TEMPLE BETH-EL



1203 Comanche Drive Rockford, Illinois 61107 815-398-5020

Mission Statement: Temple Beth-El is a congregation of Jews and their families building a community committed to participation in all aspects of Jewish life. By community, we mean a group of diverse people who share a strong connection fostered by Temple Beth-El. By participation, we mean that all members will partake in and support the spiritual, cultural, educational and social life of Temple Beth-El.

Celebrate Purim February 28th

Temple Beth-El and the Jewish Federation Present:

Purim Celebration 2018

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 Purim service 6:00 pm followed by pizza dinner

Costumes encouraged. Come and see Rabbi's over the top costume!



Purim Fun Continues

Sunday, March 4 Purim Carnival and Prizes Everyone is welcome to this free event!

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Chaverim,

There are not words enough to express my gratitude, and that of my extended family, to all of you for all that you did to care for us following my mother's death last month. We were amazed and so touched by all of the notes, texts, calls, FOOD, love and care you showed to us during our time of grief.



From Rabbi Binah Wing

My family was especially appreciative of the meals and the shiva evenings which you so lovingly

provided. We were especially grateful for all who attended the shiva evenings allowing us to recite Kaddish each of the evenings. I am loathe to name people because there were so many who helped but I will say a special thank you to Nanci Soriano and Karen Zussman who headed up much of the food coordination. Most of all, we just

There are not words enough to express my gratitude...

felt so, so loved which helped make this painful, sad time somewhat easier to bear. I believe that my Mom would have been really happy with how everything went.

My niece Sarah wrote this lovely note which captures so much of how we all felt about your kindnesses to us and how much they appreciated our Jewish home:

To our friends at Temple Beth-El,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for every kindness shown to my family in this time of mourning during my Grandma Sherry's memorial. Although many of you knew and loved her as we did, our family had not had the privilege of experiencing the warm and

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generous community at Temple Beth-El as our Rockford relations have. As we traveled from all corners of the world to commemorate her extraordinary life, we were touched by your thoughtfulness, community mindedness and generosity during our time of grief. It is clear what a special place Temple Beth-El has in Rockford's community. Your beautifully maintained building and grounds, your exquisitely uplifting sanctuary, the plentiful kitchen, the cozy library and welcoming community room - even despite all these niceties the members and friends who lent comfort and memories of Sherry were the brightest ray of sun in a freezing, sad time. We promise to pay your kindness forward. Thank you on behalf of the Brownstein and extended families.

Kind thanks, Sarah

My mom's death was not exactly unexpected. She had been on hospice for about a month and had increasing difficulty with her breathing, due to the progression of her lung cancer. And yet, the day before she died, she was fully functional, doing some planning for long-term home care, eating meals and carrying on conversations. She had one really bad day and then she died. She was never alone that whole day and my sister and I were by her side when she drew her last breath. Even though it was not unexpected, it is still hard to lose a loved one, especially a parent, as many of you know. My mom was pretty spectacular and we all loved her so. We will miss her terribly.

January was not exactly the month that I thought it was going to be and now we move forward in a new normal. On a practical note, I am working on getting back into the swing of things Temple-wise. It may take some time before I'm caught up. I ask for your continued patience as I work through the back-log.

Last month, I wrote about the year 2018 being the year 20CHAI with its Jewish emphasis on appreciating life. My mom did that in many ways and I hope that we can all continue to do that in our own lives.

Todah rabbah, thank you, thank you, thank you again dear friends,

Rabbi Wing and family

From the Temple Board.... By Secretary Ellen Salley

The Temple Board met on January 10th, 2018.



Jim updated us on the strategic planning. As part of the security plan, the interior locks have been re-keyed and matched.

Sharon reported that we have 85 Temple families. We have paid our bill to the Health Department for Food-A-Rama. We received money from a Car Mitzvah.

Brina reported on our receivables and pledges (available upon request). The next finance committee meeting will be on February 20th.

Rob reported that as of December 31st, the Foundation had a gain of 1.36% for the month and year to date gain of 16.29%. Rob said that our totals haven't been this good since before 2014, and we have not reached a net over principle this high before.

Brian reported that the Religious Functions committee did not meet this month. He said that the Hanukkah Dinner was very good. There were about 50 people in attendance including a lot of children.

Carol reported that the Sunday school Hanukkah party was a big success. The students listened to a presentation for OSRUI and heard from Lily and Dana Wing about their camp experiences. Registration for camp this year is underway, and the students were sent home with informational brochures. The students also made marshmallow Menorahs, played Hanukkah Bingo, and played Dreidel. The students learned a new Dreidel song and had a little "dance party" after the presentation. They ate potato latkes and *suvganiyot*. Over \$400 was collected to be donated to Parkinsons in memory of Sterne Roufa. Sunday School will resume on January 14th and book bills for this school year will be sent out to the parents.

GRTY had their annual Hanukkah party which started out by playing laser tag and then going to Shogun. Their fee was to bring packages of underwear to donate to their project for the year. Their community service project this year is Project Undershare. The students also helped at the Christmas Eve Soup Kitchen.

Karen reminded us about the school supply drive for the Rock House Kids program during the month of January. The community committee felt it was im-

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In the very near future, you are going to receive information about the creation of Temple Beth-El's 1914 Legacy Society. The Legacy Society is an element of the Strategic planning committee and has been

created as a means to help sustain Temple Beth-El through planned giving.

A 1914 Legacy Society brochure will soon be sent to current Temple Members and former members for whom Temple Beth-El was also a part of their lives. The brochure addresses commonly asked questions about planned giving.

I want to thank Rob Levy, Chairman of the 1914 Legacy Society, for getting this project off the ground. I also want to thank members of Rob's committee, specifically Jerry Paris, Elisa Whitman, Rabbi Wing and Jay Sklar, for their extensive efforts in helping to create the 1914 Legacy Society.

We are hopeful that the 1914 Legacy Society will serve as a vehicle for Temple members to remember the importance of our congregation in their estate planning. This is a great way to help to ensure that the future needs of Temple Beth-EI will be met.

Finally, please plan to attend some funfilled Temple events in February. On February 15, 2018, there will be a "Wine and Painting" Night for Temple Members. In addition, on Friday February 23, 2018, we will have our Third Annual Bowling Shabbat. You will find more details about these events in this bulletin.

-Jim

CONDOLENCES TO:

The Wing and Brownstein family on the loss of their mother and grandmother, Sherry Brownstein

Ken and Allison Braswell on the loss of Ken's father, Karl Braswell

From the Temple Board cont. from page 2....

portant to help with the cost of the soup kitchens that the Temple runs. After discussion the board agreed and a motion passed that would assist with the cost. There will be a paint a wine kiddush cup social at the art studio at 317 Market Street on February 15th. The place is small so there will be a limit of 20 participants. The committee is thinking about a movie and pizza night also.

Sharon reported a few items for Mary. She said that the steering committee for Food-A-Rama met and there will be a meeting for all the chairs. The Rummage sale needs volunteers.

Ellen reported that the 2017 campaign collected 27,500 with hopes of collecting 30,000. Potato Pancakes for Parkinson's research, in memory of Sterne Roufa raised 460. The Federation book talk will be on January 21^{st} at the Temple. The book being discussed is No Room for Small Dreams: Courage, Imagination, and the Making of Modern Israel by Shimon Peres. The discussion questions are in the Federation bulletin. Ronit Golan is taking orders for Lox Box. Pick up will be on Sunday February 4^{th} between 10 - 12. On Sunday February 18^{th} , Jewop will perform. All programs will begin at 10:30 after a 10:00 breakfast.

Bowling Shabbat Friday, February 23rd



We will have a short service at Temple at 6:00 pm followed by bowling at Don Carter Lanes (shoes and bowling included) Food available for purchase

> SPACE IS LIMITED ***Call the Temple office (815-398-5020) or Rabbi Wing's cell to RSVP

SCHOOLE DOE 200 Words or Less... By Goldie & Adrian



School resumed in January after a very cold winter break. Our students were able to participate in the adult education program on Jewish humor and enjoyed a delicious breakfast. It was nice having a few laughs on our first day back.

When Barbara Simon and Mitch Kopnick have music class, the building is filled with beautiful sounds. Sandy Simon helped the students decorate flower pots in which to grow herb seeds for Tu B'Shevat. We also talked about all the benefits trees provide followed by a Tu B'Shevat movie.

The fifth and sixth grade students will go to a small city retreat at OSRUI on February 9-11. It is always lots of fun and the best part is making new friends with students from other area small congregations.

Lastly, thank you to all who donate money to the Dermer and Garten Funds. We are able to award camperships and we can buy what we need to enhance education.

Keep Warm, Goldie and Adrian





Mazel Tov on another Car Mitzvah.

Special thank you to Jerry Paris and the crew at Buttita Brothers for offering to facilitate two Car Mitzvahs in the month of January.

The car, a 2004 Audi A4 donated by Faye Marcus, sold for \$500.

GRTY NEWS

Submitted by: Ben Kopnick Co-President Shalom Temple Beth El Congregation,

During this time of mourning, GRTY would like to reach out to the congregation as well as Rabbi and offer our condolences. We hope

that this article finds our members in better spirits, and we hope that the knowledge that GRTY is continuing our great work will help to comfort our congregants.

This past month of January, GRTY had an extremely impactful day discussing Jewish values and seeing them firsthand in the movie "Miracle at Midnight." After spending time reflecting and providing everyday examples of how one can better uphold their Jewish values, our youth group got to see the values in action through the eyes of Jewish Danes during World War II. This daring tale of bravery showed the sacrifice and danger taken upon by regular Danish citizens to help out their neighbors, the Jews. This impactful day of learning and reflection was an incredible experience for our teens.

For February, we hope to continue strengthening our Jewish values and are extremely excited for our annual Hamantaschen baking and sale. We here at GRTY hope everyone has had a nice January and are looking forward to a bright and healthy February, and don't forget to buy some Hamantaschen!

Submitted by Co-President Ben Kopnick

Mazel Tov

To Ronit and Roni Golan on the birth of their granddaughter, Claire.

February Oneg Committee

February 2 Amy and Tony Anton Sandy Simon Elizabeth Pickvance

February 9 Goldie Pekarsky Melissa and Josh Tatman

February 16 Barbara and Jack Simon Kathleen Kelly and Arnold Rosen

February 23 Bowling Shabbat



The Temple Beth-El

Family greatly

appreciates and

thanks our Oneg Hosts for helping

to make our

Services more meaningful

and offering an

Ways & Means News

HELP WANTED!

Do you have an hour a week? A couple of hours a month?

Temple is seeking people who might be interested in:

- Listing books and other donated items to sell online
- Helping to clean gift shop, order new items, give your ideas for updating and continuing to offer the gift shop as a Temple service.
- Helping to organize and sort rummage.

Questions? Call Mary Roufa, 815.543.6520 Ways and Means chair

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

2/2
2/7
2/11
2/13
2/13
2/13
2/14
2/15
2/17
2/18
2/23
2/28

2/2 /7 1 3	Children Joshua Reid Max Morris Mara Anton Dana Neva Wing	2/9/07 2/17/10 2/20/06 2/24/10
13 3 4 15 7	Anniversaries Kim & Harvey Eir	nhorn 2/15/86



The Temple Beth-El Gift Shop



GIFT SHOP HOURS Monday—Friday, call the office Sunday 10am - noon* *Open Sundays when school is in session.

If you need to visit the shop at another time, please call the Temple office (398-5020)

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YAHRZEIT LIST

If you are interested in having your loved one's name on the Yahrzeit list, please call Joyce in the Temple Office, 398-5020

Read February 2 Betty Hertz

Henrietta Gesmer Sarah Levy Rose Share Herman Gudema Martin Hernandez J.J. Harris Fay Helfand Jerome Morris Saul Weiss Patrick Weedman Isaac Goldman Herman Wolfson

Read February 9

Donald Busch Jeffrey Mark Dryer Lilith Kornell Rhea Bork Robert Ruthe Jules Cohen Vera Evans Sam Hellman Robert Silverman Bernard Jacob Ernstein Isaac Grossman Alexander Lewin Louis Zenoff

Read February 16

Alice Shaw Samuel Futerman Anne Saruk Joseph Mendeloff Dr. Adalbert Pap Henry Silverstein Erna Salomon Abraham Goldman Sheldon Franks Sandor Alt Irving Stern Abraham J. Zenoff

Read February 23

Kay Foss Eleanor Weiss Carolyn Kaplan Jerome Sylvia Melamed Daniel Brownstein Sr. Mamie Rosenbloom Donald Messinger Gussie Alt Leonard Shanhouse Martin Price

MEMORIAL BOARD

Honor the memory of your loved ones by placing their names on the board in our memorial alcove. Please supply the Temple office with the name, date of birth and date of death. The minimum

donation is \$200. The light alongside each name is lit every year to mark the anniversary of the death, and the name appears in the annual memorial book.



Benjamin Schaider Building Fund

In memory of dear friend Sherry Brownstein -Gerry Schaider

Speedy recovery to Fred Dietz -Jim and Mary Gesmer

In memory of Ben Rossin Congratulations to Ronit and Roni Golan on the birth of their granddaughter, Claire Congratulations to Marc and Nanci Soriano on the birth of their granddaughter, Zoey In memory of Sherry Brownstein -Brina Grigg

Cy Sachs In memory of Martin Price -Zussman Family

Congratulations to Ronit and Roni Golan on the birth of their granddaughter -Faye Marcus

In honor of Rabbi Wing -Fred and Ellen Dietz

Garten Fund In memory of Sherry Brownstein -Judy and Chuck Picus -Rabbi Michael Zedek

In honor of the birth of Adrian and Jerry Grubb's granddaughter -Jim and Mary Gesmer Get well wishes to Laura Kamin Get well wishes to Fred Dietz Thank you to Rabbi Wing for a lovely baby naming for our granddaughter Congratulations to Ronit and Roni Golan on the birth of their granddaughter, Claire -Adrian and Jerry Grubb

In honor of Temple Beth-El's Religious School

-Paula Kopald

Landscaping Fund

Wishing a speedy recovery to Fred Dietz Mazel tov to Adrian and Jerry Grubb on the birth of their granddaughter -Kathy and Arthur Rettig

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Sherry Brownstein -Karl and Tammy Robichaux -Richard and Angelika Stinson -Quimby Family -Joey Weinstein -Arthur and Kathy Rettig

Prayers for healing to Howard Schoeller -Tim and Cheryl Schoeller

In memory of Barbara Pearlman -Lisa and Larry Pearlman

Sheldon Liebovich Fund

In memory of Julius Katz -Tim and Cheryl Schoeller

The Temple has been the recipient of donations from the Temple Family in the name of many funds in order to supply much needed money for worthwhile programs and projects. We would like to spotlight a couple of these funds.

Benjamin Schaider Bldg Fund provides funding for unexpected and major repairs or enhancements to the Temple Building.

Sheldon Liebovich Fund for Families in Crisis provides funds for Temple families who are in need, at the discretion of Temple leadership.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund provides for the Rabbi to purchase necessary items for the Temple or to help those in need, at her discretion.



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TEMPLE BETH-EL MINUTE WITH A MEMBER

Dear TBE Friends: The bulletin this month will feature our next "Minute with a Member". Please take a few moments to learn a bit more about the

Morris Family. Below are answers to a few questions. We hope you will enjoy getting to know them a bit more!

What do you do for fun?

As a family we like to play games, watch movies, and go for walks with our dog, Teddy. We also love to travel - someplace warm sounds good right now!

Favorite Judaic holiday or food:

Our top favorites would have to be matzo ball soup and brisket.

Your motto in life:

"It's out of my control" & "love & kindness"

Where's your favorite place to go in the area? We're foodies so we love going out to eat and trying all kinds of food.

If you could take two weeks off from all your responsibilities, where would you go and what would you do?

Staying in a hut over the beautiful turquoise water

in Bora Bora enjoying some rest & relaxation.

Favorite movies, books, or music: We enjoy a wide variety of all 3, but action movies would be Howard's favorite and singing and dancing would be Colleen & Max's favorite.

If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?

So many things...but you have to play to win.

Memorial and Tribute Donation Form				
From: Name:	To: Send the acknowledging card : □□ Same as from, or:Name:			
Address:	Address:			
City:StateZip:	City:	StateZip:		
For: (check one and fill in names as appropriate)	Donation:	Fund:		
□ In Memory of:	□Triple chai (\$54)	□ Garten □ Powell □		
Speedy Recovery to:	□Double chai(\$36)	Lazarus □ Dermer □ Building □ Woodruff □ Rabbi's Discretionary		
□ Congratulations to:	□Chai (\$18) □ \$10	□ Pap □ Kupperman □ ĺ		
□ In Honor of:	□ \$4 (Min.)	Landscaping □ Gifts&Flowers □ Sachs □ Liebovich Fund		
□ Other:	□ Other:	□ Sachs □ Liebovich Fund □Other		



TEMPLE BETH-EL ADULT NIGHT OUT!!! **"PAINT AND PARTY" Thursday, February 15, 2018 6:30pm-9:00pm**

Come join the fun and paint a "Tree of Life" Wine Glass/Kiddush Cup Share some snacks and drinks with Temple friends.

At

317 Studio & Gallery 317 Market Street Rockford, IL 61107 \$30

There are a very limited number of spaces available at the gallery. Please call Joyce at the Temple office between 9am-4pm 815.398.5020 ASAP to reserve your spot by 2/9/18



<u>They're baaack...</u>





Sunday, February 18, 2018 Temple Beth-El, 1203 Comanche Dr. 61107 10:00 Breakfast 10:30 Program

Jewop is UW-Madison's premiere and ONLY Jewish A Cappella group! By embracing a plethora of cultural perspectives, Jewop is able to encompass all aspects of Judaism in fun and entertaining ways! Jewop performs traditional Jewish repertoire, pop music that has been written by Jewish artists (such as Adam Lavigne or P!nk), and parodies of songs that include Jewish cultural references. Ultimately, our goal is to gather people, Jewish and not, to preserve and celebrate all types of Jewish music and have fun while doing it!

There is no cost to attend and everyone is welcome. Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee Please RSVP to Temple at 815-398-5020 or respond to this email



PORTRAITURE EVENT COMMERCIAL

Providing photographic coverage in Rockford and the surrounding areas.



Friends of Temple Beth-El

It's a....

Car Mitzva



Our car mitzvah donation program has earned over \$60,000 in the last 12 years. This comes about

Our car mitzvah donation program has earned over \$60,000. in the last 12 years. call Jerry at 815-222-6016.

through the incredible generosity of our congregants. Jerry Paris has sold his Midas Auto Repair facility on North Main St. after being in business for 38 years. It is now owned by Butitta Bros, and the manager's name is Neil. The new organization has agreed to continue the car donation program under the same arrangement as before.

Please contact the new manager at 815-962-7914, and he will insure that Temple is properly rewarded. If you have any questions, please

Thank you for your support.



Coming Attractions

<u>March 2018</u>

Sun. 4 Purim Carnival Sun. 18th Chocolate Seder Thur.– Sun. 22–25 Rummage Sale

<u> April 2018</u>

Sun. 8th Holocaust Remembrance Sun. 15th Good Deeds Day Sat. 21st Dinner and talk with Roni and Ronit Golan Sun. 29th Dr. Pitz on Israel

May 2018 Sun. 6th Israel Day Wed. 16th Food-A-Rama

<u>June 2018</u> <u>July 2018</u> <u>August 2018</u> Sat. 18th Lilly Wing Bat Mitzvah Sun. 26th Ethnic Festival

<u>September 2018</u> <u>October 2018</u> <u>November 2018</u> <u>December 2018</u> <u>January 2019</u> February 2019

Tentative Date * Temple Board Meets the 2nd Wed. each month Library 7:00 PM

We hope this page of Coming Attractions helps you plan ahead for activities at Temple Beth-El. Please understand that some dates and times might be tentative and will be updated each month as dates get closer.

Have a Date to add? Well! Jayskl@aol.com

GRTY 2017-2018 Calendar

Sun.Feb. 11Hamantaschen Making: 12-2:00 pm at Temple BRING LUNCH

Wed. Feb. 28 *Purim Service, Games, Pizza- 6 teens needed: 5:30 pm

****Means you can earn service hours Advisors:** Nanci Soriano H: 654-7677 cell: 222-9626 Lauren Lamont: cell: 988-3727

RSVP to ALL activities **quickly** please even if you can't attend **Dues: 7-8 graders: \$25** (2nd child \$20) **9-12 graders: \$40** (2nd child \$25) *NFTY* on line Registration: www.nfty.org/no/events/

HELP WANTED: CARING COMMITTEE

The Caring Committee was formed to provide a meal(s) to a member in the event of a birth, death or illness. Anyone interested in being on the Caring Committee list or is interested in providing a ride to a Temple function, please contact Carol Gordon at 815-398-4214 or <u>cggor-</u> don50@hotmail.com.

Membership

Do you know of any unaffiliated Jews looking for a congregation? If so, contact Karen Zussman membership chairperson at kzussman@aol.com PLANT A TREE IN ISRAEL Commemorate happy occasions... births, engagements, marriages, anniversaries, graduations or memorialize a loved one. "A tree lives on forever in our sacred land"

Go to www.jnf.org or call 800-542-8733 Most certificates are \$18.00 per tree



The Tree of Life

Remember a loved one or celebrate a wonderful occasion by noting it forever on the Temple Beth-El Tree Of Life in the foyer. Contact the Temple office for details.

The Temple Bulletin goes away to College....

If you have a student heading off to college, we would like to send him or her a copy of the Temple Bulletin. Let them have one more connection to home while they are away. All we need are name and address, and we will do the rest. Give Joyce a call in the office, and add one more piece of mail from home for your student.

Visit the Temple Beth-El Web Site Address...

http://templebethel-rockford.org/.

Check it out!

The Yiddish Corner APIKOYROS apiKOYros

Skeptic

After everything he has been through in his career as a politician, he became an apikoyros.

On the Lighter Side...

Nu Jewish Words

CHUTZPAH n. A father who wakes his wife at 4 a.m. so she can change the baby's diaper.

DISORIENT n. When Aunt Sadie gets lost in a department store and strikes up a conversation with everyone she passes.

DEJA GNU n. Having the feeling you've seen the same exasperated look on your mother's face but not knowing exactly when.

IMPOST n. Someone who eats leavened foods during Passover while maintaining he/ she is observant.

JUDO n. A traditional form of self defense based on talking one's way out of a tight spot.

AFIKOMMENTS n. Adult arguing that occurs as children search for hidden Passover matzo.

ASHKESHNOZZIM n. A nose the shape of Florida and the size of medium potato.

TORAHFIED n. Inability to remember one's lines when called to read from the Torah at one's Bar or Bat mitzvah.

TRAYFFIC ACCIDENT n. An appetizer one finds out has pork in it after one has eaten it.

JEWBILATION n. Pride in finding out that one's favorite celebrity is Jewish.

YENTILITY n. A deceptively sweet manner used to extract information. Key phrases include, "trust me," "your secret is safe with me" and "if you can't tell me, who can you tell?"



February 2018 Religious Services

February 2 Family Shabbat Service	7:30 pm
February 9 Erev Shabbat Service	7:30 pm
February 16 Erev Shabbat Service	7:30 pm
February 23 Bowling Shabbat Service	6:00 pm

Temple Beth–El Leadership			
Rabbi	Binah Wing		
President	Jim Gesmer		
President Elect V.P. Communication Bulletin Publisher Web Maven	Ellen Salley Jay Sklar		
V.P. Community	Karen Zussman		
V.P. Finance Treasurer			
V.P. Ways & Means	Mary Roufa		
V.P. Education			
V.P. Religious Functions V.P. Building & Grounds Jewish Federation Rep Past President	David Quimby Ellen Dietz		

The Temple Beth-El Bulletin is a monthly publication of Temple Beth-El, Rockford, Illinois. Items for the bulletin should be submitted to the Temple office. Typewritten is acceptable, but text format on a computer disk or e-mailed to the publisher, Jay Sklar *jayskl@aol.com*, is preferred.

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