

TEMPLE BETH-EL

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



BULLETIN

November 2019 3 Cheshvan — 2 Kislev 5780

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.

Local Color Art Auction November 16th!



We invite
you to join
us for our
Local Color
Art Auction
featuring art
from local

and regional artists.

Saturday, November 16, 2019,
from 6-9pm at the
Midway Village Museum Center.

This event is open to the entire
community.

Admission is \$20 in advance,
\$25 at the door.

Make your reservation by calling the
Temple office today at 815-398-5020.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres &
desserts. Cash Bar.
Catered by Greenfire.

Bring your friends to this fun event!!

Chaverim,
Ahhhh, the Hebrew month
of Cheshvan! As you may
know, we rabbis tend to
think of the Hebrew calen-
dar quite a bit in thinking
about where we are in the
year. Cheshvan is espe-
cially enjoyable since there
are no Jewish holidays
during this month. It is a
welcome relief after the
intensity of the fall chagim
(festivals), from Selichot in
mid-September through
Simchat Torah in late-October. Finally, we can take
a deep breath and enjoy the crisp fall air and take in
the beauty of the autumn leaves, or in the case of life
in the Midwest, sometimes, the first flakes of snow!
Now that the chagim are over, I want to share with
you a few sentences about my High Holy Day ser-
mons. It is my hope that you were able to attend
them but for those who couldn't be at all the services,
I want to share the main ideas that I thought were
important enough to speak about. Before you read
on, are there any you can remember? I treasure
when someone comes up to me and mentions how
they heard (and even applied!) something that was
said.



From Rabbi Binah Wing

Erev Rosh Hashanah – Avinu Malkeinu and Suicide Awareness – I began by talking about the different ways we think about God in the prayer and the issue of judgement. Just as we ask God to be merciful towards us in judgement, so too should we be more compassionate in the way we think about others in our lives. We then began to look at the issue of Suicide Awareness and what we can do, both with our language and our actions, to prevent it and to be more compassionate to those who are struggling.
Rosh Hashanah Morning – Antisemitism 2019 – In this sermon, I reflected on two different kinds of Anti-semitism, based on two different Jewish holidays of

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Purim and Hanukkah. One version actively and violently seeks the destruction of Jews, while the other is more subtle in asking Jews to be less true to who they are. I spoke about how Israel factors into the mix including that we be more open to differing perspectives on Israel. In addition, I spoke about our need to double-down on our commitment to the social justice issues that Judaism has traditionally supported. I concluded with a reminder that we are not alone, citing the tremendous support we received after Pittsburgh.

Kol Nidre – Holy Moments – This sermon was based on a few different stories where people were where they needed to be and focused on the idea that our lives are made up of many holy moments. I talked about the importance of being true to who you are and being where you need to be. I also touched on the idea that at any moment, with every holy action we take, we might be one of the 36 righteous people that our tradition talks about as sustaining the world.

Yom Kippur Morning – Myths of Hunger – Based on the Yom Kippur fast, using MAZON as a resource, I spoke about some of the myths that many hold about hunger. These included whether there is enough food, what is the value of SNAP and other programs, as well as whether hunger is a motivator. In this sermon, I suggested ways to alleviate hunger. Many of you donated generously to the food drive towards that end.

This month, with Thanksgiving looming large (and since there are no Jewish holidays), this last sermon topic is especially important. Many of us feast in abundance at our tables. It is my hope that this year, we will all take a few extra moments to express our gratitude for the gift of that abundance and dedicate ourselves to doing more for those for whom their fast is involuntary and they have little food for which to be grateful.

May Cheshvan hold no bitterness for you, but rather may you be filled with gratitude physically and spiritually.

L'Shalom, In peace,

Rabbi Wing

We would like to extend an invitation to all Temple members and friends as we are called to the Bimah for a special blessing and oneg in honor of our 50th Wedding Anniversary on Friday, December 6th at 7:00 pm -Connie and Jerry Paris

From the Temple Board....

By Secretary Ellen Salley

The Temple Board met on October 16th, 2019.

Carol did her D'Var Torah on the holiday of Sukkot. On Sukkot there are special laws and traditions. We eat in the Sukkah, we recite prayers over the lulav and the etrog, but most important is that we invite guests, hachnassat orchim. There are other places in the Torah that speak about this mitzvah. Abraham and Sarah had a tent that had four entrances so that guests could enter from any side. In the Yom Kippur haftarah, Isaiah says: "shelter in your house the poor errants." In the Book of Job, he declares: "I have opened my doors to the traveler". At Passover, we open the door for Elijah. Carol felt this was important for her because her daughter helps the immigrants that are in her class at school. Her daughter has an open-door policy in which these immigrants can always come to her even if it is not class time.

Rob reported that the URJ benchmark survey has been sent out to the membership. After the first week, 28% of our members responded to the benchmark. As of October, our responses are at 30%. This is better than average according to the URJ. The URJ survey committee will send our benchmark responses to the URJ on behalf of the board. The board approved sending David Quimby to a grant writing workshop in Rockford. On December 20th, we will have a Shabbat service to honor the inaugural 1914 legacy donors.

Along with her usual duties, Rabbi led the High Holiday services, Sukkot services, and Simchat Torah services. Rabbi attended the open houses of worship at Temple Beth El and the Mosque. She taught about Judaism at Boylan and really enjoyed it. She officiated at the funeral of Ruth Stern who was 104. Ruth was Evie Schapp's mother. Details of how to purchase the new high holiday prayer books will be forth coming.

Sharon presented the budget report and updated the board on Our Future is Now campaign.

Sara reported that we have 64 membership units. The Foundation committee only has 9 members and should have 11. The board voted to add Nanci Soriano to the Foundation Board. We have donations to spend on security. Jay will talk with Spinello to see the best way to use this money.

Alex reported that the stained-glass window and the entrances were cleaned. Alex cleaned the entrances himself. The hard floors and carpeting were cleaned. The Sukkah was put up and will be taken down. AP Sullivan will be retained for landscaping and snow removal. The front door mechanism has been adjusted to lock. The sprinkler system will be winterized. The art auction sign will be put up. GRTY will place a small greenhouse by the windows in the social hall.

Religious school students had music with Barbara Simon and Mitch Kopnick. They made Jewish themed t-shirts that are hanging in the hallway. For Rosh Hashanah, the students made apple prints. They made edible Sukkahs for Sukkot and



Rob's Rant...

..... will return in December.

(the editor)

Social Action on the Go...

TIKKUN OLAM!

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

This is a letter to all Temple members. Karen Zussman and Faye Marcus brought 2 car loads of non perishable food to the Rock Valley Food Pantry. We also presented them with a check to allow them to buy more food.

517 lbs and a check for \$2,459.02! Wow! That is 50 more lbs than last year and an increase of \$1,000! Thank you to the Cy Sachs fund for providing some of the cash.

We also want to thank Julia Anton and her daughter for preparing the grocery bags and to GRTY for distributing them to congregants.

We have a wonderful generous congregation.

-Faye and Karen

Temple Beth-El is sponsoring a Blood Drive. It will be held on November 27th from 2pm- 6pm.

Did you know?

- Every 2 seconds someone needs blood.
- Every pint given can help up to three patients having various needs.

Blood cannot be manufactured; it can only come from generous blood donors.

In order to achieve our goal we need to collect 20 pints of blood. **Call Joyce at Temple Beth-El (815) 398-5020 to make an appointment.** Walk-Ins are also welcome. Pass along the word and encourage your friends and co-workers to also donate. This directly helps our local and surrounding communities that the Rock River Valley Blood Center serves.

Those who register will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card to Mary's Market!

If you have any questions about the donation process or eligibility to donate please contact Julia Anton at 303-803-7255, juliaanton@icloud.com or you may visit rrvbc.org for more information.

Julia Anton
VP of Community
Temple Beth-El
303-803-7255
juliaanton@icloud.com

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

edible Torahs for Simchat Torah. There is a volunteer sheet for the student's parents to fill out. A report was provided from the library committee

GRTY held their kick-off meeting. Board members are Aron Tatman, Josh Zussman, and Joe Gesmer. The teens did team building on September 22nd and then ate pizza. They ran the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur children

services. In October, they will be making apple pies.

Julia reported that the Temple blood drive will be November 27th from 2 to 6. The goal is 20 donors. There will be a drawing for those who register to give blood. The social action committee has decided to work on

Immigration Justice and Environmental Justice, which is what GRTY is also focusing on. Julia has updated the website to include October's events, the Local Color Art Auction, and will be working on updating the website with FAR information next. She is also finishing updating the Temple leadership page. Julia is cleaning and organizing the gift shop and will be holding a clearance sale. She is planning for Hanukkah and Passover in the gift shop.

David reported that Julia and Mary will attend a social media marketing workshop. Sponsor money is starting to come in for the art auction and the banner will be going up soon. The final meeting of the retail committee will be next week.

Ellen Dietz reported that Midway Village is still working on transcripts of video and audio tapes of Holocaust survivors as well as lesson plans for the teachers. The book, The German Girl, will be discussed on November 24th, 2p.m. at the Temple. Rock Valley College will offer a tour of the Holocaust Museum on November 9th. The cost is \$75. The campaign kick-off will be held at Mah-Nah-Tee-See on November 10th at 12:30. Midway Village Cultural Heritage Day is November 16th. We will have a booth there without food. Chef Laura Frankel will be coming on November 24th with a discussion and demonstration on healthy recipes for Thanksgiving and Hanukkah.

Jim reported that the work of the capital campaign committee is finished. The goal of the campaign was met and exceeded. Reminders of when campaign payments are due will be mailed. A chairman is needed for the allocation committee.

Barbara Holmstrom sent out beautiful thank-you notes to campaign donors. Ronit's kitchen provided treats for our meeting. Well wishes go out to Sharon Goldsand for the surgery she will have.

Mary made a motion to adjourn and Ellen D. seconded.

Next meeting is on November 13th at 7:00.

SCHOOL DAZE

200 Words or Less...

By Goldie & Adrian



Sukkot and Simchat Torah are now behind us. What fun holidays for all the students!

Tot and parent class joined in for all the Sukkot fun on October 13. Lots of music and edible sukkahs and Torahs! We've always been known as the Religious School that tastes good! Speaking of that, our first baking session with chef Ronit is on November 3 and we all look forward to the aromas wafting throughout the building! Thank you to all of our art, music, and cooking specialists, Sandy Simon, Barbara Simon, Mitch Kopnick, and Ronit Golan! We also would like to say thank you to all volunteers who helped make our fall activities possible.

Other upcoming events include a safety walk through the Temple and a morning dedicated to OSRUI, our wonderful Reform summer camp in Oconomowoc WI.

Book/resource bills were mailed out in mid-October. We ask that payment be made by December 15. Thank you!

There will be no Sunday School on December 1 because of Thanksgiving break. Enjoy your holiday and think of all that you are grateful for in all areas of your life.



The Library Corner

Work continues on the TBE library. Several exciting additions will show up shortly (perhaps by the time you read this). Alan Foss, a former Rockford resident who now lives in San Francisco, heard about our work. He is donating ten books to be added to our collection. Most of them are geared towards our young people. Another person, a relative of a congregant who lives in Colorado, inquired whether she and her husband could purchase some Jewish theme DVDs for the library. We have provided her with a list of titles, and expect to have some on the shelves shortly.

A third Temple family has the goal of igniting Jewish learning and will be donating a chai (18) books to our collection during the current year. They are well on their way, as 16 have been ordered to date. The books are being donated in memory of a Temple member who passed away in 2013. At their request, at least half of the books will be children's books. We are also going through several boxes of books from the estate of Lillian Osran. Running our hands through books she and her dear husband, "Eddie" owned is a profoundly moving experience. We will be placing book plates in those volumes before they are placed on the shelves identifying them as coming from them.

What can you do to help us? First, check out a book or two! We get a kick out of seeing cards completed from individuals who check something out. Second, if you could please return materials to the bin designed for that purpose and NOT reshel them. There are several reasons for this, the most important being we want to get a feel for what materials are being used. Third, if you can think of ideas for books you would like us to add to our collection, let us know. We will check to see if it is currently part of the collection or if we can acquire one.

Finally, we are working with the religious school on developing a reading contest. More on that and other topics will appear in our December column.

Thank you.

The Library Committee



November Oneg Committee

November 1	
Laura and Tim Sage	The Temple
Lauren and Mark Lamont	Beth-El
	Family greatly
November 8	appreciates and
Faye Marcus	thanks our Oneg
Kathy and Arthur Rettig	Hosts for helping
	to make our
	Services
November 15	more meaningful
Barbara and Jack Simon	and offering an
Kathleen Kelly & Arnie Rosen	opportunity for us
	all to mingle
November 22	and
No oneg	socialize.
November 29	
Mary and Brian Shore	

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

ADULTS

Jeffrey Behr	11/2
Ginny Weiss	11/5
Ben Salley	11/8
Meagan Sklar	11/10
Andrea Busch	11/11
Brian Shore	11/12
Joseph Gesmer	11/15
John Hartman	11/16
Cheryl Schoeller	11/16
Harvey Melamed	11/17
Ellen Deutsch	11/19
Emily Shore	11/21
Oliver Morris	11/22
Rabbi Binah Wing	11/22
Lisa Anderson-Levy	11/25

ANNIVERSARIES

Kimberly & Kent	
Raphael	11/10/75
Susan & Jay Kamin	11/29/80



Barbara Simon	11/27
Andrew Hartman	11/28

CHILDREN

Amelia Kopald	11/3
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CULTURAL HERITAGE CELEBRATION



DATE: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16
TIME: 10 AM - 3 PM
MIDWAY VILLAGE MUSEUM

*Celebrate the ethnic groups that make up Rockford!
 Experience the history, food, music and dance of the different
 cultures within our community.*

Admission: \$8 Adult, \$6 Child (ages 3-17), Infants (ages 0-2) and
 Members FREE. Purchase admission online at www.midwayvillage.com,
 in the Museum's Gift Shop, or at the event.



Midway Village Museum
 Rockford
 HISTORY MUSEUM

6799 Guilford Rd. Rockford, IL
 (815) 397-9112
www.midwayvillage.com

Event Sponsors:



The Temple Beth-El Gift Shop



**Clearance sale November 3
 and November 10!!
 Up to 50% off!!**

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)

YAHREZIT 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 November 1

Lorraine Shore
Carolyn Bornstein
Earl E. Cazel
Ilene Helfand
Jennie D. Okrent
Kerry Rudman
Anna Cohen
Arthur Foss
Ruth Steiner Price

Read November 8

William Share
David Halle
Hyman Nathan
Jean Prince Roufa
Harry Levy
Alvin Slobard
Ethel Blecher Turcott
Nina Hexter
Golda Gutman
Samonia Franks

Read November 15

Leanora Feder
Louis Behr
Sidney Kaufer
Lothar Molton
Nathan Hellman
Richard Weedman
Ida Spector Cohen
Lena Leff
Harry Rosen
Dr. Aaron Taylor
Zlata Schoenberg
Samuel Barenbaum

Read November 22

Ruth Ida Lash
Helen Vision
Lillian Lorraine Gersten
Sara Okrent Solomon
Betty Pavey
Anna Gersten Perlman
Samuel Wolfson
Jan Lazarus

Read November 29

Belle Dermer
Edward Osran

YAHREZIT LIST Cont.

Gus Froelich
Jack Dermer
Rachel Feinstein
Leonard Block
Nathan Kobrin
Mildred Friedberg
Shirley R. Zellick
Anne Paris
Murry Halikman
Rose Osran
Rose Beiman



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 Leo McCabe
Mazel Tov to Amy and Jordan Towne on the B'nai Mitzvah of Elliott Towne
-Nanci and Marc Soriano

Lillian Kupperman Memorial Library Fund

In memory of Jerome Lynn Sievers
-TL Sievers

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In honor of Larry Pearlman
-Amy and Jordan Towne

Unrestricted Donation

In memory of Stu Stern
-Leah Stern

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 thank you for your donations. 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.

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.

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

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

GRTY NEWS

Submitted by:
Aron Tatman
Vice-President

GRTY has had a busy start to our year. Thank you to Lilly, Aron, and Max for leading the children's service on Yom Kippur.

We began October with our annual tradition of getting prepared for baking apple pies for the temple. We picked apples at Curran's Orchard, and we had fun bonding together and enjoyed a nice ride through the apple fields. It is always fun when we get together and do something fun outdoors. Of course, we love making our pies and taste testing them to make sure they're just right.

Please make sure to order some of our famous apple pies for yourself and your family. The cost is \$10 per pie, and you may leave your payment of check or cash with Joyce.

Next month, we will be planning to begin our social action project for the year.

Next month, we will be planning to begin our social action project for the year. We will be starting the process of growing a Temple Beth-El community garden with a variety of different vegetables and herbs. We will also be taking our big trip of the year to Chicago. We will have a blast being able to spend the day together exploring different parts of the city!

Submitted by Aron Tatman

Art Supplies Needed



Elliott Towne is collecting new and lightly used art supplies

The art supplies will be distributed to schools with underfunded art programs

Items needed include colored pencils or pens, crayons, pastels (oil or chalk,) and paint of any kind.

Art supplies can be placed in the barrel in the Temple foyer

Thank you for your support of Elliott's B'nai Mitzvah Project!

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: _____



Chef Laura Frankel

Every workshop with Laura is filled with tastes, smells and excellent advice. She talks about knives, pots, technique, the best ingredients and brings an energy and enthusiasm that will make for a delightful morning.

Laura Frankel, a respected kosher chef and mother of three teenagers, will share healthy, delicious recipes for the holidays.

Sunday, November 24

10:00am Breakfast

10:30am Program

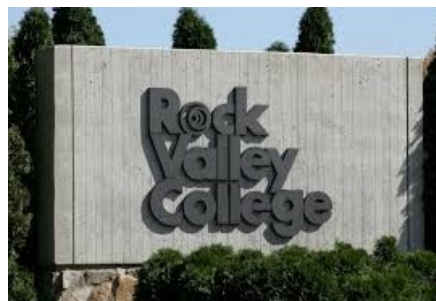
**Temple Beth-El,
1203 Comanche Dr.
61107**

There is no cost to attend and
everyone is welcome.

Sponsored by TBE Adult Education
Committee

Please RSVP to Temple at
815-398-5020

Concert with Jewish Music at Rock Valley College



The Rock Valley College Band will play an emotional and moving piece of music inspired by **Elie Wiesel's book "Night"** at its concert at 7:00 p.m. on November 21.

Composer Robert W. Rumbelow states, "The work is not a chronicle of the novel, but simply an expression based on select thoughts concerning the subject and composed with the intent on offering those who perform and hear the work another dimension through which to contemplate the atrocities of the Holocaust."

Who:
Rock Valley College Band

What:
music inspired by **Elie Wiesel's book "Night"**

When:
Saturday, November 21st at
7:00 p.m.

Where:
Educational Resources Center
Performing Arts Room

Familiar Jewish texts and melodies including **Kol Nidre, Avinu Malkeinu and Hinei Ma Tov** are inserted into the score. Several interesting and unusual composition techniques are also used, such as chanting and creating sound by rubbing the edges of glasses filled with water. The composer tries to capture the feelings of the boy who is the main character of "Night" as he is immersed into the tragedies of the camp.

The concert will take place in the Educational Resources Center Performing Arts Room at Rock Valley College. Tickets, priced at \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens, can be purchased at the door.

Jack and Barbara Simon play in the band and hope that you will come to hear this very special piece of music.

58th Annual***HELP WANTED: FAR VOLUNTEERS!******May 20, 2020*****Food-A-Rama****Deli for a Day at Temple Beth-El**

As we get started working on FAR 2020, we are expanding our database of potential business sponsors or deliveries. Sponsorship and deliveries for Food-A-Rama are CRITICAL to our fundraising efforts. We are hoping that our

members can provide us with names of businesses and companies that we may contact. Please take a moment to think about local companies you know that may be interested in participating. A “personal connection” of a member to a business is often what makes a difference. If all our members can come up with a name or two, our database of possibilities will grow! Please email me at kzussman@aol.com with names and information.

Here are some other volunteer areas we would love you to consider:

- Marketing/Public Relations:** We need your expertise! Assist with website development, share on your social media, helping with signage, and of course talk about FAR to all your local friends!
- Cooking:** Blintze Making, Chopped Liver and Herring, assisting GRTY with Kugel Making, Bean Making
- Bake Sale:** Bake, bake, and bake! Our bake sale is always a huge success, and the more baked goods we have, the more money we raise!
- “Week of” Volunteer:** Room set up, weighing meats, stuffing bags, hanging signs, etc.
- Day of Volunteer:** Join one of the MANY areas that make this day run so well. Give an hour or two during the day, or help out after work with the extended hours and clean up.

Please reach out to Mary Shore at 4shore21@comcast.net or me if you wish to help out in any way. The saying, “many hands make light work” is very pertinent for this event! Let’s make FAR 2020 the best yet without adding to anyone’s workload!

Thanks in advance for your willingness to help out with all our TBE fundraisers!

Karen Zussman
kzussman@aol.com
 cell: 309.696.1342

Jewish Federation Book Discussion

November 24, 2019, 2:00 pm at Temple

The German Girl: A Novel

Paperback – August 8, 2017 by [Armando Lucas Correa](#)



978-1-5011-2123-4 Amazon around \$12.00, less from other sources.

Based on true story

Berlin, 1939. Before everything changed, Hannah Rosenthal lived a charmed life. But now the streets of Berlin are draped in ominous flags; her family's fine possessions are hauled away; and they are no longer welcome in the places they once considered home. A glimmer of hope appears in the shape of the *St. Louis*, a transatlantic ocean liner promising Jews safe passage to Cuba. At first, the liner feels like a luxury, but as they travel, the circumstances of war change, and the ship that was to be their salvation seems likely to become their doom.

New York, 2014. On her twelfth birthday, Anna Rosen receives a mysterious package from an unknown relative in Cuba, her great-aunt Hannah. Its contents inspire Anna and her mother to travel to Havana to learn the truth about their family's mysterious and tragic past.

Weaving dual time frames, and based on a true story, *The German Girl* is a beautifully written and deeply poignant story about generations of exiles seeking a place to call home.

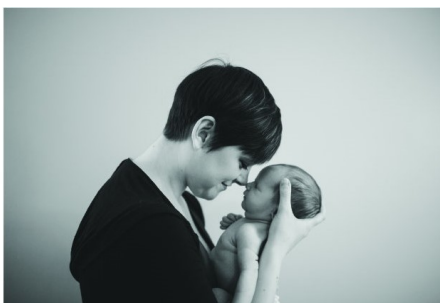
Study Questions:

1. "I was almost twelve when I decided to kill my parents." The book opens on a pretty dark scene in which Hanna believes that death is the best way out of her current situation. Why do you think she feels this way?
2. When Alma boards the *St. Louis*, she is wearing her best outfit. What is the message she is trying to send.
3. There are telegraphs and various news headlines interspersed throughout Hannah's journey on the *St. Louis*, broadcasting the political climate and crises of the time. How do these compare to today's headlines?
4. Why does Hannah's family feel betrayed by her brother's involvement in the Cuban revolution. How does this compare to Germany?
5. Can this be connected to the September 11 attacks?
6. What is the situation of Jews today in Europe and the Middle East and US.

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 \$60,000 in the last 12 years. This comes about through the incredible generosity of our congregants. Jerry Paris has sold his Midas Auto Repair facility on North Main St. after being in business for 38 years. It is now owned by Butitta Bros, and the manager's name is Neil. **The new organization has agreed to continue the car donation program under the same arrangement as before.**

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

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

Huge Selection of Stunning Wedding Invitations



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

1028 East Riverside Blvd Loves Park, IL
815-399-3839 email: rrprint@att.net

Brian Thomas Photography

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Specials

815 395-1105

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BRING ON THE BOOKS!



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

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

Coming Attractions

December 2019

Sun. 8th Federation Annual Meeting
Sun. 15th Hanukkah party
Fri. 27th Hanukkah dinner

January 2020

February 2020

Sun. 2nd Lox Box Pickup
Fri 7th-9th OSRUI 5/6 retreat

March 2020

Sun. 8th Purim Carnival
Sun. 15th Good Deeds Day
Fri., Sat. & Sun. 26, 27 & 29th Rummage Sale

April 2020

Sun. 5th Chocolate Seder
Sun. 19th Holocaust Remembrance

May 2020

Sun. 3rd Israel Day
Wed. 20th Food-A-Rama

July 2020

August 2020

September 2020

October 2020

November 2019

Tentative Date *
Temple Board

Meets the 2nd Wed. each month
Library 7:00 PM

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

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

GRTY

Sun Nov 3 12p -2:00p Social Action (TBD)

Sun Nov 17th Trip to Chicago

Sat Nov 16th 3:00p-6:00p and 6:30p -9:00p Local Color Art Auction

Contact the GRTY Advisors for more details at:

GRTYAdvisor@gmail.com.

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 Julia Anton membership chairperson at juliaanton@icloud.com

PLANT A TREE IN ISRAEL

Commemorate happy occasions...

births, engagements, marriages,

anniversaries, graduations or memorialize a loved one.

"A tree lives on forever in our sacred land"

Go to www.jnf.org or call 800-542-8733

Most certificates are \$18.00 per tree

Torah
Study Group
Saturday Morning 10:00 AM

The Tree of Life

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

The Temple Bulletin goes away to College....

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

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

Templebethelrockford.com

Check it out!

The Yiddish Corner

Megillah (m'GILL-a)

Hebrew: scroll
Pop slang: very long, boring or
verbose explanation

The police officer on the sight of a traffic accident asked one of the drivers to sit down and give him the whole ***megillah***.

On the Lighter Side...

Joseph had just passed his driving test, so he asked his father, who was a rabbi, if they could discuss the use of the car. His father took him to his study and said to him, "Joseph, I'll make a deal with you. You bring your school grades up, study your Bible a little, get your hair cut and we'll talk about it."

After a month, Joseph came back and again asked his father if they could discuss use of the car. They again went to the father's study where his father said, "Joseph, I've been real proud of you. You have raised your school grades, you've studied your Bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut!" Joseph waited a moment and replied, "You know Dad, I've been thinking about that. You know, Samson had long hair. Abraham had long hair. Noah had long hair, and even Moses had long hair—" To which the rabbi replied, "Yes and they walked everywhere they went!"

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

November 2019 Religious Services

November 1

Family Shabbat Service 7:00 pm

November 8

Erev Shabbat Service 7:00 pm

November 15

Erev Shabbat Service 7:00 pm

November 22

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm

November 29

Erev Shabbat Service 7:00 pm

Temple Beth-El Leadership

Rabbi	Binah Wing
President.....	Robert Levy
President Elect.....	Mary Roufa
V.P. Communication	Ellen Salley
Bulletin Publisher	Jay Sklar
Web Maven	Harvey Melamed
V.P. Community	Julia Anton
V.P. Finance	Sara Deutsch
Treasurer	Sharon Goldsand
V.P. Ways & Means	David Sklar
V.P. Education	Carol Gordon
School Principals.....	Goldie Pekarsky & Adrian Grubb
V.P. Religious Functions.....	Brian Shore
V.P. Building & Grounds	Alex Bagne
Jewish Federation Rep.....	Ellen Dietz
Past President	James Gesmer

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.