

The Israelight

Rabbi Linda Potemken

AUTUMN JOY

You earned it. You came through the Days of Awe, the High Holy Day season and you earned the next festival, the festival of rejoicing, the festival of Sukkot.

After the richness and the seriousness of the Days of Awe, we are guided outside to erect a sukkah - a fragile, temporary, beautiful structure - that paradoxically uplifts us even as it reminds us of the impermanence in life. Sukkot invites us to cultivate gratitude by celebrating the Fall harvest and by entering the story of God's love for the biblical wandering children of Israel through the gift of temporary shelter. So we build or visit these huts, these sukkot, these temporary outdoor structures and we eat, study, pray, play, visit and even sleep in

Rabbi's message continued on the next page

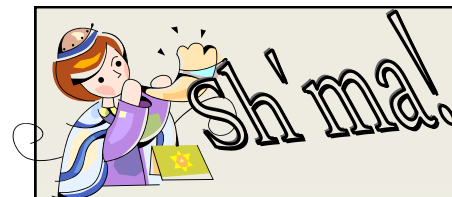
Josh Waterston

President's Message

Our journey through life has many twists and turns, and is completely unpredictable. It can be full of joy and exhilaration one moment, and sorrow and disappointment the next. One moment, we feel like we're the cat that ate the canary, and the next moment, we're the canary. I'm writing this article at the beginning of September, with Labor Day weekend in full swing, and school beginning on Tuesday. By the time you read this article, my 7-year-old son, Sammy, will have started both 2nd grade and Bet class in Hebrew School. We'll have celebrated Rosh Hashanah and - depending on when you receive your copy of the Israelight in the mail - Yom Kippur as well. Those weeks will be full of celebration, struggles, much happiness, and some sadness.

During this past year as President of the Board of Directors, I've shared in much happiness, but I've also had significant sorrow. It is always difficult to see what's around the corner, whether it's weeks, months, or years away. I've tried to do my best to support members of the Board and members of our Congregation as a whole. I've sometimes sur-

President's message continued on the next page



Highlights! See the Calendar for all dates

Lunch & Learn, Thur, Oct 4, p. 3

Sukkot dinner, beer tasting, and sleepover, Friday, Oct 5, p. 6,7

Sukkot Potluck Lunch, Donna Kirshbaum teaching on Sat, Oct 6, p. 8

Potluck, Services, Simhat Torah, Sun, Oct 7, p. 7

Tikkum Olam speaker on Islam, Fri, Oct 12, p. 4

Hebrew Crash Course, HHD Wrap-up, 5K Dementia Walk, All on Sun, Oct 14, p. 13, 14

Film: Eat Drink Man Woman, Oct 20, p. 15

Finding Shabbat, Sun Oct 21, p.3

BI book Club, Sun Oct 21, p. 11

Food Service, Monday Oct 29, 5:45 pm

Interfaithways Shabbat, Fri, Nov 2, p. 9

Torah Trek Year 7 Begins Sat, Nov 3, p. 4

Gefilte Flicks, Sat, Nov 3, p. 15

Rabbi's message continued...

them. We literally get a breath of fresh air as we begin and end our day in the sukkah.

As with all Jewish holidays there are a number of practices associated with Sukkot. While the chief practice is dwelling in the sukkah, others include blessings over the lulav and etrog. These items are rich in symbolism and are fun to wave around as we remember the principles of unity in diversity, the omnipresence of divinity and the gifts of nature. We are also reminded of the mitzvah of hospitality. Not only do we invite many others into our sukkot (or homes if we don't have a sukkah) at this time, we also invite the spirits of our ancestors and historical or biblical figures who have served to inspire us. As always, we remember those who do not have access to the bounties of the harvest and find ways to share our food and resources. Tikkun olam, repair of the world, is part of everything that we do.

Finally, we culminate our celebration on the 7th night with Simhat Torah, a festival honoring the cyclical nature of Torah reading (we conclude Deuteronomy and recommence Genesis) and of life. As we dance with the Torah and prepare to begin the cycle of Torah reading once more, beginning at the beginning, we step into the new year with energy and optimism.

This month, we have multiple opportunities to celebrate these festivals at Beth Israel. We hope that you will look over the calendar and program descriptions and avail yourselves of one or more opportunities to engage with these delightful and creative holidays. As you read this newsletter you will notice a wide variety of programs, services and classes that begin just after the holidays. We hope that you will extend the season of rejoicing and meaning by participating in a variety of events, designed to build friendships and community, to nourish the spirit, to challenge the intellect, to repair the world and to add meaning and value to life.

Best wishes for a year of growth, sweetness and goodness. May we have many reasons to rejoice!!

President's message continued...

passed my hopes, and often fallen short. Sometimes I've been so wrapped up in where I've been personally, that I haven't taken the bird's-eye view and put myself in the shoes of others.

So, since this is a time for repentance, reflection, and renewal, I want to say that I am sorry to you for falling short, for not keeping promises to take action, for perhaps using a harder touch when a gentler one would have done just fine. My time so far as president has given me an appreciation for our many members' contributions and struggles. I have come to better appreciate the difficulty encountered by my predecessors in this role. Most of all, I have appreciated the many people who have supported me this year, and especially since my dad passed away in April. It is a new year, but it is important to learn from our mistakes in the past year.

In the coming months, I'll be working with the Board to identify and prepare for the challenges in the next chapter of Beth Israel's future. What do we need to do to remain vital and relevant to our current members and to new members? In an era of Twitter hashtags, how do we communicate the value of a Jewish identity and Jewish relationships? How do we use the resources that we currently possess in the most effective way possible, and grow them for the next generation?

During this time, I am sure to make mistakes. I ask for your forgiveness for my past transgressions, and I am secure in the knowledge that next Yom Kippur I will be able to ask forgiveness for another year's worth of misadventures. But life is full of risks and rewards. As the sage who wrote my recent fortune cookie's advice said, "A ship in the harbor is safe. But ships are not meant to stay in the harbor." In the next months and years, I hope that we as a community have courage and strength (and *mazel*) as we voyage into the unknown waters of the future. Because, even though we don't know where the path leads, it's an incredible journey, and I'm glad to be sharing it with my community. L'Shana Tova.

In friendship,
Josh Waterston

SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT IN TIMES OF TRANSITION

Support Group with Rabbi Linda,
Thursday October 25th at 10:30 am,
Tuesday Nov 13th at 2:00 pm

In this difficult economy many are facing uncertainty and making professional or personal changes. You are invited to participate in one or more sessions as we:

- 1) Learn stress management techniques including meditation
- 2) Learn wisdom from Torah on managing change
- 3) Share our stories; listen and be heard
- 4) Exchange information and resources

Meditation For Peace and Presence

Rabbi Linda will offer several opportunities to learn or to practice meditation to find greater peace and presence in life. Some of these will occur at contemplative Shabbat services and other sessions will take place in the Rabbi's study.

Mark these dates if you are interested in meditation:

Shabbat Services: Sept 29, Dec 21, Jan 19, Feb 9, May 11

Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.: Sept 23, April 28,

Weekday sessions at 2pm: Oct 18, Nov 15, Dec 20, other dates TBA

Mussar

October 23, Tuesdays 4:15 - 5:45

Mussar, a Jewish spiritual practice, is an approachable and practical set of teachings for cultivating personal growth and spiritual realization in daily living. The ultimate goal is to help us to achieve greater wholeness and goodness.

Prerequisite: Participation in a previous mussar group or permission of instructor; please contact Rabbi Linda by October 9.

Ann E. Green

Attorney at Law

**Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney
 Estate Settlements**

**315 Maple Avenue Tel. 610-544-8780
 Swarthmore, PA Fax 610-544-5791**

October 4: Lunch and Learn

12:00 - 1:30

Join us in the Rabbi's study as we share Torah, lunch and one another's company once a month. We will explore various Jewish practices and texts. Curriculum will be guided by the interests of the participants and the Rabbi. RSVP at least 2 days in advance to Arlene Benz, 610-566-4645 x 7

It's Friday??!! Finding Shabbat in the midst of busy lives.

Sunday October 21 10:00 - 12:00 w. Laura Lee Blechner

It has been said, "more than Israel has kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept Israel." We are commanded to rest and to let God rest and yet our modern lives, connected as they are to myriad activities in the secular world, do not easily lend themselves to coming to a full stop once a week.

Laura Lee Blechner will lead a session about how to sustain Shabbat in a hectic household. She will offer information about Shabbat traditions, glean ideas from her own experience, as well as from blogs and books. We will also discuss how to express these traditions in creative, contemporary, reconstructed ways and the many benefits of bringing Shabbat into your home.

Laura Lee Blechner co-chairs the Religious Practices Committee, co-teaches Gan, and is a frequent leader of Shabbat services and adds a special sparkle to her Shabbat celebrations each week.



**DISCOVER
 CHIROPRACTIC**

*25 years experience
 health & wellness
 sports, auto &
 work related injuries.*

Tel: 610-876-6180

3215 Edgemont Ave
 Brookhaven, PA 19015

Glen Nathan, DC

gnathan@mightychiro.com
 www.mightychiro.com



Brandywine Bookkeeping



"All your Bookkeeping needs"

Randal A. London

Owner - AA, BS- Acct - Over 25 years Exp.

DE. Business Lic #2011603965

Talleyville DE

302-367-8996
 302-478-7384
 Ral4954@aol.com



Torah Treks Year 7 Begins ISAIAH, JEREMIAH, & EZEKIEL

November 3, 2012

Kick off with Dr. Elsie Stern

9:45 Shabbat services

11:45 Kiddush & lunch

12:30 – 2:00 Torah Treks

Elsie Stern, PhD, Associate Professor of Bible at the RRC returns to kick off our year of study and introduce us to this year's Books - Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel.

Dr. Stern is a biblical scholar whose teaching often focuses on social justice issues. She has been an assistant professor in the Department of Theology at Fordham University, where she taught Bible and Jewish studies, and she served as the assistant director for public programs at the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Advanced Judaic Studies. In addition to her academic teaching and research, she has taught widely in both formal and informal educational settings in the United States and abroad. She has written curricula on a wide range of topics, including Jewish literature and artistic representations of biblical subjects. Her current research focuses on the transmission and reception of biblical texts in early Jewish settings.

Stern received her Bachelor of Arts from Yale University and her Master of Arts and doctorate from the University of Chicago. She is the author of *From Rebuke to Consolation: Bible, Exegesis and Ritual in the Literature of the Tisha b'Av Season* (Brown Judaic Series, 2004) and a contributor to the Jewish Study Bible and the Women's Torah Commentary (Women of Reform Judaism, 2008).

Torah Treks is an amazing multi-year journey through the entire Hebrew Bible. We begin each year with an overview of whichever Books we are studying and then continue with an in-depth look at each individual Book. Each session is held after Shabbat morning services and is taught by Rabbi Linda or our guest faculty. Each program is independent. Come for all the sessions or attend selectively. There is no charge for lunch or the study sessions and RSVPs are not necessary. Whether you are able to attend services or not, you are welcome to come for lunch and Torah Treks.

Most lunches are pot luck. However, for the kickoff, lunch will be catered. Please bring a dessert or beverage to share. The dates for Torah Treks this year are: November 3, November 17, December 15, January 5, February 9, March 2, March 16, April 13, May 4, and May 18.

Beth Israel Welcomes Guest Speaker on October 12th

TIKKUN OLAM SHABBAT: Expanding Our Understanding October 12

w/ Rabbi Linda & Adnan Zulfiqar

"Living Islam: On Being Muslim Today"

Adnan Zulfiqar will discuss the foundations of Islam as a global faith of almost two billion adherents while trying to relate what that means for different people, in different places and at different times. The aim will be to show what unites Muslims in terms of belief, doctrine, etc. while also giving the audience a sense of the diversity of the faith. Through both academic insights and personal reflections, it is hoped the audience will gain a better sense of what strengthens the believing Muslim and their foremost challenges both here in America and globally.

About our Speaker: Adnan Zulfiqar is a doctoral candidate in Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations at the University of Pennsylvania where his work focuses on Islamic legal history and Qur'anic studies. Among his previous roles he has served as the Muslim Chaplain at the University of Pennsylvania, Law & Public Policy Fellow at Annenberg's Center for Global Communication Studies, Adjunct Professor at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, Presidential Fellow at the Salzburg Global Seminar and Team Leader on the Shari'a and Commentary Section of the Maldives Penal Code Project.

In addition, Adnan served on the Steering Committee of the Jewish/Muslim Emerging Leaders Retreat, the board of Masjid Quba, the Administrative Committee of the Religious Leaders Council of Greater Philadelphia and as an Associate at the Dialogue Institute.

Adnan received his B.A. in Religion & Anthropology from Emory University, his M.L.S. in International Affairs from Georgetown University, his M.A. in Arabic & Islamic Studies from the University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Born in Virginia, Adnan has spent over a decade living and studying in the Middle East, South Asia and Africa, and speaks five different languages. He currently practices law in Washington, DC and is a Fellow with the Truman National Security Project.

PLANS FOR NEW HEATING SYSTEM AT BETH ISRAEL ARE UNDERWAY

In October and December of 2011, FewSteps.org assisted Beth Israel with conducting an energy audit of the facility. We found that there is a clear opportunity for substantial efficiency and energy cost savings through equipment upgrades and conversion to gas-fired units. We have arrived at a near-final project configuration which was approved by the board on August 15th. We are finalizing and letting the contracts in the next few weeks for installation in the fall months.

A few factors made this project cost effective today when it was not when last evaluated a few years ago. Even though at that time we could have benefited from the equipment efficiency boost, the difference in the oil and gas costs were not as dramatic as they are today, and now some of the equipment is at or near the end of its useful life.

The project includes:

PECO installing a gas line from S. New Middletown Road to the kitchen wall.

Replacing the existing boiler and furnaces with >90% efficient, gas-fired equipment for at least a 10% efficiency increase, better system control, safeties and room thermostats.

Replacing the now failed electric hot water heater with a new gas unit and installing a timer to minimize heating water when the building is not occupied.

Installing efficient Heat/Cool heat-pump systems with ductless splits for the Rabbi and Arlene's offices to provide comfort [eliminating their need for electric space heaters] and for the second floor. Also installing a small heater in the main floor bathroom.

There are other smaller issues being addressed but the above reflects the substance of the change.

These combined measures will allow us to optimize temperature control and thus minimize energy use and maximize comfort. For those wondering about the Hebrew school level, please note that we found that size of the heating system supplying that area to be oversized and therefore any historic problems appear to be a result of poor room control and that the fins were found in the closed position.

This project will cost up to about \$75,000 plus a 12% contingency in case something unexpected is encountered. There will be a reduction in the congregation's operating expenses, an improvement in system efficiency and delivery effectiveness and a reduction in the congregation's footprint. We expect a payback in 5 to 6 yrs, lowering our heating bill from about \$16,000/yr. to approximately \$4000/yr.

Another very exciting aspect of the conversion is the reduction in BI's atmospheric emissions that can be attributed directly to the fuel conversion:

- CO₂e [Green House Gas]: DECREASE of 14.213 Ton/yr. or 31.88%
- SO₂ [Sulfur Dioxide]: DECREASE of 0.28 Ton/yr. or 99.94%
- Less significant: NOX [Nitrogen oxides] and Particulate matter reductions and CO [Carbon Monoxide and VOC] increases. [<30lb/yr./ea.]

This past year has been an opportunity to review and plan for both improvement of the efficiency of our building and also the sustainability of our operations. In the midst of several discussions during the past year the board also explored what our faith teaches us about our roles as stewards of the earth. We believe the gas conversion project allows us to live out these values within the context of our community.

Read and subscribe
to my Blog at
DelawareCountyRealLife.com



Denny Waldman
REALTOR®



KELLER WILLIAMS®
REAL ESTATE
BRANDYWINE VALLEY

Office: 610.399.5100 • Cell: 610.496.4100
dennywaldman@kw.com

Visit my website!!

SearchForLocalHomes.com



Join BI to Celebrate the Festivals **Sukkot & Simchat Torah**

Sukkah Raising, Decorating & Pizza

Sunday, September 30, 2012 Building 9:30 am Pizza 12 noon

The first step in getting our sukkah built is putting up the walls & harvesting the corn stalks for the roof. **Bring hand saws and gardening gloves to cut down stalks. We suggest adults & teens only for building. Help out while the kids are in Hebrew School. All are welcome to share a pizza lunch at noon (\$3/person) & create additional decorations as we prepare for Sukkot.

RSVP to Arlene Benz in the BI office 610-566-4645.

Shabbat & Sukkot Community Dinner Beer Tasting & Sleep Over

Friday, October 5, 2012 Services 6:30 pm Dinner 7:30 pm

Fulfill the mitzvah of eating in a sukkah with our community. Enjoy Kabbalat Shabbat services, then join us for a catered dinner in the Sukkah (downstairs, in case of rain). Bring a drink or dessert to share. If you would like to participate in the beer tasting (& are 21 or older), the cost will be \$15/adult. Bring a sleeping bag, pillow and PJs if you would like to sleep over in the sukkah after dinner. Children should be accompanied by an adult for the sleepover.

RSVP for any or all to Arlene Benz in the BI office 610-566-4645.



Shabbat Sukkot Potluck Lunch

Saturday, October 6, 2012 Services 9:45 am Lunch 11:45 am

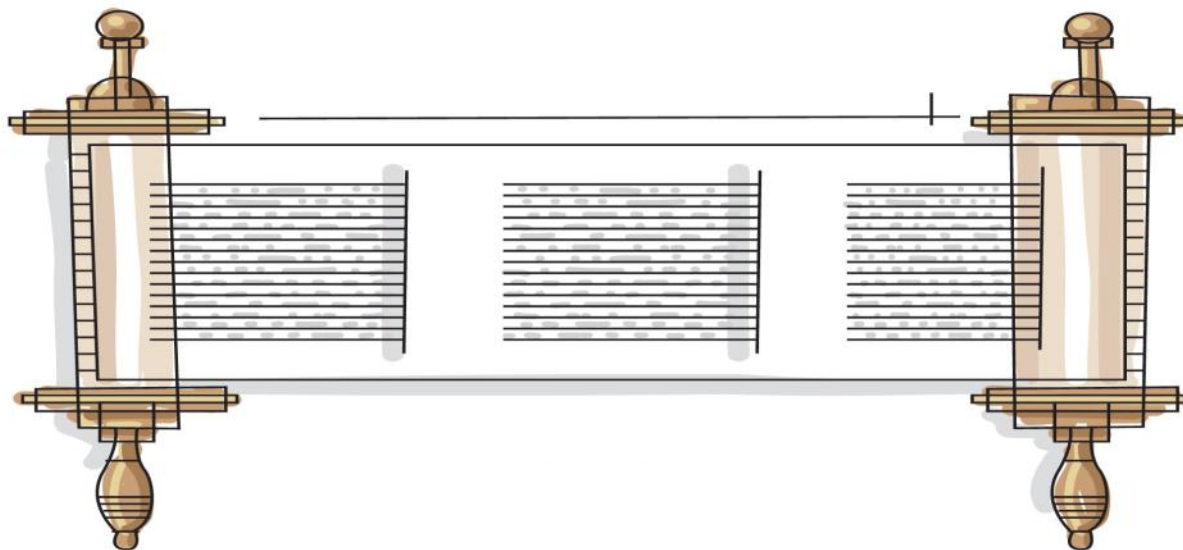
Enjoy a potluck lunch in the sukkah after special Shabbat Sukkot services. We'll say blessings on the Bimah and then take our lunches out to the sukkah to fulfill the mitzvah, *layshayv ba'sukkah* (to dwell in the sukkah). Please bring a dairy/vegetarian dish to share.

Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah Eighth Day of Assembly/ Rejoice in the Torah

Sunday, October 7, 2012 Dinner 5:00 pm Services 6:00 pm

Join BI as we celebrate the additional day of Sukkot (Shemini Atzeret) and the joyous conclusion and restarting of the Torah reading cycle. We will have a festival service, including the Aleph class consecration and a moment of *Yizkor*. We will sing and dance with the Torah during the *hakafot*. Help unfurl the entire Torah and watch the story of the Jewish people unfold. Hear the final words of Moses and the beginning of the creation story. Come and chant a line from your Bar/Bat Mitzvah portion. Contact Randy Tiffany rabbimy@comcast.net to sign up to chant.

Dinner RSVP to Arlene Benz in the BI office (610) 566 – 4645. Please bring a dairy/vegetarian dish to share for dinner.



Beer Tasting at Sukkot Dinner

Enjoy a selection of 4 – 6 seasonal craft beers
after our Shabbat Sukkot Dinner.

\$15/person to sample the beers.

Age 21 & older only.

Friday, October 5, 2012

Services 6:30 pm Dinner, etc. 7:30 pm

RSVP to office 610) 566 – 4645 or
arlene_benz@bethisraelmedia.org

Please drink responsibly.



The Sukkot Guide with Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum Sat, Oct 6

Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum has recently created a ***Sukkot Guide***, the third in a series on healthy relationships published by Jewish Women International called Rethinking Sukkot: Women, Relationships, and Jewish Texts.

She will offer a teaching based on the guide on the morning of Shabbat Sukkot, Oct 6th. Join us for services and weather permitting, learning and lunch in our sukkah.



Be our guest for lunch or for one of our
monthly informational sessions.

Smart people making smart moves™

Martins Run

A Senior Living Community
founded on Jewish values and traditions

Media, PA • Minutes from the Main Line

610.353.7660 ext. 252

www.martinsrun.org

Martins Run does not discriminate on the basis of race,
color, religion, national origin, sex or handicap.



Shabbat Around the Table: Interfaithways Shabbat With Rabbi Linda Potemken

Friday, November 2, 2012 6:30 pm

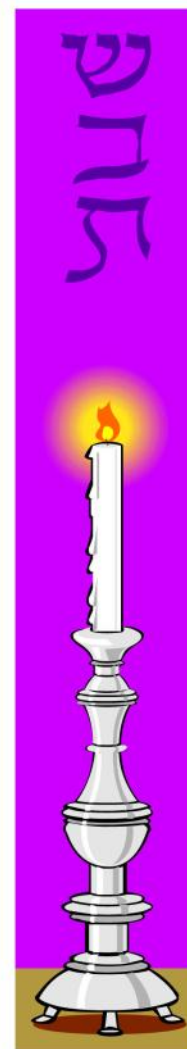
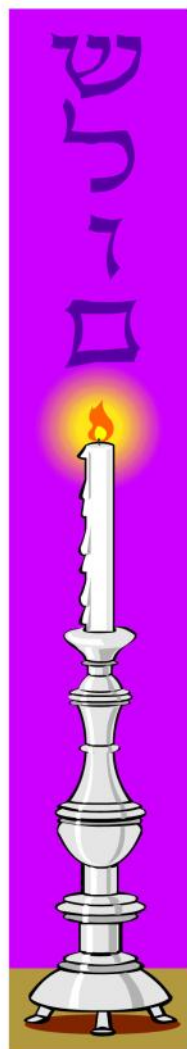
Join us for our third "Shabbat Around the Table" where we share prayer, poetry, singing and dinner around the table in a seder format for a warm, meaningful, cozier Shabbat experience.

Bring yourself, your family, your friends, something to share for our vegetarian potluck supper and, if you have it, an item from your home that enhances Shabbat or holiday celebrations.

We will combine our unique Beth Israel evening with an area-wide *Interfaithways Shabbat* experience where we celebrate our warmth and openness, the richness of our diversity and the contributions of our non-Jewish members.

We cherish and celebrate our entire community.

RSVP to Arlene_benz@bethisraelmedia.org
so that we have enough tables set up.



New Members:

Kimberly Dumoff & Michael Lefkowitz, with her children Joshua & Sarah Krakow.

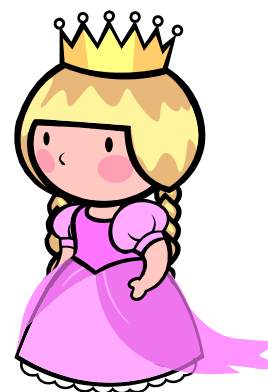
Congregation Beth Israel welcomes new members Kimberly Dumoff and Michael Lefkowitz, along with her children Joshua and Sarah Krakow. Kimberly and Josh are newlyweds and have been married for just one week at the time of writing. They live in Havertown, PA.

Originally from Binghamton, NY, Kimberly came to the area for a residency the University of Pennsylvania where she is currently a pathologist. Some of her interests include reading and exercise.

Michael grew up in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey where he was part of a conservative synagogue. He is an orthotist with Hanger in Philadelphia. Some of his interests include baking, cooking, woodworking and long distance running.

Joshua is six years old and will be starting Sunday school this year. He likes reading and math and loves to play crazy eights. Sarah is four years old and she likes to play with Barbie dolls as well as dressing up in princess and pirate costumes.

—Suzanne Simenhoff, Membership Chair





Aleph class with teacher Julia Purves



Alex Dresner teaches Dalet class (above) and Rick Epstein (below) teaches Hay class in their renovated classrooms

Hebrew School Convenes

Hebrew school started Sept 9th in the newly renovated classrooms, brighter and lighter than before, thanks to the Gilbert Fund's generosity and Reisa Mukamal's coordination.

Rabbi Linda Potemken, Principal Helene Cohen and Education Committee Chair Jackie Gelman spoke to the parents and explained the program for the coming year. The older kids (Vav & Zayin, grades 6-7) in particular have more trips than before, including seeing the Dead Sea Scrolls, the DC Holocaust Museum, and the National Museum of American Jewish History.

The curricula varies by age. The Mechina class (pre-school, Eve Atkins, assisted by Elan Nash) is introduced to the Holidays and learns through music and movement. *This class is open to non-BI members.*

The Sunday Aleph (1st grade, Julia Purves) Bet/Gimmel (2nd-3rd grade, Shawn Dresner, Kimberly Dresner assisted by David Shore), Dalet/Hay (4th-5th grades, Alex Dresner, assisted by Samantha Dresner and Rick Epstein), and Vav/Zayin (6th/7th grade, Lee Senderowitsch, Noah Arnold, assisted by Jared Brown) classes will each have their own Tik-kun Olam projects and will learn Hebrew, Jewish practices, and history.

The Tuesday evening classes for Dalet through Zayin classes teach an hour of Hebrew, following by electives such as current events, art, Israeli dance, music, and cooking, all followed by a Mincha/Ma'ariv service led by Rabbi Linda. Teachers & assistants include Phyllis Rubin, Samantha Dresner, Mara Finestrauss, Shawn Dresner, Lee Senderowitsch, Jared Brown, Rick Epstein, Thomas Fogel, and Amy Jo Rosenthal.

A big thanks to this year's Hebrew School Class Parents, who help coordinate the class dinner and a social outing:

Mechina: Moriah Gornstein

Aleph: Nancy Blank

Bet/Gimmel: Dina Jacobs

Dalet: Arnie Schwartz

Hay: Natalie Finkelman

Vav: Don Huddler and Vicki Goodman

Zayin: TBD

New this year is our **first BI Hebrew School video on YouTube**, located on the "**BethIsraelMedia**" channel at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-bN4y_-aKXY.

Ever wonder what kids think about going to Hebrew School? We asked some students in BI's Hebrew School what they thought about it, and why they thought it was important. See for yourself the fun and enriching experience!



Mekom Torah: What are you going to learn this year??

Learning Jewish is a way of being Jewish. Last year, over 100 people participated in study groups through Mekom Torah (pronounced McComb Toe-Rah!) We would love to have you join us.



Get your Torah workout!

See <http://mekomtorah.org> or contact Rabbi Helen Plotkin at helen@mekomtorah.org or 610-368-4065.

The Prayerbook (New this year!)

Meets once a month on a Tuesday evening at Beth Israel. Delve into the meaning, structure, history, and power of the Jewish prayer book. (8 sessions)

Buddies Torah

Meets once a month on a Tuesday evening at Ohev Shalom.

Sign up with a friend or a significant other. Topics for study and discussion are aimed at inspiring ongoing conversation. (9 sessions)

Opening Judaism

Meets twice a month on Wednesday evenings at Beth Israel or Ohev Shalom.

Crack open the texts, practices, and ideas that are the foundation of Judaism. Change your life. (15 sessions)

Torah for Grownups

Meets weekly on Monday evenings at Beth Israel or Ohev Shalom.

New this year: Sign up by semester. (Discount on tuition if you commit to a whole year.)

Topic for fall semester 2012: The six days of creation.

A close reading of the first chapter of Genesis, with layers of Jewish interpretation. How was this text understood in the ancient world? How did the commentators and the kabbalists use it as the basis of their innovative ideas? How has it been read in more recent days?

Plus: A new **Women's Circle** is starting in the fall, meeting once a month on Thursday evenings. If you spend days in the city, see the mekomtorah.org website for information about the fabulous **Downtown Lunchtime Torah group**

The BI Book Club will meet on Sunday, Oct. 21st at 7:00 PM at BI, "Exile" by Robert North Patterson.

From one of America's most compelling novelists comes the mesmerizing story of a lawyer who must defend the woman he loves against a charge of conspiring to assassinate the prime minister of Israel



Philly Friendship Circle's 5th Annual Walk-a-Thon and Fun Fair

Save the Date or Start to Form Your Team Now: The Philly Friendship Circle's 5th Annual Walk-a-Thon and Fun Fair will be held on *Sunday, October 21st* from 1:00 - 3:30 pm at Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy in Bryn Mawr.

Come for food, fun and friendship! Two separate walk routes: a family-friendly 1.5 K loop (with scavenger hunt!) and a 5K loop around the beautiful, wooded campus. The Friendship Circle connects teen volunteers to youth with special needs. For more information and to register for the Walk (it's free!), visit www.phillyfriendshipwalk.com.



The Friendship Circle is guided by the principle of "love your fellow as yourself". We seek to build a world of acceptance and inclusion for children with special needs and their families, to foster leadership through our teen volunteers, and to develop Jewish communities that offer a place for everyone to participate. We create opportunities for children and teens with special needs to have fun, engaging experiences while developing confidence in themselves and the skills to succeed in adulthood.



YES! I shop at Acme or Giant, and I'm happy to purchase gift cards through BI. (For every \$100 I purchase, BI receives \$5.)

# of Cards (\$100 apiece)	Store	Total \$
------------------------------	-------	----------

_____	Giant	_____
-------	-------	-------

_____	Acme	_____
-------	------	-------

Name: _____

Phone number: () _____

_____ I will pick them up from the BI office on the following date: _____

_____ Please call me to make other arrangements to pick up the cards.

Mail this coupon with your check, made out to Congregation Beth Israel, to:
542 S. New Middletown Road, Media, PA 19063

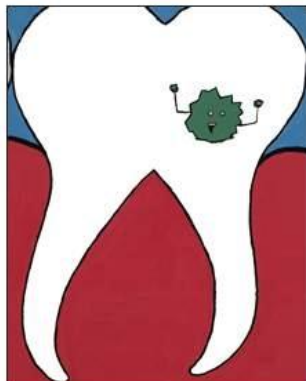
Steven G. Blum and Associates, LLC
Science and Ethics in Wealth Management

Steven G. Blum, Esq.
EdM, JD, LLM (in Taxation)

Please see our website:
<http://www.stevengblum.com>

801 Yale Avenue
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Phone: 610-328-7725
Fax: 801-437-3391



**Milunsky Family
Dentistry**
Jacob Milunsky, DMD

214 State Road
Media, PA 19063
(610) 566-5322
(610) 566-5325 fax
milunskydental@gmail.com
www.milunskydental.com

Cleaning out your attic, basement or garage

Joseph Deutsch

213 Willow Road
Wallingford, PA 19086

610-368-5671 (cell)
jdbugeye@hotmail.com

I can help you set up a yard sale or just determine which items you have are salable. I am interested in buying old magazines, documents, photos, toys, games, trains, etc. Please call me before disposing of what you may think is junk.

High Holy Day Wrap Up & Brainstorm

Sunday, October 14, 2012

10:30 am - 12 noon

While all Religious Practice Committee meetings are open, we especially invite you to join the RPC for our next meeting:

Personal Reflection: What are you inspired to work on in your life or in the world in this New Year? How did the High Holy Days help you in your work of teshuvah?

Share Your Experience and Ideas: While our experiences are still fresh in our minds, bring your reflections and ideas to this meeting. If you are unable to attend, we welcome comments via phone or email. Our usual business meeting will begin at 10:00 am for those who are interested.



See the YouTube channel "Yoshiyawho" for some examples of our Hebrew School students reading practice materials.

Hebrew Reading Crash Course

October 14 to November 11 (5 Sundays in a row), plus a review and consolidation session on Dec 9. Classes are 10 am to Noon at Beth Israel Synagogue 542 South New Middletown Road. Mark Cary will teach again this year.



To Register, Call the office at 610-566-4645. The course is open to both BI congregants and the local community.

The National Jewish Outreach Program's innovative introductory Hebrew program teaches participants to learn to read Hebrew in only five 1-1/2 hour weekly sessions.

The free Hebrew Reading Crash Course concentrates on teaching the Hebrew alphabet and reading skills. The course is for beginners and for people who want a review, but we will be going slowly. The focus will be on decoding the letters and vowel markings so you can sound out short words and phrases.

Please remember to donate toiletries etc. for Community Action Agency of Delaware County in the blue bin downstairs.

Thank you - Social Action Committee



Sunday, October 14, 2012

Delaware County Community College
901 Media Line Road, Media, PA

USA Track and Field Course Certified
<http://www.usatf.org/>

On-Site Registration Opens at 7:45 AM
Kids' Races Start at 8:45 AM
5K Race Starts at 9 AM



5K Run • 1 Mile Walk • Kids' Races and Games

Can't make it on race day? You can still participate! Register for the race, sign up pledges, run in your own neighborhood, and collect the pledge money. Then send it to Martins Run and we'll send you a T-shirt. We will also post your virtual race photos on our web site and award prizes to the top three virtual racers.

To register for the race online, please visit
<http://martins-run.donorpages.com/5KRun2012> or www.runtheday.com.

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Rich at **610-353-7660 x 253**.

Food, Music, Fun! • FREE T-Shirt for First 500 Registrants • Podiatrist Onsite
Cash Prizes for Overall Male and Female Finishers
Prizes for Top Male & Female Runners in 6 Age Groups
Enter our Pledge Contest! Prizes for Top 2 Individuals or Teams

Martins Run

A Senior Living Community minutes from the Main Line
11 Martins Run Media, PA 19063

www.martinsrun.org



Martins Run does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex or handicap.



Is "Eat Drink Man Woman" Really a Jewish Film?

October 20
7:00 Havdalah
7:15 Movie
9:30 Discussion with BI member Louis Friedler

When Ang Lee and James Schamus, the co-authors of the screenplay for *Eat Drink Man Woman*, went to Taipei to prepare for the film, Schamus brought Lee a first draft. Lee thought it wasn't "Chinese" enough, so Schamus re-imagined all the names as Jewish and re-wrote the script with these characters in mind. When he brought it back, Lee thought it was much more Chinese. Is this film about Chinese, Jewish, or universal values?

We will begin with a brief introduction to traditional Chinese values, watch the film, and then discuss it, briefly noting that it has been re-made as Tortilla Soup, set in Southern California

BI member Louis Friedler periodically teaches a course on Chinese film at Arcadia University, where he is Chair of the Computer Science and Mathematics Department. He recently led a group of students on a tour of Shanghai and is currently working on a cross-national study comparing calculus performance by university students in the U.S. and China.

Two Up Coming Movies

Occasional Movie Nights Presented by Beth Israel Social Action Committee

Gefilte Flicks

@ Beth Israel

Everything is Illuminated
With *Flijah Wood*

Saturday, Nov. 3, 2012

Doors Open at 6:15 PM

Havdalah at 6:30

Movie starts at 7:00

A Movie Night for
the Heart and Mind
Benefiting the Beth Israel General Fund and its Social Action programs. Adults \$5.00 (doing our part for the economy!)

Children under 13 only \$2.00.

Movie-style refreshments and healthy goodies will be sold.



A Movie by
Liev Schrieber

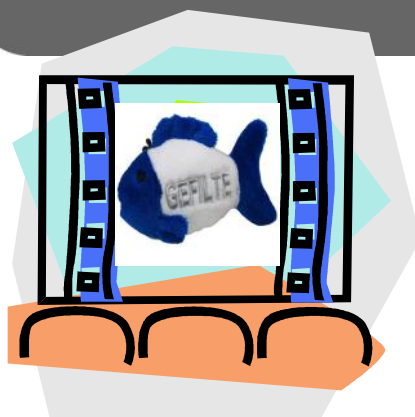
A young man searches
for the truth about WWII in
the Ukraine. Hilarity, mystery,
and emotional
revelations ensue



Rabbi Helen Plotkin
will lead Havdalah,
and go all movie critic
on this flick. You'll be
part of the spirited
discussion.

This movie is
rated PG-13

Jean Fleschute, Chairperson
BI Social Action Committee
Phone: 610 328-4824
E-mail:
jeanfleschute@verizon.net



DONATIONS September 2012**BIMAS**

Michael and Theresa Citrenbaum
In honor of Jake's Bar Mitzvah

Stephen and Heidi Carp
In honor of Max's Bar Mitzvah

Helen Schachner
 To: Larry Dworkin and Family
In memory of your loving father, Leon Dworkin

The Prayer Book Fund

The Carp Family
 To: Reisa Mukamal
To honor an outstanding tutor

The SAC Fund

Jen and Josh Waterston
 To: Larry Dworkin and family
In memory of Leon Dworkin, father of Larry Dworkin

The General Fund

Jean and Elliott Heisman

Stan and Rissa Sklar
 To: Larry Dworkin and Family
In memory of your father, Leon Dworkin

The Golden Book

Rabbi Linda
 To: Max Carp
Mazel Tov on becoming a Bar Mitzvah
 To: Jake Citrenbaum
Mazel Tov on the occasion of your Bar Mitzvah

Mazel Tov from the Congregation to:

Max Carp on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah
Jake Citrenbaum on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Sending you blessings for healing:

Ed and Naomi Sav, Jenny Shulbank, Dottie Jenkins, Jane Laffend, Ron Romoff, Bob Stone, Andrew Kelly, Eleanor Skale, Ken Kinman, Randee O'Donnell

Condolences from the Congregation to:

Larry Dworkin on the passing of his father, Leon Dworkin

Plaque List - Tishri/Heshvan - 5773 - Oct. 2012

In Memory Of	Heb./Eng Date	Syn. Obs.
Robert Stern,	Tishri 20/Oct. 6	Oct. 6
Pauline Josephs,	Tishri 20/Oct. 6	Oct. 6
Harry Levin,	Tishri 25/Oct. 11	Oct. 6
Hannah Cooper Laddon,	Heshvan 2/Oct. 18	Oct. 13
Isaac Bernstein,	Heshvan 2/Oct. 18	Oct. 13
Katie Horowitz,	Heshvan 3/Oct. 19	Oct. 13
Richard H. Weingard,	Heshvan 3/Oct. 19	Oct. 13
Michael L. Harrison,	Heshvan 13/Oct. 29	Oct. 27
Samuel Metzker,	Heshvan 14/Oct. 30	Oct. 27
Daniel Silverman,	Heshvan 14/Oct. 30	Oct. 27
Bella Markizon,	Heshvan 17/Nov. 2	Oct. 27

Ohev Shalom has a Gift Gallery!

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Central
Talitot, Tallis Clips, Torah Pointers

Hospitality, Wedding and Baby Gifts
 Jewelry and Judaica

Gourmet Coffees – Soaps – Pashminas - Vases
 Kosher wines priced from \$10-\$18/bottle

Staffed Hours: Sundays 9-12

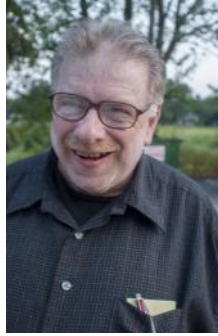
Wednesdays 4-6

Daily during Office Hours

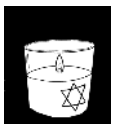
By Appointment: giftshop@ohav.net

Congregation Ohev Shalom
 2 Chester Road, Wallingford

The Beth Israel Welcome Back Fall Picnic



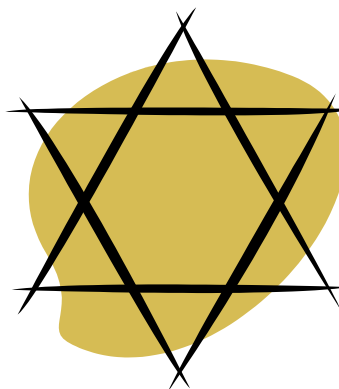
Thank you to photographers John Greenstine and Harris Fogel



Yahrzeit List - Tishri/Heshvan - 5773 - Oct. 2012



Member	In Memory Of	Heb./Eng Date	Syn. Obs.
Deborah Erie	Eva Erie, grandmother	Tishri 20/Oct. 6	Oct. 6
Miriam Sigler	Gilbert Aser, uncle	Tishri 22/Oct. 8	Oct. 6
Arnie Schwartz	Joseph Silverstein, uncle	Tishri 22/Oct. 8	Oct. 6
Margo Zitin	* Ben Kaufman, father	Tishri 22/Oct. 8	Oct. 6
Carol Cowan	Genevieve Katherine Corrin, mother	Tishri 23/Oct. 9	Oct. 6
Carol Cowan	Allan Cooper Cowan, father	Tishri 24/Oct. 10	Oct. 6
Henrietta Mudrick	* Miriam Marylyn Mudrick, sister-in-law	Tishri 24/Oct. 10	Oct. 6
Marjorie Yudkin	Gerald Yudkin, father	Tishri 26/Oct. 12	Oct. 6
Rayfield Rosenberg	* Anne Rosenberg, wife	Tishri 27/Oct. 13	Oct. 13
Mark Rosenberg	* Anne Rosenberg, mother	Tishri 27/Oct. 13	Oct. 13
Lynn Kelly	* Anne Rosenberg, mother	Tishri 27/Oct. 13	Oct. 13
Randy London	Samuel London, father	Tishri 27/Oct. 13	Oct. 13
Laura Lee Blechner	Bessie Ferentz, aunt	Tishri 27/Oct. 13	Oct. 13
Henrietta Mudrick	* Anna Epstein, mother	Tishri 28/Oct. 14	Oct. 13
Christopher Pragman	Walter Runkel, grandfather	Tishri 29/Oct. 15	Oct. 13
Arnie Schwartz	Elke Silverstein, grandmother	Tishri 29/Oct. 15	Oct. 13
Robert Stone	Edward Stone, father	Tishri 29/Oct. 15	Oct. 13
Arnie Schwartz	Benjamin Schwartz, grandfather	Tishri 30/Oct. 16	Oct. 13
Randi Raskin Nash	* Etta Belsky, grandmother	Heshvan 6/Oct. 22	Oct. 20
Joyann Kroser	* Lila Stein Kroser, mother	Heshvan 7/Oct. 23	Oct. 20
Meira Pitkapaasi	Anna Elliott-Adelman, daughter	Heshvan 8/Oct. 24	Oct. 20
Sheldon Bernick	Milton Bernick, father	Heshvan 9/Oct. 25	Oct. 20
Joyce Romoff	* Esther Weizer, mother	Heshvan 10/Oct. 26	Oct. 20
Arnie Schwartz	Anna Schwartz, grandmother	Heshvan 10/Oct. 26	Oct. 20
Bill Gross	* Laura Gross, mother	Heshvan 12/Oct. 28	Oct. 27
Steven Blum	* Adam Spiro, grandfather	Heshvan 17/Nov. 2	Oct. 27



October 2012

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
	<i>1</i> 7:30 PM Torah for Grownups @ BI w/ R. H. Plotkin 1st Day Sukkot	<i>2</i> 4:15 PM Hebrew School 7:30 PM Buddies Torah @ Ohev Shalom w R. H. Plotkin 2nd Day Sukkot Snack & Mincha in Sukkah at 4:15	<i>3</i> 3rd Day Sukkot	<i>4</i> 12:00 PM Lunchtime Torah Downtown w/ R. H. Plotkin 7:30 PM Social Action Committee @ Lauri Mansky's home 4th Day Sukkot	<i>5</i> 6:30 PM Shabbat Sukkot Service w/ R. Linda 7:30 PM Sukkot Dinner 5th Day Sukkot Beer Tasting Sukkot Sleepover	<i>6</i> 9:45 AM Shabbat Sukkot Service w/ Rabbi Linda 11:45 AM Sukkot Potluck Lunch 6th Day Sukkot																																																																																											
<i>7</i> 4:00 PM Mek Torah HS at Ohev 5:00 PM Potluck Dinner 6:00 PM Service & Aleph Consecration 7th Day Sukkot Erev Simhat Torah Celebration <u>No Hebrew School</u>	<i>8</i> Simhat Torah & Shemini Atzeret	<i>9</i> 4:15 PM Hebrew School	<i>10</i> 7:30 PM Executive Committee	<i>11</i> 12:00 PM Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Linda	<i>12</i> 8:00 PM Shabbat Services with Rabbi Linda, Tikkun Olam Speaker on "Islam"	<i>13</i> 9:45 AM Shabbat Services w/Rabbi Linda - Bar Mitzvah of Jason Marmorstein																																																																																											
<i>14</i> 9:30 AM School 10:00 AM Mechina 10:00 AM Read Hebrew America, Mark Cary, upstairs 10:00 AM RPC & HH Wrap-up 12:15 PM BLT w/RLP 4:00 PM MTHS @ Ohev	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 4:15 PM Hebrew School	<i>17</i> 7:30 PM Board Meeting	<i>18</i> 2:00 PM Learn/Practice Meditation w/ RLP	<i>19</i> 8:00 PM Shabbat Services w/ Larry and Marion Hamermesh	<i>20</i> 9:45 AM Shabbat Services w/ Rich Block and Meira Pitkapaasi																																																																																											
<i>21</i> 9:30 AM School 10:00 AM Adult Ed w. L. L. Blechner 10:00 AM Ed. Cte 10:00 AM Read Hebrew America, Mark Cary, upstairs 7:00 PM BI Book Club @ BI "Exile" by Richard North Patterson	<i>22</i> 7:30 PM Torah for Grownups @ BI w/ R. H. Plotkin	<i>23</i> 4:15 PM Hebrew School 4:30 PM Mussar Group w/Rabbi Linda 7:30 PM The Prayerbook w. R. H. Plotkin @ BI	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> 10:30 AM "Spiritual Nourishment in Times of Transition" w/Rabbi Linda 12:00 PM Lunchtime Torah Downtown w/ R. H. Plotkin	<i>26</i> 6:00 PM Young Family Service Dinner hosted by Zayin Class 6:45 PM Young Family Service with Rabbi Linda Potemken	<i>27</i> 9:45 AM Shabbat Services w/Rabbi Linda - Bat Mitzvah of Maura & Rhiannon Tease																																																																																											
<i>28</i> 9:30 AM Hebrew School 10:00 AM New Member Orientation 10:00 AM Read Hebrew America, Mark Cary, upstairs 4:00 PM Mekom Torah High School at Ohev	<i>29</i> 5:45 PM Food Service 7:30 PM Torah for Grownups @ BI w/ R. H. Plotkin	<i>30</i> 4:15 PM Hebrew School 5:45 PM Parents Attend Service	<i>31</i>	<div> <div>Sep 2012</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>Nov 2012</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1 2 3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1 2 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																											
						1																																																																																											
2	3	4	5	6	7	8																																																																																											
9	10	11	12	13	14	15																																																																																											
16	17	18	19	20	21	22																																																																																											
23	24	25	26	27	28	29																																																																																											
30																																																																																																	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																											
						1 2 3																																																																																											
4	5	6	7	8	9	10																																																																																											
11	12	13	14	15	16	17																																																																																											
18	19	20	21	22	23	24																																																																																											
25	26	27	28	29	30																																																																																												

Congregation Beth Israel
 542 South New Middletown Road
 Media, Pennsylvania 19063-2240
 Ph 610-566-4645 Fax 610-566-2240
<http://www.bethisraelmedia.org>

President	Joshua Waterston
Rabbi	Linda Potemken
Editor, Content	Sharon Kleban
Editor, Production	Mark Cary
Assistant, Production	—Open—
Yahrzeit Editor	Suzanne Davis
Contributions Editor	Arlene Benz

The Israelight is published on the first of each secular month. All submissions must be received by the editor by the 10th of the preceding month to guarantee inclusion. Articles may be submitted by mail to the synagogue office or by email to:

Israelight@bethisraelmedia.org

Next Issue:

Nov 2012

Return Service Requested

You're Invited

Be our guest for lunch or for one of our monthly informational sessions.

Smart people making smart moves™

Martins Run

A Senior Living Community founded on Jewish values and traditions

Media, PA • Minutes from the Main Line

610.353.7660 ext. 252

www.martinsrun.org



Martins Run does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex or handicap.

