

# TEMPLE BETH-EL



## BULLETIN

May 2017 5 Iyar - 6 Sivan 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.

## Countdown to the 55th Food-A-Rama

It's hard to believe but we are just a few weeks from Food-A-Rama. Wednesday, May 17th, once again, we will turn ourselves into a deli restaurant, bakery and purveyor of Jewish foods.

In this issue of the bulletin is a copy of the letter you should have received with your tickets. Also included is another copy of the pre-order form and a fax form you can take to work or give to a friend or business that may want to order lunches for delivery.

Again, this year we will have to option of the first cut corned beef sandwich and for those avoiding red meat, the turkey pastrami sandwich. We will also have a new set up for lunch and a very familiar member of our congregation pushing our new dessert cart with scrumptious desserts.

We are always looking for help so please call the Temple office and let Joyce know you are available to work and when you can help and we will get back to you.

Save the date. Wednesday, May 17.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	3
Service Schedule	17
From the Board of Directors	2
Religious School News	4
Friends of Temple Beth-El	14, 15
Birthdays & Anniversaries	5
Yahrzeits and Contributions	6
Calendar	18

Chaverim,

The month of May is always such a busy one here at Temple Beth-El! I love driving up to the building and seeing the parking lot filled with cars. Delicious smells begin to filter throughout to delight the Jewish senses. The place is abuzz with activity. More than anything, though, I love seeing so many of you! Food-A-Rama is such a community effort. It seems as if I see almost every member of the congregation in the preparation and carrying-out of this massive endeavor. While it is certainly a lot of work, our Temple community benefits by experiencing the joy of coming together in support of our traditions, our beautiful Temple, and the Jewish people. I think that Food-A-Rama is one of the events that makes our community better.

One of the things that I'd like to start to do in this space is to periodically share with you other projects that are in our area that I believe are making our Rockford community better. It is my hope that this information serves to inform and excite you about good things that are happening here. Perhaps you will want to give of your time or energy to one of these projects at some time (after Food-A-Rama, of course!!). Minimally, I hope you will learn something about them through these articles. The first project that



*From Rabbi Binah Wing*

One of the things that I'd like to start to do in this space is to periodically share with you other projects that are in our area that I believe are making our Rockford community better.

I've chosen to highlight in this space is Rockford Promise. You may have heard about it recently in the news or in the newspaper.

Rockford Promise is a location-based scholarship program. In partnership with Rock Valley College and Rockford University, they give full-cost scholarships to RPS graduates so they can attend college debt-free. Modeled after successful programs in Kalamazoo, Pittsburg and other communities, the goal of Rockford Promise is to make post-secondary education affordable and expected for students in our community. Promise programs - which guarantee funding for every public school graduate in their local community - have been proven to show positive results:

- Increasing the percentage of low-income students, and students of color, who finish High School and start and complete post-secondary education.

- Increasing academic performance, especially for students who otherwise might not attend college.

- Reducing discipline issues and improving attendance.

- Increasing property values and the desirability of the location - tuition-free college can make people choose to live in your community and attend public schools.

Wouldn't we be thrilled if all these things would happen in our community! Rockford Promise gave five full-tuition scholarships last year. You can learn about these amazing students at [rockford-promise.org](http://rockford-promise.org). They are students of enormous potential. Next year, they hope to double that number, and keep increasing it after that. At the moment, they are focusing on students who live in Midtown and Ellis Heights - in alignment with the United Way Strong Neighborhoods. As soon as they raise enough, they'll expand these areas, until all of RPS is included.

They've been identified as a key project of Transform Rockford. The School Board, RPS Superintendent, Presidents of Rock Valley College and Rockford University, city leaders and state legislators have all given their strong support for this effort. As graduation season will be on our minds, it is a great time to share our wealth and build a sustainable and strong culture of education in our community. For more information, please visit [rockfordpromise.org](http://rockfordpromise.org).

See you on the 17<sup>th</sup> if not before!  
Rabbi Wing

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



The Temple Board met on April 12th. Jay Sklar led the D'Var Torah. Jay's Torah portion was Chol HaMoed, which means weekdays of the festival. In this portion, Moses asks God whom he will send with him to lead the people and what God's wishes are. God said he would lead the Israelites. Moses also asked God if he could behold his presence. God told him no one could live if he saw God's face, but Moses was allowed to see God's back. God then asked Moses to carve two tablets like the first ones that Moses used to destroy the Golden Calf. God said to come up to Mount Sinai with the two new tablets and he would inscribe them with the Ten Commandments that were on the first set of tablets. Moses did what he was told and then asked God to forgive the people for all their sins and take them to be God's children. God agreed.

Jim thanked Andrea Levey and Rabbi for a nice Passover Seder. There were about 60 people in attendance. The sanctuary renovation committee has been meeting and Brian Shore is in the process of getting bids and drawings from different architects. The Rabbinic evaluation committee will be meeting again under the direction of Jerry Paris. Brina Grigg and the nomination committee has met and has found members for the open positions on the board for next year.

Rabbi reported that the CCAR convention she attended was terrific. She participated in a panel on Immigrants in America. She led the Purim service and celebration and continued to help the GRTY participants work on their Friday night service. Rabbi led the Passover Seder and made the *Charoset*.

Sharon reported that we have three months left in our fiscal year, and we are doing ok. The board approved the proposed budget to be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting. Rob reported that the Foundation, for the year is doing well.

The carpeting in the lower level will be replaced on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Lauren reported that the Purim celebration was well attended. Students and parents collected small toiletries, school supplies, and granola bars for Good Deeds Day. These will be distributed to the refugees at East High School. The GRTY led Shabbat service went very well. Amy Heilman, Director of the Rock Valley Refugee Program and a few of the students from the program attended the service.

Karen reported that the school supply drive is over. Patty Kaufman brought over one more bin of supplies



only four or five members of our congregation were present.

I realize that we all have very busy lives. Some of us are parents of children who have school events and athletic events on Friday evenings. Others attend social affairs on Friday evenings. However, I am recommending that you try to attend at least one Shabbat service per month.

Personally, I find that attending Shabbat services is a relaxing and spiritual way to end what is often for me a very hectic and stressful work week. It is also always enjoyable to kibbitz and nosh with other Temple members at the Oneg following the service. I hope that you will consider my suggestion that you attend Shabbat services more often.

As you all know, Food-A-Rama is rapidly approaching. We need all hands on deck to make this a successful fundraiser. If you are able to volunteer your time in any way, please contact Joyce at the Temple office or Ronit Golan. Food-A-Rama cannot be successful without the efforts of the entire congregation.

Finally, I want to thank Karen Zussman for organizing the Temple Open House that took place on April 23, 2017. Four prospective members came to the Open House, and we are hoping that they will accept our offer of free first year memberships. Karen spent a lot of time organizing the Open House, including putting the food together and putting together pamphlets about Temple Beth-El. I think that this was a very successful and worthwhile event.

Jim

Since becoming President of Temple Beth-EL, I have made an effort to attend Shabbat services more often. Unfortunately, I have attended some services in recent months where

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

to Ellis School. Well over \$250 worth of supplies were donated. Next, we will be collecting peanut butter for the Rock River Pantry in June.

Mary reported that the rummage sale took in \$3,381 the day of the sale and the final total will be coming. A few items will be listed on line to see if they can be sold.

Ellen Dietz reported that the Federation campaign has collected \$20,300 out of the \$21,700 pledged The Jeremiah Development Project – Love Rockford and the Holocaust Remembrance Service took place in April. Elie Rekhess will speak about “The Legitimacy of the State of Israel” on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Social Action on the Go...



## PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY COLLECTION!!!

### SAVE THE DATE!!!

*Help us as we help the Rock River Pantry ...*

**JUNE 5th-JUNE 19th**



# SCHOOL DAZE

200 Words or Less...

By Goldie & Adrian



One of the highlights of Sunday school in April was our participation in Good Deeds Day on April 9. Thanks to all the families who donated to the cause. We prepared 60 decorated bags for refugee students at East High School. Carol Gordon's daughter, Melissa Lawson is their teacher. The gift bags included toiletries, granola bars, pencils, pens, and mini notepads.

Thanks to everyone who helped with this project.

We would like to say Mazel Tov to the Towne family on Maddox's Bar Mitzvah on May 27th! On our last day of Sunday School on April 30 we celebrated Israel! Thanks to all of our teachers and families for a wonderful year!!

Till next time, Shalom

## Mazel Tov on another Car Mitzvah.

Special thank you to Jerry Paris and the crew at Buttita Brothers for offering to facilitate another Car Mitzvah. The car, a 2003 Chevrolet G1500 donated by Howard Weiss, sold for \$5200.

## Letters to the Editor...

### Thank you Thank you!

The Seriously Huge Rummage Sale took place April 6, 7 and 9. We could not have done all that we did without the generous time given by our Temple members.

Thank you to Sandy Motter for his time and efforts prior to and during the sale; Jay Sklar for his ideas, flexibility and help prior to and during day one. Wendy Huss for listing the sale in the paper along with distributing and monitoring Sign-up Genius. Barb Berney for pricing the jewelry and help on day one and two.

Thank you also to Jim and Mary Gesmer and Joe and Adam, Brina Grigg, Faye Marcus, Amy Anton, Amy, Jordan and Maddox Towne, Alma and David Quimby and Aiden and Aiah, Ellen Salley, Ellen Dietz, Carol and Terry Gordon, Rob, Ben and Noah Levy, Aaron Barenbaum, Harvey Melamed, Jerry Paris, Howard and Colleen Morris, Sandy Simon, Karen, Jamie and Josh Zussman, Nancy Feinstein, David Sklar, Jay Gesmer, Luba Pesakovich, Ginny and Sheldon Weiss, Patty Kaufman, Victoria Rozman, Barb Simon, Goldie Pekarsky and Joyce Hulstedt.

A big thank you to Nanci Soriano and Lauren Lamont for recruiting and supporting GRTY members during cleanup on Sunday. Thank you to all who donated goods toward our sale.

The social hall configuration helped the flow in the social hall. Weighing clothes and other wearables was extremely helpful, allowing great customer service, decrease in time spent checking out and less confusion for cashiers. This new method had a negligible impact on sales. Checkout in the foyer also aided the positive flow with less backup in line.

26  
SEAT

M  
ROW

6  
SECTION

TEMPLE BETH-EL

1203 Comanche Drive, Rockford, Illinois

"MADELINE'S BAT MITZVAH"

MAY  
27  
2017

SATURDAY 10:00 A.M.

COME ROCK WITH US!

SECTION  
ONE NIGHT ONLY

6

M  
ROW

26  
SEAT

## May Oneg Committee

May 5

Andrea Levey

The Temple  
Beth-El

May 12

Barbara and John Holmstrom

Marissa and Ben Holmstrom

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.

May 19

Andrea Levey

May 26

Maddox Towne Bar Mitzvah



## May Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Adults

Ben Libman	5/2
Benjamin Kopnick	5/2
Emma Thompson	5/2
Arthur Rettig	5/3
Georgann Bernstein	5/8
Allison Sage	5/9
Howard Kaufman	5/10
Sharon Goldsand	5/11
Alexandra Hartman	5/12
Robert Levy	5/12
Robert Jerome	5/15
Tyler Hergert	5/15
Brad Paris	5/18
Alyse Behr	5/18
Charles Picus	5/20
Courtney Sklar	5/21
Ellen Dietz	5/23
Tracy Bernstein	5/27
Faye Marcus	5/28

### Children

Julian Bagne	5/15/16
Aviva Brenner	5/25/02

### Anniversaries

Melissa & Josh Tatman	5/15/99
Wendy & Gary Rubin	5/27/84
Cheryl & Tim Schoeller	5/27/79
Susan & Fred Glassman	5/30/93
Susan & Stephen Weiss	5/30/68



**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)

## 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)

## 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 May 5**

Ragnar Emmanuel Klint  
Ida Hochwert  
Elsie Rettig  
Nathan Kaplan  
Miriam N. Rosenberg  
Rosalind Glenner  
Charles Kaplan  
George Goldman  
Lenore Labowitz

#### **Read May 12**

Bessie Levitz  
Dr. Alfred Morman  
Eidel Goldman  
Betty Ginsburgh  
Klaus Schaap  
Ann Evans  
Frances Freedman  
Allan Fierstien  
Robert Krojanker  
Selma Kovalsky  
Morton Blumberg  
Mitchell Rudman  
Geri Katz

#### **Read May 19**

Frieda Hellman  
Bianca Weissenberg  
Edna O'Connor  
Harlan Slavin  
Milton Rosenthal  
Howard Tenin  
David M. Kupperman  
Sherman Cornblum  
Jacob Labowitz  
Harry Polcek  
Lena Shanhouse

#### **Read May 26**

Conrad Nelson  
Ethel Shuman  
Sadie Nathan  
S. Robert Oberndorf  
Ethel Jerome  
Florence Bologna  
Mollie Shanhouse  
Celia F. Cassman  
David Dietz



### **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 Bertha Rossin  
In memory of Phyllis Bierman  
In honor of Mary Shore's  
Award as Outstanding Music  
Educator 2017  
In honor of Rachel Bagne's  
acceptance to Grad School and  
Dietetic internship  
-Brina Grigg

#### **Garten Fund**

In memory of Phyllis Bierman  
-Faye Marcus

#### **Landscaping Fund**

In memory of Evelyn Kaplan  
In memory of Morris Hertz  
In memory of Nathan Kaplan  
In memory of Chuck Kaplan  
Speedy recovery to Marc  
Soriano  
In memory of Phyllis Bierman  
-Milly Kaplan

In memory of Phyllis Bierman  
-Judy and Chuck Hyman

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

Mazel tov to Barb and Steve  
Lirtzman on Robert's  
engagement  
Mazel tov to Wendy and Gary  
Rubin on Genevieve's  
engagement  
In memory of Phyllis Bierman  
In gratitude to Rabbi Wing for  
her work with GRTY on their  
creative Shabbat Service  
-Nanci and Marc Soriano

#### **Sheldon Liebovich Fund**

In memory of Marvin Eisenberg  
Speedy recovery to Marc  
Soriano  
-Rosie and Chick Hyman

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.



June 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the unification of Jerusalem - The 6 Day War  
To mark this occasion, the Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford,  
Temple Beth-El Adult Education Committee, and Congregation Ohave Sholom present:

### A Morning with Elie Rekhess

With all the propaganda surrounding Israel, it is important that the Jewish community know the facts. Elie brings a unique perspective of being both a Zionist and an expert on the Arab minority living in Israel. It is an honor to have Elie Rekhess speak in Rockford.

### Elie Rekhess

The Legitimacy of the State of Israel: Historical Perspectives

Sunday, June 4, 2017

10:00 Breakfast / 10:30 Presentation



Professor Rekhess (Ph.D Tel-Aviv University) is one of Israel's leading experts on the Arab minority in Israel, Jewish-Arab relations, Palestinian politics, and Islamic resurgence in Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza. Until his retirement in 2011, he served as a Senior Research Fellow in the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and

African Studies, Tel Aviv University, and headed the Program on Jewish-Arab Cooperation in Israel sponsored by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (1995-2010).

As of 2013, Prof. Rekhess holds the position of Crown Visiting Professor in Israel Studies at Northwestern University. He teaches in the Department of Jewish Studies as well as in the Department of History at Northwestern. He organized the inaugural conference entitled "The Zionist Ideal in Israeli Culture: Dream and Reality" in November of 2013. In October 2015, he organized the international conference at Northwestern University "Between Baghdad and Haifa: A Tribute to Israeli Author Sami Michael." He established the NU Israeli Film Club in partnership with the Chicago Festival of Israeli Cinema in 2015 and hosted the first of a series of screenings in 2016.

He recently authored, edited, and co-edited: Muslim Minorities in non-Muslim Majority Countries: The Test Case of the Islamic Movement in Israel (2013), The Arab Society in Israel: A Compendium (2009), Arab Youth in Israel: Caught between Prospects and Risk (2008). He is currently completing two manuscripts, one on Islamic Fundamentalism in Israel and another on Communism and Arab Nationalism.

Prof. Rekhess has held a variety of central advisory posts, including Senior Consultant on Arab Minority Affairs to the Prime Minister's Office under Itzhak Rabin (1993-1994); Senior Consultant on Arab Affairs to the Histadrut Labor Organization (1994); strategic advisor to Ehud Barak during his election campaign (1999) and as an advisor to Science Minister Matan Vilna'i, Chairman of the Ministerial committee on the Arabs in Israel (1999-2000); Senior Consultant to The Abraham Fund Initiatives for the Enhancement of Jewish-Arab Coexistence (1994-2008); and Member of the Board of "Sikkuy," the Association for the Advancement of Equal Opportunities (1993-2006).

Elie Rekhess married Ankie Spitzer, widow of Andre Spitzer, who died in the Munich massacre in 1972.

Please RSVP by calling 815-398-5020 or email: [Rockfordfederation@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Rockfordfederation@sbcglobal.net)

Memorial and Tribute Donation Form					
<b>From:</b> Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____	<b>To:</b> Send the acknowledging card : <input type="checkbox"/> Same as from, or: Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____				
<b>For:</b> (check one and fill in names as appropriate) <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Speedy Recovery to: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Congratulations to: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Donation:</th> <th>Fund:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Triple chai (\$54)  <input type="checkbox"/> Double chai (\$36)  <input type="checkbox"/> Chai (\$18) <input type="checkbox"/> \$10  <input type="checkbox"/> \$4 (Min.)  <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Garten <input type="checkbox"/> Powell <input type="checkbox"/>  Lazarus <input type="checkbox"/> Dermer <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/>  Woodruff <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi's Discretionary  <input type="checkbox"/> Pap <input type="checkbox"/> Kupperman <input type="checkbox"/>  Landscaping <input type="checkbox"/> Gifts&amp;Flowers  <input type="checkbox"/> Sachs <input type="checkbox"/> Liebovich Fund  <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Donation:	Fund:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triple chai (\$54) <input type="checkbox"/> Double chai (\$36) <input type="checkbox"/> Chai (\$18) <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$4 (Min.) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Garten <input type="checkbox"/> Powell <input type="checkbox"/> Lazarus <input type="checkbox"/> Dermer <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Woodruff <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi's Discretionary <input type="checkbox"/> Pap <input type="checkbox"/> Kupperman <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping <input type="checkbox"/> Gifts&Flowers <input type="checkbox"/> Sachs <input type="checkbox"/> Liebovich Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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## GRTY NEWS

Submitted by:  
Ben Kopnick  
Religious and Spiritual  
VP

Early in April, several GRTYites participated in the annual Rummage Sale Clean Up. Thanks to hard work by our teens and congregation members alike, the take down of the rummage sale was smooth and successful. On Easter Sunday, several of our

special day! On the 30th, several of our members will be assisting with the annual Holocaust Memorial Service at the University of Illinois School of Medicine. At the



teens, along with Ronit and her crew, volunteered at a local soup kitchen and distributed food to many of

Rockford's less fortunate. We had an extremely rewarding experience filled with ebullience as we got a new perspective on how fortunate we are



in our own lives and how great it is to help others. On the 22nd of this month, GRTY took a trip to Chicago! We enjoyed a day at the Museum of Science and Industry where we viewed exhilarating exhibits, a mirror maze and we even got to watch the hatching of baby chicks from their eggs. We were all treated to the WOW Pass which got us a private guide and a look behind the scenes of some of the museum's exhibits. (Larry Pearlman, we got to go behind the scenes of the train exhibit!!!)The whole day was concluded with a trip to the Comedy Sportz Theatre; it was a wonderful day for GRTY. A special thanks to Mitch and Lisa Kopnick, Rob and Lisa Levy and Jason Soriano for being our chaperones for this really

service, our teens will hear a recollection from a Holocaust survivor as well as pay tribute to our ancestral Jews who lost their lives in the tragic event.

Despite a busy month of April, GRTY still has lots to look forward to in May! We will begin the month by helping out at the Golden Years Prom and the Food-A-Rama Set up and Take Down. Then we will wrap up the

year with our annual GRTY Bonfire/Potluck and Installation of new officers. GRTY still has lots to do before year's end.







**Maddox 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!**



## **Did you know...**

### **Did you know why some Jews observe Jewish holidays for a dif- ferent amount of days than other Jews?**

This goes back to a time when we didn't have the kind of speedy communication that we have today. The beginning of the holy day was marked by the sighting of the moon in Jerusalem (often the full moon as many of our holy days occur on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the Hebrew month when the moon is full). Then, through a series of shofar blasts or other communication such as lit flame torches, word spread that the holy day had begun. Then, when Jews began to live outside of Israel, they had to estimate when the beginning of the holy day was occurring. To make sure that they observed the festival for the proper amount of time, an additional day was added. Thus, in the diaspora, Jews began to celebrate one-day holidays such as Rosh Hashanah and Shavuot for two days and 7-day festivals such as Sukkot and Passover for 8 days. When the State of Israel was established, it became the custom there to follow the biblical length of the holidays instead of the diaspora custom, returning to the shorter length. Reform Judaism made the decision to follow the same custom as the State of Israel although many congregations and individual Reform Jews will sometimes still follow the diaspora custom of adding an additional day. There are two interesting exceptions. In Israel, Rosh Hashanah is still observed for two days. This is because the diaspora custom had become so important and entrenched in people's practice that Israel retained the extra day. The other exception is Yom Kippur. No matter where Jewish people live, they only observe Yom Kippur for one day instead of two. And we're all grateful for that!!

55<sup>th</sup> Annual

Temple Beth-El

# Food-A-Rama

## Pre-Order Form

**Pre-Order Now!** One of the most important purposes of Food-A-Rama is to open our Temple to the Rockford Community and Share our gastronomic delights with them. Here is your opportunity to pre-order these goodies and reserve them for you and your family. Following is a list of items you can order. Below is a list of items you can order. Please send in you check with your order, or phone it in to the Temple Office and we'll happy to put it on your Credit Card. Orders need to be in before Wednesday, May 10, 2017. Pick up your order Tuesday afternoon, May 16<sup>th</sup> between 1 pm and 7 pm.

Prices with \*\* are special pricing for pre-orders only!

	Price	Qty	Total
Corned Beef (pound)	\$14.50**	_____	_____
Beef Brisket Pastrami (pound)	\$12.25**	_____	_____
Kosher-Style Hot Dogs (pound -4)	\$ 9.50	_____	_____
Turkey Pastrami (pound)	\$12.25**	_____	_____
Salami (pound)	\$ 9.75	_____	_____
Blintzes (dozen)	\$ 9.00	_____	_____
Cheese/Cherry/Blueberry (circle)			
Kugel	\$ 9.50	_____	_____
Plain or Raisin (circle your choice)			
Chicken Soup w/matzo balls (1 qt)	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
Creamed Herring (pint)	\$ 8.25	_____	_____
Chopped Liver (pint)	\$10.00	_____	_____
Mock Chopped Liver (1/2 pint)	\$ 5.50	_____	_____
Baked Beans (quart)	\$ 5.75**	_____	_____
French Onion Rolls (1/2 dozen)	\$ 4.00	_____	_____
Deli Pickles – 2 full Pickles	\$ 1.00**	_____	_____
Rye Bread (1-1/2 pound loaf)	\$ 4.75	_____	_____
Rye Bread ½ loaf	\$ 2.50**	_____	_____
Challah (1 pound)	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
Hot Dog Buns (1/2 dozen)	\$ 3.25	_____	_____
Bagels (1/2 dozen) – specify flavor	\$ 6.00	_____	_____
Macaroons (1/2 dozen)	\$ 4.00	_____	_____



Total Pre-Order Items \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Find enclosed my check # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please charge my credit/debit card:

\_\_\_\_\_

Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 digit code: \_\_\_\_\_

Call the office if you would rather give our card information over the phone. *Thank you.*

Pre-Order Total from above: \_\_\_\_\_

Ticket responsibility (7) \$ 77.00

Baked Goods Contribution \$ 25.00

Deduct \$25.00 if you baked for FAR \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

 <p><b>55<sup>th</sup> Annual</b></p> <p><b>Now Available!</b> <b>Turkey Pastrami</b> <b>as a 2<sup>nd</sup> choice</b></p>	<p><b>\$11.00</b></p> <p>Lunch includes a delicious Chicago first-cut corned beef OR Turkey Pastrami Sandwich, deli pickle, chips and dessert.</p>	<p>Temple Beth-El</p> <p><b>Food-A-Rama</b></p> <p>WEDNESDAY MAY 17, 2017</p> <p>DOORS OPEN 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM (Bakery, Carry-Out &amp; Deli Shopping)</p> <p>LUNCH Served: 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM</p> <p>815-398-5020 Fax 815-398-5079</p> <p>1203 Comanche Drive Rockford, Illinois 61107</p>
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Temple Beth-El 1203 Comanche Drive Rockford, Illinois 61107

It's easy to offer this great lunch or carry-out dinner treat to your employees or co-workers. Just fill out this form and fax it in. We will arrange to have everything ready for you. Carry-Out, Express Drive-Thru or Delivery (*Minimum 10 lunches for delivery*). If you have any questions, please call 1-815-398-5020.

Contact Person:	Company Name and Address:
-----------------	---------------------------

Phone Number:	# of Lunches: Corned Beef _____ Turkey _____ # of Dinners: Corned Beef _____ Turkey _____	Fax by Monday, May 15 <sup>th</sup> Please 1-815-398-5079
---------------	--	--

I will pick up my order at Carry-Out Inside <input type="checkbox"/>	I will pick up my order by going through the Express Drive-Thru in the front Drive. <input type="checkbox"/>	I would appreciate having my order of 10 lunches or more delivered to my office (lunch ONLY) <input type="checkbox"/>
--	--	---

Please deliver my order to the following location:	Your Order will be delivered between 9:00 am – 12 Noon
--	---

	<p><b>Sign Up Here:</b></p>	
---	-----------------------------	---




Save these pages for future reference

**The Official Food-A-Rama Primer for Temple Members**

**55th ANNUAL FOOD-A-RAMA—Wednesday, May 17th, 2017**

The first four letters of “delicious” spell “Deli”—as in Delicious Delicatessen style lunches made from corned beef and breads imported straight from Chicago and assembled by scores of super volunteers from the Temple Beth-El Family for the Rockford community.

**Again This Year**

We are offering Turkey Pastrami to our sandwich offering both on the buffet and for delivery. For those not red meat fans, this is a tantalizing option we are sure will meet with great acceptance. It was well received last year so spread the word. Turkey Pastrami is now a full option.

---

**FAR will be from 10-7:00pm with lunch buffet from 10-1:30pm**

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Each delivery lunch contains a generous quarter pound plus corned beef sandwich on rye OR Turkey Pastrami sandwich on rye bread, a kosher-style pickle, potato chips and a generous piece of mandelbrot. Dine-in and receive sides of cole slaw and our famous baked beans. And that's not all. In addition to the lunches, the Temple sells all kinds of Jewish specialty foods—from pies, cakes and cookies (baked by YOU) to blintzes, chopped liver, pastrami, herring and much, much more. We are adding exciting new desserts too!

**FOOD-A-RAMA WORKERS WANTED**

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You will receive an email from Wendy Huss asking you to volunteer to help. It is through “sign-up genius” a software that allows us to keep better track, send out reminders etc. It is safe to use, and if you have any questions, please contact Wendy Huss. Do you like to drive? We need delivery people. Like to bake? The bakery is a crucial part of Food-A-Rama, and we need bakers. Got muscle? We always need help with set-up and take down. How are you at packing pickles? Bagging cookies? Assembling lunches? Could you be a sponsor? We have a job for nearly every skill. So answer your email or call Wendy and be a part of Temple's largest fundraiser. Just say YES!

---

**PREORDERS FOR TEMPLE MEMBERS**

**Pick-up after 1:00 pm, Tues., May 16<sup>th</sup>, the day before FAR**

One of the most important purposes of Food-A-Rama is to open our Temple to the Rockford community and share our gastronomic delights with them, but we want to be able to purchase those goodies, too. You will be receiving an order form with a list of Food-A-Rama foods and their prices. Fill it out and return it to the Temple if you want to preorder these goodies and reserve them for your family at special pricing on many items.

## FOOD-A-RAMA TICKET SALES

Soon, you'll be getting seven tickets to FAR in the mail. Please sell them. The price is \$11.00 each, and the lunch is worth every penny. Remember, Turkey Pastrami is now an option, too! Call the Temple office if you need more tickets. Please do not get them from other Temple members, as it confuses the records. And please send in the ticket money as soon as possible. If you can't sell all your tickets please return them to the office.

## BEAUTIFUL BAKED GOODS FOR FOOD-A-RAMA

Each Temple family is asked to bake something to sell in the Food-A-Rama bakery. **You can bake cakes, strudels, cookies, pies, breads, whatever you like and as many items as you like.** Cakes and pies usually sell for \$5-\$10. Cookies by half dozen sell for about \$2-\$3. **Bakery Ideas:** (Include some smaller portions for singles; for example, half a cake. Bar cookies (toffee, brownies, strudel, lemon bars, butter-scotch, etc.)

Coffee cakes (sour cream, cinnamon, pecan, etc.) Cookies (chocolate chip, peanut butter, Mandelbrot, rugelach) Cakes (chocolate, sponge, Bundt, poppy seed, carrot, pound, etc.) Pies (cheese, fruit, pecan) Breads/Muffins/Rolls: Any specialty you may have!

Here's an idea.... You could bake items from our cookbook. Identify the recipe and list the page number on the label.

**Label each package clearly and in detail so we know exactly what the item is. The Board of health is requiring a list of ingredients (recipe not required).**

**Packaging:** Make each package look pretty so it sells quickly. Foil pans enclosed in clear plastic baggies, tied with a twist or colored ribbon look attractive. Ask the butcher at your favorite store for some Styrofoam trays or keep the small plastic containers from purchased rolls or cookies. **Cakes and Pies** can be lightly covered with plastic wrap since we put them in boxes when they are sold. **Breads** should be wrapped in clear plastic so they can be seen.

### **Where and When to Deliver Baked Goods**

Bring your items to the Temple on Tuesday, May 16th, the day before Food-A-Rama. Sign in at the bakery table. Leave your name and what you brought.

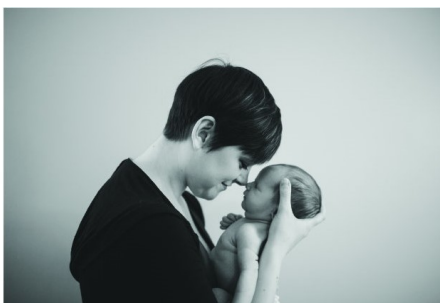
*If you cannot provide baked goods, we ask you to make a \$25 donation, but we hope you will bake since the community really looks forward to a full bakery table. They really do look forward to your goodies!*

*Here we go. The 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Food-A-Rama. Thank you for making it a success!*

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**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 \$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**



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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

## June 2017

Sun. 4th Elie Rekhess program  
Sun. 11th Annual Meeting

## July 2017

## August 2017

Sun. 27th Ethnic Festival and Parade

## September 2017

## October 2017

Sun. 15th Adult Ed: Chef Laura Frankel  
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

## April 2018

## May 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**

**May 6\*Golden Years Prom-Loves**  
Park YMCA Orth Rd., 5:30-9:00 pm

**May 7\*Set up Food-A-Rama:**

10:00 a.m. – noon

**Exec. Board Interviews:** noon-2:00 pm

**May 17\*Take Down Food-A-Rama:** 7:00 pm - done

**Fri. May 19 Confirmation: All GRTY members should attend!**  
7:30 pm

**Sat. May 20 GRTY BONFIRE & POTLUCK/INSTALLATION OF NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD AT SORIANOS.** 6:00 -10:00 pm  
Parents are invited to installation.

**\*\*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](http://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](mailto:cggordon50@hotmail.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"**

Call Carol Gordon  
398-4214

or email requests to:  
[cggordon50@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

## Membership

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

**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](mailto:Jayskl@aol.com)

**The  
Yiddish  
Corner**

Mish zikh nisht nit arayn

Don't mix yourself into that, Don't butt in

Stop! *Mish zikh nisht nit arayn*. You can't leave well enough alone!

On **the Lighter Side...**  
**Tickets, Anyone?**

Mr. and Mrs. Greenberg go out to see *My Fair Lady* on stage. This is the most sold out show of the year, and scalpers are retiring on this one.

Somehow, they've lucked into front row seats, but they notice that in the row behind them, there's an empty seat. When intermission comes and no one has sat in that seat, Mrs. Greenberg turns to the woman sitting next to it and asks, "Pardon me, but this is such a sold out show, and in such demand. We were wondering why that seat is empty."

The woman says, "That's my late husband's seat."

Mrs. Greenberg is horrified and apologizes for being so insensitive. But a few minutes later, she turns around again.

"Without meaning to be rude or anything, this is an incredibly hard show to get into. Surely you must have a friend or a relative who would have wanted to come and see the show?"

The woman nods, but explains, "They're all at the funeral."



**May 2017  
Religious Services**

May 5  
Family Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

May 12  
Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

May 19  
Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

May 26  
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](mailto:jayskl@aol.com), is preferred.