

# THE SHUL SHOFAR

VOL. 16, NO. 8 CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL • BELLINGHAM, WA 98225 • (360) 733-8890 • APRIL 2012 • NISSAN — IYAR 5772

## Please Take Note:

### ☆ Shabbat Service Schedule

A complete schedule of services is printed on the back page

### ☆ Israeli Dancing at Beth Israel

Sunday, Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30/7 PM - Come early if you're a beginner, and join in some folk-dancing fun. Cost: \$5 donation to the Building Fund.

### ☆ A Service for Yom HaShoah

Wednesday, Apr. 18<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM - Rabbi Enger will lead a special commemorative service in observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day (pg. 6)

### ☆ Amy Evans Bat Mitzvah

Saturday, Apr. 21<sup>st</sup> 10 AM (pg. 4)

### ☆ Religious School Community Mtg

Wednesday, Apr. 25<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM Parents of students, and other interested members, are invited to attend this presentation/community meeting (pg. 6)

### ☆ Yom HaAtzmaut Celebration

Friday, Apr. 27<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM - Following Shabbat services, we will celebrate the 64th Anniversary of Israeli Independence with a festive dinner and a community sing-along (pg. 6)

**Holiday Office Closure:** In observance of Pesach, the synagogue office will be closed on Friday, April 13, 2012



## PESACH 5772 AT CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL



**Friday, April 6** First Night of Pesach. **NO SHABBAT SERVICE** at the synagogue.

**Saturday, April 7 ☆ 10:00 AM** First Day of Pesach Festival Morning Service, followed by a catered Kosher l'Pesach luncheon (not a potluck)

**Friday, April 13 ☆ 6:30 PM** Shabbat and Festival Evening Service

**Saturday, April 14 ☆ 10:00 AM** Eighth Day of Pesach Festival Morning Service with Yizkor, followed by a catered Kosher l'Pesach luncheon (not a potluck)

*The following is from Clal - The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership.*

The Seder invites us to go back in time and see ourselves as those leaving Egypt. Why not also bring the past to life and invite the people who have left us, or who we have left behind? They can still be with us, so why not have them join the Seder? It's so traditional! Inviting guests to our tables, or being guests of others, is a custom as old as Passover itself — from the biblical invitation to come together to share the Paschal lamb, to the rabbinic tradition of opening the Seder by inviting *all who are hungry to come and eat*.

For many people, the Seder is the largest gathering in their homes all year, and we already set the table with a cup of Elijah and, in more recent years, of Miriam. Why not set an extra place at the table, and invite a person of your choice to join your Seder, even if they cannot be there in person? Who do you wish could be at your Seder this year? A relative who cannot be with you? A friend with whom you have lost touch? Perhaps a character from history whose presence would add meaning to your conversation about freedom and redemption? Set a place for them, open your heart to them, and let them in.

This year, invite each person at your Seder to continue the tradition of welcoming guests to the table. Give everybody the opportunity to share who they wished were sitting alongside of them. What question, memory, or story would you share with them? What would they say to you about Passover, or about life? ... Invite them, and see.

The Seder is also an appropriate time to raise awareness about the injustice of hunger and to remember those less fortunate. Go to **page 5** to read how you can help.



## MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

I remember one Shabbat afternoon, during the year I lived in Jerusalem for the first year of rabbinical school, when I walked from my apartment on King George Street past Mahaneh Yehudah through several neighborhoods into the Orthodox neighborhood where my father's cousin Leah and her family lived. As Leah and I sat down for a late Shabbat afternoon nosh and visit, at some point in the conversation, she noted some of the various obligations of an Orthodox Shabbat practice and added something like, "You Reform Jews have it easy."

I looked at her, thought for a moment or two, and replied, "Not really." There was a moment of quiet and then I continued on. "It's not easy to be a Reform Jew. We don't always have the clarity or the boundaries that *halachah* provides. Each person individually and each congregation as a community is ongoingly evaluating and making decisions about practice and ritual and our sense

of obligation. Informed choice can be liberating, but it also carries with it responsibility. We don't always know what's right. It's not easy to continuously ask and evaluate and decide whether our practice is in a state of integrity -- with Jewish tradition and with our own sense of rhythm and balance and what is right. It's not easy to have the responsibility to decide what is right."

"I never thought about it that way," Leah said when I finished. "That would not be easy."

Reform Judaism is not easy. Nor is it "Judaism light." When the early Reformers boldly declared that their relationship with Jewish law, *halachah*, would become one of guidance and instruction and an essential starting point for ritual practice and all sorts of other decisionmaking -- but not the binding, determining, last say -- they changed Jewish life for so many of us, but they did not make being Jewish, living as Jews, "doing Jewish" easier.

(See FROM THE RABBI on page 2)



## CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

*The Shul Shofar*  
Volume 16, Number 8  
April 2012  
Nissan — Iyar 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 May issue is APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup>.** You are encouraged to submit your items via e-mail. Please call the office at 733-8890 for more information.

### CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

Rabbi: **Cindy G. Enger**

#### Executive Board

President: **Jeff Jaffe**  
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Visit our website at  
[www.bethisraelbellingham.org](http://www.bethisraelbellingham.org)  
*Beth Israel is a member congregation of:*



## *A Message from the President*

It was a cold and foggy night. The fog was getting thicker as we made our way into the county. At the point when I could no longer read the street signs, I turned on the GPS so that I would know when to turn the corner. We were on our way to do a mitzvah: we were going to a shivah minyan to remember a congregant's mother.

When I knew that we weren't getting a minyan, I made a phone call to round up the tenth Jew so that we could recite Kaddish. The only one I could get to come wasn't even a member of Congregation Beth Israel.

We as a community are supposed to be there for each other during these pivotal moments of life. Even our mission statement affirms this. Where are we as a community, and what is important to us? Are we lost in the fog? And what are we using for our GPS?

T'tzlihu,

**Jeff Jaffe**

### From the Rabbi *(Continued from page 1)*

Not necessarily. "Anything goes" was never the Reform plan or intention. Reform Jewish practice calls for making informed choices. To be informed, we must engage with our texts and traditions as well as our practices. Study, dialogue, debate and decisionmaking are both personal and communal. We still develop customs and practices in our personal lives, in our families and homes, and in our synagogue communities. The custom of the place is the *minhag hamakom*. The challenge for us as a synagogue community is to articulate, decide upon, and communicate expected norms and practices. We may need to re-examine our practices from time to time. But we need to know what our practices are and why we do what we do as well.

The Religious Practice Leadership Team is currently exploring the question of what our synagogue's practices are. Other committees and the Board of Directors, in other aspects of synagogue life, are looking at these questions as well. Now is an excellent time to do so. I encourage all of us to participate in this type of exploration -- in our individual lives and in the life of the congregation. What is my Jewish practice -- in areas of prayer and study, in the giving of tzedakah and the doing of *gemilut hasadim*, acts of lovingkindness -- and why do I engage in these sacred obligations? What does it mean to be a member of a synagogue community? And what does it mean to be Jewish today?

The spring holidays of Pesach and Shavuot are festivals of springtime as well as moments of Jewish identity; of opting in, taking stands that, by doing so, render us part of the Jewish people. We gather in our homes for Pesach sederim to remember the exodus from Egypt and tell the story in ways that are meaningful and personal to us today. We take our rightful place at Mount Sinai with all of the Jewish people -- to receive God's love and gift of Torah, to renew the Covenant, to affirm our participation in Jewish life and peoplehood today.

To be a Jew is not easy. To live as a Jew -- which is to do Jewishly -- in our personal lives and by participating in the life of the Jewish people through Jewish community -- comes with obligations and responsibilities. This is true regardless of Movement affiliation. My cousin Leah and I spoke about this that Shabbat afternoon in Jerusalem. For that afternoon and our dialogue, both she and I were grateful.

With prayers for a meaningful, liberating, and joyous Pesach,


**Rabbi Cindy**

# 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.

<b>** Synagogue Special Funds:</b>	
Camp Scholarship/Youth Activities Care Committee	General Fund
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund	Max Glass Library Fund
Rabbi Gartner Scholarship Fund	New Synagogue (AKA Building) Fund
	Religious School Tuition Fund

## ~ SPECIAL FUND DONATIONS ~

<b>— New Synagogue Fund —</b>	<b>— New Synagogue Fund —</b>
<b>DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:</b>	<b>IN HONOR OF:</b>
☆ Binnie Perper, on the loss of her mother, Gloria Perper <b>From: Nancy &amp; Don Davis</b>	☆ Melissa Schapiro, with belated thanks for her generosity and wonderful knitting skills <b>From: Sarah &amp; Todd Witte</b>
☆ Lisa Distler, on the loss of her father, Jules Wolfson <b>From: Nancy &amp; Don Davis</b>	

### ~ In Memoriam ~

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

**Binnie Perper** on the loss of her mother, **Gloria Perper**, who passed away on February 22, 2012.

**Andrew Evans** on the loss of his stepfather, **Marty Colby**, who passed away on March 18, 2012.

**Vicky Farkas** on the loss of her mother, Beth Israel congregant **Marcelline Naparty**, who passed away on March 21, 2012.

**Miriam Zderic** on the loss of her brother, **Ben Zderic**, who passed away on March 24, 2012.

*May their memories be for a blessing.*

### 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.

## Yahrzeits

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

**To be read on Saturday, April 7:**

Sophie L. Berenstein	April 7
Eli Altose	April 8
Arthur Feld	April 8
Angus Campbell Walker	April 8
Max Wolfman	April 8
Naomi Lazarus Barnes	April 9
Sue Ohms	April 9
Jack Mazur	April 12
David Alper	April 13
Esther Suloway	April 13
Samuel Thal	April 13

**To be read on Friday, April 13 AND Saturday, April 14:**

Leon Julius Mendelsohn	April 14
Emanuel M. Lindheimer	April 15
Violet Shaw	April 16
Samuel Midwood	April 17
Glen Myers	April 17
Norma H. Bernstein	April 18
The Fragner Family	April 19
Harold Jules Kaplowitz	April 19
Selma Lebovich	April 19
Morris Fischel	April 20

**To be read on Friday, April 20 AND Saturday, April 21:**

Benjamin Shapiro	April 21
Lena Horwitz	April 22
Thelma Weiner	April 23
Rabbi Frederick Gartner	April 24
Edward Stone	April 24
Karleen Press	April 26
Helen Victoria Richmond	April 27

**To be read on Friday, April 27:**

Mary Widerkehr	April 28
Abraham Morton	April 30
Rachel Kaplan Tartak	April 30
Judy Aikens	May 1
Kenneth Altose	May 1
Felicia Keller	May 2
Etta Fine	May 3
Ray Jay	May 3
Herman Rudolf	May 4



## Membership Committee ~ Sara Geballe

It was great to see so many CBI folks, friends, and members of the general public at the well-attended Purim Carnival on March 11. Special thanks to Sabrina Freeman for suggesting the Membership Committee staff a welcome table at the event. Quite a few people came because they'd seen the event advertised in the local papers. Some folks came up and simply asked, "What is Purim?" We were happy to answer their questions about Purim and other Jewish holidays and traditions, along with passing out information about our congregation. Thank you to Andrea and Cliff Haas, Rita Spitzer, and Bonnie and Alan Stone for sharing welcome table duties with me.

As of this writing, we're still registering people for our joint Membership/Brotherhood "Beth Israel Bowling Bash" on Sunday, March 25. It should be a lot of fun for bowlers of all ages and skill levels. We'll be posting some action-packed photos on the synagogue website, [www.bethisraelbellingham.org](http://www.bethisraelbellingham.org).

Our committee will not meet this month. Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm at the home of Anne Brown.

### ADDRESS CHANGE:

**Ella Shore** (formerly Eastham) has a new address. Beth Israel members may call the office for her new contact information.

## ~ APRIL BIRTHDAYS ~

Amy Kraham	Lisa Balton	Navah DesRosiers
Amy Margolis	Jeffrey Feld	Liza Jane Price
June Mazonson	Susan Katz	Linda Read
John McGarrity	Lilah Blum	Sasha Verkh
Des Rochon	Barbara Boothby	Teresa Allison
Ethan Oliver	Sarah DesRosiers	Lindsay Roberts
Alisa Sachs	Ethan Landau	Margaret Bikman
Daniel Feller	Steve Ban	Jason Stoane
Mary Jo Lewis	Karen Fisher	Spencer Jantzen
Hannah Levine	Karen Lerner	Michelle Klein
Ayla Mae Soicher	Mia Clarke	Avi Buri
Katie Edelstein	Paul Blum	Richard Widerkehr
Hank Levine	Elisiah Campbell	

## UW Scholarships Available

The **Berol-Shindell Scholarship** offers partial tuition, need-based scholarships for Jewish undergraduates attending, or planning to attend, the University of Washington during the 2011 -2012 academic year. The scholarship was established by the late Joseph J. Berol to assist undergraduate Jewish students who might not otherwise be able to afford to attend the University of Washington. Mr. Berol was forced to forego his studies at UW to help provide for his family's welfare. This year there is an additional scholarship available for a female student in financial need who will be majoring in science, math or computer science.

Scholarships are awarded annually through the Hillel Foundation for Jewish Life at UW, and are based on financial need. Application forms are available in the Beth Israel office, and must be submitted/postmarked by **April 28, 2012**. Please contact the office if you would like an application or more information. You may also visit [www.hilleluw.org](http://www.hilleluw.org) or phone (206) 572-1997.

## Bat Mitzvah

**Amy Madelynn Evans** will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April 21, 2012. She is the daughter of Andrew and Andrea Evans and younger sister of Gus and Roy Evans.



Bat Mitzvah

Amy is a 7th Grade Honor Roll student at Whatcom Middle School, where she is a member of the school orchestra. Her favorite subject is science, and her favorite sport is Competitive Cheer. She enjoys dance, listening to music, and doing flips on the trampoline. She is a member of the Blue Crew with the Northwest Silver Stars.

For her *mitzvah* project, Amy visits with the patients at the Mt. Baker Care Center. Her favorite part of each visit is the stories she hears from the patients.

Please join us in celebrating this *simcha*:

**SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE**  
April 20, 2012 at 7:30 PM

**SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE**  
April 21, 2012 at 10:00 AM



Harold & Susan Katz (# 45)  
Kristan & Mike Brennan (# 16)  
Danny & Marla Finkelstein (# 26)



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](mailto:bishul@aol.com) and let us know the month, day & year of your special day. We want to celebrate with you!



## Golden Girls Lunch Bunch —

The Golden Girls will meet at **12:00 PM on Monday, April 30** at *Skylark's Hidden Cafe* in Fairhaven, for a no-host lunch and to have a good time. For information, please call **Elka Fink**.

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

<b>Archives</b> .....	Tim Baker	<b>Program</b> .....	Sabrina Freeman
<b>Building</b> .....	Marta Brand	<b>Religion in Schools</b> .....	(In transition)
<b>Care</b> .....	Harriet Fine	<b>Religious School</b> .....	Kendra Bradford
<b>Cemetery</b> .....	Debbie Adelstein	“ <b>Co-chair</b> .....	Miriam Schwartz
<b>Fund Raising</b> .....	(In transition)	<b>Scholarship</b> .....	Emil Hecht
<b>Library</b> .....	Joan Wayne	<b>Scrip Program</b> .....	Joan Wayne
<b>Membership</b> .....	Sara Geballe	<b>Social Action</b> .....	Linda Hirsh
<b>New Synagogue Task Force</b>	Gary Lazarus	“ <b>Co-chair</b> .....	Debbie Raas
		<b>University Liaison</b> .....	McNeel Jantzen

## Sisterhood News & Notes

### Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> • 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 to RSVP.

### Book Group Meeting

Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> • 2:00 PM

Join the Sisterhood for a discussion of *The Gift of Rain* by Tan Twan Eng on Sunday, April 22 at 2:00 PM at the home of Linda Blackwell.

*The Gift of Rain* tells a riveting and poignant tale about a young man caught in the tangle of wartime loyalties and deceptions. The book spans decades as it takes readers from the final days of the Chinese emperors to the dying era of the British Empire, and through the mystical temples, bustling cities, and forbidding rain forests of Malaya. This 2008 debut novel by Tan Twan Eng was nominated for the Man Booker Prize.

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

## Support for MAZON

Nearly 50 million men, women and children in the United States face hunger every night. They need our help.

**MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger** is a national nonprofit organization working to prevent and alleviate hunger among people of all faiths and backgrounds. Inspired by Jewish values, MAZON seeks to embody twin ideals: *tzedakah* (justice) by providing food for those who are hungry today, and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) by working to ensure that no one goes hungry tomorrow.

You can learn more about the work of this organization, and download materials for use during your family's Seder, by going to [www.mazon.org](http://www.mazon.org). MAZON donation envelopes will be available at the synagogue throughout the month.

### Shul Shofar Schedule

PLEASE submit items for the May 2012 issue to the office by **April 15<sup>th</sup>**. You may email items to [bishul@aol.com](mailto:bishul@aol.com)

Your editor thanks you in advance.

## Nominating Committee 2012-2013

The Nominating Committee is a standing committee, working year round to identify congregants who would make excellent candidates who will be nominated to serve as members of the Board of Directors for the coming year. The congregation will vote to elect the slate of nominated candidates at the congregation's Annual Meeting, which is held in May each year. The 2012 Annual Meeting will take place on **Sunday, May 20**. The slate of nominated officers and directors will be mailed to all members of the congregation with an announcement of the Annual Meeting. Please note that the current Board officers (the Executive Committee), elected last year, are serving two-year terms; the congregation will not vote on new Board officers until May 2013.

A member of the Board of Directors is expected to attend monthly Board meetings along with congregational services and programs; to chair or be active on at least one committee; to support the congregation's goals and visions; and to serve as both representative of and ambassador to the congregation. Board nominees should have prior involvement serving on Beth Israel committees, a broad knowledge of the congregation, should understand how non-profit organizations operate, and have a commitment to the future of our congregation. This description is intended as an overview only. To read the complete Board Member job description, please visit the Members Only section of our website — [www.bethisraelbellingham.org](http://www.bethisraelbellingham.org) — and click on Policies and Procedures. (If you do not know how to access the Members Only section, please phone the office.)

Any congregant interested in being considered to serve in this capacity, or in recommending someone for consideration, should contact a member of this year's Nominating Committee no later than **April 22, 2012**: David Goldman, Emil Hecht, Marcia Lippman, Alan Stone, and Jeff Jaffe.

## Social Action Committee

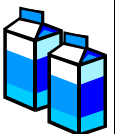
### ◆ Chametz Collection

As you clean out your cupboards for Passover, remember that you can put your chametz to good use in the community. From now through **Monday, April 2**, you may drop off your not-Kosher-for-Passover and/or any other nonperishable food items you'd like to donate to our collection bins outside the Social Hall. The Social Action Committee will deliver everything to the Bellingham Food Bank, and you will have performed a double mitzvah. [Please make note that the collection drive ends on April 2nd — no fooling! The synagogue kitchen will be cleaned on April 3, and any chametz still in the building will be removed on that day.] And speaking of the Bellingham Food Bank...



### ◆ May is Milk Money Month

During May we want to collect **\$750** to provide a half-gallon of milk per visit for every family that comes to the Food Bank during one month. One in six households in Bellingham now uses the services of the Food Bank. In 2011, the organization had 110,000 client visits, which was a 10% increase over 2010. Your help is truly needed.



You can bring monetary donations to the Beth Israel office or drop them in the tzedakah box in the sanctuary foyer. Checks can also be mailed to the synagogue, and should be made payable to "Bellingham Food Bank".

### ◆ Spring Cleaning Options

**The Whatcom County Disposal of Toxics** site at 3505 Airport Drive (phone 380-4640) is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. At this site you can dispose of the new energy saver light bulbs and batteries that cannot be tossed in the garbage. They will also take oil-based paints and reusable latex paints. Old motor oil is also accepted. Please call them for more information.

**The Appliance Depot** at 802 Marine Drive will pick up some old appliances curbside in Bellingham for free. There is a charge for some other appliances and for pickup in the county. Appliance Depot is a nonprofit organization that supplies job training and jobs for more than 40 low income Whatcom County residents who help run the refurbishing business. This is a local alternative to letting old appliances go overseas for recycling. You can reach the Depot at 360-527-2646 or [Trogers@reuseworks.com](mailto:Trogers@reuseworks.com).



## Yom HaShoah Service 5772

Wednesday, April 18, 2012 ☆ 7:00 PM

Yom HaShoah is Holocaust Remembrance Day. Through our prayerful remembrance and reflection, we honor the memory of those who died and those who survived, and we renew our own commitments to healing and hope.

On Wednesday, April 18 at 7:00 pm, we will gather together in community to remember the Shoah. This year, our service will include the participation of a number of members of our community. We are delighted and honored that these participants will include Beth Israel congregant, award-winning teacher, and Holocaust survivor **Noémi Ban**, who will share with the congregation her reflections on "The Importance and Healing Possibilities of Remembrance." Please make every effort to be present with the synagogue community at this important service of remembrance.

## Religious School News and Notes

### PURIM CARNIVAL - WOW!

The Purim Carnival on March 11 was a HUGE success. This year there were canopies for the different activities, which gave it a wonderful "market" feel. Also new this year was the Shushan Photo Booth\*, fresh popcorn, a costume parade, a henna booth, fortune telling, new prizes, and much more. The games were fun, *What The Chelm!* was great, and the hamantaschen were plentiful. Thanks to all the people who made it happen!

\*We want to remind everyone who had photos taken at the carnival photo booth can pick up their pictures from now through April 13 at Stampadoodle, located at 1825 Grant Street in Bellingham. Their are open Monday-Friday 9 - 6, Saturday 10 - 6, and Sunday 11 - 5.



### IMPORTANT ANNUAL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEETING:

On **Wednesday evening, April 25**, parents of students and all interested members of the Beth Israel community are invited to attend the most important Religious School meeting of the year. The Religious School leadership will offer a brief overview of the year thus far, and will leave plenty of time to gather feedback and discuss important issues pertinent to the successful future of our Religious School. The meeting will be held in the Social Hall and will run **from 7 to 9 PM**; we will start promptly, so please arrive early.

### LOOKING AHEAD TO THE SPRING YARD SALE:

The Religious School's annual Spring Yard Sale will be held on **Sunday, May 20 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**. Mark your calendar and start saving those treasured items for the sale. We welcome donations of gently used household items in working order, books, kitchen gadgets, and similar items. Kids' clothes in good condition are OK, but NO adult clothing will be accepted. We'll have more information in the *May Shofar*, but in the meantime if you have questions contact **Kendra Bradford** or **Miriam Schwartz**.



## The Yenta Speaks...

Each month the Yenta brings you "interesting news about Jews" - good news about our members & general glad tidings from our community. Mail or email items for the Yenta to the office.

☆ **Rabbi Cindy Enger** delivered the Memorial Address at the annual Service of Remembrance at Princeton University for Alumni Day, February 25, 2012. This honor is given to an ordained member of the 25th reunion class each year. Rabbi Enger walked in the processional and recessional paired with the president of Princeton University, and spoke from the pulpit of University Chapel to a filled sanctuary. *Yasher koach*, Rabbi Enger!

☆ **Mark and Lynne MacDonald** are proud to announce the graduation of their daughter **Rifka MacDonald** from the University of Washington in December 2011. Rifka graduated on the Dean's List with a Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology, and is currently employed by the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture in Seattle. *Mazel Tov* to Rifka!

## Noémi Ban Presentation

Wednesday, April 25, 2012 • 6:00 PM  
**WU Arntzen Hall, Room 100**

Although retired, **Noémi Ban** cannot stay out of the classroom. In recent years, this award-winning teacher has visited more than 300 classrooms to tell her personal story of surviving the Holocaust. Despite the many tragedies she has faced, Mrs. Ban continues to speak out against hate and to praise tolerance, hope, and love of life.

You are invited to hear Mrs. Ban speak on Wednesday, April 25 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM in Arntzen Hall 100 on the WU campus. During her talk, Mrs. Ban will weave several themes: the importance of perseverance, determination, friendship, responsibility, and freedom; the dangers of bigotry, hatred and teasing; and, most important, as is revealed in her book *Sharing is Healing*, the value of family, friends, trust and sharing in healing from a great loss.

This presentation will include a short trailer from "My Name Is Noémi," a video about Mrs. Ban's life. Admission is free, but seating is limited and goes quickly. If you wish to reserve seats for this event, please either send an email to [nwche@wwu.edu](mailto:nwche@wwu.edu), or go directly to [www.wcu.edu/nwche/](http://www.wcu.edu/nwche/) for a seat reservation. You will receive an email confirmation. *You are encouraged to plan ahead, as all seats for her last talk were taken nearly two weeks prior.*

## Yom HaAtzmaut 5772

Friday, April 27, 2012  
*(following the 6 PM Shabbat service)*

Come celebrate the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the State of Israel! Beth Israel will hold a celebration of Yom HaAtzmaut — Israel Independence Day — following our Kabbalat Shabbat service at **6:00 PM** on Friday, April 27 (*note earlier time*).



To help get into the spirit of celebration, we suggest you dress in blue and white that evening. The festivities will continue after services with a potluck dinner featuring Israeli-style foods. Break out your favorite recipe for falafel, hummus, babaganoush, baklavah and the like, or bring some salat or pita.

Following dinner there will be a Beth Israel Community Sing-Along. If you have songs you'd like to request, please contact the office with your suggestions. Bring the whole family and celebrate the anniversary of Israeli independence with the community — come raise your voices in song!

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.

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# THE SHUL SHOFAR

Congregation Beth Israel  
2200 Broadway  
Bellingham, Washington 98225

## — Schedule of Services —

**Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> First Night of Pesach**

— NO SHABBAT SERVICE —

**Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am** First Day of Pesach Festival morning service. Kosher l'Pesach lunch afterward (NOT a potluck)

**Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm** Shabbat evening service

— BETH ISRAEL OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAY —

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am** Eighth Day of Pesach Festival morning service with Yizkor memorial. Kosher l'Pesach lunch afterward (NOT a potluck)

**Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm** Yom HaShoah service

**Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm** Shabbat evening service with leadership from Amy Evans

**Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 10:00 am**

*Bar Mitzvah of Amy Evans*

**Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm** (Please note early time) Kabbalat Shabbat service, followed by Israeli-themed potluck dinner\* and Yom Ha-Atzmaut sing-along.

**Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**

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



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

**Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm** Shabbat Family service with leadership from the Religious School Kindergarten/1<sup>st</sup> Grade students

**Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm** Shabbat evening service with leadership from Richard Widerkehr

**Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am**

*Bar Mitzvah of Richard Widerkehr*

**Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm** Shabbat evening service with leadership from Eli Brennan

**Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am**

*Bar Mitzvah of Eli Brennan*

**Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **8:00 pm** - Shavuot Festival service, followed by special Cheesecake Bake-Off oneg and Shavuot study sessions.

**Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am** Outdoor Shavuot celebration (location TBA)

**Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am** Shavuot Festival service with Yizkor memorial, followed by *blintze* brunch

— BETH ISRAEL OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY —