

# TEMPLE BETH-EL



## BULLETIN

January 2018 14 Tevet — 15 Shevat 5778

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.

## Temple Upgrades Wi-Fi

A by-product of our security system is now an upgrade to our Wi-Fi coverage. With the addition of two new access points, Wi-Fi coverage should be good throughout the entire building for phones, laptops and tablets.

If you wish to access the Wi-Fi, look on your Wi-Fi settings for TBERKFD-guest. You can then use the password Templebethel (case sensitive) to access the network.

This added coverage now also provides camera viewing via the Temple iPad from anywhere in the building. If you are a part of a meeting or service, contact our Temple Facilitator, Jay Sklar, concerning how to use this tool to monitor front door and the exterior of our building from anywhere and at anytime.

The iPad is located in the library below the light switches. After any use please return and plug in to recharge.

Chaverim,

Happy secular New Year! The number 18 has great significance in Jewish tradition. The reason for this has to do with gematria, which is a tradition of assigning meaning to Hebrew letters and numbers. In Hebrew, each letter of the *aleph-bet* has a numerical value. The letters that make up the number 18 are a *chet* and a *yud*. The *chet* is the 8<sup>th</sup> letter of the *aleph-bet* and so has the value of 8 and the *yud* is the 10<sup>th</sup> letter and has the value of 10. Added together, of course, this makes 18. When you put the *chet* and *yud* together, you get the word *chai*, which means life, as in the toast, *L'chaim!* To life!



From Rabbi Binah Wing

Jewish people tend to love the number 18. Some Jewish people mark the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of something. Jewish donations are often made in multiples of 18, such as 36, 54, 180, etc. Some Jewish people wear a *chai* necklace around their neck, both as a symbol of their Jewishness but also of the significance of the meaning of life.

Which is why some Jewish folks are really excited about the secular year being 2018. Some people have already been using the hashtag #20CHAI. I have also seen Jewish artwork that puts together the number 20 and a *chai* to indicate the year. It is my hope that this year be a year of good life for all of us. Each year brings with it its own set of challenges and joys. I hope that we can all put special emphasis in the year 2018, 20CHAI, on the living

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and celebration of life as our tradition calls us to do.

Speaking of celebrating life, now is as good a time as any to remind everyone of the winter weather policy that we adopted last year. Here it is:

If there is a Winter Weather WARNING for the time of the event (Shabbat Services, Torah Study, or Religious School), the event will be cancelled. We will continue to send out email notifications as we have always done. In addition, if we can, we will also send out a short phone tree message indicating that the event has been cancelled.

**If there is a Winter Weather WARNING for the time of the event (Shabbat Services, Torah Study, or Religious School), the event will be cancelled.**

Finally, if we are able, we will also change the Temple answering machine message to alert those who may call in. We feel that this is in everyone's best interest. This is better for the city as well, who would prefer that as few people go out as possible.

Please note: This policy is only if there is a Winter Weather WARNING. If there is only a Winter Weather Advisory, we may still make the decision to cancel and we will communicate that accordingly.

Shalom,  
Rabbi Wing



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



David Quimby talked about how the stories in the Torah should be viewed. The traditional view is that every story in the Torah has to be considered a record of events that actually happened. Another approach is that the stories should be understood as symbolism and allegory. A third view is that the Torah should be seen as a teaching guide that we are to apply to our divine service. David's D'Var Torah is on Parshas Mikeitz, the story of Joseph's release from prison. The portion opens with the "and it came to pass at the end of two years." According to Rashi the Hebrew can mean "at the end" as well as "at the beginning." Does the story of Joseph talk about the last two years of his prison sentence or the beginning of the two years it takes for Joseph to rise to power in Egypt? David related this to being able to confront our personal problems by tapping into G-dly energies that help us toward our redemption. He also said that as Jews we are still confronting the problems of living in exile, but as we face challenges we will begin to see our redemption. As we serve G-d, we will be able to overcome injustice.

Jim updated us on the strategic planning. We are looking into finding someone to help us with our fund-raising. On the topic of security, at Friday services the door is locked. The camera on the i-pad works well. It can be used during services to see who is at the door. It is located in the library by the light switches. The man who taped the poster on our door has bonded out but has another court date in front of the Grand Jury in January.

Rabbi has begun planning for the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade retreat. She taught a World Religion class for the Lutheran Church in Byron. Rabbi participated in a video conference about Small Congregations Mentoring Program.

Sharon reported that we have 85 families which includes those families that are new and participating in the free year of membership.

Brina reported that as of November 30th, we have receivables of \$47,125.41. For 85-member units, we have pledges slightly below budget.

Brian reported that the Hanukkah dinner plans are going well. The clean-up crew is hired and people are making latkes. About forty people have signed up for the dinner. There will be a bowling Shabbat on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

David reported that the autumn clean-up was performed by AP Sullivan who will also plow the snow for us. David did many little projects around the Temple including replacing 17 burned out light bulbs. Along with Jordan Towne, the Food-A-Rama closet and classroom were organized. David has contacted Nicor who will send out an energy advisor to see how we can save money and operate the Temple more efficiently. Joyce will be providing them the

*Continue please on page 3*



I hope that everybody enjoyed ringing in 2018. The New Year means that things will start to get busy here at Temple Beth-El. Our biggest fundraisers, the Rummage Sale and Food-A-Rama, will be here

before we know it. The first Food-A-Rama organizational meeting will take place on Wednesday January 17, 2018, at 6:30 P.M.

Please contact Ronit Golan, Sharon Goldsand or Jay Sklar if you are interested in helping out with Food-A-Rama. Making this a successful fundraising event requires a tremendous amount of work. The more people who volunteer to help, the greater the likelihood that we will continue to have successful fundraisers.

On another note, I would like to thank Ronit, members of our Youth Group and several adult members of our congregation for volunteering at the Soup Kitchen on December 24. Ronit and her crew fulfilled our Temple Mission Statement of being a community committed to participating in all aspects of Jewish life, such as Tzedakah.

Finally, even though the temperatures have been frigid during the past few days, I hope to see you at some exciting upcoming events at Temple Beth-El this month. Please join us at a music-filled Shabbat Service or come to the Adult Education event featuring Rabbi Barry Schechter speaking about Jewish humor on January 14, 2018.

*Jim*

## 10 Minutes of Torah

UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM'S  
DEPARTMENT OF LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

The Union will send you a one page e-mail each day on a topic of Jewish Interest. All you need to do is find 10 minutes a day to "do Torah."

Sign up by logging on to  
[WWW.urj.org/Torah/Ten](http://WWW.urj.org/Torah/Ten)

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

last 12 months of energy bills. Nicor offers free products and rebates that we may be able to use. The board voted to repair 2 interior doors and repair, replace or rekey 20 interior locks. All repairs will be funded from the Security Fund. This would allow the classrooms, office, library and basement doors to be closed and locked from the inside.

Carol reported that the Sunday school students had music with Barbara Simon and Mitch Kopnick in which they learned Hanukkah songs. They also made Tzedakah boxes and Hanukkah drip trays with Sandy Simon. They practiced a tornado drill. The annual Hanukkah party will be on Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup>. Winter break will start with the students returning on January 10<sup>th</sup> for Hebrew school and January 14<sup>th</sup> for Sunday school.

GRTY will celebrate Hanukkah on Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> by playing laser tag and going to Shogun. They will share their secret Maccabee gifts. GRTY will be helping at the soup kitchen on December 24<sup>th</sup>. The students were very helpful at the auction. Jim, Mary, and the board are very appreciative of their help.

Karen said we will be starting a school supply drive for the Rock House Kids program during the month of January. She said supplies could be donated or a monetary donation is acceptable. On January 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be a drop-in time at the Temple where you can purchase supplies that have already been bought instead of doing the shopping yourself.

Mary reported that there were 114 people who attended the art auction. The Temple made a profit of \$5,240. The artists are interested in doing this again. The rummage sale will be on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Set up will begin on the 15<sup>th</sup> after Yoga. The Youth Group will be helping set up on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The Temple Passover Seder will be on Saturday March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Jay reported that the dishwasher works. The Wi-Fi is now installed and works well in all parts of the building. To use Wi-Fi as a guest, *Templebethel*. Instructions on how to use the iPad are by the iPad which is in the library on the shelf by the light switches. The Winnebago Sheriff's department used our camera system to catch a person who broke into a house on Mohawk street.

Ellen reported that the 2017 campaign collected \$24,500. The 2018 campaign kick-off was a huge success and \$14,000 was pledged. The Federation book talk will be on January 21<sup>st</sup> at the Temple. The book being discussed is No Room for Small Dreams: Courage, Imagination, and the Making of Modern Israel by Shimon Peres. On Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup>, Rabbi Barry Schechter will talk about Jewish humor, and on Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup>, Jewop will perform. Both programs will be after a 10:00 breakfast.



# SCHOOLE DAZE

200 Words or Less...  
By Goldie & Adrian



Happy New Year! May 2018 bring good health and joy to you and your loved ones! Our year end Chanukah Party was a big success and we all had a great time. We began our morning with a salute to our wonderful OSRUI (Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute) summer camp in Oconomowoc, WI. We watched the newest camp video and thanks to Lilly and Dana Wing we heard about all the fun things to do every day at camp. So parents, if you are interested in a wonderful Jewish experience for your child please give us a call and find out about camperships through Temple, the Federation and OSRUI. Please act quickly since registrations have already begun. Your children should have brought home brochures with details regarding camp sessions, etc.

Thanks to Sandy Simon, the students made wonderful chanukiya drip plates for yearly use. So pretty and useful. And the marshmallow menorahs were very cool! Did they get home uneaten?! Mr. Sklar led bingo and dreidel games followed by a great meal by chef Ronit and her team of volunteers culminating with delicious potato pancakes and suganiyot! Donations were collected for this annual drive (Pancakes for Parkinson's) in memory of dear friend and congregant Sterne Roufa. Over \$400 will be donated to the cause. Thank you everyone!!

In the next week or so you will be receiving your annual book bills for this 2017-18 school year. Please remit your payment as soon as you are able. Thank you very much!

Sunday School will resume on January 14th. Till then, stay warm and Shalom.

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

Shop and a portion of your purchase  
dollar goes to Temple Beth-El.  
[smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2970986](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2970986)

## 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

## It's a.... Car Mitzvah



### 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 December.

The cars, a 2006 Honda Odyssey donated by Mary and Jim Gesmer, sold for \$3200 and a 1997 Nissan Maxima donated by Elaine Valetti, sold for \$2300.

### Mazel Tov

To Nate and Kristin Soriano on the birth of their daughter, Zoey.  
Congratulations to proud grandparents, Nanci and Marc.

## January Oneg Committee

January 5

Colleen and Howard Morris  
Jana and David Ahles

January 12

Lisa and Larry Pearlman  
Jill Shachter

January 19

Mary and Jim Gesmer  
Andrea and Brian Bear

January 26

No oneg

The Temple  
Beth-El  
Family greatly  
appreciates and  
thanks our Oneg  
Hosts for helping  
to make our  
Services  
more meaningful  
and offering an  
opportunity for us  
all to mingle and  
socialize.



Self Defense Hands-on  
Workshop with

**Michael Benjamin**

Sunday, January 28, 2017

10:00 Light breakfast (danish,  
fruit, coffee)

10:30 Program

Michael Benjamin holds  
advanced black belts  
in *Kempo*  
*Karte* and *Quanfa Gongfu*  
and is a Level 5 – Full In-  
structor.



## January Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Adults

Eric Marcus	1/3
Elisa Whitman	1/4
Diana Behr	1/9
Matthew Kopald	1/10
Jordan Towne	1/10
Daniel Cohen	1/14
Jeffrey Lash	1/15
John Holmstrom	1/16
Jonathan Simon	1/17
Alex Bagne	1/18
Benjamin Bear	1/19
Laura Kamin	1/19
Madilyn Reid	1/19
Lisa Kopnick	1/20
Jonathan Rozman	1/20
Rachel Bagne	1/23
Amy Anton	1/25
Lisa Marcus	1/26
David Deutsch	1/26
Joshua Weiss	1/27
Howard Weiss	1/30
Benjamin Ahles	1/30
Connie Paris	1/31
David Simon	1/31

### Children

Charles Pickvance	1/06/06
Adeline Kopald	1/10/14
Anniversaries	
Sandy & Michael Simon	1/12/83



## 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)

### 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 Jan 5**

Joseph Weiner  
Violet Annie Monk  
Maurice Froelich  
George Seidler  
Mikel Frankel  
Morris Kobrin  
David S. Gesmer  
Michael Gary Raffle  
David Merrill Frazin  
Johanna Gustafson  
Robert Adelman  
Abraham Fischer  
Abram Patlove

#### **Read Jan 12**

Frances Skora  
Barbara Pearlman  
Alex Lazarus  
Elbert Bagus  
Phyllis Slobard  
Amy Susan Raskin  
Bob Goldman  
Albert Tobias

#### **Read Jan 19**

Gussie Slavinsky  
Morton Einhorn  
Fred Rick  
Lenore I. Shanhouse  
Lillian C. Busch  
Dorothy Zenoff  
William Shanhouse  
Bernard Cohen  
Julius Zweig

#### **Read Jan 26**

Leon Gross  
Sidney Rettig  
Harry Feinstein  
Abraham Shussin  
Louis Sanders  
Martin Toder  
Jean Toder  
Louis Levy  
Herman Saruk  
Arnold Powell  
Harold Fusch  
Clara Cohen  
Zweig  
Michael A. Dermer



### 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.



#### **CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR FUNDS**

##### **Benjamin Schaider Building Fund**

In memory of Isador Behr  
-Joan Davis

In honor of the marriage of Jess and Robert Lirtzman  
Speedy recovery to Laura Kamin  
-Barbara and John Holmstrom

##### **Cy Sachs**

In memory of Arthur Zussman  
-Zussman Family

##### **Garten Fund**

Mazel tov to the Soriano family on the birth of their granddaughter, Zoey  
In memory of Cami Shultz  
Congratulations to the Ronit and Roni Golan and Julie and Greg Sparks for their special honor from the Jewish Federation  
-Adrian and Jerry Grubb

##### **Landscaping Fund**

Congratulations to Ronit and Roni Golan on Maya's marriage  
Congratulations to Nanci and Marc Soriano on the birth of their granddaughter  
Speedy recovery to Fred Dietz  
-Milly Kaplan

Congratulations to Barb and Steven Lirtzman on the marriage of their son, Robert  
Congratulations to Ronit and Roni Golan on Maya's marriage  
Congratulations to Nanci and Marc Soriano on the birth of their granddaughter  
-Faye Marcus

#### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

Congratulations to the Ronit and Roni Golan and Julie and Greg Sparks for their special honor from the Jewish Federation  
-Lisa and Larry Pearlman

#### **Unrestricted Donations**

In honor of Kathy and Arthur Rettig  
-Max, Morgan, Rebecca, Adam and children

In memory of Ruth Oberndorf  
-Robert Finkel

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.

**Unrestricted donations** allow, at the discretion of the board, the opportunity to fund or partially fund a worthwhile project that we have not budgeted for or does not fit any of our existing funds.

**The Robert and Joel Garten Youth and Scholarship Fund** is to provide camperships for religious school students. This fund is administered by the Education Committee and the Rabbi.

**Hannah & Herbert Saal Fund** provides funds for the betterment of Temple Beth-El.

# Rabbi Barry Schechter

## Topic: Jewish Humor

**Sunday, January 14, 2018**  
**Temple Beth-El, 1203 Comanche Dr.**  
**10:00 Breakfast / 10:30 Program**



**There is no charge to attend and everyone is welcome**  
**Please RSVP to Joyce at 815-398-5020 or reply to this email**

### Sponsored by Temple Beth-El Adult Education Committee

Rabbi Barry Schechter was born in London, England. Following Yeshiva studies at Etz Chaim in London and Gateshead Talmudical Academy he was ordained as a Rabbi. He has master's degrees in economics from Cambridge University and Essex University in England and did graduate work at Northwestern University. Serving Congregation Kol Emeth since 1981, first as Cantor and then Rabbi

Rabbi Schechter has also become well-known for his programs on Jewish humor. These have been given at synagogues in the Chicago area, Milwaukee and New York, as well as Hadassah groups, YIVO, public libraries, the Universities of Chicago, Hartford, Reading (England) and the Jewish organization Gesher in Berlin. His popular Cable TV series Yiddish and Laughter won a Telly Award in 1999.

He has also lectured on the History of Eastern European Jews, Yiddish Language and Dialects, Austrian and German Jewish Refugees in Britain, the Holocaust, and other subjects of Jewish interest.

Rabbi Schechter speaks Yiddish, German, Hebrew, Polish, Russian and French, and has published articles in scholarly journals, as well as in the National Jewish Post and Opinion and the Washington Post. He has lectured on Beliefs and Practices of Judaism to Catholics.

### Memorial and Tribute Donation Form



#### From:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

#### For: (check one and fill in names as appropriate)

☐ In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Speedy Recovery to: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Congratulations to: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**To:** Send the acknowledging card : ☐ Same as from,  
 or: Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Donation:

☐ Triple chai (\$54)

☐ Double chai (\$36)

☐ Chai (\$18) ☐ \$10

☐ \$4 (Min.)

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Fund:

☐ Garten ☐ Powell ☐

Lazarus ☐ Dermer ☐ Building ☐

Woodruff ☐ Rabbi's Discretionary

☐ Pap ☐ Kupperman ☐

Landscaping ☐ Gifts&Flowers

☐ Sachs ☐ Liebovich Fund

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_



## GRTY NEWS

Submitted by:  
Ben Kopnick  
Co-President

Shalom Temple Beth-El Congregation,  
I hope everyone is having a relaxing holiday season and spending quality time with loved ones. In the past month of December, GRTY

had our annual Hanukkah party to celebrate the holidays and thank our members for five months of participation. At this holiday party, our teens started with two games of laser tag to work up a sweat and an appetite. The admission to the celebration was packages of underwear to donate to our community service project, Project Under-share. After the exhilarating games our teens went next door to Shogun, the Japanese Steak-house, for a nice dinner. Over the entertainment of the cooks and delicious Hibachi dinners, our teens celebrated the 7th night of Hanukkah together. After the meal had concluded, the night was capped

off by our Secret Macabee gift exchange. Our teens had an incredible night out celebrating one of their favorite holidays. We here at GRTY would like to wish the congregation an incredible New Year for 2018, and we hope to continue the spirit of charity and leadership from this calendar year unto the next.

Sincerely,  
Co-President Ben Kopnick





*They're baaack...*

# Jewop



**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**

Pick up address:  
Temple Beth-El, 1203 Comanche Drive

# LOX BOX 2018



Order your LOX BOX TODAY!!!  
The deadline to order is January 20th...don't miss out!

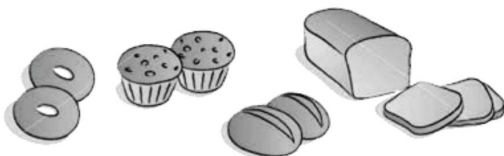
Each Lox Box Includes:

- \*One half pound Vita® Wild Nova Salmon
- \*Half dozen fresh bagels from New York Bagels & Bialys
- \*One 8oz. package of cream cheese
- \*One large ripe tomato
- \*One large onion
- \*One Entenmann's dessert
- \*Maybe a surprise or two!

Order today...Pick up between 10:00-noon on **Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

## BAKE SALE!

Delectable homemade items will be available for purchase at pick-up.



## RAFFLE BASKETS!

Football Basket for the Ultimate Football Experience or Football Widow's Basket for the Ultimate Pampering Experience



Questions? Call Ronit Golan

815-222-4259 or e-mail [pitagolan@yahoo.com](mailto:pitagolan@yahoo.com)

## Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ Lox Box(es) at \$25.00 each.

And \_\_\_\_\_ extra Lox at \$10.00 each.

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ raffle tickets at \$2.00 each or 3/\$5.00

No thank you, but here is my donation to the Jewish Federation

(Pick up your tickets when you pick up your Lox Box.)

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery available  
in Rockford for a  
\$5.00 charge

Please make check payable to the Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford.  
Mail to Ronit Golan: 1457 Country Farm Rd. Rockford, IL 61107

***TBE SOCIAL ACTION ON THE MOVE...***

# NEW YEAR'S SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

**PLEASE DONATE**

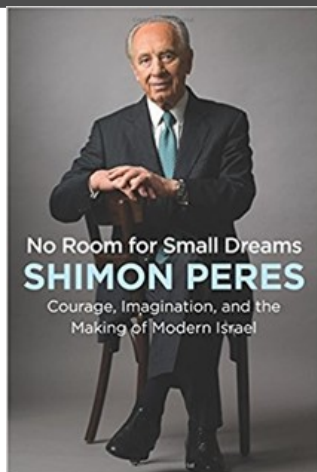
Items will be donated to a local outreach center called **ROCK HOUSE KIDS**

There will be a box set up in the entry foyer for collections during the **month of January**. Some items that are always needed are: pencils, pens, spiral notebooks, notebook paper, solid colored folders, crayons, markers, etc. Monetary donations are always welcome (please leave in the office, with checks made out to Temple Beth-El).

Any questions, please contact Faye Marcus: [fe.marcus@att.net](mailto:fe.marcus@att.net) or 815-877-4285.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Temple Beth-El will make it easier for you to make a donation!! Stop by Temple Beth-El on **January 21<sup>st</sup>** from 10am-12pm. You can purchase a “ready made bag of school supplies” that will then be donated to Rock House Kids. No need to stop at a store! Just come on by and make your donation for this worthy cause!





**Jewish Federation Book Discussion  
January 21, 2018, 2:00 at Temple  
No Room for Small Dreams: Courage,  
Imagination, and the Making of Modern Israel**

**By Shimon Peres  
Pages 240 ISBN-13:  
978-0062561442**

**Shimon Peres** was one of Israel's founding fathers and for more than six decades was an architect of its ascent from a fragile state to a global power. In 1994, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his extraordinary efforts to forge peace between Israel and the Palestinians. In 1996, he founded the groundbreaking Peres Center for Peace and Innovation to focus on developing and implementing imaginative peace building programs around the world. Peres died in September, 2016, shortly after finishing his work on this book. He was ninety-three years old.

*No Room for Small Dreams* is a must read for anyone who is interested in the history of Israel. Peres's autobiography details his experiences, and importantly gives a first hand account of the history of Israel. This is truly a phenomenal book written by someone who lived the experience.

Please read, but even if you do not finish it, come to the discussion. The date is January 21, 2018, 2:00 at TBE.

The study questions to think about while reading the book:

1. What were the major events in his life that formed who he is?
2. What was Peres' role in the early days of Israel?
3. How was Israel able to defend herself in light of the numbers out to destroy her?
4. How was Peres able to develop the idea of nuclear deterrence?
5. What was the promise that Peres made to his grandfather and how did that affect his actions?
6. What happened at Entebbe?
7. What does the title mean?

## LOX BOX HELP NEEDED

### IN NEED OF LOX BOX ASSEMBLERS

**Saturday, Feb. 3, 6:00 pm at Temple**  
**Contact Carol Gordon if you can help**

[cggordon50@hotmail.com](mailto:cggordon50@hotmail.com)

815-398-4214



### Bakers Needed!

**We will be having a Lox Box bake sale. The money raised will support the work of the Jewish Federation.**

**Please contact Rabbi Wing if you can bake for the sale**

**815-670-1916 or 815-398-5020**  
**[binahw@earthlink.net](mailto:binahw@earthlink.net)**



# Mindy Joy

## PHOTOGRAPHY

PORTRAITURE EVENT COMMERCIAL

Providing photographic coverage in Rockford and the surrounding areas.



Mindy Joy Young  
Call me: 815.985.4005

**Look up info & Pricing**  
[mindyjoyphotography.com](http://mindyjoyphotography.com)



**Inquire about dates  
& reservations**  
[mindy@mindyjoyphotography.com](mailto:mindy@mindyjoyphotography.com)

Friends of Temple Beth-El

## It's a.... Car Mitzvah



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

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

Please contact the new manager at 815-962-7914, and he will insure that Temple is properly rewarded. If you have any questions, please call Jerry at 815-222-6016.  
Thank you for your support.

### Huge Selection of Stunning Wedding Invitations



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1028 East Riverside Blvd Loves Park, IL  
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[brianthomasphotography.com](http://brianthomasphotography.com)

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CELL: 1.815.222.6076  
FAX: 1.815.282.2268  
E-FAX: 1.815.231.8414  
EMAIL: [cparis@GoGambino.com](mailto:cparis@GoGambino.com)



**Connie Paris**  
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## BRING ON THE BOOKS!

For the past eight years, the TBE Book Sale committee has been accepting your used and/or new books for listing online or for the Rummage Sale. To date **we have raised over \$21,000!**

We accept your donations throughout the year. There is a bin in the classroom hallway (to the right of the gift shop) for you to place your donations.

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# Coming Attractions

## February 2018

Sun. 4th Lox Box  
Fri-Sun. 9-11 OSRUI 5/6 Grade  
Retreat  
Sun. 18th Jewop  
Wed. 28th Purim Service

## March 2018

Sun. 4 Purim games  
Sun. 18th Chocolate Seder  
Sun. 21st Purim  
Thur.- Sun. 22 -25 Rummage  
Sale

## April 2018

Sun. 8th Holocaust Remembrance  
Sun. 15th Good Deeds Day

## May 2018

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

## June 2018

## July 2018

## August 2018

Sat. 18th Lilly Wing Bat Mitzvah

## September 2018

## October 2018

## November 2018

## December 2018

## January 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

### **Jan.21 Movie Day:**

Temple lower level  
**BRING LUNCH 12-2:00 pm**

**Exec. Board Meeting:**  
**2:00-2:30 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> child \$20)  
9-12 graders: \$40 (2<sup>nd</sup> child \$25)  
**NFTY** on line Registration:  
[www.nfty.org/no/events/](http://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 [cggor-don50@hotmail.com](mailto:cggor-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](mailto: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](http://www.jnf.org) or  
call 800-542-8733  
Most certificates are \$18.00 per tree

**Torah**  
Study Group  
Saturday Morning 10:00 AM

## 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**

**EIGENE SONIM**  
*AYgehneh SOHnihm*

our own enimies

Under his breath you could hear him say "Eigene sonim." With friends like that, who needs enemies?

On **the Lighter Side...**

**Jewish Mother**

What do Jewish mothers and 60 Minutes have in common?

They both begin with tsk-~~tsk~~-tsk-~~tsk~~

I'll Take The Dog.....

What's the difference between a Jewish Mother and a Rottweiler?

Eventually the Rottweiler lets go...

Nothing Makes Her Happy!

A Jewish mother is worrying day in and day out about her poor son, far away in a college: "Oy vey, will he ever find a nice girl,... will he have enough to eat,...will he be cold at night?" While worrying she decides to, at least, buy and send him two warm flannel shirts. A couple of months later he travels back to New York and sees his mother. After many hours on a bus he arrives Erev-Shabbat at her door and thinks: "Wait, maybe I should wear one of the shirts she sent me! Surely this makes her happy!" He puts on the shirt, rings the door bell and his mother opens: "Jankel!" "Mammele!" "Jankel, I am sooooo happy to see you! And you even wear one of the shirts I sent you!" "But tell me one thing: You didn't like the other shirt?!?!"

Q: "How many Jewish Mothers does it take to change light-bulb?"

A: None: "It's okay, I will sit here in the dark..."



**January 2018  
Religious Services**

**January 5**

Family Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

**January 12**

Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

**January 19**

Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

**January 26**

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 pm

**Temple Beth-El Leadership**

<b>Rabbi</b> .....	Binah Wing
<b>President</b> .....	Jim Gesmer
<b>President Elect</b> .....	Robert Levy
<b>V.P. Communication</b> .....	Ellen Salley
<b>Bulletin Publisher</b> .....	Jay Sklar
<b>Web Maven</b> .....	Harvey Melamed
<b>V.P. Community</b> .....	Karen Zussman
<b>V.P. Finance</b> .....	Brina Grigg
<b>Treasurer</b> .....	Sharon Goldsand
<b>V.P. Ways &amp; Means</b> .....	Mary Roufa
<b>V.P. Education</b> .....	Carol Gordon
<b>School Principals</b> .....	Goldie Pekarsky & Adrian Grubb
<b>V.P. Religious Functions</b> .....	Brian Shore
<b>V.P. Building &amp; Grounds</b> .....	David Quimby
<b>Jewish Federation Rep.</b> .....	Ellen Dietz
<b>Past President</b> .....	Jay Sklar

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](mailto:jayskl@aol.com), is preferred.