

TEMPLE BETH-EL



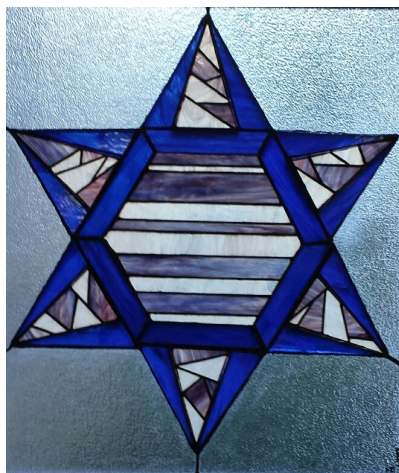
BULLETIN

March 2017 3 Adar - 4 Nisan 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.

New Stained Glass to be Dedicated



Please join us for our Family Shabbat Service on Friday, March 3rd at 7:30 pm. We will be dedicating a beautiful stained glass Jewish Star, created

for the Temple by Brian Shore, during the service.

This unique and beautiful piece, in a rare 3-dimensional format, was presented by Brian as a gift to the Temple at our February board meeting.

The star has been mounted and hangs in the window to the right of the Temple's main entrance. We are proud to have it as a part of the Judaica on display at Temple Beth-El.

Chaverim,
Well, as March arrives, there is certainly a lot to talk about in our Temple life which I will get to below. First of all, though, I want to address the issue of rising anti-Semitic acts happening around the country. As you may have seen on the news, there has been vandalism to Jewish cemeteries in St. Louis and Philadelphia, as well as close to 100 bomb threats at Jewish Community Centers and Jewish day schools around the country. These actions are alarming and stir up fear within our community as a whole. There is much that is unclear at this time about what the future might look like and what Jewish communities should do about it.

Here in Rockford, thankfully, we have not been victim to one of these attacks. We want to properly appreciate our reality and the relatively peaceful life we have here. For that we are grateful but we are not naïve. We, as a Jewish community, have also been in contact with authorities at the local and national level to decide how to best proceed and protect ourselves. Our own Jewish Federation has been taking the lead in this. We also need to be aware. In the meantime, we can continue to live our Jewish



From Rabbi Binah Wing

I want to address the issue of rising anti-Semitic acts happening around the country. As you may have seen on the news, there has been vandalism to Jewish cemeteries in St. Louis and Philadelphia, as well as close to 100 bomb threats at Jewish Community Centers and Jewish day schools around the country.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	3
Service Schedule	16
From the Board of Directors	2
Religious School News	4
Friends of Temple Beth-El	13,14
Birthdays & Anniversaries	5
Yahrzeits and Contributions	6
Calendar	17

lives and not let fear rule the day. To stay away is to award victory to those who are trying to instill hatred and fear. We can also engage in as much interfaith understanding as possible. On March 9th at 7pm, I am participating in an interfaith panel towards this end. It is an event sponsored by the YWCA and will be held at the Nordlof Center downtown. In addition, Sherry Dreyfuss, Goldie Pekarsky, and myself will soon be meeting with the new Imam of the Muslim Community Center. He has already suggested doing a prayer ring around us on some Friday evening. I find this hopeful. I believe that we will be stronger in unity and diversity. Lastly, I think it especially important that we not just be upset by the hatred that the Jewish community is facing. Other groups are dealing with hateful acts against them as well. This is our problem too. We cannot just stand alone. Hate is hate and as a current lawn sign campaign says, "Hate has no home here."

So, let us also celebrate the special activities we have going on here at Temple this month and show our support for each other. On March 3rd, at the beginning of services, we will dedicate a spectacular stained glass piece, made by Brian Shore and given as a gift to the Temple. You may have already seen it hanging in the front window. March 5th will be a fun Adult Education as we watch the movie "Hava Nagila."

On March 12th at 10am, we will have our Purim service. I will be my usual sedate and quiet self. This year, the celebration of Purim has particular significance as it is a story of unwarranted hatred directed towards the Jewish community. As we stamp out Haman's name this year, we can symbolically stamp out that hatred. I encourage you to attend this service for that reason, plus, it's really fun!

Finally, on Friday, March 17th at 7:30pm we have one of our most special evenings of the year – the GRTY Shabbat Service. Our youth group members have been working hard to get ready, writing prayers and sermons, as well as rehearsing their readings. Please come for this special evening for our congregation.

While there is certainly much to be concerned about, there is also much within our walls and beyond that is worth celebrating. I hope to see you for all of it.

Shalom,
Rabbi Wing

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



The Temple Board met on February 8th. Jordan Towne led the D'Var Torah. His portion was on *Beshalach*. This portion discusses the exodus from Egypt and Moses parting the Red Sea. Jordan, being a scientist, cannot find any scientific way to explain how the Red Sea was parted. It is a miracle that one has to believe in through faith in God. Jordan feels that these miracles are for the new generations to come. It is a way to help children believe and have faith in God since they never have experienced a miracle themselves.

Brian Shore gave a small presentation and then proposed to give the Temple a stained glass 3-dimensional Jewish Star that he made. The board approved the gift unanimously.

Jim reported that Brian Shore will lead an initiative on re-decorating the sanctuary. There are plans underway to follow through with what the board learned from the strategic planning sessions. One of the areas being worked on is the Temple's media and how we communicate with our members and the community.

The Foundation is doing fine with a gain of about 1.37% in the month of January.

March 12th will be the Purim service held during Sunday School. The Temple Passover Seder will be April 11th at 5:30. The cost will be \$20 for adults, \$10 for children with a cap of \$50 for a family. The committee decided that any Temple activity will be canceled if there is a Winter Storm Warning out. An e-mail and/or a phone tree message will be sent out.

Jordan is in the process of getting quotes to replace the basement carpeting. He would also like to continue to clean out unnecessary items from the boiler room.

Lauren reported that the Sunday school students returned from break and baked Mandelbrot with Ronit. They also had music with Barbara Simon and Mitch Kopnick. The students will be celebrating Tu B'Shevat with art and music activities. The sixth graders will be participating in the sixth grade retreat at OSRUI this weekend. The GRTY participants had a fun bowling outing on January 8th and are beginning to write the service they will lead on Friday March 17th.

Karen reported that the Temple made a small donation to the Motherhouse Crisis Nursery to replace items that they lost from the damage of the water main break they experienced. During the months of January and February, the committee will be collecting school supplies for Ellis School for the second half of the school year. The game night held at the Zussman's home was fun. There was a lot of chatting and two team games were played that were fun. About 15-20 people attended. Karen suggested that we hold an open house for perspective new members. She is putting a list together of who that might be. An idea for social action



Next time that you are in the lobby of Temple Beth-El, please be sure to look at the beautiful stained glass window that has been hung near the sanctuary entrance.

Brian Shore generously donated his skills and time to create a beautiful work of art. This was a very personal project for Brian, as Temple Beth-El has been a major part of his life for many years. Please be sure to thank Brian for this wonderful addition to our Temple when you see him.

On another note, one of the ideas raised during our Strategic Planning sessions was to offer free first year memberships to new congregants. The purpose behind offering this to new members is to decrease their financial burden, which can be heavy, particularly for a young single person or a newly married couple. The Temple Board is still in the process of reviewing this idea and determining if this is feasible given our current financial state. You will be notified as soon as the Temple Board decides whether to implement this idea.

Finally, on behalf of the entire congregation, I want to wish all the best to Milly Kaplan as she embarks on her new life in Arizona. As you all know, Milly has been an integral part of Temple life for many years, during which time she served on the Board of Directors, including one term as President. Milly was also one of our biggest volunteers, helping to run our Gift Shop and organizing the Rummage Sale for many years. Milly's presence at Temple Beth-El, as a leader and friend, is already being missed, but we all wish her good health, happiness and warm weather in her new adventures in Arizona.

Jim

...on behalf of the entire congregation, I want to wish all the best to Milly Kaplan as she embarks on her new life in Arizona.we all wish her good health, happiness and warm weather in her new adventures in Arizona.

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

is Laundry for Love. Patti Kaufman has joined the committee.

Mary reported that the ways and means committee met and discussed the art auction and this year's rummage sale. The sale will be April 6th, 7th and 9th. Rummage will only be accepted the week prior to the sale unless someone is moving or has an estate to liquidate.

Ellen reported that the campaign for the Federation has collected \$19,000 out of the \$21,000 pledged. About \$400 was raised for Parkinson's research from the latke lunch. The Lox Box made a profit of over \$1650. The next adult education program will be on March 5th with the showing of the movie Hava Nagila. There will be a special breakfast served before the movie.

A discussion was held that with the Federation in our building now and more people coming and going, we should be more concerned about safety. Jay said he will check into more cameras and how our security system could be used to continue to keep us safe.

Greater Rockford Temple Youth Shabbat Service



Friday, March 17
7:30 pm at Temple Beth-El

The service is written by the
youth group members

Theme: The Rockford
Refugee Project

SCHOOL DAZE

200 Words or Less...

By Goldie & Adrian



February was a very busy month. Students sang with Barbara Simon and Mitch Kopnick and created art with Sandy Simon. You can see the results hanging in the hall at Temple. There was also hamantaschen baking with Ronit. Thanks to our parent volunteers who help with the baking.

On Sunday, March 5, the adult education committee will serve a special breakfast to our families including the students as part of their, "Breakfast and a Movie." The eggstravaganza breakfast consists of delicious egg stratas and Shakshuka, an Israeli baked egg dish. The film is Hava Nagila, the Movie.

Purim is Sunday, March 12. Families are invited to a fun service, pizza lunch, and Win it in a Minute skill games. Kids and adults will test their skills and there will be prizes for everyone. It is always fun to see Rabbi Wing's creative costume. The fun will begin at 10:00 am so mark your calendars.

Amira Ahles and Lilly and Rabbi Wing enjoyed a wonderful weekend at the OSRUI 5/6 Retreat in February.

There will be no school on Sundays, March 26 and April 2 and Wednesday, March 29. Have a fun spring break.

Goldie and Adrian

The Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford
and
Temple Beth-El Religious School
present:

Purim Celebration 2017

Sunday, March 12th

Purim service 10:00

Win it in a Minute Games,
Prizes, Lunch



Everyone is welcome to this free event!

Letters to the Editor...

The year was 1978. A youngish newly married couple moved to Rockford with their two teenage daughters to start a new life. His new job was at Raleigh in Freeport. They decided to live in Rockford mainly because of the vibrant Jewish community. Little did they know what they were getting into and how lucky we were.

The 2 girls grew up, got married and moved away (sound familiar?). Raleigh went out of business and they ventured into a couple of franchise restaurants and businesses in Rockford and in the suburbs of Chicago. That kept them very busy for many years. Retirement came along, but these two did not just sit around on their laurels. They became very active at the Temple and in the community with various positions on the Temple Board including President for each of them. Unfortunately, Chuck took ill and passed away about 6 years ago and we all still miss him dearly.

But she carried on. The Temple was her second home. From the rummage sale to Food-A-Rama to starting up our wonderful Gift Shop, she has been an incredible force both out in front and behind the scenes at Temple Beth-El. She was indefatigable and quite the Energizer bunny.

Now it is time for her to begin a new adventure in the next phase of her life. We don't want to say goodbye and see her move on, but we are happy for her and so grateful for her being here for so many years. Being Milly, she refused to have a big party or to have anyone make a big fuss over her and she didn't want to have to say so many difficult goodbyes. It will be very hard for us to get along without her.

We, of course, are talking about Milly Kaplan. Milly, we wish you much happiness in Scottsdale. So happy that you will be close to family. I know Rabbi Wing has already told the Rabbi in Arizona how lucky he is that you are moving there and will be part of their congregation. Till we meet again!

Effective March 1, Milly's new contact info is: 5635 E. Bell Rd. Apt 1028, Scottsdale, AZ 85254 Phone #602-603-2929 Email: ckaplan253@aol.com

Connie Paris

March Oneg Committee

March 3

Jackie and Leonard Bernstein
Nanci and Marc Soriano

March 10

Ronit and Roni Golan
Barb Berney

March 17

GRTY Shabbat

March 24

No oneg

March 31

Sara and David Deutsch

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



March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Adults

Scott Schoeller	3/1
Jordan Nevler	3/1
Norma Polcek	3/1
Fred Glassman	3/5
Jerry Paris	3/8
Garrett Einhorn	3/9
Joan Davis	3/9
Gary Rubin	3/12
Allison Holmstrom	3/12
Mark Lamont	3/15
Susan Glassman	3/15
Mary Shore	3/17
Jacob Kopnick	3/17
Goldie Pekarsky	3/18
Chelsi Schoeller	3/20
Harvey Einhorn	3/20
Barb Berney	3/24
Jackie Bernstein	3/27

Fred Dietz	3/28
Alex Rozman	3/29
Jason Simon	3/31
Mitchell Kopnick	3/31

Anniversaries

Jeffrey & Paula Lash	3/16/91
Ginny & Sheldon Weiss	3/23/75
Laura & Tim Sage	3/26/88



Spring is just around the corner and what is the first thing that Temple members think of -----
Food-A-Rama of course, and **what would FAR be**

without blintzes?

I can't imagine. Everyone loves our blintzes and they are a BIG moneymaker for FAR. If we are to have enough blintzes to meet the demands of our customers, we need your help. We will be doing 4 cooking sessions between Sunday, April 23rd and Sunday April 30th. Plan ahead and mark your calendar to join us for one or more

Below are the dates and times:

Sunday, April 23rd, 9 am - noon – led by Ronit Golan (pitagolan@yahoo.com – 815-394-1013)

Tuesday, April 25th, 9 am – noon - led by Barbara Simon (bjsimon61114@yahoo.com – 815-637-6430)

Wednesday, April 26th, 9 am – noon – led by Sharon Goldsand (sgoldsand@comcast.net – 815-335-4050)

Sunday, April 30th, 12:30-3:30 – led by Ronit Golan (pitagolan@yahoo.com – 815-394-1013)

Contact the above leaders to volunteer today.

We need **YOU!!!!**

Thank you,
FAR Committee

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 March 3

Rabbi Abraham H. Feinberg
Ellis R. Gardner
Harold Stern
Sam Simon
Denise Polcek
Leah Schaider

Read March 10

Jessie Futerman
Clara Stone
Dr. Sherwin Gersten
Bernard Berney
Edith Karsner
Lena Zenoff
Edward Levitz

Read March 17

Bruce Polcek
May Kobrin
Dr. Joseph Roufa
Beverly Fierstien
Harry Shanhouse
ML Bork
Earl Glenner
Samuel Gersten
Jerome Woodruff
Saul K. Bork
Carrie Klein
Stephen Craig Osran
Douglas Pavay
Asher Oscar Finkel
Louis Landy
Fred Paris
Ida Kimmelman
Evelyn Kaplan
Regina Klinsky

Read March 24

Arnold Deutsch
Slava Bolotina
Martin Marx
Zelda Sanders
Vivian Tobias
George Evans
Herman Marcus
Herman Shore
Murray Solomon
Laura Hoffman
Irene Seidler

YAHRZEITs cont.

Max Becker
Henry Levy
Saul Helfand

Read March 31

Martha Rosenbloom
Harry Rosenzweig
Solomon Rosenfeld
Patricia Bork
Benjamin Stone
David S. Sher
Joel Huss
Adolph Wiener
Chalotte Marcus
Rose Goldman



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 Arthur Zussman
-Zussman family

In memory of Rhea Bork
In memory of Ben Rossin
-Brina Grigg

In honor of the marriage of Jason, grandson to Gerry Schaider and nephew to Suzie and Jay Kamin
-Nanci and Marc Soriano and Family

Garten Fund

In honor of Milly Kaplan for all her years of dedication, hard work and love for our Temple and the community

In loving memory of Judy Goldman
-Nanci and Marc Soriano and family

Landscaping Fund

In memory of Betty Hertz
-Milly Kaplan

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Wishing Milly Kaplan the best of luck in Scottsdale
-Fred and Ellen Dietz

Get well wishes to Marian Peters
-Faye Marcus

Unrestricted Donation

In memory of Mamie Rosenbloom
-John and Katherine Rosenbloom

Get well wishes to Marian Peters
-Rachel Siegel

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.

GRTY NEWS

Submitted by:
Adam Gesmer
Co-President

The month of February has been a fun-filled and busy one for GRTY. GRTY kicked off this month by assigning parts for the annual GRTY led Shabbat service. Everyone is giving their best efforts to make this years' service

as best as it can be. The following week, we

made our delicious hamantaschen, and the amount always seems to increase every year! GRTY also volunteered at

Petland where we helped wash and play with the puppies there. It is almost everyone's favorite event for the year because it is fun to

play with the puppies, and they are so cute (even though they bite your shoe laces and

sometimes have accidents).

On March 17, GRTY will lead the Shabbat service. All of the GRTY members hope you can be there as we share in Shabbat and learn about the student Refugee Program that has been our yearlong service project. Full sized personal care toiletries are always a much-needed wish list item for the refugee students, so please feel free to

bring a few with you to donate to them on the night of the Shabbat service. We know your generosity will be greatly appreciated! Thank you!



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: _____

PASSOVER SEDER

Tuesday, April 11, At 5:30 PM

Come celebrate with the Temple family!

Adults - \$20.00, Children 3-12 \$10.00, Children under 3 free
or \$50 per family

Chicken, matzo ball soup, potato and vegetables will be served.

Each family is asked to bring a Kosher for Passover dessert.

A portion of the money will go to MAZON to help feed the hungry.

Your check is your reservation.

Deadline for reservations is Monday, April 6th, 2017.

Please send coupon with check to:

Temple Beth-El, 1203 Comanche Dr., Rockford, IL 61107

Or call the office to place your reservation on your Visa or MasterCard.



Name _____

Phone _____

Please reserve _____ seats for the Temple Seder. # of adults _____ # of children over 3 _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____

Dinner includes **gefilte fish or fruit** for each person.

Please indicate how many fish _____ fruit _____

We are contributing an additional \$ _____ to defray the cost for those who could not otherwise attend.



Madeline Towne's
Mitzvah Project
Noah's Ark is a local
non-kill animal shelter

NOAH'S ARK IS ALWAYS IN NEED OF
DONATIONS, BEING A NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION.

DONATION WISHLIST

OLD TOWELS AND BLANKETS
BLEACH
CAT TOYS
DOG TOYS
POST IT NOTES
PUPPY WIPES
CERAMIC BOWLS
GIFTCARDS FROM FARM & FLEET,
MENARDS AND LOWES
POSTAGE STAMPS
DISTILLED WATER
SWIFFER WET REFILLS

PLEASE PLACE YOUR DONATIONS IN THE BARREL
WHICH IS LOCATED IN THE
TEMPLE FOYER

**YOUR DONATIONS ARE
GREATLY APPRECIATED!**



Jewish Federation Sponsored Joint Shabbat Service

Please join the Jewish Federation,
Congregation Ohave Sholom,
and Temple Beth-El in celebrating
Shabbat together.



Where: Temple Beth-El
Date: April 21, 2017
Time: 6:00 service
with dinner to follow

Menu: Vegetarian Lasagna,
Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert

No Charge,
but Donations Appreciated

Please RSVP to
Goldie at 815-399-5497 or
rockfordfederation@sbcglobal.net
by Thursday, April 20

Please join us for this very special service
that brings
together the Rockford Jewish community



TEMPLE BETH-EL

MINUTE WITH A MEMBER

Dear TBE Friends:

This "Minute with a Member" features long time member Jay Sklar. We hope you will enjoy getting to know him a little better!

Tell a little about yourself and family:

The Sklar families are long time Rockford residents. Both my brother David and I grew up here, went away to school and came back to work and operate our family business together for over 25 years.

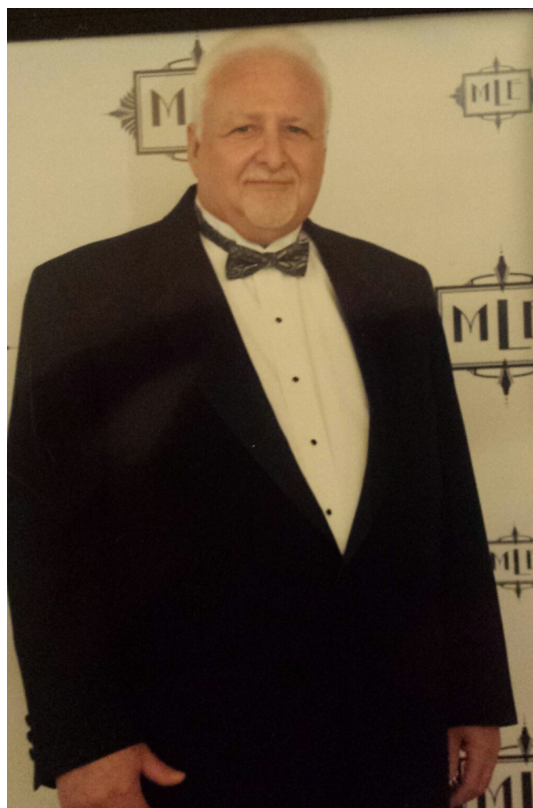
What do you do for fun? I enjoy reading and often have two or three books going at one time. (They have to be different book types though.) I also enjoy building things and fixing things.

Something people would be surprised to learn about you:

Many people might not know that I have an audio studio at home. I use it to do commercials for companies and businesses, record employee training tapes, convert reel to reel to digital media and do all manner of multi-track work. I also hope to use it to record materials for the blind.

Your favorite Temple activities: I enjoy watching my brother David lead a service when Rabbi Wing is not available. He could have been a very good Rabbi.

A memorable moment at TBE: Having been a member of Temple Beth El for almost 40 years, I have a lot of memorable



moments but I think the Bat Mitzvah of my daughter Courtney has to rank right up there.

Favorite Judaic food: Any good "real" deli food.

Your motto in life: Life is always unpredictable. I just try to go with the flow. Also for the best piece of mind remembering that logic and reality often have nothing in common seems to make the world make more sense.

Where's your favorite place to go in the area? If it is above 60 degrees and not raining, you might find me on my deck with a book, a cigar and some classical music in the background.

What are some of your favorite things to do around the Rockford region? This may sound bizarre, but I look forward to visiting the Rock River Valley Blood Center every 56 days to donate blood. I know the need, and it is something that is easy for me to do to help others. I will hit 15 gallons this year, and my goal is to reach 20 gallons (another 7 years) before they tell me I can't. give any longer.

Temple Beth-El Adult Education Committee Presents:

Hava Nagila (The Movie) is a documentary romp through the history, mystery and meaning of the great Jewish standard. Featuring interviews with Harry Belafonte, Leonard Nimoy, Connie Francis, Glen Campbell, Regina Spektor and more, the film follows the ubiquitous party song on its fascinating journey from the shtetls of Eastern Europe to the kibbutzim of Palestine to the cul-de-sacs of America. High on fun and entertainment, *Hava Nagila (The Movie)* is also surprisingly profound, tapping into universal themes about the importance of joy, the power of music and the resilient spirit of a people.



When: Sunday, March 5 at 10:00 am

Where: Temple Beth-El

What: Breakfast and a Movie

Why: To Have Fun!

Breakfast is an Eggstravaganza

(egg dishes prepared by adult ed. committee members, oy vey!)

Ellen Dietz's famous egg strata

Ronit's delicious Israeli shakshuka

Men cooking too!

Come for the food and stay for the movie

Everyone is welcome to this free event

Please RSVP to Joyce at the Temple 815-398-5020

did you know...

Did you know that there is a Jewish holiday that permits, some even say obligates, you to get drunk?

It is commonly known that Jews use wine to sanctify our holidays. We drink a cup of wine and say a blessing at the beginning of almost all of our festivals as well as every Friday evening. The blessing we say is called "Kiddush" and comes from the word "sanctification." Wine, then, is thought to be for holy purposes. One might think that on Passover, when we're called to drink four cups of wine that our tradition is suggesting that we get drunk but it isn't. The four cups of wine were thought to be spread out over a long enough period to prevent drunkenness.

The holiday to which I'm referring is Purim. Purim is a wild celebration where tradition is often turned on its head. Levity and satire are the words of the day during the Purim celebration and this includes the consumption of alcohol. The Megillah commands the Jews to celebrate with drinking and the Rabbis try and determine what that might mean. They came to the conclusion that the Hebrew letters for "Cursed be Haman" and "Blessed be Mordechai" had the same numerical value. Toward that end, they suggested that one should consume enough alcohol so that they couldn't tell the difference. In modern times, the sensitivity to alcohol abuse has caused this custom to lose popularity among many groups.

Temple Beth-EL 2017 Rummage Sale

Spring is just around the corner! Time to lighten up, freshen up, clean out that closet, basement, drawer! Time for our

SERIOUSLY HUGH RUMMAGE SALE....

DO NOT bring in your rummage
until Designated Drop-off Dates.

(Only exception is jewelry and out of town move)

Watch for weekly email notices with
dates and guidelines.

Set up and Acceptance of Clean Rummage begins
with table set up on March 30th

Clean Rummage Drop-off:
March 31, April 2, April 3

Rummage organizing and tweaking April 4, April 5

Seriously Hugh Rummage Sale!
April 6, April 7 and morning of April 9

Tear down, pack up April 9 after Noon.

Rummage left overs pick-up
morning of April 10

We need your help so be sure and sign up...

Sign-up Genius worked very well last year.

S0 - Find a slot that works for you and join us
to make this year's Rummage Sale the best ever!

Keep in mind: The more hands we have, the less
time we need!

Questions? Don't have a computer/ email
and want to help?

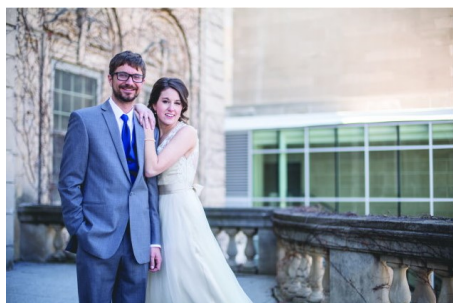
Call Mary Roufa 815.543.6520

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

**Inquire about dates
& reservations**
mindy@mindyjoyphotography.com

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.

**3012 North Main Street Rockford, IL 61103
815-962-7914**

Huge Selection of Stunning Wedding Invitations



- ✦ Graduations ✦
- ✦ Bar/Bat Mitzvah ✦
- ✦ Mis Quince Años ✦
- ✦ Social Parties ✦
- ✦ Anniversaries ✦
- ✦ Business Cards ✦

5411 East State St. • Rockford, Illinois
815-399-3837 email: rrprint@att.net

1478590

Brian Thomas Photography

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Specials

815 395-1105

brianthomasphotography.com

OFFICE: 1.815.637.0165
CELL: 1.815.222.6076
FAX: 1.815.282.2268
E-FAX: 1.815.231.8414
EMAIL: cparis@GoGambino.com



Connie Paris
BROKER
CRS, GRI, e-PRO
3815 N. Mulford Rd
Rockford, IL 61114

gambino
REALTORS

GoGambino.com

Compliments of Sundberg Funeral Home, Ltd.

Darryl Johnson
Funeral Director
215 North 6th Street
Rockford, Illinois
962-7743



LOCK DOCTOR

SINCE 1974

Transponder
Keys

24 HOUR
EMERGENCY CAR OPENING
& KEY SERVICE
foreign autos our specialty
Lic. # 0191-000247

**COMPLETE
LOCKSMITH
SERVICE**

WE DO JOBS NO OTHER SHOP CAN
AUTO • HOME • COMMERCIAL • SAFE

FAST, COURTEOUS SERVICE
LICENSED, CERTIFIED
& BONDED

874-4030
OR CALL 968-4751

3437 SOUTH BEND RD. • ROCKFORD
MASTER LOCKSMITH



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.

ARTALÉ
WINE CO.

WINE • BEER • LIQUOR
CATERING: WINE PARTIES, DINNERS, PRIVATE IN-HOME TASTINGS
6876 SPRING CREEK RD. SUITE 128, ROCKFORD, IL 61114 815.877.WINE

See our selection of Kosher Wines too!

PET SITTING BY TINA

Tina Sievers
4921 Rolex Parkway
Loves Park, IL 61111

Providing Quality
Pet/House Sitting
since 2004

Phone: 815.742.4537
E-mail: tsievers1956@yahoo.com



Coming Attractions

April 2017

Sun. 2nd Good Deeds Day
Thur. 6th-7, 9th Rummage Sale
Sun. 30th Israel Day and Holocaust Remembrance

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

February 2018

March 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.

GRTY 2016-2017 Calendar

Mar. 5 Service Planning Session
#2: noon-2:00 pm Run through with music

Mar. 12 Final Service Run Through and Presentation of Board Positions by Exec. Board: noon-2:00 pm
AND Purim Service, Carnival, Lunch: 10:00-noon

Mar. 17 GRTY SHABBAT SERVICE: 7:30 pm at Temple. Be at Temple at 7:00 pm. DRESS UP!!

**Reminder... Letter of Intent due next Fri.

Fri. Mar. 24 EXEC BOARD LETTERS OF INTENT TO RUN FOR OFFICE DUE TODAY!!

*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!

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

**The
Yiddish
Corner**

ALMONA

(alhMOHneh)
A Widow

Okay already its time to get out and start dating.
You shouldn't be a grieving *almona* the rest of
your life.

On the Lighter Side...

"Read Across America" is encouraging adults to read to children. Of course, "Green Eggs and Ham" is one the most popular Dr. Seuss books. And there's the dilemma. How can Jewish kids celebrate with Green Eggs and Ham? So, in honor (and with apologies to the estate) of Dr. Seuss, Read Across America, Kids, and Kashrut, here's a new ending for the story....

Sam! Will you never see? They are not KOSHER,
Let me be! I will not eat green eggs and ham.
I will not eat them Sam-I-am. But I'll eat green eggs
with a biscuit. Or I'll try them with some brisket.
I'll eat green eggs in a box. If you serve them with
some lox. And those green eggs are worth a try
Scrambled up inside some matzo brie!
And in a boat upon the river, I'll eat green eggs with
chopped-up liver! So if you're a Jewish Dr. Seuss fan,
But troubled by green eggs and ham.
Let your friends in on the scoop:
Green eggs taste best with chicken soup!

A little old lady gets onto a crowded bus and stands in
front of a seated young girl. Holding her hand to her
chest, she says to the girl, "If you knew what I have,
you would give me your seat." The girl gets up and
gives up her the seat to the old lady. It is hot. The girl
then takes out a fan and starts fanning herself.

The woman looks up and says, "If you knew what I
have, you would give me that fan." The girl gives her
the fan, too.

Fifteen minutes later the woman gets up and says to
the bus driver, "Stop, I want to get off here." The bus
driver tells her he has to drop her at the next corner,
not in the middle of the block. With her hand across her
chest, she tells the driver, "If you knew what I have,
you would let me off the bus right here."

The bus driver pulls over and opens the door to let
her out. As she's walking out of the bus,
he asks, "Madam, what is it you have?"

The old woman looks at him and
nonchalantly replies, "Chutzpah."



**March 2017
Religious Services**

March 3
Family Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

March 10
Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

March 12
Purim Service 10:00 am

March 17
GRTY led Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

March 24
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 pm

March 31
Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 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.