

*celebrating*  
**SANDY**  
A DECADE OF  
NURTURING OUR FUTURE



**SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 8:30pm**

Join us for a special evening to honor Sandy Sachs' 10th Anniversary as Director of our Thelma K. Reisman Preschool and for her dedication to Beth El. We'll toast Sandy with food, drink and an unforgettable evening. RSVP today!

Want to get involved? Contact Co-chairs Scott Dichter at [sdichter@gmail.com](mailto:sdichter@gmail.com) or Ellen Solomon at [ellenbsolomon@yahoo.com](mailto:ellenbsolomon@yahoo.com)

**Saturday, April 20, 9:30am**

**"Israel Democracy vs. US Democracy – What Can We Learn?"  
with Noga Maliniak**



Noga will share her outlook on the Israeli democratic system, its current and future challenges, and how this affects US-Israel relations.

Noga Maliniak is the Executive Shlichah and Director of the Legow Family Israel Program Center, Greater Metrowest Federation. She has been in her current role since 2010. Previously, she acted as director of the Aliyah division of the Jewish Agency for Israel in Jerusalem. She is a 23-year veteran of the IDF Women's Corps in which she holds the rank of lieutenant colonel, and founder of Bavat Ayin Congregation—the first liberal Reform synagogue in Rosh HaAyin, her hometown near Tel Aviv.

**Don't miss the Israel-themed Kiddush prepared by our own Kitchen Cabinet committee!**

**MORE INFORMATION INSIDE!**

Annual Preschool-JLC Book Fair, March 3- 6, **page 5**

Women's Seder, March 10, **page 8**

Sundays@Seven – Jewish Art in Pre-Expulsion Spain, March 17, **page 6**

Men's Club Reactivates, **page 8**

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**Morning Minyan**

Monday through Friday 7:45am  
Sundays/legal holidays 8:15am

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**Shabbat Evening Service**

Every Friday at 6:15pm  
**Note:** Shabbat in the 'Hood starts at 7:30pm

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**Shabbat Morning**

Torah Talk, 8:45am  
Services begin at 9:30am

**Shabbat Morning  
Children's Schedule**

**Musical Mini-Minyan  
with Ira Levin**

Every Saturday in March & April  
at 11:00am

**Shabbat B'Yachad**

11:00am (grades 2-6)

**Updates**

Friday, March 1st 6:15pm: Friday Night Unplugged  
Saturday, March 2 at 10:45am: 6th Grade Torah Reading; Shabbat B'Yachad  
Friday, March 8 at 6:30pm: Shabbat in the 'Hood, Ramah style  
Saturday, March 9 Camp Ramah 50th Birthday  
March 15, 22, 29; April 5, 19 at 7:30pm: Shabbat in the 'Hood  
March 16, Saturday at 9:30am Torah Together and Family Service  
Friday, April 12, 26 at 6:15pm: Friday Night Unplugged  
Saturday, April 20 at 9:30am: Israel Themed Shabbat  
Friday, April 26 at 6:00pm: Young Family Friday service and dinner  
Friday, May 3 at 6:15 pm: Friday Night Live!  
Passover service schedule, page 6



# FROM OUR RABBI

## Passover: A Taste of Slavery & Freedom

*Avadim hayinnu l'paroh  
b'mitzrayim...atah b'nei horin.*

We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt...  
now we are free.

During Passover, and at the seder specifically, we are meant to experience life as if we ourselves had come out of Egypt. We are encouraged to place ourselves in the experience of our ancestors. We are to be slaves and, by the end of the evening, we are liberated and free once again.

How to achieve this? We definitely feel a taste of freedom at the end of the seder when we have completed the required steps and made it through all the commentary. When we are finally done, there is a general sigh of relief and a feeling of release – especially for the chefs!

But, what about the beginning of the seder? How do we experience slavery or a lack of freedom? What does it mean for us as we sit at our tables in our homes in these United States of America in the year 2013? What enslaves us today?

One answer that occurs to me is fear. We are not free from fear—fear of terror, fear of war, fear of violence. We are not free from fear of war and terror—in Israel and the Middle East, and here in the U.S. We are not free from working to protect the land of Israel and we are not free from caring for our military veterans after they have returned from Afghanistan and Iraq

We are not free from the fear of violence and bigotry here in America. We are not free from vigilance in protecting our homes, our houses of worship our cities and our schools. We are not free to walk through the streets or subways or into the synagogue without watching for any suspicious packages or people. We are not free of the fear of gun violence or the responsibilities to insure gun safety and gun rights. We are not free to sit quietly as people spread messages of hate, bully others or victimize the weak.

This year at your seder, why don't you ask your guests to consider the theme of slavery and freedom? What enslaves us as Jews, as Americans, as human beings? What fears restrict our lives and enslave our souls? How can we help bring freedom to those who are enslaved? How can we transform our fear into life-giving energy? During the seder, our experience of slavery and fear is not pushed away but experienced in the most physical sense. We eat the bitter herb; we dip our food in saltwater tears; we

eat the dry tasteless bread of affliction. What is the message? You are not alone. We are all in it together. We taste the bitterness together. We experience the parched throats of the slave, the soldier and the mourner.

But at the seder we do not eat only bitter herbs. We eat the sweet haroset and drink sweet wine. We eat the ultimate symbol of life—the egg. We experience our fear and bitterness and oppression; and then we experience freedom. We sing about freedom and God's gifts. We taste it. We live it and we act it out... We open our door in relative safety and remember those who could not and still cannot open their doors so freely.

This Passover, let us get in touch with the fears that enslave us. Let us name them and then find ways to transform our fear into strength. Let us take our fears and allow them to lead us into action. What can we do this spring to affirm life and protect the lives of the ones we love? What are the freedoms we have to claim and celebrate so that we can live in peace? Freedom to assemble and organize... Freedom to speak out... Freedom to gather in prayer and practice Judaism according to our traditions. We do a lot of talking around the seder table. What are you going to do after that to celebrate freedom?

Rather than conclude the seder with "l'shanah ha'ba'ah b'yerushalayim-next year in Jerusalem," it has been suggested by some that we say: l'shanah ha'ba'ah b'shalom-next year in peace and wholeness. This year, may we rise from our seder tables in complete joy and freedom. Next year, may we see complete peace and freedom for the entire world.

**On a personal note:** *Our entire family would like to thank you for joining us in the celebration of Abigail's Bat Mitzvah on Feb. 23 and showering her with kindness and support. Like every Bar and Bat Mitzvah child does, Abigail made us all so proud and thankful for the gifts of this warm, welcoming community. She has gone from writing her d'var Torah to writing thank-you notes, and her father and I are just trying to remember and savor all the wonderful moments.*  
*Today Rabbah,*  
*Francine, Marc, Simon & Abigail*

With Blessings,  
**Rabbi Francine Roston**

Please visit [www.bethelnj.org](http://www.bethelnj.org) to read a selection of Rabbi Roston's sermons, divrei Torah and special prayers. If you know of a Beth El member who is ill, hospitalized, or homebound, please call Rabbi Roston to let her know. Beth El members are our source of information.



## FROM OUR SYNAGOGUE PRESIDENT

Even with the bad flu season we had this year, I am always amazed by the Beth El family that still comes together on Shabbat mornings, holidays, and special events. On other days, smaller groups have come together as communities within a community. This has always been a hallmark of Beth El.

Our newest community just started to meet a few weeks ago. Boomers and Beyond was the brainchild of Claire Nierenberg who has been assisted by Alicia Zucker, Joy Markel, and Francine Levine. This new group's first meeting in January was a hilarious success, as our members aged 50 and above listened to our thespian-at-large Mitch Greenberg read two comedic essays. More fun is planned for the future.

Last month, our Jewish Learning Center community ran a bagel-and-coffee fundraiser. The lobby abounded with kids of all ages scurrying to class, as our minyanaires and JLC parents ate, drank, and schmoozed. The organized chaos was perfectly Beth El-idich.

One of our strongest communities is comprised of those families in Golda Och Academy (GOA). Perhaps because of our unique tie to the school by way of its namesake – our beloved Golda Och z"l – Beth El is now their largest feeding congregation. This connection enriches the entire Beth El community, and so do the wonderful kids whose b'nai mitzvah we are honored to celebrate and who are so fabulously taught. Our connections to Golda Och Academy have been strong since the school's inception. Beth El Board Member Dr. Joyce Raynor is the current head of school at the Academy. Adam Shapiro is dean of students in the Upper School, and Carrie Zucker Siegel, a school alum and second-generation Beth El member, is assistant Lower School principal and Jewish studies director. There are many current and former GOA teachers in our community who foster the bond beyond shul and school for which we are also proud. Beth El congregants also sit on the GOA board and have served as presidents over the years. At any Beth El event, there is sure to be a GOA grandparent, parent, current student, or alum. Our two communities grace each other.

Our Chevra Kadisha also is an important community. We have had an unfortunately large number of deaths in our congregation over the past several months, and the Chevra has done its sacred job. In an effort to spread this mitzvah among the broader community, efforts are under way to engage other conservative Jews in our area to join this rewarding group.

As spring approaches, our farming community is getting ready to plant our garden again. Last year, we enjoyed delicious vegetables at Shabbat Kiddush and had lots left over to give to the food pantry and community soup kitchen, two important charity outreach programs for the needy. The food pantry, headed by Diane Stein and the community soup kitchen led by Rich and Leah Kuperman are an extremely important part of our Beth El community.

Each week, most Shabbat services are now followed by a delicious Kiddush. A community of women and men of all ages, led by Joy Markel, prepare such non-traditional Kiddush fare as chili, pasta primavera, lentil stew, and deviled eggs. The desserts have been an array of cakes, cookies, fruits, and ice cream sundaes that dazzle. This vibrant community of chefs has put weight on us all! There are so many more communities that keep us alive and exciting. I have left so many out because of space (Men's Club and Sisterhood, for example, deserve a whole article!!) I am pleased and excited that so many communities flourish in our larger Beth El community.

P.S. Our Thelma K. Reisman Preschool community continues to be a tremendous asset both to the many children it serves and as an entrée for new members. In celebration and tribute to Sandy Sachs and her 10 years as its head, we will honor her on Saturday evening, April 27, as noted on the bulletin front page. Ellen Solomon and Scott Dichter will cochair this event.

B'Shalom,  
**Bill Gold**  
president@bethelnj.org

### Torah Talk – Every Shabbat Morning, 8:45 - 9:30am

A stimulating and meaningful way to start your Shabbat!

Great discussions on the weekly Torah portion, led by many of Beth El's finest teachers, including Rabbi Roston, Dr. Alan Cooper, Jim Gardner, Sherri Morris, Rabbi Jeff Salkin, David Suskauer, Jon Woocher—and more! There's always so much to learn and discuss! Join us!

# EDUCATION



**Sherri Morris, Director of Congregational Learning, 973-763-0119, smorris@bethelnj.org**

Each year I think we are having the very best year yet and then a new year comes around and the students and teachers show me the fallacy of that statement! Here are a few excerpts from our recent mid-year reports. There is not enough room to include all of the classes in this bulletin so I will share the exciting developments in our primary classes in our May-June bulletin! Please feel free to contact me if you wish to come and visit our classes to witness first hand all of the exciting experiential learning that takes place at Beth El.

**Morah Devorah of Kitah Dalet Rishon** reports that “our aim with Bible Stories is not only to learn the stories but also to be able to connect with their teachings and apply them to our lives. When we studied the story of Deborah, we discussed the importance of asking for help and how much more we can accomplish when we do tasks with others. Each student identified tasks they included in our Helping Hand Collage to represent the things they can do more easily with help. Samson fulfilled his purpose by saving the Israelites from the Philistines. The class shared their ideas about their own purposes and how their talents can be used to bring shalom (completeness) to the world.”

**Morah Rivka and Morah CJ of Kitah Gimmel Rishon and Sheni** state that “in between holidays, we have begun learning the stories from the Torah in Genesis. We started at the beginning and have now come as far as Abraham and Sarah. We enjoyed making collages about partnering with God, acting out the story of how God acts with both mercy and justice (after reading about Cain and Abel), making a rocking ark after studying Noah and the flood, creating our own Lego Towers of Babel and making welcoming signs for our homes after discussing how Abraham and Sarah welcomed strangers in the desert.”  
**Kitah Zayin and Morah Judy** say they “spent time doing text study of various Parshiyot of Genesis. We used a variety of materials to deepen our understanding of the stories of Abraham. We did close-text study using comparative translations of the Hebrew text. We read directly from Etz Chayim Chumash and used questions to guide our study. We also used a variety of Torah commentators, including RAMBAM, Rashi, Ibn Ezra and Rabbi Elimelech of Lizensk to provide insights into our study. We also read modern plays based on Biblical text. One of the students’ conclusions was that the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict might be a result of sibling rivalry dating back to the Book of Genesis.”

**Morah Leemor and Kitah Dalet Sheni** say they studied many portions of the book of Exodus mostly through acting. “At times, we wrote our own plays and performed them in groups for the class, at other times we held de-

bates between biblical characters, and even gave personalities to many characters. These activities helped to bring the Torah into our lives in a way that was tangible for us as fourth graders living in New Jersey. Right now, we are delving into the story of Joshua using three videos about his legacy that can be found at [www.g-dcast.com/joshua](http://www.g-dcast.com/joshua). We recommend that you go to this link as we really like using this kind of media to learn.”

**Kitah Hay and Morah Nita** have delved into a very important topic. “In our history curriculum, we began the year by studying the plight of the Jews in Eastern Europe in the 1800s and what led to the mass immigrations to the US. The students were surprised that Jews were treated so poorly and even more surprised that this has been repeated over and over in our history. Most had never heard of the word “anti-semitism” and this gave us an opportunity to talk about it. In fact, we took a side trip to look at the history of anti-semitism, from Pharaoh to modern times. Each student took responsibility for a period of history, familiarized him or herself with it and then taught the rest of the class about it. In the end, we have built a timeline so we can look at the issue across history. We will next go back to our curriculum and break into “families” who will decide how to respond to the pogroms and other problems—should they emigrate? Stay and fight? We will share each family’s decision.

**Morah Dani and Kitah Vav** are a high-energy group and that energy can be heard as Morah Dani tells us about their Hebrew studies. Sixth grade is a unique year for the children at JLC as their Hebrew time is split between learning Torah trope as well as the prayers of the Shabbat Torah service. We began the year with learning to chant the Torah service liturgy from Ein Chamocha to its conclusion with Etz Chayim. It is a tradition at Beth El that every sixth grade student reads Torah for the first time during our Saturday morning children’s service. To get the students ready to do this, Morah Sherri came to our class in mid-October to teach the students Torah trope. After we learned the basics, each student was matched with a tutor to practice their individual torah readings. Since then, each student has been working diligently on his/her Torah portions, and we look forward to hearing their amazing renditions on upcoming Shabbat mornings.

B’vracha,  
**Morah Sherri**

.....  
: **Chaverim Connections** meets Sunday, March 3 at 5:30pm. :  
: Third-Fifth graders and parents will make sandwiches :  
: for the homeless & have dinner. Kids will see a movie :  
: while parents meet with Morah Sherri. :  
: .....

# EDUCATION



**Sandy Sachs, Director, Thelma K. Reisman Preschool, 973-763-0113, sandysachs@bethelnj.org**

School is running very smoothly, thanks to our dedicated and creative staff that makes our program the best that it can be. They are always improving their lessons and adding new units

to the curriculum. They support the school when we have non-class time activities whenever possible, are exploring new philosophies and activities and participate in ongoing staff training regularly.

We are very fortunate to have such a fabulous staff and it is important to me that you all know how highly they are regarded by the rest of the Beth El staff and the parents who send their children to the Thelma K. Reisman Preschool of Beth El. I can never thank the staff enough so I would like to give them a big public Todah Rabah for all the hard work that they do all of the time.

This fall I wrote about my experience at Kayam Farms and my desire to begin several programs at our Preschool. With that in mind, I am very excited to let you know that we now have some dedicated outdoor classroom space outside of our playground. Thanks to congregant Aileen Binder, we have placed some logs to enclose a space for the children. The teachers will be able to expand their classrooms to the outdoors where the children can enjoy and explore the world around them. This is also the beginning of a space that I hope will grow by adding equipment and activities that children can use to engage the outdoors.

Messy painting and water play come to mind for the summer months. If you are interested in helping to create some of the equipment that we can use, please let me know.

We have begun a healthy snack day in school. On Wednesdays, one child in each class brings in a healthy snack to share with their classmates. This has encouraged the children to taste some foods that are new to them. It has been a learning opportunity for the teachers to talk about why something is healthy and where it comes from. Recycling was another thing that I wanted to focus on and do more of. We have begun by having recycling boxes that the children decorated in each of the rooms into which they throw their scrap papers and bottles. I am looking into a composting bin for the children to use for leftover food. Hopefully we will be able to use the compost in our Beth El garden.

We are in the process of registering for Summer Camp and Preschool for the upcoming 2013-14 school year. Please spread the word about our wonderful program. I am available for tours and love to show off the school. I will be looking for some college and high school students for camp. If you know of anyone who might be interested in working, have them give me a call at the number above.

B'Shalom  
**Sandy**



Beth El Preschool's new outdoor playspace is taking shape! We thank Aileen Binder for her help!

## **It's Book Fair Time Sunday, March 3-Tuesday, March 5**

A fantastic selection of Jewish-themed books, Passover gifts and other great stuff for children and adults. Help JLC stock its own shelves by donating one or more books. Thank you!

**Sunday, March 3**

9:00-3:00pm

1:30pm: Reading by author **Corey Schwartz** of *The Three Ninja Pigs*

followed by Maplewood Karate

7:30pm: Book Signing & Discussion with journalist, author and historian Marc Leepson,

**Monday, March 4**

8:45-10:00am; 11:30am-12:30pm; 2:00-2:30pm; 6:30-7:00pm

**Tuesday, March 5**

8:45-10:00am; 11:30am-12:30pm; 2:00-2:30pm

# ADULT EDUCATION

## *Sundays@Seven*



**Sunday, March 17, 7:00pm**

**Fleeting Images of Jewish Life in Pre-Expulsion Spain**

**An examination of illuminated manuscripts and Haggadot**

**Dr. Barbara Tomlinson, Kean University Professor Emerita and Cultural History Lecturer**

Learn who made these fascinating artifacts and what they can tell us about Jewish life in pre-expulsion Spain.

*This lecture is sponsored by Erika Gold's mother, Teresa Livingstone, in memory of Ernest Livingstone.*

## **Beth El** **Boomers & beyond**

**Sunday, March 17 at 5:30pm**

**For Congregants 50+**

**Schmoozing Time with Sandwiches and Salads**

**Stay for Dessert followed by Sundays@Seven Speaker**

**Cost:** only \$16.00 per person.

RSVP to **Alicia Zucker** at 973-761-4561 [azucker@me.com](mailto:azucker@me.com)

Congregant-performer **Mitch Greenberg** was a big hit at our January 27 opening program. Thanks to Mitch and to **Joan** and **Harvey Bucholtz** for hosting! Watch future bulletins and emails for upcoming Boomers & Beyond social events.

**To get on our email list, contact Claire Nierenberg, at [clarnier@aol.com](mailto:clarnier@aol.com) or 973-762-9502**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**LEVEL 2 HEBREW READING with Rabbi Roston**

**Sundays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 9:00am**

Polish your alef-bet and add new prayerbook Hebrew and grammar skills. The course focuses on improved reading and fluency with prayerbook vocabulary and text. Email Sherri Morris at [smorris@mbethelnj.org](mailto:smorris@mbethelnj.org) to save your spot.

**Bus Tour of Jewish Newark Sunday, April 21, 2:00pm**

Take a guide bus tour of Jewish Newark with our very own Sam Convissor as our guide. A lot of our own history started right down the block. Watch emails for sign up information.

## PASSOVER SCHEDULE & CANDLELIGHTING

*Please check the Beth El website and weekly emails to confirm service times*

### **Monday, March 25**

**7:30am** Morning Services, Fast of the First  
Born/Siyyum Bichorim & Breakfast

**10:30am** Burning Hametz in Beth El Parking

**6:55pm Erev Pesah, Candlelighting**

*Evening services are an important part of our tradition and we encourage you to daven in your homes before your Seder. The Ma'ariv Yom Tov service is available at [www.bethelnj.org](http://www.bethelnj.org)*

### **Tuesday, March 26**

**9:30am** Yom Tov Shahrarit Morning Services

**8:06pm** Candlelighting, Second Night of Pesah  
Begin the Counting of the Omer at your Seder

### **Wednesday, March 27**

**9:30am** Yom Tov Shahrarit Morning Services

**8:00pm** Ma'ariv Services

### **Thursday, March 28-Sunday, March 31**

Hol HaMoed Pesah - The Intermediate Days

**Sunday, March 31**

**7:30am** Morning Minyan

**7:00pm** Ma'ariv - Evening Services

**7:15pm** Candlelighting for Seventh Night

### **Monday, April 1**

**9:30am** Yom Tov Shahrarit Morning Services

**8:00pm** Ma'ariv Evening Services

**8:15pm** Candlelighting for Eighth Night

### **Tuesday, April 2**

**9:30am** Yom Tov Shahrarit Morning Services

**11:00am** Approximate Start of Yizkor

**8:00pm** Ma'ariv, Havdalah/End of Pesach Service

**8:15pm** End of Pesach

**8:45pm** Ownership of Hametz returns to you



## FROM OUR INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mary Beth Goff, 973-763-0111 x10, [mbgoff@bethelnj.org](mailto:mbgoff@bethelnj.org)

You may have noticed a woman quietly working near the entrance to our social hall. She comes to morning minyan and stays to work on documenting the location of each leaf on both the Helen and Irving Cohen and the Julia and Murray Biddleman Trees of Life. Congregant Sharon Seiden has undertaken the monumental task of noting what is on each leaf and where it's located.

When demolition on the "old" lounge started, we carefully took each tree apart and stored them until the new balcony was ready for them. The contractor hired to reassemble them repaired what damage was unavoidable, completed tracings of the trees, and reinstalled them exactly as they had been – right down to the two leaves that were backwards! This was amazing and we were thrilled to have the trees back up looking even more beautiful than before.

There was a problem, though. We had no map of the

leaves, so when families of recent and upcoming b'nai mitzvah wanted to put their sons' or daughters' names on a leaf next to older siblings, it was time for a tedious hunt! Grandparents want to commemorate the births of their grandchildren and not have to search in several spots to see the kindelich's names. Sharon to the rescue! Thanks to her efforts, we will be able to locate any leaf without having to use a stepladder. When parents of the bride or groom want to purchase a leaf, when that special birthday for your friend or relative rolls around, when you want to thank the person who has done something special for your family, you can purchase a leaf on one of the Trees of Life—and for the same \$180 that has been the price of a leaf for as long as anyone can remember. Now thanks to Sharon, we will know just where to put it!

Today Rabah,  
**Mary Beth Goff**



## CONGREGATIONAL NURSE

Karen Frank, 973-763-0111x30, 862-485-9062 or [kfrank@bethelnj.org](mailto:kfrank@bethelnj.org)

"Be happy! It's Adar!"

But can we just choose to be happy? What of those sad things that happen to us? What of our travails, our woes? How can we just "be happy?"

Possibly we can better say it as "Be present." Being present to what is, is to have *menuchat hanefesh*—equanimity. *Menuchat hanefesh* is the ability to hold steady despite the turbulence around us, to hold our course. This is not to deny that heartache exists or that life gets rough along the way. Nor is it to passively lie down and accept all that happens. Rather it is the ability to see what is, acknowledge and go on. We learn to do this in meditation. We know we cannot stop thinking, but as we attempt to clear our minds, we acknowledge the thoughts that inevitably pass through, and we go on with our meditating.

In Martin Buber's *Tales of the Hasidim*, Later Masters, The Rabbi of Kobyn said, "When you suffer, do not say: 'That's

bad! That's bad!' Nothing that God imposes on you is bad. But it is all right to say: 'That's bitter!' For among medicines there are some that are made with bitter herbs." To acknowledge the pain and have the fortitude to stay the course requires that we not get mired in self-pity and judgment. To compare our lives with our own expectations and desire robs us of the energy we need, and defeats us. Better to remember that life holds both bitter and sweet:

*Do not despair because of suffering,*

*For life is suffering.*

*Suffering and also joy.*

*When life brings you suffering, hurt.*

*When life brings you joy, laugh.*

*Cling to nothing*

*For all is fleeting.*

*Mishnah Avot 1:7*

**Karen Frank, RN**

### Friday Night Service Hosts Needed Shabbat in the 'Hood, 7:30pm

This is a wonderful experience and a great way to include your family and friends in this intimate service in the comfort of your home! You can lead the service, or we will find you a leader. We make hosting easy with a special "Shabbat Box," which includes everything you'll need. Hosts can invite friends, neighbors, and family to help make the minyan and share this Shabbat experience. Shabbat in the 'Hood dates available for hosting are March 15, 22, 29; April 5, 19; May 17 and 31. Please contact Angela Wolf at [argwolff@yahoo.com](mailto:argwolff@yahoo.com) or Ellen Bikales at [EBme22@gmail.com](mailto:EBme22@gmail.com) to sign up.

# SISTERHOOD

*...for women of all ages, for women at all stages*

**Sisterhood Shabbat** It was a joyful and exciting morning. Over 50 women led and participated in the service and helped behind the scenes. Beth El can be proud that our egalitarian community encourages women to fully participate in the life of the synagogue.

**Sisterhood Shabbat Kiddush Luncheon** What a surprise to be greeted with Chicken Tagine for lunch! This delicious meal was the work of many hands wielding many spoons in the Beth El kitchen. We invite everyone in the congregation to join in the mitzvah of "feeding the hungry" at noon on Shabbat. The Kitchen Cabinet is not just for members of Sisterhood – it's a synagogue-wide committee. To cook for future events, please contact Joy Markel at joy@joymarkel.com or 973-763-3267.

**Israeli Dancing** We enjoyed an afternoon of dancing, enthusiastically led by Nomi Colton-Max. The response was overwhelming, Two more classes being planned – stay tuned!

**Mishloach Manot Bags** We always have fun schmoozing while our hands are busy filling the Mishloach Manot bags. Many thanks to Robin Cohen who helped organize the assembly line for packing and to all those who showed up on February 21 to pack. Todah Rabah to Ellen Tamaroff and Joy Markel who selected the items for the 425 bags.

**Mishloach Manot Bag Delivery** More thanks to Amy Dixon who supervised the pick-ups and to all those who came on February 24 to deliver the Mishloach Manot bags. We had 30 families delivering to 40 different routes. Todah Rabah to all of you!

**Purim Desserts** Did you enjoy the treats after the Megillah reading? Sisterhood was at work again! A dozen bakers were on hand to create the sweet treats that Marcia Gardner and Nancy Kover arranged so beautifully on the tables.

## SAVE THESE DATES

**Women's Seder, March 10** Would you like to help plan, make purchases, cook or set up? Please contact Donna Ritter, drpt@sbcglobal.net or 973-669-1130 or 214-477-4871 to volunteer.

**Challah Baking, Sunday, April 7** From flour to finish! Interested in helping out? Please contact Joani Ascher, mmsaturday@aol.com, 973-763-8577. Time and place TBD.

**GNO-Girls' Night Out Thursday, April 18, 8:00pm**, Interested in planning? Contact Norma Aronson, glpboardwalk@aol.com, 973-325-3342. Place TBD.

**New Jersey Jewish Film Festival, April 18-28** at the JCC Sisterhood will sponsor one film. More details to come.

**Norma Aronson**

**Board member and Immediate Past President**

glpboardwalk@aol.com



## Hey Brother, Join Our Club!

**Beth El Men's Club lives! Be part of the action! Join us!**

Each of us lives in a great community. Now enjoy your community of men. Become part of a national movement just by having fun with other members.

### FAQs:

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Q – What does it cost?              | A – \$36/year (FREE in 2013)  |
| Q – What are my obligations?        | A – None  |
| Q – What are the Men's Club events? | A – A just-fun social event, a family event, a service project, and a Shabbat service event and more! |

**Save these Dates!**      **Thursday, March 21, 8:00pm** Informal Kickoff Men's Club Meeting  
at the home of Mike Schloff in Maplewood  
**Sunday, April 28** Spring Cleanup  
Contact Mike Schloff at 201-364-1846, mschloff@gmail.com



# Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop

## Prepare for Passover



Visit the Gift Shop and see our beautiful selection of Seder plates...and everything else you'll need for the holiday. Gift Shop open on many Sunday mornings and some Thursday nights.

**Also see our selection of**

*Shofarot • Apples & Honey plates • Candles • Baby presents • B'nai Mitzvah presents  
Holiday decorations and gifts • Jewelry • great Kipot and Tallitot collection*

Contact **Lauren Morris** for a personal shopping appointment at [giftshop@bethelnj.org](mailto:giftshop@bethelnj.org) or **973-763-5343** or **Norma Aronson**, [glpboardwalk@aol.com](mailto:glpboardwalk@aol.com) or **973-325-3342**, to visit the gift shop or to volunteer to help with sales or display.



Search "**Beth El Sisterhood Gift Shop**"

### Be Part of Beth El Sisterhood's 2012-2013 Torah Fund Campaign:

We need everyone to participate to ensure the future supply of Conservative/Masorti rabbis, cantors, educators, and other professionals. Donors of at least \$180 receive a beautiful Torah Fund pin! Thanks for your continued support of this campaign!

**Francine Levine**

973-564-9710

**Abby Nagel**

973-713-7442 or [abbynagel@aol.com](mailto:abbynagel@aol.com)

Torah Fund co-Chairs

## Kitchen Cabinet Cuisine

You can make this Beth El Shabbat Kiddush favorite at home!

*It was a big hit at Sisterhood Shabbat on January 27.*

To assist in Kiddush preparation for future Shabbatot, contact Joy Markel, [joy@joymarkel.com](mailto:joy@joymarkel.com) or 973-763-3267.

### Chicken Tagine with Pine-Nut Couscous

*(Makes 4 to 6 servings Total: 1 Hour, 20 Minutes)*

#### Chicken Tagine Ingredients

2 tablespoons olive oil  
6 boneless, skinless chicken thighs  
1 medium onion, thinly sliced (about 2 cups)  
4 large garlic cloves, minced  
1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1 teaspoon ground turmeric  
1 teaspoon ground coriander  
2 cardamom pods, lightly crushed  
¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper  
1 teaspoon Kosher salt, divided  
¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper  
15 dried apricots, halved  
15 pitted prunes, halved  
½ cup green olives, halved  
1 15-oz can of chickpeas, drained  
2 cups diced canned tomatoes, undrained  
2 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth  
5 fresh flat-leaf parsley sprigs  
Couscous Ingredients  
2 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth  
1 1/2 cups couscous

1/4 cup lightly toasted pine nuts  
1 teaspoon grated fresh lemon zest  
1/4 cup minced fresh parsley leaves

**Chicken Tagine Preparation:** In a large bowl, season the chicken with salt and ground black pepper, toss to distribute evenly. Heat oil in a 6- to 8-qt. heavy-bottomed pot over medium-high heat. Add half the chicken, and cook until golden brown, 5 to 7 minutes. Turn over and cook 3 minutes more. Transfer to a plate; repeat with remaining chicken and set aside.

Reduce heat to medium. Add onion and sauté until golden, 5 to 7 minutes. Add garlic and ginger and cook, stirring constantly, for 3 minutes. Add cinnamon, turmeric, coriander, cardamom pods, cayenne and salt and stir to combine. Return chicken to pot and add apricots, prunes, tomatoes, olives, chickpeas, 2 cups chicken broth, and parsley sprigs. Bring mixture to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-low. Cover and simmer 40 minutes. Take pot off heat and remove parsley sprigs.

**Couscous Prep:** In a covered medium saucepan, bring remaining 2 cups chicken broth to a boil. Turn off heat, stir in couscous, cover, and let sit 5 minutes. Uncover pan and fluff couscous with a fork. Stir in 2 tbsp. minced parsley, pine nuts, and lemon zest and toss to combine. Mound couscous on a platter. Top with chicken thighs and pour sauce over the chicken. Sprinkle with remaining 2 tbsp. parsley.

# TIKKUN OLAM/SOCIAL ACTION



Rich Kuperman, Vice President Tikkun Olam, 973-762-2896, mashuggana@yahoo.com

## *Tikkun Olam "Healing the World"* starting at Beth El

### **Beth El Gardens Prepares for Second Season**

A dedicated committee met at Beth El on January 31 for the first planning meeting of the 2013 Beth El Garden. Sherri Morris, Director of Congregational Learning, and other volunteers drew up a list of projects to accomplish before the first garden planting on April 28--Purchasing products, treating the soil, planning for Preschool children to plant seedlings, and so much more.. Plans are in place for new initiatives like planting bulbs for a flower garden, a plant and flower sale, planting horseradish for Passover..



As with our first garden last year, this year's produce will be distributed at our Community Soup Kitchen in East Orange and our Emergency Food Pantry in Orange. We also use many of the crops to make the foods we eat at our Shabbat Kiddushim. Would you like to help us plan, or grow food from seed to table?  
Contact Sherri Morris at 973-763-0119  
smorris@bethelnj.org

### **Beth El Tikkun Olam Day**

**Sunday, April 28, 9:00am - 1:00pm**

PLEASE come and participate in at least one activity to help "heal the world" through social action. There will be something for everyone that day. Activities will include:

- Blood Drive from 9:00am-1:00pm
- Info Area to learn about social action,
- Food Drive where you can bring non-perishable groceries for the Interfaith Food Pantry,
- Hands-on Beth El Garden start-up from 11:00am-1:00pm

*Be a part of something special!* Contact Rich Kuperman at 973-762-2896, mashuggana@yahoo.com

### **Special Interfaith Food Pantry Food Drives**

**Neighbor2Neighbor Share and Care**

**Friday, March 8, 9:00am-2:00pm**

Beth El has joined with other local groups to form a community-wide food drive for those in need.

Drop off food at Beth El By March 8 OR Purchase food to donate on line at <http://qa.yougivegoods.com/N2N>

### **Pre-Passover Food Drive**

**Wednesday, March 13-Friday, March 22**

As you clean for Passover, please donate items not expired, opened or already eaten!

Also, please purchase items listed below most needed to give out weekly to families in need.

Drop off items in Wooden Food Bins at Beth El: Peanut butter and jelly, powdered milk envelopes, canned tuna, canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned pasta sauce and soup (no glass containers please!) We appreciate your help! Please contact Diane Stein, [dianehstein@aol.com](mailto:dianehstein@aol.com) or 973-715-7718 with questions.

## Pick a Project for Social Action... (minimum time commitment noted)

**Interfaith Hospitality Network** serves the homeless at Prospect Presbyterian Church in Maplewood every 2 or 3 months. Shelter and meals are provided for guests to relax, socialize, do homework and watch TV. Many of these families are just like us—adults, teens, preschoolers and babies—but simply have no home. (3 hours/year)  
**Contact: Claire Asarnow, 973-762-3780, casarnow1@aol.com**

**Caring Committee** regularly extends a helping hand to members who need a friendly visit, a get-well card or a drive to services. (1 hour/month)  
**Contact: Dan Segal, 973-761-8826, daniel\_segal@yahoo.com**

**Interfaith Food Pantry** provides bags of groceries and vegetables (from the Beth El Garden, when in season) to 80 needy guests in Orange once monthly on Wednesdays. (2 hours/year).  
**Contact: Diane Stein, 973-376-3136, dianehstein@aol.com**

**Blood Drive** is conducted once yearly so that members and neighbors can give the “gift of life.” Last year, we had 38 people come to donate! The beds and phlebotomists in our front hall were constantly busy. Almost any adult can organize this, or donate. (8 hours/year to organize).  
**Contact: Rich Kuperman, 973-762-2896, mashuggana@yahoo.com**

**Community Soup Kitchen** is staffed by Beth El every 6 to 8 weeks on Sundays. Depending on the time of month, 50 to 75 hungry guests come to an East Orange church for a hot meal and friendly faces. For some guests it is the only large, hot

meal they will get all week. Everything is accomplished between 11:00am and 1:00pm. (2 hours/yr)  
**Contact: Leah Kuperman, 973-762-2896, ferenkup@gmail.com**

**Beth El Garden** is less than one year old, and already more people have volunteered and worked in it than in any other project above! Bushels of produce have been distributed to our Kitchen Cabinet, Interfaith Hospitality Network and Community Soup Kitchen—and progress will be made for many more years. Volunteers are needed to plan, water, harvest and promote. (2 hours/year) **Contact: Sherri Morris, 973-763-0111, smorris@bethelnj.org**

**Chevra Kadisha** volunteers honor the dead and comfort mourners. They can sit and read sacred texts from death until burial, cleanse and dress the body for burial, or help a bereaving family. One hour or one day can help a grieving Beth El family in a special way. (4 hrs/year)  
**Contact: David Beyth, 973-327-4959, iowa1977@aol.com**

**Kitchen Cabinet** convenes regularly in the Beth El kitchen to prepare foods for Shabbat Kiddush and other events. Kosher foods are purchased and prepared, and vegetables are harvested from the Beth El Garden. (2 hrs/month).  
**Contact: Joy Markel, 973-763-3267, joy@joymarkel.com**

**Flower Mitzvah Project** volunteers repurpose Shabbat flowers from the bima and arrange them into bouquets for delivery to the home of someone who is mourning, ill or celebrating a simcha. (2 hours/month)  
**Contact: Debbie Rubin, 973-762-1121, debra\_rubin@mcgraw-hill.com**

**Sunday, April 14, 4:00pm**

## **So. Orange-Maplewood Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service**

The featured speaker at the 36th annual event is Larry Pantirer, son of survivor Murray Pantirer, who at 19, was sent to work at a Krakow munitions factory owned by Oskar Schindler. Pantirer will recount his father's story. Held at Seton Hall University Jubilee Hall, 400 South Orange Avenue. The annual March of Remembrance, from Grove Park to the university, begins at 3:15pm.

# YOUTH ACTIVITIES



## South Orange USY

For more information and to join in on the fun next year, contact USY Advisor Linda Ripps at [sousy@gmail.com](mailto:sousy@gmail.com) or Kadima Advisor Zoe Pinter, [southorangekadima@gmail.com](mailto:southorangekadima@gmail.com)!

### Join us for these upcoming events:

**Saturday, March 2** – Hagalil Regional Junior/Senior Prom (Regional event) Beth Ahm, Aberdeen; fundraising for Tikkun Olam Fund

**Friday-Saturday, April 13-14** – Hagalil Regional Dance Marathon, Temple Sholom Bridgewater;

**Friday-Sunday, April 26-28** – Hagalil Regional Spring Convention at a hotel in Somerset

To get on our email list and to join our great chapter, contact USY Advisor **Linda Ripps** at [sousy@gmail.com](mailto:sousy@gmail.com)

## BE PART OF WHAT'S GOING ON NEXT YEAR AT SOUTH ORANGE KADIMA!

South Orange Kadima invites all 6th-8th graders to hang out with us! Meetings are held once a month. Members can also participate in great Northern New Jersey Region events.

**Kadima Spring Weekend** at hotel in Somerset – Friday-Sunday, March 15-17

**Grade 8 Shabbaton weekend**, Beth Shalom, Livingston – Friday-Sunday, April 5-7

Details for upcoming meetings and events will appear in the weekly e-blasts.

Contact advisor **Zoe Pinter**, [southorangekadima@gmail.com](mailto:southorangekadima@gmail.com), for more information and to join up!

## Beth El's Teen Scene: 5773

We will start each session with dinner and then delve into the engaging curriculum listed below.

### Here's what's on tap for our next three sessions:

**March 13: You be the Judge** – You need no legal training to grapple with real cases brought before the Beit Din, the court system of Jewish Law.

**April 24: The Jewish Lens – Image a moment frozen in time.** Photography will be the entry point into our learning as you share your voice about issues.

### May 4: The Midnight Run (Parents Welcome!)

Come join us as we feed the homeless in New York City

Only \$25 per teen per session!

Sign up for our last three sessions! Join your friends in these great Beth El Teen events!

Please RSVP to [smorris@bethelnj.org](mailto:smorris@bethelnj.org) and send the form along with a check payable to "Congregation Beth El" with "Beth El Teen Scene: 5773" in memo line to Sherri Morris.



## HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

### Camp Ramah in the Berkshires!

### Join us on Shabbat weekend, March 8-9 to celebrate!

Did you ever attend Camp Ramah in the Berkshires, or know someone who did?

We know there are a lot of **Ramah-nicks** in our Beth El family and we hope to see you at this event.

Enjoy a Camp Ramah-style Shabbat in the 'Hood on **Friday, March 8** at the home of **Atara Jacobson and Scott Bieber**. On **Saturday, March 9**, we'll hear some great stories from current campers!

*Enjoy a special treat at Kiddush and come reminisce.*

For more information, contact **Eda Chodrow**, [echodrow@verizon.net](mailto:echodrow@verizon.net) or **973-762-6997**.

**And to check out more on the Camp Ramah year of celebration, including the June 9 Festival@50 event at the camp site, go to: <http://www.ramahberkshires.org/50anniversary>**

## Mazel Tov to Our B'nai Mitzvah



Hi! My name is **Sarah Panzer**. I am in the seventh grade at South Orange Middle School, and my bat mitzvah is April 13. My Parashat is Tazria-Metzora, which is about four outcasts saving their camp by finding food and water in an abandoned Aramean camp. In my free time, I enjoy playing the clarinet, writing, coming up with

new hairstyles, spending time with friends, listening to music and walking with my dogs. For my mitzvah project, I am working with The Trevor Project, which is an organization/hotline that works with suicide prevention among teenagers. This is an important issue to me because everyone deserves respect and support. I would like to thank my tutor Leah Hammerman and Rabbi Roston for preparing me for this special day. I would also like to thank my parents, Charles Panzer and Claudia Trupp, and my family and friends for being so supportive of me throughout the process.



Hi. My name is **Sammy Freedson**, and I will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on May 4. My Torah portion is Behar Bechukotai. I am currently a seventh grader at South Orange Middle School. I play on the local soccer and baseball teams in South Orange and in my spare time I enjoy reading, playing and watching

sports, and hanging out with friends and family. When I was two years old, I lived in Guatemala with my parents. For my mitzvah project, I am going to raise money to support organizations that provide better opportunities for Guatemalan children and adults living in poverty. I'd like to thank my tutor Howard Cooper and Rabbi Roston for helping me learn and understand my Torah portion. I would also like to thank my parents Peggy Freedson and Steven Beal and my sister Ava for all the help and support they have given me through my studies and preparation for my Bar Mitzvah.



Shalom, my name is **Carly Paternite**. I am a seventh grader at Golda Och Academy. Some activities I enjoy are ice skating, Irish step dancing, and basketball. I have been skating with the Synchronettes synchronized skating team at South Mountain Arena for the past five years. I will be called to the Torah on April 27. My Parshat is Emor. My haftarah talks about impurities and sacrifice. My mitzvah project is working with the Special Olympics and their Special Skater program. Every week I help kids and young adults with disabilities learn to ice skate. I would like to thank my tutor Leah Hammerman, Rabbi Roston, and Howard Cooper for helping me with my studies. I would also like to thank my parents Amy and Ryan Paternite, and my sister Sofie for helping me to achieve this milestone in my life! Shabbat Shalom!



### Don't Miss Ira Levin!

Leader of our Musical Mini-Minyan – Saturday mornings at 11:00am

### Ira is taking Beth El by storm! Come early! He draws a crowd!

Ira is a singing storyteller and song leader who has performed and recorded in many venues, and worked and celebrated with Jewish communities from Miami to the San Francisco Bay area. Ira and his wife Julia also tour as a harmony-driven acoustic folk rock group called The Levins. A theater major, Ira has appeared on PBS as his alter-persona, Uncle Eye, and on the nationally syndicated children's show Jaker's! Piggley's Storyteller's Playhouse.

*Kids and Parents – Join us for an upbeat service, with some surprises!*



### You Can Now Send Your Own Tree of Life Tribute Cards

Send for Simchas or to Honor the Memory of a Loved One

Take home a 10-pack (or buy multiples) of our new Tree of Life tribute cards for all occasions and send your personal message to special friends and family. Stop into the office to buy them or contact the office at 973-763-0111. The 10-pack can be purchased for a discounted price of \$72. These donations will not be noted in the bulletin.

You can still have the office inscribe and mail these beautiful cards, and designate contributions to our funds that are listed in the bulletin, by clicking on the website link or calling the office.

# WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



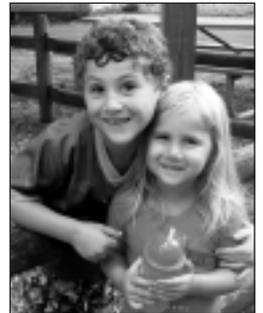
## **Lisa Cohen and John Urist**

Beth El welcomes Lisa Cohen and Josh Urist and their two children to our Congregation. The family lives in Maplewood. Lisa is an interactive designer at Bloomberg News, specializing in digital signage, and Josh is an attorney at a New York City law firm specializing in commercial litigation. Their son Zachary is in kindergarten at the Tuscan School and their daughter Evelyn is in the 3rd grade also at Tuscan. Both also are in our Jewish Learning Center. The family enjoys many activities together, including listening to music, skiing, swimming, tennis, travel, and boogie boarding. They joined Beth El because it feels like the right place to maintain their connection with Jewish traditions.



## **Aliza and Todd Sherman**

We are also pleased to have Aliza and Todd and their family of South Orange as new members. Aliza, who grew up in Wyckoff, N.J., is a tax attorney at the law firm, McCarter & English. She also is a Hadassah Life member and has transferred into the Aviva chapter here. Todd, from Westchester County, works for Surface Solutions, a specialty chemicals firm in the flooring industry, in Millburn. Their son, Zachary, is seven and in first grade at Golda Och Academy. His sister, Ayla, turns four on April 26. The family found Beth El through their friends from Camp Ramah,



our congregants Marcy Felsenfeld and Stacy Greenblatt. Aliza feels very welcome at Beth El since the family joined during the High Holy Days and enjoyed the Purim celebration and volunteering to deliver Mishloach Manot bags.



## **Rachel and Leeor Zorel**

Also say hello to the Zorel family of South Orange. Rachel, from New City, N.Y., is a graphic designer with her own firm, Zorel Designs, that specializes in corporate branding. Leeor, originally from Scarsdale, N.Y., is a project manager for Alexander Wolf & Sons, a New York City interior renovation firm. They are the parents of Shaya, who is five and will attend Gold Och Academy next fall. Her sister, Ami is three, and their younger brother, Matai, is one. The family joined Beth El through friends and has been having a blast attending Shabbat programs with Ira Levin. Rachel says it's very welcoming to see so many young families who attend the synagogue events.

Welcome also to the **Schahar family** of Maplewood. Taissa is from Hillsboro, N.J. and previously worked in the technology field. She moved to Israel when she was 18. Yaniv is a software engineer in New York City, who is originally from Petach Tikva, Israel. Taissa says she likes to bake, while Yaniv has talents in carpentry and playing guitar. Also part of the family are Idan, who is eight and in third grade at Seth Boyden school and in our JLC. She also attends the Montclair University gifted program. Her brother, Refael, turns six on April 30 and is in kindergarten at the same school. He's also a graduate of our Preschool and a "Lego and Star Wars fiend," says his mother. The family joined the synagogue because they enjoyed the atmosphere, says Taissa. They were particularly impressed seeing Rabbi Roston dancing on the bima.

## **Passover Grocery Shopping? A Perfect Time to Use Scrip!**

Did you know that you can pay down your dues by purchasing scrip gift cards? Contact or stop by the office Use at local supermarkets including Kings, ShopRite, Pathmark, Eden Gourmet and Maple Kosher. This is an easy way to support Beth El.

## BETH EL'S ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP CAMPAIGN NEEDS YOU!

Beth El's Annual Partnership Campaign successfully raised more than \$116,000 as we push to keep the synagogue on a strong financial footing. Thanks to all who responded to the appeal, particularly those who increased their pledges in 2013. Your generous commitment to Beth El is important and very much appreciated!

See below the names of our 2013 Partnership supporters.

You can still participate. Please make your donation at [www.bethelnj.org](http://www.bethelnj.org) (click on Access Your Account, top right). or call the office at 973-763-0111 with your credit card information to charge it.

Thank you for all you do to keep Beth El strong for our community now—and in the future!

**Mike Schloff**

VP Fundraising

### The following donors have made their pledges to Beth El's Annual Partnership Campaign as of February 15, 2013.

Robert & Cindy Aden	Bill & Erika Gold	Michael Och
Gabriel & Erica Anthony	Ken Gold & Marcy Felsenfeld	James Pomeranz & Jason Kent
David & Joani Ascher	Michael & Hope Goldberg	Josh & Debi Rednick
Howard August	Stephen & Rona Goldfarb	Alan & Laura Roth
Libby Bellin	Philip & Carol Goldsmith	Dennis & Gail Roth
Scott Bieber & Atara Jacobson	Deborah Goldstein &	David & Debbie Rubin
Jeremy & Amy Biloon	Gabriella DiMaggio	Marc Schiffman & Rachel Schwarz
Mark Brownstein & Johanna Ginsberg	Neil & Joyce Goldstein	Michael Schloff & Elizabeth Hochberg
Harvey & Joan Bucholtz	James Grayer & Sheryl Parker	James & Sharon Schwarz
Matthew & Stephanie Carmel	Douglas & Paula Green	Dan Segal & Susan Kitzen
Norman & Annelyse Chaleff	Marty & Sheryl Hoffman	David & Ellen Solomon
Mark & Eda Chodrow	Marilynn Jacobs	Joel Sperber
Dan & Alisa Cohen	Robert Juman & Julie Hack	Ed & Diane Stein
Harold & Nomi Colton-Max	Daniel & Elaine Katz	Matthew & Adena Traub
Charles & Ada Beth Cutler	Rich & Leah Kuperman	Steve & June Volk
Harvey Dudowsky & Kayla Dove	Francine Levine	Chris Walker & Llyn Bank
Andrew Fair & Ellen Weisbord	Tracey & Fred Levine	Steven Weber & Leah Gendler
Michael Finesilver	Barry Levinson & Donna Ritter	William & Florence Weisz
Gary & Amy Forman	Michael & Jackie Levinson	David Wilensky
Stuart & Jodi Fox	Ronald Meier & Joyce Raynor	Jon & Sherry Woocher
Jim & Marsha Gardner	Gabriel & Jill Mendelberg	Alan & Rita Yohalem
Stuart & Louise Gantman	Gabriel & Samantha Migdal	
Stephen & Karen Gevitz	Josh & Stacey Nadell	
Maury Ginsberg & Angela McKinney	Aaron & Claire Neirenberg	

# BETH EL FAMILY NEWS

*The Beth El family wants to respond to your life cycle milestones, both happy and sad, with expressions of mazel tov, refuah shlayma or condolence. Please alert the office of these events at [info@bethelnj.org](mailto:info@bethelnj.org) or 973-763-0111, and please send a synagogue tribute to acknowledge these occasions of fellow congregants. It is greatly appreciated!*

## *Happy March Birthdays!*

- 1 Daniel Feinberg, Ian Torella
- 2 Rachel Katoni
- 3 Ethan Chaleff, Jesse Nelson
- 4 Lowell Jacobs, Leif Knutsen
- 5 Jami Kurschner, Ira Niedweske, Joanna Rybnick
- 6 Jonah Kurschner, Aaron Nierenberg
- 7 Isabelle Cohen, Jessica Cohen, Sofie Paternite, Debra Rednik, Susan Schachter
- 8 Mitchell Reiman, Lynn Reyman, Sara Sharvit
- 9 Dave Adox, Evan Greenblatt, Lucy Mann, Shay Weiser-Schlesinger
- 10 Lily Brody-Kaplan
- 11 Danielle Phillips, Kim Rosen, Amir Weiss, Brian Zeller
- 12 Micheale Taylor
- 13 Esther Cohen, Max DePaul
- 14 Helen Cox, Anita Freedson-Jackson, James Freedson-Jackson
- 15 Rita Blotner, Treasure Cohen, Andrew Fishman, Stephen Hanselman, Susan Mattisinko
- 16 Joshua Rednik
- 17 Jeremy Dobrish, Sophia Gottlieb
- 18 Alisa Aronson, Sabina Bank-Walker, Ken Feinleib, Abigail Pines, Ellie Pines
- 19 Nomi Colton-Max, Isaac Weber
- 20 Michael Gardner, Jonathan Zeller
- 21 Sarah Rosen, Noah Stevens
- 22 Mark Chodrow
- 23 Karen Reckson, Eliana Taylor-Prince
- 24 Debbie Bail, Jack Reckson Torella
- 26 Beth Dranoff, Rachel Kaufman, Deborah L. Schatz, Matthew Schiffic
- 27 Dorrان Goldberg, Peter Kober, Charles Segal
- 28 Elliot Fischer, Dan Raviv, Sarah Warsetsky
- 29 Matthew Adelson, Aviva Gutnick, Morris Spielberg
- 30 Jonathan Eisenstein, Bella Manoim, Tamar Shapiro, Gerry Singer
- 31 Brenda Deener, Dennis Roth, Maya Taylor-Prince

## *Happy March Anniversaries!*

- 1 Gabriella Di Maggio & Deborah Goldstein
- 23 Matthew & Stephanie Carmel
- 29 Felix & Lisa Buber, Leslie & Joan Satz

## *Happy April Birthdays!*

- 1 Beverly Bien
- 2 Laura Roth, James Schwarz
- 3 Bethany Joseph, David Kalodner, Susan Lieberman, Rebecca Rakib, Alice Solomon, Isabella Szyfer
- 4 Alex Dranove
- 5 David Binder, Elaine Katz, Dania Rothenberg, Zachary Schatz, Abigail Schwartz, Raya Stevens
- 7 Jocelyn Fine, Shira Gorelick, Andrew Moskowitz, Joshua Nadell
- 8 Johanna Ginsberg, Matthew Lieberman, Ameilia Perlstien
- 9 Toby Kaufman, Debbie Rubin
- 10 Richard Cohen, Sam Glicker
- 11 Ben Davidman, Emily Katoni, Noah Lebovitz, Ann Schaffer, Jaclyn Tamaroff
- 12 Wendy Charlap Ben-Adi, Dan Cohen, Danielle Mann, Zachary Siegel
- 13 Maya Ferrandiz, Philip Goldsmith, Jake Rothenberg
- 15 Jodi Fox, Sam Mendelberg, Simeon Migdal
- 16 David Campeas, Jessica Moskowitz
- 17 Daniel Segal
- 18 Irene Langlois, Hanan Shandler
- 19 Ari Morris
- 20 Sam Forman, Linda Jacobs-Kalodner, Isadora Kianovsky
- 21 Steven Aden, Sheri Weinstein
- 22 Christine Rakib, Rachel Schwarz
- 23 Lance Emmons, Naomi Gervitz
- 24 Robert DeLeon, Nathaniel Gold, Miriam Morris
- 26 Ayla Sherman
- 27 Marc Heimowitz
- 29 Heather Zeller
- 30 Refael Schahar

## *Happy April Anniversaries!*

- 1 Lance & Caryn Emmons
- 2 Lawrence & Abby Nagel
- 3 Amy Wagner Biloan & Jeremy Biloan
- 4 Stuart & Jodi Fox
- 5 Samantha Kaminsky & Jan Kaminsky
- 14 Michael Harnett & Roz Diamond
- 25 Stephen & Rona Goldfarb
- 26 Brian & Romy Nesin
- 29 Susan & William Adelson
- 30 Sandy Edelman & Danielle Phillips

## *Mazel Tov* to:

**Sarah Panzer** on her bat mitzvah on April 13 and to her parents, Charles Panzer and Claudia Trupp, and family.

**Carly Paternite** on her bat mitzvah on April 27 and to her parents, Amy and Ryan Paternite, and family

**Sammy Freedson** on his bar mitzvah on May 4, and to his parents, Peggy Freedson and Stephen Beal and family.

**Sheryl Hoffman** on her new job as Director of Marketing and Communications for National Hadassah

**Joy and Jeffrey Markel** on the birth of their grandchild

**Ada Beth and Chuck Cutler** on the birth of their grandchild

**Abbott Brown** and members of the Bendit Weinstock law firm who raised \$3,000 for the Interfaith Food Pantry from trial lawyers in New Jersey.

### **Wishing a complete healing *Refuah Sheleimah* to:**

Leni Knutsen, Lester Lieberman, Iris Levitt, Rabbi Jehiel Orenstein, Scott Srager (brother of Sherri Morris), and Margot Wildman

## **Condolences to:**

The family of our former congregant **Elana Schipper** on her loss on December 31, 2012

**Gladys Jacobs and family** on the loss of her brother, Marvin, on January 7.

**Ellen Kahaner and Jeremy & Sylvia Osner** on the death of Ellen's mother, Beverly Kahaner in January.

**Marty and Sheryl Hoffman and family** on the loss of Marty's mother, Edith, on January 15.

**Meryl, Jake, Kasey, and Francine Levine and family**, on the loss of Steve Levine, Meryl's husband; Jake and Kasey's father and Francine's brother, on January 19.

The family of our congregant **Marcy Shapiro** on her loss on January 20 at age 96.

**Adam Friedland and Sheri Weinstein and family** on the loss of Adam's father Jerry Friedland in January.

**CORRECTION:** In the January-February 2013 Bulletin, the name of Cindy Chazan's father, who died in December, was incorrect. He is Aaron Chazan. We apologize to the Chazan-Leipzig family.

## ☆ **Congregants In Memoriam** ☆

### **Elana Schipper, 84, December 31, 2012**

Beth El also remembers our beloved and generous congregant Elana Schipper, who died on December 31, 2012. Elana, who lived in Maplewood, Madison and Whippany, had been a congregant since joining in 1960 with her late husband Norman. She was a member of Sisterhood and a past president and board member of the Maplewood-Newark chapter of Hadassah, and past cochair of Youth Aliyah, who received Hadassah's national leadership award in 2007. After her grandson Daniel was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma, from which he died at age 18, Elana took on what the New Jersey Jewish News called a "gospel of laughter," entertaining at senior centers and children's hospitals as a "mitzvah" clown.

See this link to read Johanna Ginsberg's 2006 NJJN article on Elana Schipper:

<http://www.njjewishnews.com/njjn.com/112306/mwSit-DownComic.html>

### **Marvin Jacobs, 88, January 7**

Beth El remembers with fondness our generous congregant Marvin Jacobs, who died on January 7. Marvin, originally from the Bronx, had lived in South Orange with his sister, Gladys, since 1970. They were members of Beth El since 1986. Marvin was a financial analyst for Crum and Forster Insurance Co. for over 25 years, as well as an associate member of Hadassah and a supporting member of the Free Sons of Israel, Hillel Lodge No. 36.

### **Steve Levine, 64, January 19**

Beth El mourns the loss of our beloved congregant Steve Levine, who died suddenly at home in South Orange. He was 64. Steve retired from Aon Corp. in Manhattan in 2008 as a senior vice president after 15 years with the company and was a member of Beth El, with his wife Meryl, since 1994. His sister, Francine, also is a Beth El congregant. Steve was an avid sports fan and memorabilia collector and a golf enthusiast.

### **Marcy Shapiro, 96, January 20**

Beth El mourns the loss of our beloved and generous congregant Marcy Shapiro at age 96. She lived in South Orange since 1950 and belonged to Beth El for 60 years. Marcy was on the mathematics faculty at Rutgers University for 25 years, teaching calculus, analytic geometry, linear algebra and differential equations. She held advanced degrees from Columbia University, was fluent in Hebrew, an accomplished pianist, a master bridge player and Spanish linguist. Marcy also was a past president of South Orange Hadassah and a regional vice president. She is survived by two children, a sister, 10 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

**May their memories serve as a blessing.**

**THE CONGREGATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES  
THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTIONS. THANK YOU FOR CARING.**

**DOUBLE CHAI FUND**

***In Memory Of***

Aaron Chazan from Joshua and Debra Rednik  
Jerry Friedland from Rebecca Zlotnick  
Edith Hoffman from Michael Och  
Steve Levine from David and Joani Ascher, Michael Och  
Jordan Lieberman from Lester Lieberman  
Golda Och from Michael Och  
Ruth Roth from Michael Och, Stephanie and Matt Carmel and family  
Michael Spielberg from Shelley and Morris Spielberg  
Samuel Spielberg from Shelley and Morris Spielberg  
Alan Zimmer from Harriet Zimmer-Parker  
Israel Zlotnick from Rebecca Zlotnick

**CHAI FUND**

***In Memory Of***

Benjamin Aden from Robert Aden  
David Bellin from Libby Bellin  
Minnie Diamond from Roslyn Diamond  
Kent Fendler from Alan Fendler  
Arnold Graff from Sharon and Steve Seiden  
Steven Greenblatt from Mitch and Susan Lieberman  
Edith Hoffman from Cindy and Rob Aden, Stephanie and Matt Carmel, Joan and Ron Fisch, Eva Samo, Eileen Hoskin and Craig Hirschberg, Sharon and Steve Seiden, Sheryl Parker and James Grayer  
William Landau from Linda Solondz  
Steve Levine from Cindy and Rob Aden, Eileen Hoskin and Craig Hirschberg, Dave, Debbie and Michael Rubin  
Lena Rich from Frances Kaplan  
Frances Rosenthal from Susan Rosenthal-Jay  
Ruth Roth from Sheryl Parker and James Grayer  
Ruth Woocher from Jonathan Woocher

***In Honor Of***

The Bikales Family, for Esme's bat mitzvah, from Claire and Arnie Nierenberg  
Ada Beth and Charles Cutler, on the birth of your grandchild, from Sheryl Parker and James Grayer  
Eli Gombert – Mazel Tov on your bar mitzvah, from Tania Horn  
Joy and Jeffrey Markel, on the birth of your grandchild, from Sheryl Parker and James Grayer  
Sherry and Jonathan Woocher on the engagement of your son Ben to Leah Zilbergeld, from Sharon and Steve Seiden

**TRIBUTE FUND**

***In Memory Of***

Lena Black from Ron and Natalie Tambor  
Renie Carniol's mother from Sharon and Steve Seiden

Aaron Chazan from Nomi and Harold Colton-Max, Claire and Arnie Nierenberg  
Ida M. Cohen from Richard and Treasure Cohen  
Gordon Diamond from Roslyn Diamond  
Minnie Diamond from Roslyn Diamond  
Joel Dranove from Carol Dranove  
Jerry Friedland from Sarah Lester and Chris Schabacker  
Shirley Guttentag from Florence Welt  
Edith Hoffman from Joanne and Gary Burns, Treasure and Richard Cohen, Dave, Debbie and Michael Rubin, Marilyn Jacobs  
Melvyn Josephs, from David and Joani Ascher, Richard and Treasure Cohen, Nomi and Harold Colton-Max  
Abraham I. Levine from Richard and Treasure Cohen  
Steve Levine from Carol and Arthur Amster, Richard and Treasure Cohen  
Nina Lutrin from Barbara Steinberg  
Sadie Revitz from Barbara Steinberg  
Sydney Revitz from Barbara Steinberg  
Ruth Roth from Rob and Cindy Aden, David and Joani Ascher, Richard and Treasure Cohen, the Colton-Max Family, Douglas and Paula Green, Debbie and David Rubin, Ellen Tamaroff and Peter Leepson  
Marcy Shapiro from Michael A. Block, Richard and Treasure Cohen  
Elana Schipper from Sharon and Steve Seiden  
Milton Tritsch from Bruce Tritsch and Marjorie Weinstein

***In Honor Of***

Joan and Harvey Bucholtz from Beth El Boomers and Beyond chairs, for your gracious hospitality at our opening event  
Eli Gombert's bar mitzvah from Arnold and Claire Nierenberg  
Bill and Erika Gold, for their Hurricane Sandy hospitality, from Laura and Alan Roth  
(Editor's note: this tribute was inadvertently omitted from the January-February bulletin. Our apologies to the Roths.)  
Mitch Greenberg from Beth El Boomers and Beyond chairs, for your wonderful dramatic readings at our opening event  
Sheryl Parker and James Grayer on the bar mitzvah of your son Theo from Sharon and Steve Seiden  
Steve and Alicia Zucker Thanks for your help this year and always! from the Shapiro Family  
Stephen and Sharon Seiden on the birth of their new granddaughter Eliana Hallie from Jackie and Michael Levinson

**ANN DEENER FUND FOR  
CAMP RAMAH**

***In Honor Of***

Beatrice Bucholtz from Harvey Bucholtz  
Morris Bucholtz from Harvey Bucholtz  
Eytan Gold's beloved mother Esther from Joan and Harvey Bucholtz

Melvyn Josephs from Joan and Harvey Bucholtz  
Rae Kaplan from Harvey Bucholtz  
Rita Lieber from Joan Bucholtz  
Joy and Jeffrey Markel for their nephew Eli's bar mitzvah from Francine Levine  
Ruth Roth from Francine Levine, Joan and Harvey Bucholtz  
Selma Schwaid from Joan Bucholtz  
Louis Zuckerberg from Harvey Bucholtz

***In Honor Of***

Gabriel and Erica Anthony on the bar mitzvah of your son Theo, from Joan and Harvey Bucholtz  
The Gomberg Family for Eli's bar mitzvah, from Francine Levine  
Bob Granovsky in honor of your recent milestone birthday, from Joan and Harvey Bucholtz  
Francine Levine on your milestone birthday, from Joan and Harvey Bucholtz  
Joy and Jeffrey Markel for their nephew Eli's bar mitzvah, from Francine Levine  
Sheryl Parker and James Grayer on the bar mitzvah of your son Theo, from Joan and Harvey Bucholtz  
Steve and Sharon Seiden, Mazel Tov on the birth of your new granddaughter, from Joan and Harvey

**DOROTHY AMDURER FUND FOR THE HOMELESS**

***In Memory Of***

Edith Hoffman from Stuart and Anita Skolnick  
Steve Levine from Dennis and Gail Roth  
Ruth Roth from Stuart and Anita Skolnick

***In Honor Of***

Esme Bikales' bat mitzvah from Dennis and Gail Roth  
Joy and Jeffrey Markel for the birth of their grandchild, from Dennis and Gail Roth  
Sheryl Parker's birthday from Karen Gevirtz

**ELAYNE BURRIS PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

***In Memory Of***

Edith Hoffman from Sharon and Jimmy Schwartz

***In Honor Of***

Esme Bikales from Sharon and Jimmy Schwarz  
Treasure and Richard Cohen for Jessica's marriage, from Ellen Tamaroff and Peter Leepson  
Louise and Stuart Gantman on the birth of their grandson Eli, from Ronnie and Jeff Weinstein

**JEWISH LEARNING CENTER JLC FUND**

***In Memory Of***

Jerry Friedland from Irene Haberkorn,  
Judy and Steve Weinstein, Rebecca Zlotnick and Nick Hawryluk  
Edith Hoffman from Stacey and Josh Nadell  
Sylvia Levine from Judy and Steve Weinstein  
Dora and Samuel Levine from Judy and Steve Weinstein  
Daniel Rosenthal from Judy and Steve Weinstein  
Ruth Roth from Stacey and Josh Nadell

**L'DOR V'DOR FUND**

***In Honor Of***

The Roston Family for Abigail's bat mitzvah, from Florence Welt

***In Memory Of***

Sidney Gilbert from George Gilbert  
Steve Levine from Ellen Tamaroff and Peter Leepson  
Anne Meisler from George Gilbert

**SAMUEL RINGEL YOUTH ENRICHMENT FUND**

***In Honor Of***

Sheryl Parker and James Grayer on Theo becoming a bar mitzvah from Josh and Stacey Nadell

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