

# יְהוָה LIGHTS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2012

## Divrei HaRav: Words from Rabbi Cohen

I have had so much fun teaching the class on Chasidic Masters and their texts. These rabbis were joyful and deep thinkers, whose words can make us laugh, smile, cry, groan, and shake our heads in confusion. Whichever emotion they invoke, it is clear that these great leaders loved Judaism, the Jewish people, and God.

One of my favorite texts, shared with us through the voice of Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, reminds us that we are all accountable for our own deeds, even God.

## Arguing with Heaven

The story is told of Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berditchev that once on Kol Nidre, the holiest night of the year when all sins are confessed, the tailor, one of the most devout members of the community, was absent. Concerned, the rabbi left the synagogue and went to the tailor's home. To his surprise he found the tailor looking at a piece of paper before him on the table. "What's the matter?" asked Levi Yitzhak. "Oh, everything's fine," replied the tailor. "As I was getting ready to attend the service I made a list with two columns. At the top of one I wrote my name and at the top of the other I wrote, 'God of all the Universe.'

Then, one by one, I began to list my sins. 'Cheated Goldman out of a pair of trousers.'

*Continued on page 10...*

## Tikkun Olam Shabbat & Beth Israel Board of Trustees Installation

**Friday, March 2, 2012 6:15 P.M.**

**Shabbat Services with the Shirim Choir**

Join us as we celebrate  
how Beth Israel repairs the world.

We will officially **welcome the leaders**  
of Beth Israel Congregation  
and learn about the exhibit  
"Beyond Swastika and Jim Crow: Jewish Refugee  
Scholars at Black Colleges"  
being held at Tougaloo College this Spring

Guest Speaker: to be announced

### Our board members:

President:	Rebecca Laskin
First Vice President:	Howard Katz
Second Vice President:	Lawrence Haber
Treasurer:	Mindy Humphrey
Secretary:	Betsy Samuels
Comptroller:	Carol Kossman
Sisterhood President:	Michele Schipper
Past President:	Bert Rubinsky
Trustees (new):	Judy Wahba Shawn Alexander
Trustees (incumbent):	Michael Steiner Peter Sharp Arty Finkelberg Richard Snyder



## Sisterhood Bazaar Bits • Bazaar date: Wednesday March 21, 2012 10 am til 6 pm

By the time you get this, the Matzah balls and the cabbage rolls for this year's event will be safely packed away in our many freezers. Thank you to the people who came to the aid of Rebecca Laskin on January 22<sup>nd</sup> to make the Matzah balls and to the aid of Paula Loeb on January 29<sup>th</sup> to get all the cabbage rolls done. Feel free to join in and help with any of the cooking by either calling the temple, calling the chairperson, or just showing up on the appropriate day, usually a Sunday morning, to help. Kugel, chaired by Betsy Samuels (601-212-1820), will be cooked on February 26<sup>th</sup>. The strong camaraderie experienced while helping with this bazaar cooking is like none other. And if you've never done this before, participation is a good way to make new friends and learn new skills!

We need someone to put up signs at Parham Bridges and Jamie Fowler Park and then take them down. Please contact Jo Ann Gordon (601-946-5897) for the dates if you can do this for us.

Jo Ann, Bill, and Carol have taken care of this the past two years but can use some help this year.



Please continue to help gather Silent Auction items. Contact Susan Fijman (601-260-4130) if you have any questions about this. An email came out recently from her with information so refer to that also. Bake, bake, bake for the Take Home booth and for the Gourmet Dessert booth. I know you all are interested in the financial success of this event; doing the things in this paragraph are what makes the difference!

And, last but not least – a pod has been delivered to the temple to accommodate the White Elephant

Sale items as well as the books.

Please use the following guidelines when donating items:

- If books are being donated as well as White Elephant Sale items, please keep them separated.
- Items that cannot be accepted are pillows (unless decorative), blankets, clothes, and shoes.
- All items should be sanitary and in working order.

To access the pod, please contact Melanie Dobel at 601-259-8565 or Paula Erlich at 601-946-5677.

They will make arrangements to meet you at the pod to receive the items. If you have one small box of items or a small number of items, feel free to wait and bring them straight to the Temple library on the Sunday before the bazaar.

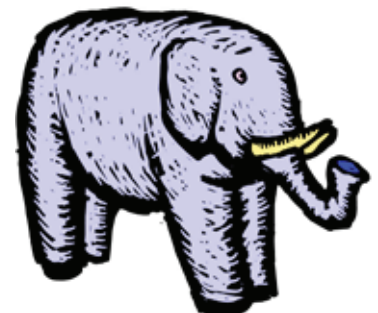
*JoAnn Gordon  
& Carol Kossman*

### WHITE ELEPHANT SALE POD INSTRUCTIONS:

\*Call **Melanie Dobel at 601-259-8565**  
or **Paula Erlich at 601-946-5677** to access the POD  
for delivery of White Elephant Sale items and books.

\*Package books separately from White Elephant Sale items.

See *Bazaar Bits* article above for additional information.



## Silent Auction Update

For those of you who are still trying to decide what you will be doing for the Silent Auction, we have some ideas. As in life, however, there are rules to be followed! If you solicit items for the Silent Auction, no double-dipping. Please see the list of retailers and restaurants at the bottom of the page that are spoken for - please don't solicit from them. Please get your items now! All items must be received by the first week in March. Items must be new. Second hand items will be given to the White Elephant. Here are those suggestions for new items:

- Several "theme" baskets will be auctioned. We need a few items to complete the baskets listed below or we can take donations and purchase the items needed. Donations of any amount are welcome!

**Ole Miss Tailgating • Kids Playtime (ages 5 to 10) • Baby (gender neutral)  
Family Game Night • Gourmet Food & Wine**

- Unique, interesting, beautiful, contemporary home and/or personal items do well in the Silent Auction. Here are some suggestions:

**Platter & Serving Bowls • Spa Treatments • Jewelry • Haircuts  
Tennis Lessons • Original artwork • iPod/iPad • Sports Memorabilia • Pedicures**

- We still need gift cards from the following restaurants:

**A.J.'s • Mint • Nick's • Walker's • Olga's • Little Tokyo • Sakura Bana • Fusion  
Lumpkin's • Newk's • Soulshine Pizza • Keifer's • Biaggi's • P.F. Chang's  
Burgers & Blues • Rossini's • Krilakis • Wingstop • Gigi's Cupcakes • Que Sera  
Hal & Mal's • Rooster's • Fratesi's • Amerigo • Kristo's  
The Hickory Pit • Buffalo Wild Wings**

- Still looking for ideas! How about an item or gift card from the following retailers:

**Aqua Day Spa • Stein Mart • The Rogue • Fleet Feet  
Alter'd State • Angie's • Ridgeland Tennis Center • Charming Charlie's • Inside Out  
Chico's • Southern Breeze • Green Oak • Shoe Gallery**

Please call or e-mail me with your questions and/or commitments as soon as possible! And remember - no contribution is too small or too large!

**Susan Fijman, Silent Auction Solicitations Chairperson**  
(601) 260-4130 or sfijman@gmail.com

*The following list are retailers or restaurants that are already spoken for: Bravo, Broad Street, Sal & Mookies, Char, Back Yard Burgers, Corner Bakery, Cool Water, The Parker House, Pan Asia, Basils, We Love Yogurt, Strawberry Cafe The Pine Cone, Maison Weiss, Brigettes, Turqoyze, Buffalo Peak, DSW Shoes, Lemuria, Early Settler, Everyday Gourmet, Viking Cooking School, Persnickety, Kroger, Martha Grace Photography, J. C. Penney's, Chris Grillis, Trace Cleaners, Nunnery's, Diva Dog, Ultra, Helen's Young Ages, Nandy's Candy, Lux (Roxanne), Eastside Salon (Katina), Gloss (Lyle), Switzers, Kosmo, The Strawberry Man, Fischer Gallery, Lei Ann Waters Pottery, Summerhouse, Fairview Inn*

*Thanks to the following for their early commitments and/or contributions to the Silent Auction: Ellen Alexander, Shirley Orlansky, Mindy Humphrey, Janice Blumenthal, Betsy Samuels, Beth Orlansky, Michele Schipper, Melanie Brame, Bette Shornick, Ellen Hart, Laurie Neidorf, Jan Docter, Cheryl Katz, Suzanne Goodwin, Debra Jacobs, Joyce Salomon, Charna Schlakman, Susan Fijman, Rebecca Laskin, Mindi Phillips, Tammy Rubinsky, Carol Kossman, Ira Rubin, Michael Steiner, Mark Fijman, Rabbi Cohen, BITY, BIC Preschool, Men's Club, Jewish Cinema MS, Sisterhood Board.*

**Wednesday, February 22  
at 12 p.m.**

Come hear **Dr. Stuart Rockoff** of the Institute of Southern Jewish Life will speak about the history of our very own **Beth Israel Congregation!**

**Topic:**

**“The House of Israel: 150 Years of Jackson’s Jewish Congregation”**

**Location:**

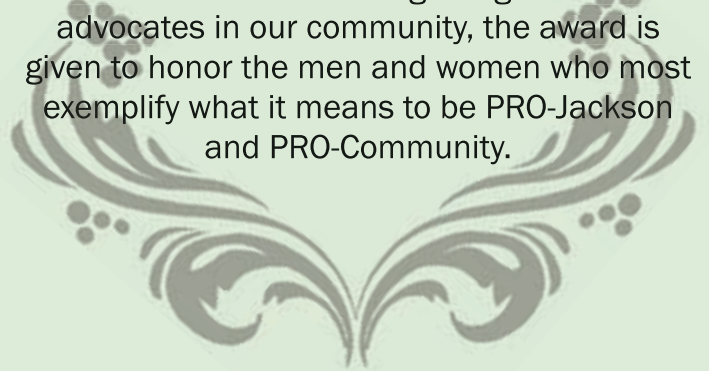
Department of Archives & History  
(William Winter Building)  
200 North St. Jackson, MS 39201

This event is open to the public and **admission is free!**

# MAZEL TOV!

Mazel Tov to **Dana Larkin**, recipient of the CMW-Community Development Corporation **PROJAK award**.

On Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, Dana Larkin, of Parents for Public Schools of Jackson, was among the first honorees to receive the Inaugural Community Champion PROJAK Award. Created to recognize grassroots advocates in our community, the award is given to honor the men and women who most exemplify what it means to be PRO-Jackson and PRO-Community.



## **BITY Annual Superbowl Sunday Chili and Salsa Sale February 5, 2012**

BITY is once again selling homemade chili and salsa ready for pick up on Superbowl Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Order forms will be available in the office and on the Temple website.

All proceeds support BITY and the American Cancer Society.



**Chili (beef or veggie) \$25.00  
(serves 4)**

**Salsa (spicy or mild) \$10.00**

## **Save the Date • sunday 3/4/2012**

At 4 P.M., join us on a guided tour of the exhibit “Beyond Swastika and Jim Crow” at the Academic and Civil Rights Research Center at Tougaloo College  
Dinner to follow at the Mediterranean Fish and Grill

## **Lace up and join in!**

### **The Beth Israel walking group**

Put on your walking shoes and join in the fun!  
The Walking Group meets every **Sunday**.

**Location: Parham Bridges Walking Path**

**Time: 10 AM to 11 AM**

**Contact: Charna Schlakman  
at 601-607-7725 or [Charna515@aol.com](mailto:Charna515@aol.com)**

## JACKSON JEWISH FEDERATION

Our Federation Board (Elaine Crystal, Marla Harbor, Paula Loeb, Cheryl Katz, Shawn Alexander, Lewis Loeb and Dr. James Bowley) would like to thank all our community for your support during the 2011 calendar year. We were able to meet our campaign goals and to provide our support to numerous local, national and international efforts as promised in our campaign.

- Locally, we provided assistance to families in need, contributed to the Magnolias and Falafel program, supported the Film Festival, Beth Israel Religious School and supported community events.
- Regionally, we provided assistance for children to attend Henry S Jacobs Camp, supported the Mississippi Religious Leadership Conference, the Anti-defamation League, the Goldring Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life and Camp Dream Street.
- Our National efforts included contributions to: American Jewish Congress, Jewish War Veterans of America, Simon Weisenthal Center, Shoah Foundation, U.S. Holocaust Museum, The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.
- We provided support to Israel and Jews around the globe through the Jewish Federations of North America and their partner organizations.

As we begin the new year and our 2012 campaign we hope that you will continue to support our efforts in providing help to those in need.

We would like to thank and welcome to our Board **Dr. James Bowley** who will be our **2012 Campaign Chair**.

**Federation Shabbat is scheduled for March 30, 2012** and our speaker will be JULIE WISE ORECK from New Orleans (see biography below). Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

*Cheryl Katz*

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### Julie Wise Oreck • Guest speaker for Federation Shabbat on 3/30/12

Ms. Julie Wise Oreck was born and raised in New Orleans. She graduated from Tulane University and then went on to New York for graduate work in Property and Casualty Insurance.



She served 8 years on the National Young Leadership Cabinet of the UJC, where she held the portfolios of Women's Campaign Chair, Co-Chair of the Southeastern Region, Co-Chair of the Southeast Regional Outreach Conference and National Mentor Chair.

After finishing her term on the Cabinet she was asked to join the Israel and Overseas Pillar of UJC. During her tenure with UJC, she served as the International Chair of OTZMA. Presently, she is a member of the Board of UJC and of the National Women's Philanthropy.

Locally in New Orleans, Julie is Vice President of the Jewish Federation and also of Jewish Family Service. She sits on the Executive Board of Touro Synagogue and on the boards of the New Orleans Jewish Day School, the Community Center, Isidore Newman School, and the local chapter of Young Audiences. Regionally, she is on the boards of AIPAC and ADL, and the Jewish Children's Regional Service. She has traveled on many missions and has been to the FSU (9 times!), Cuba and Israel.

# ORDER YOUR PURIM HAMENTASCHEN!



BITY is selling Hamantaschen direct from Ricki's Kosher Bakery in Memphis! You haven't celebrated Purim until you've tried one of these cookies!

**Price: \$8.00 per box**

Choose from these 5 delicious flavors:

**Apricot, strawberry, poppy, chocolate or assorted fruit**

Return your order form and payment to Traci at the Temple. Orders are due no later than Friday, February 24th.

Questions? Contact Traci - [traci@bethisraelms.org](mailto:traci@bethisraelms.org)  
(601) 956-6215

E-mail orders are accepted at the address above.

**BITY Hamantaschen Fundraiser Order Form**  
**Parve Kosher from Ricki's Bakery in Memphis**

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

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order:

- \_\_\_ boxes of apricot
- \_\_\_ boxes of poppy
- \_\_\_ boxes of assorted fruit
- \_\_\_ boxes of strawberry
- \_\_\_ boxes of chocolate

TOTAL: \_\_\_ boxes at \$8.00 each

I'd like to make an additional donation

to BITY: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total cost (order and donation): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to BITY  
Return this form to Traci no later than Friday, 2/24  
5315 Old Canton Rd. Jackson, MS 39211  
[traci@bethisraelms.org](mailto:traci@bethisraelms.org) • 956-6215

## Seeds of Faith Conference

featuring Dr. Amy-Jill Levine  
**"Jewish-Christian Relations:  
Problems and Possibilities"**  
**February 17-19, 2012**

**Cost per registrant: \$65.00**

checks made to Episcopal Church of the Mediator  
**Meridian, MS**

For more information:

<http://www.mediatormeridian.com/amyjilllevineposter.html>

## TUESDAY NIGHT ADULT EDUCATION

**February 7, 14, 21:**

**"A Treatise on the Soul: A  
Companion Volume to Maimonides'  
Study of Pirke Avot."**

This text focuses on such themes as virtue, vice, ethics, God, and free will. It adds further layers of meaning to Pirke Avot (the Sayings of our Ancient Rabbis), and also gives valuable insight into the philosophy of Maimonides.

**February 28:**

**Getting Ready for Purim:  
"Achashveirosh: The Banality of  
Evil."**

Led by Dr. Howard Katz

## An evening with Mississippi's Elected Officials

On January 9, 2012, our congregation joined with Opher Aviran, the Consul General of Israel, the Jackson Jewish Federation and IAI North America to host an elegant reception at Tamar and Peter Sharp's Fairview Inn. The crowd of over 165 was very diverse. People of various religions, race and political affiliation attended. Jews, Christians and Muslims, and Republicans and Democrats joined together to celebrate the relationship between Mississippi and Israel and to wish our incoming state leadership for the next four years the very best success in the challenges ahead.

Governor-elect Phil Bryant (inaugurated the next morning), MS Legislators, Consul Generals from Israel, Germany, Turkey and other countries, members of Christians United for Israel and many members of our congregation enjoyed the event together.

Many community leaders and government officials welcomed the group and voiced support for Israel. The keynote speaker was Governor-elect Phil Bryant, who was introduced by Consul General Aviran. Vocalists Lisa Palmer and Israeli Rick Coffey, Grammy award-winning Israeli pianist Ruslan Sirota and other musicians entertained us during the evening.



Governor Phil Bryant



Rabbi Cohen, Cleve Barham, Rebecca Laskin, Nina Mabry, Lisa Palmer and Judy and Richard Stamm

**Purim CARNIVAL**

Games!  
Prizes!  
Cake walk!  
Face Painting!  
Bounce House!  
Hamantaschen!  
Come in costume!  
Pie throwing!  
Arts and Crafts!  
Play Wii!  
and more...

**SUN. MARCH 4**  
**NOON BETH ISRAEL**  
THE PARTY STARTS AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL

**\$10—unlimited games!**  
Lunch and snacks available to purchase.  
**LUAU THEME!**

Sponsored by BHTY

**PURIM**  
IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

We are looking for actors, singers and just random crazy people for our Purim Spiel:

**"Oy-klahoma!"**

**Date of spiel: Wednesday, March 7, 7:00 PM**

No talent required - just energy and enthusiasm!

Limited rehearsals and lots of fun!

Contact Ben Russell:

[ben.russell@catholiccharitiesjackson.org](mailto:ben.russell@catholiccharitiesjackson.org)

# TOT SHABBAT

## Pajama Havdalah Celebration

Saturday, February 4, 2012

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

For children in 1st grade and younger

Come in pajamas!!

Dinner will be served.



RSVP to Traci by Friday, February 3

traci@bethisraelms.org

## Teacher Appreciation Shabbat

Friday, February 24, 2012

Join us in showing our heartfelt appreciation for educators!



# Mishloach Manot • A BITY fundraiser

### What are Mishloach Manot?

Mishloach Manot are gifts Jews send to each other during the holiday of Purim. "Mishloach Manot" literally means "sending of portions" and this mitzvah is meant to ensure that everyone has enough food to enjoy a traditional Purim feast.

### How does it work?

- Select as many Temple members as desired to whom you would like to send a gift.
- BITY will deliver your packages to each recipient. If the recipient has been selected by multiple donors, they will receive only one package signed with the names of all the donors.
- Packages are available for recipients who live outside the Jackson area and non-members. These packages are pick-up only.
- Mishloach Manot will be delivered or available for pick up the week of March 4th.

Packages cost \$5.00 each.

### Mishloach Manot Order Form - due 2/24 • \$5 each; delivered or available for pick-up

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

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to send Mishloach Manot to:

\_\_\_\_\_ delivery \_\_\_\_\_ pick-up \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ delivery \_\_\_\_\_ pick-up \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ delivery \_\_\_\_\_ pick-up \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ delivery \_\_\_\_\_ pick-up \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
 : Please make checks to BITY. :  
 : Return this form to Traci :  
 : no later than Friday, 2/24 :  
 : 5315 Old Canton Rd. :  
 : Jackson, MS 39211 :  
 : traci@bethisraelms.org :  
 : 956-6215 :  
 .....

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_ boxes at \$5.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to make an additional donation to BITY: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL COST (order and donation): \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## BITY Report

**B**ITY's semester is off to a busy, busy start! Our executive board met and scheduled a semester full of activities for BITY. Thank you to everyone that purchased Chili and Salsa as part of our Superbowl Sunday fundraiser. We hope you enjoy it!

We are hosting our annual **Purim Carnival on Sunday March 4<sup>th</sup>** from noon to 2 pm after Religious School. Unlimited game bracelets are \$10/each. Lunch and snacks are available to purchase as well. This year's carnival is a Luau Theme!

**We are selling hamentashen for \$8.00/box.** These delicious Purim cookies are from Ricki's Kosher Bakery in Memphis (priced at \$9.50 when you buy from their store!) Choose from 5 flavors: apricot, strawberry, poppy, chocolate or assorted fruits. Order are due Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> and available for pick up the week of March 4<sup>th</sup>.

BITY is also organizing a **Mishloach Manot Fundraiser!** Mishloach Manot are gifts that Jews send to each other during Purim. The mitzvah of sending them is meant to ensure that everyone has enough food to enjoy the traditional Purim feast. Packages are \$5.00/each and will be delivered or available for pick up the week of March 4<sup>th</sup>. Order deadline is also February 24<sup>th</sup>.

In the middle of our fun-filled Purim planning February, we are having a **"How to be Classy" event** on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. It's sure to be very entertaining and enjoyable!

If you have any questions or would like to order hamentashen or mishloach manot, please call or email Traci at 601-956-6215 or [Traci@bethisraelms.org](mailto:Traci@bethisraelms.org)





**Saturday, March 3, 2012**  
*Two Times Offered For Your Convenience*

<u><b>TOUR TIME ALEPH</b></u>		<u><b>TOUR TIME BET</b></u>	
11:00 AM	Camp Tour	12:30 PM	Lunch (on us!)
12:30 PM	Lunch (on us!)	1:30 PM	Camp Tour

**For Prospective Families, Open House is a great opportunity for you and your child/children to check out Jacobs Camp.**

The tour will include a typical Camper Cabin, and all of our Recreational Facilities. Plus, you'll get to have any and all of your questions answered by the Camp Director and Assistant Director.

**Reservations are requested.** Please call (601-885-6042) or email ([jacobscamp@urj.org](mailto:jacobscamp@urj.org)) and let us know which tour time you are choosing and how many will be in your party.

*We look forward to sharing Jacobs Camp with you!*

**[www.jacobs.urjcamps.org](http://www.jacobs.urjcamps.org)**

\*Why not a make a day or weekend of it? Family-friendly attractions in Jackson include the new Mississippi Children's Museum, The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, and the Jackson Zoo.

...continued from page 1

And in God's column I noted God's omission: 'Little girl died of diphtheria.' Then the next sin, 'Lost my temper with my children,' and in God's column, 'I heard there was a famine in another country.'" And so it went. The tailor showed the rabbi the completed list. "And for every sin I had committed during the past year, God had done one too. So I said to God, 'Look, we each have the same number of sins. If you let me off, I'll let You off!' "

But the story doesn't end there. When the rabbi looked at the paper his face grew red and he scolded his friend: "You fool! You had Him and you let Him go!" Here is a kind of relationship with God unique to Jewish tradition. Jews don't just get angry with God. They call God to account. In Abraham's words, as he argues the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah, "Will You sweep away the innocent along with the guilty? Shall not the Judge of all the earth deal justly?" (Genesis 18:23-35) The man, in effect, is saying, "Just who the hell do You think You are?"

But there's another curve ball. If you believe, as I do, that "it's all God," then how do we argue with what we're made of? That destabilizes us, makes us very uncomfortable. It means we have to talk to ourselves. We no longer have the luxury of putting all the nasty decisions and deeds on some distant, omniscient, omnipotent God, and freeing ourselves to bask in moral security. God says, in effect, "And whom do you think you're talking to? Hold up a mirror. When you're done with the conversation, come back to Me..." ♦



# **NFTY-SO JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP (JYG) WEEKEND RETREAT FOR 6TH-8TH GRADERS**

**March 2-4 at Jacobs Camp**

**Register today!**

**[www.nfty.org/so/events/jyg](http://www.nfty.org/so/events/jyg)**

**username: nftyso**

**password: southern18**

**NFTY-Southern** (NFTY-SO) is an acronym that stands for the North American Federation of Temple Youth-Southern Region. We are a Reform youth group for teens from Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Western Tennessee, and the Florida Panhandle. We have weekend-long events 4 times a year, which are, with the exception of JYG Kallah, open to high-school students only.

**JYG Kallah** is a weekend packed with fun and exciting get-to-know each other and get-to-know NFTY mixers, programs, and activities. We will celebrate Shabbat together and introduce you to what being a NFTYite in high school is all about.

**Please talk to Traci if you have any questions about JYG!**

## Religious School Update

As we progress through the school year, hopefully early Sunday morning wake ups get easier. Personally, some Sunday alarm clocks are more welcome than others... but I'm definitely in the groove of things. It's become routine and habit. All the little pieces that go into preparation and execution of a successful Sunday morning are there—a great, thought-provoking and stimulating curriculum, energetic and enthusiastic students, all the supplies and copies, and of course our wonderful teachers.

Teaching is difficult and requires a little something special, a little extra creativity, a little more dedication and a lot of heart. Volunteer teaching requires all of that and more. We are so fortunate to have an extremely hard-working, dedicated, and loving group of teachers on Sunday and Wednesday, as well as hard-working and devoted high school volunteers. I cannot say thank you enough to these congregants who give freely of their time and energy every week in class with our children. I for one could not do it without them. On Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, I invite all of you to join us for a Teacher Appreciation Shabbat T'fillah during which we will honor our teachers and thank them for a year of hard work and a lot of heart.

In addition to Teacher Appreciation Shabbat... other great events coming up:

- Tot Shabbat Havdalah Pajama Celebration for families with children in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and younger Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup> 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- NFTY Southern's JYG (Junior Youth Group) Kallah is March 2-4<sup>th</sup> at Jacobs Camp. All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join other kids from across the Deep South (Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Western Tennessee and the Florida Panhandle) for a fun-filled weekend retreat! Registration is open now! To sign up, go to: [www.nfty.org/so/events/jyg](http://www.nfty.org/so/events/jyg) To access the site, enter the username: nftyso password: southern18. Let me know if you have any questions.
- BITY Purim Carnival is Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> from noon-2pm and their Hamentashen Sale and Mishloach Manot Fundraisers are going on during the month of February as well.

With continuous gratitude and thanks,

**Traci Stratford**  
Religious Educator and Youth Director



## CAMP K'TANIM

**A Day Camp Program for Children Ages 4 - 6**

Co-sponsored by Beth Israel Preschool  
and the URJ Henry S. Jacobs Camp

**2012 Dates:** Monday, June 18 - Friday, June 22, 2012

**Fee:** Just \$200

Visit our website to learn more and  
complete an application:

[www.jacobs.urjcamps.org/about/daycamp](http://www.jacobs.urjcamps.org/about/daycamp)



Camp K'Tanim combines the creative & innovative programming of Jacobs Camp's overnight program within a day camp setting

*Sisterhood*  
**GIFT SHOP SALE !**

**30% OFF**  
all Chanukah items

**20% OFF**  
all other items

*Sale ends February 29, 2012*

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Please Save the Date for the **Second Seder**  
on Saturday, **April 7, 2012**  
at the Temple.

More information to come!

*Sisterhood Monthly Meeting*

*and Afternoon Tea*

**Sunday, February 12, 2012**  
**at 3:00 p.m.**

Beth Israel Social Hall

Join your fellow Sisterhood members  
for tea and light fare

**Cost: \$5.00**

**RSVP by Friday,**  
**2/10**

to Susan Fijman  
at sfijman@  
gmail.com or  
601.260.4130



**BIC SISTERHOOD GIRLS' NIGHT OUT IN PARIS:  
VIKING COOKING CLASS**

**February 7, 2012, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**



**Tentative Menu:**

Caramelized Sweet Onion and Goat Cheese Tartlets  
with Fresh Herb Salad  
Pan-Roasted Baby Lamb Chops with Apricot Jus  
Pommes Allumettes (matchstick potatoes)  
Individual Chocolate Souffles with Strawberry Sauce  
Fresh Berry Champagne Cocktails

**A few spots are still available! Even though the theme is "Girls'  
Night Out," a few brave men are also welcome to sign up.**

**Cost: \$99.00**

**Reservations and deposit of \$20 required**

Accepting reservations through 2/6 or until class is full!  
contact Susan Fijman at **sfijman@gmail.com** or 601.260.4130

## Words from the Sisterhood President

Sisterhood Shabbat was lovely. I'd like to thank Josh Wiener and the Shirim Choir for adding their voices which enhanced the service. It was wonderful welcoming Nicole Villalpando to Beth Israel. We benefitted from the training she did with sisterhood members Saturday afternoon and look forward to fostering stronger ties with Women of Reform Judaism's Southwest district.



"tea." I'm so grateful to Susan Fijman and Charna Schlakman for organizing these wonderful programs.

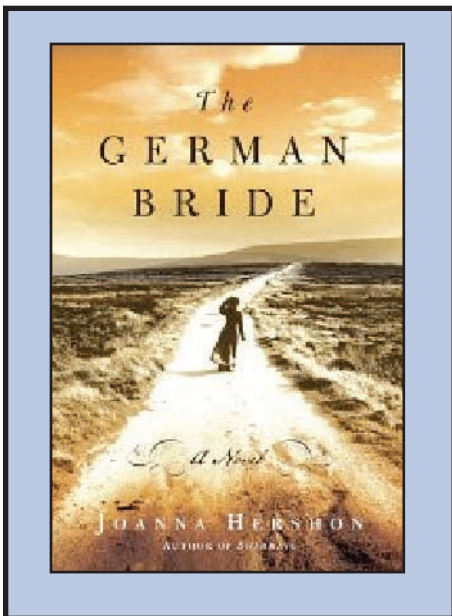
Sisterhood is in full swing for the Bazaar. Please heed the call to bake, cook, solicit items for silent auction, bring items for the white elephant and book sales and ANYTHING else I left out.

It does take the entire sisterhood and congregation to ensure the success of the day!

We're looking forward to our February events. The Viking Cooking School program as well as our monthly meeting, which will be an afternoon

*Michele Schipper, Sisterhood President*

## February Sisterhood Book Club



The February Sisterhood Book Club meeting will be held at the Temple on **Sunday, February 19, 2012, at 11:00 a.m.** Please join us, even if you have not attended previously. Everyone is welcome.

.....  
Eva Frank, the daughter of a benevolent Jewish banker, and her sister, Henriette, are having their portrait painted—which leads to a secret affair between young Eva and the mercurial artist. This indiscretion has far-reaching consequences, more devastating than Eva or her family could have imagined. Distraught and desperate to escape her painful situation, Eva hastily marries Abraham Shein, an ambitious merchant who has returned home to Germany for the first time in a decade since establishing himself in the American West. The eighteen-year-old bride leaves Berlin and its ghosts for an unfamiliar life halfway across the world, traversing the icy waters of the Atlantic and the rugged, sweeping terrain of the Santa Fe Trail.

### Future selections:

March - **Great House** (Krauss) | April - **In the Garden of the Beast: Love, Terror and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin** (Larson)

## From The Office

- **Contributions** processed after February 15th will be included in the March issue of ChaiLights.
- **The BIC Board Meetings** have changed to the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Thursday of every month. All BIC Board meetings begin at 6:00 PM.
- To protect your privacy and to ensure all checks are handled in a timely manner, **please put all checks in the black lock box by the BIC Office door.** The box is conveniently located on the wall to the left of the BIC Office door. Please do not leave checks anywhere else. Thank you!
- **Reports and articles for the March issue of ChaiLights are due Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>.** Submissions can be e-mailed to [amy@bethisraelms.org](mailto:amy@bethisraelms.org).<sup>\*</sup> Submissions received after the 10<sup>th</sup> will be included on a space-available basis.

*\*Please note in the subject line: March 2012 ChaiLights submission*

### Closings and reminders

- Feb 5 Budget Meeting, 10:30 a.m.
- Feb 16 Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- Feb 19 Religious School NOT meeting
- Feb 20 Office will be CLOSED  
President's Day
- Feb 26 Annual Meeting, 4:30 p.m.  
Quorum Required



### Happy Anniversary to...

- 2/10 Phil and Sally Cohen
- 2/18 Irv and Trena Feldman
- 2/21 David and Kay Grishman

### Happy Birthday to...

- |                        |                      |                        |
|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 2/1 David Docter       | 2/11 Hannah Kaminsky | 2/22 Ruth Docter       |
| 2/2 John Craig         | 2/12 Steve Jacobson  | 2/22 William Howell    |
| 2/2 Marilyn Greenberg  | 2/12 Harold Kolodney | 2/22 Ian Rost          |
| 2/3 Jay Hesdorffer     | 2/14 Shelby Barham   | 2/23 Debra Jacobs      |
| 2/5 Melissa Daniel     | 2/14 Shirley Eriksen | 2/24 Honorine Weiss    |
| 2/7 Susan Fijman       | 2/15 Susan Hart      | 2/25 Amy Lappen Oliver |
| 2/7 Theresa Priebatsch | 2/15 Kimbereley Rost | 2/26 Matthew Dobel     |
| 2/7 Michael Torchinsky | 2/17 Gabriel Cohen   | 2/27 Zoey Rockoff      |
| 2/8 Robyn Levy         | 2/18 Betsy Samuels   | 2/27 Mary Ann Schwartz |
| 2/9 Moriah Allouche    | 2/19 Joseph Samuels  | 2/27 Albert Wahba      |
| 2/10 Jonathan Norris   | 2/21 David Norris    | 2/28 Benjamin Chaidell |

# We appreciate those who have remembered and honored their friends and family through their generous contributions:

## In Memory of Mr and Mrs Meyer Falk

By Donald Parsons to the General Fund

## In Memory of Dr. Julian Wiener

By Donald Parsons to the General Fund

## In Memory of Maxine Harris

By Donald Parsons to the General Fund

## In Honor of Mrs. Katherine Wiener

By Donald Parsons to the General Fund

## In Memory of Jane and David Levy

By Jack and Susan Arogeti, Michael and Mary Simon to the Rabbi's Discretionary fund

## In Memory of Max Turteltaub

By David Taub to the Rabbi's Discretionary fund

## In Memory of Julian Wiener

By Katherine Wiener with thanks to the Caring Committee Fund

## In Appreciation of Mark Fijman

By Robert "Bob" Crechale to the General Fund

## For the Recovery of Kay Pollack

By Rebecca Laskin and Luise Draft to the Caring Committee Fund

## For the Recovery of Honi Weiss

By Rebecca Laskin and Luise Draft to the Caring Committee Fund

## For the Recovery of Allen Weiss

By Rebecca Laskin and Luise Draft to the Caring Committee Fund

## NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING AND BOARD NOMINATIONS

BIC's Annual Meeting is scheduled for **February 26, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.** Pursuant to the notice requirements of Article XI of the Constitution of Beth Israel Congregation, the following Board nominations will be voted upon by the Congregation at the Annual Meeting:

### Slate of Nominees for Board of Trustees (2012-2013) To be voted upon

<b>President</b>	Rebecca Laskin
<b>First Vice President</b>	Howard Katz
<b>Second Vice President</b>	Lawrence Haber
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mindy Humphrey
<b>Secretary</b>	Betsy Samuels
<b>Comptroller</b>	Carol Kossman
<b>Trustee (term expiring March 1, 2015)</b>	Judy Wahba
<b>Trustee (term expiring March 1, 2015)</b>	Shawn Alexander

### Non-Nominated Board of Trustee Positions (not voted upon)

<b>Sisterhood President</b>	Michele Schipper
<b>Past President (term expiring March 1, 2014)</b>	Bert Rubinsky

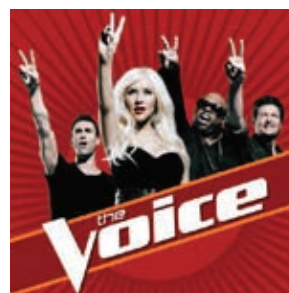
### Current Board of Trustee Members with Unexpired Terms (not voted upon)

<b>Trustee (term expiring March 1, 2013)</b>	Michael Steiner
<b>Trustee (term expiring March 1, 2013)</b>	Peter Sharp
<b>Trustee (term expiring March 1, 2014)</b>	Arty Finkelberg
<b>Trustee (term expiring March 1, 2014)</b>	Richard Snyder

LOOK FOR BETH ISRAEL CONGREGANT  
**BRIAN FUENTE** WHO MIGHT  
BE A CONTESTANT ON  
**THE VOICE!**

Season 2 of The Voice premieres after the Super Bowl on NBC, February 5, 2012. Lisa Palmer's son, Brian Fuente, who grew up in Jackson at Beth Israel Congregation, may well show up singing on The Voice after the Superbowl or in following episodes.

The Voice is a vocal competition series hosted by Carson Daly; the show features four coaches: Adam Levine, Blake Shelton, Cee Lo Green and Christina Aguilera. They want to coach only the most talented artists - and we know that means BRIAN!



**so tune in  
to NBC,  
and cheer  
for one of  
our own!**

# *We Remember*

## Yahrzeits for February 2012

### FEB 3-4

Eva Marmel  
 Clarence Goodwin  
 Joen Mykoff  
 Dinah Evans \*  
 William Friedman  
 Lee Lehman Gotthelf \*  
 Abram Hyman  
 Orlansky  
 Phoebe Abraham  
 Spencer  
 Edward Hulick  
 Jeffrey Korelitz  
 Viola Lucus  
 Jimmy Gordon  
 James Lucien Loeb  
 Harry Magidson  
 Judy Feldman\*  
 B. Lewis Garshman \*  
 Jennie Rosenzweig

### FEB 5-11

Mark Berger  
 William Hirsch\*  
 Minnette Safer  
 Ruth Taub\*  
 Augusta Engel  
 Lehman\*  
 Riki Hoffberg  
 Erwin Adler

### FEB 12-18

Avi Schaefer  
 Minnie Ascher\*  
 Sidney Pollack  
 Celia B. Abromson  
 Louis Binder  
 Reba Gavant  
 Frank Kuerschner  
 Lillian Horton  
 Joseph Fisher  
 A.D. Oppenheim\*

### FEB 19-25

Gailynn Ava Pollack  
 Milton Smith  
 Ruth Feldman  
 Henry Greenberg  
 Yonodav C Allouche  
 Camilla Wahba  
 Fannie Swartz  
 Betty Kreisman  
 Ruth Chamow  
 Fannie Schwartz  
 Irwin Ross  
 Dave Fisher  
 Esther Levin

### FEB 26 - MAR 3

Bessie Shornick\*  
 Max Millstein  
 Hanna Levine  
 Schusheim  
 Marilyn Kisner Schur  
 Frieda Levy\*  
 Edward Schur  
 John Hart Lewis  
 Adeline Fish  
 H. Harry Fish  
 Isidore Dreyfus  
 Isaac Mykoff