well as its nuanced cultural and religious references, its range of regional pronunciations, and so on. (Reading Yiddish, with its Hebrew-derived alphabet, would, of course, be impossible for a German coming to it without specifically Jewish learning.) Here is a sample sentence to show how Yiddish can differ from standard German. (For the purposes of this illustration, the Yiddish will be transcribed into the Roman alphabet, using YIVO rules for doing so.)

English: There is a dream in the Book of Genesis that I would like you to decipher.

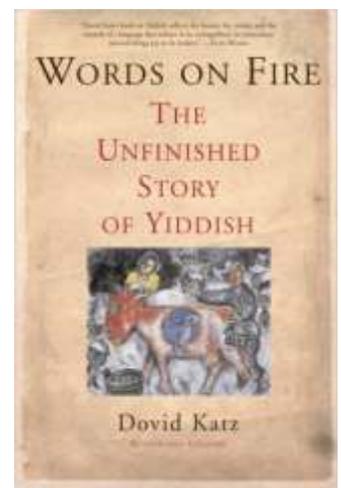
German: Es gibt im Buch Genesis einem Traum denn ich möchte Sie dass zu entziffern.

Yiddish: Es iz faran a kholem in seyfer breyshis vos ikh volt gevolt ir zolt oystaytshn.

Now, granted that in this example I’ve stacked the deck a bit by including a religious reference, for starters, but despite the possible error or two in my German, the general principle still holds: Yiddish is not garbled German. It is its own language. So too is it the case with many of the other 26 Jewish world languages (albeit to different degrees). However, in line with Wade Davis’ warning, there is fear that virtually all Jewish languages except Hebrew are on their last legs, along with whole worlds of history, philosophy, literature, and much more.

Despite that achingly sad prospect, there are those who do not fully agree with its pessimistic view, certainly not in the case of Yiddish. The details of their position will have to wait for another article.

See link to read Paul’s full article at <http://narayever.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/A-VIBRANT-YIDDISH-CULTURE.pdf>





MY JUDAISM LIVES IN TORONTO

■ By Aviva Philipp-Muller

This was the first year since my Bat-Mitzvah that I haven't fasted on Yom Kippur. I didn't have a good excuse. Though I grew up in Toronto, in the basement of the Narayever, on Bathurst street, in What a Bagel and United Dairy Bakery, I recently moved to Columbus, Ohio for graduate school. Unlike most of my Jewish peers who went to McGill or Queens, I hadn't left Toronto for my Bachelor's degree. And so my Judaism in university looked pretty similar to what it had been up until that point. I went to the University of Toronto during the week, and came home to my parents' home for Shabbat (which sometime lasted until sundown on Sunday if I was low on food or just missed the warm comfort of my parents' North Toronto home).

And so attendance at High Holiday services and Yom Ha'Shoah and a smattering of Saturdays in between was assumed. Going to my Aunt Joy's for luncheon on the first day of Rosh Hashanah was as ingrained a habit as washing my hands before a meal. It wasn't hard to be Jewish and to practice my Jewishness in the place where I had learned it. The community I had grown up in and my Jewish community were one and the same. No choice was required on my part. I had long ago clicked off the "opt-in" box, and I was content to passively practice my Judaism.

My Judaism lived, pulsing in the back of my mind.

Since living in Columbus, I can't say that I have even had a passive involvement in Judaism. Prior to the High Holidays I googled Columbus synagogues, in the hopes of finding a small, liberal (maybe even egalitarian?) Columbus shul. I Facebook friended one of the two other Jews in my program with the intention of asking him for shul recommendations. In the end, I attended no services and marked the High Holidays with nothing more than a "contemplative walk" on Rosh Hashanah morning. Joining another shul felt weird and off, like writing with the wrong hand. Practicing my Judaism outside of Toronto would feel almost like practicing another religion all together. Judaism for me was the Narayever and Bathurst street and my aunt's Rosh Hashanah luncheon. As I scrolled through possible shuls to temporarily join for the High Holidays, imagining myself praying by myself in a foreign shul felt like it would be performative. I had taken such an inactive role in my practice of Judaism that I had deferred it to those around me- my family, my shul, my city. That's where my Judaism lived, and so when I left my community in Toronto for Columbus, my practice of Judaism didn't follow me.

I was scheduled to fly home for a brief school break the evening of break fast on Yom Kippur. I left campus for the airport after my last class of the day. I ate chips and a sandwich on the plane. My flight arrived in Toronto and I figured I could get home by around 11:00 pm. I thought maybe my parents' annual break fast celebrations would still be going. I thought at the very least there would still be some food out from the event. But everyone had gone home by the time I arrived at my parents' house. I asked if there was any food left over, hoping to break the one hour fast I was currently on. But there had been a rare miscalculation and there were no leftovers. Everything had been put away, the counters scrubbed.

A few weeks ago, while at a conference in Texas, I sat talking with my two fellow Jewish graduate students. We talked about Yiddish (of which I know very little) and Jewish families (of which I know many), and I was surprised by how similar our experiences of Judaism had been. I was surprised by how nice and familiar it felt to be around others that shared this part of my identity; to connect over shared experiences and use a common vocabulary. My Judaism was with me. Somewhere between commiserating about clingy grandmothers and the layperson's misuse of simple Hebrew terms it had seeped back in, buzzing, active, and I realized that I am responsible for keeping my Judaism alive.

We warmly welcome to our Narayever Community

- Lawrence Aronovitch, Joel Beddows and their daughter
- Jonathan Keeley
- Naomi Midanik, Michael Tencer and their daughter

ברוכים הבאים!



DONATIONS

The shul gratefully acknowledges the following donations made to our various funds from mid-December to mid-February.

We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions. Please inform the shul office so that a correction can be made.

If you would like to make a donation to one of our funds, please call the shul office at 416.927.0546

We also accept donations via CanadaHelps, www.canadahelps.org and click on Narayever.

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

- Laraine and Neil Naft, in memory of Joan Schoenfeld's father Edward Gulin
- Lillian and Eric Mendelsohn, in memory of Edward Gulin
- Janet Horowitz, in honour of Esther and Ben Geva's special birthdays
- Dyanooosh Youssefi, in memory of Noa Mendelsohn-Aviv's mother Jennifer Mendelsohn

BUILDING FUND

- Malka Greene, in honour of Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press

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- Brenlee Robinson, in honour of the yahrzeiten of her parents Connie and Myles Sheldon Robinson
- Lisa Rosen and Kivi Shapiro, in memory of Jennifer Mendelsohn
- Emily Satterthwaite and Yosh Halberstam, in memory of Jennifer Mendelsohn
- Lesley Turner and Joanne Patterson, in memory of Ben Carniol's brother Sid Cohen
- Liz Bohnen, in memory of Sid Cohen

CELEBRATIONS FUND

- Ann Komaromi and Leo Livak, thanking Jill Magen-Lichtblau for all her efforts with Celebrations and wishing the congregation a chag sameach
- Lesley and Peter Sevitt, wishing mazel tov to Patricia Patchet Golubev on her special birthday
- Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press, wishing mazel tov to Tirzah Meacham and Harry Fox on their special birthdays

DANIEL CAMENIETZKI LIBRARY FUND

- Elaine and Peter Gold, in honour of the yahrzeit of Elaine's mother Lila Zuker

GENERAL FUND

- Lillian and Eric Mendelsohn, in memory of Sid Cohen
- Rabbi Miriam Margles, in support of the community
- Matthew Light, thanking the Narayever community for their wonderful High Holy Day services
- Terry and Sara Borer, in support of the community

HESED FUND

- Leslie and Harvey Starkman, in memory of Beulah Wagman
- Roger Chaplin, in support of the community

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- Lili Little and Mitchel Smith, in memory of Beulah Wagman
- Nancy and Larry Fox, in memory of Beulah Wagman
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- Lili Little and Mitchel Smith, in memory of Jennifer Mendelsohn
- Janet Horowitz, in honour of the yahrzeit of her father Manny Kirschenbaum

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- Shirley and Sam Rubenzahl, in honour of Rabbi Ed and for all the good work that he does
- Yael Schacter and Greg Beiles, thanking Rabbi Ed for his care and support on the occasion of Zoe's Bat Mitzvah
- Anna and Wilfred Teper, in gratitude for safe arrival
- Sandra Kamenir, in honour of the yahrzeit of her father Morris Kamenir
- Anonymous
- Alexandra Simsilevich, in honour of her grandfather Dr. Roy Wyman
- Judy Rapkin and Victor Helfand, wishing mazel tov to Rhona Phillips-Carniol and Ben Carniol on the birth of their grandson
- Lesley Simpson and Mark Guttman, wishing mazel tov Rhona Phillips-Carniol and Ben Carniol on the birth of their grandson
- Lesley Simpson and Mark Guttman, in honour of Jill Magen-Lichtblau and Gary Lichtblau's 25th wedding anniversary
- Lesley Simpson and Mark Guttman, wishing a happy birthday to Mary Martha Starkman

DONATIONS

- Lesley Simpson and Mark Guttman, with thanks to Dorothy and Albert Gellman for their hospitality
- Sheine Mankovsky, in memory of Beulah Wagman
- Peggy Solomon and Abraham Hirs, in support of the Rabbi's work
- Tammi Goldstein, in memory of Israel Goldstein
- Robin Warshawsky, in honour of the yahrzeit of her mother Adrienne Warshawsky, and with thanks to Rabbi Elkin and the community
- Peikang Dai, with gratitude to Rabbi Ed for his care and wonderful teachings
- Judy Rapkin and Victor Helfand, in memory of Sid Cohen
- Esther and Ben Geva, in memory of Sid Cohen

SHINSHINIM FUND

- Brenda and Jerry Enchin, in memory of Edward Gulin
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- Marcia Beck and Mischa Levine, in memory of Sid Cohen
- Difat Jakubovicz and Avi Schonbach, in memory of Sid Cohen
- Sharon Abron Drache, in memory of Iris Drache
- Sharon Abron Drache, in memory of Dare Shapiro
- Sharon Abron Drache, in memory of Sid Cohen
- Sharon Abron Drache, wishing mazel tov to Rhona Phillips-Carniol and Ben Carniol on the birth of their grandson
- Sharon Abron Drache, in honour of the upcoming wedding of Ben Hertzman and Danna Goldlist

SIDDUR LEV SHALEM BOOKPLATE DEDICATIONS

- Joan and Stuart Schoenfeld, in honour of the birth of their granddaughter
- Joan and Stuart Schoenfeld, in memory of Joan's father Edward Gulin
- Michael, Maury and Minda Miloff and families, in memory of their parents and grandparents Harold and Gloria Miloff
- Joel Yaphe, Lori Albert, Hannah and Elan, in honour of the yahrzeit of their father and grandfather Wilfred Yaphe
- The Sharir-Smith Family, in honour of Rabbi Elkin

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

- Social Action Committee / Refugee Core Group, in memory of Beulah Wagman
- Miriam Diamond, in memory of Beulah Wagman
- Miriam Diamond, in honour of Jill Magen-Lichtblau and Gary Lichtblau's 25th wedding anniversary
- Andrea Parker Simhon, in honour of the yahrzeiten of her parents Sylvia and Earl Parker
- Philip Berger, in memory of Jennifer Mendelsohn
- Susan Hoffmann, in memory of Jennifer Mendelsohn
- Laraine and Neil Naft, in memory of Sid Cohen
- Brenda and Jerry Enchin, in memory of Sid Cohen
- Esther and Ben Geva, in memory of Jennifer Mendelsohn
- Micky Fraterman, in memory of Sid Cohen

TORAH FUND

- Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press, wishing mazel tov to Esther and Ben Geva on their special birthdays
- Elaine Smith, wishing happy Chanukah to her brother-in-law Uri Sharon
- Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press, in memory of Beulah Wagman
- Esther and Ben Geva, in memory of Beulah Wagman

YOUTH FUND

- Lillian and Eric Mendelsohn, wishing mazel tov to Ben Carniol and Rhona Phillips-Carniol on the birth of their grandson
- Shayne Robinson, in honour of the yahrzeiten of his parents Connie and Myles Sheldon Robinson
- Brenda and Jerry Enchin, wishing mazel tov to Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press on the birth of their grandson

NARAYEVER NEWS

MARCH, APRIL 2017

ADAR, NISAN, IYAR 5777

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**Thanks to all contributors to this issue
 of the Narayever News.**

Please visit us online at www.narayever.ca

We would love to hear from you!

Please send comments to newsletter@narayever.ca

SHUL MATTERS

Our Condolences to...

- Ben Carniol, on the loss of his brother Sid Cohen
- Jack Greenblatt, on the loss of his mother Bessie Greenblatt
- Noa Mendelsohn-Aviv, on the loss of her mother Jennifer Mendelsohn
- Don Schacter, on the loss of his mother Elinor Schacter



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KIDDUSH SPONSORS and DONATIONS

■ DECEMBER 3, 2016

Sponsors: Yael Schacter and Greg Beiles, in honour of their daughter Zoe's Bat Mitzvah.

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Rhona Phillips-Carniol and Ben Carniol, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Ben's brother Edward Cohen; Rhona Phillips-Carniol and Ben Carniol, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Rhona's father Sydney Phillips; Ariella Eben-Ezra, wishing Marsha Frydenberg mazel tov on her birthday; Elaine and Peter Gold, in memory of Edward Gulin; Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press, wishing Edye Jacobson and Irving Brown mazel tov on the occasion of the marriage of Pnina to Avi Shweka; Harry Schachter, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his wife Donna Schachter.

■ DECEMBER 10, 2016

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Issie Lyon and Nan Weiner, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Issie's mother Molly Lyon; Evelyn and Stephen Schaefer, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Evelyn's mother Edah Goldstein; Anonymous.

■ DECEMBER 17, 2016

Sponsors: Joanne Yolles and Lorne Cappe, in honour of their son Jacob reprising his Bar Mitzvah haftarah Vayishlach.

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Anne Matlow, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her mother Esther Matlow; Cyril Press, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his father Abraham Press; Leo Livak, in honour of Ann Komaromi, for receiving the AATSEEL 2016 prize for the best book in literary and cultural studies for her book *Uncensored: Samizdat Novels and the Quest for Autonomy in Soviet Dissidence*; Smadar Peretz and her children Elie, Ben and Adam, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of their father and grandfather Albert Peretz; Sue Weinstein and Shaun Singer, in memory of Laraine Naft's mother Beulah Wagman; Joel Edelson, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Linda Ander and Mark Goodbaum, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Nora Gold and Rabbi David Weiss, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Roz and Eliana Train, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Ricki and Steven Sharpe and family, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Keren and Shalom Camenietzki, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Isabel and Mendl Malkin, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Ellen Friedland and Arthur Vanek, in memory of Beulah Wagman.

■ DECEMBER 24, 2016

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Beverly Harris, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her husband Peter Harris; Mitchell Brown, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his wife Alice Nusbaum; Earl Weinstein, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his mother Molly Weinstein; Susan Goldberg, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her mother Eva Goldenberg; Susan Goldberg, in honour of the graduation of her son Michael Lander with his MSW; Ursula Loewenstein, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her husband Norbert Loewenstein; Teddy Bercovici, Julie Seemangal and Rafaela, wishing everyone in the community a chag Chanukah sameach; Marion and Jack Hoffmann, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Jack's mother Dora Hoffmann and his sister Joan Hope and Marion's brother Ron Joseph; Margie and Andy Gann, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Sylvia Solomon, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Robert Savan, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his mother Dova Beryl Savan; Ruth Leneman and Harvey Savage, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Ruth's sister Alice Nusbaum;

Ruth Leneman and Harvey Savage, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Brenlee Robinson, in honour of the *yahrzeiten* of her parents Connie and Myles Sheldon Robinson.

■ DECEMBER 31, 2016

A donation to the kiddush fund was made by Yosh Halberstam, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his mother Sandy Halberstam.

■ JANUARY 7, 2017

Sponsors: Audrey Macklin and Richard Moon, in honour of Adina's Bat Mitzvah.

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Allen Kaeja and family in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Allen's father Morton Norris; Elaine and Peter Gold, in memory of Beulah Wagman; Hart Schwartz, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his mother Edith Bernice Schwartz.

■ JANUARY 14, 2017

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Elizabeth Ennis, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her mother Edith Ennis; Fredelle and Harold Brief, in memory of Ben Carniol's brother Sid Cohen; Steven and Ricki Sharpe, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Steven's father Sydney Sharpe; Isabel and Mendl Malkin, in honour of the Narayever community; Isabel and Mendl Malkin, in memory of Sid Cohen; Linda Lipsky, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her mother Molly Lipsky; May and Daniel Friedman, in memory of Noa Mendelsohn-Aviv's mother Jennifer Mendelsohn.

■ JANUARY 21, 2017

Donations to the kiddush were made by Lesley Simpson and Mark Guttman, in honour of Lesley giving the Dvar Torah; Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press, wishing mazel tov to Kate and Dan Friedland on the birth of their son; Micky and Justin Fraterman, wishing mazel tov to Anita Shir-Jacob, Cyril Press and the entire family on the birth of their grandson; Susan Hoffmann and family, in memory of Uncle Ronnie Joseph and Aunt Joan Hope; Rachel Ben David and family, in honour of Rabbi Ben David's birthday; Rachel and Rabbi Ben David, in honour of their grandson's 4th birthday; Sylvia Bashevkin and family, in memory of Jennifer Mendelsohn; Sylvia Bashevkin and family, in memory of Ali Aber's mother Judith Aber; Sylvia Bashevkin and family, in honour of Rachel Bashevkin's new home; Elaine and Peter Gold, wishing mazel tov to Tirzah Meacham and Harry Fox, on the birth of their grandson; Joel Edelson, in memory of Sid Cohen.

■ JANUARY 28, 2017

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Dan Keeley and Luz-Mery Jacard-Keeley, in honour of their son Jonathan leyning his Bar Mitzvah Torah portion; Trevor and Zal Hart, in honour of their boys' 2nd birthday and in honour of the Narayever community; Elaine and Peter Gold, wishing mazel tov to Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press on the birth of their new grandson; Marsha Frydenberg and Ariella Eben-Ezra, with thanks to the food committee; Lori Albert and Joel Yaphe, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Lori's father Henry Albert; Elaine Gold and family, wishing mazel tov to Peter Gold on his 70th birthday; Anna Korteweg and Jim Davis, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of their daughter Nina; Trudy, Debbie and Barry Shecter, in memory of Sid Cohen; Elaina Gold, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her mother Libbie Gold; Lili Little and Mitchel Smith, wishing mazel tov to Peter Gold on his 70th birthday; Miriam Diamond, wishing mazel tov to Peter Gold on his 70th birthday.

We acknowledge the following *yahrzeit* anniversaries which occur during the coming months.

May their souls be bound up in the bond of eternal life

“ויצרו בצרור החיים את נשמותיהם”

Adar 3	Jack Fainman	father of Karen Fainman	Adar 27	Robert Lewis Davis	father of Jim Davis
Adar 4	Ruth Rosenberg	mother of Howard Rosenberg	Adar 27	Mark Gilbert	father of Linda Tadich
Adar 5	Yetta Bresko	mother of Gitta Rice	Adar 27	Steven Letovsky	brother of Eric Letovsky
Adar 5	Irene Davine	mother of Melvyn Davine	Adar 27	Constance Dorris Roseman	mother of Ellen Roseman
Adar 6	Fanny Bucovetsky	mother of Meyer Bucovetsky	Adar 27	Moses Slack	father of End Slack
Adar 6	Sam Milgram	father of Paul Milgram	Adar 28	Sylvain Caen	mother of Francine Watkins
Adar 8	Yidel Helfand	father of Victor Helfand	Adar 28	David Shukyn	father of Claire Simon
Adar 8	Louis Kershenbaum	father of Debra Haworth	Adar 29	Louis Cohen	brother of Suzanne Shuchat
Adar 8	Erna Weintraub	mother of Sharon Weintraub	Adar 29	May Judith Davidoff	mother of Jennifer Hoffmann
Adar 9	Joseph Cohen	father of Suzanne Shuchat	Adar 29	Anne Greenstein	father of Ari Kaplan
Adar 9	Henry Davine	father of Melvyn Davine	Adar 29	Rachel Jacobson	mother of Edythe Jacobson
Adar 9	Eve Rachel Trapunski	mother of Edward Trapunski	Nissan 1	Al Lofchick	brother of Lawrence Lofchick
Adar 10	Dovid Leib Aaron	father of Miriam Schlanger	Nissan 1	Lazarus Solomon	father of Charles Solomon
Adar 10	Harry Silverman	father of Sheldon Silverman	Nissan 3	Howard Kaplan	father of Ari Kaplan
Adar 11	Pinkus Birencwajg	father of Lala Loon	Nissan 3	Louise Levin	mother of Robin Levin Penlar
Adar 11	Hannah Nusbaum	mother of Ruth Leneman	Nissan 3	Rose Pascal	mother of Paul Pascal
Adar 11	Pnina Strumpf	mother of Dan Strumpf	Nissan 5	Elsa Singer	step-mother of Nancy Singer
Adar 12	Jack Banack	father of Alan Banack	Nissan 6	Lolly Propas	wife of Lorne Propas
Adar 13	Abraham Colman	father of Jack Colman	Nissan 6	Molly Willer	mother of Phillis Willer
Adar 13	Arnold Keppler	father of Suzanne Keppler	Nissan 8	Fred Pauker	brother of Jerome Pauker
Adar 13	Yitzchak Petroff	father of Shaya Petroff	Nissan 10	Avraham Greenberg	father of Benjamin Geva
Adar 13	Esther Teitelbaum	mother of Linda Wise	Nissan 10	Paul Owsiany	brother of Gerald Austin
Adar 14	Morris Dublin	father of Max Dublin	Nissan 11	Max Propas	father of Lorne Propas
Adar 14	Gertrude Elkin	mother of Rabbi Ed Elkin	Nissan 12	Jessie Berck	mother of Phyllis Berck and Dorothy Garfinkel
Adar 15	Rena Goldstein	mother of Sheine Mankovsky	Nissan 12	Max Shecter	father of Trudy Shecter
Adar 15	Eda Reed	mother of David Reed	Nissan 12	Harold Tanenbaum	brother of Carol Tanenbaum
Adar 15	Gertrude Weiner	mother of Nan Weiner	Nissan 13	Herb Guttman	father of Mark Guttman
Adar 15	Ruta Westreich Rotenberg	mother of Daniel Westreich	Nissan 14	Rose Horowitz	mother of Sylvia Solomon
Adar 15	Mary Zimerman	mother of Sandra Lofchick	Nissan 14	Rita Korenblum	mother of Marshall Korenblum
Adar 16	Hillel Diamond	father of Frumie Diamond and Miriam Diamond	Nissan 14	Chonon Levitan	father of Jerry Levitan
Adar 16	Celia Silverman	mother of Melvin Silverman	Nissan 14	Adele Zilberman	mother of Helene Silverman
Adar 16	Ralph Snow	father of Margot Feferman	Nissan 15	Anne Tanenbaum	mother of Carol Tanenbaum
Adar 17	Bella Minsky	mother of Sam Minsky	Nissan 16	Rony Karshon	mother of Yael Karshon
Adar 17	Andre Werner	brother of Daniel Traub-Werner	Nissan 18	Bernard (Barney) Davidoff	father of Jennifer Hoffmann
Adar 19	Hedy Gumpesberger	mother of Linda Benishai	Nissan 18	Esther Goodbaum	mother of Mark Goodbaum
Adar 19	Sol Malkin	father of Mendl Malkin	Nissan 19	Sam Bucovetsky	father of Meyer Bucovetsky
Adar 20	Abraham Jakubovicz	father of Difat Jakubovicz	Nissan 19	Flora Meltz	mother of Isabella Meltz
Adar 21	Eli Adler	father of Shelley Adler	Nissan 19	Della Overton	mother of Ted Overton
Adar 21	Moshe Ish-Horowicz	father of Naomi Ish-Horowicz	Nissan 21	Samuel Szmullowicz	father of Julio Szmullowicz
Adar 21	Dorothy Miller	Solomon	Nissan 22	Bessie Kershenbaum	mother of Debra Haworth
Adar 22	Joseph Kuperhause	mother of Monica Miller	Nissan 22	Sharon Kirsh	wife of Daniel Selchen
Adar 22	Molly Medoff-Kopelow	father of Jacob Kuperhause	Nissan 22	Jack Mendelson	father of Leslie Mendelson
Adar 22	Jordan Propas	mother of Ronald Medoff	Nissan 22	Sandra Sherman	wife of Ronald Sherman
Adar 23	Harry Elkin	son of Lorne Propas	Nissan 23	Barney Brown	father of Beren Brown
Adar 23	Edward Glazier	father of Rabbi Ed Elkin	Nissan 23	Chana Kopelov-Nosek	mother of Hindy Nosek-Abelson
Adar 23	Joyce Glazier	father of Richard Glazier	Nissan 23	Rochelle Rusen	mother of Janis Rusen
Adar 23	Myrna Holzberg Levin	mother of Richard Glazier	Nissan 23	Henry Wise	father of Roy Wise
Adar 23	Rita Sherman	mother of Michael Levin	Nissan 24	Rodica Nachman	mother of Adrian Nachman
Adar 24	Yaacov (Yaap) Bar-David	mother of Ronald Sherman	Nissan 24	Sam Weiner	father of Nan Weiner
Adar 24	Simcha Hazany Cohen	father of Sharone Bar-David	Nissan 25	Michael Magen	brother of Jill Magen-Lichtblau
Adar 24	Leon Schwartz	mother of Georges Benarroch	Nissan 25	Arthur Jay Resnick	father of Karen Kaeja
Adar 24	Faye Vanek	father of Rob Schwartz	Nissan 25	Gladys Rosebrugh	mother of Bruce Rosebrugh
Adar 25	Helen (Chaya) Dublin	mother of Arthur Vanek	Nissan 25	Sidney Weinberg	father of Edward Weinberg
Adar 25	Alice Lowenstein	sister of Max Dublin	Nissan 26	Miriam Drabkin	mother of Denise Drabkin
Adar 25	Herbert Lyon	mother of Marjorie Gann	Nissan 26	Joseph Stanley Weyman	father of David Weyman
Adar 25	Richard Pliskin	father of Israel Lyon	Nissan 27	Rachel Rozi Scheuer	mother of Naomi Starkir
Adar 25	Rita Thompson	father of Marni Cappe	Nissan 28	Harold Miloff	father of Michael Miloff
Adar 26	Harry Naft	sister of Olga Palmateer	Nissan 29	Roy Saipe	father of Barbara Saipe
Adar 26	Betty Stocker	father of Neil Naft	Iyar 1	Saul Sidlofsky	father of Michael Sidlofsky
Adar 26	Saul Zuker	mother of Micky Oostra	Iyar 2	David Abrams	father of Leslie Starkman
Adar 27	Annie Baruch-Nink	Fraterman	Iyar 2	Shaul Cahlon	father of Pazit Cahlon
			Iyar 3	Stanley Golvin	father of Ilene Golvin
			Iyar 3	Leatrice Rosalie Koyle	mother of Martin Koyle
			Iyar 4	Chayah Lofchick	mother of Lawrence Lofchick

MARCH 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
 <p>First Narayever Congregation</p>			Rabbi's Class "Dilemmas of Faith" 7 pm 1 Adar 3	2 Adar 4	 Services 6 pm 5:51 3 Adar 5	Terumah Services 9 am 4 Adar 6	
	Shacharit 9 am Hamentaschen Bake 10-2 5 Adar 7	Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 5:15 pm 6 Adar 8	CSA 4 - 7 pm 7 Adar 9	Rabbi's Class "Dilemmas of Faith" 7 pm 8 Adar 10	Fast of Esther 9 Adar 11	 PURIM Young Families 5 pm Services 6 pm 6:00 10 Adar 12	Tetzaveh Services 9 am Kensington Grdns. 11 am Megillah Reading 7 pm 11 Adar 13
	Shacharit 9 am and Megillah Reading PURIM 12 Adar 14	Shushan Purim 13 Adar 15	14 Adar 16	15 Adar 17	16 Adar 18	 Services 6 pm 7:09 17 Adar 19	Ki Tisa Services 9 am Post Kiddush Yiddish Poetry with Sheva Zucker Chalutzim Shabbat 18 Adar 20
	Shacharit 9 am Board Meeting 7 pm 19 Adar 21	Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 5:15 pm 20 Adar 22	CSA 4 - 7 pm 21 Adar 23	22 Adar 24	23 Adar 25	 Services 6 pm 7:17 24 Adar 26	Vayakhel Pikudei Services 9 am Rachel Fay Pukier Bat Mitzvah Kensington Gardens 11 am 25 Adar 27
	Shacharit 9 am Chug Ivrit with ShinShinim Aroma 7 - 9 pm Building Info Session 7 pm 26 Adar 28	27 Adar 29	Rosh Hodesh Nissan 28 Nissan 1	29 Nissan 2	30 Nissan 3	 Services 6 pm 7:26 31 Nissan 4	

APRIL 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
 <p>First Narayever Congregation</p>					 Post Kiddush shiur with Rabbi Elkin 1 Nissan 5	Vayikra Services 9 am Post Kiddush with Michael Morgan on Levinas 1 Nissan 5	
	Shacharit 9 am Talk on Syrian Refugees 10:30 am 2 Nissan 6	Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 5:15 pm 3 Nissan 7	CSA 4 - 7 pm ShinShinim Movie Night "The Band's Visit" 7 pm 4 Nissan 8	5 Nissan 9	6 Nissan 10	 Services 6 pm 7:34 7 Nissan 11	Tzav Shabbat HaGadol Services 9 am Eli Oren Balshine Bar Mitzvah Kensington Grdns. 11 am 8 Nissan 12
	Shacharit 9 am 9 Nissan 13	EREV PESACH  7:38 10 Nissan 14	PESACH I 2nd Seder  Services 9 am 8:47 11 Nissan 15	PESACH I Services 9 am 12 Nissan 16	3rd Day PESACH 13 Nissan 17	4th Day PESACH  Services 6 pm 7:42 14 Nissan 18	Chol Ha'Moed Pesach Services 9 am 15 Nissan 19
	Shacharit 9 am  6th Day PESACH 7:45 16 Nissan 20	7th Day PESACH  Services 9 am 8:54 17 Nissan 21	8th Day PESACH Yizkor Services 9 am 18 Nissan 22	CSA 4 - 7 pm 19 Nissan 23	20 Nissan 24	 Services 6 pm 7:51 21 Nissan 25	Shemini Services 9 am Kensington Grdns. 11 am Post Kiddush with Michael Chazan on David and Solomon 22 Nissan 26
	Shacharit 9 am 23 Nissan 27	Yom HaShoah Commemoration 7 pm 24 Nissan 28	Young Families' Program, 2 pm 25 Nissan 29	Rosh Hodesh Iyar 26 Nissan 30	Rosh Hodesh Iyar 27 Iyar 1	 Services 6 pm 7:59 28 Iyar 2	Tazria Metzora Services 9 am 29 Iyar 3