Join Temple Beth-El and the Temple Beth-El Foundation in commemorating our historic Sanctuary. We’ll also be recognizing TBE members who are ages 90 and older. See page 4 for complete program details.

Passover 5777 is here! See back cover and page 12 to learn more.
## Religious Service Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service Details</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Saturday morning</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Vayikra</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maftir: Julia Goldberg</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ma’ariv</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7</td>
<td>Erev Shabbat</td>
<td>5:45 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Candle lighting</td>
<td>6:54 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Shabbat morning</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Tzav</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bar Mitzvah Jacob Azrin</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Maftir: Jacob Azrin</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ma’ariv</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>Minyan/Siyum Bechorim</td>
<td>7:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chametz burning</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ma’ariv</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Candle lighting</td>
<td>6:56 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>Pesach I</td>
<td>9:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maftir: Ed Fineberg</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ma’ariv</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Candle lighting</td>
<td>8:05 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Pesach II</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maftir: Julian Brook</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ma’ariv</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>Erev Shabbat</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Candle lighting</td>
<td>6:59 pm</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Chol Hamoed</td>
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<td>Maftir: Jimmy Krell</td>
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<td>Mincha</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Candle lighting</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>7th Day of Pesach</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maftir: TBD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Candle lighting</td>
<td>8:10 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>8th Day of Pesach</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yizkor</td>
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<td>Maftir: Chevra Kadisha</td>
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<td>Mincha</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Havdala</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>Erev Shabbat</td>
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<td>Candle lighting</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Shemini</td>
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<td>Maftir: Morton Stern</td>
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<td>Mincha</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>Erev Shabbat</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Tzria-Metzora</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maftir: David Reznik</td>
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Visit [www.templebeth-el.net](http://www.templebeth-el.net) to livestream services.

## Weekday Service Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Details</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Morning Minyan</td>
<td>7:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundays &amp; Secular Holidays</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Afternoon Minyan</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
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## Saturday Service Schedule

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Services</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tot Shabbat and Weekly Why</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Afternoon Minyan</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Professional Staff & Board

**Rabbi**
Barry Leff
barry@templebeth-el.net

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Rabbi Joseph Robinson
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**Administration**
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  weinribd@bellsouth.net

- **Vice President**
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  Evan.L.Rhodes@gmail.com

- **Secretary**
  Barbara Brande
  geomom@gmail.com

- **Treasurer**
  Steven Sikora
  ssikora@bellsouth.net

See our website for a full list of Board members.
THE MEANING OF PASSOVER

On the night of April 10, if previous years are any guide, something truly miraculous will happen. Something like 93 percent of all Jews in North America will find their way to a seder, to celebrate Passover together with other Jews. Religious Jews, secular Jews, Reform, Conservative, Orthodox Jews, Jews who are in shul every week, Jews who never go to shul, but for at least one night almost all of us will be doing the same thing: recalling the Exodus from Egypt.

Why? What makes Passover so important? What is the essential message of Passover?

When I ask people “what’s the message of Passover” the usual response is “Freedom.” We were slaves, now we are free. If that’s all there were to it, however, Passover would not have lasted as a holiday for millennia. How many African Americans celebrate Juneteenth, the emancipation of slaves in America?

Passover is much more about faith, and about some of our fundamental beliefs as Jews. We are told by the Mishnah that every generation is obligated to view themselves as if they, personally, were brought out from Egypt. We are COMMANDED to tell the story in the first person, as a story that is our story, today, in this generation. Why?

This is a time for us to connect with God, to strengthen our faith. In the Shema, we recite the verse “I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt in order to be your God.” The redemption from Egypt was not just so we could be free from oppression—it was so we would be free to serve God.

The most effective path toward faith is direct experience. Having lived in Israel, my faith in the importance and centrality of Israel to the Jewish people is incomparably greater than it was before I lived in Israel. I don’t think there is any number of books I could have read which would have brought me to the same level of understanding as the direct experience.

This is why it is so important to bring our seders to life. No disrespect to my grandfather, but when I was a kid growing up our seders consisted of speed reading the Maxwell House haggadah so we could get to the food. It was mostly in Hebrew, so I had no idea what was going on. I can’t say the experience did much for my connection with the true meaning of Pesach, although they were certainly pleasant enough family experiences and the food was great.

Celebrating freedom certainly is part of the Passover story, but it’s not simply a “freedom from”—freedom from oppression, freedom from living in fear—but more than that, it is “freedom to”—freedom to serve God. When most of us say “freedom,” we think of freedom from: freedom from being told what to do, freedom to go where you want to go, do what you want to do. Freedom is associated with hedonism. That kind of freedom, however, is what Janis Joplin immortalized in song: “freedom’s just another word for nothin’ left to lose.” It’s a very empty freedom.

A certain amount of “freedom from” is a necessary precondition for “freedom to.” Our ancestors needed to be free of the demands of the Egyptians before they could be free to serve God. Today, each one of us needs to be free from whatever our Egypt is to be able to serve God, family, and the Jewish people. For most of us, the trick is learning to say “dayeinu,” enough. As long as you put making money or advancing your career ahead of making time for the things that you would undoubtedly claim are more important, you are a slave. The handcuffs may be golden, but you’re not free. True freedom means being able to say “dayeinu,” I have enough. As it says in Pirkei Avot, “who is wise? The one who is content with his lot.”

Once we’ve achieved an element of “freedom from,” we are ready to pursue the “freedom to.” When you sit down at your seder this year, remember that the holiday is NOT just about celebrating freedom from Egyptian enslavement. Spend a few minutes of your seder conversation exploring the question of why God wanted us to be free. What is the “freedom to” we are commanded to pursue?

Chag Sameach,

Rav Barry
Celebrating 90 Years on Highland

April 21-23
Featuring Rabbi Brian Glusman, Musician Michael Levine and TV Personality Dave Price
Presented by Temple Beth-El and the Temple Beth-El Foundation

Weekend programming includes:

Friday, April 21
- 5:45 pm: Family Shabbat Ruach Led by Rabbi Brian Glusman and Michael Levine
- 7 pm: Catered dinner ($25 per adult). Register online at templebeth-el.net.

Saturday, April 22
- 9:30 am: Shabbat Services Led by Rabbi Brian Glusman and Rabbi Barry Leff, including recognition of TBE members ages 90 and older
- Kirtan Meditation Led by Michael Levine
- 7 pm: Celebrating Our Gems: An evening recognizing TBE members ages 90 and older, featuring TV Personality/Emcee Dave Price, Rabbis Brian Glusman and Barry Leff ($75 per person). Register online at templebeth-el.net.

Sunday, April 23
10:30 am: Sisterhood’s Mimosas & Memories (see information below)

Complete program details, sponsorship information and honoree list available online at www.templebeth-el.net. Contact the Temple at 933.2740 with questions.

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Wise and Wonderful Women!
May we know them. May we be them. May we raise them.

Join TBE Sisterhood for
Mimosas & Memories
10:30 am to Noon – Filler Social Hall, Sunday, April 23, 2017

Matriarchs
Marsha Asman
Suzanne Bearman
Charlotte Corenblum
Riva Hirsch
Lynette Mazer
Marian Radwin

Facilitators
Natalie Asman
Barbara Brande
Rhoda Fleisig
Sheri Krell
Jessica Rhodes
Sherri Romanoff

Program Chairs Donna Schiff and Joyce Spielberger are bringing Matriarchs of our Sisterhood “to the table” and invite you to be a recipient of the wisdom, wit and advice their stories will bring. Join us for an engaging and enlightening discussion over brunch. No cost to attend.

RSVP by Wednesday, April 19, to Emily (egregory@templebeth-el.net) in the Temple office.

(See page 10 for Sisterhood news)
Submitted by Marjorie Perlman

Since February, this new feature, “Know Our Donors,” has profiled two of our congregation’s matriarchs, Margy Rosenbaum and Barbara Bonfield, with named funds in the Temple Beth-El Foundation. This month, we are changing it up a little to recognize members of a younger generation. Cary Libowsky, 46, Joel Libowsky, 42, and Amy Libowsky, 39, opened the Murray Saul Fisher Cantorial Fund in 2012 to honor the memory of Murray Fisher, their stepfather and husband of their mother, Arlene. Murray, who moved to Birmingham in the 70s from the Dorchester neighborhood in Boston, MA, was a past treasurer of Temple Beth-El and regular participant in many synagogue activities, including Saturday Shabbat services. Arlene is a past president of the Temple Board, current co-chair of the Sisterhood, member of the Temple Beth-El Foundation Board and volunteer extraordinaire.

Cary, the oldest of three siblings, lives in Los Angeles with his children, Lilah, 16, Harrison, 15, and Charlie, 8. Joel and his wife Staci live in Atlanta with their three children: Noah, 10, Dylan, 8, and Lanie, 5. They are affiliated with Congregation B’nai Torah in Sandy Springs. Amy, the youngest, lives in Birmingham and is affiliated with Temple Beth-El. I spoke with Joel Libowsky to learn about the motivation behind this generous gift.

Murray was a part of Joel’s life since he was six years old. Since his earliest days, Joel remembers that Murray always had Jewish music in the cassette deck in his car and at home. He saw the joy that the music provided Murray, and learned to enjoy the ruach of the tunes through Murray’s eyes. Throughout Joel’s youth, the family was involved in Temple Beth-El in many ways, including weekly attendance at Junior Congregation, and Hebrew School for Cary, Joel and Amy. Joel’s favorite Temple memories were the High Holy Days and listening to the choir sing from the Bimah.

When Murray passed away in December 2011, Cary, Joel & Staci, and Amy agreed that the best way to honor Murray’s memory was to start a fund to support musical programming at Temple Beth-El, the kind of programming that Murray looked forward to hearing on a weekly basis. Through the allocation from this fund, Temple Beth-El has been able to engage High Holiday cantors over the past few years, which has been a blessing for the congregation.

This gift in Murray Saul Fisher’s name channels the spirit of l’dor v’dor, the responsibility of passing on spiritual knowledge and cultural traditions from generation to generation for the purpose of sustaining the customs, heritage and collective memory of the Jewish people. We are thankful for the Libowsky siblings for realizing the importance of this continuity. Clearly, they are mensches!

The following donations have been made to the Temple Beth-El Foundation since the March bulletin:

Mayer Cohen made a donation to the Rabbi Culpepper & Irby Cohen Performing Arts Fund in loving memory of Felix Cohen, beloved father and grandfather, on his Yahrzeit.

Melba Epsman made a donation to the Melba & Abe Epsman Cemetery Fund in loving memory of Nathan Epsman, beloved brother-in-law, on his Yahrzeit.
A Seder of Justice

A central theme of the Passover seder is the notion of social justice. We live in a world hardened by confusion, neglect, inaccuracies, hate, fear, deception, mistrust and the like. It is our job and responsibility as Jews and citizens of humanity to break the chains of oppression and fight for the rights of all people everywhere.

At your Passover seder invite your family and friends to grapple with the following teaching of our sages.

"Whoever can protest the transgressions of his own family and does not do so is punished [liable, held responsible] for the transgressions of his family.

"Whoever can protest the transgressions of the people of his community and does not do so is punished [liable, held responsible] for the transgressions of his community.

"Whoever can protest the transgressions of the entire world and does not do so is punished [liable, held responsible] for the transgressions of the entire world." (Shabbat 54b)

Ask yourselves what transgressions you have witnessed and in what ways can you help to heal our fractured world.

May this Passover be one of reflection and action, which leads to social justice and freedom for all.

Pizza Before the Purge

Sunday, April 9   11 am-12:30 pm   TBE Social Hall

⇒ Participate as a team on a Passover Scavenger Hunt
⇒ Search for hidden chametz all over our huge building
⇒ Enjoy your last chance for real pizza before Passover begins
⇒ Purge and burn chametz
⇒ Socialize with friends and get ready for Passover

Children (all ages) & their parents are invited
You do NOT have to be registered in TBE’s Religious School to attend

Brought to you by Temple’s Beth-El’s Board of Education

For more information, contact Naomi Kipp (naomi_kipp@alnd.uscourts.gov) or Maurine Halpern (majorpromotions@charter.net).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>No Religious School (Spring Break)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jacob Azrin’s Birthday</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Religious School Passover Purge/ Pizza Party 9 am–12:30 pm</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>TBE Offices Close at 3 pm</td>
<td>Erev Pesach</td>
<td>Pesach Day 1 Services 9:30 am</td>
<td>Second Night Community Seder 6 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Religious School 9 am–noon NO OUTSIDE FOOD PERMITTED</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Pesach Services 9:30 am</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Pesach Services with Yizkor 9:30 am</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Religious School 9 am–noon USY Regional Convention in Palm Beach, Fla. Celebrating 90 Years on Highland Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration 2 pm</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Yom HaShoah 25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Religious School at TBE 3:45–6 pm</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>3rd Grade Siddur Ceremony Community Yom Ha’atzmaut Celebration at LJCC</td>
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Unless otherwise noted, Weekly Why and Tot Shabbat occur every Saturday at 11 am.
Mazal Tov

Mazal Tov to Julie & Brandon Cohen on the birth of their son, Asher Benjamin Cohen, on Feb. 19. Also celebrating are grandparents Nadine & Louis Cohen and Debra & Lewis Rosenthal of Marlborough, MA.

Mazal Tov to Philip Engelhardt on the marriage of his daughter Sydney to Capt. R.J. Salavec. The couple wed on Feb. 20 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. The couple currently resides in Sacramento.

Steve Altmann
Barbara Gordon
Roz Hellman
David Kahn
Sandy Koplon
Edward Krys
Lewis Schulman
Ruth Siegler
Gary Weintraub

*Special birthdays are published beginning with age 50 and every five years thereafter.

Fira & Josif Charny (64)
Susan & Richard Einhorn (22)
Rochelle & Martin Green (22)
Shelby & Joel Kimerling (3)
Ricki & Lanning Kline (40)
Andrea & Jack Koenig (13)
Anna & David Levy (4)
Raena & Kristopher Maday (12)
Toby & Joel Mendler (49)
Tatyana & Zanvel Shitsel (61)
Marilyn & Malcolm Sokol (53)
Sari & Barry Spieler (9)
Evdiniya & Boris Zinger (42)

Celebrating Becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Jacob Azrin
Son of Cheryl & Rick Azrin

9:30 am, April 8

Jacob would like to thank his grandmother, Victoria Besalel Azrin, for sponsoring the Kiddush luncheon, served immediately following the service.
CONDOLENCES

With sympathy, we wish the following families peace and love during their time of sorrow:

**Doris Michalove Kanter**
Wife of Fred Kanter; mother of Ellen Folks (Charles), David Kanter (Sheree), and Drew Kanter (Jennifer); and sister of Larry Michalove (Sybil)

**Barbara Zitron**
Wife of Stanley Zitron; mother of Jeff Zitron (Nicole), Dana Gross (Jeff), Heidi Bloomston (Julius) and Lance Zitron (Christine); and sister of Avron Brog (Sheila)

**Charlotte Weinstein**
Mother of Susan Schwartz and Karen Weinstein Weberman

*May the families be comforted among the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.*

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**Celebrate at Temple Beth-El!**

Do you have an upcoming simcha or special occasion?
Celebrate with a Kiddush luncheon!
Call the TBE office if you’d like to sponsor a congregational Shabbat Kiddush or make a donation to the Simcha Shabbat Fund.
PASSOVER
The first seder is Monday, April 10, and the second seder is Tuesday, April 11. The Gift Shop has all the essentials to make your seder table complete, such as Seder plates and kiddush cups, and many items are on sale!

Mimosas and Memories
10:30 am to noon, Sunday, April 23
We are bringing the Matriarchs of our Sisterhood “to the table” and we want you to be the recipient of their wisdom, wit and stories. Please join us for brunch and an interactive morning of fun and inspiration. No cost to attend. RSVP to Emily in the TBE office at egregory@templebeth-el.net by Wednesday, April 19.

Sisterhood Gift Shop
News
Passover Seder Plate Sale!
The first seder is Monday, April 10.
We have everything you need for Passover, so shop us first!

Sisterhood Donations
A Chai donation in loving memory of Esther Miller, beloved aunt
From: Natalie & Albert Sikora
MEN’S CLUB BACK ON THE MAP!

Really ... REALLY ... 51 members already! That is AWESOME! THANK YOU! It took every bit of last year to get Men’s Club up to 59 members and we are at 51 on February 28. That is amazing! Thank you to all the guys listed below. If you are reading this and you are not on this list of supporting members ... it’s not too late! Please join us in supporting Temple Beth-E1, and its programming and Religious School. And if you are on this list, thank you and look at your other brothers on this list and if we are missing a guy that you know should be involved ... bring him in. Let me know and I will reach out to him. I would LOVE to beat last year’s membership numbers and hit 75 guys ... we can do it! It’s only $36 to join!

Steve Altmann        Mervyn Epsman        Jacob Halpern        Joe Levy        Steven Sikora
Bernard Axel         Jay Epstein         Reuben Halpern      J. B. Mazer         Steven Singer
Howard Bearman       Edwin Fineberg      Colin Helman        Daniel Mirelman     Alvin Slaughter
Keith Bernstein      Ronald Froehlich     Max Herzel          Melvin Olshan       Howard Sokol
Scott Brande         John Gervin         Kenneth Jaffe       Myron Radwin       Mervin Torme
Jerome Brown         Dan Goldberg        Alan Kianoff        Stuart Royal        Daniel Weinrib
Jerry Cherner        Edward Goldberg     Sol Kimerling        Jack Schaeffer      Alan Weintraub
Mark Cohen           Milton Goldstein     Allen Kipp          Lewis Schulman      Jeff Weissman
Martin Damsky        Gary Gordon         Scott Koplon        Abraham Schuster    Melvin Zivitz
Charles Denaburg     Steve Greene        James Krell         Arthur Serwitz
Eddie Denaburg       Eddie Griffith      Edward Levin        Maurice Shevin
Alan Engel           Allen Halpern       Don Levy            Albert Sikow

One of my goals when I became Men’s Club president in the beginning of 2016 was to put Men’s Club back on the map at Beth-E1. Having such a successful 2016, I think we did that and even got back on the map nationally. I got a call from the president of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs in New York asking me to sit in on a conference call with other Men's Club presidents around the nation to share my ideas and let them know how we are having so much success in Birmingham with our Men’s Club. I was really honored and accepted the invitation.

I kept thinking to myself, “I know we had a really good year, but how did I get this guy’s attention?” I think a little birdy named Rabbi Chuck Simon might have had something to do with it. Who knows. But still, what a great call to take. The conference call was a great experience, as well. It was really inspiring to talk to so many Men’s Club presidents around the nation and share what is going on in our home, Beth-E1 and Birmingham, Alabama.

Men’s Club had a lot of fun supporting the Musical Megillah that was on March 11. The wine was flowing and it seemed to be an excellent event. Men’s Club is also supporting Beth-E1’s BIG FUNDRAISER April 21-23, 90 YEARS ON HIGHLAND. I hope to see everyone there all weekend. It sounds like it will be a blast!

YOM Hashoah April 24, ‘Light a Candle, Preserve a Memory’: I also wanted to remind everyone to PLEASE, remember to pick up your Yom HaShoah Yellow Candles. Men’s Club is honored to make this happen and we are trying to keep this tradition going. So, please take a minute and help us build our Yom HaShoah Candle Fund by putting a small donation in the envelope, to Temple Beth-E1 and in the for column “Men’s Club.” The envelope will be provided to you with your candle when you pick it up. May we preserve our memories of all our loved ones.

Once again, I would like to thank all the men of the Men’s Club. You guys make being a part of this fun and exciting.

—Allen Halpern, President of Temple Beth-E1’s Men’s Club
SIYUM BECHORIM SERVICES—CALLING ALL FIRST BORN

Fast of the First Born

Monday, April 10

7 am Minyan, Study and breakfast follow

A first born is commanded to fast on the day before Pesach in commemoration of the deliverance of the First Born of Israel from the 10th plague that killed the Egyptian First Born Sons. The day before means the day on which the First Seder falls which, this year, is Monday, April 10. The requirement to fast is waived, however, if the first born is present at what is termed a Seudat Mitzvah — a festive meal following the performance of certain Mitzvot (i.e. Brit Milah, baby naming).

Since it isn’t always possible to arrange for a Simcha to fall on the right day, the custom developed to have a “SIYUM” on that day. A SIYUM is a public completion of the study of a section of Rabbinic literature. Since the SIYUM—which means completion—is followed by a meal of celebration, any first born who is present is permitted to eat. This effectively negates the fast for the rest of the day. The SIYUM will take place after Minyan at 7 am on April 10. Bring your Tallit and T’fillin (we can provide these if you need them).

SELLING CHAMETZ TO BIRMINGHAM POLICE CHIEF

Jewish Law requires us to rid our homes of chametz for Pesach. One of the ways we do this is to sell our chametz to someone who is not forbidden to own chametz. Birmingham Police Chief A.C. Roper has once again agreed to buy our chametz for the duration of Pesach.

Fill out the colored insert found in this bulletin or in the TBE office and return it to Temple Beth-El before 9 am on April 10. This form authorizes Rav Barry to act as your agent in setting up the sale. Please include a donation to the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund. This donation goes to Chief Roper’s requested charity, the Birmingham Police Athletic Teams, Inc., which offers a variety of sport programs to children at risk in Birmingham.

Chief Roper will be at Temple Beth-El at 10 am on Monday, April 10, to purchase our chametz. Join us in this important Mitzvah and make a difference in our community at the same time. We wish all of our members a Happy and Kosher Pesach.

MATZAH MITZVAH

Bring your unopened chametz to be donated to Collat Jewish Family Services. We will have drop-off boxes outside the TBE office. Please bring all items by Thursday, April 6. It is a time-honored tradition to send in donations at this time of year for those who can’t afford matzah for Passover. If you would like to participate in this mitzvah, you may write a check to the Rabbi’s Matzah Fund. Thank you!

Need a Passover Guide?

Rav Barry’s Passover Guide is available on the table outside the TBE office. You can also find a copy online by visiting our website, www.templebeth-el.net.
PASSOVER BIMAH FLOWERS

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to the following congregants who have generously donated the flowers which adorn our Bimah.

**First two days of Passover**
In loving memory of our beloved family members
*From:* Lynette & J.B. Mazer, Carole & Michael Mazer and Family, and Nancy & Dennis Lutz and Family

**Last two days of Passover**
In memory of our loved ones
*From:* Anonymous

PASSOVER SECOND NIGHT SEDER LED BY RAV BARRY

7 pm, Tuesday, April 11, TBE

The entire community is invited to celebrate Passover at Temple Beth-El and participate in our traditional seder. Passover Seder and fish dinner cost: $36 for adults and $12 for college students and youth. RSVP by April 7 at templebeth-el.net. (See back cover.)

COMMUNITY INTERFAITH PROGRAM APRIL 2

Temple Beth-El will be hosting an Alabama Faith Council program from 3 to 5 pm on Sunday, April 2. This event is part of the council’s Interfaith Dialog series and will focus on “Sacred Waters and Washings.” Speakers from a number of faiths will offer their approaches to this interesting topic.

For more information on the Alabama Faith Council, visit www.alfaitcouncil.org.

COMMUNITY KITCHENS EASTER MEAL AT GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WOODLAWN

The Jewish community will be hosting the Community Kitchens Easter meal on Sunday, April 16, at Grace Episcopal Church in Woodlawn. We provide a holiday feast to approximately 200 guests. Visit www.templebeth-el.net to sign up to donate food items needed in advance, volunteer on Easter Sunday or make a financial contribution for the meal. Your support is much appreciated.

Thank you in advance to our Easter hosts, Heather and Jeff Lebensburger. If you have trouble signing up or questions, email Heather (hzevator@aol.com), or call the Temple Beth-El office.

Dry food donated during the Passover holiday period should be dropped off at the Religious School, where it will be placed in a separate storage space from the building. Refrigerated goods should be dropped off at Community Kitchens. Contact the Temple office prior to making any delivery. The TBE offices are only open April 13 and 14.
Jewish Community News

**BEHC DARKNESS INTO LIFE PHOTOGRAPHY AND ART EXHIBIT**

April 3-24, LJCC

This unique educational exhibit features the stories of 20 Alabama Holocaust survivors. It teaches the history of the Holocaust and offers a rich understanding of its impact on these individuals and their families. Visit [http://bhamholocausteducation.org/about-exhibit.htm](http://bhamholocausteducation.org/about-exhibit.htm) to learn more. If you have questions, email Mindy Cohen at mcohen@bhamjcc.org.

**PASSEOVER PROGRAM AND LUNCH**

Noon, April 4, LJCC; cost: $8.50

Celebrate Passover with a delicious kosher meal including matzah ball soup and traditional seder plate. Experience the story of Exodus with students from the N.E. Miles Jewish Day School.

RSVP to Mindy Cohen by April 3 mcohen@bhamjcc.org or 205.510.9024.

**MITZVAH AT THE MUSEUM**

5 to 8 pm, April 6, Southern Museum of Flight

Find everything you need to plan a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Total Entertainment along with other event vendors will be featured. Enjoy a fun aviation themed improv program at 6:30 pm. Visit the Southern Museum of Flight’s Facebook invite at [https://www.facebook.com/events/575357489333474/](https://www.facebook.com/events/575357489333474/).

**SPOTLIGHT ON HOMOPHOBIC BULLYING**

6 pm, April 20, Alabama School of Fine Arts; no cost to attend

Learn what is happening in schools and the community to combat homophobic bullying. Panel discussion includes policy overview, community and national programs and more. Sponsored by Birmingham Hadassah, Alabama Safe Schools Coalition, Birmingham Gay and Lesbian Parenting Group, City of Birmingham, LJCC, Birmingham Mayor's office, Magic City Acceptance Project, PFLAG, SOJOURN, United Way of Central Alabama and YWCA. Contact Hadassah Social Action Co-Chair, Sherri Grunfeld at ssdgrun@aol.com for more information.

**BABIES AND BAGELS!**

9 to 10:30 am, April 23, N.E. Miles Jewish Day School

Parents and babies (0-18 months) are invited for a morning play date with the N.E. Miles Jewish Day School and PJ Library. We will have singing, playing, and of course, bagels! We hope to see you there! RSVP to FlorinaN@bjf.org. (Babies 0-18 months and adults only).

**YOM HA’ATZMAUT - CELEBRATE ISRAEL’S BIRTHDAY**

11:30 am to 2:30 pm, April 30, LJCC; no cost to attend

Join us for a fun afternoon of Israeli music and dancing, traditional Israeli cuisine, vendors, Maccabi games for kids, crafts, and much more! Food will be available for purchase.

**OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER IN ISRAEL**

7 pm, April 25, LJCC Senior Lounge

If you are interested in volunteering in Israel, please come to this informational meeting regarding voluntary service on IDF bases in various locations in Israel. Screenings for volunteers is done in the US by an organization called VFI, Volunteers for Israel. The actual volunteer service is done through Sar El, an arm of the IDF. Elenor and Sidney Conn, Birmingham residents, have participated with Sar El twice and will tell of their experiences on IDF bases. For more information, please call 205.251.9396 or email sidneyconn@gmail.com.
**Donations**

**Good Fortune Fund**

A Chai donation wishing Mazal Tov to
**Cathy & Irwin Fingerman**
on the birth of their grandson, Asher Maxton Amasha
*From: Sheri & Jimmy Krell*

A Chai donation wishing Mazal Tov to
**Paula & Joe Levy**
on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Hannah Beth Spinner
*From: Marian & Myron Radwin*

Mazal Tov to **Nadine & Louis Cohen**
on the birth of their grandson, Asher Benjamin Cohen
*From: Ricki & Lanny Kline*

Musical Megillah

A Most Generous donation in honor of the contributions to Temple Beth-El made by **Tammy McClellan**
*From: Geri & Bob Stone*

**Prayer Book Fund**

A prayer book has been donated in loving memory of **Roberta M. Gerwin**, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Beth & John Gerwin*

Robert Spielberger Memorial Fund

In loving memory on his Yahrzeit:
**Bernie Bloomston**, uncle
*From: Lynn & Bert Bloomston*

Elmwood Cemetery Fund

In loving memory on his Yahrzeit:
**Jonas Fried**, grandfather
*From: Victor Cohen*

In loving memory on his Yahrzeit:
**Jake Lipsitz**, father
*From: Amelia (Mickie) Cohen*

Chico Bomchel Memorial

Social Action Fund

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Lena Weiss**, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
A Chai donation in loving memory of **Chita Weintrob**, beloved wife, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Howard Weintrob and Family*

**USY Convention**

A Most Generous donation to help make the **Ein Gedi Spring Subregional Convention** a great time for everyone
*From: Lynette & J.B. Mazer*

**E.M. & Ida F. Zeidman Library Fund**

A Most Generous donation in loving memory of **E.M. Zeidman**, beloved father, on his Yahrzeit
*From: Philip F. Zeidman*

Edie Wilensky Memorial Fund

In loving memory on her Yahrzeit:
**Edie Wilensky**, niece
*From: Ilene & Allan Wilensky*

Religious School Fund

In loving memory on his Yahrzeit:
**Irvin R. Allen**, father
*From: Karen & Reuben Halpern and Family*

Speedy Recovery

A Chai donation wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to
**Karl Friedman**
*From: Marian & Myron Radwin*

A Chai donation wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to
**Sharon Cook**
*From: Penny Gordon*

Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to
**Sharon Cook**
*From: Dorothy Shiland*

Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to **Debby Thomas**
*From: Frieda & Eph Mazer*

Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to **Gary Schiff**
*From: Cindy & Harvey May*

**Chevra Kadisha**

A Generous donation in loving memory of **Frances Jaffe**, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Her Children*

Simcha Shabbat Fund

A Most Generous donation in honor of **Sherry Cherner** on her birthday
*From: Micky & Stanley Rubenstein*

**Memorial Fund**

in loving memory of

A Chai donation in loving memory of
**Harris Kaplan**
*From: Sherry & Jerry Cherner*

A Chai donation in loving memory of
**Charlotte Elmets**
*From: Ricki & Lanny Kline*
DONATIONS

In loving memory of Phyllis Ginsberg
From: Sherlee Michael Ginsberg

In loving memory of Harris Kaplan
From: Norma Jean Long

On Their Yahrzeits in loving memory of

A Most Generous donation in loving memory of Alan Perlman, beloved father, on his Yahrzeit
From: Marjorie Perlman

A Most Generous donation in loving memory of Rose & Max Schulman, beloved grandparents, and Molly & Eddie Schulman, beloved parents, on their Yahrzeits
From: Rosalyn Bloomston

A Generous donation in loving memory of Bess Caine, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Harold Caine

A Generous donation in loving memory of Helen Rotenstreich, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Joy & Robert Fleisher

A Generous donation in loving memory of Beatrice Solomon, beloved mother, Isadore Davis, beloved father, and Max Davis, beloved grandfather, on their Yahrzeits
From: Jane & Melvin Davis

A Generous donation in loving memory of Paulina Belotserkovskaya, beloved grandmother, and Abraham Belotserkovskiy, beloved grandfather, on their Yahrzeits
A Chai donation in loving memory of Mikhail Golger, beloved father, on his Yahrzeit
From: Olga Belotserkovskaya & Al Belotserkovskiy

A Generous donation in loving memory of Sadie Shiland Starr, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Toby Gordon and Anita Shapiro

A Double Chai donation in loving memory of Tese & Nathan Kianoff, beloved mother & father, on their Yahrzeits
A Chai donation in loving memory of Reva Engel, beloved mother and grandmother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Lisa & Alan Kianoff

A Chai donation in loving memory of Sam Slaughter, beloved father, on his Yahrzeit
From: Harlene & O.J. Wehby

A Chai donation in loving memory of Sadie Goldberg, beloved mother and grandmother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Betty Levin Anfanger and Family

A Chai donation in loving memory of Norman Fleisher, beloved brother, and David Fleisher, beloved nephew, on their Yahrzeits
From: Robert Fleisher

A Double Chai donation in loving memory of Abbey Benck, beloved granddaughter, on her Yahrzeit
A Double Chai donation in loving memory of Steffi Levite, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Pam Ruttenberg and Family

A Generous donation in loving memory of Rabbi Nissan Yablonsky, beloved grandfather, on his Yahrzeit
From: Nissah Mattenson

A Double Chai donation in loving memory of Jess Bernstein, beloved father, on his Yahrzeit
From: Andy & Bob Bernstein and Children

A Generous donation in loving memory of Abraham Shiland, beloved father, on his Yahrzeit
From: Sylvia Berman and Family

A Double Chai donation in loving memory of Rebecca Corenblum, beloved grandmother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Susan & Steve Greene

A Double Chai donation in loving memory of Moses Green, beloved mother-in-law, on her Yahrzeit
From: Anna H. Green

A Double Chai donation in loving memory of Elaine Royal, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Barbara & Stuart Royal

A Generous donation in loving memory of Isadore Davis, beloved father, and Max Davis, beloved grandfather, on their Yahrzeits
A Chai donation in loving memory of Elaine Royal, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Joyce R. Serwitz

A Chai donation in loving memory of Steven Slater, beloved son, on his Yahrzeit
From: Marilyn Slater

A Chai donation in loving memory of R.B. Levy, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
From: Foster Levy

A Chai donation in loving memory of Marvin Kemeny, beloved father, on his Yahrzeit
From: Fred Kemeny
**DONATIONS**

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Rosa Colb**, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Nancijoy Weissman*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Lillian Cohen**, beloved aunt, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Melvin Olshan*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Ester Solodukha**, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Basya & Leonid Bolshinskiy*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Ruth Shechter**, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Jerome Brown*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Rachel Jaffe**, beloved mother, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Kenneth Jaffe*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Anna Rubin**, beloved grandmother, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Richard Toranto*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Isadore S. Wien trob**, beloved father, on his Yahrzeit
*From: Marty & Alex Kontos*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Aisic Hirsch**, beloved husband, and **Joseph Schuster**, beloved father, on their Yahrzeits
*From: Riva Hirsch*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Bert Steinberg**, beloved stepfather, on his Yahrzeit
*From: Jay Cohen*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Mary Meyerowitz**, beloved mother and grandmother, on her Yahrzeit
*From: Sandy & Gene Siegal and Family*

A Chai donation in loving memory of **Paul Schlaff**, beloved father, on his Yahrzeit
*From: Linda Karlin*

**Isadore Schlaff**, father-in-law
**Joseph Cohen**, father
**Daniel Cohen**, brother
*From: Shirley Schlaff*

**Cantor Akiva Ostrovsky**, father
*From: Judy & Louis Morris*

**Sarah Zivitz**, grandmother
*From: Diane & Howard Slaughter*

**Rita Routman**, wife
*From: Jerry Routman*

**Edward A. Davis**, uncle
*From: Sybil & Larry Michalove*

**Moses Golubov**, uncle
*From: Lazar Golubov*

**Sue Small**, aunt
**Joe Feldser**, uncle
*From: Sharon & Steve DeShazo*

**David Greenberg**, brother
*From: Dorothy Marks*

**Muriel Gershon**, sister-in-law
*From: Marian & Myron Radwin*

**Nazlie Senior**, grandmother
*From: Natalie & Albert Sikora*

In honor of loved ones
*From: Ritia Meyerowitz*

**Yankel Zeltser**, brother
*From: Anya Treyger*

**Bruce Mayer**, husband
*From: Norma Jean Long*

**Aisic Hirsch**, father
*From: Sheryl Perlstein*

**Vita Koshina**, aunt
**David Koshin**, uncle
**Gita Golubova**, grandmother
*From: Genya Safyanova, Zinaida Golubova and Lazar Golubov*

**Annie Bram**, grandmother
**Henry Greenberg**, father
*From: Katherine & Bruce Greenberg*

**Bernie Bloomston**, father
*From: Rhoda & Robert Feirman*

**Celia Eidex**, grandmother
*From: Sue Davis LaSalle*

***PLEASE NOTE: Donations received after March 1, 2017, will be included in the next bulletin.***
*Jennie Rubin  
*Chana Schnipper  
*Wilum Sher  
*Meyer Shilad  
*Enid Silverstein  
*Blair Simon  
*Fanny Sokol  
*Melvin Sokol  
*Pauline Sokol  
*Alma Stein  
*Paul Steinlauf  
*Sam Tenenbaum  
*Yehuda Wertheimer  
*Helen Wilder  
*Anne Wildstein  
*Abraham Yanuck

Richard Levy  
Blanch Lipman  
*Abraham Lipitz  
*Folly Marcus  
*Benjamin Mesch  
*Boris Mintzin  
*Ruth Mirelman  
*Andronit Peremint  
*Libby Reznik  
*Marvin Rich  
*Alex Rittenbaum  
*Moses Robins  
*Robert Rosenbluth  
*Ben Royal  
*Sam Rubenstein  
*Jerome Safer  
*Marie Scheuer  
*Bette Shapiro  
*Jack Silverman  
*Elsie Siskin  
*Morris Staff  
*Cecile Sundock  
*Michael Sundock  
*Peter Tichansky  
*Isaac Torne  
*Henrietta Wolf  
*Minnie Stern  
*Zakuto  
*Philip Ziff

*Denotes a perpetual memorial plaque in sanctuary given by family members.
Dear Friends,

I want to provide an update to you on our progress in moving the Visioning Task Forces forward. I am pleased to let you know that Dan Weinrib and Rabbi Leff will be serving as co-chairs of our Governance Task Force. If you are interested in providing feedback for this task force, please notify Dan at weinribd@bellsouth.net. In addition, there are other areas of important work taking place which I want you to be aware of.

Music/Education Director Task Force: The search is underway for this Senior staff position, and we have received a good number of applications. Online interviews have begun, and we will keep you informed as this progresses.

Property/Building Task Force: This group continues to compile data and ideas relative to our property options, to include costs and pros/cons of these options. Once this data collection has been completed and evaluated, details will be shared with the Board and Congregation for review.

Rabbinical Search Task Force: As you know, Rabbi Leff has agreed to serve as our Rabbi for another year, through the summer of 2018. Therefore, this Task Force will begin their work this summer. We will keep you apprised as this progresses.

Culture Task Force: This task force is on our radar and will be formed later this year. We will let you know more about this over the next few months.

If you have any feedback or want to get involved, don't hesitate to contact me, an Executive Committee member or one of our Senior Staff.

— Jacob Halpern

TBE and Visioning

Strategic Vision: Our strategic vision will focus on making good decisions regarding our new rabbi and our spiritual home, reflecting our inclusive, Conservative community. We will work on our vision of being respectful of our diversity and to build organizational structures, and support clergy, volunteers, learners, and worshippers that will in turn grow and stabilize TBE. We will use this opportunity to band together for positive change, as we achieve our overall goal of being a Jewish family worth coming home to.

Core Values: Generation to Generation, Sacred Space, Welcoming

Strategic Initiatives: Hire the Right Rabbi; The Building; Culture Change: Welcoming, Inclusive, Diverse and Participatory; Governance and Administration; Financial Sustainability
Passover Second Night Seder
7 pm, Tuesday, April 11

The entire community is invited to celebrate Passover at Temple Beth-El and participate in a traditional seder, which includes a fish dinner, led by Rav Barry. Seder and dinner cost: $36 for adults and $12 for college students and youth.

RSVP by April 7 at www.templebeth-el.net. For more Passover information, see page 12.