



the shofar

Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center, Aptos, California ☆ Vol. 49, No 7 ☆ March 2016 ☆ Adar 1-Adar 2 5776

Mitzvah Day is for Everyone

Sunday, March 6
9:00 AM–12:00 PM

Help make a positive impact in

*Santa Cruz County by working together with other
Temple members.*

Remember to arrive at 9:00 AM and wear your Mitzvah Day t-shirt if you have one! This annual Temple-wide event brings together Temple School students, families, and individuals from seniors to youth groupers and preschoolers!

We'll gather at the temple at 9:00 AM where you will meet your teammates, get your t-shirt, enjoy delicious muffins baked by Simcha preschoolers, make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the homeless and then begin your volunteer activity.

If you are interested in becoming a team captain, or if you have any questions, please contact Sarah at 479-3444 ext. 218 or sclarkson@tbeaptos.org. We look forward to doing Mitzvot together!

Volunteer opportunities and sign-up information are on page 2.



Children's Purim Celebration

Megillah Reading,
Costume Parade
& Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 20th



Grades K-3

Parents(s) MUST accompany their children

9:45 AM Megillah Reading & Costume Parade

10:30 AM Carnival Games & Prizes

Grades 4-6

9:45 AM Classroom activity

11:00 AM Megillah Reading & Costume Parade

11:30 AM With Parent(s)—Carnival Games & Prizes

Making Lifelong Memories for Our Children

Support Jewish teen activities (SRFY) by helping sponsor the Purim Carnival; be a carnival sponsor for only \$50 or a game sponsor for \$136. Make checks payable to TBE and note "Purim Carnival Sponsorship" in the memo. To volunteer to help at the event, please email Jen Meltzer at trykonajen@yahoo.com.

Join Us In Celebrating Rabbi Rick

Friday May 20

Special Community Shabbat Service

Guest speakers, beautiful oneg, choir, and more

Saturday May 21

Gala at Chaminade Resort

Music, food, testimonials, special guests

Sunday May 22

All ages and stages picnic at the temple
Games, food, family-friendly entertainment

*Read more about
the weekend celebrations on page 2.*

Adult Purim Celebration

Wednesday, March 23

7:00 PM

Megillah Reading and Purim Celebration with
Chadeish Yameinu at TBE. Rabbi Rick, Rabbi Eli
and Rabbi Lori will lead the Service.

Read more on page 3.

Celebrating Marilyn Rigler Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor Recipient



Friday, March 11, 7:30 PM

*Read about Marilyn's many
contributions on page 8.*

Event Highlights

Celebrating Rabbi Rick Litvak 40 years of leadership, laughter, and learning!

What a milestone is before us!

At the end of June, Rabbi Rick will complete his 40 years of leading our congregation and become our first Rabbi Emeritus. Our community has been so fortunate to have Rabbi Rick's guidance, love, wisdom, and sense of humor for four decades. Now is our chance to honor and thank him for his service.

The weekend of May 20, 21, and 22 has been set aside for a series of festivities to celebrate this milestone transition. During our Shabbat evening service, we will bring together our Temple community with guests from the larger community, including many who have worked with Rabbi Rick to make Santa Cruz County a better place to live, such as our interfaith and social justice community partners. Our choir's beautiful voices will add to the beauty of the service, all the more so because choir alumni of the last 40 years will be joining them. Sisterhood will host a festive Oneg Shabbat reception after the service.

Saturday evening, we will toast Rabbi Rick and his wife, Nancy. With Chaminade Resort as our elegant setting, we will enjoy a gala dinner with entertainment, music and dance. This will give us a chance to remember the joyous occasions we have shared—and yes, some difficult and sad ones, as well. We will hear from Rabbi Rick's friends and colleagues, and, no doubt,

taste some of the wisdom-wrapped-in-humor Rabbi Rick has offered us over the years.

Sunday, we bring together all generations of our Temple family to picnic and play, experience magic and clowning, and enjoy the talents of our Temple youth. We will share stories of our time together in our Temple Beth El community center—a place that has come to embody Rabbi Rick's love of laughter and learning. Brotherhood will host a lunch.

A commemorative journal will be distributed during the weekend, filled with greetings and blessings to Rabbi Rick and Nancy. This book of tributes will be an opportunity for both our Temple Beth El community and the larger community to honor Rabbi Rick and to support the continued vitality of the Jewish community of Santa Cruz County, which has benefitted so much from his leadership and wisdom.

Add your tribute to Rabbi Rick in the Commemorative Journal! Contact Gail Levine (gaildraezel@gmail.com). For donations to the weekend events, contact Toby Alexander (tututobita@aol.com) or Sheila Baumgarten (sheila.baumgarten@gmail.com). If you would like to be a sponsor, email Sheila or call her at (415) 385-7273.

We look forward to seeing you in May!



Mitzvah Day Volunteer Opportunities & Sign-up

FOOD DRIVE

Food collection for Santa Cruz AIDS Project (two locations)

1. Safeway 41st Ave.
2. Safeway Mission St.

BEACH CLEAN UP WITH SAVE OUR SHORES

3. Local beaches, Rio Del Mar Beach

PUCKER UP FOR KITTENS

4. Create and run a lemonade or hot chocolate stand to raise money for kitten food for the Santa Cruz Animal Shelter (West Cliff Lighthouse)

REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

5. Walnut Avenue Women's Center
6. Dominican Oaks sing-along for seniors

PROJECTS AT TEMPLE

7. Fun TBE clean-up and maintenance projects
8. Spreading mulch in Simcha's playground

Thank you to this year's Mitzvah Day sponsors: PJ Library, Mission Printers, and Branding Out.

Register by signing up using the SignUpGenius (see below), emailing Sarah at sclarkson@tbeaptos.org, or calling Sarah at (831) 479-3444 ext. 218. Register early to get your preferred activity!

Please register by Wednesday, March 2nd.

SignUpGenius: <http://bit.ly/1TY0EG>

Young Families Mitzvah Day Activity

Our next Young Families Project is a sing-along with the seniors at Dominican Oaks. Ben Udo will be the song leader. On March 6, we will meet at 9:00 AM at TBE for the Mitzvah Day gathering, and be at Dominican Oaks at 10:00 AM for the sing-along.

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April 2016 SHOFAR DEADLINES

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Spirituality

THOUGHTS FROM RABBI PAULA



Rabbi Paula

*From Purim to
Passover—Thirty
Days*

In the Shulchan Aruch—the primary code of Jewish Law—we find that 30 days before Passover we are supposed to start learning the laws of Passover. The simple meaning of this is pretty clear—there are many complicated laws related to Passover so there's a lot to learn. What can be eaten, what is forbidden, when to clean out the chametz, what is included in the Seder and the list continues. It makes sense that the rabbis wanted the people to start learning early.

But there may be a deeper meaning in this.

Passover and Purim are exactly 30 days apart. To start learning about Passover 30 days before, means to start learning about Passover on Purim. So maybe the message is that from Purim we can learn about Passover.

Purim is translated as the word “lots,” because when Haman was threatening to destroy the Jewish people he drew lots to choose the day they would be killed. A “lot” is a tool that employs random chance. When one draws lots, one is leaving things up to chance instead of making a choice. This is an act of surrender, an act of saying “this is out of my hands”.

In this sense, Purim, which teaches us about the importance of randomness, is an introduction to Passover. Passover literally means “to skip over”—that is why it is called

in English, “Passover.” On a literal level, God passed over—“skipped over”—Jewish houses when the first born Egyptians were killed during the last plague. The Israelites had to surrender their control, the power of making choices, and trust that the plague would pass-over their homes.

When we read the Book of Esther on Purim, we realize that God's name is not mentioned. Some scholars say that this is because God is often hidden. We have to find ways to trust that the Divine presence is always with us. When we surrender to this trust, we find the strength, just like Queen Esther, to face the Hamans in our world.

And in the Haggadah, not once is Moses mentioned. His name is “hidden.” Here again we find this Purim to Passover connection. Moses was our leader and, in partnership with God, Moses brought us from slavery to freedom. And yet, when we sit around our Seder tables, we are asked to remember the miraculous redemption as our hope for the future. We are taught to experience the Exodus as if we ourselves had been there.

How do we find ways to understand that we don't have control over all the aspects of our complicated lives? How can we remember that we are not alone even when it feels like God is hidden? Much of our daily lives may feel random and things can change on a dime. Our Purim to Passover journey invites us to remember how to surrender, how to find the hidden source of life within us and around us, and how our people have continued to keep faith and to thrive, from challenging time to times of celebration.

— Rabbi Paula Marcus

Rock Shabbat

Friday, March 4, 7:30 PM

Sponsored by Jenny Wells Kaupp
& Ray Kaupp and Helen & David
Resneck-Sannes

Rosh Chodesh Adar II

Thursday, March 10
7:00 PM

Adult Purim

February, March 23
7:00-8:30 PM Megillah Reading
Refreshments and Costume
Contest to follow



Missed Mardi Gras in New Orleans? Come Celebrate Purim Santa Cruz-style. Wear a costume or enjoy the costumes worn by others. Laugh at the Purim parodies during the Megillah Reading. Munch on delicious Hamentashen, enjoy some Purim Punch, a traditional drink with a kick. Dance your Hamentashen off!

****Have fun protesting the evil Haman at this year's Purim Celebrations with edible groggers that we can then donate to Second Harvest Food Bank! Please bring boxes of Annie's Mac and Cheese, or instant cup of soup, or can of mixed nuts. Our TBE Social Justice and Ritual Practices Committees are working together to have fun making a difference!**

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Synagogue News

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TEMPLE PRESIDENT



Gail Levine

"There are no problems, only opportunities for growth." (Rebbetzin Dena Weinberg) As I read this quote I felt a validation of what my approach has been over the past three years as TBE Board

President. Of course there have been moments when I questioned my optimism, yet I stayed the course and the solutions materialized. Lori Palatnik, Jewish educator, describes problem solving as a process similar to solving a puzzle. Once you figure out the problem and then reframe it, you move from it being a problem to an opportunity for solutions. In the remainder of this year, and in the upcoming year, there will be significant moments when you are invited to join us as we embark on the restructuring of TBE. As you read about

the changes, think about how you might join in to create solutions or directions for numerous situations. I ask you to take a moment to reflect where you want to place yourself on the swinging pendulum. Perhaps in the past you chose not to get involved at TBE. I am inviting you to shift the paradigm and use some of your skills and experiences as we continue to create the TBE for the 21st Century. I hope I've piqued your curiosity to find ways to get involved in some activity or committee in 2016. You might be pleasantly surprised how becoming part of the solution is a rewarding experience that can truly lift your spirits as well as provide a vehicle for you to meet TBE members. Look in the front of your new directory and you will find a list of committees with the names of the contact people. Give us a try; significant surprises are awaiting you at TBE.

– Gail Levine

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Rabbi Shifra Weiss-Penzias
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Swedlove

Transition Report

So many aspects of the Temple transition are moving forward. The Board of Directors approved the proposed transition year staffing plan at its February meeting in which Rabbi Shifra Weiss-Penzias will be offered a one-year full-time Associate Rabbi position to assist Rabbi Paula Marcus when she becomes our senior rabbi in July. At the same time, the Celebration Committee has put together a wonderful plan for honoring retiring Rabbi Rick Litvak. See announcement elsewhere in this Shofar. Finally, the Temple was notified by county officials that we can move ahead with the construction of the new Litvak Wing. We are aiming for a groundbreaking on Sunday, May 22, during our picnic celebration—several months earlier than originally expected.

A Library Catalog Is On Its Way: Still Looking for Volunteers

As a crucial step in restoring the Temple library we have begun to catalog the collection. After reviewing available platforms and organizational schemes, we've begun uploading records to Libib using Weine Classification, a version of the Dewey Decimal system adapted for Jewish libraries.

After our first month of work, we have uploaded 1,000 records, about 20-25% of our collection. We have classified and added subject heading tags to about 2/3 of these records. By the time you are reading this, we hope to double those numbers. We are still looking for volunteers to help make this work go faster. The next step will be to relabel the collection using the new classification numbers, and shift the books according to the new scheme. Look for a call for volunteers for that phase of work.

Though it will be several months before we have a fully functional system, we invite you to look at the new catalog as we build it: <http://tbeaptos.libib.com/i/template-beth-el-aptos>.

Program Council

The Temple Board and the Temple Program Council are working together to improve their collaboration on mutual goals. The Program Council was formed a few years ago to help coordinate the many committees and programs of the Temple at the time that the board of directors was downsized. An ad hoc committee made up of representatives of both groups agreed that they both are aiming to support a vibrant temple community and increase leadership development, while ensuring ongoing communication between the many volunteer groups and the board.

Gift Shop Hours & New Items

The Gift Shop hours are Wednesdays from 2:30–6:00 PM, and Sundays from 9:30 AM–12:00 PM. Or you can call Ruth (831) 476-1154 to make an appointment.

An expanded selection of colorful Shabbat candle pairs from Safed, Israel, and new lines of jewelry, are being featured.

Youth

TEMPLE SCHOOL NEWS



Rabbi Shifra

TEMPLE SCHOOL HAS A NEW MISSION STATEMENT.

"Temple School fosters a love of Jewish learning in a joyful, engaging and supportive community."

I am particularly proud of how Temple School has expanded its capacity to respond to children with special needs. Many children are misunderstood, judged or mislabeled as "misbehaving" when in fact they are just having difficulty doing what the majority of students are comfortable doing. Often they have talents and abilities that allow them to excel in particular types of learning, but need their learning environment to be responsive to their individual needs. This is where our "audacious hospitality" comes in, as we strive not just to ensure that all students are learning, but also that their Jewish community is a place where they feel great about themselves. We are committed to meeting each student's needs. Thanks to support from the Opa Fund, we have been able to hire additional teachers who can be more attentive to our student's special needs. We need your help. Please consider making a donation to the Opa Fund or the Temple School Scholarship Fund because your financial support makes this work possible.

– Rabbi Shifra Weiss-Penzias



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TEMPLE SCHOOL CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 2
 Temple School 4-6, KEF; 7th grade & HH; end of winter term
Sunday, March 6
 Mitzvah Day, Yad B'Yad included
Wednesday, March 9
 Spring term begins; TS 4-6, KEF; 7th grade & HH
Sunday, March 13
 Purim Shpiel; TS 4-6; B'nai Mitzvah parent orientation
Wednesday, March 16
 TS 4-6, KEF; 7th grade & HH
Sunday, March 20
 Purim Carnival, Megillah reading, costume parade K-3; TS only 9:45-11:30
Wednesday, March 23
 TS 4-6, KEF; 7th grade & HH Purim Celebration
March 27 & 30
 Spring break



Simcha Preschool

DONATE TO SIMCHA'S SILENT AUCTION

We are accepting donations for our largest fundraiser of the year. Our annual Spring Silent Auction culminates on Sunday, May 15th, at the TBE Annual Congregational Meeting. Items will be on display for the two weeks leading up to May 15th.

If you are an artist who would like to contribute a piece of your work, someone with a service to donate or a generous donor with something special like a cabin or a timeshare, that would be fantastic! All donations should be received by April 15th.

Please contact Silvia at the Simcha Preschool office, 479-3449 if you have any questions or would like a solicitation letter to give to a potential donor.

We appreciate your support and look forward to having you participate to make this our best auction ever!

SPRING CLEANING FUNDRAISER We need your help!

Once again Simcha Preschool is looking to fill a Goodwill Truck as a fundraiser. The truck will be in the TBE parking lot the weekend of the Purim Carnival, from Friday, March 18th, through Sunday, March 20th, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. No furniture please.

We want to fill the whole truck! This is a perfect opportunity to start preparing your home for Passover. Thank you.

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Bookshop Santa Cruz - 1520 Pacific Ave
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 www.bookshopsantacruz.com

SRFY



SRFY is happy to share that we had a wonderfully successful annual Snow Trip to Homewood in January, as well as a fun Taco Bowling Night. We have a number of awesome other events coming up, so mark your calendars!

We need SRFY volunteers for the Purim Carnival! This will be a fun way to reconnect and help out. Please email Kate at SRFY@tbeaptos.org to sign up for set-up on March 19th and the actual event on March 20th.

SRFY creative service is April 15th, come join us. Clique day is scheduled for April 23rd, a great time to play games and have fun with other youth groups in the area. Come to support the send-off of our wonderful seniors on April 29th.

Keep your eyes open for more information or email me directly, SRFY@tbeaptos.org.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

– Kate Hochler

Calendar Highlights

Senior Connections

March 14

Fiat Musica, Lauren Albert and Travis Palmer

Fiat Musica, a Women's Choir supporting UCSC's re-entry students with scholarships, sings a varied repertoire from different time periods and genres including Italian Renaissance music, a Russian folk song, and some selections from the contemporary American choral repertoire as well as a little bit of Broadway.

The Choir is followed by Cabrillo College musicians Lauren Albert and Travis Palmer performing a fun array of classical, jazz, and popular pieces.

March 28

Age Well, Drive Smart

Learn about this outreach program of the Department of California Highway Patrol. Take this class with a CHP officer and gain useful insights that will improve your driving, make you safer on the roads, and reduce your car insurance payments!

Programs are on the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month, 2:00–3:30 PM in the TBE Library. (Come at 1:30 to nosh & schmooze.) Open to the public. Free.

Save the Date

Rosh Chodesh Nisan/Women's Seder
Thursday, April 7, 6:00 PM

Rock Shabbat
Friday, April 8, 7:30 PM

Temple School Movie Night
Saturday, April 9, 5:30 PM

Beth El Bim Bam
Friday, April 15, 6:45 PM

Rabbi Paul Kipnes to Speak
Sunday, April 17, 9:45 AM

Erev Pesach
Friday, April 22

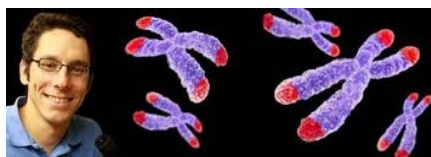
2nd Night Community Seder
Saturday, April 23, 6:30 PM

Brotherhood Brunch

Sunday March 13, 10:00 AM

"Coming Together at the Ends: The Fascinating Genes and Telomeres Inside Us"

Speaker: Professor Michael Stone



Just about every cell in our body has a complete copy of our genes, packaged in chromosomes. When a cell divides, chromosomes are copied, but with each division, they degrade just a bit—all part of the aging process. To stave off this molecular aging, each chromosome is capped with a remarkable structure called a telomere. How do these telomeres work, and will poor function lead to premature aging? Alternatively, if they work too well, will cells become immortal and cancerous? These late-breaking topics will be the subject of our next Brotherhood Brunch featuring Professor Michael Stone, TBE member and leading UCSC biochemist.

Beginning at 10:00 AM, we'll nosh on a delicious all-you-can-eat bagel brunch, take care of a little Brotherhood business, followed by Michael's talk at 11:00, concluding around noon. Recommended donation is \$3 for Brotherhood members and \$5 for non-Brotherhood members.

Jewish Heritage Night

Hillel and Brotherhood Present
Jewish Heritage Night
at the Santa Cruz Warriors

On Wednesday, March 30, Santa Cruz Hillel and TBE Brotherhood are sponsoring a fun evening at the Santa Cruz Warriors. Beginning at 5:00 PM inside Kaiser Permanente Arena in downtown Santa Cruz, each lucky attendee will receive a pre-game Hebrew National hot dog dinner, a free t-shirt, Israeli dancing, a High Five Tunnel with the players, and admission to the game at Jewish Heritage

The Great



Faith communities turn up the heat on Friday, March 18, from 6:00–9:00 PM at Resurrection Church in Aptos.

This is a benefit to raise money for showers for homeless mid-county community members who come to Resurrection Church for meals on weekdays. We will be working with other congregations to raise funds for this important project.

We are looking for a few folks to serve on the Great Chili Cook-Off team by staffing the Temple Beth El booth from 6:00–9:00. If you are able to volunteer to staff the table, please contact Sarah Clarkson at sclarkson@tbeaptos.org.

We are inviting all TBE members to share in a chili Shabbat dinner from 6:00–7:00 (our Hebrew High students will be making the chili) and then share in Shabbat Services at TBE at 7:30. Following the service a guest speaker will talk about homelessness in Santa Cruz County. Purchase tickets at <http://thegreatchilicookoff.brownpapertickets.com/>. Once at the website, in the field titled "Find an event,s" type in The Great Chili Cook-Off.

Eat Chili! Have Fun! Provide Showers! Do a Mitzvah!



Night. Cost: Only \$25 per person! Contact Michael Rein (mike@reinlaw.net) for tickets and details. Your RSVP is your check (made to TBE Brotherhood) dropped off at TBE or sent to Richie Solomon, 218 Eleana Dr., Ben Lomond 95005. First come, first served.

Come and enjoy the fun with Hillel and Brotherhood!



“Never let a day pass without looking for the good,
feeling the good within you, praising, appreciating, blessing, and being grateful.
Make it your life commitment, and you will stand in utter awe
of what happens in your life.”

– Rhonda Byrne

March 2016

Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center • Adar 1-Adar 2 5776

All events are subject to change. Please check the Temple website. www.tbeaptos.org or call the office at 831-479-3444 to verify information.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| | | 1 Meditation 7:00pm | 2 Healing Circle 12:30pm Temple School 4:00pm 7th Grade & Hebrew High 6:45pm | 3 Torah Study, Rabbi Paula 12:00pm Primary Sources 1:00pm Library Open 3:00pm Shofar Deadline | 4 Rock Shabbat Service 7:30pm  5:47pm | 5 Alexandria Elshyeb Bat Mitzvah 10:00am Shabbat Unplugged Morning Service (<u>Vayakhel</u>) 10:00am |
| 6 Mitzvah Day 9:00am Yad B'Yad does Mitzvah Day 9:45am | 7 | 8 Meditation 7:00pm | 9 Temple School 4:00pm 7th Grade & Hebrew High 6:45pm Confirmation Parent Meeting 6:45pm | 10 Torah Study, Rabbi Paula 12:00pm Primary Sources 1:00pm Library Open 3:00pm Rosh Chodesh Adar 2 7:00pm | 11 Woman of Valor Shabbat Service 7:30pm  5:54 pm | 12 ShabbASANA Shabbat Yoga with Katie Jacobson 10:00am (<u>Pekudei</u>) |
| 13 Brotherhood Brunch 9:45am Temple School 9:45am B'nai Mitzvah Orientation 9:45am Purim Shpiel 11:00am | 14 Senior Connections 1:30pm | 15 General Board Meeting 7:00pm Meditation 7:00pm | 16 Healing Circle 12:30pm Temple School 4:00pm 7th Grade & Hebrew High 6:45pm Women's Wine & Cheese 6:45pm | 17 Lunch and Learn, Rabbi Shifra 12:00pm Library Open 3:00pm | 18 Simcha Goodwill Truck Collection 9:00am–4:00pm Shabbat Service with the Choir 7:30pm  7:00pm | 19 Simcha Goodwill Truck Collection 9:00am–4:00pm Shabbat Morning Service (<u>Vayikra</u>) 10:00am |
| 20 SRFY Breakfast 7:00am Simcha Goodwill Truck Collection 9:00am–4:00pm Megillah Reading & Costume Parade K-3rd Grades 9:45am Temple School 4-6th Grade Activity 9:45am Purim Carnival 10:30am Megillah Reading & Costume Parade 4-6th Grades 11:00 am | 21 | 22 Meditation 7:00pm | 23 7th Grade & Hebrew High Purim Program 6:45pm Megillah Reading for Adults 7:00pm (out) Adult Purim Party 8:30pm Erev Purim | 24 Lunch and Learn, Rabbi Shifra 12:00pm Library Open 3:00pm Purim | 25 Erev Shabbat Service 7:30pm  7:06pm | 26 Shabbat Morning Service (<u>Tzav</u>) 10:00am |
| 27 No Temple School | 28 Senior Connections 1:30pm | 29 Meditation 7:00pm | 30 No Temple School | 31 Lunch and Learn, Rabbi Shifra 12:00pm Library Open 3:00pm | 1 Erev Shabbat Service 7:30pm  7:13pm Shofar Deadline | 2 Cassidy and Isaac Orange B'nai Mitzvah and Shabbat Unplugged Morning Service (<u>Shmini</u>) 10:00am |

Sponsor an issue of the Shofar ~ Contact Marcia Stein at 831-460-1389 or mstein@tbeaptos.org

Recognition/Toda Rabah/Please Note

Marilyn Rigler

2016 Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor

On Friday, March 11th, we will celebrate Marilyn Rigler as this year's recipient of the Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor Award. Marilyn and David Rigler first moved to Santa Cruz in 1983, leaving Los Angeles and her role as a Marriage, Family and Child Counselor to follow their son Joel and his family to this area. Immediately joining the Temple when they arrived, they knew they wanted to be part of a strong Jewish community.

Marilyn, always defined by her political activism, immediately engaged in a variety of community ventures. She joined the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, including serving as editor of their newsletter, until she resigned in protest of their position on Israel. She served as a board member of the Santa Cruz ACLU and participated for over 15 years in a senior collective on KUSP where four women rotated programming to interview local and national figures whose efforts contributed to the community and the nation. Rabbi Rick was one of her guests.

Marilyn also used her skills in organization, outreach and community building to serve the Jewish community. She is a lifetime member of Hadassah, having served on the Santa Cruz Chapter's board for three years including editing their newsletter. She served as a board member of Hillel where she recruited Candy Coonerty to join her efforts. In 2000, Marilyn and David were instrumental in starting the Jewish Film Festival which recently celebrated its 16th year.

It was after serving with Candy Coonerty on the Hillel board that Marilyn first conceived of the Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor Award. Wanting to set up a living memorial to Candy and to the teachings of the Woman of Valor proverb, she recruited Candy's family and friends to select an honoree each year. She also worked with the Coonerty family to establish a Hillel scholarship to recognize strong Jewish students and to continue to support the organization that Marilyn and Candy loved. Marilyn served on the Candy Coonerty Woman of Valor Award Committee for over 10 years.

Marilyn's compassion for every individual is omnipresent in her work with immigrant and foreign student populations. Working with the Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz, Marilyn teaches English to immigrants on their path to citizenship and to Chaminade employees. She works with UCSC foreign students in conversational English and plans to take on a new student this year.

In April 2014, David passed away leaving a hole in her heart. With her community and her family by her side, Marilyn remembered how for 66 wonderful years they coped with difficult events together while also rejoicing with all that was good. In December, Marilyn traveled to Israel with her entire family to celebrate her 90th birthday. David was with them in spirit.

Please join us in celebrating Marilyn's lifetime of service, engagement and leadership. We are all better off because of her contributions.

Caring Committee

Lauren Leff, Roberta Barnett, and Jennifer Wells Kaupp recently showed caring and kindness by helping members of our TBE community. Thank you for your volunteerism.



If you need a helping hand or want to lend a hand please call Rabbi Rick or Kate Connor at (831)689-9459.



Thank you very much to our compassionate congregants that have generously provided dinner to the Santa Cruz Homeless Shelter every Sunday of the year since 1988, on behalf of Temple Beth El!

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS WERE: Marc and Nancy Yellin, Rachel Katz and her chavurah, Margaret Brose, Martha Jacobson, Jennifer Kanter, Rose Ashford, Juliet Goldstein, Susan Karz and Leona Fromm.

To sign up for the Mazon Project, Please contact committee co-chairs, Chris Goldstein and Robin Belkin: orongold@aol.com and Robin@MyVeryOwnCoach.com.

*If you offer your compassion to the hungry
And satisfy the famished creature
Then shall your light shine in darkness
And your gloom shall be like noonday.*

Still Looking for Photographs of Rabbi Rick



In preparation to honor Rabbi Rick, we are looking for photographs from his 40 years at Temple Beth El. Do you have pictures of Rabbi Rick that you would be willing to share, perhaps from a bar or bat Mitzvah, wedding, or other simcha? If so, please send copies (we cannot return originals) to Adrienne Swedlove at the temple. They can be hard copies or digital files.



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Please Note

The Jewish Film Festival Is Looking for Volunteers

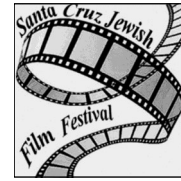
The 2016 Santa Cruz Jewish Film Festival is coming up. Our reception will take place at Temple Beth El on Saturday, April 30, and the festival continues at the Del Mar Theater in Santa Cruz on Monday and Wednesday, May 2 & 4. Yom Hashoah is May 4 and we will be screening two

Holocaust-related films, "Run Boy Run" and "Weapons of the Spirit," in conjunction with congregation Chadash Yameinu.

We need volunteers to:

1. Develop and maintain our website;
2. Organize and staff our reception;
3. Greet and usher at screenings.

Volunteers may contact Marilyn Rigler at mprigler@gmail.com.



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