

THE SHUL SHOFAR

VOL. 18, NO. 4 CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL • BELLINGHAM, WA 98225 • (360) 733-8890 • MAR/APR 2014 • ADAR I/ADAR II/NISSAN 5774

Please Take Note:

☆ Shabbat Service Schedule

A complete schedule of services is printed on the back page

☆ Talya Sanger Bat Mitzvah

Saturday, Mar. 15th 10:00 AM (pg 4)

☆ Parents' Night Out

Saturday, Mar. 22nd 5:30-8:30 PM
Parents can share an evening out while their children enjoy supervised fun activities at Beth Israel (pg. 5)

☆ Presentation on Vulnerable Elderly

Sunday, Apr. 6th 1:00 PM Jane Relin will discuss issues of self neglect and financial exploitation that affect many of our elderly (pg 6)

☆ Shabbaton at Camp Kalsman

Friday-Saturday, Apr. 11th-12th Religious School families are invited to spend an eventful Shabbat at Camp Kalsman in Arlington (pg. 6)

☆ Service for Yom HaShoah

Sunday, Apr. 27th 7:00 PM Rabbi Samuels will lead a special commemorative service in observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day (pg 6)

☆ Women's Night Out at Uptown Art

Saturday, May 3rd 7:00 PM A unique night for fellowship & creativity (pg 9)

☆ Yom Ha-Atzmaut Celebration

Monday, May 5th 6:30 PM Come celebrate the 66th anniversary of Israeli independence (pg 6)



PURIM: A DAY-LONG CELEBRATION!

Sunday, March 16, 2014 • 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Bloedel-Donovan Community Building



Come join us for an extravaganza of celebration, with all events taking place at Bloedel-Donovan. We'll begin with a **Megillah reading** at 11 AM and follow with the annual **Purim Shpiel** at 11:30. (In lieu of groggers, please bring a box of noisy, nonperishable food for donation to the Food Bank.) The **Purim Carnival** will begin at noon and run until 3 PM, with fun activities for everyone. *What the Chelm!* will provide music for **dancing** from 1 - 2 PM, so be sure to bring your dancing shoes. Dress in your creative best and join the **costume parade**. Be sure to sample the **hamantaschen** and enjoy other scrumptious food selections. And it wouldn't be a carnival without **carnival games**, an amazing **juggler**, and plenty of **prizes**.

This event is open to the entire Bellingham community, so please bring your friends and neighbors to join the fun. Admission is free, but you'll need to buy tickets for food and games. Get your fabulous costume ready, and prepare to party!

Holiday Office Closures: In observance of Pesach, the synagogue office will be closed on Tuesday, April 15 • Wednesday, April 16 • Monday, April 21 • Tuesday, April 22



~ COMMUNITY SEDER 5774 ~ CELEBRATE THE 2ND NIGHT OF PASSOVER WITH CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

Tuesday, April 15, 2014 ☆ 6:00 PM (doors open at 5:30)
Settlemyer Hall at B'ham Technical College • 3028 Lindbergh Ave.

Everyone is welcome to attend this event, which is open to CBI members and nonmembers alike! Led by Rabbi Joshua Samuels, the Seder will include a delicious Passover buffet dinner with vegetarian, gluten-free and dairy-free options, as well as Manischewitz wine. There will be a fun, lively and upbeat retelling of the Exodus story, sure to please both young and old. The venue is wheelchair accessible, and there is plenty of free parking. Why not put together a table of family and friends?

Members: \$30 Nonmembers: \$40 Youth (AGE 6-12): \$15 Child (UNDER 6): Free

Please note that **reservations are required**. A registration form is included as an insert in this issue, but you can also register online at www.bethisraelbellingham.org.



MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

Passover

My very first teaching here at Beth Israel happened right around Passover and I remember talking about how our tradition's most observed ritual — the seder — has changed throughout the generations. In fact, the seders that we participate in now are a far cry from how they were once observed. Let's take a look at how the rabbis from nearly 1500 years ago began to change the seder customs from the cultic rituals our ancestors once followed.

Wine

In the Talmud (Pesachim 109a) we read: *Our rabbis taught: A man is duty bound to make his children and his household rejoice on a festival, for it is said, "And you shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son, and your daughter, etc." With what does he make them rejoice? With wine. Rabbi Judah said: Men with what is suitable for them, and women with what is suitable for them. Men with what is suitable for them—with wine. And women, with what? Rabbi Joseph recited: In Babylonia, with colored garments; in Eretz Yisrael, with beautiful clothes.*

What do we learn here? First of all, we learn that the rabbis introduced the custom of drinking wine at the seder. And second of all, we learn that at one point in time, women were not obligated to drink 4 cups of Maneshevitz. Instead, they were given new clothes for Passover! So, parents, partners, and everyone else: Surprise the women in your life with something they'd really love this Passover season—a new outfit.

Matzah

In Mishnah Pesachim 105 we read: *Rabban Gamliel said: Whoever did not say these three things on Passover did not fulfill his obligation—Pesach, matzah and merorim* (Passover offering, unleavened bread and bitter herbs). *Pesach—because God skipped over the houses of our ancestors in Egypt. Merorim—because the Egyptians embittered the lives of our ancestors in Egypt. Matzah—because they were redeemed. Therefore we are obligated to give thanks, to praise, to glorify, to exalt, to elevate the One who did for us all these miracles and took us out of slavery to freedom...*

What we learn from this mishnah is that as long as we say these three words, we've fulfilled our Passover obligation. I'm

(See FROM THE RABBI on page 2)



CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

2200 Broadway
Bellingham, WA 98225

The Shul Shofar
Volume 18, Number 4
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Adar I/Adar II/Nissan 5774

The *Shul Shofar* is the bulletin of Congregation Beth Israel. As of January 2013, it is published bi-monthly and distributed to all congregation members. Non-members may subscribe for \$35/year. Advertising space (business card size) is available; contact the synagogue office for pricing information.

Deadline for submission of all articles and calendar events for the May/June issue is APRIL 11TH. Please call the office at 733-8890 for more info.

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

Rabbi: **Joshua Samuels**
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Visit our website at
www.bethisraelbellingham.org

Beth Israel is a member congregation of:



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A Message from the President

As this winter draws to an end, it seems that this normally slow period has been anything but slow for me. Our family enjoyed a wonderful holiday during my son's December break, enjoying sunshine, nice beaches and, most importantly, each other. It was wonderful to slow down and really get to know those two folks who mean so much to me. Once we returned, though, our vacation soon seemed like a distant memory. I had to rush off on a business trip to the East Coast, and the pace of my life rapidly increased to hyper-speed.

Like many of us, I spend lots of time juggling home life, work and other activities such as overseeing the running of our Board and the Synagogue. Sometimes it seems like a daunting task. It would indeed be impossible to be on top of things without the help of our very dedicated Executive Committee Members. The Executive Committee consists of the Vice President (Marcia Lippman), Treasurer (Steve Spitzer), Secretary (Dan Ohms) and the President (me). These are the Board's officers. We meet monthly with the Rabbi to review all the pertinent events of the past month and to set the next Board agenda. We may also identify potential issues that our Board needs to address in the future. We also do a fair bit of open-ended discussion and brainstorming. Some of the ideas that come from these discussions end up going to the Board or a committee for further discussion and possible action.

The Vice President serves as the main Board liaison for all of our Synagogue's committees. The VP's job is to keep the President and Board informed about what our committees are up to. The committees can come to the VP to provide help if they need it. We currently have one Vice President, however we have recently changed our Bylaws to allow for two Vice Presidents.

The Treasurer oversees all of the Synagogue's finances to make sure that we have enough money to pay our bills or to fund new programs. He also chairs the Finance Committee, which oversees our budgeting process and other financial issues ranging from managing our reserve funds to looking at the financial aspects of transitioning to our new building.

In addition to keeping Board meeting minutes, the Secretary assures that this information gets on the web and in the office so that all our members can see what the Board is doing. He works with our Administrative Assistant, Mary Somerville, to ensure that all the legal records for running a non-profit are maintained.

The Board makes all major Synagogue policy decisions — especially those that involve significant expenditures of our funds. It is our goal to have much of the details
(See **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** on page 9)

From the Rabbi (Continued from page 1)

all for brevity when it comes to seders, but saying, "Pesach, matzah, maror, and goodnight" seems a bit too short. After all, a seder doesn't really feel like a seder without singing *Chad Gadya*.

Afikomen

While I am a huge fan of Jewish foods, I can't say I'm so thrilled about our dessert option at the seder. I might be alone on this one, but matzah just doesn't cut it for me and it appears that it didn't cut it for the rabbis many years ago either.

In Tosefta Pisha 10:11, we read: *After eating the Passover meal they do not end with afikomen such as nuts, dates, and parched grain...*

In the Jerusalem Talmud (Pesachim 10:8, 37d), we read: *Rabbi Simon said in the name of Rabbi Inanini bar Rabbi Sisay: [Afikomen might be] Kinds of music played as entertainment after dinner. Rabbi Yochanan said: Kinds of sweet things eaten after the meal to whet one's thirst for further drinking. Samuel said: For example, the mushrooms and pigeons of Hananiah bar Shilat which were delicacies eaten after the main part of the meal.*

Clearly, the rabbis did not want to end their meal with a dry cracker. In fact, matzah wasn't even the afikomen! It may have been nuts, dates, music, sweets, mushrooms or even pigeons. Any of these things seem better than a dry piece of unleavened bread for dessert...well, maybe not pigeons.

As you can see, the Passover seder has gone through some changes since Biblical and Talmudic days. What I love about these texts is that they show us—and even encourage us—to create our own meaningful traditions at our seder tables. So long as we retell the story in some capacity and partake in the very essential rituals, the rest should be tailored to our desires. In other words, make the seder your own.

This year, we will have the opportunity to spend the 2nd night of Passover together at the Community Seder. Though we won't be giving new clothes to all the girls and women in attendance, we will be creating our own traditions and enjoying those that have lasted many generations. I encourage you to attend and celebrate our collective freedom, to re-tell our people's narrative and most of all, to have fun, together.

Rabbi Joshua Samuels

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, along with your message and the recipient's name and address to **Shelley Wolfman**. For Hadassah cards, contact **Bonnie Stone**. For Hadassah certificates, call **Debbie Adelstein**. For Trees-For-Israel certificates or JNF "Blue Boxes", contact **Janis Ban**. Contact information for the above individuals is available by calling 733-8890.

**** Synagogue Special Funds:**

Camp Scholarship/Youth Activities
Care Committee
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Rabbi Gartner Scholarship Fund
General Fund
Max Glass Library Fund
New Synagogue (AKA Building) Fund

NFTY Fund *
Rabbi's Professional Development Fund *
Religious School Tuition Fund
* *New fund*

~ SPECIAL FUND DONATIONS ~

— Camp Scholarship Fund —

IN APPRECIATION TO:

✧ Judy Soicher, for her help in learning Hebrew

From: *Gayle Gordon-Martin*

IN HONOR OF:

✧ Tammy, Darryl & Orion Dixon - Mazel Tov on the arrival of Orion's baby sister, Diana

From: *Joan & Marv Wayne*

✧ Miriam Zderic & Perry David, on their move back to Bellingham

✧ Jerry Eisner, on his retirement

From: *Larry & Melissa Stahlberg*

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

✧ Frank Champagne, on the loss of his father, Ken Biggin

From: *Larry & Melissa Stahlberg*

IN SUPPORT OF:

✧ The L'taken Social Justice trip to Washington, DC

From: *Anne Brown*

David Goldman & Linda Blackwell

Dan & Debbie Raas

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

✧ Dr. Donald Somerville, on the 93rd anniversary of his birth

From: *Mary Somerville*

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Shelley Wolfman

— Care Committee —

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

✧ Frank Champagne, on the loss of his father, Ken Biggin

From: *Cherryne Kravitz (Alameda CA)*

— General Fund —

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

✧ Binnie Perper, on the loss of her father, Harold Perper

From: *Louis & Evelyn Lallas (B'ham)*

Georgia & John Lallas (Eugene OR)

— Rabbi's Discretionary Fund —

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

✧ Lou Fine, in commemoration of his yahrzeit

From: *Harriet Fine*

IN APPRECIATION TO:

✧ Rabbi Samuels, for Judaism 201 — wonderful class!

From: *Jane Verner*

✧ Rabbi Samuels - Thank You

From: *Mitchel Lazaraus*

✧ Rabbi Samuels - for his education classes and outreach efforts

From: *Gayle Gordon-Martin and*

Stephen Martin

✧ Rabbi Samuels, for all the support and comfort he provided to Lynn and our family — with so many thanks and much appreciation

From: *Ruth Shuster & all the family*

IN HONOR OF:

✧ The "special" birthday of Gary Nathanson (*Rancho Mirage, CA*)

From: *Rhoda & Peter Samuels*

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

✧ Fran Levy (*Carmichael, CA*)

From: *Rhoda & Peter Samuels*

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Jay Eidelman

Bonnie Zell

— New Synagogue Fund —

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

✧ Bernice Loober, on the loss of her beloved husband, Arni Loober

From: *Joan & Marv Wayne*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

✧ Maury Schwartz

From: *Joan & Marv Wayne*



— New Synagogue Fund —

IN APPRECIATION TO:

✧ The Schapiro Family - Thank you for your generosity to our family

✧ Floyd King - Thank you

From: *Todd & Sara Witte*

✧ Steve & Debbie Adelstein, with deep gratitude for their support

✧ Anita Chambers, with deep gratitude for her assistance

✧ Sylvia Fragner, with deep gratitude for her assistance

✧ Janet Hughes, with deep gratitude for her assistance

✧ Marc Weinstein, with deep gratitude for his assistance

From: *Nancy Lloyd*

IN HONOR OF:

✧ Dan & Debbie Raas, on the birth of their new granddaughter, Svea Raas-Berquist

From: *Bonnie & Alan Stone*

✧ Allan Stone - Happy Special Birthday

From: *Linda Hirsh*

— Social Action Committee —

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

✧ Joe Lebovich

From: *Barb Boothby & Jake Lebovich*

✧ Maury Schwartz

From: *Corinne Gimbel-Levine and Hank Levine*

IN HONOR OF:

✧ Isaac, Raphael & Shoshana Schapiro, on their B'nai Mitzvah

✧ Steve & Debbie Adelstein, on the birth of their grandsons

✧ Steve & Janis Ban, on the birth of their grandson Samuel Teft

✧ Joan & Marv Wayne, on the birth of their granddaughter Dvora Smilowitz

From: *Corinne Gimbel-Levine and Hank Levine*

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

Archives	Tim Baker
Building	Floyd King
Care	Sylvia Fragner
Cemetery	Debbie Adelstein
Communications	Melissa Schapiro
Library	Joan Wayne
Membership	Rita Spitzer
“ Co-chair.....	Ann Suloway
New Synagogue Task Force	Warren Rosenthal

Program	(In transition)
Religious School	Deborah Oksenberg
“ Co-chair.....	Rebecca Orloff
Scholarship.....	Emil Hecht
Scrip Program	Joan Wayne
Social Action	Debbie Raas
“ Co-chair.....	Linda Blackwell
University Liaison	Sabrina Freeman
“ Co-chair	Marcia Lippman

Membership Committee ~ Rita Spitzer & Ann Suloway

The deadline to submit an entry for inclusion in the revised **CBI Services Directory** is now past, and we are pleased to report that there will be a some new additions. The updated **Directory** will soon be available on the Beth Israel website (www.bethisraelbellingham.org) in the "Members Only" section.

The Membership Committee will have an informational table at the upcoming Purim Carnival at Bloedel Donovan on **March 16**, with members of our committee on hand to answer questions. Stop by and say hello!

The Membership Committee meets on the first Monday of each month. Upcoming meetings will be on Monday, March 3 and Monday, April 7 at 7:30 PM at the home of Anne Brown.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS ~

- Gary & Nancy Lazarus and son Daniel
- Tami DuBow & Frank Corey; daughters Willow & Teva Corey-DuBow
- Elena & Wolf Lipson and son Miles

~ MARCH BIRTHDAYS ~

Tannia Hecht	Mark Steinberg	Tami DuBow
Nadia Mazonson (9 th)	Rebecca Orloff	Kathy Block
Talya Sanger (13 th)	Joan Sager	Alex Hall
Lev Cornwall (8 th)	Steve Schwartz	Clifford Haas
Manuel Emanuel	Daniel Shankman (20 th)	Debbie Raas
Amy Evans (15 th)	Jordan Verkh-Haskell (12 th)	Marybeth Taranow
Christoph Reitz	Yaniv Attar	Aviva Weinstein (7 th)
Mary Somerville	Carol Robinson	Celt Schira
Sara Geballe	Noah Taranow (17 th)	Rick Romito
Norman DesRosiers	Jody Meltzer	Samantha Konikoff
Deborah Oksenberg	Jonah Attar (4 th)	Lynn Korner
K.C. Sulkin	Sonorah DesRosiers (6 th)	Jeff Margolis
Susan Schnell	Roy Shankman	Gabriel Witte (5 th)
Alan Soicher	Michael Korner	

~ APRIL BIRTHDAYS ~

Amy Kraham	Jeffrey Feld	4/21 Teresa Allison
Amy Margolis	Susan Katz	4/23 Nicole Boarnet
June Mazonson	Lilah Blum (13 th)	4/23 Lindsay Roberts (4 th)
John McGarrity	Barbara Boothby	4/24 Leah Lippman
Ethan Oliver (12 th)	Sarah DesRosiers	4/25 Margaret Bikman
Alisa Sachs	Steve Ban	4/25 Jason Stoane
Daniel Feller	Karen Fisher	4/26 Spencer Jantzen (9 th)
Mary Jo Lewis	Mia Clarke (8 th)	4/27 Alan Kendal
Hannah Levine (16 th)	Elizabeth Witte (2 nd)	4/28 Avi Buri (20 th)
Ayla Soicher (4 th)	Paul Blum	4/28 Elisha Goodman (12 th)
Tammy Dixon	Navah DesRosiers (9 th)	4/28 Andrew Orloff
Katie Edelstein	Liza Jane Price (6 th)	4/28 Shoshana Samuels (2 nd)
Hank Levine	Linda Read	4/28 Marcus Swed
Lisa Balton	Sasha Verkh	4/29 Richard Widerkehr



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.

☆ **Tammy and Darryl Dixon** are the proud parents of a new baby daughter, **Diana Joyce**, who was born in January 2014. Mazel Tov to Tammy and Darryl and to big brother **Orion** (age 5) on this wonderful addition to their family!

Bat Mitzvah

Talya Issa Sanger will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 15, 2014. She is the daughter of Aaron and Michele Sanger.



Talya is in the seventh grade at the Whatcom Hills Waldorf School, where she plays the silver flute.

For her *mitzvah* project, Talya is doing work with the Whatcom Humane

Society.

We invite you to join us in celebration:

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE
March 14, 2014 at 7:30 PM

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE
March 15, 2014 at 10:00 AM



Happy Anniversary

Aaron & Lilly Weiss (# 71) ♥♥
Isaac & Samantha Konikoff (# 6)
Nancy & Don Davis (# 30)
Robert & Jody Meltzer (# 14)
Alan & Susan Kendal (# 66) ♥♥
Arona & James Henderson (# 16)
Harold & Susan Katz (# 47)
Marty & Kim Moskowitz (# 33)
Kristan & Mike Brennan (# 18)
Danny & Marla Finkelstein (# 28)



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!



Golden Girls Lunch Bunch —

The Golden Girls will meet at 12:00 PM on **Monday, March 31** and **Monday, April 28** at *Skylark's Hidden Cafe* in Fairhaven, to enjoy a no-host lunch and have a good time.

For information, please call
Elka Fink

From the Bima

L'TAKEN SHABBAT: Come and hear about our students' recent trip to Washington, DC with Rabbi Samuels, where they lobbied members of congress on personally meaningful issues. Our teens also engaged in various social justice programs, visited the National Holocaust Museum, Smithsonian Mall, MLK Memorial, and even celebrated havdallah at the Jefferson Memorial. Isabel, Elena, Asher, Amy, Roy, Eli and Naomi are sure to inspire you, along with the music from Ma'ayan Shir.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT: To help defray some of the expenses of the L'taken trip, our teens will host an activity night in the Social Hall for children in kindergarten through fifth grade on **Saturday, March 22**. Parents can drop off their children at 5:30 PM, enjoy an evening out, then pick them up no later than 8:30 PM. There will be games and movies, with pizza, popcorn and fruit provided. Religious School Director Sagit Hall will be on hand to supervise.

The cost is **\$20** for the first child and **\$10** for each additional sibling. To register your child(ren) for this special evening, email Sagit at rs.bi@bethisraelbellingham.org by **March 20**. Celebrate the end of winter with a relaxing night out, and help support our teens at the same time!

Rabbi Joshua Samuels

These Are Jewish Community Issues

Financial Exploitation of Vulnerable Elderly and Self-Neglect by Vulnerable Elderly

Jane Relin is a social worker for Jewish Family Services in Seattle and a member of Congregation Beth Israel. She knows that these problems happen to us. On **Sunday, April 6, starting at 1:00 PM**, Jane will help us address these difficult topics of conversation. If you have an elderly relative who lives out of town, this may be especially important for you.

Jane will provide an overview of the problem, descriptions of those involved, warning signs, and a list of contacts to reach out to for help.

This presentation is co-sponsored by the Social Action Committee and the Care Committee. It will be held in the Beth Israel Social Hall. Light refreshments will be served.

Social Action Committee

♦ Humane Society

Thanks to everyone who contributed towels, blankets and pet food to the Whatcom Humane Society. They are very grateful for the donations. The Humane Society is always looking for volunteers to play with the animals in their care. If you want to volunteer, call the shelter office at 733-2080



♦ Interfaith Auction

Interfaith Coalition will hold its annual auction on **Sunday, March 22** (see "News From Interfaith", below). If you would like to attend, call Debbie Raas for tickets, which are \$45 each.



Each Interfaith congregation contributes an item to the auction, and our item is a collection of jewelry from Israel. Thank you to Sid and Aline Wanne, Esther Faber, Cinda and Stuart Zemel, Michelle Smilowitz, and Joan and Marv Wayne for providing the items in this year's collection. If you are traveling to Israel in the future and would like to go jewelry shopping for next year's auction, contact Joan Wayne.

♦ Children's Books and Family DVDs

In March we are collecting gently used and new children's books for the Interfaith Medical and Dental Clinic and Interfaith Coalition houses. Children in both the clinic and the homes may take the books with them when they leave. Our baskets are waiting for your donation.



Do you have old PG- and PG13-rated films that need a new home? How about a DVD player? If so, leave them in our baskets near the Social Hall and we will make sure they have a new home in one of Interfaith Coalition's nine emergency houses. The Coalition will have 11 homes this spring with the completion of Our House in Ferndale. Families live in these houses for varying lengths of time, from three months to three years, until they move to permanent housing.

♦ Chametz-Be-Gone

Are you wondering what to do with your unopened chametz as you clean house before Passover? We have the solution to your problem — bring it to the synagogue **by April 10th** and we will donate it to the Bellingham Food Bank. If you have other canned or packaged goods (unopened) to donate, feel free to bring those items at the same time. All items can be left in our downstairs collection baskets.



♦ Mitzvah Day 2014

Sunday, June 1 is Mitzvah Day, a day for the whole congregation to volunteer and help our greater community. We are in the planning stages at this time. Do you know a non-profit that needs some work done or have an idea for making the world a better place? This is a day of doing, and we want your ideas and your helping hands. Contact the Social Action Committee to be a team leader or suggest a project.



Annual Hope Auction

Saturday, March 22, 2014 5:30 p.m.
Best Western Lakeway Inn, Bellingham

Have you bought your tickets yet? It's almost time for Interfaith Coalition's **2014 Hope Auction**, and this is an event you'll want to attend and support. Tickets are \$45/person, and for this you get a sit-down dinner, a wide choice and price range of items on which to bid, and the pleasure of being among friends from the community and member congregations — all to support housing, health care, and emergency shelter for our neighbors in need.

Curious about what may appear in the silent and live auctions? Check out Interfaith Coalition's Facebook page for a preview. You'll find, for example, a Maui vacation, Seahawks tickets, fine arts and crafts, beautiful jewelry from Israel donated by Beth Israel members, and many more enticing items. For more information, contact **Debbie Raas** or call the Interfaith office at 360-734-3983.

Religious School News AND Notes

UPDATES:

The Religious School Committee would like to thank the sixth grade families for hosting our **Tu B'Shevat seders** in January. The students really enjoyed learning about our spiritual connection to the natural world while enjoying tasty treats.

We would like to thank everyone who came to our all-school **Ice Skating Social** at the end of January. We loved sharing pizza together and taking a spin on the ice!

IT'S TIME FOR PURIM

Purim is just around the corner! This year, we are hosting a true extravaganza, with the Megillah reading, Shpiel and Carnival all on one day at one location. Please join us at the Bloedel Donovan Community Building on **Sunday, March 16** at 11:00 AM for this spectacular day. Everyone should wear a festive costume and come ready for mounds of *hamantaschen*, fun games, and lively music.

We are seeking **volunteers** to help with Purim, particularly in these areas:

- Transportation of items to and from Bloedel Donovan
- Loading and unloading of games and other bulky items at the site
- Set up and clean up

If you are available, please contact Deborah Oksenberg at doksen@yahoo.com or Rebecca Orloff at reorloff@gmail.com.

PARENT LEARNING SESSIONS (during school classes)

Faith in Interfaith Families: Sunday, March 23 at 10:20 AM

Join Rabbi Samuels over coffee and bagels for a talk and a discussion about incorporating Jewish traditions in interfaith families.

Shabbat 101: Sunday, April 6 at 10:20 AM

Join Rabbi Samuels over coffee and bagels to hear about how to bring the spark of Shabbat into our homes. A discussion will follow.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SHABBATON AT CAMP KALSMAN: April 11-12

Spend an eventful Shabbat with fellow Religious School families at Camp Kalsman in Arlington, WA! We will learn, sing, have a talent show, campfire (weather permitting), play games, climb on the Tower, and of course enjoy delicious camp food! We will conclude with havdalah on Saturday after dinner.

Cost: \$75/person RSVP by March 26 via email to rs.bi@bethisraelbellingham.org.



Yom HaShoah 5774

Sunday, April 27, 2014 ✨ 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 **Sunday, April 27 at 7:00 pm**, we will gather together in community to remember the Shoah. Our service will include the participation of the 7th grade class of Beth Israel Religious School. In addition, Maestro Yaniv Attar, CBI member and Whatcom Symphony Conductor, will make a presentation and play some music by composers from the Holocaust. Please make every effort to be present with the synagogue community at this important service of remembrance.



Yom HaAtzmaut 5774

Monday, May 5, 2014 ✨ 6:30 PM

Come celebrate the 66th anniversary year of the State of Israel! Beth Israel will hold a celebration of Yom HaAtzmaut — Israel Independence Day — at 6:30 PM on Monday, May 5.

The festivities will include Israeli cooking demonstrations (and eating!), Israeli music and plenty of singing. We'll also have the Second Annual Israeli Food Cook-Off, with the designated dish and contestants to be decided later. Mark your calendars now, and watch the weekly E-News for more details as the date draws near.



The Care Committee Presents. . .

. . . A Review of the Flu



Influenza — the flu — is a contagious respiratory illness caused by the influenza viruses. It is spread by contact with infected droplets made when infected people cough, sneeze or talk, and those droplets make their way into a person's mouth, eyes or nose. You can pass the virus to others one day before you realize you are ill, and from five to seven days after you are infected. The incubation period (the time from exposure to infection) is one to four days. Symptoms include fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny nose, body/muscle aches, and fatigue. Vomiting and diarrhea may be present in children.

The flu can be dangerous for certain people: those with underlying medical conditions that affect their ability to fight infection; the very young; expectant mothers, and the elderly. These people, and those who are close to them, should get vaccinated. The best strategy to avoid getting the flu is to GET VACCINATED. It's not too late! Once vaccinated, it takes two weeks to develop immunity.

Everyday protection includes avoiding contact with the sick. If you are sick, stay home for 24 hours after your fever is gone, and limit contact with others. When sneezing or coughing, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue and discard into the garbage after use. Wash hands with soap and water often, or use hand sanitizer. Get into the habit of not touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Clean/disinfect surfaces or objects that may be in contact with germs like the flu.

If you think you have the flu, call your doctor immediately. You may be able to take antiviral medication that can shorten the length and decrease the severity of your infection. It is best to take this medication within 48 hours of developing symptoms.

Flu shots are still available at the following locations: Fred Meyer Pharmacies, Target Pharmacy, Hoagland Pharmacy, and Walgreens.

~ Be Well and Take Good Care!

\$CRIP News

Many of us do some or all of our Passover shopping in Seattle. We thought you'd like to know that Fred Meyer scrip can be used at QFC.

In addition, a limited amount of **Albertson's** scrip will be available for sale in April. Please let **Joan Wayne** know if you would like to purchase Albertson's scrip.

Shul Shofar Schedule

PLEASE submit items for the May/June 2014 issue to the office by **April 11th**. You may email items to office@bethisraelbellingham.org

Your editor thanks you in advance!

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL				MARCH 2014			ADAR I - ADAR II 5774	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
						1	29 Adar I <i>Pekudei</i> <i>Shabbat Shekalim</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study	
2 30 Adar I 10 AM - 12 PM Sunday School 1-2 PM AlephBet Ease Adult Education class	3 1 Adar II 6-8:30 PM AlephBet Ease Adult Education class 7:30 PM - Mem'ship Comm. @ Anne Brown's	4 2 Adar II	5 3 Adar II 4:15 PM - Hebrew School 6-8:30 PM AlephBet Ease Adult Education class	6 4 Adar II	7 5 Adar II 6:15 PM Family Service with 2nd/3rd Grade Class Potluck dinner afterward	8 6 Adar II <i>Vayikra</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Service		
9 7 Adar II 10 AM - 12 PM Sunday School (Gan) 1-2:45 PM Jewish Writing Adult Education class 3 PM - Text Study, Soc. Hall	10 8 Adar II	11 9 Adar II 7 PM Board of Directors	12 10 Adar II 4:15 PM - Hebrew School	13 11 Adar II	14 12 Adar II 7:30 PM Shabbat Service w/ Talya Sanger	15 13 Adar II <i>Tzav</i> <i>Shabbat Zachor</i> 10:00 AM Talya Sanger Bat Mitzvah		
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME								
16 14 Adar II (NO Sunday School)	17 15 Adar II	18 16 Adar II 12 PM - Lunch Bunch group @ Anne Brown's 1:30 PM - Stitchery Group @ Anne Brown's	19 17 Adar II 4:15 PM - Hebrew School	20 18 Adar II	21 19 Adar II 5:30 PM Pre-Service Nosh 6:15 PM Shabbat Service w/ Eve Smason-Marcus	22 20 Adar II <i>Shemini</i> <i>Shabbat Parah</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study 11:00 AM Tot Shabbat		
PURIM 11 AM - 3 PM Megillah Reading Purim Shpiel & Purim Carnival ALL@ Bloedel-Donovan								
23 21 Adar II 10 AM - 12 PM Sunday School 10:20 - Parent Learning 2 PM - Sisterhood Book Group @ S. Wolfman's	24 22 Adar II	25 23 Adar II	26 24 Adar II 4:15 PM - Hebrew School	27 25 Adar II	28 26 Adar II 7:30 PM Shabbat Service w/ Ma'ayan Shir ensemble and L'taken Students	29 27 Adar II <i>Tazria</i> <i>Shabbat HaChodesh</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study		
30 28 Adar II NO Sunday School	31 29 Adar II 12 PM Golden Girls @ Skylark's Hidden Cafe							

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

APRIL 2014

NISSAN 5774

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 1 Nissan	2 2 Nissan NO Hebrew School	3 3 Nissan	4 4 Nissan 6:15 PM Family Service Potluck dinner afterward	5 5 Nissan <i>Metzora</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study
6 6 Nissan 10 AM - 12 PM Sunday School 10:20 - Parent Learning: "Shabbat 101" 1 PM - Presentation on Vulnerable Elderly in CBI Social Hall	7 7 Nissan 7:30 PM - Mem'ship Comm. @ Anne Brown's	8 8 Nissan 7 PM Board of Directors	9 9 Nissan 4:15 PM - Hebrew School	10 10 Nissan	11 11 Nissan SHOFAR DEADLINE (For May/June 2014)	12 12 Nissan <i>Acharei Mot</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Service
13 13 Nissan 10 AM - 12 PM Gan Yeladim class only 1-2:45 PM Jewish Writing Adult Education class 3 PM - Text Study, Soc. Hall	14 14 Nissan 8:00 7:40 First Seder EREV PESACH	15 15 Nissan PESACH 1st DAY Festival Day Beth Israel office closed	16 16 Nissan PESACH 2nd DAY Festival Day Beth Israel office closed	17 17 Nissan	18 18 Nissan 8:00 7:50 5:30PM Pre-Service Nosh 6:15PM Shabbat Service w/ Eve Smason-Marcus	19 19 Nissan 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Service
20 20 Nissan 10 AM - 12 PM Sunday School 2 PM - Sisterhood Book Group @ J. Soicher's	21 21 Nissan PESACH 7th DAY Festival Day Beth Israel office closed	22 22 Nissan PESACH 8th DAY 10 AM - Pesach Festival Service with Yizkor Festival Day Beth Israel office closed	23 23 Nissan 4:15 PM - Hebrew School	24 24 Nissan	25 25 Nissan 8:00 8:01 7:30PM Shabbat Service w/ Ma'ayan Shir ensemble	26 26 Nissan <i>Kedoshim</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study 11:00 AM Tot Shabbat
27 27 Nissan 10 AM - 12 PM Sunday School 7 PM - Yom HaShoah Svc with 7th Grade class	28 28 Nissan YOM HASHOAH 12 PM - Golden Girls @ Skylark's Hidden Café	29 29 Nissan	30 30 Nissan 4:15 PM - Hebrew School			

Women's Night Out at Uptown Art



Saturday, May 3 at 7 PM

Uptown Art provides unique painting events in a warm, inviting studio/gallery located on the water's edge in Squalicum Harbor. Join other women of CBI in (re)discovering your creative abilities and revealing the "artist within". After a brief havdallah service, the journey starts with a blank canvas (and glass of wine if you choose), and then evolves as the instructor guides you step by step through the creation of your masterpiece. You will leave with painting in hand and a sense of pride and accomplishment!

To participate in this fun social event, go to www.uptownart.com/bellingham, select Calendar, select May 3 and follow the registration instructions. Insert the word "Temple" in the Promotions Code box. The fee for the evening is \$40. Space is limited, so sign up with your friends now to enjoy this evening of fellowship and creativity!

Creative Writing Havurah

2nd Sunday, each month 1:00-2:45 pm
Instructor: Linda Hirsh
Beginning March 9, 2014

We will write about our personal experiences with Judaism, both religious and secular. Non-professional writers are invited; no need to be a Torah expert. This fun process starts with a prompt, followed by stream of consciousness writing for 10 to 15 minutes. After that, we will discuss the results non-judgmentally for content, citing memorable words, phrases, sentences or sections. There is no fee for the class. To register, contact Linda Hirsh.

President's Message (from pg 2)

involved in a particular issue clearly spelled out before each Board meeting to prepare Board members so they can thoughtfully discuss a proposal and make an informed decision.

Job descriptions for each of our Officers, the Executive Committee and the Board are posted online. I have only touched upon the major role of each of these groups. I strongly encourage you to read these to get a better understanding of what these incredibly dedicated folks do for our community.

I know I am incredibly thankful for the willingness of our Board and Officers to do what they do. Their dedication (along with that of our committee chairs and Rabbi) provide the solid leadership team which helps this place run smoothly.

Mitch Press

It's Always Sunny on San Juan Boulevard

Congregation Beth Israel presents

Sunday, May 18, 2014

The Upfront Theatre
1208 Bay St., Bellingham

5:30 pm Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres

6:30 pm Show begins

Space limited; RSVP required
\$40 (includes food & 1 drink)

RSVP and pay online at
www.bethisraelbellingham.org

or mail RSVP and payment to
2200 Broadway
Bellingham, WA 98225

Proceeds benefit Beth Israel's
New Building Fund

A Night of Improv Comedy at UPFRONT THEATRE

Established by Ryan Stiles in 2004, Bellingham's Upfront Theatre has hosted events with world class improv comedians, including Stiles, Greg Proops, Colin Mochrie, Keith Johnstone and more. The excitement is tangible as this uniquely talented group of performers entertain with no scripts and no rehearsals. Join us for a night where anything can happen!

Questions? Contact fundraising@bethisraelbellingham.org



"Legacy Path to the Future" Update

With CBI members' help, the new synagogue continues to be built, brick by brick. The *Legacy Path to the Future* campaign has gotten off to a brisk start, and we're encouraged by the generosity of the 28 families that have brought the sale of bricks to \$16,250 thus far. Our goal is to encourage 100% participation by all CBI families. You can help support the construction of the new synagogue by purchasing your customized brick(s) for placement into the new pathway.

Looking for a unique and everlasting way to honor, memorialize or recognize someone special in your life? Bricks may contain statements of honor, memory, love, appreciation, etc. directed to people, places, events or philosophical ideas. Be creative!

The lines on both sizes of bricks have a maximum of 15 spaces (including spaces between words and punctuation).

The 4" x 8" brick (\$250) contains a maximum of 3 lines.

The 8" x 8" brick (\$500) contains a maximum of 6 lines

Forms were mailed to all members, but if you did not receive one, need another copy, or need assistance completing your form, contact **Katie Edelstein** by phone or email. The forms may also be found and completed online on Beth Israel's website (www.bethisraelbellingham.org) in the "Donate" section, under "Legacy Path."

In order to take advantage of pricing discounts, please order your inscribed bricks by **March 25, 2014**. Costs to obtain the bricks from the supplier will increase on April 1, so the sooner your order is placed the more profit is made by our congregation.

Not sure what the bricks will look like? You can see samples at Beth Israel, on a table in the vestibule just outside the doors to the sanctuary. The "Legacy Path" article on the website also has pictures of sample bricks.

Your participation in this program will be an opportunity to show your continued support of the new synagogue building in addition to your pledge or donation already made.

Become a part of this extraordinary celebration and join the Congregation Beth Israel community as we commemorate the past and pave the path to tomorrow.

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, and are read on the Shabbat prior to the observance date.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7**~~SATURDAY, MARCH 8~~**

Carole Bajema	March 8
Archie Fine	March 9
Robert W. Lippman	March 10
Floyd Pritchett	March 10
Monica Zderic	March 10
Thomas Josiah Boothby	March 12
Freda Casserd	March 12
Irwin Weiner	March 13
Paul Zentner	March 13
Max Lazarus	March 14

FRIDAY, MARCH 14**SATURDAY, MARCH 15**

Marcia Landau	March 15
Joseph Sorkin	March 15
Elsa Zentner	March 15
Ida Chia Kahn	March 16
Robert J. Block	March 18
Harry Skinner	March 18
Saul Faber	March 19
Mabel Berman	March 21
Millie Greer	March 21

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Nathan Landau	March 23
Sol L. Shure	March 23
Norma Soode	March 23
Samuel Leavitt	March 24
Elaine Fox Suloway	March 24
Ezidor Levin	March 26
Charles (Bud) Koplowitz	March 27
Herbert Sulkin	March 27

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

Dorothy Brody	March 29
Sarah bat Ya-Akov	March 29
Jerome Greenwald	March 31
Bernard D. Chiller	April 1
Ben Zderic	April 1
Norma Edwards	April 2
Beatrice Lazaroff	April 2
Sidney Leon	April 2
Lucia Mastbaum	April 2
Robert Korner	April 3

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

Barry Evans	April 5
William A. Gordon	April 5
Rose Grieff	April 5
Lou Mazel	April 5
Zelda Schuman	April 5
Manfred Vernon	April 5
Arthur Koplowitz	April 6
Naomi Stone	April 6
Fred Oscar Wigren	April 6
Max Wolfman	April 8
Naomi Lazarus Barnes	April 9
Claire Leinow	April 9
Benjamin Schwartz	April 9
Leah Rachel Shapiro	April 10

FRIDAY, APRIL 11**SATURDAY, APRIL 12**

Harry Leon	April 12
Lois Oksenberg	April 12
Michael Tabak	April 13
Burl Ives	April 14
Marcello Lindner	April 14
Ray Schapiro	April 14
Jennie Shuster	April 14
Lillian Weinstein	April 14
Yochevad Katz Zimmerman	April 14
Joyce Zvenia	April 14
Sophie L. Berenstein	April 15
Ben Block	April 15
Sam Strang	April 15
Eli Altose	April 16
Arnold Behrstock	April 16
Arthur Feld	April 16
Angus Campbell Walker	April 16
Harry M. Eisner	April 17
Glen Myers	April 17
Sue Ohms	April 17
Nettie Schuman	April 17
Mark Joseph Turovets	April 18

FRIDAY, APRIL 18**SATURDAY, APRIL 19**

Morris Fischel	April 20
Jack Mazur	April 20
David Alper	April 21
Benjamin Shapiro	April 21
Esther Suloway	April 21
Samuel Thal	April 21
Leon Julius Mendelsohn	April 22
Hy Zimmerman	April 22
Emanuel M. Lindheimer	April 23
Bella Farber	April 24
Violet Shaw	April 24
Samuel Midwood	April 25

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Norma H. Bernstein	April 26
The Fragner Family	April 27
Harold Jules (Hal) Kaplowitz	April 27
Selma Lebovich	April 27
Helen Victoria Richmond	April 27
David Zucker	April 28
Lena Horwitz	April 30
Rachel Kaplan Tartak	April 30
Louie Simon	May 1
Fay Sosnick	May 1
Thelma Weiner	May 1
Rabbi Frederick S. Gartner	May 2
Edward Stone	May 2

If you would like the observance of a family yahrzeit to follow the SECULAR rather than the Hebrew calendar, please contact the office. We will be happy to make this change for you.

**~ In Memoriam ~**

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

Ruth Shuster and Todd Shuster, on the loss of her husband/his father, CBI congregant **Lynn Shuster**, on January 5, 2014

Larry Hildes, on the loss of his cousin, **Libby Hildes**, on Jan. 10, 2014

Binnie Perper, on the loss of her father, **Harold Perper**, on Jan. 11, 2014

Frank Champagne, on the loss of his father, **Ken Biggin**, on Feb. 16, 2014

Zichronam l'vrachah ~ May their memory be for a blessing.

~ In Memoriam ~

Our congregation mourns the loss of longtime Beth Israel congregant, **Maury Schwartz**, who passed away on December 31, 2013.

Our condolences go to his children - Stephanie, Phebe, Ivan, Howard and Philip - and to all of their families

Zichrono l'vrachah ~ May his memory be for a blessing.

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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**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
STARTS SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH**

Remember to set clocks ahead
1 hour on Saturday night

— Schedule of Services —

Friday, March 7th 6:15 pm Shabbat family service led by Dan Ohms, with leadership assistance from the Religious School 2nd/3rd Graders; potluck dinner* afterward

Saturday, March 8th

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **10:30 am** - Shabbat morning service is CANCELLED

Friday, March 14th 7:30 pm Shabbat evening service, with leadership from Talya Sanger

Saturday, March 15th 10:00 am

Bat Mitzvah of Talya Sanger

Friday, March 21st

- **5:30 pm** - Pre-service *nosh*
- **6:15 pm** - Shabbat evening service

Saturday, March 22nd

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **11:00 am** - Tot Shabbat; potluck Kiddush lunch* after

Friday, March 28th 7:30 pm Shabbat evening service featuring vocal ensemble Ma'ayan Shir

Saturday, March 29th 9:30 am Torah Study

Friday, April 4th 6:15 pm Shabbat family service; potluck dinner* afterward

Saturday, April 5th 9:30 am Torah Study

Friday, April 11th 7:30 pm Shabbat evening service

Saturday, April 12th

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

Friday, April 18th

- **5:30 pm** - Pre-service *nosh*
- **6:15 pm** - Shabbat evening service; musical leadership from Eve Smason-Marcus

Saturday, April 19th

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

Tuesday, April 22nd 10:00 am 8th Day Pesach Festival service with Yizkor memorial. **CBI OFFICE CLOSED**

Friday, April 25th 7:30 pm Shabbat evening service featuring vocal ensemble Ma'ayan Shir

Saturday, April 26th 9:30 am Torah Study

- **9:30 am** - Torah Study
- **11:00 am** - Tot Shabbat; potluck Kiddush lunch* after

Sunday, April 27th 7:00 pm Service for Yom HaShoah



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