TU BISHVAT: HISTORY

Although the celebration of Tu BiShvat has a long and varied history, the theme most commonly ascribed to the holiday today is the environment. It is considered a festival of nature, full of wonder, joy, and thankfulness for creation in anticipation of the renewal of the natural world. During this festival, Jews recall the sacred obligation to care for the world, and the responsibility to share the fruits of the earth with all. Read more.

A TU BISHVAT SEDER GUIDE FOR KIDS

A Shaboom! Discussion and Activity Guide for 4-7 Year Olds and Their Parents

BEYOND HAMANTASCHEN: PURIM FOODS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Hamantaschen are the most recognizable food associated with the Purim holiday, but there are many different foods for celebrating Purim.

It is customary to have a festive meal on Purim day. This year, why not try some foods enjoyed by Jews around the world? Read more.

SOCIAL ACTION FAMILY ACTIVITY: CREATING BLESSING BAGS

Try this family's unique way of engaging children in tikkun olam by helping the homeless. Read more.
Torah Study
Saturday Morning - at 9:30 am
February 15, March 28 and April 25
with Rabbi Sholkklapper

Join the Houston Holocaust Survivors and Descendants and Holocaust Museum Houston, for an innovative program for children ages 5-13. Explore the role of upstanders during the Holocaust with a reading of The Whispering Town followed by a discussion with a Holocaust survivor.

Children are invited to attend with a parent(s) or grandparent(s). The program is open to interested families, whether or not your family includes Holocaust survivors.

Sunday, February 9, 2020  3:00pm – 5:00pm
5401 Caroline St, Houston, TX 77004
Free admission - please register here
JEWISH MINDFULNESS

with

RABBI ARIEL SHOLKLLAPPER

We will learn about the practices and fundamentals of Jewish mindfulness and also have an opportunity to be led in a few meditation exercises. Rabbi Sholklapper will teach you practices you can use in your daily life to help you manage stress and thrive!

Whether you have lots of meditation experience or none, this is a perfect way to continue your spiritual growth.

Tuesday, February 18 - 7pm
and/or
Sunday, March 29 - 3pm

RSVP here
www.betheltx.org/event/jewishmindfulness
Join us for a special screening of Suppressed: The Right to Vote
Tuesday, February 25
Noon Bring your own lunch; screening begins at 1pm

This new documentary by Robert Greenwald weaves together personal stories from voters across the state of Georgia to paint a picture of voter suppression in the 2018 midterm election where Stacey Abrams fought to become the first Black female governor in the U.S. Discussion following the screening.

As we have all witnessed, the events of the past few months continually remind us of the need to remain diligent in our efforts to secure the temple as best as possible. To date, the Board has taken measures to create a safer space at our beloved synagogue. As part of good practice, the Board has requested that we re-look at our security on a more routine basis. We are now asking for those with a passion for this to join a small ad-hoc committee that will meet to review our current state and think holistically about the security of our facility. This group will make recommendations to the Board (if needed). If you have interest, please contact Richard Friedman at richardfr2013@gmail.com to let him know as he will be putting together the next steps on behalf of the Board.

As a reminder security donations are always appreciated. To make a donation click here.
CRAFTER'S CLUB  
HOSTED BY CONGREGATION BETH EL  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6 | 6P-8P  

Need motivation to begin? Bring your projects and supplies. Not sure where to begin? Join us to explore options and learn a new skill.  

Questions? Call Norma in the synagogue office  

CBE BOOK CLUB - FEBRUARY 2020  

Wednesday - February 12: 7pm  
Gertruda's Oath: A Child, a Promise, and a Heroic Escape During World War II by Ram Oren  
Hosted by Debra Ricardo  

Don’t have time to read, no worries, join us for great conversation and hear more about this great read.  

Michael Stolowitzky, the only son of a wealthy Jewish family in Poland, was just three years old when war broke out and the family lost everything. His father, desperate to settle his business affairs, travels to France, leaving Michael in the care of his mother and Gertruda Bablinska, a Catholic nanny devoted to the family. When Michael's mother has a stroke, Gertruda promises the dying woman that she will make her way to Palestine and raise him as her own son.  

GERTRUDA'S OATH is a story of extraordinary courage and moral strength in the face of horrific events. Like Schindler's List, it transcends history and religion to reveal the compassion and hope that miraculously thrives in a world immersed in war without end. (Amazon description)
David’s songs have found their way to Carnegie Hall, the United Nations, several Chicken Soup for the Soul books, the Kennedy Center, NASA’s Space Shuttle “Atlantis”, Peter, Paul, & Mary and Kingston Trio CDs (and 15 of his own), 5 Positive Music Awards, and countless venues in this and other countries (and now other WORLDS) for three decades. Poignant to improbable, holistic to hilarious, the Chicago native (now living on Cape Cod) adds Houston/Missouri City to his ongoing world tour with a roller coaster ride of song and story. Join us for an evening to remember...
CBE Preschool welcomed all out friends back to school. It was great to see all the smiling faces back in session. We learned about winter with Snowflake the Snowman and made our own snowflakes, we attended a beautiful CBE Shir Shabbat and our Pre-K led us in the Shema. They did an outstanding job and it was a beautiful evening. Thank you Cantor Waghalter for organizing and including our Preschool in the service. We were visited by Tilly the Tooth and learned about dental hygiene and what foods are good for our teeth and which ones are bad. We also learned the proper way to brush our teeth. Preschool enjoyed the moon bounce for recess. Thank you to Ms. Jodi and Mr. Glen Kessler for the wonderful fun playtime indoors as it was cold outside. Pre-K learned about bear hibernation they created a bear cave in the classroom and placed their special bears in the cave for the winter season. We will see them again at our Teddy Bear Picnic in the Spring.

Upcoming events include Preschool Tu’B Shevat Seder (birthday of the trees), Go Texan Shabbat and Activity day and our Purim Carnival.

If you know anyone interested in CBE Preschool please let us know. For more info please call 281-499-5066 or email admin@betheltx.org.
During the month of January, discussions during Tribe Time revolved around our Jewish Patriarchs and Matriarchs. Many lessons have been learned from our ancestors. We determined ways in which we were similar and could emulate their character traits. One of the favorite activities we participated in was to bring the character traits to life. We showed kindness by giving water to others when we had a water jug relay. Another character trait discussed was welcoming guests. We reenacted this trait by inviting our parents to breakfast where we showed them kindnesses and served them breakfast casserole. All who attended had a good time.

_Tu BiShvat_ will be here soon. It is a time when we celebrate the seven species and are thankful the trees and plants in our lives. Next month read the special way in which the Religious School we will be celebrating the various fruits.
THANK YOU TO CBE DONORS FOR
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2019
AND JANUARY 2020

Caring Committee Fund
In memory of Edwin Bersin
Carol Cooper
In memory of Joseph Altman
Carol Cooper
In honor of Rocket Rosen
Jim and Deb Paras

Oneg Sponsor
In memory of Joseph Altman
Joanne Must
Meg Rosenzweig
Yaffa Steubinger
In memory of Ed Bersin
Yaffa Steubinger

Rabbi Discretionary Fund
In honor of Rabbi Sholklapper
Nicholas and Rivka Ettinger
In memory of Joe Altman
Ali and Andy Gratz
In memory of Eddie Bersin
Ali and Andy Gratz

Rocket Rosen Memorial Fund
Carol Cooper
Ralph and Carol Katz
Alan and Ann Schneider

Dora & Daniel Soffar Operating Fund
Claire Altman
Van and Sandra Lessig
For the yahrzeit of Luisa Kreisberg
Marcia Forbes
In memory of Rocket Rosen
Steve and Michelle Fritz
Rosen and Kovach PLLC
In honor of Rena, new granddaughter of
Frada and George
Ed and Marilyn Carlin
In honor of Marc and Irene Helsinger
Celebrating 50 years of Love!
Larry & Judy Ostrow
Sharon and Barry Shapiro
In memory of Ed Bersin
CBE Preschool
Floyd and Charlotte Goldberg
IS Shared Services -
      MD Anderson Cancer Center
Glenn and Jodi Kessler
Jim and Deb Paras
Eunice Reiter
Meg Rosenzweig
Ann & Alan Schneider
Seb and Davna Teverovsky
In honor of Sandra Solomon
Peter Allen and Tina Kabakoff
In honor of All the volunteers that give so
much of their time. Thank you.
Darrell & Joy Caraway
In honor of for Michael Cohen’s recovery
from surgery.
Carol Cooper
In memory of Joe Altman
CBE Preschool
Van and Sandra Lessig
Jim and Deb Paras
Eunice Reiter
Ann & Alan Schneider
In memory of Frank Yurcak
CBE Preschool

Dora & Daniel Soffar Operating Fund cont.
For the yahrzeit of Reena Church’s
mother
Anthony & Reena Church
For the yahrzeit of Sporn
Jim and Deb Paras
In memory of Ruth Dubinoff
Michael and Laurie
Mucasey

Count Me In 2019
Marolyn Block
Carol Cooper
Kay Danziger
Cheryl Dennis
Robert & Lisa Goodman
Larry & Lois Greenberg
David & Linda Heitzer
Harry & Leticia Himmelstein
Larry & Debra Linzer
George Starkschall, & Frada Boxer

Thank you
### FEBRUARY 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>BEFTY Winter Conclave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7pm CBE Executive Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>10am Grief Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6pm Crafters Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6pm Shir Shabbat Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>6pm BEFTY Social</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Noon Seniors AOA Lunch and Current Events 7pm Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>10am Grief Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Preschool and Synagogue Office Closed 7pm Shabbat service with Rabbi Sholklapper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>9:30am Torah Study with Rabbi Sholklapper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>NO Religious School YOM LI:MUD at Beth Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Synagogue Office Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>7pm Jewish Mindfulness w/ Rabbi Sholklapper</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>10am Grief Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>7pm David Roth concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>7pm Shabbat Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Noon BEFTY meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Noon Seniors AOA Lunch and movie screening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>6pm MADD SW meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>7pm Shabbat Service with Rabbi Sholklapper Zach Wormser Bar Mitzvah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>10:30am Zach Wormser Bar Mitzvah</td>
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</tbody>
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### MARCH 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10am Purim Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>7pm CBE Executive Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10am Grief Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6pm Shir Shabbat Service with dinner</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>7pm Purim Shpiel</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>10am Grief Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>7pm Shabbat service with Rabbi Sholklapper</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Noon Seniors AOA Lunch and Current Events 7pm Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>10am Grief Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>7pm Shabbat Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>2pm Bites in Fort Bend @ Constellation Field</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>10am Grief Group 6pm MADD SW meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>7pm Shabbat Service with Rabbi Sholklapper</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>9:30am Torah Study with Rabbi Sholklapper</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>3pm Jewish Mindfulness w/ Rabbi Sholklapper</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Noon Seniors AOA Lunch and Current Events</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The CBE preschool will be closed Friday, February 14 and the synagogue office will be closed Friday, February 14 & Monday, February 17

**SPRING BREAK**

The CBE preschool will be closed for Spring Break March 9-13.

**Torch** meets every Thursday @ 7:30pm
**Religious School** meets Sunday mornings @ 9am (unless noted otherwise)

For more information about any of these events visit www.betheiltx.org
February 2
Shelley Frank
Albert Joseph
Laurie Mucasey

February 4
Carol Cooper

February 8
Laura Melasky

February 9
Scott Caplan
Suzanne Levine

February 10
Zoey Porter
Micki Schnitzer

February 12
Jake Hernandez

February 13
Avery Kailin

February 14
Dorothy Abels

February 15
Christopher Wade

February 17
Alan Croft
Reagan Mothner
Martha Raskin

February 20
Bill Asnes

February 21
Sandra Green

February 22
Marolyn Block

February 24
Seth Gratz

February 25
Joseph Okie

February 27
Ruth Brown
Laura Scheiner

February 5
John & Alison Hernandez

February 14
Darrell & Joy Caraway

February 26
Albert & Shirley Joseph
# February Yahrzeits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Betty Gerendash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Luisa Kreisberg</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lilian Schwartz</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2</td>
<td>Fred Dreyfuss</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lee Farb</td>
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<td>Elaine Kissinger</td>
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<td>Rae Kline</td>
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<td>Bernie Rosen</td>
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<td>Henrietta Stein</td>
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<td>February 3</td>
<td>David Ackerman</td>
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<td>Joseph Spiegel</td>
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<td>February 4</td>
<td>Dorothy Feldman</td>
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<td>Jeff Hale</td>
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<td>February 5</td>
<td>Johnnie Fackeldey</td>
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<td>February 6</td>
<td>Louis Dvoretzky</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ethel Levine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dale Soffar</td>
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<td>February 7</td>
<td>Gerald Schwartz</td>
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<td>February 8</td>
<td>Julio Rodriguez</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Esther Soffar</td>
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<td>February 9</td>
<td>Matilde Rodriguez</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Betty Salomon</td>
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<td>February 10</td>
<td>Gilby Kotzen</td>
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<td>February 11</td>
<td>Gertrude Raskin Friedman</td>
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<td>February 12</td>
<td>Esther Goldman</td>
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<td>February 13</td>
<td>Abraham Joseph</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Trude Rowsey</td>
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<td>Sy Williams</td>
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<td>February 15</td>
<td>Irmgard Dvoretzky</td>
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<td>February 16</td>
<td>Harry Schnitzer</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 17</td>
<td>Ronald Block</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vincent Dzubquevich</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 18</td>
<td>Marie Ronsheim</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 19</td>
<td>Marjorie Weisman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lynette Weissman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Melvin Zack</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>Sarah Brateman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Justin Kessler</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Joseph Must</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>Dottie Rothberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 26</td>
<td>Susan Neider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 27</td>
<td>Howard Pomerantz</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The congregation extends its heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Rocket Rosen z”l.
Shir Shabbat Service
Friday, March 6 - 6pm

Join us for our musical Shir Shabbat service followed by dinner - Chinese food!

We will also be honoring March birthdays & anniversaries!

To help with room setup and ensure we order enough food, please RSVP your attendance below.

This month's dinner is by donation. When you click to RSVP below you can enter a donation amount at the same time.

CLICK HERE TO RSVP

The Bites in Fort Bend committee is now accepting items for the Gift Baskets Raffle.

Donations can be dropped off to the CBE Front Office (Mon-Fri 9am - 2pm) or send a message to bitesinfortbend@gmail.com to arrange pickup.

Do you have:

- Gift cards from merchants or restaurants (Partial amounts are okay.)
- Collections that you no longer need: ie Disney souvenirs, tchotchkes, vases, Sports memorabilia
- Tickets to entertainment or sporting events
- Baskets or other containers to use for the raffle gifts

Items for a BBQ cookout basket
Items for a Spa (men or women) basket
Items for a Salsa and Chips basket
Baby items basket
Gardeners delight basket items
THE GREAT PURIM BAKING SHOW

MONDAY, MARCH 9
7:00 PM

CONGREGATION BETH EL
3900 RAOUL WALLENBERG LANE
MISSOURI CITY

Contact
Cantor Renee Waghalter
cantor@betheltx.org
for details on how to enter the contest
The BiFB committee is pleased to announce that the new location for our community-wide tasting event will be the Concourse at Constellation Field, home of the Sugar Land Skeeters. Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 22, 2020 from 2:00PM — 5:00PM.

After a successful inaugural event last year, BiFB 2020 promises to be even bigger and better! Twenty-five restaurants, bake shops, and caterers will showcase their specialties at the tasting tables. To add to your enjoyment, BiFB 2020 is offering a cash bar.

Guests can spread out in reserved stadium seats and along the adjacent bar top areas. The youngsters will enjoy the balloon artist and face painting station. As a special acknowledgment to the assisted living residents within the Fort Bend community, BiFB will provide a designated area with tables and chairs. Parking is free for all ticket holders.

**TICKETS**
Adults: $25.00 | Children (6 – 12 years): $10.00
Children (under 5): free when accompanied by a parent.

For more information scan the QR code or visit BitesInFortBend.com
EXCLUSIVE OFFER
Congregation Beth El Members Only

Purchase your BiFB 2020 tickets by March 1, 2020

Adult tickets ($25) are available at a 20% discount if purchased by March 1, 2020. Children (6 – 12 years) are $10, under 5 free when accompanied by a parent.

To take advantage of this offer, please log-in to members only page on the CBE website BethElTx.org to order your tickets.

For help contact the Front Office at 281.499.5066 | This offer expires at midnight on March 1, 2020

The new location for our BiFB 2020 will be the Concourse at Constellation Field, home of the Sugar Land Skeeters. Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 22, 2020 from 2:00PM – 5:00PM.

Twenty-five restaurants, bake shops, and caterers will showcase their specialties at the tasting tables. To add to your enjoyment this year, BiFB 2020 is offering a cash bar.

2020 FEATURED RESTAURANTS

Where in the World is GFrogC? Spring Camp is coming to GFC for 1st-8th graders, and is your chance to find out! Come join camp friends, new and old, as you spend a weekend solving mysteries, learning camp legends, and helping GFrogC track down some of Green Family Camp's most notorious personalities! Bring your friends and enjoy GFC favorites including Shabbat, zip-lining, arts and crafts, STEM, Havdalah, and song-session around the campfire. This is a great opportunity for first-time campers to get a preview for summer and for returning campers to connect with their camp friends. Summer 2020 is right around the corner, so spend the weekend getting ready for the best summer ever! Middle-school age campers will have a special introduction to NFTY through exclusive middle-school only programs facilitated by NFTYites from across Texas and Oklahoma as they work together to gather clues during a mystery-filled weekend at camp! Click here to find out more about NFTY-Texas Oklahoma Region. We will see you in Bruceville!

We are excited to share that Spring Camp Registration is NOW OFFICIALLY OPEN! We are looking forward to welcoming our Spring Camp participants to camp from Friday, April 3rd-Sunday, April 5th. Spring Camp is open to grades 1-8. We have reimagined our middle-school program with exclusive programming AND there is also a CIT (Counselor in Training) program available to high school students.

Early Bird Registration will be open until February 14th and we would LOVE (see what I did there!) for campers to register early!

Here https://greene.org/spring-camp-2020/ is the registration link for Spring Camp.
Join us for Houston's largest day of Jewish learning!

YOM LIMMUD 2020
Sunday, February 16, 2020 | 9 am-3 pm
Congregation Beth Israel

houstonjewish.org/yomlimmud
SAVE THE DATE

9TH ANNUAL HOUSTON
KOSHER CHILI
COOKOFF

DELICIOUS CHILI

ENJOY THE GREAT OUTDOORS

SUNDAY MARCH 1ST 2020
12:00 - 4:00 PM

CONGREGATION BETH YEHUDAH
4525 BEECHNUT ST
HOUSTON, TX 77096

ALL THE CHILI YOU CAN EAT!

BENEFITING HOUSTON JEWISH CHARITIES

HOUSTONKOSHERCHILICOOKOFF.COM
Nominations are Now Being Accepted!
 Deadline Friday, March 13, 2020

Nominees for the Ronnie Arrow Jewish Sports Hall of Fame should...

• Be Jewish and minimum of 40 years old
• Have roots and/or ties to the Greater Houston area
• Have achieved a high level of athletic achievements and/or contribution to sports

Please send newspaper clippings, nominee resume, and specific awards with your nomination application to:

Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center Attn: Melanie Beltram
5601 S. Braeswood | Houston, TX 77096
Phone: 832.408.3525
Email: mbeltram@erjcchouston.org

Inductees to be announced in the Jewish Herald-Voice prior to the Summer 2020 induction.

Application can be found on our website at erjcchouston.org/HallofFame