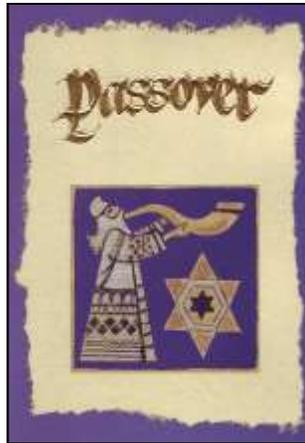


April 2011

Adar II / Nisan 5771

### *What we're talking about this month:*

- Pesach, pages 1, 4—8
- Shabbat Ruach, page 9
- White Elephant Sale, page 9
- Yom Hashoah candles, page 12
- When Pigs Fly Kosher BBQ Cook-off, page 12
- Bill Peetluk Softball Invitational, page 12



## TBE Pre-Pesach Dinner

After your kitchen has been cleared of *chametz*, relax and enjoy a pre-*Pesach* pasta bar at Temple Beth-El on April 17 at 6:30 pm.

There will be several types of pasta, sauce, garlic bread, salad, and dessert.

The cost is \$18 / family or \$10 / single. Reservations are required. Please RSVP to the office at 205/933-2740 by April 11.

## Can you host a Seder guest?

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During Passover, we are encouraged to fulfill the *Mitzvah* of *Hachnasat*

*Orchim*—welcoming guests into our home. If you can provide home

hospitality at one, or both, of your *Sedarim*, please call the Temple office. There are people who would like to attend a *Seder* and will be honored to join you for one or both evenings. Also, if you need home hospitality for the *Sedarim*, please call the office and we will try to connect you with a host family.

## Preparing for Pesach

*Bedikat chametz*—search for *chametz*: Sunday, April 17

The search for *chametz* is usually performed the evening before *Pesach*. It is a custom to search for bits of *chametz* with a candle, feather, and wooden spoon. *Chametz* that is found (except that which is specifically set aside for use before

*(continued page 8)*

## Shabbat service schedule

April 1	Friday Eve Candle lighting	5:45 pm 7:02 pm
April 2	Saturday Morning- <i>Parshat Tazria</i> <i>Maftir</i> : Barry Dreayer <i>Shabbat Mincha</i>	9:30am 5:30 pm
April 8	Friday Eve Candle lighting	5:45 pm 7:09 pm
April 9	Saturday Morning- <i>Parshat Metzora</i> <i>Maftir</i> : Debbie Flax <i>Shabbat Mincha</i>	9:30 am 5:30 pm
April 15	Friday Eve- <i>Shabbat Ruach</i> Candle lighting	5:45 pm 7:17 pm
April 16	Saturday Morning- <i>Parshat Achrei Mot</i> <i>Maftir</i> : J.B. Mazer <i>Shabbat Mincha</i>	9:30 am 5:30 pm
April 18	Erev <i>Pesach</i> Candle lighting First <i>Seder</i> in the evening	7:20 pm
April 19	<i>Pesach I</i> <i>Maftir</i> : Naomi Ivker <i>Mincha</i>	9:30 am 5:30 pm
April 20	<i>Pesach II</i> <i>Maftir</i> : Julian Brook <i>Mincha</i>	9:30 am 5:30 pm
April 22	Friday Eve Candle lighting	5:45 pm 7:24 pm
April 23	Saturday Morning- <i>Pesach V</i> <i>Maftir</i> : Deanna Abrams <i>Shabbat Mincha</i>	9:30 am 5:30 pm
April 25	<i>Pesach VII</i> <i>Maftir</i> : Rabbi Ira Flax <i>Mincha</i>	9:30 am 5:30 pm
April 26	<i>Pesach VIII</i> <i>Maftir</i> : Robin Benjamin <i>Mincha</i>	9:30 am 5:30 pm
April 29	Friday Eve Candle lighting	5:45 pm 7:31 pm
April 30	Saturday Morning- <i>Parshat Kodoshim</i> <i>Maftir</i> : Josh Ivker <i>Shabbat Mincha</i>	9:30 am 5:30 pm

Congregation Beth-El is affiliated with the  
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

## Professional staff

<i>Rabbi</i>	Michelle Goldsmith rabbi@templebeth-el.net
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President	Vikki Grodner vikkigrodner@gmail.com
Vice Presidents	Franklin Tessler Edward Goldberg Susan Greene
Secretary	Sheldon Black
Treasurer	Harold Ceitlin

Board of Directors: Steve Altmann, Steven Becker, Ellen Bruck, Caryn Corenblum, Sallie Downs, Edwin Fineberg, Hilary Gewant, Eric Goldis, Jacob Halpern, Naomi Ivker, Justin Kaplan, Lisa Kianoff, Martin Klinger, Roz Mannon, Greg Odrezin, Loraine Reznik, Rob Studin, Tim Thornton, Dan Weinrib, Danielle Weintraub

Past Presidents: Karl Friedman, Marshall Gordon, Joe Reznik, Norman Niren, Stanley Lapidus, Howard Bearman, J.B. Mazer, Myron Radwin, Morton Stern, Julian Brook, Norman Berk, Maurice Shevin, Joan Lebow, Ron Froehlich, Ronald Shiland, Gary Gordon, Jack Schaeffer, Martin Damsky, Jimmy Krell, Steven Corenblum, Barbara Solomon, Seth Wolnek

Sisterhood: Co-President: Loraine Reznik  
lorainereznik@gmail.co  
Co-President: Ellen Bruck

**Men's Club:** President: Jacob Halpern  
majorpromotions@charter.net

## President's message

# The opportunities we don't always see



You have certainly heard (or seen for yourself) that we had a leak recently at the synagogue. Not your garden-variety trickle of water, but enough of the wet stuff that I had to put on my galoshes to enter the building after receiving several frantic phone calls one morning.

Our *minyannaires* sprung into action, identified the source of the problem, and alerted the troops. Unfortunately, the damage had already been done, literally overnight, by a supply line to an upstairs water fountain, hidden from view until it was too late.

It was devastating to see our beautiful, historic building in such a state in the immediate aftermath. It is difficult to see things still topsy turvy as we wait for insurance adjusters to finish their work, contractors to provide estimates, and decisions to be made about what exactly needs to be done.

However, with any unforeseen situation, opportunity presents itself, whether at a religious **institution, or in life.** This “flood” is no different. We had already been talking as a Board about the way our public spaces work for us as a community and how to make them

more efficient and user-friendly. The current situation in which we find ourselves has ramped-up this dialogue. As we explore the possible, I look forward to involving you in making Temple Beth-El our best spiritual home ever. We will be sharing more details in the near future on how you can get involved in this process.

In addition to our warm congregation, magnificent *shul* and capable professional staff, we possess other assets that provide us with opportunities. Opportunities we are leveraging to create a more vibrant, engaged and engaging synagogue community.

Several months ago, we became aware of an innovative program called *Moishe House*. Based in Oakland, California, *Moishe House* is an international organization providing meaningful Jewish experiences to young adults in their twenties (it also has been described as a post-collegiate Hillel). *Moishe House* is inclusive in its Jewish programming approach, engaging a currently underserved segment of our Jewish population; the program exists in 33 cities in 13 countries. From *Shabbat* dinners to book clubs to sporting events, residents find ways to connect with their Jewish peers through the *Moishe House* model.

The Temple Beth-El Board of Directors has approved a unique collaboration with *Moishe House*. We will be contributing the use of the building we own next door to TBE on 22<sup>nd</sup> Way to bring *Moishe House* to Birmingham. An ad hoc *Moishe House* committee and members of our Board have been working in collaboration with the Birmingham Jewish Federation and Foundation to identify funding sources and to finalize plans to bring this exciting program to the

Magic City. Once established, this will be only the third *Moishe House* in the Southeast.

Minor renovations to the property will occur over the summer, and the program will be ready to begin operations by the High Holidays. You will be hearing more about *Moishe House* and ways you can get involved as a supporter, participant or resident, in future synagogue and community communications.

You can also learn more about *Moishe House* at the upcoming When Pigs Fly *Kosher* BBQ or by visiting [www.moishehouse.org](http://www.moishehouse.org).

We are proud of the leadership role our synagogue is taking in bringing this innovative program to Birmingham.

In addition to identifying ways to make our synagogue stronger for conservative Judaism, we are also seeking collaborative opportunities such as *Moishe House*, that serve the greater good for our Jewish and general community. In other words, we are looking at all the opportunities and presenting to our congregants what is possible.

I hope you will join us in the journey.

## Pesach

# The Rabbinical Assembly Pesach Guide

The *Torah* prohibits the ownership of leaven during the festival of *Pesach*. Because of this restriction, *Pesach* is the Jewish festival that requires the most preparation. This *Rabbinical Assembly Pesach Guide* provides a brief outline of the policies and procedures relevant to preparing a home for *Pesach*.

With significant changes in the nature and manufacture of kitchen products and foodstuffs, new policies are required to maintain a *kosher-for-Pesach* kitchen. As well, there are many significant differences of opinion among *rabbis* regarding the laws of *Pesach*. This guide is intended to help families maintain a *Pesachdik* home in accordance with the principles of Conservative Judaism and its understanding of Jewish Law.

*Kashering* of kitchen appliances and utensils: It is customary (and easiest) to remove the utensils and dishes that are used during the year, replacing them with either new utensils or utensils reserved for exclusive use on *Pesach*. This is clearly not feasible for major kitchen appliances and may not even be possible for dishes and utensils. There is a process for *kashering* a variety of utensils and appliances.

The general principle used in *kashering* is that the way the utensil absorbs food is the way it can be purged of that food (*ke-volo kach pol-to*). This principle operates on the basis of the quality or intensity of how the particular item absorbs food. Kitchen items used for cold food can be *kashered* by rinsing, since

no substance has been absorbed by the dish or glass. Items used on a stove absorb the food and thus need a stronger level of action, namely expelling the food into boiling water through a process called *hag'alah*. The most intense form of *kashering* applies to items used directly on a fire or in an oven and these utensils require a process of *kashering* called *libbun*, which burns away absorbed food.

Specific items are covered below:

a. To *kasher* metal pots, silverware, and utensils, thoroughly clean the item with soap and water. Then, following a strict 24-hour waiting period during which the item is not used, immerse the item in water that has been heated to a rolling boil (*hag'alah*). For pots and pans, clean handles thoroughly. If the handle can be removed, one must remove it for a more thorough cleaning. To effect *hag'alah*, the item must be completely exposed to the boiling water. Pots and pans are either immersed in a larger pot of boiling water (for large items, this may be done one section at a time), or filled with water brought to a rolling boil, after which a heated stone is dropped into the pot, causing the water to overflow to cover the sides of the pot. In the case of silverware, every part of each piece must be exposed to the boiling water. Following this process, each utensil is rinsed in cold water.

b. Heavy-duty plastic items, including dishes, cutlery, or serving pieces, provided they can withstand very hot water and do not permanently stain, may be *kashered* by *hag'alah*. If there is

some doubt as to whether a particular item can be *kashered*, please contact Rabbi Goldsmith at [rabbi@templebeth-el.net](mailto:rabbi@templebeth-el.net) or 205/933-2740.

c. Purely metal utensils used in fire must first be thoroughly scrubbed and cleaned and then must be subjected to direct fire (*libbun*). To accomplish this, place the item in a self-cleaning oven and run it through the self-cleaning cycle, or use a blowtorch. The use of a blowtorch is a complicated and potentially dangerous procedure and may result in discoloration or warping of the metal item being purged. Exercise caution when performing *libbun*. Metal baking pans and sheets cannot be *kashered* because they require direct fire, which will cause warping.

d. Earthenware (china, pottery, etc.) cannot be *kashered*. However, fine chinaware that was stored and not used for over a year may be used after thorough washing. This china is considered *pareve* and may be designated for meat or dairy use.

e. Ovens and ranges: Every part that comes in contact with food must be thoroughly cleaned. This includes the walls and the top and bottom of the oven. The oven or range should then be heated at its highest possible temperature. The oven should be heated at maximum heat for an hour; the range top should be heated until the elements turn red and glow. Parts of the range top around the elements that can be covered should be covered (usually with aluminum foil), and carefully

(continued next page)

## Pesach

# The Rabbinical Assembly Pesach Guide (continued)

heated. After a general and careful cleaning, a self-cleaning oven is put through the full cleaning cycle while empty. Following this process, the oven should be cleaned again to remove any ash. If the oven was very dirty to begin with, two cycles may be needed to assure a thorough cleaning.

f. Smooth glass-top electric ranges require *kashering* by *libbun* and *iruy* (pouring boiling water over the surface of the range top). First, clean the top of the range thoroughly; then turn the coils on maximum heat until they are red-hot. Then carefully pour boiling water on the surface area, over and around the burners. The range top may now be used for cooking.

g. Microwave ovens that have no convection option should be thoroughly cleaned. Then place an eight-ounce cup of water inside the oven and microwave until the water almost disappears. At least six of the eight ounces need to evaporate. Do not heat until the water is completely evaporated, as this may damage the oven. A microwave oven that has a browning element cannot be *kashered*.

h. Convection ovens are *kashered* like regular ovens. When cleaning, be sure to thoroughly clean around the fan.

i. Glass dishes used for eating and serving hot food are to be treated like any dish used for eating and serving hot food. These dishes may be *kashered* by cleaning and then immersing in boiling water (*hag'alah*). Glass cookware is *kashered* in the same method used

for a metal pot. The issues regarding glass bakeware are complex. Some authorities allow glass bakeware to be *kashered*, while others do not. Drinking glasses or glass dishes used only for cold foods may be *kashered* by a simple rinsing. Some follow the custom of soaking them in water for three days.

j. A dishwasher needs to be cleaned as thoroughly as possible, including the inside area around the drainage and filters. Then run a full cycle with detergent (with racks inserted), while empty. After 24 hours of not being used, the dishwasher is again run empty (with racks inserted), and set on the highest heat for the purpose of *kashering*. If the sides of the dishwasher are made of enamel or porcelain, the dishwasher cannot be *kashered* for *Pesach*.

k. Other electrical appliances can be *kashered* if the parts that come in contact with *chametz* are metal and are removable, in which case they may be *kashered* like all other metal cooking utensils. If the parts are not removable, the appliances cannot be *kashered*. We recommend the purchase of small appliances designated for strictly *Pesach* use, thus avoiding the difficulty of *kashering* these appliances.

l. Tables, cabinets, and counters should be thoroughly cleaned and covered for *Pesach*. Suitable coverings include: contact paper, regular paper, foil, or cloth that does not contain *chametz*, e.g. treated with starch made of *chametz*. Note that the covering material should be made of material that is not easily torn.

m. Many countertop surfaces can be *kashered* simply by a thorough cleaning, a 24-hour wait, and *iruy* (pouring boiling water over surfaces). For *iruy* to be effective for *kashering*, the surface must have no hairline cracks, nicks, or scratches that can be seen with the naked eye. Plastic laminates, limestone, soapstone, granite, marble, glass, Corian, Staron, Ceasarstone, Swanstone, Surell, and Avonite surfaces can be *kashered* by *iruy*. A wood surface that does not contain scratches may be *kashered* by *iruy*. Ceramic, cement, or porcelain countertops cannot be *kashered* by *iruy*. The potential effectiveness of *iruy* depends on the material of which the counter was made. A full list of counter materials that can be *kashered* (according to their decisors) may be found on the website of the Chicago Rabbinical Council (CRC).

n. A metal kitchen sink can be *kashered* by thoroughly cleaning and scrubbing the sink (especially the garbage catch), letting it sit for 24 hours, and then carefully pouring boiling water over all the surfaces of the sink, including the lip. A porcelain sink cannot be *kashered*, but should be thoroughly cleaned and used with *Pesach* dish basins and dish drains, one each for dairy and for meat.

o. Non-Passover dishes, pots, utensils, and *chametz* foods that have been sold (see page 7) should be separated, covered, or locked away to prevent accidental use.

Foods:

The *Torah* prohibits the

(continued next page)

## Pesach

# The Rabbinical Assembly Pesach Guide (continued)

ownership of *chametz* (flour, food, or drink made from the prohibited species of leavened grain: wheat, oats, barley, rye, or spelt) during *Pesach*. Ideally, we burn or remove all *chametz* from our premises. In some cases, however, this would cause prohibitive financial loss. In such cases, we arrange for the sale and subsequent repurchase after *Pesach* of the *chametz* to a non-Jew. The transfer, (*mekhirat chametz*), is accomplished by **appointing an agent, usually one's rabbi**, to handle the sale. This must be considered a valid and legal transfer of ownership and thus the items sold must be separated and stored away from all other foods and supplies. At the end of the holiday, the agent arranges to repurchase the items on behalf of the owner, since the *chametz* at that time is again permitted. One must wait until certain the repurchase has been transacted. If ownership of the *chametz* was not transferred before the holiday, the use of any such *chametz* remains prohibited after the holiday (*chametz she-avar alav ha-Pesach*) and any such products should be given away to a non-Jewish food pantry.

Since the *Torah* prohibits the eating of *chametz* during *Pesach*, and since many common foods contain some *chametz*, guidance is necessary when shopping and preparing for *Pesach*.

An item that is *kosher* all year round, that is made with no *chametz*, and is processed on machines used only for that item and nothing else (such as ground coffee) may be used with no special *Pesach* supervision. As we

learn more about the processing of foods and the ingredients they contain, relying on the *kashrut* of a product for *Pesach* that does not hold a *Pesach hekhsher* (stamp of approval) may be problematic. Wherever possible, processed foods should have a *kosher l'Pesach hekhsher* from a reliable source. Since that is not always possible, however, our guidelines reflect some acceptable alternatives.

Any food that requires a *kosher l'Pesach (hekhsher)* must have a label that is integral to the package and should display the name of a recognizable, living supervising *rabbi*, or creditable *kosher* supervision agency, if possible. If the label is not integral to the package, or if there are questions regarding the label, the item should not be used without consulting a *rabbi* or religious authority.

### Prohibited foods:

Prohibited foods include the following: leavened bread, cakes, biscuits, crackers, or coffees containing cereal derivatives (i.e. anything made with wheat, barley, oats, spelt, or rye). Any food containing these grains or derivatives of these grains (the five prohibited species for *Pesach*) is forbidden. Flavorings in foodstuffs are often derived from alcohol produced from one of these grains, rendering that food *chametz*. Such products require *Pesach* supervision.

*Ashkenazic rabbinical* authorities have added the following foods (*kitniyot*) to the above list of prohibited foods: rice, corn, soy, millet, beans, and peas. These and

other plant foods (e.g. mustard, buckwheat, fennel, fenugreek, and sesame seeds) are not permitted on *Pesach*. Although many *rabbinic* authorities have prohibited the use of peanuts and peanut oil, the Conservative **movement's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards** has permitted their use and consumption on *Pesach*, provided that these items have proper *kosher* certification and do not contain any *chametz* ingredients. Most *Sephardic* authorities permit the use of all the *kitniyot* foods other than those that might have come in contact with the prohibited grains. Most *Ashkenazic rabbinical* authorities also forbid processed products derived from *kitniyot*, whether liquid or solid. These might include, but are not limited to: corn sweetener, corn oil, soy oil, and ascorbic acid (vitamin C). Israeli products are often marked "**contains kitniyot**" and thus *Ashkenazic* Jews who do not use *kitniyot* need to be vigilant when purchasing Israeli products for *Pesach*.

### Permitted foods:

a. The following foods require no *kosher l'Pesach* label when purchased before or during *Pesach*: fresh fruits and vegetables; eggs; fresh fish (whole or gutted); fresh or frozen *kosher* meat other than chopped meat; whole (unground) spices and nuts, including whole or half pecans (not pieces); pure black, green, or white tea leaves or teabags; Nestea regular and decaffeinated unflavored tea; coffee (unflavored regular); and baking soda and bicarbonate of soda.

(continued next page)

*Pesach**The Rabbinical Assembly Pesach Guide (continued)*

b. The following items may be purchased before *Pesach* without a *Pesach hekhsher* but if bought during *Pesach* require a *hekhsher*: white milk, Tropicana 100% orange juice, filleted fish, frozen fruit (with no additives), pure white sugar (with no additives), olive oil (extra virgin only), non-iodized salt, and quinoa (with no additional ingredients).

c. The following products require reliable *kosher l'Pesach* certification (regular *kosher* supervision is not sufficient), whether purchased before or during *Pesach*: all baked goods (*matzah*, *Pesach* cakes, *matzah* flour, *farfel*, *matzah* meal, and any other products containing *matzah*), 100% fruit juices, herbal

teas, canned tuna, wine, vinegar, liquor, decaffeinated coffee and tea, dried fruits, oils, frozen uncooked vegetables and all frozen processed foods, candy, chocolate-flavored milk, ice cream, yogurt, cheeses, butter, and soda. for *Sephardic* Jews, the presence of *kitniyot* in some of these products does not present a problem, as long as there is no *chametz*. In some cases an onsite inspection of a local dairy performed by the religious authority may suffice to resolve potential questions. Any processed food bought during *Pesach* must have a *kosher l'Pesach* certification.

d. Any detergents, cleaners, etc. which are not a foodstuff and

which are not eaten, may be used for *Pesach* and do not require a *hekhsher*. These items include: isopropyl alcohol, aluminum products, ammonia, coffee filters, baby oil, powder and ointment, bleach, charcoal, candles, contact paper, plastic cutlery, laundry and dish detergent, fabric softener, oven cleaner, paper bags, plates, wax paper, plastic wrap, polish, sanitizers, scouring pads, stain remover, and bottled water with no additives.

e. Medicines: Prescription medicines are permitted. Non-prescription pills and capsules are permitted; for liquids, please contact *Rabbi* Goldsmith at [rabbi@templebeth-el.net](mailto:rabbi@templebeth-el.net) or 205/933-2740.

*Mechirat chametz—selling of chametz for Passover*

According to Jewish law, we are prohibited from owning *chametz* during the entire holiday of Passover. Therefore, we arrange for the sale of *chametz* with *Rabbi* Goldsmith acting as the agent responsible for the transaction. It is a valid and legal transfer of ownership. At the end of the holiday, the agent arranges for the reversion of ownership of the now-permitted *chametz*. In order for the sale of your *chametz* to be effective, all foods that are forbidden during Passover should be placed in a separate room or locked cabinet for the duration of the holiday. This opportunity may also be used to donate forbidden products to a local food bank or soup kitchen.

AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT TO SELL *CHAMETZ*

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorize *Rabbi* Michelle Goldsmith to act as my agent to sell any *chametz* that may be in my possession, wherever it may be at home, place of business or elsewhere, in accordance with the requirements and provisions of Jewish law.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) Enclosed is a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the *Ma'ot Hittim / Pesach* Fund.

Please return or fax (205/933-2747) to the Temple Beth-El office by April 15, at 2:00pm.

## Pesach

# Preparing for *Pesach* (continued from cover)

*Pesach*) is put aside until the morning for burning. The formula for nullification is recited after the search. See the *Haggadah* for both the blessing and the formula.

Biur Chametz—burning of Chametz: Monday, April 18

The removal and burning of the *chametz* should be completed by 12:00pm. The house should be

*kashered* for *Pesach* and all cooking should be done in *Pesach* pots and only *Pesach* utensils should be used.

***Siyum B'Chorim***: Monday, April 18, 7:00am

It is customary for all first born males to fast on the eve of Passover. Traditionally, first born males fast on this day as a

recognition that the first born of the Israelites was spared at the first Passover. After the regular morning service, *Rabbi* Goldsmith will teach the concluding session of a *rabbinic* text. Following, there will be a brief "*Seudah Shel Mitzvah*," (*mitzvah* meal), in which all "first born" can break their fast. All are invited to join us for this unique ceremony.

## Pesach Seder Questions

Here are a few questions to promote discussion at your *Seder*:

- ✧ What are your memories of *Seders* past? Who are the missing family members this year? What do you miss most? What memories do you have?
- ✧ To what are you a slave? What would set you free?
- ✧ If the prophet Elijah walked through the door and sat down in his chair, what would be the

first thing you would ask him?

- ✧ Will your great-grandchildren be sitting at a *Seder*? What can our synagogues and Jewish institutions do to address the **next generation's needs**?
- ✧ We conclude the *Seder* with the expression '**Next year in Jerusalem!**' What is the meaning of this expression? What do you hope for next year in Jerusalem?

## Large-print *Haggadot*

For 80 years, the Jewish Braille Institute (JBI) library has enabled visually-impaired people all over the world to participate in the most treasured of Jewish rituals, the Passover *seder*, by providing free, large-print *Haggadahs*.

If you, or someone you know, needs a large-print *Haggadah*, please call 800/999-6476 to place an order for home delivery. The order deadline is April 8.

## Children

# April events for children



### *Shabbat* sing-along

On April 1, families with young children are invited twenty minutes before the regular Friday evening *Shabbat* service to gather together to sing fun, *Shabbat* songs, listen to a story, and dance their way into the *Shabbat*.

### Chocolate *Seder*

On Sunday, April 10 at 11:00 am, come to a *Seder* like no other as the children in our school participate in a chocolate *seder* to get them ready for Passover.

This special event is for K—8th grade. Guests are welcome.

## Chesed at Purim

Many thanks to our wonderful corps of 26 volunteers who spread across Birmingham to seven facilities and several private homes to visit our senior friends in honor of *Purim*. Each senior was given a goodie bag with *hamentashen* and other treats, and enjoyed smiles and conversation with our volunteers.

Residents of Brookdale Place were treated to the sounds of *Purim* tunes played on flute and harp by Holly Gettinger and Joan Scott-

Low. Attendees also mingled with the volunteers and enjoyed an array of delicious sweets after the performance.

If you would like to join us on our next visit, please let us know. We also ask that you consider the *Chesed* Committee as you make donations to Temple Beth-EI.

Thank you to our volunteers: Amy Allon, Marsha Asman, Michelle and Raquelle Bearman-Wolnek, Tobie Bogart, Julie

Ceitlin, Anne Cohen, Nadine Cohn, Lisa Engel, Karen Halpern, Hannah Helman, Sheri Krell, Holly Mazer, Sybil Michalove, Ilse Nathan, Lynn Rathmell, Micky Rubenstein, Pam Ruttenberg, Ruth Siegler, Diane Slaughter, Ellen Sokol, Amy Peetluk, and Marian Radwin

*Sincerely,*

Dorothy Ziff  
Sandra Gilbert  
Cindy May



## White Elephant Sale—save the date

Mark May 15 on your calendar for the annual White Elephant Sale.

Do your spring cleaning early and get your items ready to donate to

this community-wide sale! Any gently-used books, toys, DVDs, videos, games, housewares, bric-a-brac, *Judaica*, antiques, and other treasures are welcome, and can be

dropped off at the Temple office beginning April 18.

For more information, call Judy Cullinan at 205/969-3728.



Join us for our next *Shabbat Ruach* and dinner on Friday evening, April 15, when Spencer Leffel will be our guest percussionist. Spencer is a very talented drummer and performed at our Centennial Concert.

*Shabbat Ruach* is an hour-long Friday evening service filled with music and prayer guaranteed to uplift your *ruach* (spirit) and enliven your soul.

A complimentary dinner follows the service. Reservations are required and can be made by contacting the Temple office at 205/933-2740.

## Youth

## A note from Moreh Maksim



What does *teshuvah* and *tza'ar ba'alei chaim* have in common?

The answer to this question helps address this

month's theme, "Prevention of Animal Cruelty."

Judaism teaches the idea of *teshuvah*—moral healing leading to the return to God. *Tza'ar ba'alei chaim* is rooted in the philosophy that humans must not inflict unjust anguish on animals. How do these two ideas relate?

In Judaism, we have the concept of a spiritual spark buried deeply **within us. We are taught to, "let our light shine."** The *Hassidic* masters of the 19<sup>th</sup> century taught their followers that God sees each Jew as a spiritual flame of light, variously colored among the **people's moods, and of greater, or**

less, brilliancy in proportion to how many *mitzvot* one does.

This concept is one of the reasons the *Talmud* teaches us to be a **"light onto the nations."** The light extends to our environment and, more specifically, to the animal kingdom.

One way to reach *teshuvah* is to accept the responsibility handed to us by God to become guardians of the animal kingdom. We are given permission to employ animals in our work, but not to overburden them by assigning them work that could be dangerous to their health. In fact, *Torah* requires us to unload an overburdened animal and not to harness a bull with a donkey since one will work harder than the other. Likewise, we are taught to shoo away a mother bird when getting her eggs and not to kill a calf in front of its mother.

The *Gemara* teaches us that both Moshe Rabbeinu and David HaMelech were chosen as leaders based on how they treated their sheep. The lessons of *Gemara* further teach that many sages chose their wives based upon the mercy and compassion they showed animals.

As we learn the merits of caring for animals, Club *Kadima* would like to bring your attention to the **suffering of animals in our city's** animal shelters. During April, the *Kadima* Board is raising \$180 to aid the Birmingham Humane Society. This amount was chosen for the significance of providing ten animals with food, cleaning their cages, etc.

Please consider donating to help Club *Kadima* reach this very meaningful goal.

*B'Shalom,*  
Moreh Maksim Shilkrot

## A five minute journey to our traditions



At the start of the 20th century, *Rabbi* Abraham I. Kook was known as a great *tzadik*; a chief *rabbi* of

Palestine; and a founder of religious Zionist *yeshiva*, *Mirkaz HaRav*. He was also deeply concerned about animals.

*Rabbi Kook's* beliefs on the treatment of animals came from the *Talmudic* passage, "Rav (Abba Aricha a 3rd Century scholar) taught: one is not permitted to eat before he has

placed food before his animals" (Berachot 40). This argument was based on Deut. 11:15: "I will give plants in your field for your animals; and you will eat and be satiated."

According to *Rabbi* Kook, there are four lessons that can be learned from this passage:

1. God commands us to become guardians over the animal kingdom; therefore, it is our responsibility to look after them.
2. Animals must eat first because

they sustain us and provide us with our livelihood.

3. Animals are superior to humans in physical strength. Human advantages lie in a spiritual sense and the ability to communicate. Regarding physical sustenance, animals have more precedence than men.
4. When a man lacks food, he diverts his energy to prayer, family, and others for help. Animals do not have such abilities; therefore, feeding them first is a great necessity.

## Youth

## A fun-filled challenge

As you know, April is dedicated to our love for our animals. As part of honoring our animals, I have created a fun-filled challenge for *Chaverim*, *Kadimaniks*, and USY members.

The prizes are:

- ✧ Your project will be read from the *Bimah*,
- ✧ Your project will be published in *Connection*,
- ✧ a *Chaver* and a *Kadimanik* will win two children's tickets to the McWane Museum, and one USY member will win an \$18 gift certificate to Starbucks.

To enter, use the cinquain format described below to write a poem about an animal.

Line 1: One word (subject or noun)

Line 2: Two words (adjectives) that describe line 1

Line 3: Three action verbs ending in "ing" that relate to line 1

Line 4: Up to 10 words (feelings or a complete sentence) that describe the subject or are related to the subject

Line 5: One word to describe line 1 or is a synonym of line 1

Example:

Dog  
Loyal, fierce  
Guarding, warning, biting  
I pray I never meet one in the night  
RAF!

Submit your cinquains to [mshilkrot@templebeth-el.net](mailto:mshilkrot@templebeth-el.net). I can't wait to read them!

*Rabbi Goldsmith, Cantor Gale, and Mr. Covitz will serve as judges.*

*Betzlacha,*  
Moreh Maksim

## Happy April Birthdays!

**Yom Huledet Same'ach!**

Haley Applebaum  
Jacob Azrin  
Jared Bloomston  
Azriel Boles  
Mia Duvdevani  
Nathaniel Getman  
Micah Goldis  
Lillian Goldstein  
David Ivker  
Raphael Ivker  
Jordan Koplon  
Dorothy Krawitz  
Mack Krell  
Noah Lapidus  
Alec Lewis  
Charles Maday  
Ellis Nomberg  
Jack Rosenthal  
Nicholas Siegel  
Jake and Gabby Weissman  
Arlo Winston

Youth *Minyan* message

It's hard to believe that April is upon us! *Pessah* is just around the corner. I would like to wish all of you "*Chag Kasher v'sameach*—a kosher and joyous *Pessah*!"

*Pessah* is also the time when we recite my favorite song/prayer: *Dayenu*. In verse 12 of the *Dayenu*, we learn: "If He had brought us before Mount Sinai, and had not given us the *Torah*—*Dayenu*, it would have sufficed."

Would we, as Jews, be any different if God had not provided

us with His *Torah*?

*Rabbi Avraham Shmidman* once showed me this beautiful Babylonian *Talmudic* passage:

*If the Torah had not be given [at Sinai], we could have learned modesty from the cat, honesty from the ant, chastity from the dove, and good manners from the rooster, who first coaxes, then mates.*

(*Eruvin 100B*)

Rashi explains that the cat does

not defecate in people's presence, and it covers its excrement. Ants do not steal from each other, and the dove is always monogamous.

If you have a dog, cat, or any other animal, I challenge you to study its behavior. Share with the rest of the *minyan* your findings on how their actions can provide us with a better understanding of what it means to be a Jew.

**B'Vracha**  
Moreh Maksim

## Youth

## April Youth Calendar

April 5: *Kadima*—5:30 pm–7:00 pm, *Kadima* Board Meeting

April 7: *USY*—5:30 pm–7:00 pm, *USY* Board Meeting

April 9: *USY*—7:30 pm–9:00 pm, *USY* Chocolate *Seder* and Karaoke Challenge

April 29–May 1: *USY* Regional Convention

## Men's Club

## Yom Hashoah candle packing



Every year, the **Men's Club** packs *Yom Hashoah* candles for each member of the congregation's use in memorializing the Holocaust.

This year, we will meet on March 30 at 6:00 pm at TBE for this

special project. Pizza dinner is provided to our volunteers, and we usually finish packing the candles in less than two hours.

If you are available for a little "social gathering," please email Jacob Halpern at [majorpromotions@charter.net](mailto:majorpromotions@charter.net).

Candles will be ready for pick up at the Temple beginning Thursday, March 31.

## Upcoming Events

March 30—*Yom Hashoah* candle packing, 6:00 pm

March 31—*Yom Hashoah* candle pick up begins

April 2—**Men's Club** *Shabbat*

April 3—Bill Peetluk Softball Invitational Tournament.

May 15—When Pigs Fly *Kosher* BBQ Cook-off and Festival, 11:00 am—3:00 pm

When Pigs Fly *Kosher* BBQ Cook-off

Temple Beth-El • Piggly Wiggly  
Second Annual

**When Pigs Fly!**

Presented by  
The Brenda and Fred Friedman Family Foundation



**Kosher BBQ Cook-off  
and Festival**  
Birmingham • May 15, 2011

Mark Sunday, May 15, on your calendar for the Temple Beth-El and Piggly Wiggly Second Annual When Pigs Fly *Kosher* BBQ Cook-off, presented by The Brenda and Fred Friedman Family Foundation.

The cook-off will be from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm in the TBE parking lot. There will be celebrity judges, live **entertainment, and more.** Don't miss this fun-filled event for the entire community.

For more information, contact Jacob Halpern at 205/369-5151 or visit the web site at [www.whenpigsflykosherbbq.com](http://www.whenpigsflykosherbbq.com).

## Bill Peetluk Softball Invitational

The 9th Annual Bill Peetluk Softball Invitational will be Sunday, April 3, at the Levite Jewish Community Center.

Temple Beth-El plays the combined Kneseth Israel/Chabad/Huntsville team at 11:30 am.

After our victory in that game, we play at 2:30 pm and, once again, after winning that game, we play for the Championship at 4:30 pm.

Come out for a fun day at the J. In addition to a great tournament, a *falafel* lunch will be available, and raffles will be held throughout the games.

## Sisterhood

## Purim Raffle

Sisterhood thanks our many benevolent prize donors and wonderful patrons who purchased tickets to our very successful *Purim* Raffle! It was exciting and fun and, most importantly, it provided funds to accomplish the vital work we do for our youth and congregation. We are so lucky to have the support of these individuals whose generosity made **this year's Raffle possible. Our thanks and appreciation to:**

- Aronov Realty / Jake and Owen Aronov
- Southern Jewish Life / Ginger and Larry Brook
- Melissa and Melvin Zivitz
- The Facial Spa / Cinda Goldberg
- AAA Plastics / Loraine and David Reznik
- Andi Preston
- B and B Print Shop / Joe Preston
- The Invitation Place / Lori Jacobson
- Schaeffer Eye Center / Dr. and Mrs. Jack Schaeffer
- Levite Jewish Community Center / Ruth Nomberg
- Dr. Al Cohn
- Dr. Jeffrey Weissman
- Fred Benjamin
- Roz Bloomston
- Elenor Conn
- Toby Klein
- B-Metro / Cathy Fingerman
- Barry Altmark
- Esther Levy
- Martin Juarez
- Garth Potts
- Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Gift Shop
- The Lili Pad
- The Learning Express—Cahaba Heights
- Max's Delicatessen / Berenice and Steve Dubrinsky
- Oak Street Hair Group / Eric Egea
- Hair Options
- Julian Brook
- Sybil and Larry Michalove
- Nadine Cohen

Sincerely,  
Hilary Gewant, 2011 *Purim* Raffle Chairman

Passover *bimah* flowers

We'd like to express our appreciation to the following families who are generously donating the flowers which will adorn our *bimah* and add to the beauty of our Passover services:

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

Last two days of Passover: In memory of our loved ones, from an anonymous donor.



## We welcome your support

We would be honored to add your name to the nearly 350 women who make our Sisterhood an integral and vibrant part of life at TBE. Your involvement will bring new ideas, potential, inspiration, and talent, which helps us in our commitment to enrich congregational life. Join us in our goal that the *Ruach* (spirit) of Sisterhood connects and envelops all women within our Temple community.

Reach out to all members to create a feeling of belonging

Unite women through study, prayer, community service, and social activities

**Address women's issues in today's world**

Continue to foster knowledge of Israel and Judaism in the home and community

Help support the Synagogue and *Torah* Fund

## Sisterhood Membership

Sisterhood welcomes and encourages you to become an active member in our organization. For only \$30 annually, you receive a one-year membership in our organization and the Women's League for Conservative Judaism ([www.wlcv.org](http://www.wlcv.org)). Your membership dues help support our religious school; *Judaica* shop; *kosher* kitchens; and fun, inspirational programs for every holiday.

## Welcome

We extend a special *Baruchim Habbaim* (welcome) to Shari Friedman and Leslie Parris, our newest Sisterhood members.

**If you're interested in becoming a Sisterhood member**, please contact Lynette Mazer at [jbmazer@aol.com](mailto:jbmazer@aol.com).

Sisterhood

# Magical, mystical Vashti's Banquet



Magical! Mystical! Musical! Opulent! Delicious! Exotic! For women only!

These are just a few of the words used to describe the exciting festivities of Vashti's Banquet, which was held Sunday evening, March 6. Women from 19 to 90 filled our Cultural Center, and together we savored delightful Middle Eastern mezze, were charmed by enchanting and expressive belly dancers, royally pampered by skilled massage therapists, artfully tattooed by talented henna artists, and given a glimpse into the mysteries of the future by a gifted array of palm readers and tarot card readers. The highlight of our evening, however, was the warm and wonderful sense of sisterhood we shared as we spent the evening together!

We'd like to give a world of thanks to Sharon Kahn, Ginger Brook, Lindsey Deckard, Arlene Fisher, Maurine Halpern, Hannah Helman, Linda Jaffe, Jan Shevin, and Susan Shiland for their boundless energy and unlimited creativity!



## Looking for Israel? It's right inside your shul.



**Our Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Gift Shop**  
has just made a very large order of Judaica \*direct\* from Israel.  
Everything is here - and it's gorgeous. This is just a tiny sample!  
It couldn't be easier to support Israeli artists and your synagogue at the very same time.

Contact us for helpful, happy-to-hear-from-you service at 205/933.2740 or [giftshop@templebeth-el.net](mailto:giftshop@templebeth-el.net)

## Sisterhood

## Donations to Sisterhood



Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to Natalie Asman

From: Ruth Siegler

A *Chai* donation wishing *Mazal Tov* to Pat and Neal Miller on the *Bat Mitzvah* of their granddaughter, Danielle Vitale-

A *Chai* donation wishing *Mazal Tov* to Lynette and J. B. Mazer on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their grandson, Jeremy Lutz-

In loving memory of Dr. David Levy-

In loving memory of Victor Cohen-

From: Arlene and Murray Fisher

A generous donation wishing much appreciation for receiving an *aliyah* on the occasion of the *yahrzeit* of our father, Harry Wilk

From: Arlene Fisher and Ron Wilk

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Victor Cohen

From: Shirley and Ron Froehlich

A *Chai* donation wishing *Mazal Tov* to Pat and Neal Miller on the *Bat Mitzvah* of their granddaughter, Danielle Vitale-

A *Chai* donation wishing *Mazal Tov* to Joyce Stein on the occasion of her special birthday-

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Marylyn Dorsky-

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Victor Cohen-

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Edward Cone-

From: Pam Ruttenberg and Arnold Shiland

A *Chai* donation wishing *Mazal Tov* to Lynette and J. B. Mazer on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their grandson, Jeremy Lutz-

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Victor Cohen-

From: Hannah and Colin Helman

## Leagrams

To: Esther Schuster—*Mazal Tov* on your retirement-

To: Maria Bitran and Cantor Gale—*Mazal Tov* on your wedding-

To: Vikki Grodner—*Mazal Tov* on becoming **President of TBE's Board of Directors**-

To: Haley Lewis—*Mazal Tov* on your *Bat Mitzvah*-

To: Nancy and Doug Lewis—*Mazal Tov* on the *Bat Mitzvah* of your daughter, Haley-

To: Joy and Robert Fleisher—*Mazal Tov* on the *Bat Mitzvah* of your granddaughter, Haley-

From: Esther and Jerry Brown

To: Esther Schuster—*Mazal Tov* on your retirement

From: Cecille and Max Herzel

To: Janet Reagan—Best wishes for a speedy recovery from surgery-

From: Barb and Don Rothman

## Endowment Fund

# Temple Beth-El Foundation Fund— Your contributions at work

The Foundation manages its endowment resources (\$4,460,100 as of December 31, 2010) for the benefit of Temple Beth-El. The **Foundation's Board reviews** requests from Temple Beth-El for the support of Synagogue programs and to supplement the **Temple's annual budget. During 2010**, the Foundation provided over \$120,000 for these expenses.

Funds were also distributed for special activities including: Break-the-Fast, holiday celebrations, and partial support for the Confirmation Class trip to New York.

### The Foundation's Deferred

Building Maintenance Fund had a balance of \$734,158 at the end of 2010. These funds stand ready for emergency repairs to our Temple.

Following is a summary of activities, services, and materials paid for totally, or partially, by the **Foundation's 2010 allocations:**

- ✧ Break-The-Fast
- ✧ supporting Temple Beth-El's efforts to bridge the budget gap
- ✧ support *Kiddush* luncheons, *Shabbat* and Holiday *challah* and wine
- ✧ development of the web site including equipment, maintenance, and computer support
- ✧ High Holiday choir robes, music, accompanist for rehearsals and *Shabbat* music enrichment
- ✧ Religious School tutors and aides and support for **professionals' salaries**
- ✧ cemetery maintenance
- ✧ High Holiday security, janitorial, labor for building repairs, and special maintenance
- ✧ childcare and activities
- ✧ Marissa Feigelson Award and Zivitz Ramah Scholarship
- ✧ support the youth advisor (USY), refurbish the youth lounge, support youth groups and teen programs
- ✧ new member *Shabbat*
- ✧ Volunteer Luncheon
- ✧ holiday observances (*Shabbat*, *Kiddushes*, *Pesach*, *Sukkah*, *Schmooze*, and *Simchat Torah*)
- ✧ *Mechina* and Jr. Congregation
- ✧ TBE Board of Director training
- ✧ building security
- ✧ monthly publication of *Connection*
- ✧ dues support for senior congregants
- ✧ Temple beautification

The Foundation depends on the Congregants for its continued support. For information and donation opportunities, call Barbara Gordon, Foundation Director, at 205/978-5542 or email her at [barbaragordon@charter.net](mailto:barbaragordon@charter.net).

Development of our web site is one of the many ways Foundation Fund contributions support TBE services.

## Pride and joy

Joe Bloomston, a member of TBE's *Mesch* AZA, has been elected Board Treasurer (*Gizbor*) for the upcoming term.

## Sympathy and condolences

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

Lolly Abrams  
sister of Art Padawer

Victor H. Cohen  
father of Ellen Bernstein, Mark Cohen,  
Marshall Cohen, and Richard Cohen

Dr. David Levy  
brother of Harriet Routman

Frederick Israel Ostroy  
husband of Thea Ostroy,  
father of Rachel Ostroy and Greg Ostroy

May the families be comforted among the other mourners of Zion and

## Speedy recovery

Best wishes for a speedy recovery and continued good health to:

Linda Block • Stan Hellman • Elliot Herzel  
Herb Rosenbaum • Buddy Sarashon

## Attention parents of graduates

Please send us the name of your high school or college graduate, as well as the school they graduated from, or will be attending, and any honors they received. Their names will be published in the May issue of *Connection*.

## Directory updates

Anne Shiland  
2021 10th Avenue South  
#103

## Mazal Tov

*Mazal Tov* on their special April 2011 birthday to:

Lynne Cohen, Steve Todd, Myron Radwin, Sheila Friedman, and Hertzl Heiman

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

*Mazal Tov* on their April wedding anniversary to:

Susan and Richard Einhorn (16)

Linda and Richard Jaffe (1)

Toby and Joel Mendler (43)

Harriet and Gilbert Routman (41)

Evdiniya and Boris Zinger (36)

Jennifer and Brian Kulbersh (3)

Sari and Barry Spieler (3)

Rochelle and Martin Green (16)

Diane and Donald Marks (39)

Evelyn and Art Padawer (63)

Fira and Josif Charny (58)

Kerri and Efram Peller (9)

Celia and Charles Dubin (40)

Tatyana and Zanvel Shitsel (55)

May you go from strength to strength.

If your anniversary or special birthday is not listed above, please let us know so that we can update our records.

*Mazal Tov* to Ilene and Sandy Axelroth on the engagement of their daughter, Rita, to Michael Hodges.

*Mazal Tov* to Sue and Bill Lischkoff on the birth of their granddaughter, Adina Malka Goldstein. *Mazal Tov* also to great-grandmother, Ethel Laufman. Parents are Risa and Jay Goldstein.

*Mazal Tov* to Ellen and Jerry Sokol on the birth of their grandson, Drew Alexander Cohen. *Mazal Tov* also to great-grandmothers, Charlotte Corenblum and Polly Sokol. Parents are Stacy and Brian Cohen.

# Donations

## Good Fortune Fund

*Mazal Tov* to Stacy and Brian Cohen on the birth of their son, Drew Alexander Cohen

From: Penny and Marshall Gordon

Roslyn Wientrob on the occasion of her 90th birthday

From: Ilse Nathan  
Anne E. Cohn  
Ruth Siegler  
Dorothy Dubrowsky  
Betty and Bob Anfanger  
Ethelyn Slaughter

Maria Bitran and Cantor Gale on their recent marriage

From: Sam Tenenbaum, Jr.  
Sylvia Gouse  
Betty and Bob Anfanger

Joy and Robert Fleisher on the *Bat Mitzvah* of their granddaughter, Haley Lewis

From: Sylvia Gouse  
Faye and Sidney Bernstein  
Betty and Bob Anfanger  
Marian and Myron Radwin  
Jean Bearman

Sylvia Berman on the engagement of her granddaughter, Marla Weinstein, to Steve Ostroff

From: Betty and Bob Anfanger

Nancy and Doug Lewis on the *Bat Mitzvah* of their daughter, Haley

From: Anne E. Cohn

Shirley and Paul Schlaff on the occasions of their special wedding anniversary and Paul's birthday

From: Riva and Aisic Hirsch and Family

Ilene and Sandy Axelroth on the engagement of their daughter, Rita, to Michael Hodges

From: Penny and Marshall Gordon

In appreciation for having an *aliyah* for our 63rd wedding anniversary and Paul's birthday

From: Shirley and Paul Schlaff

Lynette and J. B. Mazer on the *Bar Mitzvah* of their grandson, Jeremy Lutz

From: Faye and Sidney Bernstein

## TBE General Fund

Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to:

A *Chai* donation wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to Herb Rosenbaum

From: Dolly and David Staff

A *Chai* donation wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to Gerson May

From: Penny and Marshall Gordon

Natalie Asman

From: Hazel and Murray Pizette  
Ilse Nathan  
Faye and Sidney Bernstein

Janet Reagan

From: Barbara Bonfield

The Sol Shapiro Family

From: Hazel and Murray Pizette

Herb Rosenbaum

From: Ilse Nathan  
Penny and Marshall Gordon  
Lynette and J. B. Mazer  
Marian and Myron Radwin

Pat Geldzahler

From: Rhoda and Robert Feirman

## Cantor's Discretionary Fund

*Mazal Tov* to Maria Bitran and Cantor Gale on their recent marriage

From: Matt Levey

*Mazal Tov* to Maria Bitran and Cantor Gale on their recent marriage

From: Karen and Reuben Halpern

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

*Mazal Tov* to Phyllis Weinstein on the occasion of her 90th Birthday

From: Nancy and Morton Dimenstien

## Chico Bomchel Memorial Social Action Fund

In loving memory of Dr. David Levy

From: Joy and Robert Fleisher

Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to Janet Reagan

From: Chita and Howard Weintrob

A Leaf on the Tree of Life has been donated in loving memory of Albert Rosenbaum

From: Additional Loving Friends—  
Roz and Stan Hellman

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Jenifer Rotenstreich

From: Cookie, Bert, and Ruth Gurwitch  
Susan, Geoff, Cooper, and Josie Rutledge

*Mazal Tov* to Leslie and Jeff Parris on their recent marriage, and many thanks for their recent help-

*Mazal Tov* to Susan and Steve Greene on the marriage of their son, Daniel, to Katie Levitt-

*Mazal Tov* to Melissa and Melvin Zivitz on the marriage of their son,

Robert, to Amber Neiford-

*Mazal Tov* to Vicki and Art Lewis on the marriage of their son, Robert, to Amber Neiford-

*Mazal Tov* to Judy Luks on the marriage of her daughter, Rebecca Wearb, to Seth Johnson, and also on the birth of her grandson, Elliot Hirsch-

*Mazal Tov* to Lisa and Alan Engel on the marriage of their daughter, Andrea, to Kent Haines-

*Mazal Tov* to Sherrie Grunfeld on the marriage of her son, Daniel, to Alyson Bricker, and for all of her kindnesses-

Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to Louis Tuck-

In loving memory of Jenifer Rotenstreich-

From: Karen and Dan Weinrib

*Mazal Tov* to Dr. Nir Menachemi, recipient of the 2011 President's

Excellence in Teaching Award for the UAB School of Public Health

From: Angela and Steven Becker

In loving memory of Jenifer Rotenstreich

From: Pat and Neal Miller  
Ann Banks and Family

In loving memory of Joan Fields, beloved aunt, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Eddie Griffith

In loving memory of Lolly Abrams,

# Donations

sister of Art Padawer  
From: Sherrie and Steve Grunfeld

## Edie Wilensky Memorial Fund

Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to Lola Liberman

From: Phyllis Weinstein  
Marian and Myron Radwin

In loving memory of Dr. David Levy  
From: Eileen and Len Levin

*Mazal Tov* to Shula and Floyd Berman on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary-

Wishing a speed recovery and continued good health to Renee Bressler-

In loving memory of Victor Cohen-

In loving memory of Marylyn

Dorsky-

From: Ilene and Allan Wilensky

## Prayer Book Fund

Two *Machzors* in appreciation to Shirley and Ron Froehlich for their friendship and kindness over the years

From: Hanna and Colin Helman

Two *Machzors* in honor of the 90th birthday of Phyllis Weinstein

From: Renee Hyatt, Jenny, Paul, and Noah Erwin

## Robert Spielberger Memorial Fund

Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to Herb Rosenbaum

From: Lynn and Bert Bloomston

Wishing a speedy recovery and continued good health to Lynn Bloomston-

In loving memory of Joyce Routman-

From: Ann Banks and Family

## Rita Laufman Youth Fund

*Mazal Tov* to Ellen and Jerry Sokol on the birth of their grandson, Drew Alexander Cohen

From: Ilene and Sandy Axelroth

## Chesed Fund

A *Chai* donation in honor of Holly Gettinger, Joan Scott-Lowe, and all the *Chesed* volunteers who brought the joy of *Purim* to our senior friends. Our thanks and warmest appreciation

From: Sandra Gilbert, Cindy May, and Dorothy Ziff

## Memorial Fund

### In Loving Memory of

A Double *Chai* donation in loving memory of Victor Cohen

From: Debbie, Franklin, Alyssa, and Adam Tessler

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Dr. David Levy, brother of Harriet Routman

From: Marian and Myron Radwin

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Victor Cohen

From: Virginia and Hertzl Heiman

Albert Rosenbaum

From: Faye Bernstein Cohen and Phillip Cohen

Rose Zelinger

From: The Pake Family

Dr. David Levy

From: Lynette and Alvin Slaughter  
Natalie and Albert Sikora  
Sybil and Larry Michalove

Sid Katz, husband of Frieda

Greenberg Katz

From: Sybil and Larry Michalove

Bernard Verin

From: Esther and Jack Levy  
Arlene and Milton Goldstein

Lolly Abrams

From: Sherry and Jerry Cherner  
Sara and Dennis Krantz  
Karen and Louis Rapkin and Family

Leslie and Jeff Parris

Tobie and Bernard Axel

Joe Reznik

Paul Grodner

Marylyn Dorsky

From: Lynette and J. B. Mazer  
Penny and Marshall Gordon

Stanley Lapidus

Joyce and Gaston Stein

Sherry and Jerry Cherner

Arlene and Milton Goldstein

Ann Banks and Family

Paul Grodner

Victor Cohen

From: Lynette and J. B. Mazer

Esther and Jack Levy

Shirley and Jack Hasson

Louise and Jimmy Abroms

Ilse Nathan

Stanley Lapidus

Hazel and Murray Pizette

Joyce and Gaston Stein

Sherry and Jerry Cherner

Arlene and Milton Goldstein

Susan and Billy Lapidus

Barbara and Howard

Finkelstein

Edward Cone

From: Barbara and Howard

Finkelstein

## On Their *Yahrzeits*

### In loving memory of

A most generous donation in loving memory of Dr. Sandra R.

Apolinsky, beloved wife, on her

*yahrzeit*

From: Harold Apolinsky

A very generous donation in loving memory of Bernice Claire Shaw, beloved wife, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Jerome Shaw

A generous donation in loving memory of Sadie Shiland Starr, beloved mother, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Toby Gordon and Anita

Shapiro

A generous donation in loving memory of Barbara Hallerman, beloved mother, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Linda Gallagher

A generous donation in loving memory of Rosemary Laskin, beloved mother, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Barbara Nissenbaum

A Double *Chai* donation in loving

memory of Gladys Koch, beloved

grandmother, on her *yahrzeit*

# Donations

From: Alan Koch

A Double *Chai* donation in loving memory of Reva Levy Engel, beloved mother, and Louise Temerson, beloved aunt, on their *yahrzeits*

From: Lisa and Alan Engel and Family

A Double *Chai* donation in loving memory of Elaine Royal, beloved mother, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Joyce Serwitz

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Solomon Page, beloved father and pop-pop, on his *yahrzeit*

From: Caren, Jerry, and Josh Seligman, Erica and Justin Ribnick

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Harry Wilk, beloved father, on his *yahrzeit*

From: Arlene Fisher

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Ann Reed, beloved sister, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Sara Shapiro

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Anna Levine, beloved grandmother, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Ellen Bruck

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Rebecca Corenblum, beloved grandmother, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Sherri and David Romanoff

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Morris Pearlstein, beloved father, on his *yahrzeit*

From: Sylvia and Bill Morgenstein

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Cissy Greene, beloved mother and grandmother, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Susan, Steve, Daniel, Katie, Robin, and Scott Greene

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Gladys Koch, beloved mother, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Irving H. Koch

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of

Martin Goldman, beloved brother, on his *yahrzeit*

From: Steven Goldman

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Abraham Michaelson, beloved father, on his *yahrzeit*

From: Judy Michaelson

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Elaine Benjamin, beloved wife, on her *yahrzeit*

From: Harvey Benjamin

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Jack Naggar, beloved father, on his *yahrzeit*

From: Jackie and Mark Naggar

A *Chai* donation in loving memory of Bert Steinberg, beloved stepfather, on his *yahrzeit*

From: Jay Cohen

Bessie Caine, mother-in-law

From: Etta Caine

Bernie Bloomston, father

From: Rhoda and Robert Feirman

Yale Friedlander, brother

From: Elsie Evensky

Nedom Terrell, father-Nathan Epsman, brother-in-law-

From: Melba Epsman

Michael Feirman, father

From: Rhoda and Robert Feirman

Diane Sidel, mother and grandmother

From: Leigh Sidel Miller, Michelle and Diane Capouya

Sara Reed, grandmother

From: Foster Levy

Polina Kalikhman, mother

From: Bronya Belotserkovskaya

Esther Padove, mother-Seymour Padove, father-

From: Stuart Padove

Joseph B. Toranto, father

From: I. Richard Toranto

May Davis-

Bea Solomon, mother-

Isadore Davis, father-

From: Jane and Melvin Davis

Isadore Wientrob, husband-Rena Loskovitz, sister-

From: Roz Wientrob

Nazlie Senior, grandmother

From: Natalie and Albert Sikora

Karen Targan, cousin-

Stuart Simon, brother-

Rose Weiss, aunt-

From: William Simon

Alfred Long, husband

From: Norma Jean Long

Henry Greenberg, father

From: Katherine and Bruce Greenberg

Yakov Feldman, father

From: Fira and Josif Charny

Nathan Zarovsky, father-in-law

From: Rona Zarovsky

Libby Brook, grandmother-

Harry Biel, grandfather-

From: Ginger, Larry, James Henry, and Eli Brook

Faina Gershengovina, cousin

From: Tatyana Shitsel

Marvin Goldberg, brother

From: Betty Anfanger and family

Raphael Leaf, grandfather

From: Richard Lande

Cookie Senior, sister-in-law

From: Natalie and Albert Sikora

Paulina Belotserkovskaya, grandmother

From: Al Belotserkovskiy

Joe Seligman, father and grandfather

From: Bobbye and Michael Seligman and Family

Bessie Shapiro, aunt

From: Sharon and Steve DeShazo

Rosalind Rothman, mother

From: Barb and Don Rothman

# Yahrzeits

We remember the following  
whose Yahrzeits occurred  
during the previous week.

## Shabbat Tazria

April 1-2

Pauline Bronstein  
\*Abe Butler  
\*Esther Cooper  
Dorothy Foy  
\*Mildred Ginsburg  
Rose Glick  
Gaston Grabove  
Leslie Ischow  
Seymour Link  
\*Leonard Lischkoff  
Beverly Marks  
\*Abraham Meer  
Daniel Newman  
Gladva Peremitina  
\*Herman Siegel  
\*Henry Spira  
\*Heiman Weinstein

## Shabbat Metzora

April 8-9

\*Joe Apolinsky  
Daniel Bernstein  
\*Beatrice Binstock  
Daniel Brown  
Saul Charny  
Lenore Cohen  
Juanita Daskin  
Robert Degen  
Rebecca Gershon  
\*Mary Ginsburg  
Melvin Greenberg  
Rachel Herschthal  
Norman Hirschberg  
Giza Horowitz  
\*Nanette Hyatt  
Goldie Kryz  
Irving Lander  
Meyer Laskin  
William Lean  
\*Joyce Levy  
\*Frieda Levy  
Miriam Lilienthal  
\*Sarah Lischkoff  
Mary Mars  
\*Gustave Meyerowitz

Serafyma Iokhymivna Paley

\*Tess Pike  
Mary Rich  
Anita Ripps  
Barbara Rosenberg  
Raisa Rykov  
Nachama Schlossberg  
Sarah Schneider  
Bernie Siegel  
\*Harold Silverfield  
Selma Spielberger  
\*Sam Warner  
\*Isadore Weinstein  
Adele Weisman  
Shirley Weiss  
Harriet Wilder  
\*Alexander Zinger

## Shabbat Aharey Mot

April 15-16

\*Irene Axel  
Phillip Baer  
Vladimir Belotserkovskiy  
\*Harry Berk  
\*Dora Block  
\*Harriet Bogart  
Annie Bram  
Miriam Cohen  
\*Marvin Cohn  
Hyman Coplon  
\*Lucille Cotton  
\*Molly Crayne  
\*Charles Feigelson  
Sandor Fried  
\*Rachel Friedman  
Leonard Gennis  
\*Dave Goldberg  
Bennie Goldstein  
Ethel Gorlin  
Blanche Gottlieb  
Daniel Green  
Bessie Green  
Georgia Griffith  
Sheina Grusin  
Max Hasson  
Meyer Heiman  
George Hiller  
Mary Jacobs  
Sarah Jacobson  
\*Herman Jaffe  
\*William Kanter  
\*Esther Kimerling

I. Levine

\*Rose Mazer  
\*Walter Morse  
Anna Odrezin  
\*Sylvia Olim  
Pearl Perling  
\*Josephine Regal  
Bertha "Fritzi" Rosenberg  
\*Annie Rotenstreich  
\*J. B. Royal  
Esther Rubenstein  
\*Jennie Rubin  
\*Chana Schniper  
Marjorie Shafferman  
\*Wilyum Sher  
\*Meyer Shiland  
Enid Silverstein  
\*Blair Simon  
\*Fannye Sokol  
Paul Steinlauf  
Sam Tenenbaum  
\*Yehuda Wertheimer  
\*Helen Wilder  
\*Abraham Yanuck

## Shabbat Hol Hamoed

April 22-23

Ida Abroms  
\*Irene Axel  
\*Sylvia Back  
Phillip Baer  
Marilyn Bell  
Vladimir Belotserkovskiy  
Harmon R. Berger  
\*Harry Berk  
\*Dora Block  
\*Harriet Bogart  
Annie Bram  
Steve Browdy  
Alfred Buchalter  
Sylvia Cohen  
Miriam Cohen  
\*Sam Cohen  
Pearl Cohen  
Conrad David Cohen  
\*Marvin Cohn  
Hyman Coplon  
\*Lucille Cotton  
\*Molly Crayne  
\*Marilyn Crayne  
\*Grace "Tootsie" Eiman  
\*Harry Evans

# Yahrzeits

\*Charles Feigelson  
 \*Morris Fisher  
 Sandor Fried  
 \*Rachel Friedman  
 \*Margot Fuld  
 \*Eric Fuld  
 Rae Garfield  
 Leonard Gennis  
 Sarah Gettinger  
 \*Myron Ginsberg  
 \*Dave Goldberg  
 Bennie Goldstein  
 Ethel Gorlin  
 \*Bernard Gottlieb  
 Blanche Gottlieb  
 Daniel Green  
 Bessie Green  
 Georgia Griffith  
 Sheina Grusin  
 Max Hasson  
 Meyer Heiman  
 \*Rose Helman  
 George Hiller  
 \*Max Hoffman  
 Mary Jacobs  
 Sarah Jacobson  
 \*Herman Jaffe  
 \*Philip Kadis  
 \*William Kanter  
 Rose Kaufman  
 \*Esther Kimerling  
 Sam Klotzman  
 Edith Kreisman  
 Norman Kurman  
 Jack Lande  
 I. Levine  
 Richard Levy  
 Blanch Lipman  
 \*Abraham Lipsitz  
 \*Folly Marcus  
 \*Rose Mazer  
 Philamae Mendelsohn  
 \*Benjamin Mesch  
 Boris Mintsin  
 Ruth Mirelman  
 \*Walter Morse  
 Sadie Muldawer  
 Anna Odrezin  
 \*Sylvia Olim  
 Andronit Peremitin  
 Pearl Perling  
 \*Josephine Regal

\*Lillea Reznik  
 \*Marvin Rich  
 Alex Rittenbaum  
 Edith Robinowich  
 \*Moses Robins  
 Bertha "Fritzi" Rosenberg  
 \*Robert Rosenbluth  
 \*Annie Rotenstreich  
 Rosalind Rothman  
 Ben Royal  
 \*J. B. Royal  
 \*Sam Rubenstein  
 \*Jennie Rubin  
 Selma Sakoloff  
 Marie Scheuer  
 \*Chana Schniper  
 Marjorie Shafferman  
 Bette Shapiro  
 \*Wilyum Sher  
 \*Meyer Shiland  
 Fannie Siegel  
 Jack Silverman  
 Enid Silverstein  
 \*Blair Simon  
 Elsie Siskin  
 \*Fannye Sokol  
 Morris Staff  
 Paul Steinlauf  
 Harold Stern  
 Cecile Sundock  
 Sam Tenenbaum  
 \*Peter Tichansky  
 \*Isaac Torme  
 \*Yehuda Wertheimer  
 \*Helen Wilder  
 \*Henrietta Wolf  
 \*Abraham Yanuck  
 \*Minnie Zakuto  
 Esther Zell  
 \*Phillip Ziff

## Shabbat Kedoshim

April 29-30

\*Ike Abelson  
 Warren Axelroth  
 Seymour Barnes  
 \*Jennie Berman  
 Abraham Blatt  
 Barney Bonfield  
 Harold Bruchis  
 Abraham Cohen  
 Samuel Cohen

\*Frances Copeland  
 \*Isaac Copeland  
 \*Etta Dannis  
 Meyer Davidson  
 Bea Demovskey  
 Michael Epstein  
 Israel Fitterman  
 Claire Gettinger  
 David Glick  
 Isadore Goldberg  
 Albert Goldforb  
 Nakhoma Guberman  
 Lee Harris  
 \*Ida Jaffe  
 Helen Jaffe  
 Bessie Kirschner  
 \*Isidore Kulpe  
 Betty Lean  
 Carl Levy  
 \*Reuben Lipsitz  
 Blanche McCrossen  
 Sam Michelson  
 \*Isadore Newman  
 Abe Pizitz  
 \*Harry Ravitz  
 Sanford Reitman  
 Nathan Schwartz  
 \*Maurice Schwartz  
 \*Joseph Senior  
 Isadore Shiland  
 \*Morris Silverfield  
 \*Rose Sokol  
 \*Morris Tenenbaum  
 Bernard Trachtman  
 \*Bobby Tuck  
 \*William Weber  
 \*Morris Weinstein  
 \*Harold Weisner  
 Louis Winick  
 Bennie Witt  
 \*Rebecca Witt  
 Paul Ronald Yanuck

\*Denotes a perpetual memorial plaque in the Sanctuary given by the family.

# FYI

- ✧ Donations—When contacting Temple Beth-El to make a donation, consider indicating your email address to signal the recipient that a thank you note by email is acceptable. Your home address will still be listed.
- ✧ *Update*—To be placed on the email list and receive *Update*, email [bseitel@templebeth-el.net](mailto:bseitel@templebeth-el.net).
- ✧ *Connection* deadline—All *Connection* articles must be submitted by the first of each month.
- ✧ Baskets of Blessings—Share your special simcha event by using Collat Jewish Family Services Baskets of Blessing. Baskets are filled with representative items in the CJFS food closets and are perfect for all occasions. Your decorations become a contribution to families in need. To order, call Hillary Weiss at 205/879-3438.
- ✧ Facebook—For daily news and information about TBE events, join us on Facebook by joining the group Temple Beth-El Birmingham.

## Community announcements

The Promises *Kosher* Café in the Fitness Lobby at the LJCC is open Monday—Friday and Sundays from 11:00 am—6:00 pm.

LJCC Joy Club: Join the Joy Club every Tuesday for a delicious *kosher* lunch and program at 12:15 pm.

Applications are currently being accepted for the BJJF's Israel World Jewry Bureau 2011 allocations process. For more information, contact 205/879-0416.

All University of Alabama Jewish alumni, parents of students and Friends of UA Hillel are invited to attend the celebrations as we open the new Bloom Hillel Student Center April 8—10. More information is available by calling 205/758.3280 or by emailing [bamahillelwkend@gmail.com](mailto:bamahillelwkend@gmail.com).

**Tallahassee's Jewish Food and Cultural Festival** will be Sunday, April 10, 10:30 am—5:30 pm (rain or shine) at Temple Israel, 2215 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee, Florida. For more information, call 850/877-3517.

*Yom Hashoah*: “**Through Our Survivors’ Eyes,**” a program to honor and remember our **community’s Holocaust survivors** through spoken word, photographs, prayer, and songs will be Wednesday evening, April 27, at 6:30 pm at Temple Emanu-El. All Jewish community youth, grades 7-12 are invited by Temple Emanu-El for dinner prior to the program at 5:45 pm in Weil Hall. **This years’ commemoration** is being planned in coordination with The Birmingham Jewish Federation, The Birmingham Holocaust Education Center and the religious schools of Temple Beth-El and Temple Emanu-El.

## Important donation information

The Board voted at the February meeting to raise the minimum donation to \$10, effective June 1.

With the cost of postage and printing increasing, we hope you will agree that this is a reasonable change after keeping the minimum

donation rate constant for so many years. Many of you already make more than the minimum donation whenever you want to recognize a **friend of family member’s simcha** or life-cycle event.

We appreciate your generosity and continuing support of Temple Beth-El

### Weekday service schedule

- Daily Morning *Minyan*—7:00 am
- Sundays and Holidays—8:00 am
- Daily Afternoon *Minyan*—5:30 pm
- Saturday *Mechinah*—10:30 am
- Saturday Youth Minyan*—10:30 am
- Saturday Afternoon *Minyan*—5:30 pm

### Childcare staff increases

Sisterhood is proud to announce that they are now donating the funds to double the childcare staff for every Saturday morning service. The happiness and well-being of our children and parents is an incredibly important part of their mission!

TEMPLE BETH-EL  
2179 Highland Avenue  
P.O. Box 550220  
Birmingham, AL 35255-0220  
205/933-2740

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## World Wide Wrap

Congratulations to our *B'Nai Mitzvah* students on receiving their *Tefillin* during the World Wide Wrap. I want to again thank *Rabbi Ira Flax* for teaching our students the proper technique of putting on *Tefillin*. Thank you to the guys in the Men's Club

(especially Steve Altmann, Eric Goldis, Tim Thornton, and Barry Dreayer) for helping set up, working with the students, and cleaning up.

It was a fantastic day watching our youth put on *Tefillin* for the

first time, and we are thankful that many parents and grandparents attended to support them. It was a very joyful occasion.

Sincerely,  
Jacob Halpern  
Men's Club President



From left to right: Kaila Rich, Haley Applebaum, Caleb Bernstein, Meyer Wolnek, KayKay Benck, Max Sikora, Michael Palmer, Gabe Ivker, Matan Abrams, Ellis Goldstein, and Avi Goldstein