



# The Beth Israel Bulletin

A Publication of Beth Israel Synagogue

June 2018 ~ Sivan/Tammuz 5778



## Rabbi Ari Dembitzer, *Rabbi*

Summer in Hebrew is “kayitz,” which also means “the end.” This is the time for people to reflect upon their year of growth. Some take vacations, while others take it a little easier, kicking back at home. At the end of our year, we look back at ways we can be better and ways that we are proud of ourselves. I believe our shul is incredibly holy, as I have seen many people break down barriers to become more connected to who they really are. We also commemorate the destruction of our temples in these next few weeks. In our world, we sometimes have to destroy in order to rebuild a stronger future. Although we are proud of our accomplishments, may we never be complacent and continue working hard towards improving ourselves, our shul, our community, and our world.

Blessings for a great summer,  
A Proud Rabbi  
Rabbi Ari

## Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich, *Visiting Scholar*

One of the first Jewish start-ups is the Torah portion we are reading every week. According to the Talmud, it was Moses’ idea, as he wanted to make sure that we would never have a long time without Torah learning. This way, we always have something to learn and have content to discuss and add to our life.

The Torah portion is only one example of this start-up, of which we should definitely take advantage. We can use the weekly Torah reading as a source of inspiration to our weekly routine. We can read the Parasha, search for insights and classes online, and use any other way to make the best out of it. We can also look for our own “Torah portion,” and find it by routinely learning from the Jewish holy literature. It can be by ourselves, in a class, with a friend, or online. The options are endless and accessible to everyone.

Let’s add content to our life and use the Torah and the endless Jewish wisdom it provides to uplift our life.

Rabbi Shlomo



Have you “liked” Beth Israel Synagogue Omaha on Facebook? There are numerous opportunities to watch classes live, keep up-to-date on the latest Beth Israel happenings, get links to many items of interest, and add a smile to your day.

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Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich  
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***The next Board of  
Commissioners  
meeting will be held  
Wednesday, June 20,  
beginning at 6:30 p.m.***

#### **Welcome, Ms. Esti!**

Mazel Tov to Laura and Rabbi Ari and big sister, Rina, on the birth of Esther "Esti" Bluma. Esti arrived Thursday, May 17, at 3:30 a.m. Esti's grandparents are Sharon Kliabanow and Tzvia & David Dembitzer.



**Laura, Rabbi Ari, and their parents cordially  
invite you to join them Shabbat, June 9,  
celebrating Esti's arrival.**



#### ***A warm "thank you" to Beth Israel's wonderful supporters***

...to those who taught classes for the Shavuot Night of Learning: Joel Alperson, Matti Monheit, Zisi Monheit, Dr. Howard Gendelman, Aviva Segall, Faige Jeidel, Yoni HersHKovitz, Yosef Seigel, and of course Rabbi Ari and Rabbi Shlomo.

...to Harry Weiner and Max Weiner for fixing the Ner Tamid.

...to the sponsors for the May Simcha/Graduation Kiddush. *Anniversaries* - Stacey and Jonathan Rockman; Jeff and Sharon Kirshenbaum; Andrew and Bracha Goldsweig; Lynne and Errol Saltzman; Beth and Chad Rothbart by Paul and Susie Shyken; Michael and Melissa Shrago by Jack and Helene Shrago.

*Birthdays* - Ella Seigel by Yosef and Sarah Abrahamson; Eva Cohen by Michael and Karen Cohen; Oliver Rockman by Stacey and Jonathan Rockman; Lauren Kirshenbaum by Jeff and Sharon Kirshenbaum; Liat Shyken by Paul and Susie Shyken; Melissa Shrago by Jack and Helene Shrago; Julee Katzman; Dr. Evan Varkony; Harry Berman; Janet and Anna Kohll; Nate Joseph by Ed and Anne Joseph; Irving Epstein; Adam Kohll by Alan and Bridgett Kohll; Rina Dembitzer by Rabbi Ari and Laura Dembitzer. *Graduations* - Aviva Atri by Adina Schuller; Kevin Adler by David and Patti Adler; Ethan Shrago by Jack and Helene Shrago; Joshua Kurtzman by Jordana Kurtzman.

...to Lynne Saltzman for sponsoring the Shabbos/Yom Tov sheet on the second day of Shavuot for the yahrzeit of her father, Martin Weber.

...to everyone who helped make the Lag Ba'Omer event such a great success! Dani Shrago and Helene Shrago for shopping, Harry Weiner for setting up the bonfire, though we weren't able to enjoy it, Harry and Max Weiner for handling the barbecue duties, Aaron Kurtzman for working as the popcorn man, those who helped in the kitchen and with clean-up, Yaakov and Faige Jeidel for their creativity with activities plus Yaakov for sharing his vacuuming skills, Rabbi Shlomo for the great trivia game and shopping for the giant kids games, and Rabbi Ari for the super learning session.

...to Shana Miles and Assaf Barnoy for sponsoring Seudah Shlishit on May 6.

...to Brigitte & Alan Kohll for sponsoring kiddush lunch in honor of the 1st birthdays of Adam Kohll and Rina Dembitzer.

...to Susan Katzman for sponsoring Shabbos Sheets throughout the year.



...to Jordana Kurtzman for being honored as Beth Israel's Volunteer of the Year.

...to Stacey Rockman for being honored as a recipient of the 2018 Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award for her significant impact in both our local Jewish community and Israel.

...to Eric Dunning on his selection as Volunteer of the Year for

the Jewish Press.

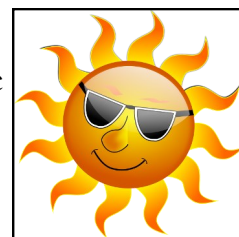


## TO JOIN THE FUN AT THE BETH ISRAEL SUMMER BBQ!

Sunday, June 24, 5 p.m.

Burgers, hot dogs, sides, desserts,  
beverages. Vegetarian option also available.  
Cost: \$14 for adults, \$7 for children 3-12,  
free for children 3 and younger.

This event is free of charge for those who are new Beth Israel members since August 1, 2017. Please make reservations by Tuesday, June 19. Register on-line or call the office at 402-556-6288.



PLUS! Weather permitting, a bonfire will follow dinner.



The May Simcha Kiddush was made extra special due to the decorating talents of Anna Priluck and Isaac Kurtzman. Many thanks to Anna, Isaac, and the other volunteers who work hard each week to make each kiddush enjoyable and delicious.

Don't miss your chance to be a part of the June

Simcha kiddush on June 16. Celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion while supporting Beth Israel. The cost is \$25. Please call the office to be included.

### Thank You for Your Support and Prayers

*Thank you to each and every one of you for offering your support and prayers. The daily tehillim, meal contributions, and visits mean so much to myself and my family. Our Omaha Jewish community is a blessing, and I feel so fortunate to have you all in my corner. I am so grateful for your constant and powerful prayers.*

*Love, Dani Shrago*

### Rabbi Shlomo & Rabbi Ari Summer Schedule

Rabbi Shlomo and family will be in Israel June 10 - July 5. Rabbi Ari and family depart for Camp Simcha July 10 and return to Omaha in mid-August.



### BRCA Testing Saves Lives

Women and men with a *BRCA* gene mutation have a greater risk of developing several types of cancer. Most of those at risk do not know that they carry a *BRCA* mutation.

Genetic testing provides knowledge that can reduce cancer risks and improve outcomes for those who carry a *BRCA* mutation.

### A New Model for BRCA Testing

BFOR is an independent research initiative, headed by leading experts in the fields of cancer research and genetics. It is developing a new model to increase access to *BRCA* genetic testing. This model offers the convenience of direct-to-consumer genetic tests under the guidance of a trusted medical care provider.

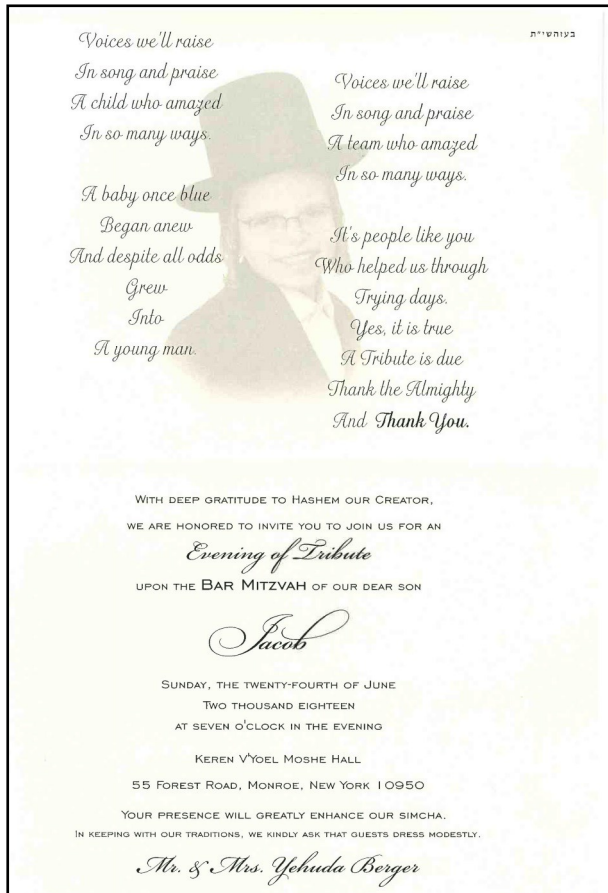
There is no cost to participate in BFOR. Participants must be age 25 or older, have at least one grandparent of Ashkenazi Jewish (Eastern European) origin, and reside within the metropolitan areas of Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Boston, or New York. 95 percent of American Jews are Ashkenazi.

**Learn more at [BFORStudy.com](http://BFORStudy.com)**

The BFOR study is a not-for-profit research project and has no commercial interests



## To the Beth Israel Congregation



How do you express your commitment to your community? How do you support the Jewish organizations that are important to you? Omaha's Jewish community is fortunate to have many who

donate their time and/or money to area Jewish organizations. However, what happens after the donors are gone? What can you do for future generations to ensure that they are well-served by the Jewish organizations you support?

Life & Legacy, a partnership of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and the Jewish Federation of Omaha Foundation, promotes after-lifetime giving to benefit the Omaha Jewish community. All commitments, no matter the amount, are key to Jewish Omaha's future.

***Thank you to Beth Israel's wonderful supporters through the Life & Legacy program. Beth Israel is fortunate to have 71 individuals who have committed financial support to help insure a Jewish future for Beth Israel and for Omaha's Jewish community.***

If you have not yet become a donor, please consider making a gift to Beth Israel. Your generosity will benefit our synagogue for generations to come.

## BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE BEIT MIDRASH LEARNING

***Sponsoring a week of Beit Midrash learning is a wonderful way to commemorate a special occasion. A sponsorship is just \$100. Contact Rabbi Ari or the synagogue office to schedule.***



Several classes are "on vacation" for the summer and will resume in the fall. Below are classes that will be held in June.

### Sundays

9:45 a.m. - Bagels & Beit Midrash  
Special classes two Sundays a month

### Weekdays

7:45 a.m. - *Creating Spiritual Life* with Rabbi Ari

### Thursdays

9:30 a.m. - *Connecting to Our Faith* with Rabbi Ari  
12 noon - June 7th only - *Jewish Ethics* with Rabbi Shlomo @ UNMC

### Saturdays

Approximately 20 mins before Mincha  
*Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion*

Study according to your schedule with ***Torah in Your Home***. Meet one-on-one, or with a few friends for this learning opportunity. Contact Rabbi Shlomo to set up a time. Bar and Bat Mitzvah prep provided by Donald Gerber and Rabbi Ari. Contact them directly for additional information.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**JYE BI KICK OFF EVENT**  
**Sunday, August 26**



# 📷 Photo Gallery 📷



**2018 Beth Israel Volunteer of the Year  
Jordana Kurtzman with Toba Cohen-Dunning**



**JYE BI learning about the holy city of Jerusalem in  
preparation for Yom Yerushalayim Day**

**While the planned Lag Ba'Omer outdoor  
festivities were spoiled by the weather,  
the indoor fun was great!**



**Left:  
No Lag Ba'Omer  
bonfire? No  
problem. Just fire  
up a few candles  
to roast your  
marshmallows  
for s'mores!**

**Below:  
Harry Weiner & Max  
Weiner - the  
Lag Ba'Omer  
grill masters**



**A great time  
was enjoyed  
by the Omaha  
contingent at  
the Jr. NCSY  
Spring  
Convention!**



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

*Beth Israel sends its very best wishes to those who will be celebrating in the coming month. Call the synagogue office for any additions.*

### BIRTHDAYS

Cindy Goldberg	Jun 3	Leon Shrago	Jun 22
Lloyd Roitstein	Jun 4	Susie Shyken	Jun 22
Bracha Goldsweig	Jun 7	Julie Sandburg-Rife	Jun 24
Mark Kazor	Jun 9	Eli Lopez	Jun 24
Gabor Petro	Jun 10	Brigitte Mimran	Jun 25
Douglas Smith	Jun 12	Michael Denenberg	Jun 25
Kim Stoler	Jun 13	Mercedes Obora	Jun 27
Luke Weiner	Jun 15	Laini Wolman Reinblatt	Jun 28
Aidan Shnayder	Jun 20	Alondra Oregon Shyken	Jun 29
Aiden Shyken	Jun 20	Mona Aoki	Jun 29
Shlomo Abramovich	Jun 20	Danita Shrago	Jun 30
Evelyn Smith	Jun 21	Harry Weiner	Jun 30
Andreaa Shnayder	Jun 21	Isaac Kurtzman	Jun 30

### ANNIVERSARIES

Aryeh & Crystal Epstein	Jun 3
Jon & Denise Meyers	Jun 7
Jeffrey & Sherry Taxman	Jun 8
Adam & Jessica Rich	Jun 13
Howard Gendleman & Bonnie Bloch	Jun 15
Nathan & Marsha Feldman	Jun 17
Don & Nancy Greenberg	Jun 18
Marvin & Hedy Kirke	Jun 19
Jon & Nikki Tindall	Jun 26
Jason Rife & Julie Sandburg-Rife	Jun 29
Richard Reinblatt & Laini Wolman Reinblatt	Jun 29
Alan Biniamow & Nancy Rampey Biniamow	Jun 30



***Celebrate your special family events at the June Simcha Kiddush, Saturday, June 16th. It's just \$25 to be a sponsor. Call the office at (402) 556-6288 to sign-up.***

### OPPORTUNITIES TO CELEBRATE AND SUPPORT BETH ISRAEL

#### Kiddush Sponsorships

Mark a special occasion by sponsoring a weekly kiddush or Seudah Shlishit.

#### Week of Learning

Sponsor a Beth Israel Week Day Learning for just \$100, which includes nearly 20 classes. This is a wonderful opportunity to mark a special event.

#### Simcha Plaques

A birthday, anniversary, birth of a child or grandchild, Bar or Bat Mitzvah in your family? Simcha plaques at just \$100, and are a wonderful way to commemorate your special event.

#### The Tree of Life

A beautiful and meaningful way to celebrate a milestone or commemorate a loved one is with a lasting presence on the Tree of Life. Prices begin at \$300. Tree of Life donations fund Beth Israel Endowment Fund.

#### Additional sponsorship opportunities include

Lunch & Learn program, NCSY Shabbatons, youth events, Shabbat Sheet, Scholar-in-Residence programs, college outreach, and many other opportunities.

#### Beth Israel Tribute Cards

Tribute cards are a wonderful - and easy! - way to commemorate a special occasion, wish someone a speedy recovery, say thank you or express your condolences. Call the synagogue office, email [bethisrael@orthodoxomaha.org](mailto:bethisrael@orthodoxomaha.org), submit via the website at [www.orthodoxomaha.org](http://www.orthodoxomaha.org) or call the synagogue office.

*For additional information on supporting Beth Israel, please contact Mary Sue Grossman.*

### In Memoriam

*Maram Schuster*

*Adrienne R. Milder*



Beth Israel extends condolences and wishes of comfort to members of the community on the recent loss of loved ones.

*Ha'makom yenachem etkhem betokh she'ar avelei Tziyon vi'Yerushalayim*

***A tribute card is a lovely way to express your condolences. Call the office at (402) 556-6288 or email [executiveast@orthodoxomaha.org](mailto:executiveast@orthodoxomaha.org) to send a card for condolences or any other occasion.***



## CONTRIBUTIONS

*Beth Israel acknowledges, with sincere thanks, the following contributions received from  
April 24, 2018 through May 24, 2018*

### GENERAL DONATIONS

- ♦ For the speedy recovery of Deborah Platt - *Harold & Maneva Ruth Edelman*
- ♦ In memory of Jack Kozlen's brother-in-law - *Barb Widman*
- ♦ For the birthday of Rina Dembitzer - *Lourdes Secola, Harold & Maneva Ruth Edelman*
- ♦ For the graduation of Aviva Atri - *Lourdes Secola*
- ♦ For the anniversary of Les & Helen Kay - *Lourdes Secola*
- ♦ Welcoming Helen Rifkin to the congregation - *Lourdes Secola*
- ♦ For the speedy recovery of Dani Shrago - *Jordana Kurtzman, Mary Sue & Alex Grossman*
- ♦ For Stacey Rockman being honored as the 2018 Kipson-Wilson/Friedland Award - *Mary Sue & Alex Grossman*
- ♦ For Daniel Grossman being honored as JCC Volunteer of the Year award - *Mary Sue & Alex Grossman*
- ♦ For Eric Dunning being honored as Jewish Press Volunteer of the Year Award - *Mary Sue & Alex Grossman*
- ♦ For Jordana Kurtzman being named 2018 Beth Israel Volunteer of the Year - *Mary Sue & Alex Grossman*
- ♦ For the speedy recovery of Beverly Silver - *Esther Silver*
- ♦ For the birth of Esti Dembitzer - *Mike & Marina Sadofsky, Shirly & Ida Banner*
- ♦ For the birth of Esti Dembitzer - to Youth Program Fund - *Debbie & Lloyd Roitstein*
- ♦ Condolences to Tuffy Epstein on the loss of your brothers - *Mike & Marina Sadofsky*

### YAHARZEITS

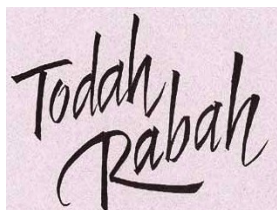
- ♦ Marvin Galinsky - *Steve Orlikoff*
- ♦ The Markman Family - *Jack & Minde Diamond*
- ♦ Gerry Orenstein Saferstein - *Marcia Lipsman*
- ♦ Rebecca Singer - *David & Shirley Goodman*
- ♦ Isadore Goldstein - *Donald & Andi Goldstein*
- ♦ Rose Schondrun - *Helen Rifkin*
- ♦ Mary Rifkin - *Helen Rifkin*
- ♦ Harry Rifkin - *Helen Rifkin*
- ♦ Esther Lipshyts - *Vera & Alex Dobin*
- ♦ Joe Raznick - *Rose Lewis*
- ♦ Ruben Lippert - *Louise Lippert & Family*
- ♦ Arthur Fishkin - *Jane Fishkin*
- ♦ Ann Gregg - *Mary Sue & Alex Grossman*
- ♦ Abraham Biniamow - *Alan Biniamow*
- ♦ Rita Rosen - *Margo Rosen*
- ♦ David Schwalb - *Natan & Hannah Schwalb*
- ♦ Max Cohn - *Arnold Cohn*
- ♦ Sidney Peskin - *Marcia Lipsman*
- ♦ Arthur Fishkin - *Paul & Ladona Fishkin*
- ♦ Rita Rosen - *Carole Rosen*
- ♦ Rae Schupack Nathan - *Rose Schupack*
- ♦ Robert S. Ferer - *William & Nancy Ferer*
- ♦ Milton Bloom - *Sheila Moravec*
- ♦ Abe Friedman - *Cheryl Smith*

#### Memorial Plaques

A wonderful way to remember your loved ones is with a memorial plaque installed in the alcoves at the back of the sanctuary. The price of a plaque, including your loved one's name and yahrzeit date in both English and Hebrew, is \$400. Contact the office to order.

### RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND DONATIONS

- ♦ In honor of Rabbi Dembitzer and family - *Ben & Esther Harris*
- ♦ In honor of Shavuot - *Janet Brewster*
- ♦ In honor of the birth of Esti Dembitzer - *Maneva & Harold Edelman, Barb Zacharia, Basia Tsed, Sally Wintroub*



*A sincere thank you  
to those who donate,  
providing critical  
financial support to  
Beth Israel Synagogue.*

### Dates to Remember!



- 7-10 June - Teen Trip to New York
- 10 June - Rabbi Shlomo to Israel
- 14 June - Rosh Chodesh Group
- 16 June - June Simcha Kiddush
- 24 June - Summer BBQ



- 1 July - Fast of Tammuz
- 12 July - Rosh Chodesh Group
- 15 July - Rabbi Ari to Camp Simcha
- 21 July - Summer Shabbat Lunch
- 22 July - Tisha B'av



**Beth Israel Synagogue**  
**12604 Pacific Street**  
**Omaha, NE 68154**

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## SERVICE SCHEDULE JUNE 2018

### Shacharit Schedule

Regular Weekday - 7:00 a.m

9:00 a.m. - Shabbat, Sunday & Holidays

**Friday Night Mincha, Maariv, Kabbalat Shabbat - 7:30 p.m.**

## CANDLE LIGHTING AND HAVDALAH TIMES

### Parsha Beha'alotcha - June 1 & 2

8:33 pm Candle Lighting  
8:15 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit  
9:42 pm Havdalah

### Parsha Shelach - June 8 & 9

8:38 pm Candle Lighting  
8:20 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit  
9:47 pm Havdalah

### Parsha Korach - June 15 & 16

8:41 pm Candle Lighting

### Parsha Korach - June 15 & 16 (cont.)

8:25 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit  
9:51 pm Havdalah

### Parsha Chukat - June 22 & 23

8:43 pm Candle Lighting  
8:25 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit  
9:53 pm Havdalah

### Parsha Balak - June 29 & 30

8:43 pm Candle Lighting  
8:25 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit  
9:53 pm Havdalah

*REMINDER! To assure the scheduling of mincha/maariv minyan times in advance, please contact the office by the Wednesday of the week before the date. This allows the synagogue to include those times in the weekly schedule and also allow minyan attendees to adjust their schedules accordingly.*