

April 2013
Vol. 5, No. 8

B'nai Torah TIMES

A BREATH, BREEZE, AND SPIRIT OF THE TIMES

MAY IT BE BREATH OF FRESH JEWISH SPIRIT ARRIVING AT YOUR HOME

Yom HaAtzmaut Israeli Independence Day



Yom HaAtzma'ut, Israeli Independence Day, April 16th, marks the establishment of the modern state of Israel in 1948. It is observed on or near the 5th of Iyar in the Hebrew calendar.

Temple B'nai Torah • 2900 Jerusalem Avenue • Wantagh, New York 11793-2025

B'NAI MITZVAH



April 6 Marielle Garvey

Alyson

My name is Marielle Diana AnQin. I was born in China and raised on Long Island. I attend the L. I. School for the Gifted. Temple B'nai Torah has been an important part of my life for the past eight years. I am a member of the choir, a service aide in the Religious School and have performed with the TBT Jr. Players for the past four years. Science, art, theatre, golf and archery are among my passions. I began my Mitzvah project in June 2012, participating in Walk like MADD and have once again organized my team, Marielle's Mitzvah MADDness. My Bat Mitzvah is on the eve of Yom Ha-shoah. I will be remembering Chana Mendelevski, who perished in the Kaunas Ghetto in 1944, at age 11, and honoring a man, Righteous Among The Nations, Feng-Shan Ho. In their memory, I will be donating some of my gift money to the TBT Holocaust Education Fund and the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center in Glen Cove. I will also make a donation to my orphanage in China, to say thank you for what they did for me, and to help the children who are still there. I want to thank Rabbi Bellows, Cantor Sher, Mrs. Altman, and all of my teachers throughout the years for their support in preparation of my becoming a Bat Mitzvah. I especially want to thank my mom for her encouragement and endless devotion.



April 13 Clyde Feldman

Steve & Helene

My name is Clyde Feldman. I am a 7th grade honors student at Grand Avenue Middle School. My tutor was Cantor David Hiesiger, and I enjoyed studying and learning with him. He has played a big role in helping achieve my goal of becoming a Bar Mitzvah in April. For my mitzvah project, I will be participating in a fundraiser for The Little People of Long Island. It means a lot to me, as a little girl in 4th grade lost her life due to complications with dwarfism. I will be selling all kind of items, and I am hoping this organization will get the recognition they deserve, and we will raise a large amount of money. I am also a brown belt in karate, which I have been studying kindergarten; it has been very challenging and rewarding. I love to read, and I have just started to exercise, and go regularly with my parents when they walk around Newbridge Park. I would like to thank Rabbi Bellows, Cantor Sher, Cantor Hiesiger, and my family for teaching and preparing me for my Bar Mitzvah. My Bar Mitzvah means a lot to me, as I have studied so many weeks for it, and have enjoyed doing it.



April 20 Jason Yelner

Gary & Michelle

My name is Jason Yelner, and I have grown up in Massapequa. I am an Honors student in the 7th grade at Berner Middle School. Some of my favorite activities and hobbies are playing sports (including being on my school's soccer team) and hanging out with my friends. I am also a die-hard Mets and Jets fan. For my Mitzvah Project, I volunteered to help kids with special needs play baseball. I chose this for my Mitzvah Project because I love to play sports, and it was very rewarding for me to see these kids being able to actually play baseball even if they were in wheelchairs or had other types of physical disabilities.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Friday, April 5	7:30 pm	Family Services, led by BNTY
Saturday, April 6	10:30 am	Shabbat Services (1 Bat Mitzvah)
Sunday, April 7	7:00 pm	Yom Ha-Shoah service
Friday, April 12	5:30 pm	Tot Shabbat
Friday, April 12	8:00 pm	Erev Shabbat Services, led by Couples' Club
Saturday April 13	10:30 am	Shabbat Services (1 Bar Mitzvah)
Friday, April 19	6:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Services (featuring the Aufruf for Rabbi Bellows and Seth Lindenman)
Saturday, April 20	10:30 am	Shabbat Services (1 Bar Mitzvah)
Friday, April 26	8:00 pm	Shabbat Services
Saturday, April 27	10:30 am	Shabbat Services

"Celebrating with Bride and Groom"



Shalom, chaverim – Hello, friends,

It is hard to imagine, but later this month, I will be getting married. It has been such a delight to celebrate with you all in so many different ways. I feel that the congregation is my second home, and I am grateful for the way in which you have all welcomed Seth into the community with open arms. We truly enjoyed the beautiful "Jack and Jill" shower hosted by the synagogue (under the wise direction of Julia Brite) – it felt so special to know that you cared enough to celebrate with us.

Marriage is one of Judaism's highest values. From the beginning, we learn that we are encouraged to have life partners: "It is not good for man to be alone; I shall make for him a fitting helper." (Genesis 2:18) This does not, of course, mean that those who are not married are unable to find happiness (and we all know many people who live incredibly fulfilled lives as a single person). Rather, above and beyond the choice made by any particular individual, Judaism holds up an ideal for humankind which includes marriage.

The name given to marriage reflects this emphasis: *Kiddushin*, from the word *kadosh*, which means "sacred" or "holy." Marriage, in other words, is a sacred union between two people, so holy that it is held up as a metaphor for the eternal bond which links God and the people Israel.

Traditionally, there were three distinct phases to the Jewish wedding ritual. The first was *shidukhin*, "engagement," which was a promise to marry at a later date. The promise could be broken, and neither side could be forced to marry if one changed one's mind. The second phase was *Kiddushin* (or *erusin*), which was a legal act of "betrothal." This could only be broken by death or divorce, and could last as long as a year. The couple, however, did not live together until the final phase – *Nisu'in*, or the "nuptials" themselves. This took place publicly, under a *chuppah*. In medieval times, these last two phases were combined into one ceremony, which is how we typically celebrate today.

Interestingly, the bulk of today's wedding ritual is custom rather than law. According to Jewish law, there are only three things needed to get married: the groom gives something of value to the bride (often a ring), a contract is signed (this is the *ketubah*), and the marriage is consummated. Everything else has been added over the centuries to enhance the beauty of the day.

Of the many *mitzvot* related to lifecycle events, "celebrating with bride and groom" is considered one of the most important. Maimonides taught that, even though the Torah doesn't specifically mention this particular *mitzvah*, it falls under the greater umbrella of "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Lev. 19:18). Therefore, it is *as if* it is one of the most important commandments, and fulfills one of these major obligations.

To that end, I hope you will consider celebrating with us one more time, at our *Aufbruch* blessing on Friday night, April 19. Seth and I are hosting a special "pre-neg" that evening at 5:45 pm, and then we are honored that Cantor Sher, Rabbi Pasternak, and our congregant, Rabbi Howard Nacht, will be blessing our upcoming wedding on the *bimah* during the Kabbalat Shabbat service at 6:30 pm.

I'm sure that we will feel all the love coming to us on our wedding day, April 28, emanating from the South Shore of Long Island. And know that we are sending love right back!

L'shalom,

Rabbi Marci Bellows

SAVE THE DATE!!

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2013
10:00 AM – NOON

THE ANNUAL ISRAEL BOND BREAKFAST,
HONORING RABBI DEANNA PASTERNAK AND
HER HUSBAND, ANDREW

RESERVATIONS STRONGLY SUGGESTED.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CALL STAN FRIEDMAN: 781-5041

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2013
11:45 AM

THE TBT OUTREACH COMMITTEE PRESENTS:
A SHAVUOT EVENT FOR ADULTS AND FAMILIES
LEARN ABOUT GIVING OF THE TORAH AT MOUNT SINAI
MAKE A MEZUZAH CASE TO USE AT HOME
TRADITIONAL DAIRY TREATS WILL BE SERVED

WATCH THE SCROLL FOR DETAILS



INSPIRATION FROM OUR CANTOR



April is a wonderful month for many programmatic activities here at Temple B'nai Torah. The big news is that the Sheba Ensemble, who delighted us at a Friday evening special musical service in 2011, will reprise their performance on Sunday, April 28th, at 2PM. They will present a gala concert of a variety of selections, both Jewish and secular, ranging from the worlds of classical music to contemporary jazz, to traditional and contemporary popular Jewish pieces. These five women, all classically trained instrumentalists, are not only a wonderful ensemble, but also individual virtuosi in their own right. They will regale us with not only the beautiful sounds of violin, cello, piano, flute and voice, but also the wonderful anecdotes they will delight in sharing with their audience. And, they are as easy to look at as they are distinguished musicians! We are most grateful to Barbara Held, who is underwriting this event in celebration and memory of her beloved Mort. I am, indeed, appreciative of her generosity. This event is free and open to the public.

My new adult education series, "The Wandering Jew," continues on April 7th, with the Jews of Taipei, Taiwan. A unique, mostly ex-patriate community in the heart of this bustling metropolis, you will find their lives and lifestyles most engaging. I will share with you, in photo and story, among many anecdotes, my very special experience leading Jewish music in a Chinese school! My last session of this series, about the Jews of Malta, will be held on Sunday, May 5th; I will elaborate on this in the May bulletin.

April is also the month for my annual "Adventures in Jewish Music" series. This year, I have an extraordinary array of personalities who will visit us on 4 Monday afternoons at noon:

On April 8th, join us for an afternoon with Father Paul Mayer, author, speaker, Jewish Holocaust survivor, provocateur, Catholic Priest and spiritualist. Hear him explain how a German Jewish survivor became a Catholic priest and still maintains his Jewish identity! Father Mayer is, indeed, a fascinating teller of stories who will mesmerize you with his real life anecdotes.

On April 15th, we welcome Dr. Joel Hoffman, iconoclast, teacher, scholar, linguist and world authority on the musical language of the Torah. I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Hoffman in my former congregation. He is, to say the least, a commanding presence!

On April 22nd, you will enjoy the haunting and beautiful sounds of Pastor Rene Sahir. Pastor Sahir, a Methodist minister to the Indonesian Christian community, is an accomplished classical guitarist and composer, who will delight us with his interpretations of our own familiar biblical liturgy.

On April 29th, Naomi Zeitlin, singer, performer, cabaret artist, and raconteur, will regale us with her wonderful renderings of the great repertoire of the American Songbook and the great American Jewish popular musical legacy of the 20th century and a bit of the 21st!

All these programs and more await your patronage for this exciting month of programming for April. There is something for every taste! With the advent of spring comes the sweet sounds of our people in the many manifestations of our tradition.

Cantor Steve Sher

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

So many things to talk about with the arrival of April: the baseball season, the Masters (and golf in general), and, for the accountants among us, the end of the income tax return season. The days are getting longer, and warmer, and before we know it, the summer will be here. And both the spring and the summer will be so welcome, after the terrible fall and winter we have had around here. You know, everyone always complains about the weather, but nobody ever does anything about it...

This April, Temple B'nai Torah has some things going on as well. On April 7, at 7 pm, there will be a service to commemorate *Yom Ha-Shoah* (Holocaust Remembrance). The end of World War II came 68 years ago, but we, as a people, have pledged to "never forget"; in fact, these words are inscribed at the entrance to our Holocaust Garden. It is our sacred duty; wherever genocide is occurring around the world, we must stand up and condemn it, in memory of our lost ancestors. I hope that you will make time to attend this moving and memorable service.

This month, we also honor fallen Israeli soldiers on *Yom HaZikaron* (April 14-15), as well as the birth of Israel (*Yom Ha-Atzma'ut*) on April 15-16, and finally, *Lag B'Omer* (April 27-28; the 33rd day of the Counting of the Omer), which is celebrated as a nationalist holiday in Israel during which IDF reserves are honored. While no formal services are being held for these three holidays, they are, nonetheless, dates of which we should all be aware.

On a more local level, the Israeli Bond Breakfast will be held on April 28, at 10 am, and this year, we are honoring Rabbi Deanna Pasternak, and her husband, Andrew. Rabbi Pasternak is the long-serving director of religious education at TBT, and she is retiring at the end of this school year after more than 35 years as a *morah*, while Andy has also been a long-time teacher in our school. I know that we all wish them both well in their future endeavors.

Looking forward to May, we will celebrate Shavuot (the receiving of the Torah), with services on May 14 and 15, and on the following Friday night, May 17, our high school seniors will celebrate their Confirmation, the culmination of their years of study and hard work. We should all show our support for these young people who have made a commitment to Judaism and Jewish learning by attending this service.

Let's go Mets!

Rob Saunders
Editor

We Need You!!

- ❖ Are you a non-driver?
- ❖ Do you need a ride to evening Shabbat services at Temple B'nai Torah?
- ❖ Are you willing to give time to drive a "non-driver" to Shabbat services?

Please volunteer!

Call Pearl Sutz to get on either list: 516-781-7610



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Russell Brenner D.C.
Chiropractor



Sunday Hours!!!

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Fax: (516) 221-2114
RABrennerDC@gmail.com
www.BrennerChiropractic.com

3351 Park Avenue
Wantagh, NY 11793
Sun, Mon, Thurs

BROTHERHOOD SPEAKS



“Why is this dinner different than all the other Brotherhood dinners?” We held our first Men’s Seder at TBT on Tuesday, March 19th. Thank you, **Cantor Sher**, for leading the service and the lively discussion topics. As everyone found out, this Haggadah was written specifically for men. Our unique Seder plate symbolized many things in a man’s life: Family, Work, Technology, Sports, and Medication. I want to thank the Committee: **Dave Schuster, Mark Chester and Josh Rest** for helping put the service together and coordinating with Sisterhood the fine dinner from Happy Hostess. I also want to thank Mark Kean for his delicious home-made horseradish.

At the February Brotherhood Board meeting, a motion to donate funds for planting bushes and flowers along the walkway leading to the back door passed unanimously.

Recent events for Brotherhood include:

- a) On Saturday, March 1st, many members of Brotherhood attended the Jack and Jill shower honoring the Rabbi and Seth.
- b) On the weekend of March 22nd, the Lisa Levine concert and Shalom Yoga was enjoyed by everyone in attendance.

Upcoming future events include:

- a) Friday, March 29th at 8:00 pm - Brotherhood Shabbat Service
- b) Tuesday, April 2nd at 7:30 pm – Monthly Board meeting
- c) Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00 pm – Monthly dinner. We will be having a speaker talk about Tay Sachs disease.
- d) Sunday, April 28th at 10:00 am - Israeli Bond Breakfast

Please join us for breakfast at 9:15 am every Sunday morning that school is in session. If you are interested in cooking or just schmoozing with the kitchen crew, please come down.

Alan Loewenstein
Brotherhood President

OUR TBT SISTERHOOD SOURCE



April is a month filled with warm weather, with flowers blooming and with lots of sunshine. Join us for a wonderful program and bask in Sisterhood’s warmth. Our next *Rosh Chodesh* program, led by Rabbi Bellows, will be at 1 pm on Sunday, April 14th. All temple women are welcome. Tuesday evening, April 23rd, our program will be “Pathways to Stress Reduction”. We hope to see you there!

Become part of Temple B’nai Torah Sisterhood. We can use your help with so many of our projects. Would you like to help with a fundraiser or work in the Judaica Shop? How about helping with Bingo or assisting with one of our programs?

Come to our next program and you will find a group of intergenerational women who welcome new “sisters” with warmth and friendship. You’ll feel part of something very special.

Any questions? Contact me at lollipop@optonline.net

Joni Christie
Sisterhood President

Torah Cards

You’ve heard of them. Sisterhood has been offering them for sale. But, do you know what they are?

Torah cards are cards you can send for birthdays, anniversaries, a get-well wish, or just to say hello. They can be purchased through the temple Judaica Shop at a cost of 3 for \$5.00. All money raised from the sale of Torah cards is used for the repair or purchase of items on our sanctuary’s bimah – Torah covers, candlesticks, etc.

Come to the Judaica shop and pick up some Torah cards. When you send a loved one or a friend a greeting, know you are helping to maintain our beautiful bimah. Any questions? For further information, please call Hilda Singer at 826 – 9538.

CONGREGANT CORNER

Richard "Rich" Epler is a fixture here at TBT. You see him at Shabbat services, helping out at Bingo on Thursday evenings, and at the Housing Meetings.

Rich and his bride Laurie held their son Jason's Bar Mitzvah here back in 2009, and they are long time members. An accounting controller for a health care company, Rich is an avid bike rider who happens to root for our local losing pro sports teams: Mets, Jets, Knicks and Rangers.



Rich says the "Temple is doing fine in spite of a challenging environment for Long Island and Judaism on the South Shore. Our Rabbi and Cantor are thoroughly interesting people. They work extremely well as a team and have created and maintained a positive experience. They enjoy educating, and supporting the Congregation."

"Members with young children should get involved, join the Temple Board, interact, and improve the chance of families staying after their children have completed Religious School."

Rich enjoys Purim Shpeil, ushering at Bar Mitzvahs, and working Thursday Night Bingo. "Having the support of people, some of whom I hardly know, is one of the best things about TBT!"

Cantor Steven Sher

Presents

ADVENTURES IN MUSIC

At

Temple B'nai Torah

Sponsored by the Kliegman Fund

1. April 8th, 2013 at 12:00 P.M.



An afternoon with Father Paul Mayer, author, speaker, Jewish Holocaust survivor, provocateur, Catholic Priest and spiritualist: How a German Jewish survivor became a priest and still maintains his Jewish identity!

2. April 15th, 2013 at 12:00 P.M.



Dr. Joel Hoffman, iconoclast, teacher, scholar, linguist and world class authority on the musical language of the Torah.

3. April 22nd, 2013 at 12:00 P.M.



Rene Sahir, Methodist minister to the Indonesian Christian community, is an accomplished classical guitarist and composer, who will delight us with his interpretations of our own familiar biblical liturgy.

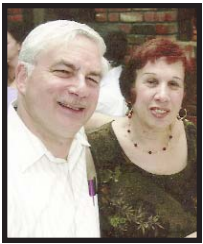
4. April 29th, 2013 at 12:00 P.M.



Naomi Zeitlin, singer, performer, cabaret artist and aconteur, will regale us with her wonderful renderings of the huge repertoire of the American Songbook and the great American Jewish popular musical legacy of the 20th century and a bit of the 21st!

A \$4.00 donation is requested to help offset some of the costs. Lunch is provided by the Chai Club.

CHAI NOTES



As of this writing, we are turning our clocks ahead and every day brings more sunlight and a little warmer weather for all of us. Get well wishes go out to our Board members Ruth Hochberg, Ed Kliegman and Pearl Sutz. We hope that the warmer weather will also warm their spirits for full recovery.

The March 4th Chai Club general meeting featured a very interesting presentation by Nolan Altman, president of the Long Island Jewish Genealogy Society. Nolan provided several websites and other resources that will allow us to trace our roots. We hope to have Mr. Altman back in the near future, as our interest in genealogy has been kindled. Congratulations to the winners of the March birthday prizes, Elaine Weinstein and Alyson Garvey. Lorna Levy won the 50-50 prize.



More than 100 people attended the Chai Club-sponsored Second Seder, Tuesday, March 26th. Everyone enjoyed Cantor Sher's performance, as he led us in a fun-filled evening featuring the Four Questions, favorite songs, and familiar rituals. Everyone took home their own souvenir modern *Haggadah*. The younger members who searched for the *Afikomen* were rewarded with special gifts. A hearty thank-you to the Seder Committee, led this year by Co-Chairs Ed and Marilyn Pincus; Barbara Held, Rita Hofer, Shelley Lomove, Harvey Drucker and Mark Kean.

Our April 7th Theatre Party to see "Funny Girl" at Broadhollow is sold out. We thank Pearl Sutz for once again running an enjoyable trip to the theatre.

Our Monday, April 8th general meeting will feature Sally Wershba, who will present her program on Edward R. Murrow. Mr. Murrow was an American broadcast journalist who came to prominence during World War II with a series of radio reports which were followed by millions of listeners in the United States and Canada. Fellow journalists Eric Sevareid, Ed Bliss, and Alexander Kendrick considered Murrow one of journalism's greatest figures, noting his honesty and integrity in delivering the news. We extend a special thank-you to Programming VP Esther Phillips for bringing this wonderful program to the temple.

Don't forget our end-of-year general meeting, Monday, May 6th. In addition to the election of the 2013-2014 Chai Club Board, we will be entertained by The Long Island Banjo Rascals. They provide the best Dixieland, Jazz, '30s swing and Banjo Sing-Along music in the Tri-State area. We will also be celebrating the Chai Club Shabbat dinner and service the same week, Friday, May 10th. The Shabbat dinner will be at 6:30 pm, while the Chai Club-led service starts at 8:00. Please watch your mail for further details.

Chai Club will once again be partnering with Cantor Sher's noon-time *Adventures in Music* series: April 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2013. This program is sponsored by the Ed Kliegman Fund. A \$4.00 donation is requested.

The Chai Club congratulates Rabbi Deanna Pasternak and husband Andrew as they are honored at the Israeli Bond breakfast, Sunday, April 28th. We wish Deanna well as we celebrate her 35 years as a religious educator. Don't forget to attend the April 28 Sheba concert, presented in memory of our past Chai Club President, Morty Held.

Joan and Brian Levy
Co-Presidents

**Chai Club Shabbat
Dinner and Service**
Friday, May 10th

Shabbat Dinner 6:30 pm
Chai Club Service 8:00 pm

Please watch your mail for details.

Religious School Reflections

“It’s that time of year again- kazoo time.” Every year, our 6th/7th grade teacher, Emily Altman, calls me shortly before Purim with those words. What they refer to is a small but fun tradition that we have developed in the religious school for the 5th-7th grades. The tradition is a “kazoo concert” that we do during song session time in the school. Teachers and students play the kazoos interspersed with the singing of zany Purim songs. The tradition is also that I act offended by such noise and irreverence and then join in wholeheartedly. The reality is that I love it. This year, Rabbi Bellows heard the concert from her office and came in and took a picture of Jewish students having fun in religious school which she posted on TBT’s Facebook page for everyone to enjoy.

We had a wonderful joint program with the PTA for Tu B’Shevat. The PTA had the children do beautiful Tu B’Shevat wall hangings with the leaves decorated by the children in grades K-6, as well as parents and other special persons who were visiting the K-2nd grade classes that day. These wall hangings will be displayed in the school wing. We also had a prayer service incorporating Tu B’Shevat readings and songs led by Rabbi Bellows and David Berkowitz, library time with stories about the environment and trees, and Jewish Studies workshops led by the teachers about the holiday.

There is another tradition that we have developed over the last few years. Once a year, our Performing Dance groups, led by Mrs. Edith Jason, and our Youth/Teen choirs, led by Cantor Sher, visit a senior citizen’s facility where they perform for the residents. The children learn that sharing their talents and visiting the facility brings happiness to the residents. They also have fun preparing for this visit.

In our school, having fun is a synonym for engagement of the children with Judaism’s traditions and values, and we strive to make it part of their religious school experiences in numerous ways throughout the year.

The school is now preparing (with the PTA) for our model Passover seders, and for Yom Ha-Shoah and Yom Ha-Atzma’ut programs. Our goal, as always, is not just academic learning, but active student participation.

B’Shalom,
Rabbi Deanna Pasternak
Director of Education

Nursery School



Nursery School students celebrate Purim, as well as the anniversary of the birth of Dr. Suess.





We approach the holiday of freedom, Pesach, and remember that "we" were slaves in Egypt. All of the rituals are meant to remind us of the value of freedom, of the commandment to treat the stranger well, never to enslave another. As Hillel said, "Do not do unto others what is hateful to you."

Pesach 5773 (2013), and we are still waiting for our religious freedom as Reform Jews in Israel. In a great flurry of bureaucracy, we attempted to submit a retroactive request for salaries for those of us who fit the title "rabbis of non-Orthodox rural communities". The Ministry of Culture issued strict criteria, far removed from the standards for funding Orthodox rabbis. Among other things, only full-time rabbis are entitled to a salary. Ironically, due to the lack of funds, I have been on a half-time salary all these years. Therefore, I didn't qualify for 2012. That was remedied by changing my contract to full-time, so that I would be eligible for a salary for 2013. In the meantime, with the guidance of the Israel Religious Action Center, we have again turned to the Supreme Court of Israel, asking that the full-time position requirement be rescinded.

As far as I know, two liberal communities, both led by men, have had their requests accepted. One rabbi is at Hannaton, the Conservative Movement kibbutz in the lower Galilee. The other is not a rabbi, but leads a group at Moshav Nahalal. This is a positive beginning, and we will continue fighting until we receive salaries for the regional rabbis who are working part-time.

An unknown factor concerns the incoming Minister of Culture and Sport. No one knows who will be appointed, and at this time there is no government yet formed after the elections. The coalition-building process is still underway. We can only hope that an enlightened person will fill the position. It is time that the Government of Israel recognizes the streams of Judaism, and understands that Judaism will be strengthened by the streams of the Reform, the Masorti and any other legitimate body that represents Jews and their worship practice.

Most recently, I learned of the "secular rabbis" in Israel, who have a school and a movement that relates to Judaism culturally. Will they be eligible for salaries? Time will tell.

In the meantime, we continue to nurture our congregation, Kehilat Birkat Shalom. With the small but steady strides forward, we were offered some government funding towards a modest, but much larger, pre-fabricated building to house our community. We are now in the process of raising the necessary funds to make this offer a reality.

Rabbi Miri Gold, of Kehilat Birkat Shalom at Kibbutz Gezer, petitioned the Israel Supreme Court in 2005, demanding recognition as the rabbi of her community. While the Attorney General declared that rabbis of non-Orthodox communities in Israel are entitled to a salary, the decision has not yet been carried out.

BINGO

The Annual TBT-PTA Family Bingo was a huge success on February 10! Kids and adults ate, had fun, played bingo and won prizes! Be sure to join us next year!



COUPLES' CLUB

by Fred Dinstell



Give My Regards To ...

Four of our supremely talented Couples' Club members were featured in the Chai Club rendition of Hollywood Squares. Art "The Chairman" Schlesinger, Barry "Doc" Lomove, Linda "Ginger Rogers" Lazarus and Ed "The Deliverer" Pincus showed us how to think creatively and critically about the eternal questions of human destiny and human society.

On February 24th, the Couples' Club toured the Planting Fields Arboretum to visit the camellia exhibit. Our show marathon continued with our Theatre Evening on March 16th (I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE), which was preceded by a lavish dinner.

All congregants are invited to attend the Couples' Club service, on the night of Friday, April 12th. Steve Block is working 27 hours a day, 8 days a week, preparing what will go down in history as one of civilization's most remembered events. Just as families take pride in remembering their ancestors who were present at Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, your dependents will take note of your participation in this service, well into the next millennium.

Miscellaneous items that fell through the cracks: Art Schlessinger received an 11-chair salute, upon the completion of a Temple square dance set. Ed Pincus braved the ravenous hordes, and successfully retrieved a bucket of chicken wings for the true football fans. Gerry "The Marksman" Morgenlender drove his Lamborghini-Aventador-roadster at the opening races of the Nascar season.

As our year is winding down, we still have several exciting events planned. Greenwood Cemetery- June 9th, Summer Boat Ride. The April and May functions are in the planning stage.

Couples' Club quiz:

1. Which non-sectarian cemetery in Brooklyn is so popular it has a docent-led tour in an air-conditioned bus to show you its grounds?
2. Which non-sectarian cemetery maintains lily-covered ponds by their picnic areas?
3. Richard Upjohn introduced the impressive Gothic Revival-style architecture in Trinity Church on Wall Street. He is also credited with impressive gates that rise 106 feet at their center and 90 feet on the sides at the entrance of which famous cemetery?
4. The Couples' Club is sponsoring a trip on Sunday, June 9, 2013 (followed by cheesecake at Junior's). If you miss this sight, where is another place to see something similar? (Hint: Travel to Europe or Buenos Aires).

Answers to these questions are revealed somewhere in this Couples' Club article. The answer will also be detailed in next month's article.

The talents of the Couples' Club members were also highlighted in the Temple Purim shpiel, co-written by Ann Dinstell.



Couples' Club participants Steve Block (as King Ahasuerus), Ann Dinstell (as Mrs. Haman), Rita Drucker (as the Narrator), Barbara Morgenlender (as Vashti), Allie Popeck (daughter of Deanna and Howard, as Mrs. Haman Jr.), and Debbie Schlesinger (as Queen Esther) amazed the congregation in The Fiddler of Shushan.

Couples' Club monthly word of wisdom:

There are no wrong turns, only paths we did not know we were meant to walk.

TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH
Goes to the ballgame

ON SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2013 AT 1:35 PM
THE ADULT, TEEN AND YOUTH CHOIRS
Under the direction of Cantor Steven Sher
WILL SING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
SUPPORT OUR CHOIRS & RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

TICKETS ARE \$15.00 EACH

A portion of the proceeds will go to the religious school for future programming!

Please fill out the form below and return it with your check, payable to Temple B'nai Torah (put "Ducks" in memo field). Place your order in the wall envelope in the temple office marked DUCKS! **Deadline to order is March 15, 2013.** You may order as many tickets as you like. Only members of the choirs will sing on the field. Everyone must purchase a ticket. No refunds, no cancellations. Limited seating. In the event of bad weather, LI Ducks' policies are in effect. For all LI Ducks and stadium rules, as well as directions to the ballpark, please refer to www.liducks.com. Tickets will be available for pick-up at the temple in advance of the ball game.

Questions? Please contact Howard and Lauren Lev 516-542-1323.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2013 -- 6:30 PM
At Temple B'nai Torah
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Join us to celebrate
Rabbi Deanna Pasternak's 35 years
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The evening will include a Havdalah service, musical concert event
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Together with our congregants, TBT choirs, band, musical soloists,
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with presentations, stories and song.

Get ready for a memorable evening with more information to come –
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Rabbi Bellows and a beautiful Bar Mitzvah service for

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Janis Amer on the birth of her new granddaughter,

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Sue Ellen Pennington on the birth of her new grandson,

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YISKOR ELOHIM:

Edith Brooks, sister of Harvey Drucker, Barbara Sandler & aunt of Diane Derby

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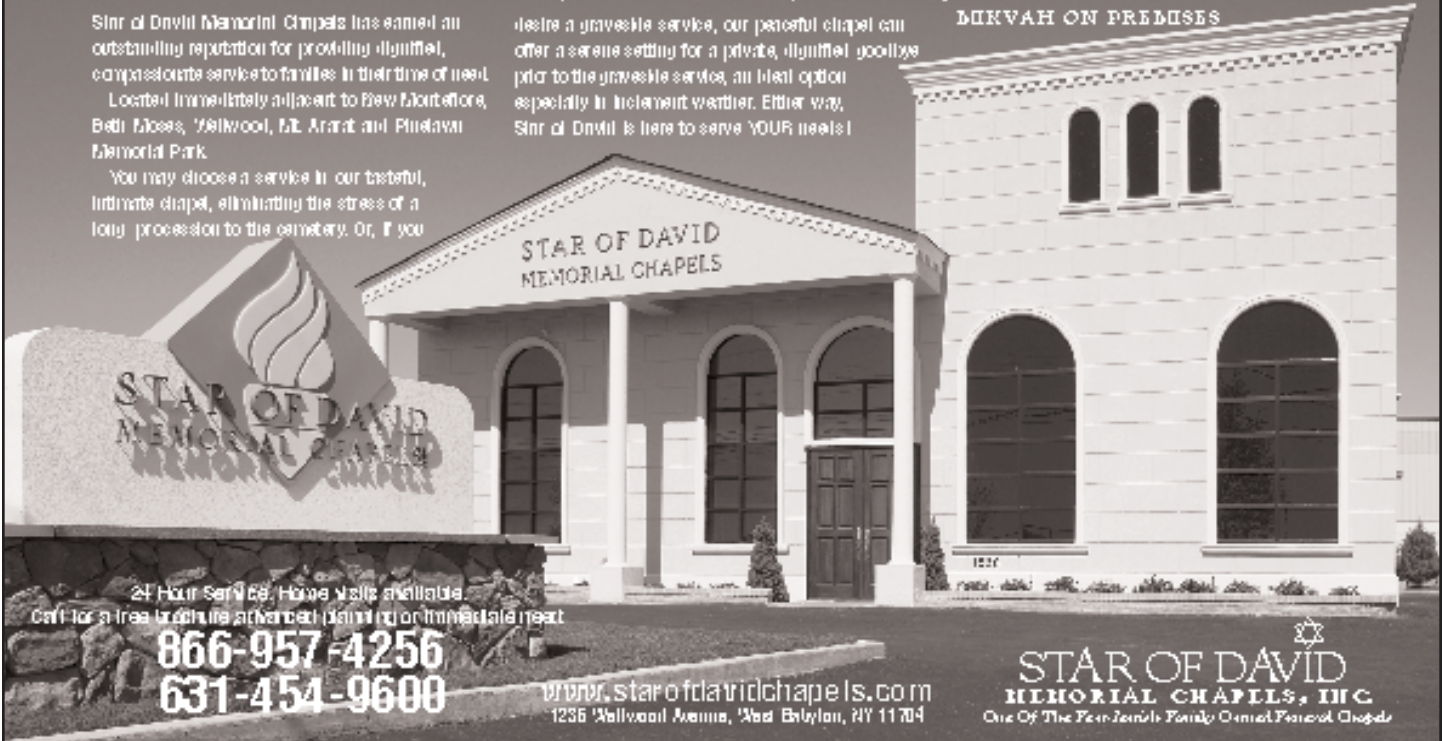
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EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES - April 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Pesach • Passover Office Closed • No Religious School Spring Recess • No Nursery School	2 • No Rel School • 10:00am AlAnon (K/L) • 3:30pm Tutor (Lib) • 6:45pm Sisterhood Ex. Bd Mtg (101/103) • 7:30pm Bro. Bd. Mtg. (S/H) • 7:45pm Sister. Gen. Mtg. K/L	3 • No Rel. School • 6:30pm BNTY Jr. Y/L • 10:30 am Bingo	4 • 6:00pm Cub Scouts (Y/L) • 7:30 pm Bingo • 7:30pm Boy Scouts (Y/L)	5 • 7:30pm Family Shabbat/BNTY Svc/Dinner	6 Yom Hashoah • 9:30-11:00am Torah Study (K/L) • 10:30am Service (1) B/M Garvey
7 Yom Hashoah • 9:00am Rel. School • 9:15am Bro. Brkfst S/H • 10:00am Adult B/M Class (206) • 10:30am Couples Club Bd Mtg (A) • 12:00-1:30pm Girl Scouts Judaic Badge (Rm 204) • 1:00pm Adult Ed Series - "Wandering Jew" (K/L) • 1:00pm Cub Scouts (101-3) • 7:00pm Yom Hashoah Service @TBT	8 • 12:00pm Adv in Music (K/L) • 1:30pm-Torah Study - Rabbi Bellows (K/L) • 4:30&7:00pm Rel. Sch. • 6:30pm Teen Choir Reh. (101/103) • 7:00-8:30pm Confirmation Reh. (Sanc.) • 7:30pm Adult Choir Practice (101/103) • 7:30 pm Chai Gen. Mtg K/L • 8:30pm BNTY Sr. Y/L	9 • 10:00am AlAnon K/L • 3:30pm Tutor (Library) • 4:30pm Rel. School • 6:30-9:00pm SAT (classrooms) • 7:00pm Jewish War Veterans Meeting (S/H) • 7:00pm Brotherhood Dinner (K/L)	10 • 10:30 am Bingo • 4:30pm Rel. School • 6:30pm - 7:30pm BNTY Jr. Y/L	11 • 6:00pm - 7:30 pm Cub Scouts (Youth Lounge) • 6:30-9:00pm SAT (classrooms) • 7:30-9:00 pm Boy Scouts (Youth Lounge)	12 • 5:30 pm Tot Shabbat • 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Couples Club Service	13 • 9:30 am - 11:00 am Torah Study (K/L) • 10:30am SVCS (1) B/M Feldman • 3:00pm-11:00pm Spay-Neuter Function S/H
14 Yom Hazikaron • 9:00am 4 Fam. Class (Y/L) • 9:00am Rel. School • 9:15am Bro. Break S/H • 10:00-11:30am Adult B/M Class (Rm 206) • 10:00am-Noon Mem Mtng S/H • 12:00-1:30pm Girl Scouts Judaic Badge (Rm 204) • 1:00pm Rosh Chodesh K/L	15 Yom Hazikaron; Yom Haatzmaut • 12:00pm Adventures in Music K/L • 1:30pm-Torah Study- Rabbi Bellows (K/L) • 4:30pm & 7:00pm Rel. Sch. • 6:30-7:00pm Teen Choir Reh. (101/103) • 7:30pm Yom Haatzmaut - Israel Ind. Day - BNTY Sr.	16 Yom Haatzmaut • 10:00am AlAnon K/L • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 6:30-9:00pm SAT (classrooms) • 7:30pm Ritual Com. Mtg K/L • 8:00pm Religious Ed. Mtg. (Library)	17 • 10:30 am Bingo • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 6:30pm B/M Orientation Mtg (K/L) • 6:30pm - 7:30pm BNTY Jr. Y/L	18 • 5:00-6:30pm Yelmar Photos (Sanc) • 6:00pm - 7:30 pm Cub Scouts (Youth Lounge) • 6:30-9:00pm SAT (classrooms) • 7:30 pm Bingo S/H • 7:30-9:00 pm Boy Scouts (Youth Lounge)	19 • Aufruf for Rabbi Marci Bellows & Seth Lindenman • NFTY Spring Kallah • 5:45pm Pre-Neg (S/H) • 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Kabbalat Svc	20 • 9:30 -11:00 am Torah Study (K/L) • 10:30am SVCS (1) B/M Yelner • NFTY Spring Kallah
21 • NFTY Spring Kallah • 9:00am 5/ Fam. Class Trip (A) • 9:00am Rel. Sch./6 Fam. Cls (Y/L /Sanc.) • 9:15am Bro. Breakfast S/H • 10:00am PTA Meeting (S/H) • 10:00am-11:30am Adult B/M Cls (206) • 12:00-1:30pm Girl Scouts Judaic Badge (Rm 204) • 1:00pm Film Series (K/L) • 7:30pm Cabaret Reh. (S/H)	22 • 12:00pm Adventures in Music K/L • 1:00-3:00 pm Meadowbrook Womens In. S/H • 1:30pm-Torah study with Rabbi Bellows (K/L) • 4:30 & 7:00pm Rel. School • 6:30-7:00pm Teen Choir Reh. (101/103) • 7:00pm Housing Mtg K/L • 7:00-7:35pm Graduation Reh. (Sanc.) • 7:30-9:30pm Adult Choir Reh. (101/103) • 7:40-8:30pm Confirmation Reh. (Sanc.) • 7:55-8:30pm Graduation Reh. (Electives) • 8:30 - 9:30 pm BNTY Sr. Y/L	23 • 10:00am AlAnon K/L • 3:30pm-8:00pm Tutor (Library) • 4:30pm Rel. School • 6:30-9:00pm SAT (classrooms) • 7:00pm Sisterhood Gen. Mtg S/H • 7:30pm Exec. Bd. Mtg (K/L) • 7:30pm Cabaret Reh. (Y/L)	24 • 10:30 am Bingo • 4:30pm Rel. School • 6:30pm - 7:30pm BNTY Jr. Y/L	25 • 6:00pm - 7:30 pm Cub Scouts (Youth Lounge) • 6:30-9:00pm SAT (classrooms) • 7:30 pm Bingo S/H • 7:30-9:00 pm Boy Scouts (Youth Lounge)	26 • 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Svc	27 Lag Ba'Omer • 9:00-10:30am Torah Study (K/L) • 10:30am Shabbat Service
28 Lag Ba'Omer • 9:00am Rel. School • 10:00-11:30am Adult B/M Class (Rm 206) • 10:00am-12:00pm Israel Bonds Breakfast S/H • 12:00-1:30pm Girl Scouts Judaic Badge (Rm 204) • 2:00-4:00pm "Sheba" Concert (K/L) • 7:30pm Cabaret Reh. (S/H)	29 • 12:00pm Adv. in Music K/L • 1:30pm-Torah Study - Rabbi Bellows (K/L) • 4:30 & 7:00pm Rel. School • 6:30-7:00pm Teen Choir Reh. (101/103) • 7:00-7:35pm Grad Reh Sanc • 7:30-9:30pm Adult Choir Reh. (101/103) • 7:30 pm Chai Bd. Mtg K/L • 7:40-8:30pm Conf. Reh. Sanc • 7:45 - 8:30pm YAC Mtg Y/L • 7:55-8:30pm Graduation Reh. (Electives) • 8:30 - 9:30 pm BNTY Sr. Y/L	30 • 10:00am AlAnon K/L • 4:30pm Rel. Sch. • 6:30-9:00pm SAT (classrooms) • 7:30pm Board Mtg (K/L) • 3:30pm-8:00pm Tutor (Library) • 7:30pm Cabaret Reh. (Y/L)				

UNIONGRAM

Order Form

The following is a list of the boys and girls who will be celebrating their Bar/Bat Mitzvah
APRIL 6, 2013 through JUNE 22, 2013.

Circle the names of those to whom you would like to send congratulations,
and PRINT your name as you want it to appear on the Uniongrams.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHILD'S NAME</u>	<u>PARENTS</u>
Apr. 6	(F) Marielle Garvey	Alyson
Apr. 13	(M) Clyde Feldman	Steven & Helene
Apr. 20	(M) Jason Yelner	Gary & Michelle
May 4	(M) Sam Pernick	Ira & Amy
	(M) Jack Zaretsky	Mitchell & Sherry
May 11	(F) Shayna Frances	Owen & Randy
May 18	(M) Dane Hoffman	Seth & Tracey
May 25	(F) Anna Kamelhar	Todd & Ellen
June 1	(M) Alexander Ament	Rich & Tracey
	(M) Jordan Ament	Rich & Tracey
June 8	(F) Rachel Schwartz	Jay & Bernadette
	(F) Emily Williamson	Donald & Karin
June 15	(F) Hayley Bernstein	Steven & Marcia
	(M) David Ferris	Don & Lisa
June 22	(M) Connor Auty	Joseph & Wendy
	(M) Michael Bender	Brian & Cheryl

PLEASE PRINT _____

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PLEASE NOTE:

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TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE, either by mail or left in the Uniongram box in the Temple office.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CASH IN THE MAILBOX.
We cannot be responsible for lost money.

Please Help Us To Stop Throwing Away Money

When you go away for an extended time,
and we continue to send the *B'nai Torah Times* to you at your home address,
the Post Office returns it to us, and
we must pay a fee of \$2.00 for EVERYONE RETURNED, EVERY MONTH.

Please make sure the Synagogue Office is notified well in advance of your vacation address, when you are leaving and when you will return home. We will mail it to you where you are, so you need not miss anything.



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Mission Statement

Temple B'nai Torah's mission is to embody, enhance and perpetuate Jewish tradition by providing a welcoming spiritual home where the community gathers to worship God, study Torah, engage in acts of Tikun Olam (repairing the world), participate in Jewish rituals and life cycle events and experience the joy of being part of a caring community.



Dated Material - Please Rush

SCOUTING

Boy Scouts do good, and have fun, too!!

Members of Troop and Pack 189 (along with a special guest from Troop 96) spent two very cold days for a very good cause. The food banks are at their lowest point after the New Year, so it is the time when the Boy Scouts of America take part in Scouting For Food. The scouts stood in front of King Kullen on Wantagh Avenue and asked customers if they would donate non-perishable food items to Island Harvest. Almost 1400 items of food and paper goods were donated. Way to go, Scouts!



Cub Scouts also have a lot of fun. The annual Pinewood Derby was recently held and it was a great time for all. Sixteen participants took a block of wood, spent quality time with mom or dad, shaped them, painted them, put the wheels on and raced them down a track. Each car raced four times, and the four best times get to represent Pack 189 in the District Pinewood Derby. It was a very close race. Our track is hooked up to a timer on a computer, and in one race, the difference was only .0004 seconds apart!! Thanks to everyone who helped put on this event. All the boys were winners.

We are still accepting members, both boys and adults, to join Pack 189. We meet on Thursdays in the Youth Lounge at 6:15. Join now, and be eligible for the Summer Program, which includes Day Camp and Cub Parent Weekend.

For information, please contact Jeff Cohen at jeffcohen7@msn.com, or Leonard Aberman at abett@verizon.net