



# Congregation Beth El Bulletin

Nisan - Iyar 5776  
May 2016



## End of Year Celebration and Annual Meeting

**Save the Date**

**Friday Evening, June 3rd**

This is a great night for everyone  
in the Beth El Family!

**5:30 pm** - Annual Meeting – a brief review of synagogue finances and voting on the new slate of officers and the board.

**6:30 pm** - Pre-Shabbat Carnival and Cookout. A different kind of Shabbat dinner!  
(The Carnival will be open to kids during the meeting)

**7:45 pm** - Spiritual Kabbalat Shabbat with instruments (instruments are allowed at Beth El before sunset and ma'ariv)

**8:20 pm** - Maariv

**8:45 pm** - Finish

**Family  
FUN Day**

## Counting Up to Revelation, Counting Down to Summer

### By Jeffrey M. Arnowitz

I may have mentioned this before, but one of the congregations I served gave me a rather unique going-away present. Upon the completion of my year as student rabbi, the congregation I'd served presented me with a "Hairy Harry," the little game where you use a magnet to move around metal shavings to make hair or a beard or a mustache. They had crossed out "Harry" and written in "Rabbi." Apparently, they were impressed by the number of times my hair, both on top of my head and on my face, had changed during the year. Mostly though, I suspect they were mostly thinking about this time of year when I, along with many observant Jews, do not shave or get a haircut.



Rabbi Jeffrey M. Arnowitz

We are now deep into the "Sefirat HaOmer" or Counting of the Omer, the ritual counting that links redemption on Passover to

Revelation on Shavuot. Not shaving gives this time period a certain reverence; it reminds me of our ancestors journeying through the desert 3,300 years ago, freed from slavery, but homeless and lawless. At Sinai during the Revelation, we got a home unique to all the peoples of the world. It wasn't a piece of land or a great palace; it was God and the Torah. It may sound odd for God to be our home, but one of our names for God is "HaMakom, the Place." In a real sense, God and our relationship with God through Torah is our refuge and sanctuary, and isn't that what home is? Though the land came 40 years later, it was our home in our faith and our relationship with God that sustained us when we were exiled for 2000 years and they are what continue to sustain us, especially those of us who don't live in Israel.

Some of you may have heard me refer to Beth El as our spiritual home, and I am sure one or two of you have thought that to be a bit dramatic. However, if anything, it's an understatement. As Jews, it is our relationship with God and the Torah, as well as our connection to our fellow Jews that have given us the ability to feel at home wherever we are. The synagogue represents the place in the Diaspora where we can experience all of those things. In that sense, the synagogue, Beth El, is truly our spiritual home.

And so, even as we count up for 50 days remembering our arrival at Sinai and the Revelation of God and Torah as our "home," we are counting down to a celebration of Beth El, our spiritual home.

On Friday evening, June 3rd, we will host our first ever End-of-Year Festival including a short congregational meeting (45 minutes), a Pre-Shabbat Carnival and Cookout (hamburgers and hot dogs for all) and a very special Friday night service including Kabbalat Shabbat with instruments and song (in the summer we can use instruments for the first half of Friday night services). It promises to be a wonderful night – another celebration of our dynamic, musical, joyful and spirited Beth El home and family. Please let the office know if you will be joining us so we can make sure we get the food quantities right, and check out the details of the evening in other parts of this bulletin. Having a place to feel at home no matter where you are is one of the great gifts of Judaism. I hope you'll be with us on June 3rd, as we celebrate the thriving community and home that is our Beth El.

## *A Note From Cantor Wendi*



Dear Beth El family,

I can't believe that it's already May and my installation is right around the corner! It has been such an incredible year and my family and I feel so blessed to have been taken in by such a warm, loving, Hamish community! Over the past months together, I have learned so much about all of you...the ties that bind the community together, the family histories, the stories, the connections, the love and loyalty that is so tangible and is pervasive in everything we do here. We are a community of learners, of doers, of faith, and strongly held beliefs and ideals. This is a community that is timeless and where people of all ages and backgrounds can come and grow. It is with all these thoughts in mind that we, your staff and lay leaders, look toward the summer and beyond to everything we would like to learn and accomplish together in the coming year. So we share with you a couple of initiatives we will be starting in September.

The first offering is for our youth and called "The Ashrei Club" (TAC for short). The Ashrei is one of the longest and most challenging prayers in our liturgy and thus, the completion of this prayer before your Bar/Bat Mitzvah, we feel, should be celebrated and acknowledged as a milestone in its own right. Therefore, as an incentive and reward for learning this prayer completely, those who have finished the Ashrei and have come in front of the community to lead it at least once, can participate in the Ashrei Club. This highly prestigious club will meet once a month during Kiddush for their own special Kiddush in honor of their achievement.

We have also spoken previously about "The Yad Squad." (ThYS) However, we are very excited to roll out ThYS 2.0. This new version involves many accolades and points of recognition on the way to receiving your yad and after as well that we never had before.

While TAC is for those in the pre-B'nai Mitzvah age range, ThYS, will generally be for post B'nai Mitzvah age. However, let me say this, **THIS GROUP IS FOR ALL AGES** who have read 5 times or more! Each Bar/Bat Mitzvah, upon their special day, will be given a "ONE FREE TORAH READING" pass and an explanation of the program. To belong to ThYS, you will need to have read at least 5 times at which point you will receive a certificate and a special kippah. At 10 times you will receive a t-shirt with The Yad Squad logo on it and a tikkun. Of course, on the 18th reading you will receive your YAD in front of the congregation! At the moment, we only go to 18, however, we look forward to creating more benchmarks as we go and our readers continue their mitzvah and their growth. To acknowledge and celebrate this growing community of readers, each month ThYS, will have its own special Kiddush as well (on the same day as TAC) where we will announce all the new records from the previous month. Remember...**ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!**

In addition to these two programs, we will also be providing learning opportunities for those who would like to be more familiar with the services we hold in general. We have spoken to many of you who said that you would like to understand and grasp the service better and we have heard you and are responding with several offerings that will enhance your comfort and knowledge of the services and their prayers.

Firstly, every Sunday morning at 9:15 (Religious School drop off time) we will have a learner's service where, along with our 6th and 7th graders, we will learn about the history, background, and main themes of the prayers that make up our weekday and Shabbat morning services.

Secondly, every week in the weekly email, I will expound on a "prayer of the week." I will include my favorite attributes of each prayer, who wrote it, and why it came to be chosen by the Rabbis. Then I will include recordings of the tunes we typically do in the service here as well as some others that I love for your listening pleasure. You can vote on the ones you love best.

Finally, we will be offering classes throughout the year that will focus on enhancing our knowledge of the liturgy in general and getting into a more spiritual focus on why we pray.

We hope that you will take advantage of these offerings and these opportunities to grow in your knowledge and understanding of what prayer can be to you in your life. We look forward to going on this journey with you!

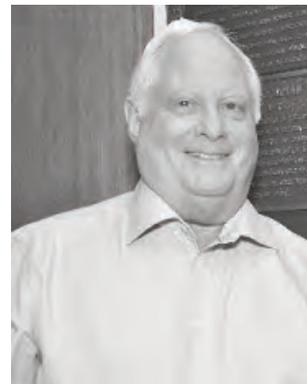
Have a wonderful month of May and enjoy all the spring has to offer!

Cantor Wendi

## A Message From Our President

Dear Beth El Family,

As my two year term as President of this great congregation comes to an end (on June 3rd), I must tell you what a great honor and privilege it has been to serve in that position. The two years have gone by very quickly and I have been very busy. I think you would be amazed at how much goes on behind the scenes with a very lean but tough, hardworking staff; wonderful, inspiring and very conscientious clergy; and a slew of dedicated volunteers. I must mention our incredibly diligent and dedicated Executive Director, Pam Gladstone, who has been in that position for twenty-five years and to whom we owe many, many thanks for her tireless work; and Larry Dobrinsky, who has been our very dedicated volunteer Treasurer for twenty-five years to whom we owe many thanks as he retires from this position.



Jerry Kantor, President

As the old adage says, one person cannot do it all and you must know that the Vice Presidents have been extremely hardworking and dedicated and cannot be praised too highly for the work they did to make our team, which I hope you will agree, do a wonderful job over our two years free of congregational controversy.

I can only hope that I have met your expectations although, honestly, I never meet my own.

For your information, I list the following major accomplishments and works in progress from the last two years.

Again, many thanks to all of you for the honor and privilege of allowing me to serve in the footsteps of my father, who served as President from 1958-1962 and for all of your support.

### Accomplishments

- \* Adopted a new constitution
- \* Extended Rabbi Arnowitz's contract for an additional five years.
- \* Hired Cantor Wendi
- \* Applied and received a grant of \$75,000 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to enhance our security systems.
- \* We are in the process of completely remodeling our Sunday School and Hebrew School curriculum and teaching techniques.
- \* We are in the process of studying the needed repairs and updating of our facilities including work on our electrical system, HVAC, roofs and a water intrusion issue.
- \* We are having conversations and meetings with an architect regarding potential renovations to our facilities to make better use of our space.
- \* Building our Endowment Fund.
- \* Have improved our financial status.
- \* We are studying the feasibility of different dues models.
- \* Redone and greatly enhanced our website.
- \* Refurnished Kramer Lounge through the generosity of one of the Kramer Family Funds.

Jerry Kantor, President

## Lunch & Learn Schedule

### Wednesdays at 12 noon

### May 4th, 11th & 18th

It's our annual Lunch & Learn Cookout

**May 18th**

Beth El Courtyard and some indoor learning



We will have a hot dog and hamburger cookout outside in the courtyard. The group will gather outside to eat and socialize. Then if it is hot, we will move to the Library to learn, too. The cost of the lunch, as always, will be five dollars per person. If you are not a Lunch and Learn regular, please call the office so that the staff can prepare the proper amount of food. There is room for everyone at the table, but it would be helpful if you would let us know to expect you. Please call the Beth El office at 625-7821 to RSVP.

## It's a special Yom Ha'atzmaut edition of

# Torah on Tap

Its all the usual fun of Torah on Tap – good folks, meaningful learning and delicious refreshments – with a special Israel Independence Day theme.



**When:** Thursday May 12th, 7pm - 9pm

**Where:** The 11th Street Taphouse

1011 Atlantic Avenue

Virginia Beach



Please RSVP to the office so we know how many to reserve for.



**Yom Hashoah Holocaust Remembrance Day Community Event**  
**Wednesday, May 4th**  
**6:45 pm**  
**Temple Israel**  
**7255 Granby Street, Norfolk**  
**Free and open to the public**

The 2016 community Yom Hashoah commemoration remembers Holocaust survivors, victims, liberators and Righteous Gentiles. Special guest speaker is Jeannie Opdyke Smith, who shares the story of her late mother, Polish rescuer, Irene Gut Opdyke. The evening includes a candle lighting ceremony, songs and prayers. Additionally, student winners of the annual Elie Wiesel Writing and Visual Arts competitions and teachers receiving the Holocaust Commission Educators' Awards will be honored. For more information, please visit [www.holocaustcommission.org](http://www.holocaustcommission.org).

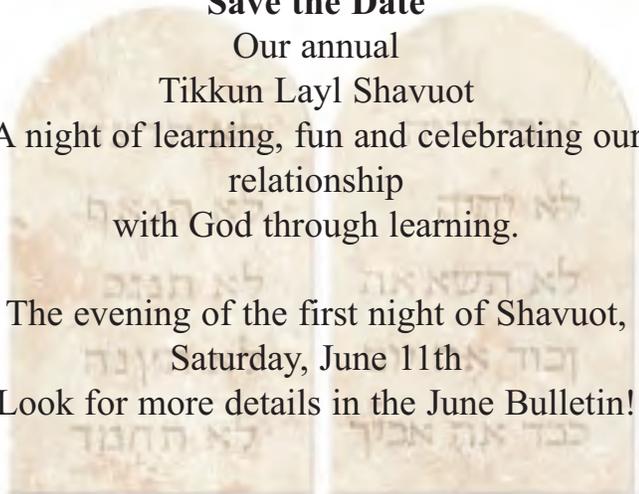
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**Reading of the Names on Yom Hashoah**  
**Thursday, May 5th**  
**10 am - 4 pm**  
**Simon Family JCC**  
**5000 Corporate Woods Drive, Virginia Beach**  
**Free and open to the public**

Community members are invited to listen to, or help read aloud, the names of victims who perished in the holocaust. Sponsored by the Beth El Men's Club



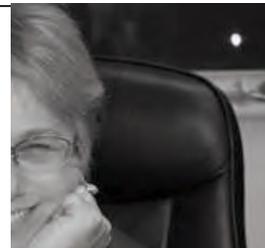
**Save the Date**  
Our annual  
Tikkun Layl Shavuot  
A night of learning, fun and celebrating our  
relationship  
with God through learning.  
The evening of the first night of Shavuot,  
Saturday, June 11th  
Look for more details in the June Bulletin!



**Save this Date!!**  
**Kid's Tikkun for Shavuot 5776**  
**Sunday morning, June 12th**  
**11:00 AM in the Library**  
**Age Group: Kindergarten thru 7th grade**

## Is it Fair to Ask Why? by Sharon Wasserberg, Education Director

A few weeks prior to celebrating becoming a Bat Mitzvah, my rabbi called me into his office. He explained that my mother had asked him to speak with me about my expectation of being permitted to wear my own tallit just like all the Bar Mitzvah boys did. According to her, my Bubbie would be mortified by such behavior. He asked me why I wanted one (a tallit). My response was a simple “because I do.” This was deemed an insufficient explanation and unworthy of a soon-to-be 13-year-old Jewish woman. After being lectured about honoring one’s beloved grandparent and mother, I was dismissed. There was no tallit for Sharon on her Bat Mitzvah day. Some 30 years later my eldest child celebrated becoming a Bar Mitzvah with the same parsha as I and the situation was rectified when I purchased my first tallit.



That experience has colored how I interact with others and especially children ever since. Expecting a non-adult to explain their rationale for an action they have committed or belief they hold dear at a level of an adult is bound to result in frustration and anger. Actually, expecting another person of any age to explain their rationale for an action or belief in a manner adjudged by the questioner to be acceptable is also bound to result in frustration and anger. We see the results of these unmet expectations every day. This is, after all, an election year. Try having a dispassionate conversation with someone who holds a different opinion or is of an opposite political persuasion as you. It’s not pretty.

Several weeks ago, our BERS Sunday morning tefillah session included a discussion about Mr. Jay Ipson, co-founder of the Virginia Holocaust Museum in Richmond, and the topic he was going to present. He was going to speak with our students and their parents and I had wanted to provide some background to the children. One of our third graders asked why Hitler had focused his hatred on the Jews. I’m an adult. I’m the principal. I’m an experienced and professionally trained and educated Jewish educator. I’m supposed to know the answers to all the kids’ questions. An attorney I know used to say that when cross-examining a witness either during a deposition or at trial; one never asks a question which the attorney does not already know the answer. In theory, that works. But that third grader was not an attorney and I was not on the witness stand. What is one supposed to say when the question being asked is “why” and there is no good answer? How does one respond? What did Mrs. ‘W’ do?

When kids of any age ask why, my first response is to champion the question. I’ve been teaching a very long time and some of my students are now in their early 50’s with children of their own. In all these past 40+ years, my first response has always been “what an extraordinary question?” I explain that some questions do not have a clear-cut and unequivocal answer. It’s not like  $2 + 2 = 4$  (in a base 10 system). The lack of a simple answer or rationale, however, doesn’t mean we don’t try to figure out a possible solution. It also doesn’t mean that the possible solution we come up with at first is the same answer we come up with later on in our life.

Our holy and time-honored texts combined with our ongoing life experiences help us figure out what is correct or at least reasonable and rational.

And so my response to that third grade student was that regardless of the reasons behind Hitler’s opinions and actions, our responsibility as Jews is to ensure that a Holocaust never happens ever again anywhere or to anyone. We need to put that front and center as we light our yellow Holocaust remembrance candles this month.

B’shalom, Sharon

### Shabbat Morning Programming for the Kinder (Kindergarten through 5th grades)

May 2016

May 7th: Alien Fire

May 14th: Derekh Eretz

May 21st: Pesach Sheini & Lag B’Omer

May 28th: Finishing a Good Book

### BERS 2016-2017 School Year Kick-off Program

**Sunday, September 11th**

Registration forms will be available  
“on-line” as of June 1st

Greetings,

By the time this bulletin comes out, Passover will be over and the summer months will be here shortly. However, we would like to take a step backwards and thank Ina Leiderman for organizing the Sisterhood Shabbat and to thank the many Sisterhood participants who had made our Shabbat so special. Below is our greeting that we read to the congregation on March 26th. We just want to share our thoughts again and with those who were not able to attend. So please read our final greeting as co-presidents of Congregation Beth El.

“On this Women’s League Shabbat, we are celebrating women of accomplishment. The *ishet chayil*, the book of Proverbs is a model for us all to revere. She is accomplished. She is resourceful. She is industrious. She thinks about the future. Who better to emulate?

Our members have been celebrating the anniversary of the founding of Women’s League for almost as many years as Women’s League has been in existence. Look at what the women in our organization have accomplished in that time. A half a century ago in their synagogues, the kitchen was the principle domain for our members. Synagogue membership was offered only to its male members and until the mid 1980s our members were identified still by their husband’s name.

Today our members can do it all. We read Torah and lead services. We are the synagogue presidents, the Hebrew school principals, the cantors and the rabbis. We are also school administrators, attorneys, architects and business owners. And yes, we still bake, serve and work in the kitchen because each of us finds her way to Women’s League through a variety of portals.

It’s a new world, one where we can come together, regardless of our interests and skills, to form a network of committed Conservative Jewish women.”

As we end our co-presidency we want to share with you how honored we are to have served and worked with our sisters (in the hood). We’ve seen how very important you are to Beth El and we thank you. Keep up the good work - you are the best! And now we’d like to leave you with this Sisterhood Shabbat poem by Robyn Feurberg entitled “I love my shoes.”

I love all my shoes  
I love the black ones, blue ones, the two tones, the flats,  
the heels and the in-betweens.  
I love my shoes with buckles and my boots with zippers  
I love my aqua blue sneakers and my bright fluffy  
slippers  
I love my sandals, my flip flops and all my pretty party  
shoes  
Like the animals in Noah’s Ark my shoes all come in  
twos.

Why do I love my shoes?  
What makes each so dear to me  
There is power in those heels  
My shoes have personality

When I wear my 4 inch heels I become like Queen  
Esther so glamorous  
My posture is perfect, my calves stretched taught and I  
feel a little amorous

How beautiful are thy feet in sandals  
In the Song of Songs we read  
I love to wear my sandals  
With a fresh pedicure – agreed?

My sneakers make my heart  
Beat just a little faster  
Like King David I become powerful  
This exercise I can master

My flats are really comfy  
I can walk for miles and miles  
Through the parks, the stores, the museums  
As I check out other styles

When I wear my boots I am determined  
Like a mighty Maccabee  
I can stomp and climb and jog  
There is nothing I can’t be

But my old stretched out ones are my favorite  
They truly comfort me  
When I sit in synagogue and curl my toes  
And do it fashionably

On this special Shabbat  
Let your shoes be understood  
And shout I am head over heels  
In love with Beth El Sisterhood!!!

Shalom to all.  
“The Helenes”

## TORAH FUND

As we are winding down our Torah Fund campaign for 5776, we would like to thank all of our members who have joined us this year. YOUR Torah Fund contribution strengthens and perpetuates Conservative/Masorti Judaism throughout the world.

All pledges need to be paid by May 15, 2016. You DO NOT have to become a Benefactor (\$180), Guardian (\$300), Associate Patron (\$600) or Scholarship Patron (\$2500.00), to take part in Torah Fund. ANY and ALL contributions are extremely important, appreciated and help us reach our goal. You can send a check in any amount made out to TORAH FUND to Ina Leiderman by May 15th. If you wish to put your donation on a credit card (VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS), please call Ina at 757-463-9043 with your credit card information.

It was wonderful having almost twenty of our Torah Fund Benefactors and Guardians standing on the bimah taking a joint aliyah at Sisterhood Shabbat in March, wearing our beautiful Torah Fund pins! It really made us proud.

Thank you again for your ongoing support!  
Barbara Abraham, Ina Mirman Leiderman  
and Judy Mitnick, Torah Fund Co-Chairs

### **Benefactors (\$180)**

Barbara Abraham  
Debra Aleck  
Helen Aleck  
**Janice Aleck**  
Marilyn Ashe

Lauren Baros Barr

### **Beth Hirsch Berman**

Randy Caplan  
Hilde Deutsch  
Janice Foleck  
Beverly Frieden  
Barbara Gordon  
Laura Gross  
Leslie Hecht-Leavitt  
Brenda Horwitz  
Gail Juren PD

### **Nancy Kanter**

**Kathy Kantor**  
Sue Ellen Kaplan  
Dr. Susan Kaplan  
Mimi Karesh  
Alicia Cohen Kraus

Betsy Karotkin

### **Irwin Kroskin in memory of**

**Ruthi Kroskin**  
Jody Laibstain  
Sandra Porter Leon  
Carol Levitin  
DeAnne Lindsey  
Judy Mitnick

Helen Pomerantz

Barbara Rossen

Joyce Salzberg

Linda Samuels

Patty Shelanski

### **Carol Stredler Smith**

Dorothy Spitalney

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Tami Arnowitz

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Helene Grablowsky

Evelyn Hirsch

Gina Rose

### **Miriam Brunn Ruberg**

Deb Segaloff

Helene Smith

Jill Smith

Sara Trub

Sharon Wasserberg

### **Associate Patron (\$600)**

Janet Arnowitz

Ina Mirman Leiderman

NEW GIVERS IN BOLD PRINT

## Ask the Rabbi A Monthly Q and A with RJA

### **Questions:**

Every Spring Rabbi Arnowitz grows a beard. I remember there being some religious significance to that, but I can't remember what it is. Can you fill in the blanks?

### **Answer:**

It is true that I grow a beard every spring, which prompts a lot of comments about how much grey there is in my beard, that the person did not know I was such a big hockey fan that I would grow a playoff beard or that I now look old enough to be a rabbi. While I find all that very entertaining, it is not, in fact, the reason I grow the beard, nor is it out of pure laziness, though that is always tempting. No, I grow the beard to honor the custom of observing signs of mourning during the first part of the "Counting of the Omer," or Sefhira.

The Sefhira begins on the second night of Passover and extends until Shavuot 50 days later. The two holidays are linked by the original journey of the Israelites after the first Passover. After escaping slavery it took the Israelites 49 days to journey across the desert and reach Mount Sinai where we received the Torah. The holiday of Shavuot celebrates that moment of national revelation. It makes sense to link these two holidays, since the historical moments are so closely linked. So, we mark each of these 49 days by ritually counting both the number of days and the number of weeks from the moment of our freedom.

So why do we observe mourning customs during the Sefhira? There are many explanations. The most common is that this period marked an ugly couple of months throughout our history. As we still see in Afghanistan and Iraq, springtime was the time for war in the Ancient Near East. With the coming of armies to the region often came persecutions of our people. In the Middle Ages, Easter was often accompanied by intensified Jewish persecution as well. So the mourning rituals remind us of the difficulties of this time. There is also a legend that the thousands of students of Rabbi Akiva experienced a terrible plague during these months and so we mourn for them.

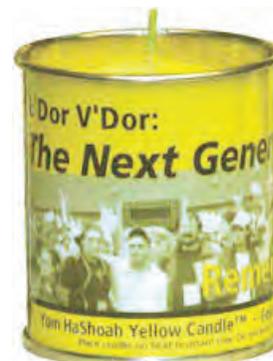
For me, I like to use the ritual to remind me how the people must have felt leaving Egypt, free but also unmoored from everything they had experienced before. It must have been frightening. Who would be thinking about shaving or celebrating at such a time. However, from Lag B'Omer (the 33rd day) on we move into anticipation of the great moment at Sinai, and so, on that day we step out of our mourning and towards our impending union with God. That's one of the reasons most people, but not all, stop the mourning customs for the latter part of the Sefhira.

Keep those great questions coming and check out the *Ask the Rabbi Questions* that don't get published here on our website – [www.bethelnorfolk.com](http://www.bethelnorfolk.com).

## Men's Club News

### NEXT ON TAP...

**Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day – Thursday, May 5th.** Yom HaShoah is a solemn experience, but always impactful. Thanks to Howard Horwitz for continuing to organize and support this program to enable members of our community to honor Holocaust victims by reading (or listening as others read) victim's names and other information at the Simon JCC. Continued thanks to Harold Zedd for distributing **FJMC Shoah Yellow Candles™** to students and teachers at Beth El Religious School and Hebrew Academy as well as our Beth El morning minyan for so many years!



**Men's Club Shabbat – Saturday, May 21st** – We encourage everyone to attend this unique Shabbat service in which we have the opportunity to see our men in action as they lead all parts of the service. We will also install our officers and board members for the 2016-2018 terms. Please contact Brad Lazernick or Craig Schranz ([schranzc@yahoo.com](mailto:schranzc@yahoo.com)) for information.

**Seaboard Region Biennial Retreat – Friday, July 15th – 17th.** To be held at the beautiful and pastoral setting of the Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center in Reisterstown, Maryland. The theme will be “Good to Great - Empowering Men and Clubs to Make the Leap.” All club members are encouraged to attend. Check the Seaboard Region website ([www.seaboardfjmc.org](http://www.seaboardfjmc.org)) “Retreat 2016” link for additional information. Contact Alex Pomerantz, Seaboard Region Vice-President ([apomerantz@ujft.org](mailto:apomerantz@ujft.org); 757-965-6136) to make reservations. See [www.pearlstonecenter.org](http://www.pearlstonecenter.org) for information about the facility. Both Seaboard Region and our club offer partial subsidies to Men's Club members. Contact any Men's Club officer for details.

### Just a little bit of fun from Purim 2016



## Bar and Bat Mitzvah

Sadie Jean Cohen will celebrate her bat mitzvah on May 7th. She is the daughter of Lynn Sher Cohen and Hugh D. Cohen and granddaughter of Norman and Sandra Sher and Nathaniel "Nick" and Esther H. Cohen. Sadie attends Cape Henry Collegiate, where she is in the 7th grade. Sadie loves music and art and is very creative. She has been honored several times by having pieces of her art work selected for viewing. She even had a piece placed on display in the Governor's Mansion. Along with these passions, Sadie also enjoys playing sports for CHC, including: field hockey, basketball and soccer. Sadie has played field hockey since the first grade and is also on a club team, The Saints, who she plays for twelve months of the year. All who know Sadie would agree that she is a very warm, intelligent, caring and kind individual, which we feel is a direct link for whom she is named after, Sadie Barney Sher and Gene Wolfe Hirschfeld.



Sadie Jean Cohen

The b'nai mitzvah of cousins Eli Aaron Kell and Erik Bram Makela, will be celebrated on May 14th. The boys are less than four months apart in age and their mothers are sisters.



Eli Aaron Kell

Eli is the son of Gary and Jessica Kell, and the brother of Zachary and Ayla Kell. Eli is a seventh grade honors student at Greenbier Middle School. He enjoys swim team, golf, tennis, wrestling and computer programming/video game creation.

Erik is the son of Sheryl-Lynn Makela Caroff, and the brother of Joshua Makela. Erik, a seventh grade honors student at Salem Middle School, plays percussion in Salem Middle/All City bands and is active in Forensics. Also, Erik is a Boy Scout in Troop 504 and volunteers for the Virginia Beach SPCA.



Erik Bram Makela



Yael Schranz

Yael Schranz will become a bat mitzvah on May 28th. She is the daughter of Craig and Joanna Schranz and sister of Noah and Moriah. Yael attends the Health and Engineering program at Blair Middle School. She plays lacrosse, tennis, and softball. She also takes modern dance. Yael is very involved in activities at Blair including Encore Orchestra, Debate, and Math Club. she enjoys travelling with her family and loves spending summers at Camp Ramah in Palmer, Massachusetts.

# SAVE THE DATE!

## Congregation Beth El

# 2016 Golf-A-Thon Fundraiser

Wednesday, May 25th

7:00 am



Virginia Beach National Golf Club  
2500 Tournament Drive, Virginia Beach 23456

### **Golf-a-thon Description:**

A Golf-a-thon is basically the same as a walking or running event where individuals obtain sponsors that pledge amounts for the distance they walk or run. In a Golf-a-thon, individuals get sponsors to pledge amounts for the number of holes of golf played during the event. Sponsors may also pledge a fixed amount. The maximum numbers of holes a golfer can play is 54. Golfers are asked to get a minimum of 10 sponsors. We recommend that each of your sponsors pledge a minimum of \$10 per hole and we ask that each golfer commit to play a minimum of 18 holes.

### **General Information:**

As a thank you for getting your sponsors, Congregation Beth El will provide your cart, green fees, food and beverage the day of the event. **Funds raised will go to help promote the wonderful programs and activities Beth El provides each year for our children, in particular our amazing Sunday Religious School helping to insure our Jewish future for generations.**

PLEASE LOOK FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION SOON. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ALEX POMERANTZ AT [APOMERANTZ@UJFT.ORG](mailto:APOMERANTZ@UJFT.ORG) OR 757-965-6136.



**Walking the Holy Land  
A Hiking Tour of Israel  
April 27th - May 7th, 2017**

Would you be interested in a different sort of Israel trip? How about a trip that affords you the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of the Ancient Israelites as well as the trails of modern Israelis in both the wilderness and the cities? Perhaps a hike around the ancient and wondrous site of Wadi Rum in Jordan would interest you, as well? If you like to hike and would like to experience Israel on your own two feet, this trip is for you!

The trip will likely take place April 27th through May 7th, 2017.

If you are interested in connecting with Israel not only spiritually and emotionally, but also physically, let Rabbi Arnowitz and our trip co-chairs Robert Laibstain and Norman Goldin know by emailing Rabbi Arnowitz at [rja@bethelnorfolk.com](mailto:rja@bethelnorfolk.com).



**Would you like an Aliyah?**

If you would like to celebrate a simcha (birthday, wedding anniversary, b'nai mitzvah anniversary), or honor a loved one's yahrzeit on a Shabbat, please call Ina Leiderman at 757-463-9043. She would be happy to arrange for you to have an aliyah in honor of your special day or in memory of your loved one.



**Annual Sisterhood  
Garage Sale  
July 2016**

Bring your gently used household goods, linens, collectibles, lamps, dishes, and gently used clothes to Beth El (call ahead for assistance).

Volunteers are needed to set up and work the sale. Call Nancy Kanter at 497-2212 or email her at [elkandnlk@yahoo.com](mailto:elkandnlk@yahoo.com)

## We are grateful for the generous contributions of those who support Beth El

*by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones.*

### PEARL K. ALECK LIBRARY ENDOWMENT

#### IN HONOR OF

**Jerry & Kathy Kantor's  
anniversary**

Stanley & Linda Samuels  
**SPEEDY RECOVERY TO  
Pam Gladstone**

Warren & Helen Aleck\*

### ADA R. MICHAELS BOOK PROGRAM

#### IN MEMORY OF

**Stiles Bartley**

Richard & Gabi Rosenblum\*\*

**SPEEDY RECOVERY TO  
Manny Michaels**

Fred & Barbara Rosenblum

### TEMPLE FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF

**Stiles Bartley**

Marvin & Claire Friedberg

Arnold & Miriam Hoffman\*

Mark Lipton\*\*

Stanley & Linda Samuels

Ivan & Amelia Schiff (B)

Mannie & Judy Smith

**Leon Edelson**

Evelyn Hirsch\*

**Harold Geringer**

Ed & Betsy Karotkin\*

**Larry Ruden**

Iris Ruden\*

**Mort Slakoff**

Stanley & Linda Samuels

**Harold Sprung**

Rosanne Simon (B)

**Stanley Toporek**

Stanley & Linda Samuels

**Harry & Jennie Weber**

Barrie Weber (B)

#### IN HONOR OF

**Calvin & Linda Belkov's 50th  
wedding anniversary**

Ed & Betsy Karotkin (B)

**Gail Flax's birthday**

Burt & Patsy Barr\*

**Bill & Rosanne Simon & Family**

Paul & Stephanie Peck\*

**Judy Smith's birthday**

Larry & Judy Dobrinsky\*\*

Alan & Norma Jaffe (S)

Hubert & Brenda Shapiro\*

**Mannie & Judy Smith's  
anniversary**

Larry & Judy Dobrinsky\*

Hubert & Brenda Shapiro\*

**Mannie & Judy Smith's  
anniversary & Judy's birthday**

Stanley & Linda Samuels\*

**Alvin Wall's recent award**

Nathan & Ilana Benson\*

### SPEEDY RECOVERY TO

**Marlene Bass**

Barbara Leibowitz

**Vivian Forman**

Ronnie Zedd

**Pam Gladstone**

Burt & Patsy Barr\*

Rob Bernstein & Lisa Ehrich\*

Hilde Deutsch\*

Larry & Judy Dobrinsky\*\*

Jon & Ellen Harris

Evelyn Hirsch\*

Eric & Joan Joffe\*

Jerry & Kathy Kantor\*

Mark & Brenda Kozak\*

Brad & Judy Lazernick\*\*

Bert & Joyce Legum\*

Charles & Betty Lou Legum\*

Barbara Leibowitz, Ilene Lipton

& Susan Rodgers

Ed & JoAnn Nesson

Fred & Barbara Rosenblum

Stanley & Linda Samuels\*

Hubert & Brenda Shapiro

Bill & Rosanne Simon

Dorothy Zimmerman

**Jon Harris**

Fred & Barbara Rosenblum

Stanley & Linda Samuels

**Charles Hecht-Leavitt**

Jerry & Kathy Kantor\*

**Bill Kittner**

Joyce Salzberg

Bill & Rosanne Simon\*

**Shirley Levin**

Hubert & Brenda Shapiro

**Dorothy Zimmerman**

Barbara Klaff

Mannie & Judy Smith

### BERNARD MARTIN

#### MEMORIAL FUND

#### IN HONOR OF

**The birth of Rabbi & Miriam**

**Ruberg's new grandson**

Elsie Martin\*

### SPEEDY RECOVERY TO

**Pam Gladstone**

Elsie Martin\*

### BEVERLY RAFAL WERBEL

#### FUND TO HOUSE THE

#### HOMELESS

#### IN HONOR OF

**Calvin Belkov's birthday**

Sam & Diane Werbel\*

**Laura Gross**

Robert & Carol Laibstain (B)

**Sam Werbel being named Beth El**

**Men's Club's Blue Yarmulke Man-  
of-the-Year**

Norman & Sandy Sher\*

### SPEEDY RECOVERY TO

**Pam Gladstone**

Mark Stadler,

Stephen & Ellyn Chapel,

Ian & Tasha Chapel,

Arian & Frannie Heilman,

Michael & Kelleigh Chapel

& their children (S)

### JEFFREY KESSER

#### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

#### IN HONOR OF

**Mannie & Judy Smith's**

**anniversary & Judy's birthday**

Ashley & Judi Cytron

### SUNDAY SCHOOL FUND

#### IN HONOR OF

**Betsy Karotkin becoming**

**president of Beth El**

Stan & Janet Glasofer\*\*

### RABBI ARNOWITZ

#### DISCRETIONARY FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF

**Jerome Arnowitz**

Alan & Janet Arnowitz\*

**Stiles Bartley**

Pearl Taylor

**Stanley Toporek**

Jordan & Eilene Rosenblum

#### IN HONOR OF

**Rabbi Arnowitz, thank you**

Aaron, Rachel & Bayla Shames (G)

### CANTOR DISCRETIONARY FUND

#### IN HONOR OF

**Cantor Wendi & Gigi Fried's**

**birthdays**

Stanley & Linda Samuels

**Cantor Wendi, thank you**

Toby Lerman (B)

### JAY BARR ART FUND

#### SPEEDY RECOVERY TO

**Vivian Forman**

Clay Barr\*

### SHARON SPITALNEY

#### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

#### SPEEDY RECOVERY TO

**Pam Gladstone**

Beril & Barbara Abraham

### MINYAN FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF

**Harold Geringer**

Clay & Jo Ann Macon\*

### ARTHUR & HANNA KONIKOFF

#### MEMORIAL FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF

**Stiles Bartley**

Barry & Reatha Kantor\*\*

**Hanna Konikoff**

Shari Konikoff & Family (S)

Howard & Nancy Unger (B)

Steve & Liza Wainger

### DR EUGENE KANTER

#### MEMORIAL FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF

**Stiles Bartley**

Beverly Frieden\*

### FREDA & TAVIA GORDON

#### MEMORIAL FUND

#### IN HONOR OF

**The bar mitzvah of Beril &**

**Barbara Abraham's grandson**

**Jacob**

Allen & Barbara Gordon\*

### ROSE & ARMOND CAPLAN

#### MEMORIAL FUND

#### IN HONOR OF

**The birth of LT & Stacie Caplan's  
son, Armond Lex**

Larry & Mai-Ellen Hecht (B)

### SHIPOWITZ FAMILY

#### COUNSELING FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF

**Helene Shipowitz**

Gerry & Harriet Bloom

Janette Keen\*

Alan & Madeleine Samuels\*

Ronnie Zedd

### TREE OF LIFE

#### IN HONOR OF

**Calvin & Linda Belkov's golden**

**anniversary**

Ronnie Zedd & Gordon Zedd

#### Condolences to

**Gayle Bennett and Susan  
Welsby on the loss of their  
father, Robert Rosenfeld of  
blessed memory.**

**Nathan Drory on the loss of  
his mother, Miriam Drory of  
blessed memory.**

**Bernice Kaplan on the loss of  
her sister, Rose Glasser of  
blessed memory.**

#### REMEMBRANCE DONATIONS

\* = Chai = \$18

\*\* = Double Chai = \$36

B = Bronze = \$19 - \$49

S = Silver = \$50 - \$99

G = Gold = \$100 or more

## May Yahrzeits

*We record the sacred memory of the following departed members  
of the families of our congregation on the occasion of yahrzeit.  
The names of our beloved departed are read from the pulpit at each evening minyan.*

<p><u>MAY 1</u> Louis Ehrenworth Moses Machlis Hilda Kanof Israel Levy Earle Aleck David Waranch Meyer Soroko Marc Gross</p> <p><u>MAY 2</u> Margaret Semel Sadie Trub Rae Rines Jennie Chalem</p> <p><u>MAY 3</u> Mollie Walner Sol Goldstein Hyman Notokoff David Buller Sidney Berg Kate Lesser Susan Ruden Arthur Rines Sarah Arroll</p> <p><u>MAY 4</u> David Shames Harry Tumin Etta Frank Hadassah Birshtein Rose Chenman</p> <p><u>MAY 5</u> Phillip Levenstein Samuel Faverman Lotte Japha Bernard Winer Rae Perlman Dorothy Cook Albert Benn</p> <p><u>MAY 6</u> Ada Kayer Alexander Goldberg William Fiedler Robert Friedman Nathan Krichman Max Levine Hyman Rogers Minnie Stimmel Ezeikiel Land Yetta Galumbeck Alvin London Edith Buckman</p>	<p><u>MAY 7</u> Edith Klavan Bessie Kerman Estelle Burns Max Japha Joseph Hecht Milton Salasky Lila Green Rae Abrons Doris Morrison Maurice Minskoff Arthur Lasko</p> <p><u>MAY 8</u> Abraham Robbins Anne Rippe Mary Greenberg David Kaufman Lila Feldman Lena Land</p> <p><u>MAY 9</u> Tillie Goodman Milton Kaplan William Einhorn Joseph Banks Ruth Rose Daisy Krampf Hannah Braslau Gilbert Levin Jack Herer Joseph Rafal Jack Boyd</p> <p><u>MAY 10</u> Samuel Kerman Bessie Berman Hena Rosenbaum Louis Mirman Max Rosen Nettie Herman Jennie Josephson Louis Mirman Donald Rosenbaum Dorothy Ehrich Helen Walter</p> <p><u>MAY 11</u> Carrie Frank Sol Richter Morris Samuels Arnold Albert Emanuel Freidman Helmut Gonsenhauser Barbara Markman Reba Sandler</p> <p><u>MAY 12</u> Harry Higger Joseph Schwartz Etta Peipert Wayne Cardon</p>	<p><u>MAY 13</u> Louis Cohen Herbert Hainer Nathan Liebman Harry Kroll Charles Levin Edith Jaffe Louis Held Sarah Rosen Ruth Loewenbach Benjamin Fleder Harry Kross</p> <p><u>MAY 14</u> Edward Klavan Irving Russnow May Kaminsky Joseph Cherner Harold Simon Moses Ehrenworth James Miller Stanley Albert Arnold Carmel Asher Solomon Ellis Margolin Dora Kantor Rose Handel</p> <p><u>MAY 15</u> Edward Gross Sally Bukofzer Louis Tabakin Jessie Stredler Harriet Silverberg</p> <p><u>MAY 16</u> Joseph Spagat Sol Nachman Sara Fleishman Elaine Dobrinsky Annie Klavans Lewis Barr Lillian Stoller Lewis Barr</p> <p><u>MAY 17</u> Lillian Banks Joseph Cohen Hanna Liebman William Grossberg Evelyn Faverman Max Popkin Jack Hyman Irving Richels Bertha Goldberg Edward Davis Fannie Zedd Yetta Levy Sara Jacobs</p>	<p><u>MAY 18</u> Abraham Crockin Leah Shure Mollie Grossberg Rose Stein Marshall Miller Lea Brooke Blance Polis Dora Goldfarb</p> <p><u>MAY 19</u> Georg Japha Benjamin Altschul Yvonne Barr Arthur Spensky Abraham Perlman Leonard Goodman</p> <p><u>MAY 20</u> Conrad Hoffman Anna Glasser Elizabeth Polis Rae Saunders Abraham Novak Maurice Frank Sol Katz Max Spitalney Max Strauss</p> <p><u>MAY 21</u> Anna Stainberg Aaron Hyman Sarah Goldstein Bernard Cohen Harry Friedman David Kerpelman Anna Kroskin Dora Coleman</p> <p><u>MAY 22</u> Kate Snyder Leonard Friedlander Sol Zimm Vicki Zelenka</p> <p><u>MAY 23</u> Harry Markoff Al Leibowitz Melvin Klein Rebecca Lewis Reba Gamsey Bessie Katz Claire Nesson</p> <p><u>MAY 24</u> Charles Levy Mickey Frank Nicholas Berg Matilda Cooper Miriam Kroskin Jack Silverstein</p>	<p><u>MAY 25</u> Jeanette Lapidus Selma Coplon Phillip Berger Margaret Harris Rebecca Diamonstein Mary Mand Sol Levy Ruth Schwarz Louis Tonelson John Sperling Ronald Donn</p> <p><u>MAY 26</u> Mendel Martin Morris Staub Jesse Frieden Pauline Zfass Hannah Frank Sean Gutterman</p> <p><u>MAY 27</u> Gilbert Shure Sarah Rubin Rachel Goldstein Benjamin Waller Fannie Zimmerman Milton Nesson Jeanette Schlain Tillie Breman Joseph Weiner</p> <p><u>MAY 28</u> Abraham Bartley Rose Frohman Ernest Sherman Rose Schneider Helen Karotkin Harold Epstein Sarah Hackerman Theresa Tuchman Seymour Levinson Zelda Leibowitz</p> <p><u>MAY 29</u> Rebecca Bass Lenora Rosenberg Rae Solomon Alice Friedman Louis Sher Nathan Bear</p> <p><u>MAY 30</u> Adolph Banks Sylvia Belkov Lillian Levenson Dena Barr Sidney Levinson</p>	<p><u>MAY 31</u> Hyman Shure Al Goldstein Leonard Kesser Hyman Kroskin Moses Yaffey Kopeland Ornoff Seymour Chapel Harvey Herer</p>
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[bethelnorfolk.com](http://bethelnorfolk.com)



## **The Installation of Cantor Wendi Fried**

**Scheduled for Sunday, May 22nd**

**Has been postponed  
To a later date in late Fall  
due to a scheduling conflict with the visiting cantor.**

# Nisan - Iyar 5776 \* May 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 23 Nisan	2 24 Nisan	3 25 Nisan	4 26 Nisan YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION AT TEMPLE ISRAEL 6:45 PM	5 27 Nisan Reading of the Names at the JCC 10am - 4pm YOM HASHOAH	6 28 Nisan Candlelighting: 7:41 pm	7 29 Nisan Shabbat services: 9:30 am Torah Portion: Acharei Mot BAT MITZVAH OF SADIE COHEN Shabbat morning programming for children
8 30 Nisan ROSH CHODESH MOTHER'S DAY	9 1 Iyar ROSH CHODESH	10 2 Iyar	11 3 Iyar Lunch & Learn 12 noon YOM HAZIKARON	12 4 Iyar Torah on Tap 7 pm YOM HAATZMA'UT	13 5 Iyar Candlelighting: 7:47 pm	14 6 Iyar Shabbat services: 9:30 am Torah Portion: Kedoshim B'NAI MITZVAH OF ELI KELL & ERIK MAKELA Shabbat morning programming for children
15 7 Iyar	16 8 Iyar	17 9 Iyar	18 10 Iyar Beth El Golf-A-Thon 7:00 am Final Lunch & Learn for the season 12 noon	19 11 Iyar	20 12 Iyar Candlelighting: 7:53 pm	21 13 Iyar Shabbat services: 9:30 am Torah Portion: Emor MEN'S CLUB SHABBAT Shabbat morning programming for children
22 14 Iyar	23 15 Iyar	24 16 Iyar	25 17 Iyar Golf-A-Thon VB 7:00 AM	26 18 Iyar LAG B'OMER	27 19 Iyar Candlelighting: 7:58 pm	28 20 Iyar Shabbat services: 9:30 am Torah Portion: Behar BAT MITZVAH OF YAEL SCHRANZ Shabbat morning programming for children
29 21 Iyar	30 22 Iyar MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	31 23 Iyar				