

TEMPLE BETH-EL



BULLETIN

January 2017 3 Tevet - 4 Shevat 5777

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.

Moving Forward

The Board of Directors of Temple Beth-El will hold a board retreat on January 8th to review the congregational surveys and coffee meetings. Over sixty members provided input that has been compiled.

Under the guidance of Laurence Pearlman, a strategic plan is being created that will serve the Temple long into the future, helping to maintain a strong Judaic presence in this region and to remain financially stable.

How do we best utilize the space we have?
How do we create new revenue streams?
What more can we offer our congregants?
How do we look for new congregants? How do we best interact with the community at large? These and many other questions will be part of a four-plus hour workshop and discussion.

The board is grateful to Laurence for lending his expertise and professional skills to the creation and coordination of this Strategic Plan program and chairing the Board retreat.

It is expected that the final report will be released in the near future.

Chaverim,

Imagine this scene:
It's snowing rather heavily.

There are weather warnings that have been issued. I call Milly Kaplan from my front hallway to discuss the weather.

"What does it look like by you? Have you been out? What are the roads like?"

Milly tells me that Faye Marcus has been out in it (nothing keeps Faye inside!) and she thinks it's

not too bad. "Well, let's wait a while and see. I'll call you in an hour." And this may go on for two or three calls. This, my friends, has been the "scientific" way that decisions have been made about whether to have worship services and Torah Study during snowy weather. The only difference when it's Religious School is that the person on the other end of the phone is Goldie Pekarsky.

Consider this also: It seems that in the Jewish world, among rabbis and others, there is a bit of bravado about weather and cancelling anything because of snow. "We never ever cancel. Ever." some of my colleagues have written. As if, somehow, there are extra mitzvah points for trudging out to Temple in any kind of weather. To be honest, I think that part of me is that kind of rabbi. I have generally been reluctant to cancel services, even in the worst of snow-storms. There is a sense, I think, that because we live in the Midwest, nothing should keep us from getting out.

But let's look at things with more sensible eyes. Since we don't have a financial offering of any kind, we don't suffer financially by cancelling, as some of our Christian neighbors might. More importantly, why would we want to encourage people to get out on the roads and risk their safety, and the safety of others just to attend worship? Now, I love services probably more than most, but it doesn't make sense to risk our safety to



From Rabbi Binah Wing

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attend. Even if we live in the Midwest. One time, I insisted on having services during a bad snow-storm and someone came because they were worried no one else would come and they didn't want me to be alone! This was, of course, very dear of them, but it was a bit of a wake-up call, as well.

So, in order to make decision-making a little easier and for everyone's safety and well-being, the Religious Functions Committee has made a new policy for winter weather. 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. Finally, if we are able, we will also change the Temple answering machine message to alert those who might call in. We feel that this is in everyone's best interest. I believe that it is better for the city as well. Those in charge 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, but we'll revert to our former methods for deciding!

On a very different note, 2016 was a tumultuous year. I pray that 2017 be a year of rededication to compassion, love, justice and peace for every one of us.

Shalom,
Rabbi Wing

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



The Temple Board met on December 14th. Karen Zussman led the D'Var Torah. Her portion was on Vayishlach. There are five parts, but Karen discussed the part where Jacob struggles with the spirits that come to him at night. He believed one of the spirits was Esau's angel since he had tricked him and lied to their father. Karen stated that we all struggle with who we are and the things we have done. She also spoke about the part where Dinah was raped. She then provided abuse resources locally.

Jim reported that the strategic planning sessions are done, and the board will be meeting on January 8th to discuss the results. The board then discussed moving the Federation to the Temple. After talking about some concerns, the board approved a motion to move the Federation to the Temple. Jim announced that Jerry Paris will head the Rabbinic evaluation committee.

Rabbi reported that she met along with other clergy, Tom McNamara, a candidate for mayor. She attended a Transform Rockford meeting and an Interfaith prayer breakfast meeting. She attended the ribbon-cutting at the Rockford airport and said the hangars were huge. She met the CEO, who happens to be Jewish, and invited him to our Temple. She is continuing the planning of the 5th/6th grade retreat. Due to taking care of her mother, she may be in and out of the Temple a little more.

Sharon gave the treasurer's report and said there was nothing unusual to discuss. The board decided to pay the full amount for the back drive from the Schaider Building Fund. Joyce's computer is up and running. This is making her job much easier and less frustrating. The board looked over the 5-year plan that Sharon brought from the Finance Committee. Brina reported that at this time we have 87 members with 44 members paid in full. Rob reported that November was a good month. The Toback legacy will go into the Foundation.

On Friday December 30th, the services will start at 6:00 with a Hanukkah Oneg. Ronit will be making latkes and doughnuts. Friday, February 24th will be bowling Shabbat with services starting at 6:00 and then bowling at Don Carter lanes. Purim services will be held during Sunday school on March 12th. The Temple Passover Seder will be on Tuesday, April 11th. Andrea reported that the Religious Functions committee decided that if there is a Winter Storm Warning in effect at the time of services, the services will be canceled.

Food-A-Rama

at Temple Beth-El



Kick-Off
Meeting
Wed.
January 18th
6:30 PM



By the time you read this, we will be in January 2017. In my December article, I reported that the rear parking lot near the kitchen had finally been repaired. Unfortunately,

the money used to repair the parking lot took a rather large amount from the Benjamin Schaider Building Fund. That fund is used for unexpected and major repairs or enhancements to Temple Beth-El. As everyone is aware, any time you have to replace a major piece of equipment or perform large repairs, the costs are very large. Our Building Fund has, in the recent past, had to replace our failing kitchen refrigerator and freezer, repair the dangerous condition in the back from the garbage trucks, boiler issues etc. This is important money for us. This fund has fallen below \$12,000 for the first time in many years.

On behalf of my family, I wish the entire congregation a very healthy and happy 2017.

As we begin 2017, I am urging all Temple members to consider making a donation to the Building Fund or one or more of our funds, such as the Garten Youth and Scholarship Fund, which provides camperships for our Religious School students, the Sheldon Liebovich Fund for families in crises and the Landscaping Fund. These funds are always in need of support, and I am urging all of us to increase their coffers.

On another note, I am pleased to report that your Board of Directors is going to have a Strategic Plan Retreat on Sunday, January 8, 2017, under the leadership of Larry Pearlman. We expect to formulate a strategic plan for going forward and present it to the entire congregation in the very near future. This strategic plan will insure the viability and strength of our Temple with options, regardless of our membership size and future varied unknown conditions. We are excited to be embarking on this planning process.

On behalf of my family, I wish the entire congregation a very healthy and happy 2017.

Jim

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

Jordan reported that the parking lot is now fixed and should last a long time.

The Sunday school students had no school on December 11th because of the weather. They will be on break from December 18th until January 15th. GRTY listened to Amy Heilman and Rockford refugee student, Zara. They learned more about their service project, which is to support the Rockford Refugee Program sponsored by Rock Valley College. They celebrated Hanukkah by going to Laser Quest and Shogun for dinner. They will be going bowling in January.

Karen reported that the Temple donated \$100 to the Federation for the fires in Israel. This month, the Temple will help support the Motherhouse Crisis Nursery, which was damaged due to a water pipe break. In January and February, the Temple will be collecting school supplies for the second semester to help Ellis School. The next social event will be held at the Zussman home on January 21st. It will be a game night with pizza for dinner.

Mary will be holding a kick-off meeting for the Rummage Sale on January 18th. The rummage sale will be on April 6th, 7th and 9th.

Ellen Dietz reported that the Federation campaign has collected \$10,300 out of \$15,200 pledged. The annual Federation meeting will now be held on January 15th, breakfast at 10:00 and the meeting to follow. The Federation book talk on The Boston Girl will be held on January 22nd at the Temple at 2:00. The Federation will be moving into the Temple. The Synagogue will hold a Hanukkah celebration at the Geller home on December 17th with cookie-baking at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30. Rabbi Fertig will lead Shabbat services at 9:30 Saturday morning. This summer, the Federation will be decorating a house, along with five other organizations at Midway Village. The houses will be open to the public starting July 13th. The theme for the houses is the 1920's.

The board voted to make Jay Sklar a part-time employee of the Temple, to continue his work as the facilitator.

The board wishes Amy Towne luck in her pursuit to become the county clerk of Rockton.

SCHOOL DAZE

200 Words or Less...

By Goldie & Adrian



What a great celebration we had on the last session of school before winter break! We got to preview the newest OSRUI camp video and discuss highlights of the camp experience. Brochures were sent home so everyone can find out about camp sessions available for summer 2017. If you are interested in providing this wonderful Jewish experience for your child, please contact Goldie regarding camperships available through Temple and the Federation.

The students created beautiful Chanukah menorahs for their art project. We hope you enjoyed seeing the fruits of their labor! Thank you, Sandy Simon for leading this special project.

Thank you, David Sklar for leading Chanukah bingo, an annual favorite! The students always enjoy vying for the most winning games and lollipops!

The morning is not complete until we participate in "pancakes for Parkinson's," which is our annual fundraising event for Parkinson's disease in memory of our long-standing Temple member Sterne Roufa. Our religious school expert chef, Ronit, graciously puts on a feast with potato latkes, toppings, salad, hot dogs and Israeli doughnuts, along with other donated sweets as well. Thank you, Ronit! Thanks also to all who helped this year: Amy and Jordan Towne; Andrea Levey; Andrea Baird; Amy Anton; Faye Marcus and Mary Roufa.

Have an enjoyable winter break and a fun Chanukah with your loved ones. We hope you usher in 2017 with health and happiness! See you back at Sunday School on January 15.

Till then, Shalom.

OSRUI for the Summer of 2017. ..

If you are interested in providing this wonderful Jewish experience for your child, please contact Goldie regarding camperships available through Temple and the Federation.

Social Action on the Go...

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Second semester of the school year is right around the corner!

Students have already used up a good deal of school supplies from the start of the year.



The Social Action Committee of Temple Beth-El would like to help *Ellis Elementary School* replenish these supplies.

Please consider donating some new school supplies to this worthy cause. There will be a box set up in the entry foyer for collections.

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).

Let's help our children in the community have a successful learning experience by being able to use some new school supplies this winter!

Any questions, please contact Faye Marcus: fe.marcus@att.net or 815-877-4285.

January Birthdays & Anniversaries



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 6

Mikel Frankel
Morris Kobrin
Frances Skora
Michael Gary Raffle
David Merrill Frazin
Johanna Gustafson
Robert Adelman
Abraham Fischer
Abram Patlove

Read Jan 13

David S. Gesmer
Aron Kleinberg
Alex Lazarus
Elbert Bagus
Amy Susan Raskin
Bob Goldman
Albert Tobias
Gussie Slavinsky

Read Jan 20

Morton Einhorn
Fred Rick
Lenore I. Shanhouse
Lillian C. Busch
Barbara Pearlman
Dorothy Zenoff
William Shanhouse
Bernard Cohen
Julius Zweig
Harry Feinstein

Read Jan 27

Phyllis Slobard
Abraham Shussin
Louis Sanders
Martin Toder
Jean Toder
Louis Levy
Herman Saruk
Arnold Powell
Harold Fusch
Clara Cohen Zweig
Michael A. Dermer
Betty Hertz



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

Building Fund

In memory of Arthur Zussman
-Marc and Karen Zussman and family

Landscaping Fund

In honor of Joe Gesmer becoming a Bar Mitzvah
In honor of Jay and Louise Gesmer being honored by the Jewish Federation
-Milly Kaplan

In memory of Evalyn Schaap
Judy and Chuck Picus

Lazarus Fund

In memory of Jan Lazarus
-Sandy Lazarus Keller and family

Unrestricted Donations

In memory of Ruth Oberndorf
-Robert Finkel

CONDOLENCES TO:

The family of Evalyn Schaap
On her passing
&
The family of Mike Kullens
On his passing

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.

Landscaping Fund provides funding for enhancements to our grounds.

The Michael Dermer Religious School Fund was established for the purpose of raising money to support religious school activities. This fund is used to provide enrichment programs, scholarships and youth activities.

Thank you for your past support, and thank you for your continued support to Temple Beth-El.

GRTY NEWS

Submitted by:
GRTY ADVISOR
Lauren Lamont

The GRTY Laser Quest/Shogun Hanukkah party and gift exchange took place on Sunday, December 4th and everyone had a fun time.

The teens each brought a personal hygiene and/or winter clothing item to donate to the Rockford Refugee

Program and GRTY was able to get these items to the refugees right away. On December 25th many GRTYites will volunteer at the Soup Kitchen. Our upcoming events in January include Bowling and the annual Lock-In.



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: _____

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

Lox Box 2017



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
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- *One large ripe tomato
- *One large onion
- *One Entenmann's dessert
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Order today...Pick up between 10:00-noon on Sunday, February 5th, 2017

BAKE SALE!

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



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Order Form

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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 \$ _____

Please make check payable to the Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford.
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Delivery available
in Rockford for a
\$5.00 charge



TEMPLE BETH-EL MINUTE WITH A MEMBER

Dear TBE Friends:

This "Minute with a Member" features Sharon and Warren Goldsand. We hope you will enjoy getting to know them a little better!

-Tell a little about yourself and family: We have 2 adult children and four grandchildren ranging in age from 8 years to 20 years old. We are both retired professionals in business (Sharon) and education (Warren). We came to the area in 2002 after Warren retired.

Warren currently serves on the Religious Functions Committee, chairs the Adult Education Committee, serves as Treasurer of the Rockford Hebrew Cemetery and serves as Vice President of Landscaping and Grounds for the Westlake Townhome Association. Previously, Warren served on the Temple Beth-El Foundation Board. He started the first Sun City Huntley band. Warren taught school band for 34 years and holds a Masters Degree in Music Education.

Sharon currently serves as Treasurer on the Temple Beth-El Board and Co-Chair of Neighborhood Watch in Westlake. Previously, Sharon served as Vice President of Finance for Temple Beth-El, Liaison to the Federation for Temple Beth-El, Co-Chair of Food-A-Rama, Treasurer of the Rockford Chapter of Hadassah and Co-Chair of Lox Box. Sharon holds a Masters Degree in Business and is a retired CPA working mainly in Payroll Management for several organizations.

-Something people would be surprised to learn about you/us: Over our 46 year marriage we have owned eight homes and seven dogs.

-A memorable moment at TBE: The first Friday night service we attended in July, 2002 was Rabbi Wing's first service.

-Favorite Judaic holiday or food:

Passover is our favorite holiday, and our favorite Passover foods are: Passover Pizza, Chocolate Covered Farfel, Matzo "Pretzels" with chocolate and peanut butter and Chicken Soup with Matzo Balls. Recipes available upon request.



-Your motto in life: - Get it done today; you don't know what tomorrow will bring.

-What is the biggest challenge you have ever faced? – Warren's open heart surgery in December of 2008.

-What is the best advice you have ever received?
Warren – Expand your teaching credentials with as many certifications as possible.
Sharon – You can't worry about being employed, but make sure you are employable by having relevant education and certifications.

-If you could witness any event past, present or future, what would it be?

Warren – When we make first contact with visitors from another planet.

Sharon – When we elect the first woman president of the United States.

-What was your first job?

Warren – Usher at the State and Lake Theater in downtown Chicago.

Sharon – Administrator for the Youth Employment Service in Livonia, Michigan, securing jobs for other teens.

Please join us for a Temple Beth-El Social Event...
An enjoyable evening of food, conversation and games!!....



**PIZZA AND GAME NIGHT
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2017
6:30-10:00 P.M.
THE HOME OF
KAREN AND MARC ZUSSMAN
2922 APPLEWOOD LANE
ROCKFORD**

PIZZA and drinks will be served.

A few board games will be set out to play, or bring a game to share if you wish.
...Don't feel like playing a game, that's fine too, come and visit!

NO CHARGE other than your company and an appetizer or dessert to pass.

**RSVP TO KAREN ZUSSMAN BY JANUARY 15, 2017,
AT KZUSSMAN@AOL.COM, 815.282.9058,
OR TO THE TEMPLE BETH-EL OFFICE, 815.398.5020**

Did you know...

Q: Some have asked recently, why would a Jewish person be buried in a simple pine casket?

A: This is in keeping with Jewish tradition for a few reasons. Jewish tradition values simplicity in funerals and emphasizes that every person, rich or poor, is equal in death. Having everyone buried in a simple way, upholds that idea. In addition, Jewish tradition maintains that the body should return to the earth as quickly and as naturally as possible. Thus, a kosher casket is made entirely of wood, including wooden dowels instead of nails or metal hinges. In Israel, sometimes a body is placed in the ground with nothing but a shroud covering them or a casket with no bottom so that the body rests directly on the earth. That being said, it is possible to have a more lavish, but still kosher casket made of elaborate woods, but a simple pine casket is most in line with Jewish tradition.

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Back kitchen area is rock solid.

by Jay Sklar

When the black top was originally done in the area behind the kitchen entrance, it was done the way most lots are done, a base of crushed stone topped by standard thickness blacktop. What we didn't know back in the 60's was that eventually mega-ton garbage trucks would be putting pressure on that pavement as they parked and lifted incredibly heavy trash bins and banged them several times to make sure they were empty. Over the years, we developed huge canyons, making the area dangerous to walk in and drive-in. Water in the cracks was deteriorating the blacktop rapidly, even away from the craters.

Ben Holmstrom and his team at William Charles Construction took a look at our problem, and we discussed what we needed to do to correct the problem and also to help make it last a maximum amount of time.

The old blacktop was completely torn out and a new heavier base of rock, stone and blacktop was put down. In the area where the truck pressure is on the drive, large crushed rock was trenched deeply to withstand the weight of the trucks. Water is also a problem for blacktop. We have a drain by the kitchen that comes off the roof and directly onto the blacktop. William Charles Construction ran the drainage under the blacktop and out to the grass for us, which should add added life to our drive.

A handicap ramp / kitchen ramp was also built as well. Many thanks to Ben and his crew for doing this work for us. Even with their financial help, this isn't an inexpensive project. Anyone wishing to help, can donate to the Temple Beth-El Building Fund are greatly appreciated.

Heavy commercial grade crushed rock trenched in the area the trucks stop.

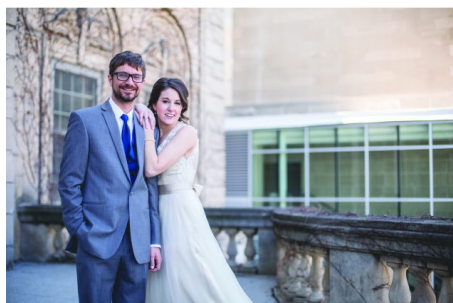
Crushed rock to support the heavy trucks and underground drainage hose from the Temple to the grass.



Mindy Joy PHOTOGRAPHY

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Friends of Temple Beth-El

It's a.... Car Mitzvah



Our car mitzvah donation program has earned over \$40,000 in the last 8 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
\$40,000.
in the last 8 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.

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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 \$18,000!**

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 2017

Sun, 5th Lox Box

March 2017

Sun. 12th Purim Service and Federation Party

April 2017

Sun. 2nd Good Deeds Day

Thur. 6th-7, 9th Rummage Sale

Sun. 23rd Holocaust Remembrance

Sun. 30th Israel Day

May 2017

Wed. 17th Food-A-Rama

Sat. 27th Madeline Towne Bat Mitzvah

June 2017

July 2017

August 2017

Sun. 27th Ethnic Festival and Parade

September 2017

October 2017

Sat. 21st Ella Holmstrom Bat Mitzvah

Sun. 29th Adult Ed: Ben Hecht Play

November 2017

Sun. 12th Federation Kick Off

December 2017

January 2018

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.

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

GRTY 2016-2017 Calendar

Jan. 8 Exec. Board Meeting: 11:00 -noon
Bowling—Forest Hill Lanes:
7742 Forest Hills Rd., Loves Park
noon-2:00

Sat. Jan. 21 **Lock In / Game Night/ Pot Luck:** at Soriano's 6-10 pm
7-8 grades. H.S. teens may stay until 9:30 am on Sun

***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

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 cggordon50@hotmail.com.

Membership

Do you know of any unaffiliated Jews looking for a congregation?
If so, contact Elisa Whitman, membership chairperson at 815-988-2134

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"

Call Carol Gordon
398-4214
or email requests to:
cggordon50@hotmail.com
Effective April 1, 2013 the price will be
~~\$18.00~~
sponsored by
Sponsored by Jewish Federation of Rockford

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
New Web Site Address...

<http://templebethel-rockford.org/>.

Check it out!

**The
Yiddish
Corner**

**MIT SHNAI KEN MEN
NIT MACHEN
GEMOLKES**

*(mitt SHNAY ken men nit MAKHen
geMOLEkiss)*

The saying....
You can't make cheesecake out of snow.

On **the Lighter Side...**

A Good Wife

Sam is enjoying his 80th birthday party with family and friends. Even Rabbi Landau is present. Sam is so happy that he decides now is the time to let out his secret and to everybody's surprise, announces his forthcoming marriage to 50-year-old Hetty.

Everyone comes up to wish them mazel tov — and to exchange all the old jokes "Sam, where will you both live?" "We'll be looking for a house near a school."

Later, Rabbi Landau takes Sam aside and says, "Don't be offended, but I must ask you a few questions. Do you really love Hetty?" "To tell you the truth, Rabbi, I'm not sure," Sam replies. "Well, is she a good cook? Is her chicken soup special?" asks Rabbi Landau. "I'm not sure, I've never seen her in the kitchen, Rabbi," Sam replies. "Is Hetty rich?" he asks. "I'm not sure about her finances, we've never discussed money," replies Sam.

"But if you don't know whether you love her, if you're not sure whether she's a good cook, and if you don't know whether she's rich, why on earth do you want to marry her?" asks Rabbi Landau.

"She can drive at night,"
replies Sam.



**January 2017
Religious Services**

January 6
Family Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

January 13
Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

January 20
Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

January 27
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 pm

Temple Beth-El Leadership

Rabbi	Binah Wing
President	Jim Gesmer
President Elect	Robert Levy
V.P. Communication	Ellen Salley
Bulletin Publisher	Jay Sklar
Web Maven	Harvey Melamed
V.P. Community	Karen Zussman
V.P. Finance	Brina Grigg
Treasurer	Sharon Goldsand
V.P. Ways & Means	Mary Roufa
V.P. Education	Lauren Lamont
School Principals	Goldie Pekarsky & Adrian Grubb
V.P. Religious Functions	Andrea Levey
V.P. Building & Grounds	Jordan Towne
Jewish Federation Rep.	Ellen Dietz
Past President	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, is preferred.