

THE SHUL SHOFAR

VOL. 16, NO. 6 CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL • BELLINGHAM, WA 98225 • (360) 733-8890 • FEBRUARY 2012 • SHEVAT — ADAR 5772

Please Take Note:

☆ **Shabbat Service Schedule**

A complete schedule of services is printed on the back page

☆ **Brotherhood Meeting**

Wednesday, Feb. 1st 7:00 PM - The Brotherhood will get together to enjoy a film and some light refreshments (pg. 6)

☆ **Why CBI Supports Marriage Equality**

Thursday, Feb. 9th 7 PM - Members (only) are invited to a speakers forum and action meeting on marriage equality (pg. 6)

☆ **Israeli Dancing at Beth Israel**

Sunday, Feb. 16th 6:30/7 PM - Come early if you're a beginner, and join in some folk-dancing fun.

☆ **Special Family Shabbaton**

Saturday, Feb. 25th 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM
This special service will take the place of Religious School for the week, and will include concurrent programming for students and adults (pg. 6)

☆ **Sisterhood Book Club**

Sunday, Feb. 26th 2:00 PM - Sisterhood members will gather to discuss the book, *To the End of the Land*, by David Grossman (pg. 5)



Come Celebrate Tu B'Shevat at the Synagogue



Tu B'Shevat (the 15th day of the month of Shevat) is our celebration of the New Year of the Trees. This special day is sometimes called the birthday of the trees and hints at the beginning of the spring season and holiday cycle. Tu B'Shevat is also an opportunity to explore the ways in which care of the environment and repair of our natural world are Jewish issues. We will observe the holiday with special programming on several days:

Friday, February 3 ☆ **6:00 pm (note earlier time)**

This Family Shabbat service, which begins earlier than usual, will be followed by a vegetarian/dairy potluck dinner and special Tu B'Shevat/Shabbat Shirah sing-along.

Sunday, February 5 ☆ **8:45 am AND 11:00 am**

During each of our regular Religious School sessions we will conduct a special Tu B'Shevat seder — a feast of tree fruits and a celebration of the changing seasons — and parents are encouraged to join in the fun.

Sunday, February 12 ☆ **2:00 - 4:00 pm**

Beth Israel members are invited to come plant trees in **Little Squalicum Park** at the north end of Bellingham. Little Squalicum is a former EPA toxic waste site that now needs its plants to be restored — and we will be the first to plant there! Bring the kids and bring the grandparents; Bellingham City Parks will bring the shovels, the gloves, the plants, and the expertise. When we are done with the work, Sisterhood and Brotherhood will warm us up on-site with hot drinks and *nosh*. Maps and directions to the park will be available at Beth Israel prior to planting day.

If you don't feel you can join in the planting, anyone can make a donation toward the purchase of trees and bushes to be planted in the parks. You can mail donations to the synagogue from now until February 12. Please make checks payable to Whatcom Parks & Recreation Foundation, and note "for Bellingham City Parks" in the comment line.

If you are interested in helping restore Little Squalicum Park, it's important to RSVP so there will be enough gloves and shovels. Please let **Barbara Boothby** know by February 5th, by phone or email. Let us know how many you think will be coming, and if you will be bringing any children.



MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

The recent snow, cold, school closures, and all-around winter wonderland weather made it a bit hard to believe that the spring cycle on the Jewish calendar is about to begin. But it is. Tu B'Shevat, the 15th day of the month of Shevat, which is the New Year of the Trees, announces the arrival of the spring cycle of the Jewish year.

Tu B'Shevat this year falls on Tuesday night of February 7 and Wednesday, February 8. We'll mark the occasion with learning and festivities during Religious School on February 5 and with a congregation-wide tree-planting program coordinated by Barbara Boothby that will take place on Sunday, February 12.

But it's not yet time to put away our skis and snow shovels. Tu B'Shevat does not mean that it *is* spring (at least not in Western Washington). It does announce the beginning of the spring cycle. What this means is that we are about to begin an upward climb, a slight and gradual shifting upwards, an elevation in connection with

holiness in time.

The high points of the spring cycle on the Jewish calendar are Pesach and Shavuot, when we remember and celebrate redemption and revelation, liberation from Pharaoh in Egypt and God's giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. But arrival at the high points of the season takes time; the climb is gradual. We do not get there overnight.

But time has a way of moving quickly. We're in the midst of winter now. But soon it will be spring. So right now, with snowfall and cold winter weather, we are invited to begin to look forward to spring — not to miss the beauty and blessings of the season now upon us, but to begin our ascent that takes us to the high points of "Jewish spring."

Last year's Tu B'Shevat programming included a wonderful evening of making art — projects and creativity for all ages. All of us are invited to stop by Stampadoodle Paper Café to see how Wendy Schwartz has transformed our individual artistic expressions into

(See FROM THE RABBI on page 2)



CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

The Shul Shofar
Volume 16, Number 6
February 2012
Shevat — Adar 5772

The *Shul Shofar* is the bulletin of Congregation Beth Israel. It is published monthly except in July, and distributed to all congregation members. Non-members may subscribe for \$35/year (payable to CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL). Advertising space (business card size) is available for \$20/issue, or \$15/issue for an annual contract.

Deadline for submission of all articles and calendar events for the March issue is FEBRUARY 15TH. You are encouraged to submit your items via e-mail. Please call the office at 733-8890 for more information.

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

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www.bethisraelbellingham.org
Beth Israel is a member congregation of:



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A Message from the President

It's good to be young, and our young people are great. Beth Israel's youth group, led by Leah Voit, put on a Shabbat service on Friday, January 13, that really highlighted the spirit, energy and commitment of our youth. Their talent was amazing. Their voices, instrumentation, humor and energy filled the sanctuary with life that only the young can present.

I want to point out that this group is special in ways that may not be evident to all. This is a group that has bonded, and those bonds will continue for these individuals wherever they go for many years to come. Not every group is lucky enough to become such a bonded unit. Beth Israel's youth group is fortunate indeed.

I want to make note of two individuals in particular: Jaime Korner, who has been serving on the Rabbi Search Team as the youth group's representative; and Julie Siegfried, who is serving on the Beth Israel Board of directors as the youth representative. Both of these young women have been doing a great job. Their parents, and the community as a whole, should know that they are doing a superb job. I am proud to serve with them.

T'tzlihu,

Jeff Jaffe

From the Rabbi *(Continued from page 1)*

a community collaborative piece, waiting to make its way to the new synagogue building. For many of us, seeing this piece of communal art may inspire further creativity. Yashar koakh to Wendy Schwartz! The artwork is extraordinary!

And the beginnings of the spring season are all about creativity - new life, new ideas, new projects, new possibilities. Creativity calls to us no matter what our age or stage in life - books and movies, painting, knitting, crafts and music. What project, little or big, awaits you? Plant a tree on February 12th. Participate in the Purim shpiel or carnival festivities. Make a donation to the synagogue and designate it towards scholarships to help send a young person to Camp Kalsman. The synagogue needs your creativity, your energy, your involvement. We need you. We need all of us.

A full spring season awaits us. Snow is on the ground now. Cold weather will soon give way to spring. The season of rebirth, new beginnings, and creativity approaches. Every season has its blessings. I hope you'll share your gifts and blessings with the synagogue community. And I hope you'll be open and willing to receive.

Congregation Beth Israel is a wonderful community - individuals and families who, together, form a collective - men, women and children engaged with and contributing to Jewish learning, spirituality and acts of lovingkindness. Our work is not complete yet. With gratitude, pleasure and creativity, we prepare to enter the cycle of spring.

Faithfully,

Rabbi Cindy

Mission Statement of Congregation Beth Israel

Congregation Beth Israel is a diverse and inclusive synagogue affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism and committed to a tradition that honors both Jewish continuity and innovation. We warmly welcome people into our vibrant community, dedicated to the study of Torah and creative Jewish learning, joyous and meaningful worship, and engaging in the sacred obligation of *tikkun olam*, repair of the world. As inheritors of a rich past and creators of a future full of possibility, we continually seek new opportunities to support each other in participating and growing Jewishly.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Beth Israel is pleased to acknowledge your donation to special Synagogue funds, Hadassah, or in honor of a special person, by sending a card to your designee. You may send donations (designated to a specific synagogue fund** if desired) along with your message and the recipient's name and address to **Donna Solomon**. For Hadassah cards, contact **Bonnie Stone**. For Hadassah certificates, call **Debbie Adelstein**. For Trees-For-Israel certificates or JNF "Blue Boxes", contact **Janis Ban**. Donations may also be sent to the synagogue office.

** Synagogue Special Funds:

Camp Scholarship/Youth Activities	General Fund
Care Committee	Max Glass Library Fund
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund	New Synagogue (AKA Building) Fund
Rabbi Gartner Scholarship Fund	Religious School Tuition Fund

~ SPECIAL FUND DONATIONS ~

- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund -

IN HONOR OF:

✧ Kristi & Jacob Angel's son, Jaydin Rivers Angel

From: *Barbara Angel & Family*
(Friday Harbor)

IN APPRECIATION:

✧ To Rabbi Enger, in thanks for all her support the past couple years

From: *Anonymous*

✧ To Rabbi Enger, in thanks for hosting our class from WWU

From: *Steve Hoffman*

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

✧ Meg Jacobson, on the loss of her father, Dr. Sherwood Jacobson

✧ Dawn Landau, on the loss of her mother, Carole Quyle

From: *Anne Brown*

— General Fund —

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

*The Milton & Miriam Waldbaum
Family Foundation*

— New Synagogue Fund —

IN HONOR OF:

✧ The birth of Elinor & Shelly Pravda's grandson, Andrew

From: *Debbie & Dan Raas*

The Davis & Brennan Families

— New Synagogue Fund —

IN HONOR OF:

✧ My grandparents, Mitchel & Edith Lazarus

From: *Nathan & Kiley Lazarus*

✧ Maya Taranow, on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

From: *Adeline & Irving Bass*
(Delray Beach, FL)

Phyllis & Howard Taranow
(Boca Raton, FL)

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

✧ Anne Brown - Get Well Wishes

From: *Debbie & Dan Raas*

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

✧ Tim Baker, on the loss of his mother, Anna Mae Baker

✧ Suzanne Kite, on the loss of her god-daughter, Nicole Russell

From: *Debbie & Dan Raas*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

✧ My parents, Julian and Diane Lewis

From: *Michael & Maryjo Lewis*

-Religious School Tuition Fund-

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

✧ Susan Katz, on the loss of her mother, Florence Weintraub

✧ Karen Katz, on the loss of her grandmother, Florence Weintraub

From: *Anne Brown*

YAHARZEITS

Observances follow the Hebrew calendar, unless the civil date is requested.

TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3:

Morris Faber	February	4
Fred Graff	February	4
Lillian Maur Pravda	February	4
Hally Vernon	February	4
Hannah Jacobson	February	5
Florence D. Shain	February	5
Amos Steiger	February	5
David Fine	February	6
Florence Kleinfeld	February	6
George Gabriel Krauzer	February	6
Sylvan Rosenthal	February	6
Jerry Kleinfeld	February	7
Sally Evans	February	8
Rabbi Samuel Gartner	February	8
Sonia Kohl Krauzer	February	8
Peter Bayliss	February	9
Jean Beverly Blank	February	9
Sarah Mendelsohn	February	9
Celia Zak	February	9

TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10 AND SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11:

Clara Lazarus	February	11
Claire P. Mayer	February	12
Frieda Blank	February	13
Adam Block	February	13
Frank Kraus	February	13
Albert Lebovich	February	13
Derrek Jeremy Adelstein	February	16
David Shain	February	16
Barbara Steiger	February	16
Cassandra Champagne	February	17
Simcha Hayim Miller	February	17

TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17:

William E. Whiting	February	18
Robert Baker	February	19
Rose Schneider	February	19
Jerry Glass	February	20
William Freeman	February	21
Nelson Beller	February	22
Rochelle Blum	February	23
Isadore Graff	February	23
Michel Oksenberg	February	23
Mel Adelstein	February	24
Steve Sokol	February	24
Clarence Weiner	February	24

TO BE READ ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AND SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25:

Benjamin Solomon	February	25
Barton Frank	February	27
Sadie Leon	February	29
Sadie Gordon Schiller	February	29
Gene Adelstein	March	1
William Schwartz	March	1
Robert Fife	March	2
Robert W. Lippman	March	2

~ In Memoriam ~

Our congregation offers heartfelt condolences to the following individuals and their families:

Meg Jacobson on the loss of her father, **Dr. Sherwood Jacobson**, who passed away on January 5, 2012

Susan Katz and **Karen Katz** on the loss of their mother/grandmother, **Florence Weintraub**, who passed away on January 6, 2012

May their memories be for a blessing.

Membership Committee ~ Sara Geballe

As of this writing, the Membership Committee is happily looking forward to meeting and welcoming the ten new families that joined Congregation Beth Israel since last year's New Member Dinner. We hope to post some fun photos on our website soon after the February 4th event.

A huge "thank you" to ten other CBI families who have offered to invite new members into their homes for Shabbat dinner. It's been extremely gratifying to get such a quick and generous response to this request. I'm sure more folks will be contacting me soon to be added to the list of hosts to be used as future families join. The Membership Committee will match each host with a new member family and let them make their own mutually agreeable arrangements.

SAVE THE DATE: **Sunday, March 25th from 4:00 - 6:00 pm** for the exciting "CBI Bowling Bash". The Membership Committee and the Brotherhood have jointly reserved lanes at 20th Century Bowl, located at 1411 N. State Street in Bellingham. This is a family-friendly event, and both members and prospective members are most welcome to attend. Bowling is a fun-filled way to make friends and meet new people. All skill levels are absolutely welcome. Since we need to pay 20th Century Bowl in advance, we must ask you to reserve your spot and pay before March 15. The cost will be **\$12.50** per person for two full hours of bowling. Sorry, no refunds can be given for no-shows or late cancellations. (Shoe rental is an additional \$2.00 per person at the bowling alley.) Please fill out and mail in (with payment) the registration form on **page 6**. We hope to see you on the lanes!

Our next committee meeting will be held on **Monday, February 6th** at 7:00 pm at the home of Anne Brown.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Alan Chalfie & Teresa Allison; son Ean & daughter Robin • Bellingham

Harriet and Manuel Emanuel • Bellingham

(CBI members may call the office for the address & phone number of our new congregants)

~ FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS ~

Bill Freeman	Ella Shore	Alan Stone
Andrea Evans	Gloria Lebowitz	Harriet Emanuel
Joe Zibulewsky	Emily Landau	Hanan Soicher
Jake Jaffe	Edith M. Lazarus	Mihi Tamir
Elizabeth Weinstein	Dan Ohms	Todd Haskell
Robin McGarrity	Gordon Friedman	Robert Meltzer
Nicola Morrow	Rita Gordon	Avi Brennan
Elan Maxim	Tom Oliver	Genny Cohn
Samantha Schwartz	Sagit Hall	Jackson Helsloot
Ruth Evans	Ben Sokol	Orly Ziv-Maxim
Shalem Blum	Karen Sloss	Ken Levinson
Gea Goldfeder	Jeannette Stephens	

Camp Scholarships Available

Beth Israel's **Camp Scholarship Fund** will offer "camperships" for children interested in attending a URJ Summer Camp in 2011. Camperships are limited to Beth Israel members and for use at URJ camps only. A complete list of camps can be found on the website www.urj.org. If you would like to apply for a camp scholarship for your child(ren), please send your request to: Camp Scholarships c/o Congregation Beth Israel, 2200 Broadway, Bellingham 98225. **Application deadline is March 31, 2012.**

Holocaust Writing & Art Contest 2012

The Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center announced that the **Jacob Friedman Holocaust Writing and Art Contest** is now accepting submissions.

Title: "With My Own Eyes - As a student of the Holocaust, you are now a witness."

Categories: Writing, Art, Digital Media/Video. A student may enter all categories, but each student can only win in one category. Prizes will be awarded in each of the three categories and by age group: 5th/6th grade; 7th/8th grade; 9th-12th grade.

Open to: Students in grades 5 - 12

Deadline: March 16, 2012. Early submissions are encouraged.

Winners will be awarded at the annual Holocaust Remembrance Day Program on April 22, 2012 on Mercer Island.

Details, guidelines, resources and submission forms are available at: www.wsherc.org/writingcontest/contest.aspx



Happy Anniversary

Richard & Ruth Evans (# 49)
Rob & Kathy Grossman (# 6)
Alan & Nora Mazonson (# 10)
David & Carol Robinson (# 32)
Robert & Jane Sylvester (# 42)



Did we miss your anniversary this month? If so, please call the office at 733-8890 or send an e-mail to bishul@aol.com and let us know the month, day & year of your special day. We want to celebrate with you!

Shofar Schedule

PLEASE submit items for the March 2012 issue to the office by **February 15th**. You may email items to bishul@aol.com

Your editor thanks you in advance.

☎ COMMITTEE CHAIRS 411 — A LIST OF WHO TO CALL ABOUT WHAT

Archives	Tim Baker
Building	Marta Brand
Care	Harriet Fine
Cemetery	Debbie Adelstein
Fund Raising	(In transition)
Library	Joan Wayne
Membership	Sara Geballe
New Synagogue Task Force	Gary Lazarus

Program	Sabrina Freeman
Religion in Schools.....	(In transition)
Religious School	Kendra Bradford
" Co-chair.....	Miriam Schwartz
Scholarship.....	Emil Hecht
Scrip Program	Joan Wayne
Social Action	Linda Hirsh
"Co-chair	Debbie Raas
University Liaison	McNeel Jantzen

Sisterhood News & Notes

Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, February 21st • 12:00 PM

This informal women's group meets on the 3rd Tuesday each month at Anne Brown's home. Contact her by phone or email for more information or to RSVP.

A note from Anne Brown:

I am home again and send many thanks to everyone who sent cards and good wishes to me while I was at the Care Center.

Greetings, Anne

Book Group Meeting

Sunday, February 26th • 2:00 PM

Join the Sisterhood for a discussion of *To the End of the Land* by David Grossman on Sunday, February 26 at 2:00 PM at the home of Bonnie Stone. In his book, acclaimed Israeli Grossman serves up a powerful meditation on war, friendship, and family.

As always, if you haven't read the book, that's OK — please come anyway and share in an interesting discussion and a friendly gathering.

And mark your calendar now for our next meeting on Sunday, March 25, when we will gather at Joan Wayne's home to share our favorite Pesach treats, recipes, wines, Hagaddadot, and stories.

✧ HADASSAH CARDS ✧

CONDOLENCES TO:

*Mrs. Bernard Jaffe and family on the loss of husband and father, Bernard Jaffe.

From: Francine Hoch

*Laura Kahn on the loss of her mother, Reta Kahn

*Ray Wolpow on the loss of his mother, Roslyn Wolpow

From: Bonnie & Alan Stone

SPECIAL GREETINGS:

*Adele Zaslow - Happy Birthday

*Stan Yacknin - Happy Birthday

*Roby Blecker - Thank You

From: Bonnie & Alan Stone

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

*Sharona & Daniel Feller — Mazel Tov on receiving the 2012 Tree of Life Award from the Jewish National Fund Arizona Region

From: Bonnie & Alan Stone

Social Action Committee

♦ Forum/Action Meeting on Marriage Equality

Subsequent to our congregation's endorsement of **Washington United for Marriage**, the campaign to secure marriage equality for same-sex couples in Washington State, there will be a speakers forum and action meeting at the synagogue on **Thursday, February 9** from 7-9 PM. Please see the article on the following page for all the details on this special presentation.

♦ We Came, We Sewed, We Made Hats

On December 25th, Barb Boothby, Esther Faber, Joe and Jacob Lebovich, and Dan and Debbie Raas sewed hats to be distributed through CAST, a program that provides soup, sandwiches, and coffee to the homeless Mondays through Thursdays. Leslie Adelstein and Ruth Evans contributed hats that they had knitted at home to our efforts, and we delivered 38 hats to CAST!



♦ Baby Food and Formula Drive - Update

We collected 37 pounds of baby food and formula during our drive in December. A big "thank you" goes to the Taranow family and friends for their effort to feed hungry babies and toddlers!



♦ Interfaith Coalition Annual Auction

Interfaith Coalition's annual auction will be on Saturday, March 24, and once again we need your help in gathering auction items. Donations can be anything: handmade crafts; sports and theater tickets; seeds and bulbs; themed gifts such as a grandma's rainy day kit, gardening supplies, or stationery and pens; a get-away to a vacation cabin; theme dinners; restaurant certificates; that piece of art that doesn't have a place in your home, or beautiful new art.

The Coalition uses the proceeds to support nine homes for homeless families, help pay medical bills at the Interfaith Clinic, and pay for supplies for the Severe Weather Shelters. If you would like to donate items or want tickets to this fun event, please call Debbie Raas. (*See the article below for more info.*)

♦ Severe Weather Shelters

During the coldest and snowiest nights of our year, Interfaith Coalition sponsors severe weather shelters at Faith Lutheran Church (for men) and Garden Street Methodist Church (for women and children). This is an all-volunteer effort of people from many faith communities to keep those on the street from freezing. As of this writing, the shelters were open last night and more snow is expected. We will fill you in on the details next month. If you would like to volunteer, please call Laura DeRose Harker at the Interfaith Coalition Office, 734-3983.



Annual "Garden of Hope" Fundraising Auction

Saturday, March 24, 2012 5:30 p.m.

An evening of fun and community spirit awaits you at Interfaith Coalition's March 24 Garden of Hope auction. Proceeds from the coalition's biggest fundraising event of the year support housing for homeless families and health care for all in need. The auction, which raises more than one-third of Interfaith's annual income, begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Best Western Lakeway Inn & Conference Center in Bellingham. Tickets are on sale now for \$40 each, which includes a sit-down dinner.

You also may support the event by contributing an item to be auctioned. If you can provide a service, getaway home, or other sought-after item, then you have something to offer that would raise money to assist local people in need. The coalition also is seeking financial support to help underwrite the auction.

For more information, tickets, or to make a donation, please call Interfaith Coalition at 734-3983, or contact **Debbie Raas**, who represents our congregation on the coalition board.

Members of Beth Israel are invited to an action meeting:

Why Congregation Beth Israel Has Endorsed Marriage Equality for Same-Sex Couples

Thursday, February 9 ☆ 7-9 PM ☆ Beth Israel Social Hall

PRESENTATIONS:

- Welcome from the Board of Directors
- The Reform Movement perspective on same-sex marriage (*Rabbi Cindy Enger*)
- Update on the Marriage Equality bill in the Washington State Legislature and how Jewish organizations are participating in the Washington United for Marriage Coalition (*speaker will be a leader in the Jewish coalition for marriage equality organized by the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle*)
- Personal stories from Beth Israel congregants on how marriage equality affects them or members of their family (*Esther Faber, Belle Shalom, Bob Meltzer*)
- Why it's important for Congregation Beth Israel to work for marriage equality legislation (*Emily Weiner*)

DISCUSSION: Why is this issue important to you?

ACTION: Letter-writing

We will write personal letters to our legislators urging support for marriage equality legislation. The Social Action Committee will provide legislators' addresses and suggest how to write the most effective letters. If you have stationery at home, please bring some, and perhaps extra sheets to share.

ACTION: Sign up to lobby in Olympia on Thursday, February 16

Senate Bill 6239 and House Bill 2516 would allow same-sex civil marriage, protecting religious freedom.

This meeting is sponsored by Congregation Beth Israel's Social Action Committee

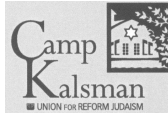
Religious School News and Notes

SHABBATON: Saturday, February 25 • 9:30 a.m.

Shabbaton is an engaging family Shabbat service followed by concurrent programming for both Religious School students and adults, which revolves around the subject of the week's Parashat HaShavua. At this month's Shabbaton, we will study a few aspects of **Parashat Terumah**. Our Shabbat observance will conclude with a vegetarian/dairy potluck Kiddush lunch. The Shabbaton will replace Sunday School classes for the week, and attendance by all Religious School students and parents is expected. Assignments for the potluck lunch will be sent via email later this month. Please make sure that food items do not contain nuts of any kind. Please note that all Beth Israel members, whether or not they are involved with Religious School, are welcome and encouraged to attend.

CAMP KALSMAN PRESENTATION: Sunday, Feb. 12 10:15AM / 11:15AM

During Religious School on Sunday, February 12, senior staff from the URJ's Camp Kalsman will make two presentations about the camp and all the exciting programs offered there each summer. Camp Kalsman is located in Arlington, Washington. Parents are encouraged to join their children to attend one of these informative presentations.



Brotherhood Meeting

Wednesday, February 1st • 7:00 PM
Gateway Centre 1313 E. Maple St.

The Brotherhood will gather on Wednesday, February 1 at the Gateway Center to enjoy an "Israeli-flavored" film (which is still to be chosen) and a nosh afterward.

All members of Beth Israel Brotherhood are welcome to attend and join their fellow brothers for fellowship and refreshments. For more information, please contact **Alan Stone or Jay Solomon**.



\$CRIP Note

We are now able to **RECYCLE USED GIFT CARDS**. You can return them to the mail box (outside the Social Hall) marked "Gift Card Recycle" or mail them back with your payment for new scrip. Please put an "X" over the denomination sticker on the front of each returned card so we'll know it has been spent.

Did you know that Haggen and Fred Meyer scrip can be used to buy other gift cards sold by these stores? You're sure to find the perfect gift for that special occasion. An order form is included in this issue of the *Shofar*.

To learn more about this program, contact **Joan Wayne** by phone or email.



Golden Girls Lunch Bunch —

The Golden Girls will meet at **12:00 PM on Monday, February 27** at *Skylark's Hidden Cafe* in Fairhaven, to enjoy a no-host lunch and to have a good time.

For information, please call **Elka Fink**



BETH ISRAEL BOWLING BASH!

Sunday, March 25, 2012 ☆ 4 — 6 PM
20th Century Bowl 1411 N. State Street, Bellingham



Slip on those bowling shoes and come have a great time at the lanes schmoozing, laughing, and making new synagogue friends at this family-friendly event jointly hosted by the Membership Committee and the Brotherhood. All ages and skill levels welcome! The cost is **\$12.50/person** for 2 hours of unlimited bowling (rent shoes on site for \$2). *Payment must be in advance, and no refunds can be provided.* Please send in this form, with payment, **NO LATER THAN MARCH 15TH**. We hope to see you there!

Name _____ Fee enclosed: \$12.50 x _____ = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to "Congregation Beth Israel". Return to 2200 Broadway Bellingham, WA 98225

Businesses that advertise in The Shul Shofar help underwrite the cost of publishing and mailing our newsletter. We are grateful to these local companies and service providers for their support of Congregation Beth Israel. If you are interested in promoting your business in the Shofar, please phone the office at (360) 733-8890.

JEFF MARGOLIS
AMY MARGOLIS

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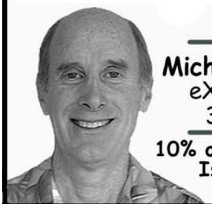
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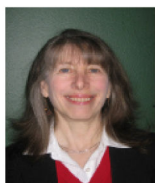
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THE SHUL SHOFAR

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— Schedule of Services —

Friday, February 3rd 6:00 pm *(Please note early time)*
Kabbalat Shabbat service, followed by potluck dinner*
and Tu B'Shevat / Shabbat Shirah sing-along.

Saturday, February 4th

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **11:00 am** - Shabbat meditation service

Friday, February 10th 8:00 pm Shabbat evening service,
featuring Beth Israel's vocal ensemble, Ma'ayan Shir.

Saturday, February 11th

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **10:30 am** - Shabbat morning service; potluck Kiddush lunch* afterward.

Friday, February 17th 8:00 pm Shabbat evening service

Saturday, February 18th

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **11:00 am** - Tot Shabbat service for families with young children; potluck Kiddush lunch* afterward.

Friday, February 24th

- **5:45 pm** - Pre-service *nosh*
- **6:30 pm** - Shabbat evening service

Saturday, February 25th 9:30 am Torah Study and Family
Shabbat service with programming for students and
adults, concluding with a potluck Kiddush lunch*.



* All potluck meals are vegetarian/dairy only;
NO NUT PRODUCTS at Family or Tot Shabbat services

Friday, March 2nd 7:00 pm Shabbat Family service

Saturday, March 3rd

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **11:00 am** - Shabbat meditation service

Wednesday, March 7th 6:30 pm Purim service and
Megillah reading, with Purim festivities & food afterward.

Friday, March 9th 6:30 pm Shabbat evening service,
followed by potluck dinner*.

Saturday, March 10th

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **10:30 am** - Shabbat morning service; potluck Kiddush lunch* afterward.

Friday, March 16th 8:00 pm Shabbat evening service,
featuring Beth Israel's vocal ensemble, Ma'ayan Shir.

Saturday, March 17th

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **11:00 am** - Tot Shabbat service for families with young children; potluck Kiddush lunch* afterward.

Friday, March 23rd

- **5:45 pm** - Pre-service *nosh*
- **6:30 pm** - Shabbat evening service

Saturday, March 24th

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **10:30 am** - Shabbat morning service; potluck Kiddush lunch* afterward.

Friday, March 30th 8:00 pm Shabbat evening service