



WELCOME

to another look into our active community

The mission of Congregation Beth El shall be to maintain a place of worship for the Reform Jewish Community, as the Center of Jewish Life in Fort Bend, County. It is to advance Jewish education, promote Jewish Culture and provide facilities for social interaction. We will achieve this by conducting ourselves in accordance with our name "House of GOD."

Congregation Beth El is affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism. Becoming a synagogue member and joining a Jewish community is a deeply personal experience. We warmly welcome those who seek to be part of our congregation, regardless of age, marital status, race, or sexual orientation. We encourage you to meet the many wonderful people who are a part of our *kehillah k'dosha*. We seek to create a close-knit community bonded together by the highest ideals of our faith. Most importantly, Beth El provides a warm and welcoming environment that like family is ready to extend a hand to all who seek to enrich their faith in Judaism, support for the State of Israel, and become engaged in the community.

CONTACT US

CONGREGATION BETH EL

3900 Raoul Wallenberg Lane Missouri City, TX 77459

281.499.5066 admin@betheltx.org www.betheltx.org

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As we continue to navigate the ever-changing landscape of the modern synagogue experience in the United States, it is imperative that we remain steadfast in our commitment to strengthening our congregation through ongoing growth and adaptation. Our synagogue, like many others across the country, faces unique challenges and opportunities in today's world, and it is together, as a united community, that we can rise to meet them.

One of the most precious traditions we have inherited is the concept of *Ldor vador*, the passing down of Jewish traditions and faith from generation to generation. It is through this sacred chain of continuity that we preserve our heritage and ensure its vitality for the future. Each one of us plays a vital role in this ongoing transmission of Jewish values, teachings, and practices. Whether we are parents passing on traditions to our children, educators instilling knowledge in our students, or community leaders guiding the way forward, we are all custodians of our rich heritage. If we do not take on this responsibility, who will?





L'dor Va'dor From generation to generation.

Volunteerism lies at the heart of our synagogue community. It is through the dedication and commitment of volunteers like you that we are able to fulfill our mission and serve our congregation effectively. The joys of volunteering for a synagogue are immeasurable – from the sense of fulfillment and purpose that comes from contributing to a cause greater than oneself, to the opportunities for personal growth, learning, and creating meaningful connection and friendship with others.

As we embark on this journey of revitalizing our volunteer committees, which went on hiatus during the COVID-19 pandemic, I am thrilled to announce the reactivation of our Membership, Fundraising, and Ritual Committees. These committees play a crucial role in shaping the life of our synagogue and ensuring that we meet the needs of our diverse and dynamic community.

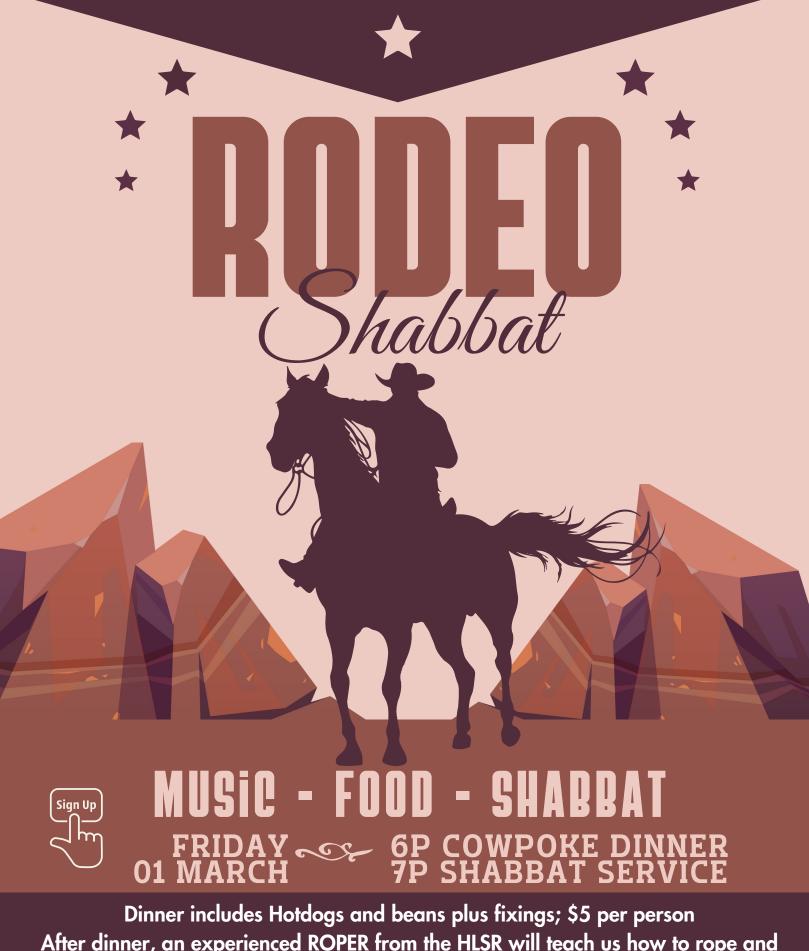
I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Jan Lipson for stepping forward to accept the position of Fundraising Chair for CBE, and to Larry Rushefsky for continuing his role as Ritual Chair. Additionally, I want to express my gratitude to Barbara Zack for agreeing to chair our Kulanu team. Your dedication and willingness to serve are truly inspiring.

If you are passionate about helping to strengthen Congregation Beth El as the Center of Jewish Life in Fort Bend County, I encourage you to get involved. Whether you have a particular interest or skill set that you would like to contribute, or simply a desire to make a difference, there is a place for you here. Together, we can ensure that our synagogue continues to thrive and grow for generations to come.

f you are interested in volunteering or would like more information about how you can get involved, please don't hesitate to contact me at president@betheltx.org or call me at 713-817-8299. Your support and participation are invaluable, and I look forward to working together to build a vibrant and inclusive community.

With warm regards, Irene Helsinger, President





Dinner includes Hotdogs and beans plus fixings; \$5 per person
After dinner, an experienced ROPER from the HLSR will teach us how to rope and
an HLSR speaker will share their thoughts and insights.
Services with a country flair will be led by Cantor Waghalter and our Incredible Shir
Shabbat Singers. Services will be followed by a delicious oneg.

BETHERTS

TRAMA NCHT



SATURDAY MAR 2 - 7:30PM FREE TO PLAY donations are appreciated

appreciated
(participants must be at least
13 years old to attend & play)

Join us for an epic Trivia Night filled with challenging questions, laughs, and your great friends.

Beverages and snacks will be provided.

The Winner will earn the BRAGGING RIGHTS to be

☆ called the TRIVIA MASTER of BETH EL!



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FIGHTING ANTISEMITISM

AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

WHAT: Take an hour to learn more about the nature of antisemitism today and how to safely and constructively respond to it.

Learn how allies from other communities are stepping up to support us.

WHEN: March 21, 2024

5 pm

WHERE: Congregation Beth El

3900 Raoul Wallenberg Ln Missouri City TX 77459

WHO: Lisa Stone, ADL Southwest, presenter

This workshop is part of Beth El's Kulanu partnership with the ADL.

Adult MAD LIBS/MAD HATTER **PURIM PARTY**

The World's Great <u>food and wine</u> game.



SATURDAY

23 MARCH 7 - 9 PM**ADULTS ONLY**

FREE EVENT **RSVP REQUIRED COSTUMES ENCOURAGED!**

COME READY TO BID ON OUR SILENT AUCTION: **SHOWCASING CRAZY HATS** MADE BY OUR RS KIDS

MAD LIBS PERFORMED BY THE **CBE PURIM PLAYERS** RSVP AT

www.betheltx.org/event/PURIMMADLIBS

EAT, DRINK AND BE MAD LIBS

SUNDAY, MARCH 24 9:30 am - 12:30 PM



PURIM SHPIEL & CARNIDAL

Games - Face Painting - Food Hamentaschen - and more!

CONGREGATION BETH EL

Carnival Entry: \$20 per child/FREE for Adults Food and Beverages available to purchase

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION



SUGAR LAND ATTORNEY VOLUNTEERS WITH SAR-EL TO SUPPORT IDF

Like many of his fellow Americans, Kevin Lipson watched the Oct. 7 terrorist attacks with a sense of horror and shock. He wanted nothing more than to help Israelis.

The 68-year-old Sugar Land corporate attorney was sitting at home, 7,000 miles away from the Jewish state, and wasn't sure what his action would be.

MICHAEL MURRA JEWISH HERALD VOICE - HOUSTON 8 FEB 2024 "I wanted to be more proactive than just opining about the situation," Lipson said. "I felt a sense of trauma and desperation. I wanted to do something meaningful."

Lipson thought about his late father, Sanford Lipson and how the elder Lipson had traveled to Israel to volunteer with Sar-El in 1991, when Iraq fired 42 Scud missiles toward Tel Aviv and Haifa during the Gulf War.

Lipson decided to volunteer with Sar-El, the national project for volunteers for Israel and the only volunteer project affiliated with the Israel Defense Forces. He had visited Israel 10 times in the past, but hadn't done so with Sar-El.

Since it was founded in 1983, Sar-El has had 188,000 volunteers, though the organization has never had interest or demand like it has since the Oct. 7 attacks. There have been 16,000 Sar-El volunteers since Oct. 7, and the demand is currently for 1,000 volunteers per day. The group feeds 20,000 soldiers per day.

Sar-El volunteers stay at Israeli military bases and assist with noncombatant logistics, "freeing up reservists to do more important military work," Lipson said.

During his three weeks in Israel, Lipson was one of 270 Sar-El volunteers from 15 countries. They ranged in age from 30 to 85. Close to a third of the volunteers were not Jewish.

At one point, Lipson stayed at an air force base less than 15 miles from the Gaza border. Sar-El volunteers wear IDF uniforms while they're volunteering on base.

While Lipson was in Israel, he witnessed several rockets being intercepted by Iron Dome.

Sar-El supplies emergency medical kits, ceramic armor vests, field meals and refreshment boxes for military personnel.

"It's necessary work, and it gives the volunteers a tremendous sense of satisfaction, purpose and resolve," Lipson said. "It was a lifechanging experience for me. It had a profound affect on the volunteers, and it is profoundly necessary for the IDF."

Lipson, who is a member of both Congregation Beth Yeshurun and Congregation Beth El (Missouri City), had an opportunity to interact with a diverse group of Israeli soldiers, including the Golani Brigade.

"There's a tremendous sense of unity and purpose in Israel – everybody lends a hand," Lipson said. "There's a resolve to defend the rights of Israeli civilians. When you participate as Diaspora Jews, you have a real connection to the State of Israel."

Lipson returned to Texas with an even greater mission than the one he completed in Israel. He's among the leadership of American Friends of Sar-El, which is in the process of becoming a 501(c)(3) charity.

"Sar-El does not currently have high visibility in the United States," Lipson said. "We will promote educational opportunities. It could be the tip of the spear in combating antisemitism on college campuses, social media and mainstream media."

Those interested in volunteering or learning more, email Lipson at kevin@americanfriendsofsarel.org.



The Garden Club will gather again on Sunday, March 10 at 9am!

We will continue working the soil and planting.





Condition Beth El Confirmation The Hopeful Young Generation



Wednesdays, 6:30pm - 8:30pm Mar 20, Apr 17 & May 15

Join Cantor Waghalter and Michelle Renfrow for the Spring semester of Confirmation classes. We will continue to explore what Judaism has to say about issues relevant to teens today, such as substance abuse, dating/sex ethics, anti-semitism, physical and mental health, and the religions of their peers.

If you have already registered, we can't wait to see you. If you haven't, what are waiting for? Click here and join the fun.

Shabbat at Beth El FRIDAYS AT 7 PM

March 1: Rodeo Shabbat in person*

March 8: Shabbat via Zoom

March 15: Shabbat in person*

March 22: Shabbat via Zoom

March 29: Shabbat via Zoom

*In-person services will not be live-streamed
Friends and Guests of CBE can request the Zoom link here.

CURRENT EVENTS March 12

BRING YOUR LUNCH AND SMOOZE AT 12:30
DISCUSSION STARTS AT 1:00
BRING A TOPIC AND JOIN IN.
OPEN TO ALL ADULTS

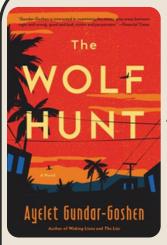


WE WILL MEET IN THE LIBRARY AT BETH EL.

HAVE QUESTIONS?CONTACT
ED CARLIN AT EDWRCAR@YAHOO.COM, (832) 886-4666 OR
BARB ZACK AT BARBARA3132001@YAHOO.COM, 813-340-8819

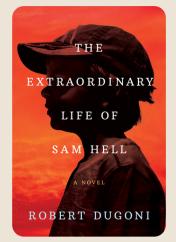


hosted by Marilyn Carlin



March 18 at 1:00 PM
The Wolf Hunt
Ayelet Gundar-Goshen

April 15 at 1:00 PM The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell Robert Dugoni





May 20 at 1:00 PM Lady Tan's Circle of Women Lisa See

EVERYONE IS WELCOME, EVEN IF YOU HAVEN'T READ THE BOOK.

EVERYONE BRINGS SOMETHING FOR THE GROUP TO SNACK ON. DESSERT AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

PLEASE LET US KNOW WHAT YOU PLAN TO BRING.

CONTACT MARILYN CARLIN AT MARILYN@KATIEBEAR.NET













J.U.L.I.E.T.

Jewish Uber-fun Ladies
Interested in
Eating Together

Our next Juliet lunch will be Wednesday, March 20 at 11:30 am Spring Creek BBQ, 4895 Hwy 6 S, Missouri City

For more information, feel free to call Jan Poscovsly at 281.468.9185 with questions.

RSVP to www.betheltx.org/event/juliet so we can set up appropriately. We are looking forward to schmoozing with everyone.

R.O.M.E.O.

RETIRED OLD MEN EATING OUT

A get-together for schmoozing & interfacing
The R.O.M.E.O. group will be meeting for lunch
Friday, March 29 - 12p
location to be announced



TAKE A LOOK!







Proclamation Announcement

Wednesday, January 31, 2024
at the Fort Bend County Historic Court House,
Fort Bend County Judge K.P. George honored
Congregation Beth El at the
Fort Bend County INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST
REMEMBRANCE DAY

Judge George asked that they continue to promote education awareness and tolerance to prevent future acts of genocide. This ceremony took place 2 days after the 79th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp. The Holocaust was a time of the world's most unimaginable inhumane pain and tragedy.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day was to honor not only those who perished but also the survivors, liberators, and righteous among nations who demonstrated extraordinary courage and humanity in the face of evil. It is imperative that we, all of us who are "standing on the shoulders of the ones before us", remind our children not just of the hard cold facts about the past but its true impact of what the death of 6 million Jews has had on our now and tomorrow. The true impact of that dehumanizing action had on all the families of the Holocaust.

Those in attendance included: Cantor Waghalter, Jodi Kessler, Judy and Larry Ostrow, Kay Danziger, Martha Raskin, Alan Schnieder, Carol Cooper, Jory Pacht and

George Starkshall of Congregation Beth EI; Rachel Schneider from the Houston Jewish Committee and David Simon, President AJC Houston

After accepting the honor, Congregation Beth El's Clergy, Cantor Renee Waghalter reiterated the synagogue's commitment to ongoing Holocaust education and repeated the vow "NEVER AGAIN"!

			2024	/		
		//	M	W		
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 6p Cowpoke Dinner 7p Rodeo Shabbat service (in person)	2 7:30p Trivia Night
3 9a Religious School 1p Private Event	4	5 5p Sienna Art Class	6	7	8 7p Shabbat via Zoom	9:30a Shabbat Playdate
10 NO Religious School 9a Garden Club 1p Private Event	11	12:30p Current Events	13	14	15 7p Shabbat service (in person)	16
17 NO Religious School 1p Private Event	18 1p Book Club	19	20 11:30a JULIET luncheon 6:30p Confirmation Class	21 5p Kulanu @ CBE	22 7p Shabbat via Zoom	23 7p Mad Libs Adult Purim Party
24 9a Religious School 9:30a Purim Carnival 1p Private Event	25	26	27	28	29 12p ROMEO lunch 7p Shabbat via Zoom	30
31 9a Religious School 1p Private Event						

mivergary



MARCH 2024

March 3 Alison & Andrew Gratz

March 16 Joyce & Douglas Baysinger

March 26 Fredell & Steven Lang

March 9 **Shirley & Howard Hochman**

'Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who hath created joy & gladness, bridegroom and bride, mirth and exultation, pleasure and delight, love and brotherhood, peace and friendship.'

	MARC	CH 2024		
March 2	March 8	March 15	March 25	
Jennifer Daitz	Gillad Neuman	Harry Himmelstein	Michael Markowitz Joseph Nickels	
March 3	March 12	March 19	Deb Paras	
Bryce Adams	Eugene Castorina	Missi Shapiro	Glenn Kessler	
Sierra Hardesty	Alyssa Faulkenberg			
		March 20	March 27	
March 4	March 13	Laveryne (Belle) Jordan	Michelle Renfrow	
Chuck Schwartz	Barbara Zack			
	Zachary Wormser	March 22	March 30	
March 6		Annette Liftman	Shirley Hochman	
Madison Teverovsky	March 14			
	Asher Adams	March 23		

Nicole Hardesty



March 1

Jean Pomerantz

March 3
Mynn Levine
Don Thames

March 4
Sylvia Barenbaum Randell
Marcy Golden
David Robert Levin

March 5 Irvin M Morgan

March 7

Helen Kipp

Emanuel Rosenblatt

March 9
Emma Scheiner

March 10

Marcel Cohen

March 10

Marcel Cohen

March 11

Jack Chasin

Marilyn Corenblith

Elizabeth Shear

Larry Silverstein

March 13 Israel Zack

March 14

Asher Pacht

March 18
Pam Meyer

March 21

Edith Mullin

March 25 Ethan Perry

The congregation extends heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Eunice Reiter.

May her memory be for a blessing.

Women's Wire Wrapping Art Class

The Sienna Women's League invites you to their Wire Wrapping art class, March 5 6:30 - 8:00 pm at Beth El.

Learn More





Jewish lesbians, Queer women, Trans women, and Non-Binary folks.

Please bring your Jewish or Non Jewish Partner/Spouse and your children

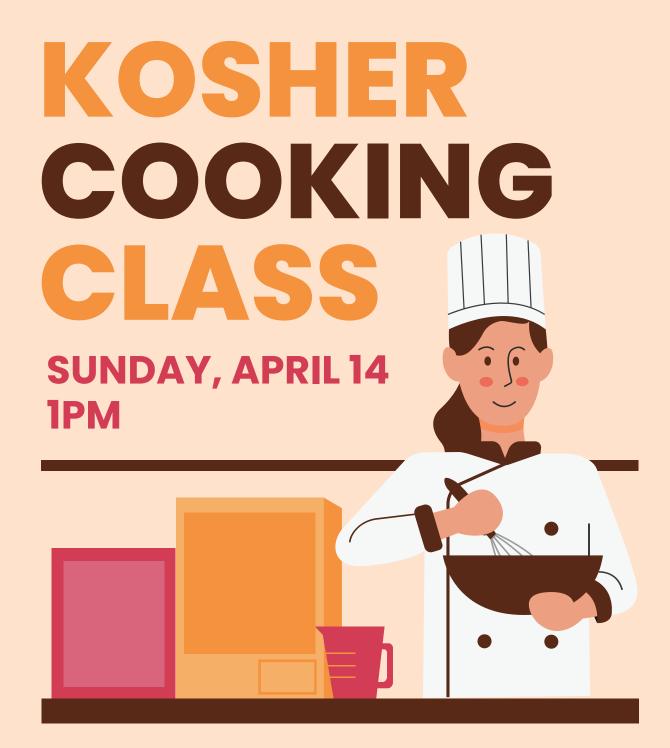
SHABBAT DINNER

Friday, March 29, 2024 - 6 pm - in Bellaire, TX There is no charge for the dinner and there will be an opportunity to make a Tzeddak donation to an Israeli LBGTQ+ organization.

The location will be shared upon receiving your RSVP.

RSVP TO MARTHA.BARVIN@GMAIL.COM OR 713-591-0410 BY MARCH 19, 2024. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR FOOD PREFERENCES/ALLERGIES.





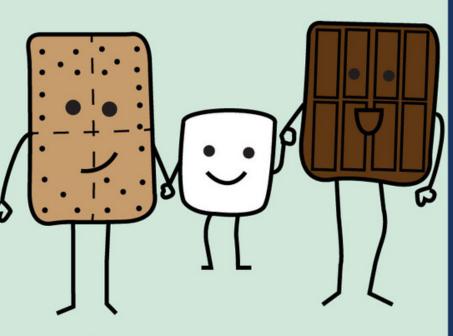
Registered Confirmation
Students: FREE / Teen Guests: \$10

WWW.BETHELTX.ORG/EVENT/CLASSFIELDTRIP

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ASSISTING WITH CARPOOL OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON CLASS LOCATION PLEASE CONTACT MICHELLE RENFROW RELIGIOUSSCHOOL@BETHELTX.ORG



gogether, we're



Some fun!

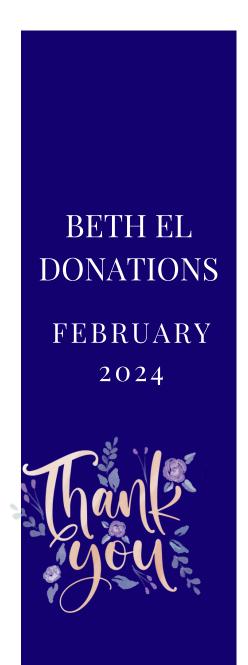
Don't miss your chance to experience GFC!
Registration now open for:

JFAM Spring Family Camp (April 12-14) for families of all ages

Spring Family Fun Day
(April 14, 12-2PM)
for any prospective families

Learn more at
greene.org/year-round/

Summer 2024
Learn more at
greene.org/summer/



Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Ms. Carol Cooper

Caring Committee Fund

In honor of Helene Lipman's 103rd birthday Mr. & Mrs. William Asnes

Dora & Daniel Soffar Operating Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Rosenberg

In Honor Of Helene Lipman's 103rd bday

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mucasey

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Paras

Ms. Debra Ricardo

Ms. Carol Cooper

Ms. Barbara Zack & Mr. Harold Snyder

In memory of my dear sister, Luisa Kreisberg

Mrs. Marcia Forbes

In Memory Of Eunice Reiter

Ms. Carol Cooper

Mr. & Mrs. Barry Shapiro

In memory of Marcy Golden

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Gratz

Oneg Sponsor

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Himmelstein

In Memory Of Lance and Marilyn Gorel's uncle

Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Kessler

Security Fund

In Memory Of Eunice Reiter

Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Kessler

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Schneider

Strategic Growth Fund

In Memory Of Eunice Reiter
Ms. Carol Katz

Torah Fund

In memory of Helen Kipp Mr. & Mrs. Larry Rushefsky