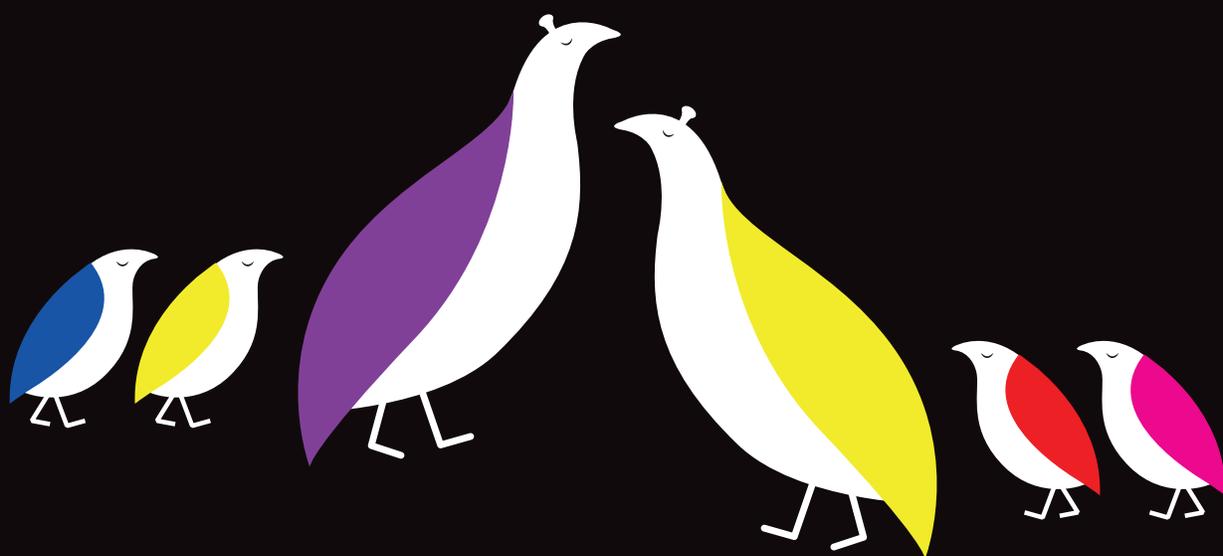


*Come on get happy with your
Beth El Mishpucha*



*Annual Gala honoring
Sharon DeFala and Josh Lander*

March 18, 2018

Congregation Beth El-Norwalk

COMMEMORATIVE JOURNAL



*“Bless... all who devotedly
involve themselves
with needs of this community
and the Land of Israel.”*

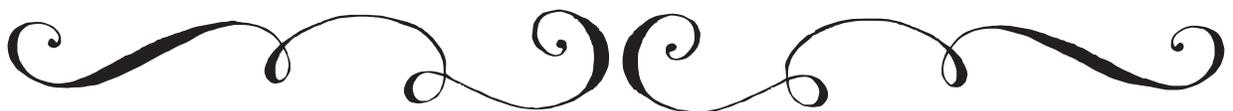
— from Siddur Sim Shalom

Josh Lander –

Thank you for all you do for our community.

It is a privilege to be your co-honoree.

Sharon



Rabbi Ita Paskind

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Stephanie Gordon

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**Thank you to the following who couldn't attend but made a donation
in honor of Sharon and Josh.**

Hui Zhang & Stephen Apfelroth	Marilyn & Jack Rice
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Susan & Marc Leferman	

A Letter from Our Rabbi

March 18, 2018

2 Nisan 5778

Dear Sharon and Josh,

I am thrilled to wish you each Mazal Tov on this well-deserved honor! There are few individuals in our community who have demonstrated the commitment to Congregation Beth El-Norwalk as you have — through your passion, your commitment, and your creativity over *literal* decades.

Throughout your childhoods in our congregation, each of you enjoyed the comfort and excitement of friendships, learning, and community together with your respective families. You were students in our Religious School, and you and your peers celebrated becoming Bar and Bat Mitzvah right on our bimah. You grew up in homes where volunteerism and belonging were demonstrated day after day, year after year. And clearly, something stuck.

Josh, your leadership style is more behind the scenes, and I feel privileged to see you hard at work very regularly. From your years serving on our Executive Committee and caring for the upkeep of our building and the homes that surround it, to your talent and skill for raising much-needed funds for our shul, to running an awesome Purim carnival each year with Jill, you've always been everywhere, making sure things happen. Most recently, you've taken on our food- and gift-card program, updating our sales tracking so we are better able to have a more exact accounting of our profit. We've always been so proud of this program's success, and it means a great deal that you've stepped up to continue the work. The Sages of the Mishnah revered Jews like you, about whom they said:

שַׁמַּי אָמַר: ... אָמור מְעַט וְעֵשֶׂה הַרְבֵּה, וְהוּי מְקַבֵּל אֶת כָּל הָאָדָם בְּסִבֵּר פְּנִים יְפוֹת

“Shammai said: Say little, do much; always greet each person with a cheerful countenance.”

— Pirkei Avot 1:15

Sharon, you love to lead from all sides, and are comfortable and eloquent as you lead from the front. Your work in all aspects of our congregation, from chairing individual events to serving on and leading various committees, to sitting on the Executive Committee, and, of course, to serving as our President for the last three years testifies to your deep passion for the people and mission of Congregation Beth El. You are tireless and sensitive in your interactions with our congregants, and you have been a wonderful partner and guide to me throughout my first three years of service as Beth El's rabbi. The Mishnaic Sages had deep admiration for people like you as well, about whom they said:

יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֶּן פְּרַחְיָה אָמַר: עֲשֵׂה לְךָ רֵב, וּקְנֵה לְךָ חֵבֵר, וְהוּי דָן אֶת כָּל הָאָדָם לְכַף זְכוּת

“Yehoshua ben Perachya said: Find yourself a teacher, acquire yourself a friend, and judge every person favorably.”

— Pirkei Avot 1:6

May you each enjoy health, success, and satisfaction for many, many years to come. May your work with our congregational family bring you and us **מחיל לחיל**, from strength to strength!

With love and appreciation,
Rabbi Ita Paskind

A Letter from Our Gala Co-Chairs

Dear Sharon and Josh,

We are so honored to be chairing this year's Gala honoring the two of you. There are no better examples of a lifetime of commitment to Beth El. Congregation Beth El is where you grew up, starting with Josh's bris! You both attended religious school from K through 10th grade confirmation and have made meaningful contributions to Beth El ever since.

Sharon, you worked in the Hebrew school and as a USY/Kadima advisor. You joined the Board and chaired many events, eventually moving on to the Executive Committee holding VP positions in Fundraising, Membership and Education, not to mention serving as our esteemed President for the past three years.

Josh, you have been an Executive Committee Member holding VP positions in House and Fundraising. You help run our annual Gala auction as well as our Purim Carnival with your wife Jill. In addition, along with Harry Morganthaler, you run our very successful food and gift card program. Needless to say, you both have given our community countless hours of dedication and devotion and have done it with the utmost competence and grace, making very difficult jobs look easy.

And now your children are following in your footsteps, all of them having attended Beth El's Navasky Hebrew school. Your boys have celebrated their Bar Mitzvahs on the same bima as you two, with Sharon's daughter Belle celebrating her Bat Mitzvah at Beth El in June. Each boy was also Madrich in Navasky.

Your devotion and warmth makes everyone at Beth El, young and old, staff and members, feel as though you are our mishpucha. That is why our congregation is excited to c'mon get happy, put on our dancing shoes and celebrate both of you for all you have done and continue to do for us!

B'Shalom,
Stephanie and Pam



To Sharon and Josh,

You are our Community's
past, present and future.
We are lucky to have you.

With Love & Appreciation
for all you do,
Neil & Stephanie Gordon





Congratulations to our honorees

Sharon DeFala

and

Josh Lander

Thank you for your continued devotion
and all of your service to the entire
Beth El community.

Mazel Tov,
Marc and Sharon Rosen



Mazel Tov to
Joshua Lander
and
Sharon DeFala

**for all your dedication to our
Beth El community!**

**This honor is highly deserved
and we thank you for all your time,
efforts, hard work and time away
from your families for our Shul.**

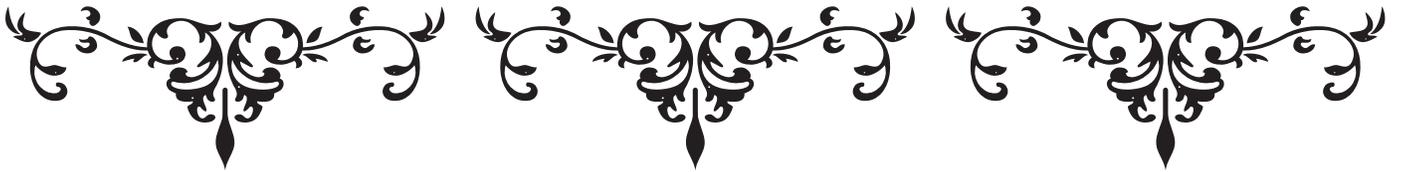
**All our Love and Gratitude,
Joshua, Ali, Avi and Zoe Hurwitz**

*In Honor of
Sharon DeFala & Josh Lander*

*Leadership (Wonderful)
Time (Unlimited)
Effort (Unstinting)*

with deep appreciation

*The Stein Family
Linda & Steve
Michael, Kim, Fitz & Jackie
Richard & Leila
Rebecca, Michael, Jessie & Lizzie
Evan, Jenny, Josh & Sammy
Sarah, Noah, Esther & Naomi*



We are so fortunate having
Sharon & Josh
as leaders of our congregation

You both give so much of your energy,
your time and your resources to make
Beth El such a welcoming place of worship

Elaine & Gerry Rosenberg



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Moderately ♩ = 116



Dear Sharon & Josh,

1-4,6,8: Instr. only

5.7. Cel - e - brate good times, come on!

We CELEBRATE

your ongoing commitment

to Beth El-Norwalk

There's a par - ty go - ing on right here; a cel - e -

Yasher Kochachem,

With Love,

Nancy, Gary, Dave & Kathie

bra - tion to last through-out the years; so bring your good times, - and your

*“Alone we can do so little;
Together we can do so much”*

Helen Keller

Sharon & Josh,

You have always exemplified that together we can do SO much.

Thank you for your dedication, hard work and the love you have given to our community.

You inspire us all.

Mazal Tov,
Hilary & Don Shaefitz



Mazal Tov to Sharon and Josh –

Together We're Better

(with you in Beth El)



We Know We Love You!

David, Pam, Eliza, Doron & Atara

**FOR ALL THAT YOU DO
TO HELP MAKE
CONGREGATION BETH EL
THRIVE –**

**WE THANK YOU,
SHARON DEFALA
AND
JOSH LANDER**

JANIS AND MIKE SIEGEL

*How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob,
and thy dwelling places, O Israel!*

Thank you Sharon and Josh,

*For sustaining our Congregation,
and maintaining our goodly tent!*

Appreciatively,

Joe & Irma Schachter

*“It is not your responsibility to finish the work,
but neither are you free to desist from it.”*

Pirke Avot 2:16

Sharon and Josh

You have always served
our community
and never desisted
from the work at hand.

Yasher Koach
on this special occasion.

Betsy Bernstein
Keith Satter



*Mazel tov to Sharon and Josh
on this well deserved honor.*

Their involvement is an inspiration to all.

*We are so delighted to see them
carrying on their parents' tradition of
commitment to our Jewish community.*

The Beth El Minyannaires

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

*Honoring your many years of service
to the needs of*

Congregation Beth El

Sharon DeFala and Josh Lander

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

Winthrop and Stefanie Baum



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Mazal Tov to
Sharon DeFala
and
Josh Lander
on this well deserved honor!

You are – and will continue to be –
treasures to our congregation.

May you go מחיל לחיל, from strength to strength!

With love and appreciation,
Rabbi Ita Paskind

✡

Congratulations



Sharon DeFala and Josh Lander

Your passion for and commitment to Beth El is an inspiration.

Susan & Gary Singer

Sharon and Josh

*Thank you for your amazing dedication
to our Beth El Mishpucha.*

** You're the relatives worth keeping! **

*With so much gratitude & appreciation,
Laurence and Jessica Sheinman*

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give"

Winston Churchill

Mazal Tov to...

**Joshua Lander and Sharon DeFala on their well deserved honor
in recognition of their leadership and tireless commitment to**

Congregation Beth El

Lieba & Steven Lander, Deborah & Omry Netzer and Karen Lander

Eliav, Danielle, and Adar Netzer

Mazel Tov to Sharon DeFala and Josh Lander
Thank you for all you've contributed
to the Beth El community for so many years
We are so happy to be here to celebrate with you

Stacy, Gary, Daniel & Annie Mozer

SHARON AND JOSH

MAZAL TOV ON YOUR WELL DESERVED HONOR

**YOU EACH EPITOMIZE WHAT IS SO WONDERFUL ABOUT BETH EL
TODAH RABA FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR THE BETTERMENT
OF OUR CONGREGATION**

Barbara and Harvey Hennes

Congratulations Sharon & Josh!

*Thank you for all of your work
on behalf of Congregation Beth El*

The Weinstein Family

Yasher Koach and Mazal Tov
to
Sharon DeFala
&
Josh Lander

May you continue to be an inspiration
to others for many years.

Ellen & Joel Wasserman

Example is not the main thing in influencing others. It is the only thing.

Albert Schweitzer

Thank you, Sharon and Josh, for always showing us the way and inspiring us to bring the best of ourselves to the Beth El community.

Riva Silverman and Abram Heisler

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Honoring Sharon DeFala and Josh Lander!

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Dear Sharon and Josh –

L'Dor V'Dor

Volunteering with your
parents was dear to me
but working with
you two – PRICELESS!

Congrats on a
well deserved honor.

Stuart Garrelick



CONGRATULATIONS TO
SHARON AND JOSH

A WELL DESERVED HONOR

ESTHER & DAVID LESTER



***Congratulations
on jobs well done!***

Marvin Rosenbaum

**THE TASK OF THE LEADER
IS TO GET HIS PEOPLE FROM
WHERE THEY ARE TO WHERE
THEY HAVE NOT BEEN.**

— Henry Kissinger

Sharon & Josh,
You have a vision for the future
of Congregation Beth El.

Lead us there!

*Rhonda & Larry Ginsberg
& family*

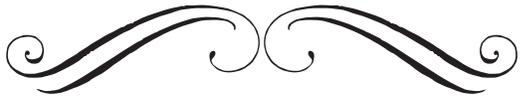
*We are excited to be
celebrating
Sharon and Josh!*

*Thank you for your
tremendous contributions
and tireless service
to our Beth El Community.*

*With much gratitude,
Caryn and Andrew Moss*

Mazel Tov to
Sharon and Josh
on this well-deserved
honor!

Miss you all!
Love, the Poganys



**CONGRATULATIONS
SHARON AND JOSH**

SUSAN & ALVIN EPSTEIN



Congratulations Josh

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Doody	Lefy
JC	Korny
Rosey	SS Express
Sawmill	Ronnie Cash
Laney	D Schwartz
G	

Mazel Tov!

TO

JOSH AND SHARON

YOU ARE BOTH
AN INSPIRATION!

THE REINER FAMILY

YASHER KOACH

TO

SHARON AND JOSH

FOR ALL THAT THEY DO

FOR

BETH EL



LAURA AND JIM SUGARMAN



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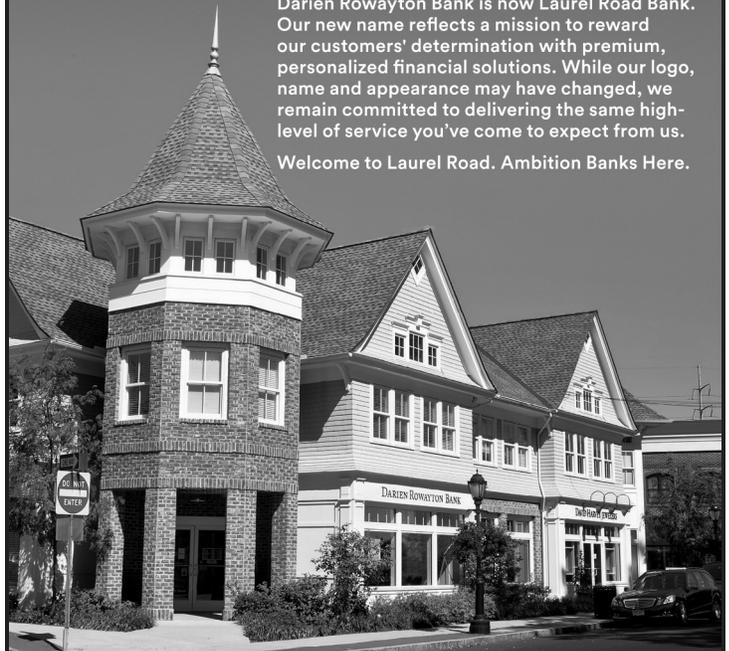
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Yasher Koach
to Sharon DeFala
& Josh Lander!
Beverly & David Stein

Mazel Tov
Sharon DeFala
Josh Lander &
Congregation Beth El

Jody, Jeff, Howie &
Mike Dietch



*Congratulations and
Best Wishes to my former
Beth El 4th grade students
Sharon and Josh!*

*Sincerely,
Sidney J. Birnbaum*

TODAH RABAH
for blessing our Congregation
with your efforts and spirit!

Warmest good wishes,
Dorothy Grimm

*Congratulations Josh
for Years of Excellent Service
to Congregation Beth El*

Love, the Terk Family

CONGRATULATIONS JOSH!
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**Congratulations
Josh**

**Dan, Niki,
and Hannah Smick**



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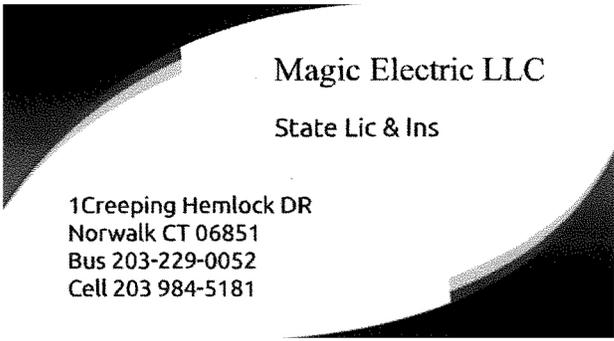
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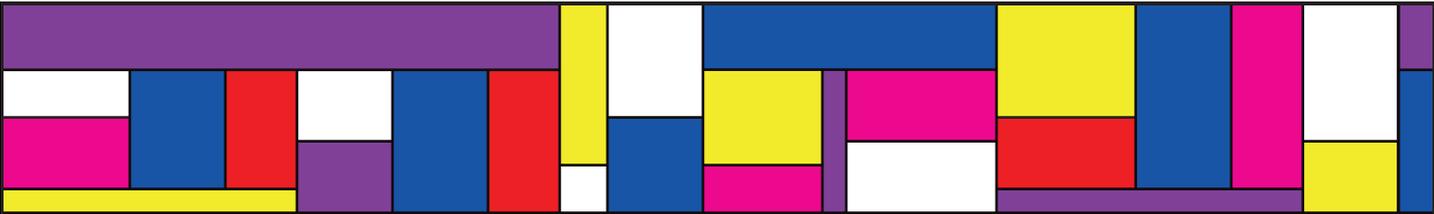
*From the bottom of my heart,
I want to thank everyone for
this wonderful honor.*

Beth El has been a major part of my life since I was born. Our building has been the location for every major Jewish event, from my own Bar Mitzvah, to my wedding, to both my sons' Bar Mitzvahs. I have been lucky to have the entire Beth El community surrounding my family with love and support, sharing every great day, and the tough days as well.

I learned long ago from my parents that charity work and volunteering is about what you give, not what you get back. The time I spend working at and for Beth El is always rewarding and fulfilling. Being honored for what I love and blessed to be able to do is icing on the cake.

Thank you to those who felt I was worthy of being honored and all those who have worked so very hard to make this evening one to remember. I especially want to thank the Gala Committee and its co-chairs, Stephanie Gordon and Pam Feldstein, Rabbi Paskind, my co-honoree Sharon DeFala, the Beth El Executive Committee and our Board of Trustees. I am truly humbled by this great honor.

Joshua Lander



**The Officers and Trustees
wish you both hearty congratulations
on this well deserved honor!**

