UPCOMING CLASSES and EVENTS

JANUARY
Learning in Chevruta, 7:30 pm every Wednesday
8 CSA, from 7 - 9 pm
12 Liturgy Study with Rabbi Shekel, 9:45 am
   Post Kiddush with Mordechai Drache
14, 21 and 28 Peoplehood with Rabbi Elkin, 7 - 9 pm
17 Film "Sister Kay", 7:30 pm
22 CSA, from 5 - 7 pm
25 Shabbat Dinner / Tu B’Shvat Seder 7:15 pm
26 Post Kiddush Zmirathon - Shabbat Shira

FEBRUARY
Learning in Chevruta, 7:30 pm every Wednesday
4 and 25 Peoplehood with Rabbi Elkin, 7 - 9 pm
5 CSA, from 5 - 7 pm
9 Liturgy Study with Rabbi Shekel, 9:45 am
   Post Kiddush with Yaniv Feller
17 Hamantaschen Bake and Purim Toy Drive, 11 am
23 Post Kiddush with Cliff Orwin
24 Purim: Shpiel, Megilah reading & Carnival from 7 pm
24 Purim: Shacharit and Megilah reading, 9 am
The Heart of the Matter

I am writing this in mid-December. Today I received four letters mailed to me by charities and a letter advertising a gift book on cosmology. The annual year end deluge by charities appealing for donations is well under way. I threw out the four letters from the charities, unopened. They were all no doubt promoting worthy causes. I opened the cosmology envelope and read every word. What compelled me to do that? I am passionate in my interest in the universe and my place in it. When I look up to the dark sky and contemplate the Milky Way I am transfixed. It speaks to my soul. It reaches to the core of who I am.

I believe that we humans are made up of three components that inform how we interact with the world: our mind, heart and soul. I made a decision to throw out the letters. That was my rational mind working. I became angry at those appeals. That was my emotional heart feeling one of four key emotions (happiness, sadness, fear, and anger). But my excitement and passion reading about the cosmos, that was my soul rejoicing.

When I am sitting in my customary seat in the shul on Shabbat I get a good view of the congregation. At times I wonder what motivates us to be there. Are we there for a specific reason (e.g. as a guest at a baby naming)? That is our rational mind working. Is it because we feel happy and content being there (in our emotional heart)? Or are we there for deeper contemplation; a sense of being closer to our creator (our soul dominates)? We are a diverse group at the Narayever and I am sure there are as many rational reasons as there are people for being connected to the shul. Each Shabbat I make my announcements including thanking those who donated to the kiddush fund. I wonder what motivated that diverse group of people to give. Could it be to help pay for the weekly Shabbat babysitting service which frees parents to attend services upstairs knowing their tots are having a good time while safe in adult care? Might it be that they know that the older kids are being taught by our paid youth coordinators and some of those kids will be future leaders in their synagogues? Or are they aware that a troubled congregant may be spending private counselling time with the rabbi and thereby possibly changing their life forever? How do they feel in their hearts when they see a middle aged woman nervously but proudly on the bimah working through her first aliya?

Our shul, our community, joins the long line of charitable institutions with their hands out asking to share some of our hard-earned dollars, assuring its survival. With over 85,000 registered Canadian charities out there you chose to give to the Narayever. What is it about the shul that strikes an emotional chord for you? What is it about our shul that keeps you coming back? Do you have a special, personal story to tell that changed your feeling about the shul? Do you remember the first time you visited the Narayever? Did that visit have a special resonance for you?

There may be specific reasons for giving a donation, such as a yahrzeit, but why give to the shul? What does the shul do for you that it deserves such an honour? On the other hand, if you do not donate, what is the feeling that prevents you from doing so? When you begin to think about donating, to feel and then to act, do you examine why you are donating? Please do some introspection and then share with me, in confidence, how you feel. Share your stories with me. Please e-mail president@narayever.ca or write a letter to me at the shul. It’s just between you and me.

On behalf of the Narayever Board at this special time of year I wish you all a happy and healthy secular New Year.

Joel Edelson
president@narayever.ca
Israelis go to the polls in January. The leaders they choose will face impossible decisions about how to deal with Hamas, how to deal with Iran, how to respond to the chaos in Syria and Egypt, what to do about negotiations with the Palestinians, and about Jewish settlements.

Most of us here in the Diaspora have opinions about these issues, because we care deeply about Israel. We are entitled to our opinions, but we of course don’t vote. That privilege and weighty responsibility belongs to the citizens of Israel alone.

The Israel-Diaspora relationship is not only about differences. There are also commonalities, as Amichai’s images of the woman lighting Shabbat candles, and the Books of Life and Death, remind us. We share a heritage, a tradition, and a covenant with Jews in Israel and around the world. I devote my career to sustaining and nurturing that common culture here in our corner of the Diaspora. When we meet Israelis, either here or there, it is always comforting to find those commonalities that help us maintain our sense of kinship with each other as members of the same Jewish people. I write this column anticipating our first shul trip to Israel in nine years – and I’m looking forward to helping participants on that journey find some of those points of contact when we’re there. I’m also looking forward to teaching a course on Jewish Peoplehood at our shul in January and February, in which we explore some of the similarities and differences together, and consider what really binds us together as a people when many of our experiences are so very different – I hope you’ll consider signing up and being part of the conversation.

Let’s not lose hope that the experience of our brothers and sisters in the land of Israel will be, like ours here in Canada, one of peace with their neighbours. And let’s resolve to strengthen our understanding of each other, and our ties with each other, as a people with both a precious homeland and a worldwide Diaspora.

Rabbi Ed Elkin
rabbi@narayever.ca
“With All Thine Heart”
With Mordechai Drache

Post-Kiddush January 12, 2013

In this talk, Mordechai Drache will read from and discuss themes which appear in the book *With All Thine Heart* which he co-authored with cultural critic Ilan Stavans. In the book, the textured dialogue between Stavans and Drache is meant to show how the Bible is a multidimensional text and one that, when considered over the course of history, still has the power to shape our world. The theme of love provides the connective tissue that binds this work.

Mordecai Drache, a freelance writer, poet, and editor, holds Bachelors of Arts in journalism & English Literature.

“What to Do With Our Heretics”
With Yaniv Feller

Post-Kiddush February 9, 2013

In the modern era there has been a re-appropriation of heretics to the Jewish tradition. We will discuss some of the famous cases, such as Aher, Spinoza, Uriel de Costa and Sabbatai Zevi, and try to figure out what relevance, if any, these figures have for our contemporary life and the question of Jewish identity.

Yaniv Feller is a Ph.D. student at the Department for the Study of Religion and Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto. He specializes in German-Jewish religious thought.

Peoplehood:
Its Role and Significance in Jewish Life
With Rabbi Elkin

Mondays Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4 and 25, 2013 from 7-9 pm at the shul

The idea of Jewish Peoplehood – its complex origins, its implications and how it might be sustained – is an issue of wide concern in the Jewish community today. The concept of a “Jewish collective” appears at odds with a contemporary ethos of intense individualism. Anxiety about a dwindling sense of Peoplehood is increasingly defining the agenda for Israeli agencies and Jewish institutions worldwide. The meanings and implications of Jewish Peoplehood have a direct impact on nearly all of the central questions and tensions of Judaism and modern life.

The Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem has put together a timely and sophisticated curriculum to address the questions of Jewish Peoplehood. The Narayever will be offering this curriculum in two series of five classes each, one in the winter and one in the spring of 2013. Rabbi Elkin will be teaching the class, which includes DVD lectures by senior Hartman institute faculty members.

The winter series will take place on Mondays Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb.4 and 25 from 7-9 pm at the shul.

The cost for the five classes is $45 for shul members and $60 for non-members, which includes the cost of the sourcebook each participant will receive. To register, please contact the shul office at admin@narayever.ca, or 416.927.0546. For more information about the curriculum, please contact Rabbi Elkin or visit http://www.hartman.org.il/
“What to Do With Amalek”
With Clifford Orwin

Post-Kiddush February 23, 2013

On Shabbat Zakhor we confront one of the most puzzling features of our Torah: the simultaneous commands to remember Amalek and to blot their memory out from under the sun. This contradiction first appears at Sh’mot 17:8-16 and is reprinted at D’varim 25:17-19, the passage we read on Shabbat Zakhor. Amalek makes their last Biblical stand in the Book of Esther in Haman. Who or what was/is Amalek and can we make sense of these seemingly contradictory mitzvot?

Shul member Clifford Orwin is a Professor of Political Science, Classics, and Jewish Studies and a Fellow of St. Michael’s College and Senior Fellow of Massey College. He is a Distinguished Visiting Fellow and Member of the Boyd C. and Jill Smith Task Force on the Virtues of a Free Society, Hoover Institution of Stanford University.

Liturgy with Rabbi Michal Shekel

January 12 and February 9, 9:45 - 11 am

Who knew that prayer could be so controversial? Finishing up the Ahava Rabba on Jan. 12, we explore the theology of having Divine love and why this does not sit well with everybody. We’ll compare the morning and evening versions of this blessing of Revelation, discuss why we have two versions and learn about the historic pressures that led to the inclusion of both.

If there’s time, we’ll start looking at the Shma and Veahavta. Our study of that section continues on Feb. 9 when we’ll delve into the meaning of this central part of this prayer rubric. Here’s a sneak preview: What are we affirming when we say that “God is One”? Join us to continue exploring the prayers in the Siddur with Rabbi Michal Shekel.

Peter Gold
education@narayever.ca

Shabbat Shira Zmirathon

January 26, 2013

Shabbat Shira is the Shabbat of Song on which Shirat Hayam is read in the Torah. Our annual tradition is to have an extended singing session following Kiddush on Shabbat Shira. Please join us that afternoon for some wonderful a capella singing of Jewish songs. We welcome Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, and English songs.

If there’s a song you’d like to teach the group, please be in touch with Rabbi Ed so we can make copies. Come out and make our sing-along the most joyous possible!
SHUL MATTERS

FOOD

Our first winter CSA makes FNC’s CSA year-round!

On January 8, Highmark Farm will inaugurate FNC’s first winter CSA market. Highmark Farm is a family-run mixed farm operation in the Cookstown area in southern Ontario. You might know Highmark Farm from the Green Barns farmers’ market at Wychwood Barns or the Leslieville farmers’ market. For the last couple of years, they have provided the First Narayever with our lovely Sukkot decorations. Since Everdale does not have the capacity to supply us through the winter season, we are delighted that Highmark is able to step in to fill the gap. Everdale will resume our usual CSA program in the late spring.

What will Highmark Farm have available during the winter? Leeks, carrots, beets, parsnips, rutabaga, celeriac, parsley root, cabbage (red and green), potatoes (red, white, Yukon, sweet); amazing selection of dried beans (Mexican red, Burlotti, Coco Bianco, Black, Navy); and squash, spinach, kale (curly and dinosaur), and collard greens. The Highmark Farmers aim to provide as broad a selection as possible, so will be including products from neighbouring farms as well, such as mushrooms, honey, and maple syrup.

AND Highmark Farm will provide eggs to all members not already enrolled in the Stoddart egg-share, helping Stoddart Farm keep with demand to fill in gaps in production. You can expect farm fresh eggs at every pickup!

Highmark is offering a month by month sign-up, so your commitment is limited. But to keep this running, we do need 40 members each month. So please sign up for multiple months if possible! To sign up, visit the Highmark website: http://highmarkfarms.com/csa-box.html. If you have any questions, please email the Narayever CSA Core Group at torontocsa@gmail.com

Ellen Friedland and Andrea Most
food@narayever.ca

RITUAL

Leyning Torah

One of the Narayever’s strengths is the degree to which we are lay-led. Volunteers lead Friday night and Sunday morning services, and shacharit, haftarah, and musaf on Shabbat and festivals, all of course under Rabbi Elkin’s watchful eye. We even have occasional volunteers to read Torah, but in recent years we have to come to rely more and more on just one leyner, the excellent Rabbi Joseph Ben David.

In the new civil year, we’ll be shaking this up. Rabbi Ben David will continue to leyn, two or three times a month, and Nathaniel Callen will be joining us once a month as well. That leaves one Shabbat a month and festivals to be filled by the rest of us. Specific dates are subject to change but will likely be as follows:

| March 26 | May 4  | Aug. 24 |
| March 27 | May 15 | Sept. 14 |
| March 30 | May 16 | Oct. 5  |
| April 1  | July 6 | Nov. 30 |

If you are interested in taking on a parashah, or perhaps just one or two aliyyot, we’re interested in hearing from you. Please contact Rabbi Elkin at rabbi@narayever.ca or 416.487.4200 for more information or to sign up.

Chanting Haftarah

Would you like to chant a haftarah? You can now sign up online. Log on to http://tinyurl.com/Narayever or http://signupgenius.com/go/5080C4BA5A622A64-haftorot; you will end up in the same place. Use the password Narayever and follow the instructions available on that site.

If computers aren’t your thing, you can sign up by phone too. Give Dalia Margalit-Faircloth a call at 416-966-9957 and she’ll set you up.

We look forward to hearing your voice from the bimah!

Kivi Shapiro
ritual@narayever.ca
Shabbat dinner / Tu B’Shvat seder
Led by Rabbi Elkin
Friday, January 25 at 7:15 pm (after Kabbalat Shabbat)
Our seder will reflect on our ethical relationship to the social and natural world and recall the mystical tradition associated with the holiday.
The cost is $20 for adults and teens 14+ and $10 for kids 6 - 13 and free for kids 5 and under. The price is capped at $60 for each nuclear family. To sign up, please call the office at 416. 927.0546 by January 22, 2013.

Purim is not far away!
NARAYEVER PURIM CELEBRATIONS will happen on Saturday, February 23, beginning at 7 pm at the shul. Maariv will be followed by a lively Purim Shpiel (to take part in the Purim Shpiel, please contact Noa at noa.ma@sympatico.ca) and megillah reading. Then join us in the Social Hall for the fantastic Narayever Purim Carnival! Put on fancy dress - prizes will be awarded for the best costumes.

Bring groggers or buy Wacky Mac groggers on site; we’ll collect them afterwards for the Food Bank. Bring Mishloah Manot bags or purchase them from the Bar/Bat Mitzvah class on site. Donate an extra bag to Jewish Family & Child Services. It’s all for a good cause! You can donate your pasta grogger and mishloah manot for the collection, too.

CAN WE GO FURTHER? Let’s once again make our carnival fun and eco-friendly. Instead of prizes from dollar stores, let’s search our homes for prizes: (clean and intact) unwanted toys, books, pretty tchotchkes, stationary, crafts, sports equipment, etc. Please bring your donations to the shul on Sunday, February 17, during or after the Hamantaschen Bake. Or call or email the office at 416. 927.0546 or admin@narayever.ca to organize an alternate drop-off time before February 21.

Movie Night at The Narayever!
Thursday January 17, 7:30 PM
“Sister Kay” (44 min.) chronicles the extraordinary life of Sister Kay MacDonald, who rose to be the most senior female in the Roman Catholic Church. She had a key role in changing the Church’s relationship, doctrine and attitude to Jews. We will screen and discuss the film, and enjoy refreshments with the filmmakers Gerry Sperling and Maggie Siggins, as well as Sister Lucy Thorson of the Sisters of Sion.

Gerry Sperling (Exec. Producer) has had a distinguished career in broadcasting and print journalism with programs broadcast on CTV, CBC, Vision TV, SRC, CLT, Omni TV, TVO, History Television and Discovery Channel in Canada.

Maggie Siggins (Scriptwriter, Interviewer) is an author and scriptwriter who has worked as a reporter, columnist, magazine-writer, and news producer. Her award-winning work includes creative nonfiction books and documentaries.

Sister Lucy Thorson belongs to the international Roman Catholic Congregation of the Sisters of our Lady of Sion, with communities in 21 countries building bridges of understanding amongst Christians, Jews, Muslims and other faiths. Sister Lucy lived in Jerusalem for 17 years and Rome for 14 years, where she directed the International Center of Jewish Christian Relations.(For full biographies go to the web version of the Narayever News at www.narayever.ca.)

All are welcome for what will surely be a fascinating evening devoted to the important issue of Jewish-Christian relations.
Tell us about yourself, family, career – some background

My husband Mischa and I were married at the Narayever 15 years ago, and we have attended Shabbat morning services since our son, Dov, was 7 years old. I am a Social Worker working with women and teens as a psychotherapist. Currently I work with TDSB. I am also a singer/songwriter.

What was your first introduction to social action?

I have a strong memory of sending my allowance to a “save the baby seals” fund when I was nine. My father was upset when he learned about this; he knew that I did not understand the complexities of seal hunting and Aboriginal ways of life. He felt that I had been manipulated. Although it is critical to explore why and how we give, I believe that we often use our critiques to avoid tikkun olam. We have to tap into that childlike desire to dive in and make a difference when we choose to give our time or money to help.

In what kinds of social action have you been involved?

In my early years, I espoused a naïve understanding of social action. I did not appreciate the power that I held as “the helper”. In truth, I am both a helper and someone who needs help. For me, social justice is about using my skills to help others and recognizing that those ‘others’ have skills that can help me.

I have been involved in community crisis lines, services for women who have been assaulted and abused, services for women struggling with food and body issues, services for youth who are at-risk regarding housing, relationships, substance abuse, and contributing to my Narayever community.

What projects are you involved with now?

Most of my volunteer work is devoted to the Paul Penna Downtown Jewish Day School where I am a Board and Committee Member. Currently I am involved in strategic planning, governance and union negotiation projects.

My paid work at the TDSB helps at-risk youth to access counseling, programs and hidden funding.

My music is often themed around social justice efforts.

The little things – hosting a party, talking with a friend who is going through a divorce, or even smiling at someone on the street – can be powerful forms of social action. I believe that the true acknowledgement of another human being can shake our social order. We are all worthy of each other’s attentions, time, and compassion.

Can you describe the most meaningful moment of your doing tikkun olam, a special anecdote?

I worked with a young man who called himself a neo-Nazi. Teachers and students were frightened by his references to destruction and hatred. Over time and with great determination on my part, we built a trusting relationship. He told me of his damaged past, the hatred directed at him, the traumas he endured as a child. Slowly he was able to hear my gentle challenges of his belief system, and he apologized for much of his hateful speech when he learned that I was Jewish. Through the development of a mutually respectful relationship, this young man was able to respond to the world with greater trust.

What would you say to others who are considering becoming involved?

Think about what you have to offer, what you enjoy, and then jump in. Or directly contact an organization that you respect. If you choose incorrectly, just leave and find a better fit.

Contacts:
- [www.nellies.org](http://www.nellies.org) (Women’s shelter & community service centre)
- [djds@djds.ca](mailto:djds@djds.ca) (Paul Penna Downtown Jewish Day School)
- [www.bbbst.com](http://www.bbbst.com) (Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Toronto)
- [www.soytoronto.org](http://www.soytoronto.org) (Supporting Our Youth, fabulous services for LGBT youth)

Mitzvah Mentors - Debbie Nightingale creates our Mitzvah Mentor profiles to inspire and model tikkun olam, and also give us what to talk about at kiddush! If you have suggestions for congregants to profile, contact me or her directly. Thanks Debbie!

Our Condolences to...

- Elizabeth Greisman, on the loss of her mother Eleanor Schott
- Anne Matlow, on the loss of her mother Esther Matlow
- Deborah Fisher on the loss of her father Irwin Fisher
SOCIAL ACTION

Yom Kippur Fund
funded by your generous donations

Our team has updated our application, fund description, etc. Special thanks to Miriam Diamond, with support from Jeff Wasserman for extra work on that. If you are a donor, thank you for honoring your pledge! If you’re aware of a charitable organization that you feel reflects our shul’s special values, please direct them to http://narayever.ca/Applying-for-Social-Action-Fund

We are proud of our past work and contributions to worthwhile causes locally and in Israel. That pride brings us to...

Volunteering

Out Of the Cold has again started providing a nourishing hot dinner to over 120 people each week, and to offer overnight accommodation to 55 people who would otherwise have nowhere to go. To volunteer Thursday evenings and other times as well, email Micky Fraterman at moostra1@sympatico.ca

Mitzvah Day is coming back! Please thank and support our co-Chairs for next season’s Mitzvah Day: returning champion Rachel Melzer and an up-and-comer Josh Soref. If you have any spring Mitzvah Day activities that you’d like to lead or propose, please email rachel.melzer@gmail.com, or call 416.534.0740.

Check Narayever’s calendar to see when to join elderly residents in Sabbath prayer at Kensington Gardens and Castelview-Wychwood nursing homes.

Social Justice and Advocacy

The Social Action Committee has tentatively agreed to select a social justice issue or project on which we feel we can have a positive effect. Call me to pitch ideas, or pitch in. In the meantime I’m proud of this committee, excited at this prospect, and a wee bit terrified.

Coming attractions – The Appeal for the Appeal! Tune in next newsletter for more Social Action!

Shayne Robinson
socialaction@narayever.ca

SPOTLIGHT on SVIVA ISRAEL

Sviva Israel’s overall objective is to promote environmental literacy while exploring the connections between Israel, Judaism and the Environment. Their Eco Campus on-line platform connects students through joint blogs, educational tools and games that provide opportunities for them to work collaboratively to learn about themselves and how other young people live. One Eco Campus program, Eco Connection, lets students use an Online Calculator to measure how their Ecological Footprint – their usage of water, food, land, energy and other resources affects the environment.

Our support has enabled the completion of The Comparison Tool; students use it to compare their ecological footprint with other schools. Through this interaction, they create projects based on data that they produced working with Jewish students in other places.

The Eco Campus Ecological Footprint Calculator can be accessed at: http://ecocamp.us/eco-footprint-calculator. Go to that website, click "sign in", then click “continue as a guest” and you can – as we say – k’vel.
TREASURER’S REPORT

Where does the money go?

Our annual audit for the year ended June 30, 2012 has been completed and I’m pleased to report that our revenues — membership fees, High Holy days ticket sales and donations — covered our expenditures with a $35,000.00 cash surplus. This is a significant improvement over a $70,000.00 shortfall the previous year. At June 30, 2012, our General Reserve Fund was just over $300,000.00, which is a sound financial position to maintain.

At this midway point of our current fiscal year, it is worth reviewing our principal operating cost for shul-sponsored kiddushim and breakfasts. For the year ended June 30, 2012, we spent $42,695.00 and for the current year to June 30, 2013 we estimate that we will spend about $55,000.00, which is within our budget. The increase reflects the change in our food policy that took effect on November 26, 2011, the increase in food prices and the fact that there are more shul-sponsored kiddushim this year. The Kiddush donations for the whole of last year were $23,200.00 and this year up to December 11, 2012 total $17,200.00, which is a great start. While we will likely have to keep our membership fee at its current level to balance our books in the future, generous giving to the Kiddush Fund to mark every simcha and yahrzeit will take the pressure off.

You can contact me at any time.

David Weyman
treasurer@narayever.ca

Mazel Tov to...

- Barbara Zeller and Simon Strauss, on the birth of their daughter Aviva Shira Strauss Zeller
- Hindy Nosek-Abelson and David Weyman, on their marriage
- Gerry Sperling and Maggie Siggins, on the birth of their granddaughter Alicia May Elizabeth
- Lucille and Mickey Narun, on the birth of their granddaughter Zoe Lempera
ISRAEL and WIDER COMMUNITY

ISRAEL

Our shinshinim Adi and Re’em have been presenting many interesting “60 seconds from Israel” from the bimah. As well, during our after-kiddush sessions, Adi and Re’em have treated us to information about exciting attractions and historical points of interest starting at the north end of Israel.

On Dec. 3, the committee co-sponsored with Adult Ed. a presentation by Yehudit Shier Weisberg called “Jewish Communities beyond the Green line: Myths and Facts”. Her comprehensive historical background of the land of Israel and point of view regarding the current state of affairs in Israel gave us much to think about!

The committee, with our shinshinim, will be planning for upcoming Israel focused events and holidays such as Yom Hazikaron, Yom Ha’Atzmaut and Lag ba’Omer. Mark your calendars for the 2013 Walk for Israel on May 26!

WIDER COMMUNITY

On Sunday, Nov. 18th, Narayever members joined with volunteers from the Muslim community in a program to feed homeless and low income individuals. The program took place at the Good Neighbours Club in downtown Toronto. The Narayever representatives, along with volunteers from Muslims Against Hunger and the Muslim Welfare Centre, prepared and helped serve lunch to more than a hundred needy people.

The Good Neighbours Club is a social welfare agency that serves a clientele of men over fifty.

Narayever and Jewish community participants included Dalia Margalit-Faircloth, Norma Latsonas, Andrea Schaffer, Sabrina Malach, Erica Webb and Harry Schachter.

This was a joint project of the Social Action and Israel and Wider Community Committees.

The participants came away feeling inspired by their role in a project that made a difference, and by their positive contact with socially committed members of the Muslim community.

Downtown Jewish Community Council

On Nov. 20th, the FNC participated in the Downtown Jewish Community Council’s first Downtown Jewish Family Info Fair at the MNjcc.

The Narayever was well-represented by members of our Youth Committee, Membership Chair Liz Bohnen, our Youth Coordinator Beth Komito-Gottlieb, shinshinim Adi and Re’em, and our youngest committee members Rafaela Bercovici and Kalil Robinson, both 3½!. Rabbi Ed was also on hand to answer many questions.

Come on out to help our committee! Email me at

Micky Fraterman

israel@narayever.ca

The Board of Governors welcomes our new (interim) chair for the Celebrations Committee. Tim Beiser replaces Ann Komaromi, who has been asked to take on more responsibility at the university – congratulations Ann, and thank you for all your hard work as Celebrations Chair.

Tim and his husband Morty and their two boys are regular shul goers, so he has a team of helpers already! We wish him well in his position, and as you have seen in the newsletter, he is very busy!

Your Board of Governors did not meet in December so that we could all participate in the festivities associated with Chanukah. We will reconvene in January, ready to work on the many and varied challenges which our shul, as all shuls do, face in these complex times.

We value your input and invite all of you to call or email any of the members of the Board of Governors to share your thoughts and ideas.

JANUARY, FEBRUARY 2013 • TEVET, SH’VAT, ADAR 5773
SHUL MATTERS

HESED

I recently received a number of inquiries about plot reservations in our cemetery, so I thought I’d expand on the subject in this Newsletter.

In the Narayever section of Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park, we currently have 152 lots occupied, and 491 vacant lots, 42 of which are reserved. Reservations are made by request under certain conditions—we automatically reserve a spot for the spouse next to a buried person. These reservations are a way of holding a specific plot for a member as long as they remain a member in good standing. Our reservation is not what is meant by a reservation under law. For the latter, a fee must be paid and a certificate of interment rights issued. We don’t take a fee—there is no cost for the plot for members—but we do hold a plot.

A member with a reservation who discontinues his or her membership is able to purchase the interment rights for the plot beside the spouse at the current official price. That is $5,000 at the moment, and is subject to change.

Because we have a large number of available plots at Bathurst Lawn, we do not need to take reservations for couples who want to ensure they end up beside each other.

In the Narayever section of Dawes Road cemetery, we have only 11 available plots. There are a number of people who would like to be buried there because they have relatives in this cemetery. We cannot at this stage guarantee all requests. Rather than making reservations, we record reservation requests, and will fulfill them on a first need basis. That means when one of the requestors passes away, if there are still plots available at Dawes Road, the person will get a plot as well as the reservations for his or her relatives as per our recorded request.

May we all enjoy a long life.

Avi Schonbach
hesed@narayever.ca

YOUTH

Shabbat activities flourish for children and youth at the FNC.

Interest in the Torah and Shabbat morning Torah service will keep growing as new mini Torahs have been purchased for our youngest participating in Shabbat B’Yachad and Rimonim. We want to enhance the liturgy and thus will be looking at youth siddurim with an eye to choose one to use regularly for Shabbat morning services for children and youth 7 and up. We will also put out a call for donations of children’s books about Shabbat, holidays and other Jewish themes to build up our library.

Last, but certainly not least, Youth Shabbat took place on Dec. 8 and it was a beautiful, meaningful and smoothly-run service. It highlighted the incredible skill, talent and energy of our congregation’s youth, and gave everyone present a lot of joy. Thanks to the many young people who participated and to Tama Soble for providing leadership for this event once again.

Check the website and Facebook to keep up with Youth!

Scott Lambert and Sarah Greene
youth@narayever.ca

Downtown Jewish Community Shinshinim

Recently the Chalutzim Shabbat Shalom program has started for post-BBM aged teens (Grade 8 and up). These programs offer age-appropriate, cool activities and discussions for teens not involved in leading other programs. Chalutzim Shabbat is offered every other Shabbat beginning at 11 am.

Our Chalutzim group (Grade 8 and up) skated at Nathan Phillips square to celebrate Chanukah Canadian-style with soufganiot and hot chocolate! Check out upcoming events at http://www.facebook.com/reemadi.shinshinim!!
### DONATIONS

The shul gratefully acknowledges the following donations made to our various funds from mid-August to mid-October. 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](http://www.canadahelps.org) and click on Narayever.

#### ADULT EDUCATION FUND
- Kathryn Polson Ferguson and Hugh Ferguson, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press, in memory of Elizabeth Greisman’s mother Eleanor Schott

#### DANIEL CAMENIETZKI LIBRARY FUND
- Keren and Shalom Camenietzki, in honour of the yahrzeit of their son, Daniel Camenietzki
- Margie and Andy Gann, in memory of Aaron Lowenstein

#### GENERAL FUND
- Anonymous
- International Women’s Association of Toronto
- Marion Cohen
- Cynthia Cross, in memory or Leslie Cross
- Elaine and Peter Gold, in memory of Elizabeth Greisman’s mother Eleanor Schott
- Elaine and Peter Gold, in honour of Dianne Saxe’s special birthday

#### HESED FUND
- Allan Feder, in honour of the yahrzeit of his father Irving Feder
- Michael Miloff, in memory of Harold Miloff and Gloria Miloff
- Julia Gluck and Ted Overton, in honour of Difat Jakubovicz’s special birthday
- Elaine and Peter Gold, in honour of Tali Elkin’s Bat Mitzvah

#### KIDDUSH FUND
- The Diamond – MacRitchie family, in memory of Meyer Simon

#### TORAH FUND
- Brenda & Jerry Enchin, in honour of Karen Camenietzki’s chanting of the Sukkot Torah Reading
- Brenda & Jerry Enchin, in honour of Jeroham Singer’s aliya as Hatan Torah on Simchat Torah morning
- Brenda & Jerry Enchin, in honour of Micky Oostra Fraterman’s aliya as Kallah Torah on Simchat Torah morning
- Brenda & Jerry Enchin, in honour of Liz Martin-Landau’s inspirational ruach and warm sharing on Simchat Torah morning
- Gayle and Stephen Benjamin, in honour of the yahrzeit of Stephen’s mom Rose Benjamin Schwartz and in memory of Gayle’s father Max Slomin
- Marsha Frydenberg, in memory of Gayle Benjamin’s father Max Slomin
- Tamara Brooks, in honour of the yahrzeit of her grandmother Samuel Borchiver
- Jacob Ziegel, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Sharon Weintrab, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Janet Horowitz, in memory of Gayle Benjamin’s father Max Slomin
- Anna Teper, in honour of the yahrzeit of her father Izaak Cvi
- Lili Little and Mitchel Smith, in honour of Tali Elkin’s Bat Mitzvah
- Beverly Harris, in honour of David Cheater
- Anita Shir-Jacob and Cyril Press, in memory of Anne Matlow’s mother Esther Matlow

#### RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
- Brenda & Jerry Enchin, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s Divrei Torah during the High Holy Days
- Brenda & Jerry Enchin, in honour of Helene Jacob’s friendship and service to the Narayever
- Eleanor Reich
- Judith Stoffman, thanking Rabbi Elkin for his drasha at Rosh Hashanah
- Evelyn and Stephen Schaefer, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Margaret Dore and Kim Van Rooy, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Difat Jakubovicz and Avi Schonbach, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Roz Train, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Anna and Wilfred Teper, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Allan Feder, in honour of the yahrzeit of his father Irving Feder
- Tim Hunt and Morley Beiser, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Lynda Bloom and Fraser Graham, in honour of Difat Jakubovicz’s special birthday
- Evelyn Schaefer, in honour of the yahrzeit of her mother Edah Goldstein
- Rebecca and Hyman Shandling, in honour of Tali Elkin’s Bat Mitzvah
- Peter and Lesley Sevitt, in honour of Tali Elkin’s Bat Mitzvah
- Joanne Yolles and Lorne Cappe, in honour of their son Jacob’s aliya la’Torah
- Nancy Sternberg, in honour of the yahrzeit of her father Pinia Title

#### RITUAL FUND
- Karen Weyman, Sid Feldman, Josh, Ben and Hannah, in honour of the marriage of David Weyman and Hindy Nosek-Abelson
- Janet Horowitz and Sol Hermolin, in honour of the marriage of David Weyman and Hindy Nosek-Abelson
- Toba and Fred Feldman, in honour of the marriage of David Weyman and Hindy Nosek-Abelson

#### TZEDAKAH / SOCIAL ACTION FUND
- Brenda and Jerry Enchin, in honour of Dalia Margalit-Faircloth and Roger Faircloth son Oren’s marriage to Esther Oziel
- Lili Little, in honour of Dianne Saxe’s special birthday
- Frieda Forman, in honour of the yahrzeit of her mother Malka Joles
- Sharon Abron Drache, in honour of Rabbi Elkin’s special birthday
- Sharon Abron Drache, in honour of Annette Naiman’s special birthday
- Sharon Abron Drache, in memory of Sylvia Ross
- Philip Mass, in honour of the yahrzeit of his father Bernard Mass
- Brenda and Jerry Enchin, in honour of Dianne Saxe’s special birthday

#### YOUTH FUND
- Brenda & Jerry Enchin, in honour of Rachel Brooks’s Bat Mitzvah
October 20, 2012

**Kiddush:** Stephanie and Tom Steen, in honour of the Beren Mitzvah of their children Emily and Jeremy

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Bubbe Bella, Zadie Richard, Bubbie Agnes and Zadie Jack, in honour of Julia Laing’s baby naming; Bernard, Cassandra and Justin Feder, in honour of the yahrzeit of their wife and mother Nita Frenkel; Micky Fraterman, in honour of her brother and sister-in-law, Livia and Robert, welcoming them to the Narayever and for all their good works; Peikang Dai, with gratitude to Peter Gold for teaching him ein kemach ein torah; Rachel Benjamin, in memory of her grandfather Max Sloomin.

October 27, 2012

**Kiddush:** The shul

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Hindy Nosek-Abelson & David Weyman, in honour of their aufruf and marriage; Ellen Friedland, in thanks to Sue Weinstein; Joel Edelson, in honour of the birth of Marsha Cohen’s granddaughter; Julia Gluck & Ted Overton, wishing Hindy Nosek-Abelson and David Weyman mazel tov; Julia Gluck & Ted Overton, in memory of Adi Novak’s grandmother Ahuva Gorin; and Lili Little & Mitch Smith, the Diamond-MacRitchie family, Marsha Frydenberg, Shaya Petroff, Esther & Ben Geva, Anonymous, Ellen Friedland & Arthur Vanek, Ali Aber & Jeffrey Krasner, Sue Weinstein & Shaun Singer, Issie Lyon & Nan Weiner, Keren & Shalom Camenetzki, Joel Edelson, Margie & Andy Gann, Julia Gluck & Ted Overton, and Miriam Schlanger in honour of Rabbi Ed’s special birthday.

November 3, 2012

**Kiddush:** The shul

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Justine Silver, in honour of the yahrzeit of her husband Stewart Silver; Elana Fields, in honour of the yahrzeit of her brother-in-law Stewart Silver; Judy Fields, in honour of the yahrzeit of her son-in-law Stewart Silver; Eileen & Mark Jadd, in honour of the yahrzeit of their brother-in-law Stewart Silver; Keren & Shalom Camenetzki, in honour of the yahrzeit of their son, Daniel Camenetzki; Rona Sherebrin & Glenn Rubinoff, in honour of Shira’s participation in the book “We Are Their Voices: Young People Respond to the Holocaust”; Neil Naft, in honour of the yahrzeit of his mother Sadie Naft; Ursula Lowenstein, in honour of the yahrzeit of her father Arthur Lowenstein; and Joan Judge-Fogel & Josh Fogel, in honour of the Rabbi’s special birthday.

November 10, 2012

**Kiddush:** Mike Weidman & Karen Hoffmann, in honour of Adam Weidman’s Bar Mitzvah

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Barbara Zeller & Simon Strauss, in honour of the baby naming of their daughter Aviva Shira Strauss Zeller; Sue Weinstein, in honour of the yahrzeiten of her parents Belmore & Ethelda Weinstein; Jackie Silverberg, in honour of the yahrzeit of her father Harry Silverberg; Helena Burnstein, in honour of yahrzeit of her mother Ronnie (Rose) Berger; Susan Hoffmann & Jack & Marion Hoffmann, in honour of their nephew & grandson Adam Weidman’s Bar Mitzvah; Peikang Dai, in honour of the Bar Mitzvah of Jack & Marion Hoffmann’s grandson Adam Weidman.

November 17, 2012

**Kiddush:** Linda Lipsky and Rabbi Ed Elkin, in honour of Tali Elkin’s Bat Mitzvah

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Rhona Phillips & Ben Carniol, in honour of the yahrzeit of Ben’s brother Edward Ezra Cohen; Allan Feder, in honour of the yahrzeit of his father Irving Feder; Morton Beiser, in honour of the yahrzeit of his mother Regina Beiser; Arnold Schonberg, in honour of the yahrzeit of his mother Sima Schonberg; Harry Schachter, in honour of the yahrzeit of his wife Donna Schachter; Miriam Schlaner, in honour of the yahrzeit of her sister Nechama Schlaner; Brenlee Robinson, in honour of the yahrzeit of her father Myles Robinson; and Isabel & Mendel Malkin, Beverly Harris, Micky Fraterman, Liz Bohnen, Joel Edelson, Esther Meisels, Miriam Schlaner, Janis Rubenzahl, Julia Gluck & Ted Overton, in honour of Tali Elkin’s Bat Mitzvah.

November 24, 2012

**Kiddush:** The shul

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Issie Lyon, in honour of the yahrzeit of her mother, Molly Lyon; Estelle & Percy Schacter, in honour of the yahrzeit of Estelle’s father Isaac Yomstock; Kalman Weiser & Sharon Levinas, in honour of the baby naming of their daughter Orly Maya; Joan Judge-Fogel & Josh Fogel, in honour of the baby naming of Sharon Levinas and Kalman Weiser’s daughter Orly Maya; Ursula Loevenstein, in honour of the yahrzeit of her husband Norbert Loevenstein; and Miriam Diamond & Jill Magen-Lichtblau, in honour of Dianne Saxe’s special birthday.

December 1, 2012

**Kiddush:** The shul

A donation to the shul was made by Roz Train, in honour of Tali Elkin’s Bat Mitzvah.

December 8, 2012

**Kiddush:** The shul

Donations to the kiddush fund were made by Estelle and Percy Schacter, in honour of the yahrzeit of Estelle’s mother Sophie Yomstock; Brenlee Robinson, in honour of the yahrzeit of her mother Connie Robinson; Shayne Robinson, in honour of the yahrzeit of his mother Connie Robinson; Julia Gluck and Ted Overton, in honour of Ted’s father Bill Overton’s recent yahrzeit; Lili Little and Mitch Smith, in memory of Anne Matlow’s mother Esther Matlow; Mitchell Brown, in honour of the yahrzeit of his wife Alice Nusbaum; Ruth Leneman, in honour of the yahrzeit of her sister Alice Nusbaum; Earl Weinstein, in honour of the yahrzeit of his mother Molly Weinstein; Joel Edelson, in honour of the yahrzeit of his mother Rachel Edelson; and by the following parents in honour of all the youth who are participating in Youth Shabbat: Ali Aber and Jeffrey Krasner, Lori Albert and Joel Yaphe, Andrea Most and Alan Ackerman, Gill Lefkowitz and Gary Clement, Elana Segal and Phillip Maerov, Diane Philipp and Robert Muller, Roz Train, Karen Weissman and Arthur Ripstein, Tama Soble and Hart Schwartz, Linda Lipsky and Rabbi Ed Elkin, Ilene Golvin and Philip Mass, David and Rochelle Barkin, Karen Weyman and Sid Feldman, Linda and Dany Benishai, Joan Judge-Fogel and Josh Fogel, Jennifer Cohen and Ryan Penn, Marcia Beck and Mischa Levine, Karen Golden and Michael Mandel, Sharon Sharir and Andy Smith.
We acknowledge the following yahrzeit anniversaries which occur during the coming months.

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

ויטרער בֶּצֶרֶר החטיכא אַ트 נֶשֶמֹתיךם

Tevet 19  | Julie Goodbaum  father of Mark Goodbaum
Tevet 19  | Sydney Sharpe   father of Steven Sharpe and Mark Sharpe
Tevet 21  | Gabriel Grushcow father of Marc Grushcow and Hilary Goldenberg
Tevet 21  | Beatrice Letovsky mother of Eric Letovsky
Tevet 21  | Gladys Leona Gruno mother of Annette Gruno
Tevet 24  | Lily Fineberg    mother of Rosalie Gruno
Tevet 24  | Florence Richmond mother of Anne Toby Golden
Tevet 24  | Frances Rothman  mother of Ben Rothman
Tevet 25  | Edith Singer     mother of Nancy Singer
Tevet 26  | Anne Schurman    mother of Roberta Bucovetsky
Tevet 26  | Saul Morris Pascal father of Paul Pascal
Shevat 2  | Frank Epstein    father of Aura Kagan
Shevat 2  | Freda Solomon Gann mother of Andrew Gann
Shevat 3  | Ron Joseph       brother of Marion Hoffmann
Shevat 3  | Cindy Kirsh      step-mother of Dawn Arons
Shevat 3  | Joseph S. Rosenberg father of Howard Rosenberg
Shevat 3  | Betty Sevitt     mother of Peter Sevitt
Shevat 4  | Henry Albert     father of Lori Albert
Shevat 4  | Sophie Cooper    mother of Moe Cooper
Shevat 4  | Rose Enchin      mother of Gerald Enchin
Shevat 4  | Ruth Leikin      mother of Steven Leikin
Shevat 5  | Penina Chaya Davis daughter of Jim Davis & Anna Kerteweg
Shevat 5  | George Herber    father of Sandra Sherman
Shevat 5  | Maurice Katz     father of Steve Katz
Shevat 6  | Libbie Gold      mother of Elaina Gold
Shevat 6  | Iosif Samoilovich Livak father of Leonid Livak
Shevat 6  | Moshe Benjamin Schonbach father of Avi Schonbach
Shevat 6  | Izaak Wasserlauf father of Esther Levy
Shevat 7  | Barry Zachary Schacter father of Yaël Schacter
Shevat 8  | Chaim Goldstein  father of Sheine Mankovsky
Shevat 11 | Esther Dunsky    mother of Zipporah Dunsky
Shevat 13 | Daniel Bohnen    father of Elizabeth Bohnen
Shevat 13 | Judith Bohnen    mother of Elizabeth Bohnen
Shevat 13 | Goldie Howard    mother of Sheldon Howard
Shevat 15 | Joan Jacoby      mother of Alan Jacoby
Shevat 16 | Sonia Blitz      mother of Ethel Miller
Shevat 16 | Chaim Kleiman    father of Beatrice Myers
Shevat 17 | Mary Malkin      mother of Mendl Malkin
Shevat 18 | Harry Lipsky     father of Linda Lipsky
Shevat 20 | Julius Levin     father of Ruth Sisoch
Shevat 21 | Sarah Chernick   mother of Lili Little
Shevat 23 | Janice Pavalow   mother of Randee Pavalow
Shevat 23 | Annie Petroff    mother of Shaya Petroff
Shevat 26 | Eve Risen        mother of Lawrence Fox
Shevat 27 | Mary Gold        mother of Sandy Roff
Shevat 27 | Sam Honig        father of Rosanna Honig
Shevat 28 | Ben Berck        father of Phyllis Berck and Dorothy Garfinkel

Shevat 28  | Mabel Laine      mother of Leslie Starkman
Shevat 29  | Edie Mark        wife of Craig Mark
Shevat 29  | Rudy Philipp     father of Diane Philipp
Shevat 29  | Reginald Ripstein father of Arthur Ripstein
Shevat 29  | George Sherman   father of Ronald Sherman
Shevat 30  | Esther Gilbert   mother of Linda Tadich
Adar 1    | Sarah Feferman   mother of Irv Feferman
Adar 1    | Harold Miloff    father of Michael Miloff
Adar 2    | Shirley Laskin   mother of Monty Laskin
Adar 2    | Henry Michel     father of Kathryn Levene and Isabel Malkin
Adar 4    | Ruth Rosenberg   mother of Howard Rosenberg
Adar 4    | Lola Zuchowski   mother of Marvin Zuchowski
Adar 5    | Yetta Bresko     mother of Gitta Rice
Adar 5    | Irene Davine     mother of Melvyn Davine
Adar 6    | Fanny Bucovetsky mother of Meyer Bucovetsky
Adar 6    | Sam Milgram      father of Paul Milgram
Adar 8    | Yidel Helfand    father of Victor Helfand
Adar 8    | Louis Kershenbaum father of Debra Haworth
Adar 8    | Erna Weittraub   mother of Sharon Weittraub
Adar 9    | Joseph Cohen     father of Suzanne Shuchat
Adar 9    | Henry Davine     father of Melvyn Davine
Adar 9    | Eve Rachel Trapunski father of Edward Trapunski
Adar 9    | Dovid Leib Aaron father of Miriam Schlanger
Adar 10   | Harry Silverman  father of Sheldon Silverman
Adar 11   | Laurie Reichenberg father of Janice Dembo
Adar 11   | Pnina Strumpf    mother of Dan Strumpf
Adar 12   | Jack Banack      father of Alan Banack
Adar 12   | Abraham Colman   father of Jack Colman
Adar 13   | Arnold Keppler   father of Suzanne Keppler
Adar 13   | Yitzchak Petroff father of Shaya Petroff
Adar 13   | Esther Teitelbaum father of Linda Wise
Adar 15   | Eda Reed         mother of David Reed
Adar 15   | Gertrude Weiner  mother of Nan Weiner
Adar 15   | Mary Zimerman    mother of Sondra Lofchick
Adar 16   | Hillel Diamond   mother of Miriam Diamond
Adar 16   | Ralph Snow       mother of Margot Feferman
Adar 17   | Bella Minsky     mother of Sam Minsky
Adar 17   | Andre Werner     brother of Daniel Traub-Werner

Please inform us of bereavement or unveiling so that your community may be of support during these times. Please contact Rabbi Eikin at 416.487.4200. In an emergency, use the pager number, 416.563.2283. Please note that although the pager is turned off on Shabbat and during Chagim, calls are returned shortly afterward.
## JANUARY 2013

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## FEBRUARY 2013

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