



BETH EL SYNAGOGUE SHOFAR

MAY 2011 • Nisan/Iyar 5771

WE SHALL GO FORWARD WITH OUR YOUNG AND WITH OUR OLD

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ECJFE

**Early Childhood
Jewish Family Education
SUMMER SESSION!**

See page 3 for details

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for Beth El's annual

Lag B'omer Celebration

Saturday Night, May 21, 2011

(18 Iyar 5771) Rain or shine!

*Watch for details in your Keshet Email.
Sign up for Keshet at
www.bethelsynagogue.org/keshet.*

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.BETHELSYNAGOGUE.ORG

Cuban Art Exhibit and Auction of World Famous JOSÉ FUSTER - "The Picasso of Cuba"

Art and Music Benefit Supporting Beth El Synagogue and Cuban Artists

Please join us on **Monday, June 6, 2011 at Beth El Synagogue** for the first major exhibit and auction of Cuban art in the midwest in nearly a decade. Over 50 pieces of original Cuban art will be exhibited and sold, ranging in price from \$50-\$5000. This exhibit will feature original works from Jose Fuster, "The Picasso of Cuba," as well as other amazing Cuban artists. We are honored to have special guest Alexander Fuster, Jose's son, joining us from Cuba on behalf of his father. A preview of Jose Fuster's work is available at www.bethelsynagogue.org/cubanart-gallery.

6:00 p.m. VIP Reception with Alexander Fuster featuring Cuban cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and music. *Each VIP will receive a petit, signed Fuster watercolor.*

7:00 p.m. Art Patrons & Students hors d'oeuvres reception. Preview of Cuban art and Silent Auction.

8:00 p.m. Live Auction of 10 of Fuster's Major Works

For more information, or to register, go to www.bethelsynagogue.org/cubanart or see page 6. Additionally, if you are connected to the art world and are interested in volunteering or if you are interested in sponsoring the event, contact Michael Appleman at drappleman@mobilediagnosticimage.com



Hold the Dates...

HONORING RABBI
KASSEL ABELSON'S
60 YEARS IN THE
RABBINATE!



June 17 Shabbat Dinner and Tribute

June 18 Shabbat services &
Kiddush Luncheon

June 22 Tribute Lecture with
RABBI HAROLD KUSHNER
*Author of "When Bad Things
Happen to Good People"*

If you would like to help plan the festivities please contact
Phyllis Harris at hharris101@aol.com or 763-545-8369.

notable times

חדלקת נרות Candle Lighting

May 68:06 p.m.
 May 138:14 p.m.
 May 208:22 p.m.
 May 278:30 p.m.

הבדלה Havdalah

May 79:08 p.m.
 May 149:17 p.m.
 May 219:24 p.m.
 May 289:31 p.m.

תפילות Services

ערב שבת Friday Evening

Kabbalat Shabbat ...5:45 p.m.

שבת Shabbat

Shaharit9:00 a.m.
 Minha5:45 p.m.

Sunday & National Holiday Minyan

9:00 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.

מונין Minyan Daily

7:00 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.

REMINDER: Morning services on Memorial Day will take place at 9:00 a.m.

general information

Beth El Synagogue
 5224 W. 26th Street
 Minneapolis, MN 55416-1901

952-920-3512
 FAX: 952-920-8755

www.bethelsynagogue.org

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs....9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
 Fridays.....9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
 Sundays.....9:00 a.m.-Noon

Aleph School: 952-920-4169
 Youth Dept: 952-920-3594

a view from the bimah מהבימה



The Best of Times. The Worst of Times.

by Rabbi Alexander Davis

Fishmans Kosher Market has closed. Sadly, Bnai Emet Synagogue is in the process of closing.

Last year the Talmud Torah of St. Paul Day School came very close to closing and instead drastically reduced its program. These changes are unfortunate and sad. Once vibrant and healthy, these institutions strengthened our community and touched people's lives. The closings are also a sign of the changing landscape of our Twin Cities Jewish community and I dare say they are even natural.

Across the United States, Jewish communities continually grow, shrink and change. There is benefit to this dynamism. But one wonders, is the change always for the good?

Steven Cohen, a leading sociologist, recently described the current state of American Jewish life at a form titled, "New Generation, Old Institution" saying, "We are demographically distressed and culturally creative." In other words, it is very much a mixed bag. We are poised between success and failure.

We see this sentiment in our own Twin Cities. Even as well established institutions close or down-size, new ones have grown up. In the last decade we've seen synagogues and schools decline and new ones grow. We've seen new Jewish outreach organizations and new Israel advocacy organizations take root. And while the only exclusively kosher market closed, kosher food has become available in more mainstream markets than ever before (including kosher hot dogs at the Target Field!).

Our home-State boy, Bob Dylan, says it this way: "As the present now will later be past, the order is rapidly fadn'... for the times they are a-changin." We know

he is right. And yet, for a community that vaunts continuity, change is not always easy or obvious.

Beth El has not been immune from the forces of change. But membership has remained stable because we are working hard to attract young people, to engage young families and to provide meaningful programming and services. Renewing the building has been just one of the pieces necessary to plan for and secure our future.

I can't predict the future or have answers for coming challenges. But I do know that to be successful we must balance our desire for stability with the push for innovation, draw on experience and wisdom while unleashing energy and creativity.

We are not, of course, the first to face these challenges. Like us, Abraham was "demographically distressed but culturally creative." How did he respond? He made a radical break with the past as he formed a new spiritual identity and developed a new community. But was Abraham really such an innovator?

Just before the God's famous charge, "Go forth to a land I will show you," we read in the Torah, "And Terach took his son Abram and set out for the Land of Canaan." In this context we realize that Abraham was not cutting edge. His father had the original vision and began pursuing it. But it took his son, Abraham, to pick up where his father left off. It took a new generation to complete the journey begun by the old one.

As Jews we are, first of all, inheritors. Our lives are built on ideas and institutions created by those who came before us. "Surely," our new mahzorim teach, "if we grow at all we will end up in a different place than they; but as we look back, we will always be reminded that it was possible for us to begin on our way because of the journey they undertook."

Israeli Song of the Month Club

Give yourself a break and join us Tuesday, May 17th, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jonathan and Ruth Paradise (8515 Duluth Street Golden Valley). Enjoy an evening of singing some current hits and some old favorite Israeli songs, conversation and nosh! RSVP appreciated or for more information, contact Ruth Paradise at 763-593-9679 or ruthparadise40@gmail.com.

A program of the Beth El Sings initiative.

Nosh 'n Drash: Torah for Living

Eat and learn with Rabbi Olitzky from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at Beth El. For a mere \$5, you get a dose of Torah and a scrumptious lunch. To RSVP, contact Roger Rubin at bikingdad@msn.com.

Next study: May 16

Thank You to Benilde

Please join us on Shabbat morning, May 21, as we express our thanks to Benilde-St. Margaret's for their hospitality and generosity to us this year, during our lengthy renovation.

Israel Scholarship Recipients to Receive an Aliyah

On Shabbat morning, June 4, all our teens who have received scholarships to Israel programs this summer will be called up to the Torah for an aliyah. Please join us as we bid them "n'siyah tovah" - safe travels.

Tikkun Leyl Shavu'ot

Tuesday, June 7 • 5 Sivan

"A Night of Ecstasy"

Wander from home to home in the Fern Hill Neighborhood while learning, singing, star-gazing, eating and davening - all night long!

Watch your mail for a full schedule or the Kesher email.

Don't get the Kesher email yet? Sign up today! It's quick and easy! Go to www.bethelsynagogue.org/kesher or call 952-920-3512.

Tiny Treasures

All babies born between May 1, 2010 and May 1, 2011 are this year's Tiny Treasures honored at a special ceremony on June 4th, when our littlest new members with their families are welcomed to the bimah for a special blessing. An "Animal Cracker Kiddush" will follow. If you know any Beth El babies born that may not be on our list, please call the office at 952-920-3512.

Kabbalat Shabbat Summer Style begins June 3

Enjoy a ruah-filled davening experience with musical accompaniment beginning every Friday night at 5:45 p.m. through September 2nd.

We welcome our newest members!

B'rukhim Habaim!

Diane & Steven Singer

Debbie & Jeremy Erickson, Chloe, Maddie

Evan & Yelena Ribnick, Benjamin



Early Childhood
Jewish Family Education

Summer Session ECJFE

- Connect with other Jewish Families
- Discuss important parenting topics
- Experience new activities with your baby
- Learn exciting ways to integrate Judaism into your family and much more!



Developed and facilitated by trained educators, Amy Paster and Michelle Yousha
For ages Birth - 18 months. For more information, contact the Aleph Preschool at 952-920-4169
or www.bethelsynagogue.org/ecjfe



FAQs

by Gil Mann, Beth El President

Congregants always are asking me questions about goings on at Beth El. There are several questions that I am asked regularly. This month I want to address some of these frequently asked questions (FAQs) in my column. I have a bit of a

timing challenge, in that I am writing these answers about a month before you will read them. These answers are up to date as of April 14.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

Q. When will construction of phase 1 be finished?

A. I have asked this question many times myself. My understanding is that we should be finished just before the 3rd Temple is completed. NOT TRUE! We are looking at a completion date toward the end of May! Construction crews and our entire team (architects, Beth El staff and volunteers,) are working diligently to finish in time for our Aleph School Summer Camp which is scheduled to begin in mid June.

Q. How are we doing on the construction budget?

A. We are on target to bring the project in on budget (or very close) at \$6,000,000. This includes about \$500,000 of interest on our construction loan. Our pledges are payable over 5 years, so we need a loan during this period. If you can pay your pledge early, you will be saving the synagogue money in interest savings!

Q. What's the story with phase 2?

A. Phase 2 will be primarily adding the much needed Library & Education Center on the front (west) part of our building. We will also be renovating the front of the building. The timing is closely tied to fundraising. This is because starting is contingent on securing our construction loan, which is contingent on having sufficient pledges. We are excited to announce that we have raised \$1,500,000 for phase 2. We anticipate that we will need at least another \$500,000 to complete this phase.

Q. Why hasn't anyone contacted me to make a gift to the capital campaign?

A. We have tried to reach every member in person, by phone or by mail. However, not all members have yet made a pledge, though all members will benefit from our new facility. This includes everyone – from our youngest to our oldest members -- as our new building will be totally handicapped accessible, and have a new school, offices, meeting spaces, security system and much more. If you've not yet made a pledge or would like to learn more about the campaign, please contact me or Linda Goldberg. Please call 952-920-3512 and join your fellow congregants who are making this dream come true for all of us.

BNAI EMET:

Q. Is Bnai Emet merging with Adath?

A. As of today, their discussions appear to be leading to a merger.

Q. Why are they not merging with Beth El?

A. The answer is not simple. The lay and professional leadership of Beth El wanted a merger to happen. We felt our congregations would be a good fit and worked with Bnai Emet for many months. Both negotiating teams had strong intentions to bring our congregations together. We invited their members to all of our events and our leadership attended events at their shul. From our bima and in our publications we often encouraged welcoming Bnai members to Beth El. During negotiations, both sides agreed, that Bnai Emet members should feel at home at Beth El, be treated fairly and that their history be honored. At the same time, we felt we should be fiscally conservative. In the end, Bnai Emet's leadership did not feel comfortable accepting our offer and we respect them. We are saddened that we did not reach an agreement. As we have felt from the beginning, we wish only the best for Bnai Emet members.

ALEPH SCHOOL:

Q. What's going on with the Aleph School?

A. Good things! We have doubled our summer camp enrollment this summer. Enrollment for the fall is on track. This year, we have launched Early Childhood Jewish Family Education classes and an "Ask the Pediatrician" program. Under the leadership of Audrey Goldfarb – who chaired our Aleph School Task Force, and our new director, Karen Burton, the school is implementing a wide range of recommendations including a new curriculum map, enhanced parent/teacher communications, a new Board of Directors and many other improvements. When the school moves into our new facility, we expect even more excitement and good news.

BETH EL'S LEADERSHIP

Q. What is the status of contracts with our clergy?

A. I am asked this frequently and I am happy to say that we have new contracts with all three of our wonderful clergy. I hear non-stop compliments about Rabbi Davis, Rabbi Olitzky and Cantor Abrams – what a pleasure! They are each spreading their wings, the chemistry between them is palpable, they are open to critique, have remarkable work ethics and are innovative, caring, deep down mensches. Our board has responded, and in the last 12 months or so, each of them has signed 5-year contract extensions. They are each a blessing to us and together, are a superb team.

Q. How much longer are you president?

A. I really do get asked this often. I am not sure if this is a good or bad question. The answer is until August 2012. John Orenstein, my successor, will be great!

Piyutim: Another Note in the Tapestry of Jewish Music

by Cantor Audrey Abrams



I often tell my daughter Rachel that when she is picking her college classes, she should pick them because of the teacher and less because of the subject. We all know that a good teacher makes any subject good. So when an opportunity presented to participate in a conference led by the clergy of B'nai Jeshurun (BJ) in New York City, this was the logic I used to make my decision about whether or not to attend. I have immense respect for the work of Rabbi Roly Matalon and Chazzan Ari Previn from BJ. They are incredibly passionate about Judaism and bring amazing spirituality and musicality to all they do. I wanted to learn from them. And in reality...it didn't matter what they were teaching.

So last November, I found myself at a retreat center outside of Baltimore with 50 other cantors, rabbis, and educators, at a conference called, "Invitation to Piyut North America."

Definition: A piyut (plural piyutim) is a prayer-poem.

"Adon Olam" is an example of a piyut. The term is derived from the Greek word meaning poetry. The term refers to all sacred poetry written in Hebrew. Piyutim were first written in Israel from as early as the first centuries. Medieval Sephardi piyutim are particularly beloved.

There are piyutim that follow the yearly cycle: Shabbat songs and piyutim for holidays and festive occasions, etc. There are also piyutim that follow the human life cycle: from birth (piyutim for a bris and for the birth of a daughter), through bar and bat mitzvah, to marriage, and back to the beginning.



Yair Harel

A musician, singer and percussion player, Harel is an expert on traditional Jewish repertoires as well as on classical and modern Middle Eastern and North African musical repertoires. He is a founding member of the ensembles, Tefillat & Haouman Hai.

See page 11 for details on the Stillman Torah Weekend featuring Yair Harel.

Yair Harel, Director and editor in chief of the website Invitation to Piyut (www.piyut.org.il) and Artistic Director of the Jerusalem Piyut festival, led the conference. His life mission is to bring piyutim to life through study and song. We learned a bit about the evolution of piyutim, and studied some piyutim more in depth. But mostly...we sang. It was glorious. We learned 20 plus piyutim from from places such as Iraq, Syria, Yemen, and were accompanied by about 20 of the finest musicians playing the oud, nal (flute), dumbek, cello, accordion and more. In a word, it was transformative.

Ever since that conference, I've been searching for a way to introduce our congregation to some of the wonderful melodies we learned and the richness of this tradition. I am thrilled to say that June 10-11, at the annual **Arthur and Irene Stillman Torah Weekend**, Yair Harel will be our Scholar-in-Residence and we will have the pleasure of studying, and singing this beautiful form of prayers with him.

The Jewish music of today is not the Jewish music of yesterday. It is instead, a tapestry of many yesterdays and today's. We sing Friedman, Lewandowski, Rossi, Carlebach, Taubman, etc. We weave medieval tunes with contemporary ones. The music of these piyutim is another swatch in this tapestry we call Jewish music. I hope that you will join us Stillman weekend so that you may have a piece of the amazing experience that I did in this world of piyutim.

For more reading:

<http://www.zeek.net/603piyyut/>

Visit the Beth El website to hear the music of the Piyutim from the Conference.



*Anniversaries
Mazal Tov!*



Dr. Richard & Barbara Goldstein
May 2nd 20th

Bradley Birnberg & Stacy Pinck
May 5th 15th

Jason & Leslie Sell
May 6th 10th

Shana Marchand
May 7th 5th

Jeffrey & Cindy Goldish
May 8th 45th

Jill & Michael Schwartz
May 19th 15th

David & Cindy Bearman
May 21st 30th

Jeffrey & Geri Sweet
May 24th 30th

Brian & Shelley Johnson
May 26th 15th

Michael & Arlene Reich
May 28th 50th

Cary & Judith Shaich
May 29th 45th

Harvey & Arlene Kase
May 29th 45th

Dan & Deb Mallin
May 30th 20th

Condolences to *(members in bold)...*

- **Darlene Schwartz** and family on the loss of her brother, Arlyn Jay Pomush.
- **Aaron Milgrom** and family on the loss of his mother, Esther Mllgrom.
- The friends and family of **Sylvia Schwartz**.
- **Steven Rudoy** and family on the loss of his father, Irving L. Rudoy.
- **Robbie Ribnick** and family on the loss of his mother, Jan Ribnick.
- The friends and family of **Faye Schwartz**.
- **Elaine Cohen** and family on the loss of her sister, Irene Silverman. Irene was the wife of Beth El's Cantor David Silverman z"l who served Beth El for 20 years from 1958 to 1978.
- **Janet Shanedling** and family on the loss of her father, Harold Rosenberg.
- **Marty Kieffer** and family on the loss of his mother, Mary Kieffer.



Beth El Synagogue presents Cuban Artist Jose Fuster

Reception and Auction • Monday, June 6, 2011 • 7:00 p.m.

Register online at www.bethelsynagogue.org/cubanart or detach and send this form with payment **BY MAY 30** to Beth El Synagogue, ATTN: Cuban Art, 5224 W 26th St, St. Louis Park, MN 55416

____ **VIP** \$125 Includes an original petit Fuster watercolor and two mojito cocktails

____ **Patron** \$25 Includes two mojito cocktails

____ **Student** \$10 (Limited availability)

Enclosed is a check made payable to **Beth El Synagogue**

Please charge my **Visa** or **MC** (circle one and complete all sections)

Exp _____ Sec# (last 3 digits on the back of card) _____

Name (as it appears on your card if different from below)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____



A Message from the Director

Karen Burton

We cannot believe May has arrived and have begun the final month of this school year. Passover flew by and we are now planning Graduation for our PreK classes.

Aleph Preschool still has much to accomplish this month, including Yom Haatzma'ut, Lag B'omer and our last Musical Shabbat of the year.

Please join us on May 6th for a special Aleph Preschool Musical Shabbat with Laurie Herstig. Dori Weinstein will be our Special guest and will talk about her new children's book "Ya Ya and Yo Yo Sliding into the New Year."

We will celebrate the teachers and parent volunteers on May 10th with an Appreciation Afternoon Tea for the tremendous work all have done throughout this school year.

We invite you all to join us for our Spring Family Shabbat Dinner on May 20th at Beth El. It will be an evening of family, song and togetherness.

Our PreK Graduation will be held at Beth El on May 26th. All our PreK children are excitedly preparing for their special day.

We are eagerly anticipating our move back to the new facility. It is looking beautiful and we look forward to enjoy summer camp in our new surroundings. It promises to be a summer filled with many wonderful and exciting activities and adventure including weekly instructional swimming at the JCC.

There are a few openings available for the next school year. We have two-day toddler class and three-day preschool available. This is a nice option to start your child for the first time in an Early Childhood setting.

We hope you can join us for some of our upcoming events. Please stop by at Bnai Emet for a visit. We would love to have you see us in action.



**Youth Department
Upcoming Programs**

Amy Goldfine & Hanna Libman



The BERUSY year may be coming to a close, but we are finishing with a bang! Check out our upcoming programs below and feel see our contact information below for questions or to RSVP.

May 10th – TWINS vs Detroit. Tickets are limited.

May 24th – Elections 7:00 p.m.

May 29th – Final Banquet

May 30th – Valley Fair: Open to 5th-12th grade.

RSVP to Amy at amy@bethelusy.org by May 15th.

*More information may be available at
www.bethelsynagogue.org/berusy. Questions? Contact us at
amy@bethelusy.org or 952-920-3594.*

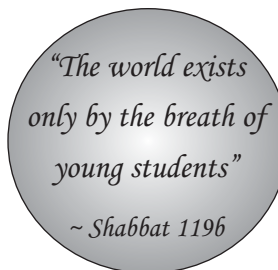
**Mazal Tov & Hatzlaha Rabbah to our
Graduating High School Seniors!**

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Rafael Abramovitz | Deena Livon-Shragg |
| Matan Appelbaum | Jeffry Lurie |
| Alexandra Barry | Brandon Rabinowitz |
| Delia Bloom | Daniel Raskin |
| Haylee Davis | Dylan Resig |
| Jacob Derechin | Jonathan Ribnick |
| Danielle Fink | Noah Sanders |
| Emily Flom | Emily Sanderson |
| Sloan Friedman | Rebecca Shannon |
| Miriam (Molly) Goldfarb | Ben Sherman |
| Elana Graf | Jory Shragg |
| Victor Greenberg | Elizabeth Silverman |
| Benjamin Kahn | Carly Spencer |
| Jessica Koolick | Robert Stillman |
| Briana Lavintman | Robert Stillman |
| Shira Lavintman | Jacob Walder |
| Alexander Lerman | Shailee Zatz |
| Jessica Lieberman | |

Shabbat Hinukh (Education) & L'hitraot • May 21, 2011

A Morning to Honor, Recognize and Celebrate

Our education staff and students will be honored on Shabbat morning, May 21, as we celebrate Shabbat Hinukh. We thank all those who work diligently with our youth and give so much of themselves on an ongoing basis. In addition, we will wish our seniors *Hatzlaha Rabbah* as they embark on a new era in their lives. May they find meaning and fulfillment in all their endeavors. It is our hope that they will continue to see Beth El as their home and that we will see them when they return to visit. >> *Please see the next page for a list of of honorees.*



TaRBuT Staff

Master Teachers & Teachers

Sam Blustin
 Jerry Lehman
 Noah Marell
 Marc Meirovitz, Trope Teacher
 Beverly Moore
 Elaine Sadoff
 Brenda Schwartzberg
 Bill Torodor

TaRBuT Students

9th Grade

Abbey Derechin
 Ethan Friedman
 Jason Graf
 Noah Kupritz
 Ari Pepper
 Tim Prohofskey
 Braden Spencer

10th Grade

Danielle Appleman
 Isaac Ballen
 Zackary Gilbert Burke
 Benjamin Gruber
 Caleb Hausman
 Benjamin Mosow
 Sam Rahamim
 Aaron Raskin
 Nina Shragg
 Joshua Stillman
 Sophia Temkin

11th Grade

Sally Abrams
 Katie Cera
 Matan Karasov
 Brandon Klugman
 Nicky Leveris
 Allie Rosen
 Michael Seffren
 Lisa Soumekh
 Aaron Stern
 Sarah Ungerman
 Rachel Wolfe

12th Grade

Matan Appelbaum
 Delia Bloom
 Jacob Derechin
 Danielle Fink
 Molly Goldfarb
 Benjamin Kahn
 Briana Lavintman
 Shira Lavintman
 Sam Lieberthal
 Jory Shragg
 Carly Spencer
 Jacob Walder

Rimonim Graduates

Some of whom joined staff during the year.

Kaynan Appelbaum
 Cole Bacig
 Abbey Derechin
 Alex Felemovicus
 Ethan Friedman
 Rebecca Greenberg
 Alexis Lehman
 Sydney Mandel
 Sam Neuman
 Ben Sanderson
 Braden Spencer
 Isabella Weisman

TaRBuT Parent Volunteers

Marc Meirovitz
 Howard Sadoff

Sha'ar & Babysitting Staff

Head Teachers

Danny Goldfarb
 Laurie Goldfarb
 Bridget Resig

Staff

Jordan Klein
 Deena Livon-Shragg
 Elyssa Livon-Shragg
 Maia Livon-Shragg
 Dylan Resig
 Sheryl Sue Warren

Junior Shabbat Volunteer

Coordinator

Dori Weinstein

Thank you to all parent volunteers!

Junior Shabbat Volunteer

Seth Meisler

Jewish Education Graduates

Beth El joins the community in congratulating all our graduates and their families. We applaud them for their commitment to Jewish education. Our graduates will be honored on Shabbat morning, May 21:

Talmud Torah of Minneapolis – Beit Hamidrash

Haylee Davis
 Danielle Fink
 Jessica Koolick
 Briana Lavintman
 Shira Lavintman
 Carly Spencer
 Jory Shragg

Shorashim Staff

Amanda Awend, Head Teacher
 Margie Goldfine, Teacher
Assistants
 Amy Goldfine
 Matthew Goldfine
 Eli Livon

Sunday Torah Plus Program

Teachers

Jenny Hage
 Jerry Lehman
 Sheryl Sue Warren
 Dana Yugend-Pepper

Assistants

Steve Blehert
 Shayan Gilbert Burke
 Adina Goldstein
 Danny Goldstein
 Jordan Klein
 Rachel Klein
 Michael Lieberman
 Tom Lieberman
 Richard Ozer
 Nina Shragg

Haftarah Program

Teachers & Tutors

Etta Bernstein
 Jill Blustin
 Zackary Gilbert Burke
 Bev Fishman
 Jerry Lehman, Trope Teacher
 Joy Sandler
 Cindy Witkin

Beth El Student Scholarship Recipients

This year, 38 of our youth were recipients of Beth El scholarship funds which will enable them to attend Jewish summer camp programs or Israel programs. We are delighted to grant these scholarships on the basis of service to our synagogue. These monies are made possible by the generosity of our members and the many endowment funds which they have established. We are grateful to all those who have endowed these funds in the past. Research has shown that Jewish summer camping and Israel trips are vital in ensuring the strengthening of Jewish identity. If you are interested in endowing such a fund, please contact Jerry Frick or Rabbi Davis at the synagogue. The following students have received camp and Israel scholarships:

Alexander Muss

Ben Gruber
 Caleb Hausman

Herzl Ozo

Katie Cera
 Lisa Soumekh

BBYO Impact Boston

Noah Kupritz

NCSY - The Jerusalem Journey

Isaac Ballen

Camp Chi - Israel Program

Michael Seffren

Ramah Canada

Jason Graf

Camp Chi - Pacific Northwest

Michael Cera

Ramah Israel

Matan Karasov
 Nick Leveris
 Allison Rosen

Herzl Camp

Hannah Ballen
 Jack Bass
 Annie Birnberg
 Benji Bloom
 Alex Felemovicus
 Ethan Friedman
 Rebecca Greenberg
 Sydney Mandel
 Izzy Miller
 Ari Pepper
 Hannah Slovut
 Tobie Soumekh
 Braden Spencer
 Tracey Warsett
 Emily Weinberg
 Isabella Weisman

Ramah Wisconsin

Sarah Ungerman
 Mia Berman
 Shayan Gilbert Burke
 Danny Goldstein
 Danny Kahn
 Jordan Klein
 Nina Shragg
 Ari Weinstein

USY - Israel

Benji Mosow
 Joshua Stillman



May 14, 2011 • 10 Iyar 5771 • B'har

OLIVIA JOY WEITZ

שיינה ניסה בת שמעון ומרים

Daughter of Stephanie & Steve Weitz

Honoring Olivia on her bat mitzvah, her parents will be sponsoring an extended Kiddush.

Mitzvah Program: As part of becoming a bat mitzvah I have participated in many mitzvot. I enjoyed making blankets with the children at Mary's Place, packing food at Feed My Starving Children and delivering Passover food to the needy. I also donated books and a Build-A-Bear to Children's Hospital in Minneapolis, and packed bears for the Mother Bear Project (which sends teddy bears to children living with AIDS in Africa.) I think it is important to do mitzvot and I will continue to do them throughout my life.



May 21, 2011 • 17 Iyar 5771 • B'hukotai

ETHAN RUBIN MEIROVITZ

איתן בן מאיר ועטרה

Son of Caron Rubin & Marc Meirovitz

Honoring Ethan on his bar mitzvah, his parents will be sponsoring the Kiddush and congregational Shabbat luncheon.

Mitzvah Program: While I enjoy volunteering for many agencies, my most meaningful mitzvot were done as a member of Boy Scout Troop 738 which is chartered by the JCC. These projects range from helping the elderly to cleaning up the environment. My most memorable scouting service project was honoring deceased Jewish War Veterans on Memorial Day at Beth El Memorial Park. Our troop placed small American flags at the grave of each veteran and also participated in the flag raising and service. This service project was meaningful for me because it was a lot of work, and honored members of our community whom we cannot forget.



May 28, 2011 • 24 Iyar 5771 • Bemidbar

JONAH LOUIS KUPRITZ

יונה ליב בן בצלאל ורבקה

Son of Riva & Craig Kupritz

Honoring Jonah on his bar mitzvah, Beryl & Florence Miller and Phil & Lois Kupritz will be sponsoring the Kiddush and congregational Shabbat luncheon.

Mitzvah Program: One mitzvah that has meant a lot to me has been visiting my elderly relatives and playing bingo with the residents at the Sholom Home. I am also donating some of my bar mitzvah money to purchase swim stuff for less fortunate kids to have for the summer. I have enjoyed volunteering at Feed My Starving Children a number of times. I feel that the most important mitzvot are the everyday kind that I try to do as often as possible, whether it's talking to my friend with cancer or helping others smile when they feel down. As a bar mitzvah, I hope to continue these small, everyday mitzvot that make a big difference.



May 28, 2011 • 24 Iyar 5771 • Bemidbar

SHOSHANA EVA LEVITON

שושנה בת אשר וצביה

Daughter of Tzivia & Joel Leviton

Honoring Shoshana on her bat mitzvah, Rosa Stein will be sponsoring the Kiddush and congregational Shabbat luncheon.

Mitzvah Program: A meaningful mitzvah for me was breakfast bagging, putting together bags with quick and easy snacks, for the patients and families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. This meant a lot to me because some close friends, while in a strange city, prematurely had their first son. The Ronald McDonald House gave them a warm, safe place to stay in a time of uncertainty and need. I also packed school supplies for schools in Minneapolis, packed food at HMJDS V.O.I.C.E. Night, helped match and wrap presents for families through Hag Sameach, and I'm donating swimsuits and towels to the Boys and Girls Club for summer programs.



Monday, May 30, 2011 • 24 Iyar 5771 • Naso

SARAH ELIZABETH PARNES

שרה אלישבע בת גרשון שאול ורחל

Daughter of Rachel & Gary Parnes

Mitzvah Program: My favorite mitzvah was Shimirat Haadama, Preserving the Earth. I participated in a RAVE (River Action Volunteer Events). During the event I helped to remove invasive species plants on the Mississippi River as well as pick up trash and collect and plant native seeds. Other mitzvot that I did were donating coats to Coats for Kids, helping pack meals at Feed My Starving Children, donating items to The Animal Humane Society, playing piano at an assisted living facility and delivering gifts at Hanukkah for the Hag Samaech program. After my Bat Mitzvah, I will be donating books to Sojourner Shelter.

Beth El Sings!

"Beth El Sings" First Israeli Song of the Month Club by Phyllis Harris

It was a dark and snowy night (not so much snowing as sleeting), but the atmosphere at the home of Ruth and Jonathan Paradise was warm, friendly and upbeat, as we sang Israeli songs, both old and new. Some of the songs we knew and others we learned so everyone could participate. Great guitar accompaniment was provided by Art Shragg. When we were done singing, we enjoyed warm drinks, delicious treats and good company. It was the first Israeli Song of the Month Club for "Beth El Sings." As you may recall, Beth El received a grant from the Legacy Heritage Project to introduce more music into congregational life. This is being accomplished through teaching in services, as well as through teaching visits by "m'shanim" (ambassadors) to organizations and groups within the synagogue and by house parties in private homes. If you are interested in hosting a house party, please contact kridertsk117@hotmail.com.

The next Israeli Song of the Month gathering is May 17th. See page 3.



MAY EVENTS

For more information,
call our Beth El
Information Line at
952-345-2199,
see our display case in
the Ring Lobby, or go to
www.bethelsynagogue.org/beth-el-sings.



Saturday the 7th

Yad B'Yad open choir for children in grades 1 – 4.
Meets about ½ hour after services end every other
Shabbat morning.

Saturday the 14th

Z'mirot (table singing) following Shabbat morning services

Tuesday, May 17th

Israeli Song-of-the-Month Club (See page 3)

Saturday the 21st

Yad B'Yad open choir for children in grades 1 – 4.
Meets about ½ hour after services end every other
Shabbat morning.

Saturday the 28th

Club Hallel - Come to continue learning Hallel melodies
10–10:30 a.m. Gruman Social Hall Stage.

Tuesday, June 7th

Sacred Chanting 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Meditation practice that uses chants on Jewish texts.

Beth El Sings Hebrew Corner

The central prayer of the service is ah-mi-DAH עֲמִידָה
Also called shmoh-neh ehs-REH שְׁמוֹנֵה עֲשָׂרָה
Literally "18" because of the original number of blessings
It is the central part of the additional service mu-SAHF מוֹסַף
on Shabbat shah-BAHT. שַׁבָּת



*The complete article by Cantor Neil Newman,
"Synagogue Music at a Glance: Why We Sing What We
Sing," is online at www.bethelsynagogue.org/beth-el-sings*



ARTHUR & IRENE STILLMAN TORAH WEEKEND
Piyutim...Bringing Prayer to Life Through Poetry

with Scholar-in-Residence
Yair Harel

Artistic Director of the Jerusalem Piyut Festival

Beginning Friday Night, June 10...

- 5:45 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Summer Style Services
with special Middle Eastern Instrumental Ensemble
- 7:15 p.m. Dinner
- 8:15 p.m. Presentation: *"Prayer, Poetry and Passion"**

COST FOR DINNER: \$15 for Adults; \$9 for kids 12 and under.
**No cost for presentation only*

And continuing Shabbat morning...

SHABBAT MORNING - JUNE 11

- 10:00 a.m. Instrumental Minyan with Yair Harel & Middle Eastern Ensemble
- 11:00 a.m. Sermon in Song: *"The Art of Piyut - The Poetry of Prayer"*

SHABBAT AFTERNOON STUDY

Lunch & Learn *"Deconstructing and Reconstructing a Piyut"*
30 minutes after services end.

STILLMAN TORAH SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND

Friday Night Dinner Registration - RSVP by June 1st

Name(s) Please list all who are attending

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Adults @ \$15 each = _____

_____ Kids (under 12yrs) @ \$9 each = _____

Total enclosed = _____

Menu:	Children's Menu
Vegetarian Chinese Salad	Chicken Nuggets
Chicken Breast w/Roasted Garlic	French Fries
Roasted Asparagus	Watermelon Chunks
Roasted Fingerling Potatoes	
Vegetarian Option: Vegetable LoMein w/Tofu	
Dessert	

Please make checks payable to BETH EL SYNAGOGUE and send to Beth El Synagogue, ATTN: Stillman Weekend, 5224 West 26th Street, St. Louis Park, MN 55416 or register online at www.bethelsynagogue.org/stillman-dinner



Non-Pharmaceutical Options for Pain Control

submitted by Hadassah Zohara, Shul Nurse*

There are many different options for pain control, both acute and chronic pain. I'm presenting here non-pharmaceutical options and encourage you to consult with your health care practitioner, (e.g. Chiropractor, acupuncturist, M.D., D.O., N.P.).

Naturopathic Doctor for any options you wish to pursue. Remember some people will have excellent results from one type and others will respond better to another. Most of the options I will mention are also helpful for your pets (including Noni).

Some of these treatments are available at hospitals such as Abbott Northwestern Hospital at no extra cost. [Fairview Southdale offers chiropractic care]

Energy healing Qi Gong: An External Qi Healer uses gentle touch or non-contact treatment to reach the client's life energy (qi) and bring it to balance. It is different from western Therapeutic Touch in that it includes a sophisticated method of health assessment and a systematic training for the healer to increase the effectiveness of his or her treatment.

Chiropractic care: Chiropractic treatment involves manual therapy, which includes manipulation of the spine, soft tissues and joints. Treatment also includes dietary, exercise and preventive education.

Reiki: Administered by "laying on hands" and is based on the idea that an unseen "life force energy" flows through us and is what causes us to be alive. If one's "life force energy" is low, then we are more likely to get sick or feel stress, and if it is high, we are more capable of being happy and healthy.

Healing Touch Healing Touch: A relaxing, nurturing energy therapy. Gentle touch assists in balancing your physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Healing Touch works with your energy field to support your natural ability to heal. It is safe for all ages and works in harmony with standard medical care.

Meditation: Can assist with pain control, there are many types to choose from and classes are available throughout our area.

Pain Clinic Specialized clinics: Offer not only medication as an option, but also different approaches such as salt water soaking pools and TENS units ("TENS" is the acronym for Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation. A "TENS unit" is a pocket size, portable, battery-operated device that sends electrical impulses to certain parts of the body to block pain signals).

Alexander Technique: A gentle and effective method for improving posture and for alleviating back pain, stress and many common ailments.

Noni: Is a traditional plant-based medicine, the fruit, flower, leaves, bark and root of morinda citrifolia have all been employed for diverse medicinal purposes. It is sold as a juice, and also as a dry fruit leather, available at stores such as Whole Foods/Lake Winds (but also can be ordered fresh from Hawaii -the only noni my dog will drink). Benefits which have received scientific support include; arthritis, allergies, asthma, fibromyalgia, diabetes, digestion, energy, pain, sleep, menstrual/menopausal problems and cancer. Noni has been in use internationally for hundreds of years.

Please contact Hadassah Zohara at 952-920-3512, ext. 7356 for more information.

Do you need a hand?

We're here!

Call our hotline at

952-920-3512 x 7350

Can you lend a hand? We need you!

Contact Jo Ann Gruesner at

jgruesner@gmail.com or call 952-920-7350





Loaves & Fishes

We help provide a wonderful meal for people in need in South Minneapolis. Call Diana Rosen at 952-922-7389 to reserve a place on our serving team. *The next opportunities to*

serve will be Tuesdays, May 24 and July 26, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Feed My Starving Children

Many thanks to Beth El volunteers who packed food for starving children in Haiti and earthquake survivors in Japan. A total of 10,584 meals were packed. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Jane Polansky at rbpolansky@yahoo.com or 942-544-1462. *The next opportunity to pack food will be Tuesday, June 14, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Chanhassen*

Beth El Small Consumer Electronics Recycling Fundraiser

Donate your used hand-held electronics by bringing them to the Beth El office during regular business hours. Your items are tax deductible and will be recycled in accordance with EPA regulations or refurbished by nonprofit Recycling Fundraiser (formerly EcoPhones). All proceeds go directly to Beth El programs. The acceptable items are: cellular phones, inkjet printer cartridges, laptop/notebook computers, MP3 players, digital cameras, digital picture frames, and portable navigation and GPS devices. For more information, contact Committee Chair Mike Frisch, 952-933-3169.

Knead A Hand?

Yad v' Lev, Beth El's Caring Community, began a partnership with Seven Stars Coffee House (a kosher certified restaurant and coffee shop located in Edina). We need volunteers to pick up and deliver the food left at the end of the day to local food shelves such as PRISM, located in Golden Valley, Sabathani Community Center in Minneapolis and The Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery. If you would like to volunteer for this mitzvah, even one day a month, contact Jo Ann Gruesner at jgruesner@gmail.com.



Caption: Aleph School participates in Beth El's March Food drive delivering bags to STEP. This year, we donated 875lbs (100 more than last year). Volunteers included: **Naomi Zuk, Wendy Lovell-Smith, Noah Smith, Maya Smith, Jonah Smith, Zoe Lipschultz, Isaac Lipschultz, Jodi Lipschultz, Marilyn Weisberg, Anne Devitt.**



Women's League News

by *Marlene Bukstein, President*

This is the last article for the Shofar that I will write as President of Beth El Synagogue Women's League. On Tuesday May 3, the gavel was passed to Karen Rubin. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped to make these past years of my presidency years of personal growth and achievements. The friendships made, the teamwork and camaraderie are memories I will always cherish. Thank you to the women of Beth El Women's League for giving me this opportunity to serve Women's League and our Beth El community. I am proud to present the Beth El Synagogue Women's League Executive Committee for 2011-2012:

Karen Rubin, President

Shayne Karasov, Executive VP/Programming

Debby Deutsch, Administrative VP

Rita Cook, Ways and Means VP

Jodi Lebewitz-Davis, Membership VP

Marilyn Lieberman, Financial Secretary

Rosa Stein, Recording Secretary

Pennie Stillman, Corresponding Secretary

Barbara Gottlieb, Treasurer

Marlene Bukstein, Immediate Past President

I congratulate these women on accepting the leadership of Beth El Women's League and I am confident that they will strive to uphold the mission of Women's League "to understand and perpetuate Conservative/Masorti Judaism in the home, synagogue and community and reinforce their bonds with Israel and with Jews worldwide."

Continued on the next page

Women's League News Cont'd from previous page

Learning Mah Jongg On the first and third Sunday of each month, Freada Golden and Marcy Pearlman are teaching Mah Jongg in the Gruman Social Hall. If you have always wanted to learn, if you would like to help teach, if you would like to play, there are tables of all skill levels. The afternoon begins at 12:00. Everyone is welcome – all ages, men & women! For more information contact Freada at 952-922-6667 or Marcy at 763-559-4593 or pearlsam@comcast.net.

The Afternoon Book Review is once again meeting on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Marcia Oleisky and Toots Vodovoz are overseeing the group. We remember Sylvia Schwartz z"l who was so dedicated to our book review program. In February the group welcomed Phyllis Harris who reviewed Dara Horn's "A Different Night." Carolyn Geer reviewed two books by Israeli author Aharon Appelfeld - "Blooms of Darkness" and "The Story of a Life." The May selections will be announced.

Evening Book Group Margie Howell is chairing the Evening Book Group, which meets in the members' homes on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The April meeting was at the home of Marlene Bukstein. "The 188th Cry Baby Brigade: A Skinny Jewish Kid from Chicago Fights Hezbollah—A Memoir" by Joel Chasoff. was discussed. Contact Marggie at 952-829-1867 or margiejhowell@hotmail.com for more information. Additionally, there has been interest in starting another book club with women who are 50ish or younger. If you would be interested in becoming a member of this group, please contact Marlene at 763-546-0355 or wlicnic@comcast.net. You need not be a member of Women's League to participate in any of our programs.

HAMANTASHEN! Hopefully you had a chance to purchase the best Hamantaschen in the Twin Cities. Linda Tell with the help of her mentor Phyllis Harris supervised as 88 veteran bakers and first time bakers all came together Sunday mornings to bake a total of 868 DOZEN Hamantaschen! Yasher Koah to Linda, Phyllis and ALL the rollers, fillers and kleppers, the packers and to Adina Goldstein for her supervision of the dough making. We hope that this project also makes lots of "dough."

Dancing with the Stars – Beth El Style Linda Estrin did a stellar job in leading "Dancing with the Stars – Beth El Style" in raising over \$7,000 for Beth El Synagogue. Thanks to the committee members who put together this remarkable evening. Todah Rabah to Maggie Blehert, Steve Blehert, Lori Chase, Terry Cohen, Rita Cook, Debbie Deutsch, Beverlee Fine, Howard Friedman, Pam Friedman, Nancy Garber, Barbara Gottlieb, Rivel Greenberg, Adina Goldstein, Marla Harris, Phyllis Harris, Lisa Heilicher, Cindy Katz, Sydney Katz, Harvey

Keller, Sylvia Keller, Rachel Klein, Andrea Levich, Stan Levich, Debbie Lieberman, Carol Lichterman, Joyce Prohofsky, Karen Rubin, Ben Shein, Robyn Schein, Annette Walder, Jennifer Zacks and Sara Zuk. The coveted Dancing with the Stars, Beth El Style trophies went to Judy Victor and Alan Yousha for the best dancers of the evening and the popular vote was won by Marlene & Jim Bukstein. What a wonderful evening! Kudos to all the couples who participated.

Thanks to Debby Deutsch, Jacki Broze and their committee for working so diligently on the Special Women's Seder. Betsy Sitkoff the Manager of the Jewish Community Health Awareness Initiative was the honored guest speaker. The seder benefited the Jewish Domestic Abuse Collaborative.

Shabbat Greeters When you attend services on Shabbat morning you can expect to be greeted by a Beth El Women's League Shabbat Greeter. You do not have to be a woman or a Women's League member to be a greeter. Contact Artie Silverman (763-377-0460 or mortsilv@aol.com) to volunteer to be a greeter. Todah Rabah to Artie and all the people who are greeters.

May 15–17 IntraContinental Region Conference This year's conference will bring together Women's League members from all across our region, an area extending from Canada to Texas, to spend a few days together learning, sharing and having fun at the Airport Hilton in St. Paul. If you are a member and would like to learn more or if you are not yet a member but would like to become involved this is a great opportunity. Please contact Shayne at 952-926-8873 or shayne_karasov@msn.com for more information and an application.

Women's League Calendar Work has begun on the Women's League congregational calendar. We are accepting ad and listings on the Chai & L'Shanah Tovah pages. Ads may be placed using a charge by visiting the website www.bethelsynagogue.org/wl-calendar. For more information contact Rosa Stein at 763-544-0655 or pstein3@comcast.net. Each Beth El family and all the advertisers will receive a calendar.

Our programs and events are open to everyone! You do not need to be a Women's League member to participate. We appreciate hearing from you with ideas or questions. We are all working together to make Beth El a warm and welcoming community – please join us!

“Dirty Rotten Scoundrels” production featuring Beth El Member

Local actor and member of Beth El, Kim Kivens, will be performing the role of Muriel Eubanks in Minneapolis Musical Theatre’s area premiere of DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS at the Illusion Theater. A voice-over and on-camera talent, Kim has performed on-stage at the Guthrie, the Illusion and Hennepin Stages, amongst others. The Illusion Theater is located on the 8th floor in the Hennepin Center for the Arts building (corner of 6th and Hennepin Avenue, downtown Minneapolis). DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS: the musical, which is based on the film of the same title by Jeffrey Lane and David Yazbek, will be running from June 10-26, 2011. Visit www.aboutmmt.org for ticket and showtime information.

Tom Friedman to Speak at Talmud Torah of Minneapolis Annual Benefit

Sunday, May 15, 2011 at Adath Jeshurun Congregation
Beth El member Liz Pomish along with Roni Gingold, put together the finishing touches for the 2011 Annual Benefit for Talmud Torah of Minneapolis. Gingold and Pomish are the co-chairs for this year’s event. Thomas L. Friedman, internationally renowned author, reporter, and columnist, will be honored as a distinguished alumnus for his lifetime achievement. Also to be honored are Dr. Mort and Merle Kane, longtime community leaders and philanthropists who will be recognized for their ongoing commitment to Jewish education. Ticket prices start at \$60 and include a dessert reception. In addition to the benefit evening, Talmud Torah of Minneapolis is sponsoring an online auction with all proceeds benefiting the school. Over 100 items will be up for bid including Minnesota Twins and Vikings tickets, fine jewelry, hotel packages, autographed sports memorabilia, and much more! The auction will be held from April 27 to May 11, with items already available to preview at www.biddingforgood.com/tmpls. For more information or to reserve tickets, call 952-381-3300 or visit www.talmudtorahmpls.org.

Celebrate Israel’s 63rd Independence Day and Israel Independence Day

The Israel Center of the Minneapolis Jewish Federation and Sabes Jewish Community Center are helping the Minneapolis Jewish community come together to celebrate Yom Ha’atzmaut, Israel’s 63rd Independence Day. Yom Ha’atzmaut festivities will begin at 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 11 at the Sabes Jewish Community Center. The family-friendly celebration will include Israeli food, music, dancing, and arts & crafts. The event will also feature a special performance and “shira betzibur” (sing-a-long) by Mark Bloom and Vanessa Dembo of Kavanessence and Israeli folk dancing with Shira Schwartz. This event is free and open to the public. Food will be available for purchase. A special service is also being held for Yom Hazikaron, Israel’s Memorial Day, at 7 p.m. on Sunday, May 8 at Beth El Synagogue in St. Louis Park. This Twin Cities event will commemorate fallen soldiers and those who gave their lives for the state of Israel. Israeli soldiers from the Paratroopers Reconnaissance Unit will be present for both events. For more information, contact the Israel Center at 952.417.2321 or eharel@mplsfed.org or online at www.jewishminneapolis.org/calendar and click on May 8 or May 11.

Pathways
HEALTH CRISIS RESOURCE CENTER
RENEWING LIFE WITHIN.
RENEWING LIFE TOGETHER.



Pathways is a building, space and community offering opportunities to explore holistic health through classes, special events and individual sessions.

Those participating in Pathways’ free services are supported in taking charge of their healing journey - wherever it may lead.

WWW.PATHWAYSMINNEAPOLIS.ORG
612-822-9061

Corrected ad reprinted from the Deepak Chopra event adbook. Our apologies to our promotional partners at Pathways for the error.

Beth El Endowments and Program Funds provide an important source of income, enabling Beth El to offer added services and programs and to make improvements to the facility. You can honor or remember family members and friends or special events with contributions to any of the Beth El Endowment Funds or Program Funds. Send donations to: Beth El Synagogue, 5224 West 26th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55416. Indicate the fund to which you want to contribute, the purpose of the contribution, and to whom you would like an acknowledgement sent.. A complete listing of funds are available by calling the front desk at 952-920-3512 or donate online at www.bethelsynagogue.org (click on "Donate") If you would like to establish a new fund in your name or in the name of a loved one, please contact Marilyn Weisberg at Beth El, at 952-920-3512, ext.7303.

Beth El Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions

This list reflects donations made to funds from March 2 - April 1, 2011 Contributions received after April 1, 2011 will be listed in the June/July 2011 issue of the *Shofar*. If you **do not** want your name listed, please include a note when you make your contribution.

Cantor Abrams Celebrate the Arts Fund

In Honor of Dr. Jim And Marlene Bukstein's New Grandson
Rosa Stein

Cantor Newman Tribute Fund

In Memory of Irwin Rubenstein
Michael and Deborah Armel

Congregational Nurse Fund

In Memory of Judy Cooper
Rosa Stein

Feldman-Bernstein Family Fund

In Honor of Jason and Leslie Sell's 10 Anniversary (May 6, 2011)
Sharon Levine

Frances Kvasnick Business Educational Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Betty Kvasnik
Barbara Kvasnick-Nunez

Greater Beth El

For Speedy Recovery of Joyce Berman
Melvin & Ronnie Burstein

For The Recent Marriage of Micki Herman & Neil Kay
Michael & Linda Platt

In Appreciation of Cindy Amberger
Stacy & Steve Finkelstein & Family

In Honor of Linda Tell for Chairing Hamantashen Baking
Jerry & Louise Ribnick

In Honor of Sally and Jon Minsberg's 35th Wedding Anniversary
Richard & Marilyn Chern

In Memory of Ben Brodsky
Daniel & Linda Poznanovic

John Badger
Jon Steidel

R.N.A. Board of Directors, c/o Patsy Kneller
Royal Neighbors of America

Steven Ylvisaker & Cheryl Hochmuth-Ylvisaker

In Memory of Burton Savitt
Sandy & Deborah Selnick

In Memory of Irwin Rubenstein
Michael and Deborah Armel

Robert & Norma Segal

In Memory of Jim Miller
Peter & Serene Simon

In Memory of Nate Zweigbaum
Gary & Arlene Grossman

Sandy & Deborah Selnick

In Memory of Richard Diamond
Martin & Diane Greenberger

In Memory of Shale Wilensky
Amy & Stan Baratz

Hannah Bialick Yom Shalaim Fund

In Memory of Hannah Bialick
Tristram & Sandra Hage

In Memory of Nathan Zweigbaum
Michael and Deborah Armel

L'dor Vador Capital Campaign

In Memory of Estelle Kane
Brad & Susan Melnick

In Memory of Ron Ungerman, Sr.
Michael & Susan Blehert

Jacob & Ann Scherling Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Irwin Rubenstein
Diana Idelkope

Harold & Eileen Scherling

Ivan and Karen Brodsky Presidential Fund

In Memory of Dick Diamond
In Memory of Estelle Kane

In Memory of Helen Lubet
In Memory of Ron Ungerman, Sr.

In Memory of Sue Persin
Mazel Tov On Sarah Olitzky's PhD

Dr. Ivan & Karen Brodsky

Philip and Rivel Greenberg Family Fund for Holocaust

Happy Birthday to Burt Weisberg
Bobby & Phil Bloom

Philip & Rivel Greenberg

In Honor of The Birth of Michael J. Faygin
Boris & Falina Avrutin

Rabbi Kassel Abelson USY Leadership Fund

Happy Birthday to Sybil Rubin
Beverly Manes

Rabbi Olitzky Discretionary Fund

In Honor of Sarah Olitzky On Achieving Your PhD
Jerry & Louise Ribnick

Rabbi Rob Kahn Adult Education Fund

In Memory of Estelle Kane
Fred & Harriette Burstein

Rabbi Kassel Abelson USY Leadership Fund

In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Marschinke
In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Segelbaum

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Morgan Dachis
In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Aleeza Mandel

Rabbi Kassel Abelson

Rose & Sol Bukstein Sukkah Fund

In Memory of Esther Milgrom
In Memory of Mary Doroshov

Dr. James & Marlene Bukstein

Mazel Tov On The Birth Of Reuben Bukstein
Ron & Nancy Kaplan

Summer Pilgrim Experience in Israel Fund

In Memory of Nathan Zweigbaum
Michael and Deborah Armel

The Arthur & Irene Stillman Educational Fund

In Honor of Bobbie Stillman's Birthday
William & Sharon Hope

The Barney & Gladys Applebaum Aleph School

In Memory of Beni Katz
Dr. Howard & Heidi Gilbert

The Bernard Leviton Gemilat Hesed Fund

In Honor of The Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Beugen
Michael & Janice Greenberg

The David & Marla Frank USY Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Irwin Rubenstein
Clifford & Barbara Gerstenhaber

The Frailich "Yad V' Lev" Caring Community Fund

In Memory of Carolyn Johnson
Reuven & Shereen Rahamim

The Gert & David Cohen Gemilat Hesed Fund

For Speedy Recovery of Cheryl Stein
Reuven & Shereen Rahamim

The Harry & Edith Ostrow General Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Irwin Rubenstein
Sheila Goldstein

The Helen & Don Rosen General Scholarship Fund

In Honor of Don Rosen's 90th Birthday With All Our Best Wishes
Larry & Rita Covin

The Julie Kaplan Memorial Fund

In Honor of Margie Kaplan's 75th Birthday
David & Sara Lieberman

The Landy Aleph School Enrichment Prog. Fund

Mazel Tov On The Birth of Granddaughter Paige Reese Landy
Dr. James & Marlene Bukstein

The Louise & Jerry Ribnick Family Camp Ramah Fund

Mazel Tov On Barbara And Gary Krupp's 30th Anniversary
Jerry & Louise Ribnick

The Mandelbaum USY Essay Fund

In Memory of Jerry Strauss
Allen & Kathy Pickard

The Michael & Nancy Schoenberger Camp Ramah

In Appreciation of Anne Hope For Performing a Mitzvah
In Appreciation of Steve Rosen For Performing a Mitzvah

Ron & Nancy Kaplan

The Mitzi & Maurice Spiegel General Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Helen Lubet
Fred & Harriette Burstein

The Naomi & Max Rotenberg Family Fund

For Speedy Recovery of Mark Rotenberg
In Memory of Ronald Ungerman Sr.

Dr. James & Marlene Bukstein

The Nemerov-Lava General Scholarship Fund

Happy Birthday to Edith Lava
Carole & Marty Kaplan

In Honor of Edith Lava's 95th Birthday
Liba & Tommy Stillman

Peggy Lavick

In Memory of Ron Ungerman, Sr.
Leslie & Peter Bacig

In Memory of Shale Wilensky
Dr. Neil & Diane Hoffman

The Philip & Bobby Bloom Camp Ramah Fund

In Memory of Beloved Mother And Grandmother, Sylvia Berkowitz
In Memory of Rubin Rubenstein

Dr. Phillip & Bobby Bloom

The Raleigh Goldberg Materials Fund

In Appreciation of Gary Fursotzer & Rhonda Feist
Roxanne Ruid

The Rita Melamed Accessibility Endowment Fund

In Memory of Richard Diamond
Stuart & Carolyn Bloom

The Sally & Sam Greenberg Herzl Camp Scholarship Fund

Happy Anniversary to Steve and Harolyn Rudyoy on their 40th
Harley & Ellen Greenberg

The Shirley R. Abelson Aleph School Fund

For Speedy Recovery of Janet Raskin
Gerald & Marilyn Lapidis

In Honor of The Birth Of Noah Furman
Igor & Elissa Furman

In Memory of Beni Katz
Andrea Norman

Eric & Angela Redlinger
John & Sandra Corbett

R A & Margaret Ungerman
In honor of the birth of Ella Rose Gelfman
In honor of the birth of Jonathan Leo Blehert

Rabbi Kassel Abelson

Richard Diamond Memorial Fund

Thank you for providing meals for our family during Dick's illness and shiva:

- Cantor Barry and Margo Abelson
 Drs. Wendy and Howie Bach
 Dalia and Brian Kirschbaum
 Sandy, David, Brooke and Andrew Benenson
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 In Honor of The Birth of Ella Rose Gelfman
 Fred & Shirley Nassauer
 In Memory of Richard Diamond
 Amy & Stan Baratz
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The Torodor-Levy Family General Scholarship Fund

For Speedy Recovery of Toni Goldstein
 In Memory of Estelle Kane
 Bill, Sharon & Eleanor Torodor

The Sophie & Jerome Teener Fund

In Memory of Richard Diamond
 Mrs. Jerome (Sophie) Teener

Abelson-Aronson Endowment Fund

In honor of 10th anniversary of Jason & Leslie Sell
 In honor of 15th anniversary of Bradley Birnberg & Stacy Pinck
 In honor of 15th anniversary of Jill & Michael Schwartz
 In honor of 15th anniversary of Brian & Shelley Johnson
 In honor of 20th anniversary of Dr. Richard & Barbara Goldstein
 In honor of 20th anniversary of Dan & Deb Mallin
 In honor of 30th anniversary of David & Cindy Bearman
 In honor of 30th anniversary of Jeffrey & Geri Sweet
 In honor of 45th anniversary of Harvey & Arlene Kase
 In honor of 45th anniversary of Jeffrey & Cindy Goldish
 In honor of 45th anniversary of Cary & Judith Shaich
 In honor of 50th anniversary of Michael & Arlene Reich
 In honor of 5th anniversary of Shana Marchand
 In memory of Mary Doroshov
 In memory of Irwin Rubenstein
 In memory of Arlyn Jay Pomush
 In memory of Esther Milgrom
 In memory of Faye Weinberger
 In memory of Sylvia Schwartz
 In memory of Irving L. Rudoy
 In memory of Jan Ribnick
 In memory of Irene Silverman
 In memory of Harold Rosenberg
 In memory of Celia Cohen
 Rabbi Kassel Abelson

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In memory of:

Contributed by:

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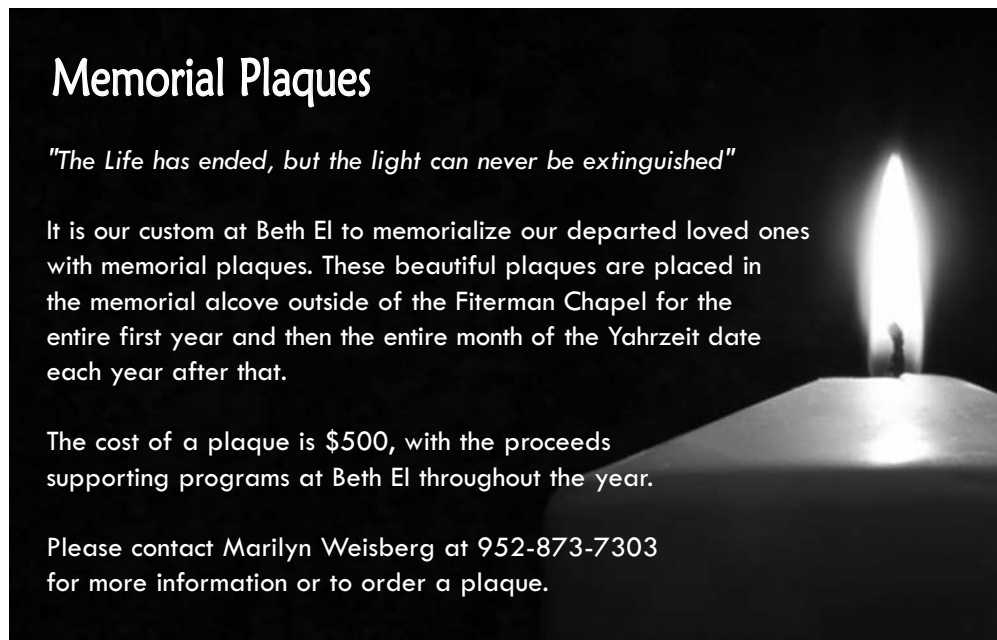
Memorial Plaques

"The Life has ended, but the light can never be extinguished"

It is our custom at Beth El to memorialize our departed loved ones with memorial plaques. These beautiful plaques are placed in the memorial alcove outside of the Fiterman Chapel for the entire first year and then the entire month of the Yahrzeit date each year after that.

The cost of a plaque is \$500, with the proceeds supporting programs at Beth El throughout the year.

Please contact Marilyn Weisberg at 952-873-7303 for more information or to order a plaque.





It's better than Gilligan's or Fantasy Islands!



Join the BETHELDERS and their guests, the B'nai B'rith-ers & Adath Over-the-Hillsiders on a "lots o' winners" trip to:

Treasure Island Casino
Red Wing, MN
Sunday, June 26, 2011
10:30 a.m. Departure

Bethelders Fee: \$6.00 per person.

(Includes tip to driver) plus an \$18 check must be made out to Best Bet Tours (cash accepted, too). The Casino will give you upon arrival a \$3 certificate to use for food, plus a \$15 credit on your Treasure Island Passport Club card to use for gambling.

Your additional package also includes:

- Round trip luxury motor coach transportation (with restroom).
- Help yourself to complimentary soft drinks, bottled water & cookies served enroute.
- Play bus BINGO with hostess, Marlene.
- A surprise useful gift, plus candies.



Bus leaves Beth El Parking lot, West 26th Street, between Raleigh and Salem, at 10:30 a.m. and returns about 5:30 p.m. We only have to stay 4 hours. Reservations are due by June 21, 2011. Before you mail, call Jerry Bronstien at 952-920-4908 for a space. Book early! There are only 52 seats on the bus and they fill up FAST.

Proceeds from these trips enable the Bethelders to charge less for other events.

Next Event: Lake Minnetonka Boat Ride with Al & Alma's on Monday, July 18, 2011

Mail this form with your \$6.00 per person check made out to "Bethelders," and an \$18 check made out to "Best Bet Tours" to Jerry Bronstien, Bethelders, 4908 Morningside Road, Minneapolis, MN 55416. Invite your spouse, relatives or friends for June 26. Cash can be paid on day of trip.

Name(s) _____ Passport Club #: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____



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Allen Oleisky
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SAVE THE DATE

**Arthur and Irene Stillman
Torah Weekend
Friday – Saturday
June 10-11, 2011**

**Piyutim...
Bringing Prayer to
Life through Poetry**

**With Scholar-In-Residence,
Yair Harel**

**Artistic Director of
the Jerusalem Piyut Festival**

See page 11 for details.