

Shabbat Announcements



Saturday Morning, March 17, 2018

**Parashat Vayikra/ Shabbat
HaChodesh/Rosh Chodesh:**

Leviticus 1:5-26 pp. 585-

Second Scroll:

Numbers 28:9-15, pp. 930-931

Third Scroll: Exodus 12:1-20, pp. 380-385

Haftarah:

Ezekiel 45:16-46:38 pp. 1291-1294

9:00am Shabbat Morning Services

9:30am Shabbat SPACE

10:15am Pre-Service Oneg Shabbat

10:45am Family Kehillah Services

10:45am Tot Shabbat

10:45am **Contemplative Service with
Rabbi Zach Sitkin**

12:00pm Shabbat Tween Lounge

12:00pm Kiddush

12:30pm Daf Shevui

6:40pm Mincha/Maariv

7:46pm Havdalah

**This week's Kiddush is sponsored
by:**

Janis DeMartini, Pearl Sullivan and Nora
Klion-Wolloch in honor of their special
birthday celebrations.

**Mazal Tovs, Condolences, &
Refuah Shleimah:**

Mazal Tov to Robin Bronk and Dr. Richard Schechtman
on their wedding.

Mazal Tov to Sandy and Jack Gruenberg on the birth
of grandson Barak Matan, son of Hillel Gruenberg
and Yael Kalban and little brother of Ezekial.

Mazal Tov to Ida and Marvin Hyman on the birth of
their granddaughter Hannah Riley Greenhaus and
to parents Lisa and Ian Greenhaus.

Mazal Tov to Elissa Baum and the late Morton Baum
on the marriage of grandson Dr. Jared Baum to
Megan Gaughn, son of Drs. Seth and Laura Baum.

Mazal Tov to Barbara and Jay Lerman on the birth of
a grandson, and to the parents Mark and Diana Lerman.
Condolences to Arthur (Debbie) Kaplan on the
loss of his beloved mother Bea Kaplan.

**The following people are assisting this
Shabbat:**

Mark Seidenfeld, President Chair, Jayne
Peister, VP Chair; Donna Levy, Gabbai;
Arlene Salman and Dani Yairi, Greeters;
Debbie Young and Sol Haber, Ushers

[Those marking a simcha, observing the loss
of a loved one, or who is sick or recovering
from an illness have delighted/comforted
that their lifecycle event has inspired
generosity. If you would like to make a
donation to Beth El in honor or in memory,
please click here.](#)

Minyan Times



Sunday *Minyan Brekafast* 8:00am Shacharit;
6:50pm Mincha/Maariv
Monday 6:55am Shacharit;
6:50pm Mincha/Maariv
Tuesday 7:00am Shacharit;
6:50pm Mincha/Maariv
Wednesday 7:00am Shacharit; 6:50pm
Mincha/Maariv
Thursday 6:55am Shacharit ; 6:50pm
Mincha/Maariv
Friday 7:00am Shacharit;
6:50pm Mincha/Maariv

A Word of Torah - *From Torah Sparks*
D'var Torah: Meeting & Witnessing
Dr. Stephen Arnoff,
Executive Director, Fuchsberg Jerusalem
Center

We have just finished Sefer Shemot (Book of Exodus) and its multiple chapters describing the donation of raw materials and the building of the Mishkan (Tabernacle). Sefer Vayikra (Book of Leviticus) marks a change, opening as it does with a calling, a speaking, and a meeting/witnessing.

The opening line is Vayikra el Moshe (and [God] called to Moses), vayidaber Adonai elav (and God spoke to him), m'ohel mo'ed (from the Tent of Meeting). The word "mo'ed" is a complex one. Here it means meeting, but elsewhere it also refers to a festival (we say Moadim L'Simcha during the intermediary days of Sukkot and Pesach). Taking into account both uses, we can understand mo'ed as a regularized meeting of the human and the divine.

Mo'ed also contains the word ed, which means "witness," and not surprisingly the Ohel Mo'ed is also referred to (see Shemot

38:21 and BaMidbar 1:50) as Ohel Ha'Edut, the Tent of the Witnessing/Testimony. Sitting at the center of the Israelite camp, the Mishkan/Ohel Mo'ed/Ohel Ha'Edut holds what is called Ha-edut (the Testimony), literally the tablets on which the Ten Commandments were written-the sign/record of the covenant between God and Israel.

Combining all of these elements, we can learn that the regular meeting of human and divine bears witness to the specialness of their relationship; it is a re-enactment of the ultimate meeting of the human and divine at Sinai that brought forth Torah.

Viewed this way, one might literally call the Torah "the Witnessing." And the Israelites witnessed so much-the birth of the Jewish people going out of Israel, the revelation at Sinai, and ultimately coming into the Promised Land. On Passover, when we are asked to imagine ourselves as if we ourselves are Israelites freed from bondage, we are asked to witness what they have seen and felt as the most meaningful way of understanding the Jewish story.

So too today is an age of witnessing. Think of the #metoo movement or the struggle to understand how best to witness the strife of Dreamers in the United States or asylum seekers in Israel-all people crying out for their stories to be heard and compassionate solutions to their struggles to be found. Perhaps most poignantly in the United States, we watch with a mix of broken hearts and pride as teenagers-among them many USYers-demand witness around issues of gun control.

And what does it mean to witness? A closer look at the root of edut reveals a possible link with the word ad, which means, among other things, "up to" or "until." Edut is

something like a threshold, a knowledge full to the point of bursting. It's the transfer point, the transom, the place of crossing over. Maybe this is why Jewish thresholds contain a mezzuzah with a protective holy text for moments of transition. The text serves as sign of witness for us.

In ancient Greek the word for "witnessing" can be translated as "martyrdom." Sadly, Judaism has a long history of martyrs, but to pass the threshold of life to death is considered a choice of last resort. The ultimate Jewish value is to "choose life," not to die for a cause. Indeed, in our age of witnessing, asylum seekers, victims of sexual abuse, and teen survivors of gun violence are refusing to be martyrs. They are raising their voices as individuals so that the community will witness them. Their very lives depend upon it. To live is to witness, and one can never be a witness alone.

BESC Featured and New Announcements

Please follow us:

[Facebook.com/bethelsynagoguecenter](https://www.facebook.com/bethelsynagoguecenter) and spread the word about news, events, and information by "liking" or "sharing!" Follow links to enlarge images or visit respective event pages.

*Beth El Day Camp and our Nursery School are proud sponsors of Westchester Jewish Council's **Westchester Celebrates Israel @70** on April 15. Make sure you come to this can't miss, county-wide celebration!* For more information, visit www.westchesterisraelat70.com and take advantage of an early bird discount until the end of this month!

OPEN BEIT MIDRASH Our next "OBM" is Thursday, March 22. *This evening's night of learning will be sponsored by Ted Keltz and Beth Breakstone in memory of Ted's dad Harold Ketz.* We're also excited to have our latest scholar visit!

OPEN BEIT MIDRASH: SCHOLAR VISIT
"Is there a Kosher Cheeseburger in our Future: What Happens When Science and Halacha Intersect?"

RABBI DANNY NEVINS

Rabbi Daniel Nevins is the Pearl Resnick Dean of the JTS Rabbinical School. He also serves as dean of the Division of Religious Leadership, which includes the H.L. Miller Cantorial School, the Center for Pastoral Education, and the Block-Kolker Center for Spiritual Arts. He serves on The Committee on Jewish Law and Standards.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 7:30PM

Explore. Seek. Learn. Transform.
For more on our Open Beit Midrash, visit www.bethelnr.org/openbeit

BETH EL SYNAGOGUE CENTER

We begin at 7:30pm with drinks and a nosh followed by learning promptly at 8:00pm. OBM is held on alternating Tuesdays and Thursdays with Rabbis Schuck and Sitkin, and Rabbi Ethan Linden of Ramah Berkshires, simultaneously teaching on different areas of Jewish texts. On the last week of the month, a scholar teaches on a specific topic in their field. Free and open to all. *OBM is subsidized by the Rabbi Melvin and Lenore Sirner Fund for Jewish Inspiration and the Sylvia and Harry Halpern Lecture Fund.* For more information or to sponsor a night of learning, visit bethelnr.org/openbeit or contact Rabbi Sitkin at zsitkin@bethelnr.org.



This year's Gala is on March 18 at 5:00pm honors Donald J. Fleishaker, President's Ne'emanim Service Award recipients Lori and Steven Schwartz, and the new Lapid Award recipients Robyn and Daniel Yairi. Let's make it the best gala ever! Did you purchase a raffle ticket or RSVP? Do so now at www.bethelnr.org/gala2018. Our raffles are nearing \$9,000 and growing.

Remember, the more we sell, the more you win!

RABBI SCHUCK AND BETH EL TO BE HONORED Rabbi David Schuck and Beth El Synagogue Center will be honored by HOPE at their gala Thursday, April 26 at The Fountainhead at 55 Quaker Ridge Road in New Rochelle. Cocktails at 6:00pm. Dinner at 7:00pm. Questions? Contact Carole Troum at ctroum@hope-cs.org.

SAVE THE DATE The Sisterhood Gala will be held on the evening of Tuesday, May 22 honoring Barbara Horowitz. Details to follow.



OUR ANNUAL MINYAN BREAKFAST will be held on Sunday, March 18. Morning minyan will be at 8:00 am followed by breakfast in the Wiener Lounge. We will honor long-time Beth El member and Minyanaite Bernard Katz for his continual support of the minyan for more than 30 years.

At the breakfast, you can reconnect with old friends, enjoy bagels and spreads, hear Rabbi Schuck and Cantor Aqua talk about the minyan, and watch them give out siddurim to members who finished reciting *Kaddish* for their loved one.

We invite you to volunteer to help with our minyan to ensure its continuity. Please let Cantor Aqua know which day and time would work best for you by emailing him at uaqua@bethelnr.org.

TALMUD DAF SHEVUI STUDY SESSION This study session occurs every Shabbat at 12:30pm in the Library. New participants are welcome. We discuss a page (daf) of the Talmud. Download the weekly portion: www.conservativeyeshiva.org/category/daf-shevui.

EXHIBIT Israeli Artist Gregory Niemetz's exhibit is open through March 25. Outside of Israel he exhibited in Germany, Great Britain, Argentina, South Africa, and the United States. He was not only financially successful, but also donated paintings for Israel's war effort and to the Ilan-Israel Foundation for Handicapped Children. Dr. Will Sandberg, the Art Advisor to the Israel Museum, chose four paintings that Gregory donated to the museum. He died in Israel in 1978. You can visit the museum at any time the synagogue is open. If the room is locked, get the key from the office.

SISTERHOOD BAGELS AND BOOKS

The next discussion will be Monday, March 26 at 9:30am regarding *The Thing We Cherished*, by Pam Jeneff. Books are available at the New Rochelle Public Library - mention that you are a member of Beth El Sisterhood's Bagels & Books Group. Questions? Contact Arlene Salman at aesalman@aol.com or 914.235.2485.

NEW INITIATIVE Beth El is starting a new group for adults in their 20s-60s, with developmental and/or learning differences and those who are learning to get out in the world. We are trying to create a place for individuals of all backgrounds to socialize, learn, grow and deepen their connections with one another. If you are interested contact Guy Simkhay at guy@simkhay.com or Abby Wise at awise@bethelnr.org.

DAY CAMP *Best. Days. Ever.* Our camp doesn't have the best reputation in Southern Westchester for nothing! Camp is now eight weeks and will provide towel service! Visit, www.betheldaycamp.org.



FULFILL THE MITZVAH OF READING TORAH

We have launched an online sheet that allows you to sign up to read from the Torah or chant the Haftarah at Beth El on Shabbat and holidays. Click the link and you will see a list of availability: www.bethelnr.org/torahsignup. Select the aliyah (or aliyot) you want to read and enter your name and email address. Cantor Aqua will contact you to confirm. If you wish to read in honor of your birthday, anniversary, to fulfill a mitzvah on any Shabbat, or discuss this new system for fulfilling the mitzvah of reading Torah and Haftarah, please contact Cantor Aqua (uaqua@bethelnr.org) or Alan Kellman (alan@twoals.com).

CARD ROOM The weekly Sisterhood Canasta group plays at 12:45pm on Mondays while the Mah Jongg group plays on Tuesdays at the same time. Beginners, as well as experienced players, are always welcome. Contact Arlene Salman at aesalman@aol.com or 914.235.2485.

GIFT SHOP Visit the Beth El Sisterhood Baum Judaica Gift Shop for ALL your Judaica needs. Open by appointment. Email giftshop@bethelnr.org, or call Erica Epstein (914.633.3161), Carole Graham (914.576.6617), and/or Ellen Hollander (914.632.4658).

WHEREVER WE STAND, WE STAND WITH ISRAEL

Beth El's Israel Affairs Committee would like to share interesting and exciting news regarding the week's developments in business, culture, technology, agriculture, sports and the environment in Israel.

35,000 race through Jerusalem in capital's largest-ever marathon

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/30000-race-through-jerusalem-in-capitals-largest-ever-marathon/>

Israelis like it comfy when it comes to fashion

<https://www.israel21c.org/israelis-like-it-comfy-when-it-comes-to-fashion/>

Limmud and Other Learning Opportunities

FUTURE TENSE Rabbi Molly Karp's *Future Tense: Jews, Judaism, and Israel in the 21st Century; A Vision for Jews and Judaism in the Global Culture*. Class focuses on the book written by Lord Rabbi Jonathan Sacks. It meets Wednesday mornings from 10:00am-12:15pm.

Remaining class: March 21 To learn more about Rabbi Karp, visit rabbimollykarp.com or contact her at rabbimollykarp@gmail.com.



Sunday mornings at Beth El
9:30-10:30 a.m.
with your instructor Maria!

A Fun & Exciting way to exercise!

All net proceeds of the class benefit the Beth El Religious School Parent organization, so you are doing something good for your health AND for your community!

Beth El Synagogue Center
1324 North Ave.
New Rochelle, NY 10804

For more information, please contact Carrie Fox at csfox99@gmail.com.



DON'T FORGET TO ZUMBA! It's back at Beth El Sundays from 9:30-10:30am. Classes are held every Sunday through March 25. Drop-in rate is \$10 per class. No need to RSVP. For more information, contact Carrie Fox at csfox99@gmail.com.

LEARN HEBREW IN OUR ULPAN CLASSES Classes with Miri Ben Avi are ongoing Mondays and Wednesdays - classes are for learners at all levels. Beginners: 6:30-7:30pm/ Intermediate: 7:30-8:30pm/ Advanced: 8:30-9:30pm
Contact miriulpan@gmail.com or 914.602.1503.

ISRAELI DANCING Held Sundays 10:00-11:00 am with Cantor Aqua. \$10/class. Wear comfy clothes and sneakers. Questions? E-mail uaqua@bethelnr.org.

All classes are at Beth El unless otherwise indicated.

Additional Beth El and Community Events and Information

BAND'S VISIT The New Rochelle Chapter of Hadassah will present *The Band's Visit* on Monday, March 19 at Eastchester Public Library. Dessert will be served at 12:30pm with the program starting at 1:00pm. The Israeli film, which has spawned a hit Broadway show, is 87 minutes with English subtitles.

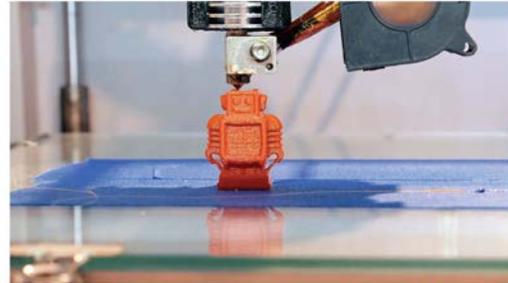
JEWISH FILM AJC Westchester/Fairfield will hold the 17th annual *Westchester Celebrates Jewish Film Festival* at the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville from now until March 29. This two-week festival is the largest annual Jewish event in Westchester. Last year, close to 9,000 tickets were sold. The festival brings not only the best new Jewish films to Westchester every spring, but also an extraordinary array of top-notch speakers and other programming. More than 38 films will be shown. Questions? Contact AJC Westchester Associate Director Jill Friedman by email (friedmanj@AJC.org) or phone (914-948-5585).

CONNECT Would you like to connect with other local parents of babies? Bring your baby for an informal parent playdate and music session at Schechter Westchester Dr. Elliot Spiegel Lower School in White Plains on Friday, March 16 from 9:15-10:45am. For more details or to RSVP, contact Diana Schutt at lsadmissions@schechterwestchester.org or 914.948.3111, x.4370.



STEAMPOSIUM

Sunday • March 18 • 2018 • 8:45 a.m. to noon
Schechter Westchester Dr. Elliot Spiegel Lower School • 30 Dellwood Road • White Plains, NY



Lower School (K-5) students are invited to participate in the inaugural
Schechter Westchester STEAMposium

Exciting workshops sure to inspire your children's love of STEAM include learning 3D printing, designing beverages, and making slime! Explore our Tinker Fair with presenters from organizations including IBM, Pepsi, Microsoft, Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, The Digital Arts Experience, Sheldrake Nature Center, and The Fashion Arts Studio of Westchester!

To register your student and learn more about this exciting new event at the Lower School, visit the PTO Storefront (www.swpto.com) today!

\$18 per student. This is a drop-off event.
Questions? Email steamposium@schechterwestchester.org



Now your support goes 3 times as far

From Mar 12 – 31, Amazon will triple the donation rate to 1.5% on your first eligible purchase at smile.amazon.com.

[amazon](http://amazon.com)smile

More announcements can be found at
www.bethelnr.org/ongoing.



**COME & DUNK YOUR GENTLY USED
KICKS TO HELP SUPPORT KIDS WITH
PEDIATRIC CANCER!**

**FOR EVERY PAIR OF KICKS A \$1 IS
DONATED TO PEDIATRIC CANCER**

**A DROP BOX WILL BE SET UP
STARTING MARCH 20th-MARCH 31st.**

**ALL SIZES ARE WELCOME BUT JUST
NO CLEATS PLEASE!**

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!



WESTCHESTER *celebrates*

Israel@70

APRIL 15, 2018 | 12:00-5:00pm

Hosted at *Schechter Westchester, Hartsdale*

Rain or Shine! | Free admission for children | Adult early pricing through March 30

Special Guest Miss Israel 2013 • Grand Israeli Shuk • Kosher Food • Israeli Air Force Drone Pilot Demo
Israeli Beat Box Performance • Live Music and Dancing • Cooking with Israeli Celebrity Chef Gil Hovav
Distinguished Speakers including David Harris and Shahar Azani • Virtual Hike Through Israel on "Shvil Yisrael"
Toddler and Children's Activities • Bouncy House • Children's Performance: "Ella's Trip to Israel"

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Thank you to our Sponsors. List in formation.

For a full list of activities and tickets visit:

westchesterisraelat70.com

Please contact Westchester Jewish Council, 914-328-7001 or info@wjcouncil.org for more information.

(Over)