By now, you may have heard about The Alvin and Lois Lapidus Center for Healing and Spirituality. Maybe you’ve heard about the event that we held on “Compassion Fatigue: Taking Care of Ourselves While We Take Care of Others.” Or maybe you heard about our program on Mindful Eating called “Am I Really Hungry? And What Am I Hungry For?” Perhaps you’ve heard about our Mussar Yoga classes (Yoga with a Jewish Twist) where we incorporate different virtues (such as humility, kindness, gratitude, etc) into each yoga session, or maybe you’ve heard about our 20 minute meditation programs that can quiet down our busy minds at the start or end of the day. Chances are you may have even attended some of these programs. Our Center is just in the process of “launching.” Hundreds of people have already joined us. Thankfully, we’ve received rave reviews for our programs and endeavors.

Here is a small part of our history. More than two years ago, as we set out to create a vision for our Generations Campaign, I began to think about the future of the synagogue. What were we doing at Beth El to attract and enrich the lives of our members and the Jewish community of Baltimore? I began having conversations with people about their notions of religion and religious practices. I met with many individuals who shared that they considered themselves to be “spiritual” but not necessarily “religious.” A close friend and I began to explore these claims and thought about how the majority of Jews who consider themselves to be “spiritual” foster their sense of spirituality. We found that many Jews (especially those under 65) seem to be filling their spiritual needs outside of the synagogue and outside of the Jewish community in general.

From there, we began to hold more conversations with people. We tried to figure out what inspires them, what they’re yearning for and what we could provide to help them foster their sense of spiritual growth. We also wanted them to cultivate a sense of mindfulness (to quiet down the noise and clutter and multi-tasking that have become so much a part of the way we live), to feel deeply connected to one another, and to strengthen their relationship with Judaism, God and themselves.

Purim

On Sunday March 20, we will have a Purim celebration in our Hebrew School and Preschool. Beginning at 9:30 a.m., a classic Purim spiel will be enacted for our Hebrew school students by clergy and staff. This will be followed by an hour and a half of fun filled Purim activities, including a dance party, games, a mitzvah project opportunity, a puppet show, moon bounce, and more.

On Wednesday, March 23, we will hold a congregational Purim celebration. Join us at 7:00 p.m. for a Megillah reading interspersed with Purim-oriented skits by the well-known touring company, The Bible Players. Stay for the Star Wars themed after-party and dress as your favorite Star Wars character. Drinks and snacks will be served. At 8:45 p.m., we will begin Purim Bingo!

Celebrate Purim at Beth El and join in the fun. And may the Force be with you!

Thursday morning, March 24, is Purim. Morning Minyan will begin at 7:45 a.m., followed by a (nearly) full Megillah reading at 8:30 a.m. After the reading, please stay with us for a celebratory breakfast.

Continued on page 19
Our Deepest Sympathy to:

Kenneth Baum on the loss of his beloved brother, Jerome Baum. The Family of the beloved Ramona “Mona” Berman.

Frona Brown on the loss of her beloved sister, Elinor Reamer Gumnit. “Mona” Berman

Michele Cohen on the loss of her beloved father, Henry Mann. The Family of Richard Glenn Davis.

Geoffrey L. Forman on the loss of his beloved mother, Estelle Balachow.

Stella Vodenos Gold on the loss of her beloved husband, Harvey David Gold.

June Jacobs on the loss of her beloved father, Theodore DeBois.

Dr. Myron “Mike” Kellner on the loss of his beloved wife, Tamar Kellner.

Marcia Markowitz on the loss of her beloved husband, Jack Markowitz.

Clara Klein and Norman Shillman on the loss of their beloved mother and sister, Sara Ann Berger.

Marsha Levine on the loss of her beloved husband, Mark M. Levine.

Evelyn I. Oidick on the loss of her beloved husband, Sol Oidick.

Lois Schapiro and Marni Hyatt on the loss of their beloved husband and father, Stephen H. Schapiro.

Dr. Larry Snyder on the loss of his beloved sister, Charlotte Levine.

Barbara Steinhardt on the loss of her beloved mother, Estelle Balachow.

Adrienne Trost on the loss of her beloved husband, Joseph Trost.


Phyllis Zwagi on the loss of her beloved mother, Saundra Cohen.

Our Heartiest Mazel Tov to:

Dr. Myles and Rosemarie Brager on the engagement of their son, Jason to Jenna Levenson.

Debbie and Victor Ciufio on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Hailey Allison Ciufio; grandparents are Sigmar “Sigg” Ciufio and Sylvia Kellman.

Jamie and Josh Forman on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Alyssa Jordin Forman; grandparents are Paula and Louis Berger, Charlotte Forman and Chuck Tamres and Victor Forman.

Renee and Michael Gerber on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Ashleigh Janelle Gerber; grandparents are Stephen and Elaine Friedman, Zelda Gerber and Kalman and Sue Katz.

Shari and Steven Hawtov on the Bar Mitzvah of their daughter, Abigail Faye Hawtov; grandparents are Dr. Steven and Lori Glubo and Carol Hawtov.

Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline on the birth of their granddaughter, Noa Violet Kline.

Dr. Richard and Monica Levine on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Kate Emma Levine; grandparents are Saul and Frances Bernstein and Alan and Barbara Levine.

Joseph and Jennifer Millman on the Bar Mitzvah of their daughter, Jessica Rose Millman; grandparents are Rona and Michael Balenson and Ellen and Thomas Mendelsohn.

Robyn and Jonathan Parks on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Aidan Bradley Parks; grandparents are Martin Parks, Natalie Shrager and Carol Weiss.

Stephani and Mark Renbaum on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Sarah Grace Renbaum; grandparents are Tsipi and Michael Renbaum and Judy and Richard Schlossberg.

Marta Roseman and Richard Hanauer on the birth of their granddaughter, Shara Elise Roseman; great-grandparents are Bunny and Mishel Roseman.

Nicole and Jeffrey Schwartz on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Samantha Elizabeth Schwartz; grandparents are Doris Schwartz, Bonita Stinchcomb and Norman Stinchcomb.

Dr. Robert and Shelley Shemer and Jane and Robert Zweig on the marriage of their children, Brooke Shemer and Ethan Zweig.

Barri and Jason Spitzer on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Landon Berlin Spitzer; grandparents are Eileen and Steven Berlin, Kathy and Richard Spitzer and Nanette and William Weir.

A Speedy Recovery to:

Mitchel Penn

Milestone Anniversaries:

Laurie and Martin Engelhardt on their 15th

Susan and Howard Goldberg on their 15th

Maria and Edward Lichter on their 15th

Rosemarie and Myles Brager on their 20th

Erika and Howard Douglas on their 20th

Rachel and Daniel Hoch on their 20th

Debby and Michael Stern on their 20th

Stacy and Lee Caplan on their 25th

Marianne and Michael Fingerhood on their 25th

Marsha and Eugene Modell on their 25th

Nina and Kenneth Venick on their 25th

Randi and Ron Goldberg on their 30th

Sheryl and Barry Preiss on their 30th

Ronnie and Bert Glaser on their 40th

Linda and David Levine on their 40th

Barbara and Barry Fried on their 45th

Lois and Jerry Herling on their 60th

Arlyn and Gerald Cohen on their 65th

Phyllis and Raymond Ely on their 65th

Edith and Ernest Lowenstein on their 70th
Bar & Bat Mitzvah

Bat Mitzvah
Jessica Rose Millman, daughter of Jennifer and Joseph Millman, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 5, 2016.

Bat Mitzvah
Samantha Elizabeth Schwartz, daughter of Jeff and Nicole Schwartz, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 5, 2016.

Bat Mitzvah
Kate Emma Levine, daughter of Dr. Richard and Monica Levine, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah during Havdalah services on March 5, 2016.

Bat Mitzvah
Alyssa Jordin Forman, daughter of Jamie and Josh Forman, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah during Havdalah services on March 12, 2016.

Bat Mitzvah
Julie Elizabeth Elover, daughter of Wendy and Marc Elover, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 19, 2016.

Bat Mitzvah
Shannon Morgan Elover, daughter of Wendy and Marc Elover, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 19, 2016.

Bat Mitzvah
Hailey Alison Ciufoto, daughter of Debbie and Victor Ciufoto, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 26, 2016.

Bat Mitzvah
Sarah Grace Renbaum, daughter of Stephani and Mark Renbaum, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 26, 2016.

Bat Mitzvah
Abigail Faye Hawthof, daughter of Shari and Steven Hawthof, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah during Havdalah services on March 26, 2016.

Bat Mitzvah
Ashleigh Janelle Gerber, daughter of Renee and Michael Gerber, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April 2, 2016.

Bar Mitzvah
Landon Berlin Spitzer, son of Barri and Jason Spitzer, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on April 2, 2016.

Bar Mitzvah
Aidan Bradley Parks, son of Robyn and Jonathan Parks, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah during Havdalah services on April 2, 2016.

Bar Mitzvah
Kate Emma Levine, daughter of Dr. Richard and Monica Levine, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah during Havdalah services on April 2, 2016.

Schedule of Services

Friday, March 4
Morning Service 8:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
Candle lighting 5:45 p.m.

Saturday, March 5
Parsha of the Week - Vayakhel
Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
Evening Service 5:45 p.m.

Thursday, March 10
Rosh Chodesh Adar II - Day 1
Morning Service 7:45 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 11
Rosh Chodesh Adar II - Day 2
Morning Service 7:45 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
Candle lighting 5:50 p.m.

Saturday, March 12
Parsha of the Week - Pekude
Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

Friday, March 18
Morning Service 8:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
Candle lighting 6:57 p.m.

Saturday, March 19
Parsha of the Week - Vayikra
Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 23
Erev Purim
Morning Service 8:00 a.m.
Megillah Reading 7:00 p.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 24 - Purim
Morning Service 7:45 a.m.
Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 25
Morning Service 8:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
Candle lighting 7:04 p.m.

Saturday, March 26
Parsha of the Week - Tzav
Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:15 p.m.
The Ouroboros of the Synagogue

By Rabbi Steven Schwartz

The Ouroboros is a mythic snake, vast in proportion, sustaining its life force by eating its own tail. Commonly the great snake is understood as a symbol of continual renewal, regeneration, and the endless cycle of life. But I’ve always felt the symbolism of the Ouroboros has a darker side, for in feeding itself, it consumes itself, thereby diminishing what it is and the amount of time and energy it has left.

Lately I have been wondering if an Ouroboros has quietly grown larger and larger in the synagogue community over the last fifty years. For decades now the Bar and Bat Mitzvah has in many ways been the bread and butter of synagogue life, the driving force behind so much of what we do. New (and often young) members join synagogues because they want to have a Bar or Bat Mitzvah for their child. Parents enroll their children in Hebrew school so they can properly be prepared for the ‘big day.’ And the Bar and Bat Mitzvah structure is an important foundation of synagogue income (membership dues, Hebrew school and tutoring fees, post event meals, etc). As the structure evolved over time, it became a kind of Ouroboros - self feeding and self-sustaining.

It wasn’t long before a significant slice of the synagogue’s time, effort, and energy was directed towards the bar and bat mitzvah experience. The ritual itself grew in importance, becoming something that is larger than life. Commonly today, families understand Bar/Bat Mitzvah as a final destination, instead of a stopping point along the way in a Jewish education. The shul, in turn, focused on it more and more as a way of connecting with families and engaging them in synagogue life. As the ritual grew in importance in the eyes of families, the synagogue put more and more effort into training the students, focused the service on the Bar/Bat Mitzvah ritual, and relied more and more on the celebration attendees to bolster service attendance. Before our very eyes the Ouroboros grew and grew.

But what happens when it simply can’t sustain itself anymore? In today’s Jewish world, Hebrew School takes a back seat to sports leagues. Jews are less interested in general in religious life and ritual behavior, both of which serve as traditional pillars of the synagogue. And more and more, families feel free to create a custom Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience for their child outside of the shul walls, just for family and friends, without clergy, and entirely outside of the synagogue community.

In the near future it seems as if these trends will continue. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience will not nourish and sustain the synagogue as it has in the past. The challenge for the synagogue community will be to adjust. Can Hebrew school be reimagined? Can the Bar/Bat Mitzvah ritual, fundamentally a way to mark a young person’s coming of age, be redesigned so that it remains Jewish, but may not be what it has been for as long as most of us remember - a public reading of scripture by a child? These are the pressing questions that synagogues are facing.

In a sense the challenge is this: how do you turn a large ocean liner? The answer is not easy. But if talented, committed, caring, imaginative people work together, there is a chance. One thing we are learning - the time to start trying has arrived.

Daily Schedule of Services

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>Evening</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday-Friday</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Rosh Chodesh</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
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<td>7:45 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Shabbat</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Legal Holidays</strong></td>
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*Services Monday through Thursday will return to 7:30 p.m. on March 14.
**Check website or call 410-580-2727.
Roz and Len Stoler were the first generation in their family to join Beth El. Like many other Beth El members whose families had no prior history with the congregation, the newly-married Stolers looked at several synagogues in the area in their search for the right congregation. Len said when they visited Beth El, they knew immediately that they “found their home.”

Now nearly 55 years, two children, and ten grandchildren later, they proudly affirm that they made the right decision. “Beth El has always been here for us,” said the couple in unison. The synagogue and its clergy have been involved in all Stoler family and extended family occasions, both joyful and sad.

The Stolers treasure their close relationships with our clergy and their families through the years. Beginning with Rabbi Agus and Cantor Hammerman, continuing with Rabbi Loeb and Cantor King, and now with Rabbis Schwartz and Saroken.

Leonard reminisced that he and Rabbi Agus started the first youth program at Beth El and laughingly described their sometime differing views on what a youth program should be. They did agree that it was important to get young people involved in Jewish life at an impressionable age. Len’s Beth El youth center experience kindled an interest that included much work on behalf of our community’s younger generation. Roz fondly recalled her “Sisterhood days,” when she was Secretary, a member of the committee for decorations, and took part in several plays. Roz said, “With all this, I made many friends at Beth El.”

Both Roz and Len have eagerly embraced the Generations Campaign. They have supported it with a very generous gift because “very simply, we want to help Beth El exist and survive. We want the congregation to be there for future generations beyond ours.” The Stolers noted that Rabbi Saroken is already attracting young people to join the synagogue.

They believe the new Alvin and Lois Lapidus Center for Healing and Spirituality shows much promise to capture the interest of individuals who are searching for new ways to embrace their Judaism.

Len, owner of the Len Stoler Automotive Group, and Roz have served in leadership positions and supported numerous organizations in Baltimore. We are very fortunate that more than 50 years ago, they selected Beth El as their synagogue and still maintain a strong commitment to the Beth El mission.

If you would like to donate to the Generations Campaign, please contact Ailene Sher at ailene@bethelbalto.com or 410-580-5159.
Sisterhood Luncheon Meeting
Monday, March 7, at 11:30 a.m.
Featuring: Felicia Graber, Holocaust Survivor

Born in 1940, five months after the Nazis invaded her native Poland, Felicia Graber has never thought of herself as a Holocaust survivor, but now she is a leader within that community. Amazing Journey: Metamorphosis of a Hidden Child is a tale of parallel odysseys: one, from surviving Nazi occupation, to living a rich, full life in America; the other, a compelling coming-of-age story of a shy Polish child who transforms herself into a successful, well-rounded woman. If there is such a genre as a feminist Holocaust memoir, Amazing Journey is its finest example.

If you are NOT a subscription holder, send a $20 check made out to:
Beth El Sisterhood - Luncheons
Attn: Marcia Boonshaft or Esther Harris
8101 Park Heights Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21208

We regret that we are unable to seat walk-ins for the luncheon; however, all are welcome to attend the program which begins at 1:00 p.m.

Sisterhood New Member Event
Tuesday, March 8, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Featuring: Dr. Joanne Block Rief

For the 2015-2016 season, we welcomed 46 new members and 48 courtesy members.

The next Sisterhood New Member Event is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. featuring Dr. Joanne Block Rief, a general and cosmetic dentist in Owings Mills. She will explain the wide array of techniques and procedures available to enhance your smile. She will discuss everything from whitening and reshaping teeth, to veneers, Invisalign, and implant dentistry. Come learn what the latest technology in dentistry can offer you.

We will have appetizers and dessert in the Kolker Room. RSVP to Robin Kleiman at 410-653-0113 or Shelley Mazer at 410-727-5335. Snow date will be Tuesday, March 15.

Sisterhood Shabbat
Saturday, March 19, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

A Havdalah service will be led by the women of Beth El Sisterhood followed by a melavah malka with wine and desserts. If you would like further information or would like to participate, please contact Frida Fraiman at 419-363-6464 or ffraiman@comcast.net or Merle Intner at 410-484-7913 or mintner@aol.com.
Maryland Day of Advocacy in Annapolis

Thursday, March 10, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

Visit Maryland legislators and the Jewish Chapel at the Naval Academy. The charge for the trip is $20.00 which includes the bus and lunch. The bus will leave at 8:00 a.m. and return at 3:30 p.m. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Honey Litman at 410-486-8116.

Rabbis’ Book Reviews and Petite Luncheons

Rabbi Steven Schwartz will review Ally by Michael Oren on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, in the Myers Auditorium at 12:00 p.m.

Michael B. Oren’s memoir of his time as Israel’s ambassador to the United States provides a frank and fascinating look inside the special relationship between America and its closest ally in the Middle East.

This book review will be preceded by a petite luncheon at the cost of $12.00. Put your check in an envelope marked Sisterhood Book Review, mail it to Beth El Sisterhood, 8101 Park Heights Avenue, 21208, or leave it at the reception desk. The deadline for reservations is March 6.

“Knitzvah” Project

Winter is here in full force. Think of family and friends who would benefit from one of our beautiful afghans. The afghans can be delivered, with a card from Sisterhood, to homes or hospitals. You can also participate by either knitting or crocheting 10 x 10 inch squares that will be made into an afghan. We can use any leftover yarns you have.

Please contact Rhona Sober at 410-653-2782 or rhonasober@gmail.com for more information.

Biblio

Biblio, our Sisterhood’s book discussion group, meets monthly on Wednesdays at noon in the Kolker Room. All Beth El members and the community are cordially invited to participate. There is no fee for attending. Our reviewers are outstanding, interesting, knowledgeable and thoroughly conversant with the subject matter. They are free to choose timely fiction or non-fiction. You may choose to participate in a lively discussion that follows. Please bring a dairy lunch. Beth El supplies tea and coffee. Each month a volunteer hostess provides dessert.

On Wednesday, March 23, our well-esteemed reviewer Jane Krosin will discuss The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman. This novel is based on the life of the renowned Impressionist painter Camille Pissarro. It is the story of his parents’ unlikely romance and marriage, deeply concerned with the development of an artist and his work, and the familial experiences that shape an artist’s vision. This story is grounded in history by taking real-life figures as protagonists. Staying close to the known facts about the artist Camille Pissarro and his parents, Hoffman forcefully imagines their interior lives and surrounds them with a full-bodied supporting cast of characters.

On Wednesday, April 13, Rabbi Faith Cantor will review Son of Hamas by Mosab Hassan Yousef. Mosab Hassan Yousef (the son of Hamas founder) reveals the truth about how the Hamas terror group aims to kill civilians and uses Palestinian children as human shields. Since he was a small boy, Mosab Hassan Yousef has had an inside view of the deadly terrorist group Hamas. The oldest son of Sheikh Hassan Yousef, the founding member of Hamas and its most popular leader, young Mosab assisted his father for years in his political activities while being groomed to assume his legacy, politics, status and power. But everything changed when Mosab turned away from terror and violence and instead embraced the teachings of another famous Middle East leader. In Son of Hamas, Mosab Yousef, now called “Joseph,” reveals new information about the world’s most dangerous terrorist organization and unveils the truth about his own role, his agonizing separation from family and homeland, the dangerous decision to make his newfound faith public, and his belief that the Biblical mandate to “love your enemies” is the only way to peace in the Middle East.
Upcoming Sisterhood Trips to Washington D.C.

All the Way at the Arena Stage
Sunday, April 10, 2016, 10:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

It’s not personal, it’s politics in this 2014 Tony Award-winning drama. President Lyndon Baines Johnson had a way about him. He could massage a victory with one hand and sell you down the river with the other, but brokering a deal is like playing with dynamite. With the country still reeling from President Kennedy’s assassination and a rising tide of bitterness over civil rights, it will take more than politicking to hold America together — it will take red, white and blue-blooded leadership. Go All the Way with LBJ, Martin Luther King, Jr., J. Edgar Hoover and more in this “beautifully built dramatic piece” (Variety) where the line between compromise and compromising your principles is as sharp as a knife.

If you wish to be put on the wait list for this trip, please contact Linda Mondell at 410-486-2542 or lhmondell@gmail.com or Ellen Wiesenberger at ellentw@comcast.net.

National Geographic Museum
and George Washington University Museum and Textile Museum
Thursday, June 9, 2016, 8:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

On this trip you will visit the National Geographic Museum in the morning, have lunch in a private room at Bertucci’s, and following lunch, tour the George Washington University Museum and Textile Museum. The cost of the trip is $105 per person.

If you have any questions or wish to be put on the wait list for this trip, call Robin Kleinman at 410-653-0113 or Marlene Siegel at 410-484-1844.
News from the Agus Library

Do you get annoyed when you can’t find a parking space at the Pikesville Library? You can avoid this problem by coming to the Agus Library. There is ample parking and over 2,800 books from which to make your selections. Please contact Marlene Siegel at 410-484-1844 or Barbara Berkowitz 410-296-8424 if the scheduled hours do not work for you.

In The Voice last month, a number of new books were listed. One that may interest you is Joshua: A Brooklyn Tale by Andrew Kane. It reviews the lives of three people—Joshua, a young black man who moved to Crown Heights to escape the crime and despair of Bedford-Stuyvesant; Paul, who left his life of privilege on Long Island to study Judaism with the Hasidic Lubavitch movement; and Rebecca Weissman, the daughter of a respected rabbi who is torn between her aspiration to become a doctor and her obligation to obey the insular restrictions of her religion. The novel depicts loneliness, reflects on the values of a community that acknowledges that it takes a village to raise a mob, exposes the effects of personal demons, and shows how the characters are drawn into community tension that eventually explodes into the 1991 Crown Heights riots. The characters are well developed and there is a flowing story line. As you read the novel, you will find yourself questioning your own views and values.

Agus Library Hours

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<th>Monday</th>
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Joint Sisterhood Dinner

Monday, April 11, 2016 at Beth Israel

Registration - 6:00 p.m. | Cost - $36.00/person

“Savvy Steps”: A Professional Ballroom Dance Performance by StudioDNA, featuring John Dawson

3706 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Reservation Form Deadline March 30, 2016. Reservations are necessary.

Name ____________________________
Phone ____________________________
E-mail ____________________________

If possible, I would like to sit with:
Name ____________________________
Name ____________________________
Name ____________________________

My dietary special requests are: (Please check, if applicable)

☐ Vegetarian  ☐ Allergies: ____________________________

Please make checks payable to Beth El Sisterhood and write “Joint Sisterhood” in the memo line. Send checks to Beth El, Attn: Sharon Dorenfeld at 8101 Park Heights Ave., Baltimore, MD 21208.

Affiliates

Unique Boutique

Sunday, May 15, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday, May 16*, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Sip and Shop)
Tuesday, May 17, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*To celebrate our 12th year, we are offering an evening opening on Monday with wine and crudités for your sipping and noshing pleasure.

Many of your favorite vendors will be returning, including the following: Barbara Brodie Designs, DG Designs, Essentials by Iris, Faye Mendelsohn Cosmetics, Flower Farm, Fringe Boutique, Glam Girl, Ibhana Creations, Kids Stop, La Cigale-French provincial tablecloths, Lena Long Jewelry, Laurie Harlow, Sababa-Israeli Jewelry, Shea Marne Accessories, Sock Drawer and More, Sparkle ‘Bloom, Swirl, The Fashnique, and The Jewelry Lady. We have invited many new vendors to participate in this well-known and popular event. Look for your coupon in Smart Shopper and Valpak coming to your home in April for a chance to win $100. Lunch and snacks catered by Pearl will be available at the Boutique Café. In addition, the Flower Booth will be with us for your spring gardening needs.

We are presently recruiting high-quality vendors. If you know of anyone with upscale merchandise who is interested in purchasing a booth, please have them contact Sonia Obstler at 410-653-2381 or seobstler@gmail.com or Helen Bronstein at 410-653-5028 or helenbronstein@verizon.net.

We are also soliciting volunteers to work at the show and to help with publicity for the three-day event. If you are interested in participating, please contact Ilene Merenbloom at 410-486-6822 or ilene@merenbloom.com.
On February 3, Rabbi George Wielchowski visited our Beth El members who reside at North Oaks. Many of them knew of the Rabbi’s new affiliation with Beth El, but had not had a chance to meet and spend time with him. It was a warm and engaging afternoon enjoyed by all. The residents hope it is the first of many opportunities for this connection.

Social Action will continue with their support of the Baltimore Hunger Project. As many of you may know, this project ensures that children in the city and county receive food on the weekends. If you are interested in participating, please contact Ellen Budish at 443-857-7499 (ebudish@verizon.net) for information on specific foods accepted.

We continue our efforts to call on our members during their Shiva period. We phone our members after Sheloshim to see how they are coping and offer any assistance. We also try to phone any member who may be ill or homebound. If you know of anyone in need of these services, please let the shul know or you may call Jeanette Davis at 410-484-2960 (jeajekdavis@hotmail.com).

We are still in need of drivers to help get members to medical appointments on weekday mornings. Anyone willing to give an hour or so to drive should contact Paul Sheitel at 443-604-3178. (psheit09@gmail.com).

Our plans for Purim are to once again distribute Mishloach Manot baskets to those members who are homebound. In April, we will be collecting Kosher for Passover non-perishable food items which we will distribute to families in need. This will help assure a meaningful holiday for these members.

For more information on Social Action, please contact Jeanette Davis at jeajekdavis@hotmail.com or Ellen Budish at ebudish@verizon.net.

Delivering Donuts for the Holidays

Dr. Paul Sheitel, Mark Rome, Hulaine Zolet and Robert Slatkin delivered donuts and sodas to 19 police and fire departments in the Northwest corridor on Christmas Eve. The Social Action Committee wanted to thank these public servants for their service to the community and wish them a happy holiday.

This was the Social Action Committee’s 15th year of making these deliveries. Donuts were donated by our generous member Michael Klein of Klein’s ShopRite Supermarkets and sodas by Coca-Cola Enterprises.
Israel Affairs Committee

Shabbat Speaker Series
Join our rabbis for Beth El’s Post-Kiddush Speaker Series on “How Israel Impacts My Life as an American Rabbi.” The rabbis will lead a discussion on how Israel affects their lives as American Jews and as clergy of a leading synagogue.

All discussions will be held at 12:45 p.m. immediately following the Kiddush. Dates are as follows:
- Saturday, March 19: Rabbi Steven Schwartz
- Saturday, April 9: Rabbi Faith Cantor
- Saturday, May 7: Rabbi Dana Saroken
- Saturday, May 21: Rabbi George Wielechowski

We hope you will join us for any or all of these informative discussions. For more information, please contact Jane Zweig at jane.zweig2@gmail.com.

Committees

Men’s Club Brunch to Kick Off Baseball Season

Are you ready to shout O-R-I-O-L-E-S?

The Men’s Club will host its Spring Brunch on Sunday, March 27, 2016, from 9:30-11:00 a.m. at Beth El.

To kick off the 2016 baseball season, we will have noted baseball author Peter Ephross as our guest speaker. Ephross’s book, Jewish Major Leaguers in Their Own Words, is a seminal work, as he has collected the oral histories of 23 players from Bob Berman in 1918 to Adam Greenberg, in 2005. You will listen to Ephross recount stories from major stars like Hank Greenberg and Al Rosen. He will also give us a great history of lesser known Jewish themes in professional baseball, such as anti-Semitism and the American Jewish response to World War II.

Ephross has spoken throughout the country, and we are lucky to have him speak to us. He will also have copies of his book available to purchase, as well as sign.

If you have not recently attended a Men’s Club event, this is the one you will want to attend. Enjoy our healthy Men’s Club brunch, which will include all of your brunch favorites, as well as healthy options.

As always, fees are only $10 for Men’s Club members and $15 for non-members. You can save your $5 by becoming a member of the Men’s Club on or before the brunch.

Please RSVP to Harry Siegel at harrybsiegel@me.com.

Paint Night at Painted Palette

Join us on Thursday, April 7, at 7:00 p.m. at the Painted Palette (5708 Newbury St. 21209) for a fun night of painting with your Beth El friends!

Wine and light refreshments will be provided.

Cost: $35/person in advance. Limited to 50 people. Payment will not be accepted at the door. RSVP to Alyssa at alyssa@bethelbalto.com or 410-484-0411 by Monday, March 28. Your payment is your reservation. For any questions, contact Ellen Budish at ebudish@verizon.net or 443-857-7499.

Parking is limited. Carpooling is suggested.

Sponsored by the Events Committee.

Empty Nesters & Baby Boomers Group

Upcoming Events:
- Saturday, April 9 - Bingo, potluck dinner, Havdalah at 6:30 p.m. at Palisades of Towson for $15/person. Submit checks to Yvonne. Please email Debbie Shore at teachum324@gmail.com to let her know what you are bringing. RSVPs are due by Friday, April 1.
- Sunday, May 22 - Rabbi’s discussion and reception. More information to follow.

If you have any questions or would like to join the group, please email Fraeda Lewis at fraedalewis@verizon.net.

Blood Drive

On Wednesday, March 30, 2016, we are having our Semi-Annual Blood Drive. The dedicated volunteers will begin their phone calls around the 15th of March to schedule appointment times for your donation.

As you know, the need for blood at our area hospitals is never ending. The Chesapeake-Potomac area Red Cross has come to rely on Beth El for a substantial number of pints. They have even recognized and honored us at a special luncheon for the number of pints we collect and the smooth efficiency of our drive.

We have reached into the 90’s for the number of pints collected at a drive. Let’s try and hit the 100-pint total on our March 30 drive! You can set up an appointment by calling Sonya or Jerry Goodman at 410-602-8766 or sgood18@comcast.net.

The Voice of Beth El Congregation
Adult Education

The Development of the Jewish Mystical Tradition

Join Rabbi Etan Mintz on Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 15, from 7:30 - 8:45 p.m. in the Agus Library as we explore the development of the Jewish mystical tradition. This is a text based course that will trace the origins of Kabbalah, medieval and early modern Jewish piety, Sabbateanism, early Chasidic writings, and neo-Chasidut. Specific thinkers of this period will be discussed. There is no charge for this series.

1stWednesdays @BethEl

Herbert Greenberg, former BSO Concert Master, will be featured on Wednesday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Offit Auditorium. There is no charge for this program.

Scholar in Residence Weekend

“How Do We Deal With Sorrow In Life And Move Forward?”

Rabbi Charles Sherman will join us as Scholar in Residence on March 4-6, 2016. Rabbi Sherman wrote The Broken and The Whole, a compelling novel about his son Eyal who suffered a stroke at age four. The book shares his family’s journey and will prove to be inspirational, informational, and rewarding. There is a Shabbat dinner planned in honor of Rabbi Sherman following the Friday evening service. The Shabbat dinner is $36/adult; $9/children under 12. Reservations are due to Ellen Marks at ellenm@bethelbalto.com or 410-580-5166. Rabbi Sherman will join us on Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. for “Lessons from a Life of Faith,” as well as Shabbat morning services. At 12:45 p.m., Rabbi Sherman will speak on his book, The Broken and The Whole. On Sunday, March 6, Rabbi Sherman will speak to students on “Choosing Goodness.: A light breakfast will be served.

Agus Academy Spring Session

Close Encounters of an Unusual Kind

Join the Beth El Rabbis on Mondays from 7:00-8:15 p.m. for close reading of biblical texts and midrash about some of the most well-known and some of the lesser known characters in Tanakh. Rabbi Faith Cantor will begin the Spring Session in the Agus Library with Stories from Shoftim · Book of Judges and the adventures of settling the Promised Land on Mondays, March 7, 14, and 21.

Rabbi Steven Schwartz presents The Avot · Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and how their stories influence the entire Tanakh on Mondays, March 28, April 4, 11. There is no charge for Agus Academy programs.

Jewish Choices: How Do Jewish Texts Influence How We Treat Our Bodies

On Wednesdays, March 9, 16, and 30, from 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. in the Agus Library, join Rabbi Cantor in exploring case studies about body weight, diet choices, tattoos, and high-risk behaviors. We will use texts from the Torah, Rabbinic Literature, and contemporary sources to discover how Judaism can inform our modern lives. We will compare American culture and Jewish values as they interconnect every day. There is no charge for this program.

Sweet Singers of Israel

Join Cantor Thom King, Beth El Hazzan on Thursdays, March 10, 17, 31 (please note change of original start date) from 7:00-8:15 p.m. in the Agus Library for this mini-series. Moishe Miller… Pinchas Perelmuth… Reuben Ticker… Belle Silverman… Roberta Peterman… George Burnstein. These are not exactly names that make one think immediately of the Metropolitan Opera, right? Well, change those names, as they did to Robert Merrill, Jan Peerce, Richard Tucker, Beverly Sills, Roberta Peters, and George London and you have a collection of the biggest stars of the worldwide opera stage during the mid-twentieth century. We will explore the careers and personal lives, along with other famous Jewish opera stars, through recordings, films, and personal recollections, as we discover the impact that these mostly first-generation Americans had on the musical life of the day. There is no charge for this program.

Please register for all programs, regardless of fee, to Ellen Marks at ellenm@bethelbalto.com or 410-580-5166.
Sunday Mornings @BethEl

The Events of Today’s Changing, Challenging, Controversial World

Do you ever turn on the TV, read a newspaper, or check the news online only to wonder about how you can or should talk to your children about the challenging world in which we live? Join Rabbi Saroken on Sunday, March 13, for a candid discussion about how to talk to kids about current events and difficult issues in our community and the world at large. Light breakfast will begin at 9:30 a.m. followed by Rabbi Saroken’s discussion at 10:00 a.m. in the Kolker Room. There is no charge for this program.

Themes in Qur’anic Theology

Dr. Homayra Ziad will be at Beth El in the Agus Library on Tuesdays, March 15 and 22, from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. to introduce participants to key themes in Qur’anic theology on God and human stewardship. Topics may include monotheism, worship, the figure of Abraham, and the question of sin and forgiveness. There is no charge for this program.

RSVP to Ellen Marks at ellenm@bethelbalto.com or 410-580-5166.

Learn to Use an iPad!

Karen Delaney, Beth El Librarian and trained iPad facilitator will meet with this group on Tuesdays, March 29, April 5, 12, 19, at 10:15 - 11:30 a.m. in the Eddie Schuster Library. This class will prove to you that using an iPad can improve your life. With an iPad, you can read a novel or the news, send emails to friends and family, use FaceTime to connect with children and grandchildren, shop at your favorite stores, pay bills, watch a movie, take photos, and video special events. You don’t own an iPad? No problem...there will be an iPad for each participant to use at every class at no additional charge. The charge for this class is $36 for Beth El members and $45 for non-members. Registration is required for this class. RSVP to Ellen Marks at ellenm@bethelbalto.com or 410-580-5166.

92Y Live

U.S. Foreign Policy and the 2016 Election

Tuesday, March 22, at 8:00 p.m.

Four of America’s most distinguished foreign policy experts (Walter Russell Mead, Gideon Rose, David J. Rothkopf, and Bret Stephens) explore crucial issues that our next president must face. This program is generously endowed by Robert and Florence Chertkof. There is no charge for this program.

Evening Book Club for Men and Women

Tuesday, May 3, at 7:30 p.m.

Jill Eisen, Director of Outreach and Assistant Principal, Beth El Schools, will lead a discussion on The Art Forger by B. A. Shapiro.

Coffee and snacks will be provided. For more information, contact Denise Franz at denise.franz@gmail.com.

February 3, 2016
Hebrew School in Hunt Valley

By Jill D. Eisen

Melissa West loves the convenience of a Neighborhood School and how much her daughters enjoy going to class! Yes, we said it - the students of the Hebrew School in Hunt Valley love going to class. They have over a 95% attendance rate, and they love their teacher Jillian Book Manko. “Emma, age 8, and Sophie, age 7, absolutely LOVE their current teacher, Morah Jill,” West said. “They have always enjoyed their other teachers as well. They are kind, caring and really want the girls to have a great Jewish experience.”

The Hunt Valley location started in 2012 in Heidi Berman’s law office, Kinney Law, on York and Shawan Road. The class is a one-room school house that meets in the conference room with students ranging in age from 7 - 12. Most of the families who participate in this location are interfaith. The curriculum is designed to create excitement about Judaism and confidence in the students’ Jewish identity. The students are learning to read Hebrew, speak a little Modern Hebrew, discuss Jewish thoughts, values, and history. They also practice Jewish holidays, mitzvot and rituals. The students learn by doing; i.e., each week they take turns leading the Shabbat rituals complete with challah and grape juice.

“It is really nice as a parent to be able to drop both girls off at the same time and the teacher can adapt the class to the different age groups,” West said. “They are learning their letters and are starting to really feel comfortable explaining holidays and traditions to others. Emma and Sophie enjoy Morah Jill’s creative classroom activities that make participation and learning easy and fun.”

Please contact Jill Eisen at 410-484-4543 or jill@bethelbalto.com for more information, arrange a class visit, or an application. Enrollment has begun for the 2016-2017 school year. We also have locations in Roland Park, Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School, Beth El @ Federal Hill, Howard County, and Carroll County.

T’filah Team and Mitzvah Monsters Take Assisted Living Facilities by Storm

On December 13, 26 T’filah Teamsters and Mitzvah Monsters presented Hanukkah programs for the residents of Tudor Heights and Weinberg Park. Their beautiful singing was augmented with rhythm instruments, choreography and harmonies, making quite a positive impression on everyone present. Then, to the delight of the elderly residents, the children distributed more than 125 Hanukkah presents they had purchased and cards they had made. It was a wonderful afternoon full of song and smiles.

Kol ha kavod to the T’filah Team, to the Mitzvah Monsters and to their generous families for sharing their time and talents, and spreading the light of Hanukkah to seniors in our community.

School News

Shabbat Services for Children

M&M Shabbat
Enjoy a spirited, engaging and participatory Shabbat service for kids up to 5 years of age and their families.
5:15 p.m. in the Gorn Chapel
Friday, March 4

IPPE Shabbat
IPPE Shabbat is led by Rabbi Faith Cantor, Morah Becky and the T’filah Team and Mitzvah Monsters. Join us for songs, stories, and a wonderful family Shabbat experience.
10:15 a.m. in the Schuster Library
Saturday, March 5

Tot Shabbat
Join Morah Becky for an interactive service filled with song, prayer, puppets and Torah stories for kids up to 5 years old and their families.
11:15 a.m. in the Kreitzer Memorial Room
Saturdays, March 5 (honoring four year-olds) and March 19 (honoring infants/toddlers)

Torah Sparks
Learn to lead the Shabbat morning prayers through games, stories and more. Children of all ages are invited to attend.
11:00 a.m. in the Gorn Chapel
Saturday, March 12
Contributions & Endowments

For your donations to be accurately processed and put into the monthly Voice, please include the full name and address to whom the donation is being sent.

THE ADLER-LEV SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Dr. Richard Schlossberg by Richie and Susie Walker, Jack and Marcia Greenberg, Robert and Eva Slatkin

THE ADULT CHOIR FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Richard Schwab by Barry and Lisa Stoler, the Beth El Adult Choir Fund, Ed and Sonia Obstler, Janet Penn, Hulane Zolet, Keith and Denise Franz, Robert and Eva Slatkin, Esther Layton, Alan and Harriet Weiner, Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline, Robin Kleinman, Dorothy, Jeff and Ira Rainess, June Sacks, Dr. Bert and Ronnie Glaser

IN HONOR OF:
The birthday of Dr. Bert Glaser by Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline
The birthday of Richard Lessons by Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline
The birth of Noa Violet Kline by the Beth El Choir Fund
The special anniversary of Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline by Dr. Bert and Ronnie Glaser, Dora Kline and Family, the Beth El Adult Choir, Michael Dopenk

IN APPRECIATION OF:
Cantor Thom King for a spectacular “Light a Candle with Handel” by Dr. Dopkin

A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
June Sacks by the Beth El Adult Choir

THE RABBI JACOB & MIRIAM AGUS SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Blanche Fisher Schwartz by Judy Schwartz
Selma Handlerman by Jerry and Linda Mondei

THE BETH EL ART FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Mark Levine by Charles and Gail Yumkas
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Willard Smullian by Ranny Smullian
Jeanette Miller by Ranny Smullian

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IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Louis Baer by Linda Baer

THE SANDRA & MALCOLM BERMAN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Rose Kriegel by Marsha Levine
Anne Fleshman by Marsha Levine

THE DANIEL W. CAPLAN & NORMA F. CAPLAN PRE-SCHOOL MEDIA RESOURCE FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Stephen Rosenberg by Richard and Elizabeth Caplan

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
David Kopelman by Richard and Elizabeth Caplan

THE MEVIN & NAOMI CHERNOFF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF:
The birth of Jonathan Lev Meyers by Alan and Harriet Weiner

THE LOUIS & ESTHER DOPKIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Richard Schwab by Michael Dopkin

THE SYLVAN DORENFELD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Manny Steinberg by George and Joyce Goodman

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Samuel Hendler by Manny and Ruthye Steinberg
Rebecca Hendler by Manny and Ruthye Steinberg

THE IRVIN EPSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Tamar Kellner by Asher and Allison Rubin

THE JACOBO & SARA FRAIMAN FUND FOR ADULT JEWISH EDUCATION
IN APPRECIATION OF:
Tania and Israel Lapucu by Keith and Denise Franz

THE LEONARD & FRONA FRIEDMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Blanche Richter by Elliot and Susan Dackman
Royal Pollokoff by Elliot and Susan Dackman

THE FRUMAN FAMILY GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION ENDOWMENT FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Helen Goldberg by Dennis and Jane Herman, Arnold and Joyce Fruman
Sylvia Baum by Dennis and Jane Herman
Ann Katesky by Arnold and Joyce Fruman
Sandra Kalinsky by Arnold and Joyce Fruman
Henny Mann by Stanley Scher and Bill Magruder

IN HONOR OF:
The Bar Mitzvah of Justin Ingerman by Arnold and Joyce Fruman

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Leonard Fruman by Ilan and Gail Silberman

THE SHELDON & SARALYNN GLASS ENDOVED SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Richard Schwab by Dr. Sheldon and Saralyn Glass

A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Jack Bloom by Dr. Sheldon and Saralyn Glass

THE GREEN FAMILY RELIGIOUS SERVICES FUND
IN APPRECIATION OF:
Beny and Barbara Green for your kindness by Ileane Smith

THE CANTOR SAUL & AILEEN HAMMERMAN MUSIC FUND
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Barbara Goldman by Judy Pachino

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Rose Schwartz by Marilyn Abrahams and Family
Norman Abrahams by Marilyn Abrahams and Family

THE HARK - UHLFELDER FAMILY FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Milton Uhlfelder by David and Joan Uhlfelder
Joseph Rabinowitz by David and Joan Uhlfelder

THE ROSE P. KATZ SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Mona Berman by Burt and Renee King

THE MINNIE & MAX KRIEGER SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Hyman Needelman by Lillian Miller
Anna Needelman by Lillian Miller

THE ADAM KRONTHAL SPECIAL NEEDS FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Herbert Kronthal by Randi Kronthal Sacco

IN MEMORY OF:
Adam Kronthal by Randi Kronthal Sacco, Alan and Jennie Kronthal
Ethel and Morris Kelman by Randi Kronthal Sacco
Ida Macy by Randi Kronthal Sacco

IN HONOR OF:
The special anniversary of Dr. Stephen and Susan Cohen by Dr. Beryl Rosenberg and Dr. Frona Brown

THE M. HENRY & ELIZABETH KUNTZ MEMORIAL FUND
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Herbert Siegel by Hugo and Elaine Kuntz

THE SUSAN FINE LANGSAM MEMORIAL FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Richard Schwab by Shelly Langsam
Melvin Levy by Shelly Langsam
THE DR. HARRY & ZELDA LEVIN FACULTY DEVELOPMENT FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Rebecca Luwisher by Esther Luwisher
THE HARRY LICHTER CHESED FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
The mother of Yelena Gelsen by Alan and Bev Gersh
Erwin Juan Sagenkahn by Alan and Bev Gersh
George Sack by Alan and Bev Gersh
IN APPRECIATION OF:
Stephen and Aliza Gottesman for being so thoughtful by Bobbie Lichter
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Marty Kurland by Bobbie Lichter
IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Ted Lerner by Alan and Bev Gersh
Hulane Zolet for a Happy Hanukkah by Bobbie Lichter
The marriage of the granddaughter of Marty and Arlene Kurland by Bobbie Lichter
The marriage of Michael and Nora Leiken by Stuart and Sheryl Title
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Harry Lichter by Bobbie Lichter and Family
THE JOSEPH LIPAVSKY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Estelle C. Wilson McMillan by the Wilson Family
IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Stanley Silverman by Carolyn Silverman
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Lynn Yankellow by Stanley and Carolyn Silverman
THE H. ALLAN LIPSITZ ENDED ADULT EDUCATION FUND
IN HONOR OF:
Allan Lipsitz by Gail Lipsitz
THE RABBI MARK G. LOEB MEMORIAL FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Jerome Baum by Alvin and Rosalie Book
THE HERMAN LUBCHER SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF:
The 80th anniversary of the Bar Mitzvah of Herbert Barton by Dr. Kenneth and Judith Margolis
THE MAX MENDELSOHN ENDOWMENT MIKVAH FUND
IN APPRECIATION OF:
Rabbi Dana Saroken for kindness shown on the loss of our father, Ronnie Feldman by Michael and Barbara Feldman
IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Barbara Mendelson by Janet Penn, Shelia Goldstein, Sheila Rosenfield
Rabbi Dana Saroken and Rati Rose and family on their new home by Dr. Arnold and Beverly Feldman
THE DAISY MILLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Lily Arenson by Dr. and Mrs. Sidney Seidman
Morris Arenson by Dr. and Mrs. Sidney Seidman
Daisy Miller by Sidney and Rebecca Seidman
THE MORNING MINYAN FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Arvind Goldscher by Izzy Goldscher
Daniel Goldscher by Izzy Goldscher
Rudolph Silberberg by Izzy Goldscher
Samuel Goldscher by Izzy Goldscher
Sarah Wolf by Izzy Goldscher
IN MEMORY OF:
George Sack by Emilee Schwab
Richard Schwab by Ray and Dale Kahn
Jerome Baum by Sidney and Eunice Friedman, Ray and Dale Kahn,
Hulane Zolet,ylinder Illumsch
IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Stanley Silverman by Sidney and Ellen Cohen
Halle Pagel Goldberg by Susan Issacson
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Howard Rovner by Morris and Charlotte Straisman
Robert Krontoff by Stephen and Aliza Gottesman
THE MITZVAH FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
The special birthday of Sheila Rosenfeld by Judy Pachino, Frank and Nancy Shuster
The special birthday of Jeffrey Litman by Saul and Joan Gurney
Marc and Leslie Katz by Adrian and Annette Monchoeur
The special birthday of Gail Yunkus by Bob Hankin and Linda Himmlerich
My Alykh by Helene Lutz
IN MEMORY OF:
Helen Goldberg by Barry and Lisa Stoler
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Harvey Lee Gordon by Randy and Helene Lutz
Amy Gordon by Randy and Helene Lutz
THE MORTON OFFIT ENDED MEMORIAL FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Erin Levitas by Shirley Offit
THE PRAYER BOOK FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Jean Weinstein by Larry Weinstein
Sylvia Baum by Susan Baum and Steven Baum
Melvin Berman by Ray and Dale Kahn
Murray Spear by Bernie and Sammy Meizlish
Tamar Kellner by Ron and Margie Rubin and Michael and Melissa Roth
IN APPRECIATION TO:
Misharabach for Josh Elovik and Brian Cosgrove by Fran Crystal
IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Dr. Richard Schlossberg by Jack and Marcia Greenberg, Dr. Marvin "Jack" Feldman and Lynn Ginsburg and Family
The marriage of Walter and Stephanie Weinstein by Sandy Levin
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Alvin Mondell by Gerry and Linda Mondell
Iris Rombo by Judge Richard and Iris Rombo
Sam Snyder by Harry and Faye Adler
Syt (Sadie) Cutler by Stuart and Phyllis Cutler
THE ROBINS FAMILY FOUNDATION
IN MEMORY OF:
Erwin Sagenkahn by Jerry and Terry Zimlin
THE EDDY SCHUSTER MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Florence F. Feigelson by David and Terry Feigelson
THE RABBI STEVEN SCHWARTZ TRIBUTE FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Helen Goldberg by Dr. Charles and Dana Schnee, Fred and Phyllis London, Michael Rubenstein and Hedy From, Ivan and Sheila Goldberg, Sidney and Eunice Friedman, Howard and Rina Janet
Richard Schwab by Sidney and Eunice Friedman, Dr. Marc and Nancy Gertner, Fred and Phyllis London
Ruth Morrison by Theodore DeBois, Michael Rubenstein and Hedy From
Ronnie Feldman by Bob and June Jacobs, Ivan and Sheila Goldberg, George Sack by Sidney Weiman, Judge and Mrs. Albert Alpert, Bluma Jed, Paul and Wilma Alpert, Jeff Bakely and Gail Bober
Martin Finkelstein by Stanley and Linda Nachinson
Melvin Berman by Craig and Michele Berman
Ted DeBois by Dr. Stephen and Susan Cohen, Sylvia Marcus, Stuart and Andrea Fribush, Stuart and Rochelle Duboff, Neil Mendelson and June Bell, Joan and Lauren Johnson
Erwin Sagenkahn by Fred and Phyllis London
Shirley Sless by Robert and June Jacobs
Charlotte Levine by Dr. Ed and Ann Mishner
Judy Meyerowitz by Fred and Phyllis London
Mark Levine by Esther Layton
Erin Levitas by Esther Layton
Tamar Kellner by Robert and Eva Slatkin, Dr. Marc and Nancy Gertner
IN HONOR OF:
The marriage of Ethan Zweig to Brooke Shemer by Frank and Merle Selensky
The naming of our granddaughter, Sylvia Ktt by Frank and Merle Selensky
The marriage of Stephanie Block and Walter Weinstein by Guy and Lucy Alta, Stuart and Adrienne, Joelle, Giora and Yvette Segov
The Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Elias Cherry by Sidney and Eunice Friedman, Jay and Ellen Marks, Hulane Zolet, Vickie Meyer, Burt and Renee King
The Bar Mitzvah of Abby Berkowitz and Phillip Hutzer by Sidney and Eunice Friedman
The Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Gordon by Dr. Marc and Nancy Gertner
The special birthday of Stanley Silverman by David and Sandy Gordon
The special anniversary of Frances and Malcolm Mahr by Jerry and Lois Herling
The special anniversary of Edith and Louise Blufed by Jerry and Lois Herling
The birth of a granddaughter, Olivia Stone to Richard and Karen Feldman by Dr. Robert and Shelley Shemer
The special birthday of Gail Yunkus by Sidney and Eunice Friedman
The naming of our grandchildren, Saylour Amukel Kurman and Dalia Gelent Tsimever by Howard and Roi Kurman
The Bar Mitzvah of Justin Ingeman by Michael and Linda Kassel
IN APPRECIATION TO:
Rabbi Steven Schwartz for kindness shown on the loss of our father, Ronnie Feldman by Michael and Barbara Feldman
Rabbi Steven Schwartz for his help shown to my family by Harriet Sichel
Rabbi Steven Schwartz for his kindness shown on the death of our father, Peter Schaer by Wayne and Amy Seidman and Barbara Scher
Beth El Congregation by Jonathan and Debra Waranch
Rabbi Steven Schwartz for his kindness extended to our family on the death of our father, Ted DeBois by Robert and June Jacobs
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Howard Rovner by Esther Hendler and Family
Helene Lev by Sidney and Eunice Friedman
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Morris Gerson by Arthur Gerson
Lawrence Kolman by Madge Kolman
Benjamin Chasnian by Rita Shemer
Edith Shemer by Rita Shemer
Kate Schwartz by Dr. Meyer and Alice Schwartz
Rubin Pasarew by Alan and Marcia Pasarew
Rebecca Pasarew by Alan and Marcia Pasarew
Morris Pasarew by Alan and Marcia Pasarew
THE SELTZER GOLD PRE-SCHOOL SCHolarSHIP FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Jeanette Selbert by Harvey and Stella Gold
Doris Gold by Harvey and Stella Gold
THE RICKY SIEGEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Ronnie Feldman by Paul, Sheri, Tyler, Erin and Victor Weinblatt
Jerome Baum by Burt and Renee King
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A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Howard Rovner by Burt and Renee King
THE SISTERHOOD PAST PRESIDENTS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Nancy Gertner by Allene Sher
IN MEMORY OF:
Richard Schwab by Rene and Yvonne Daniel, Jeff and Honey Litman

THE VOICE OF BETH EL CONGREGATION
A Note of Thank You

Many thanks to Cantor Thom King, Dale Kahn, Judy Pachino, Yvonne Epstein and the entire concert committee for the magnificent event on Sunday, December 6, 2015. To all who participated in presenting the amazing Handel’s Judas Maccabaeus in loving memory of Cantor Saul Z. Hammerman, I express my heartfelt appreciation. The afternoon unfolded an outstanding level of professionalism. At the conclusion, Rabbi Steven Schwartz lit the first Hanukkah candle whereby incorporating the spiritual concept of a memorial concert and an afternoon of beautiful music. The meaningful and dramatic event was a successful beginning to the celebration of Hanukkah.

With sincere appreciation,
Aileen G. Hammerman
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We would like to thank the following staff and clergy:

- Richard and Sandi Block
- Cantor Thom and Shary King

*deceased

This gift is tax deductible to the extent provided by law. These contributions were made between December 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015.
A handful of great people started envisioning. Kathy Shapiro, Susie Mann, Diana Terrill, Margie Daniel, Ailene Sher, Rabbi George Wielechowski, Rachel Siegal, and I brainstormed what the Center might be and tried out some experimental introspective and rejuvenating programs. We hosted Reflective Nature Walks, Cooking Class Dinner Parties and iPhone Photography Classes where we learned to see the world and relationships through a different lens.

We were thrilled when people arrived and the classes had waiting lists. Soon enough, Alvin and Lois Lapidus stepped forward to support the Generations Campaign by making an incredible gift to build a space for The Alvin and Lois Lapidus Center for Healing and Spirituality. Soon after that, others began to invest in our endeavor.

Fast forward many months and here is where we are. The contractors are doing demo on our soon-to-be space (imagine a space somewhere between a living room and a spa – it’s going to be beautiful!). We are imagining ourselves to be a “Spiritual Start Up, Powered by Judaism.” We are aspiring to transform Jewish life in Baltimore through innovative experiences in mindfulness, healing and rejuvenation. For “mindfulness,” think yoga, meditation, drumming circles, and artful meditation. For “healing,” we will have support groups and programs that will help people reach their fullest potential and find support through life’s trickier areas (aging, loss, grief, relationships). For those who want to “rejuvenate their souls,” we are planning trips, retreats, and other fun and meaningful activities that can add joy, friendship, and growth to our lives.

Perhaps I can share with you just one of countless emails that we have received after running one of our programs. The email read: “I love what you and your committee are putting together. It’s what Baltimore is lacking. I predict that the [Lapidus] Center will be the hottest thing in Judaism before long, and may just increase membership at Beth El. Those who aren’t attached to a synagogue are looking for a reason to join, and an approach like this fits the bill. This brings Judaism to the heart and soul of everyday life, as opposed to us just feeling “obligated” to go to Temple because we are “supposed to.” Please God, these predictions will soon be our reality. Most importantly, we hope you’ll come join us and bring a friend! And if “soulful practices” don’t feel comfortable to you – come anyway…. We think you’ll love it!

Mindful Retreat with Dr. Rabbi James Jacobson-Maisels

Sunday, March 6, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Will be held at Beth El. $50/person. Light lunch and snacks included.

Dr. Rabbi James Jacobson-Maisels, founder of Or HaLev Center for Jewish Spirituality and Meditation, will lead us for this half-day retreat in a supportive environment and immersive practice that enables rapid growth and the discovery of new possibilities for your life and well-being. The retreat will include some time in social silence.

RSVP to rachels@bethelbalto.com.

Healing Service

Saturday, March 19, at 9:00 a.m.
Kreitzer Memorial Room

Every month, Rabbi Saroken leads a healing service for people who are looking for a safe and supportive place and a group of people with whom to pray, sing out to God and reflect on life. Using Jewish wisdom, conversation and compassion, participants will find themselves strengthened through the encounter.

For more information on The Alvin & Lois Lapidus Center for Healing and Spirituality, contact Rachel Siegal at rachels@bethelbalto.com.
An Evening with Ambassador Dennis Ross

Sunday, April 3, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Ambassador Dennis Ross, a renowned U.S. Middle East Diplomat and author of *Doomed to Succeed: The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama*, will speak on “An Insider’s Briefing on the U.S.-Israel Relationship and Current U.S. Policy in the Middle East” at Beth El Congregation.

5:45 p.m.—Private reception with Ambassador Ross. Includes hors d’oeuvres, book signing, premiere seating for the presentation, and dessert reception. Dietary laws observed. Tickets are $60 per person. The book will be on sale for $30. Space is limited to the first 75.

7:00 p.m.—Ambassador Ross presentation and discussion. Includes a dessert reception and book signing. Tickets are $20 per person in advance and $25 at the door. Dietary laws observed.

RSVP to Lori Downing by Monday, March 21, at lori@bethelbalto.com or 410-484-0411.

Sponsored by the Beth El Israel Affairs and Events Committees, Jewish National Fund, Israel Bonds, Chizuk Amuno Congregation, Baltimore Zionist District, Beth T’filoh Congregation and the Rabbi Mark G. Loeb Center for Lifelong Learning.