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# THE COMMUNITY NEWS

JUNE 1997

IYAR/SIVAN 5757

VOLUME 58, NO. 10

## Jewish Community Council Membership Increases

Membership in the Council has increased from 89 at this time a year ago to 118 this year. The credit for this one-third increase belongs to committee chairpersons who have revitalized the Council's activities, particularly Shellie Batuski of the program committee, Bill Miller of the chapel committee, Kathy Hartley of the fund raising committee for the Ukrainian student at Husson College, and Ruthanne Singal of the membership committee. Their committee members have been active and should share the credit.

The membership level still has not reached the level it should in response to the services rendered by the Council to the entire Jewish Community. As the membership increases, still more activity can be planned.

All who have not joined or renewed their membership are urged to do so, so that the job of reconstituting the Council can continue. Please call Samara at the Council office (941-2950) or speak to any of the officers.

## Jewish Community Council has a Super Spring!

The JCC had a busy schedule of events during the first half of 1997. On Feb. 2, a musical program of artists from throughout the community played to a standing room only crowd at Beth Israel's Epstein Room. Over 250 people attended.

The program was followed by the Downeast Film Festival, a series of three Jewish films shown at the University of Maine, sponsored by the JCC along with the U. of ME's Hillel chapter. The films were "The Quarrel" (Canadian), "Leon, the Pig Farmer" (British) and "Blind Man's Bluff" (Israeli).

Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, was marked by a program at Beth Abraham: the showing of Steven Spielberg's film, "Survivors of the Holocaust." As a result of that program, several educators have decided to show the film to students in local schools.

The Spring season ends with a fun-filled day on Father's Day, Sunday, June 15. A picnic (bring your own) begins at 11:30 a.m. in Webster Park in Orono, followed by a Blue Ox baseball game at 1 p.m. at the University of Maine.

Special thanks go to the members of the Program committee, who worked hard throughout the year to make these events possible: Shellie Batuski, Samara Gopan, Florence Lieberman, Ellie Pancoe, Leo Parla, Reba Parla, Bill Small, Paul Shapero.

If you would like to be on the Program Committee, or would like to suggest events for next year, call the JCC at 941-2950.



*Rabbi Henry J. Isaacs and his wife, Roz.*

## Celebration held to Honor Rabbi Henry J. Isaacs

In anticipation of another thirty-six years of devoted service, the members of Congregation Beth Abraham honored Rabbi and Mrs. Henry Isaacs at a luncheon on Saturday, May 17, 1997.

After serving as Chaplain at Loring Air Force Base, Rabbi Isaacs came to Beth Abraham in September, 1960. Since that time he has been the driving force in maintaining an Orthodox Jewish presence in Bangor. Through his efforts, a Hebrew Day School was established in this city where it continued for twenty-one years. Jewish education has always been a priority for him, and now several of his former students are rabbis, while others have become professionals in medicine, law, business and education. Rabbi Isaacs is the principal of the Beth Abraham Religious School and also holds weekly classes for adults.

Thirty-six, which is a significant number in Jewish life, was the theme outlining the many goals Rabbi Isaacs has accomplished since his arrival here.

Jerry Kirstein, master of ceremonies for the afternoon, was one of a number of speakers who offered personal insight into Rabbi Isaac's career in Bangor. Louis Kornreich, congregation president, Mickey Schneider, and Dr. Irwin Pasternak also spoke about the Rabbi's involvement in the synagogue and community. Naomi Podolsky gave a brief

*Celebration: Continued on page 2*

## CONGREGATION BETH EL

**CONGREGATION BETH EL** – Bangor's reform synagogue, is located at 183 French St., Bangor, Unless indicated otherwise, all events take place at the synagogue. All are welcome. For more information on the synagogue or its activities, call Beth El at 945-4578.

- **FRIDAY EVENING SHABBAT WORSHIP** — Services will take place at 7:30 p.m. on the following dates: July 4, 18, August 1, 15. Free babysitting and a playroom for young children are provided. Services are followed by an Oneg Shabbat.

- **EARLY MINYON** — A brief Erev Shabbat service, conducted mostly in Hebrew, will be held at 5:30 p.m. on the following Friday evenings: June 13, July 25, August 8 and 22.

- **SATURDAY MORNING SHABBAT SERVICES** — will take place at 10 a.m. on June 21, June 28, and July 12. Free babysitting and a playroom for young children are provided. Services are followed by an Oneg Shabbat.

- **BAR AND BAT MITZVAH SCHEDULE** — Everyone is warmly welcome to Shabbat services to mark the following young adults becoming Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Services are on Saturday mornings at 10 a.m.:

June 21 — Hilary Ohmart, daughter of Sari and Lee Ohmart

June 28 — Matthew Wentworth, son of Melinda and John Wentworth

July 12 — David Lovit, son of Jeff and Marilee Lovit

- **FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES** — Family services are open to all but geared toward young school age children: the services include songs and stories, last less than an hour, and use a children's prayer book. They are followed by an Oneg Shabbat of juice and cookies. Family Shabbat Services will take place on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. on June 14 and August 9.

- **TORAH STUDY** — Held on the Saturdays 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. and led by Rabbi Milder. Upcoming dates are July 5, 19 August 2, 16. Refreshments are served and all are welcome. You do not need to have attended previous sessions in order to participate.

- **GUEST SPEAKER** — On Friday, July 18 a 7:30 p.m., the guest speaker at Shabbat services will be Rev. Sue Jamieson, Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bangor. Rev. Jamieson is a graduate of the Episcopal Divinity School in

Cambridge MA, and served as Chaplain at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston.

- **BAR HARBOR DISCUSSION GROUP** — On Wednesday July 9 the group will meet on Mt. Desert Island. For location and topic, call Beth El.

- **JEWISH SINGLES GROUP** — The Singles Group, called "Alone Together" meets each month for dinner, movies, discussions, tennis and activities of various sorts. On Sunday, July 13, the group will meet for a walk around Jordan Pond on Mt. Desert Island, followed by lunch at Jordan's Pond House. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Beth El for rides/carpooling, or meet the group at Jordan Pond House at 10:30 a.m. For details or to RSVP, call Mary-Anne Saxl at 947-3962. She needs to do a head count.

- **YOUTH GROUP** — Beth El's Youth Group for high school students (grades 9 through 12) will have a "Shul-In," an overnight program of activities at the synagogue, on Saturday, June 21 through Sunday, June 22. It will begin with a potluck supper at 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 21. Eighth graders are invited to the Shul-In to prepare for joining the Youth Group next year. Election of officers will be held. There is no cost for participating in the Shul-In but you must let them know that you are coming. For more information or to RSVP, call the Beth El office or contact Sherri and Mark Carignan, 567-4023.

### Celebration: *continued from page 1*

commentary as a former student who has now become a teacher in the Beth Abraham Religious School, and Patti Kornreich gave a moving speech noting all the attributes of Roz Isaacs, who has always shown warm hospitality in her home.

In a musical tribute to both the Isaacs, the Beth Abraham Players presented "The Double Life of Rabbi Isaacs."

Included among the accolades to Rabbi Isaacs were praises for his wife, Roz, whose hospitality is known far beyond Bangor. Over the years she has warmly welcomed guests from around the world while supporting her husband in his many rabbinical endeavors. She is also a very active member of the Beth Abraham Sisterhood. She received her Bachelor's degree in Education from Stern College.

Rabbi Isaacs is a graduate of Yeshiva University and holds a Masters in Education degree from the University of Maine.



### 1996 Federation/UJA Campaign completed

If your pledge has not been paid, please send your check payable to the **Jewish Federation of Bangor, 6 State Street, #314, Bangor, ME 04401.**

I would like to express my gratitude to those who pledged and to the Federation Committee who helped in the campaign. We are looking forward to 1997.

Stephen T. Emery  
Federation Campaign Chairman

Member of

United Way of Eastern Maine & Jewish Federation of Bangor

#### COMMUNITY NEWS

Published six times a year, September-June, by the Jewish Community Council, 6 State Street, Rm. 314, Bangor, Maine 04401.

Norman Minsky, President	Israel Laeger, Treasurer
Philip Brooks, 1st Vice President	Ida Gopan, Secretary
Shellie Batuski, 2nd Vice President	Samara Gopan, Editor

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## CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

*Regular services continue throughout the summer. Minyan is at 6:55 a.m. Monday through Friday; 8:00 a.m. Sunday; and 9:00 Shabbat. Afternoon services meet at 5:30 all through the summer. A full sit-down Kiddush follows all morning services (which end around 11:15 a.m.). Your attendance would be most appreciated.*

- **COMMENCEMENT** for the Beth Israel Talmud Torah took place on Sunday evening, June 1st in the Epstein Room of the Synagogue. The K-1 class showed the Shavuot posters they had created and danced around the room, joined by their parents, who were each given a plant in anticipation of the Holiday. 2nd graders led the Hatikvah and Star Spangled Banner, as well as explaining their clay representations of Torah scenes. The third graders showed off their life-sized "Tour Around Israel," while the 4-5 graders engaged their parents in a "Jeopardy Challenge." After being shown some old video clips of the current 6th graders as Kindergartners, the class sang a short selection from Hallel. Brian Darrah, a member of the 6th grade class, received the Myer Minsky Award. Following the program, Patti Rapaport thanked the parents for their support throughout the year, and their willingness to volunteer to make the evening so successful. On behalf of the School Board, she then presented Susan Schonberger with an original watercolor rendition of the children on the Beth Israel Bimah. The evening concluded with pizza bagels, salad and a cake decorated with all the names of the Beth Israel Talmud Torah students.

- **Final plans** are being made for Beth Israel's Talmud Torah 5758 program. Classes meet during the week for 2-4 hours, with a staff of experienced teachers and enthusiastic children. In addition to class time, our program includes Family Shabbat Services, Junior Congregation for different age groupings, and an annual music Festival. All families with children ages 4-12 interested in obtaining additional information about Beth Israel should contact Patti Rapaport (942-7062), School Board Chair.

- **Beth Israel's Talmud Torah** is still interested in interviewing additional staff for the next school year. If you are willing and able to share your enthusiasm and love of Judaism with youngsters, please contact Patti Rapaport.

*To get to know Beth Israel better, feel free to contact **Bernard Kubetz, President**, at 947-8576.*

## Beth Abraham Religious School

The warm weather has finally arrived, and with it, our most recent event! On Lag B'Omer, 12 Religious School students loaded into a van at 6:00 a.m. and headed toward Boston. Though the weather was dreary, the smiles cheered us up as we made our way to the Prudential Center. There we dodged the raindrops while we took the "Duck Tours" through historical Boston. A WWII Amphibian land/water vehicle drove us around while our driver filled our heads with "useless information" (as he called it!)

For example, did you know the real Mother Goose is buried in Boston? Halfway through the tour we charged into the Charles River where all the kids had an opportunity to drive the vehicle.

We had built up quite an appetite so we next stopped at Victorio's Kosher Pizza! With full bellies, we sang our way home for a well needed good night's sleep.

This trip was funded by our T-shirt sale proceeds. So, we thank all our students for their help. In addition, a big "Thank You" goes to Stephen Nyer for being our chauffeur – we couldn't have made this trip without him.

## Jewish Community Council Annual Meeting

The Jewish Community Council held its annual meeting on Thursday, May 15. The following nominees were voted in as members of the Board of Directors with terms to expire in the year 2000:

Shellie Batuski	Leo Parla
Elaine Shapiro Beaupain	Ruthanne Singal
Ida Gopan	William Small
Linda Hartstone	Miles Theeman
Jo-Ann Kirstein	

The following officers will serve for the year 1997-1998:

President – Norman Minsky  
 1st Vice President – Philip Brooks  
 2nd Vice President – Shellie Batuski  
 Treasurer – Israel Laeger  
 Secretary – Ida Gopan

## Condolences

- To the family of the late Renee Gaeta. Died April 21, 1997 in Boston, MA. Renee was the sister of the late Bobbie Silver and the beloved aunt of Nancy Offenberg.

- To the family of the Late Rose Cox Goldsmith. Died April 29, 1997.



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A wonderful way of expressing "Good Wishes" for the New Year to your friends and loved ones. Kindly cut out and mail to the JCC.

**5758 NEW YEAR APPLICATION FORM**

**FORMAT A: ONE LINE ALPHABETICAL FOR . . . \$8.00**

Listing of your family and/or individual name/s. EXAMPLE: Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Brown and Sandy

**FORMAT B: SPECIAL MESSAGE HEADING FOR . . . \$8.00**

- L'Shana Tova Tikosevu
- Best Wishes for the New Year
- A Happy New Year to All
- A Happy & Healthy New Year to All
- Peace, Health and Happiness Through the Year
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**FOLLOWED BY YOUR FAMILY NAME/S AT \$5.00 PER LINE** \_\_\_\_\_

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Make Checks payable to JCC, and mail to 6 State Street, Room 314, Bangor, Maine 04401

## Youth Aliyah

Youth aliyah provides educational frameworks for the educationally disadvantaged and for immigrant children with special educational needs.

The department provides staff educational and guidance training, medical and psychological services, counseling and special educational projects. A number of unique programs have been developed to integrate students into the mainstream of Israeli life. These include special programs for students with environmentally created learning problems,

art and music as educational tools, vocational training for employment in high-tech industries, supplementary courses and tutorials to help immigrants complete high school, and special Russian language high school programs.

\* We send appropriate cards for all occasions. Please send in your contribution. "Our children" need your help.

Please call Florence Lieberman at 942-3313, Samara Gopan at 941-2950, or me at 942-4201.

Mildred Kominsky, Chairperson



*At Congregation Beth El's Community Seder: Standing – Rabbi Larry Milder; Seated – Cantor Sid Block, Martha Block.*



*President Noah Nesin and Rabbi Larry Milder at Beth El's Purim Celebration.*

## Mazel Tov

- To George and Darlene Zitaner on the occasion of their marriage on May 25, 1997.
- To David Berg on his graduation from the New England School of Law. David is the son of Howard and Norma Berg and resides in Sharon Massachusetts with his wife Susan and their son Benji.
- To Beryl Rubin on receiving her Masters from Husson College as a member of the first graduation class of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program.
- To Shoshana Huberman on her graduation from the University of Maine at Orono with a B.S. degree. She is the daughter of Hessa Schneider of Bangor and Larry Schneider.
- To Aaron Lavooit Emery on graduating from Bangor High School. Aaron will be performing with the University of Maine Percussion Ensemble in the French Alps for three weeks in July. He will be attending Northwestern University in Chicago in the fall, where he will be majoring in Music Performance as a percussionist. Aaron is the son of Louise Shindler and Steve Emery.
- Andrew Share, son of Diane and Barney Share of Portsmouth, NH and grandson of Florence Lieberman of Bangor, was graduated from Brandeis University with a double major in Politics and American Studies.
- To all of the following on the occasions of their recent Bar and Bat Mitzvahs:  
Polly Shindler Emery, daughter of Louise Shindler and Stephen Emery  
Alex Shapero, son of Drs. Paul and Jane Laeger Shapero  
Heather Modery, daughter of Noreen and Ed Modery  
Joshua Kirstein, son of Jerry and Jo-Ann Kirstein  
Rebecca Gilden, daughter of Michael and Tina Gilden  
Adam Cohen, son of Barry and Ruth Ellen Cohen  
(Please call 941-2950 if your name has been left out.)

## Honor Rolls

### THIRD QUARTER

#### Bangor High School

SENIORS: Ian Cohen, Beth Pancoe, Sarah Parcak, Daniel Pincus, Joshua Rubin, Meredith Theeman;  
JUNIORS: Sara Kates-Chinoy, Andrew Silver;  
SOPHOMORES: Sara Peddicord, Rachel Rubin, Marni Singer, Rachael Weinstein;  
FRESHMEN: Eric Goldsmith, Jessica Rosenblatt, Alyson Theeman.

#### John Bapst Memorial High School

SENIOR: Amanda Blank  
SOPHOMORE: Jerry Brodsky

#### Brewer High School

SOPHOMORE: Abby Weissman  
FRESHMAN: Meisha Rice (Meisha's name was inadvertently omitted from the 2nd quarter honor roll listed in our last issue.)

#### Hampden Academy

JUNIOR: Gabriel Brooks  
FRESHMAN: Max Brooks

**NOTE:** If your name has been omitted, please call 941-2950 so that we may place it in our next issue.

***\*Congratulations to all 1997 College and High School Graduates.***

## Special Mention

- Josh Rubin and Ian Cohen of Bangor have been selected as members of the Academic All America Interscholastic Swimming Team. Josh is the son of Barry and Beryl Rubin, and Ian is the son of Barry and Ruth Ellen Cohen.
- Josh Rubin was a National Merit Commended Scholar. He also received the Superintendent's Award for outstanding academic achievement. He will attend Brandeis University in the fall.
- Rachel Rubin, a sophomore at Bangor High received the Superintendent's award for outstanding academic achievement.
- From Philadelphia, the Auerbach Central Agency of Jewish Education (CAJE) has presented the Demchick Award for Outstanding Teaching in Early Childhood Education to Rohna Paskow. Rohna is the daughter of Arlene Keith of Bangor and Morris Pilot of Palm Harbor, Florida.

Aliza Paskow was recently elected the Regional President of the B'Nai Brith Youth Organization of Pennsylvania. Aliza is a senior at West Chester High School. She is the daughter of Rohna and Glenn Paskow and the granddaughter of Arlene Keith and Morris Pilot.

• Joyce Willig (Silver), sister of Nancy Offenberg was recognized by the Housatonic Council of Girl Scouts as a Woman of Distinction of 1997. A luncheon was held to honor this. The Girl Scouts have been in existence for 85 years.

• David Lown is completing his Residency in Family Practice Medicine at University of California at Sacramento.

Aaron Lown is teaching at Kanazawa International Design Institute, Kanazawa, Japan. He is chairman of the Product Design Department.

David and Aaron are the sons of Milton and Naomi Lown, Nashua, NH.

• Lisa Darrach has been elected to the National Honor Society at Hermon High School. She is the daughter of Alan and Vicki Darrach and the granddaughter of Helen Rolsky.

• The following students were elected to the National Honor Society at Bangor High School: Senior – Daniel Pincus, Junior – Andrew Silver, Sophomores – Rachael Weinstein and Sara Peddicord.

• Ben Weinstein, son of Deena and Jacques Weinstein was awarded the School Letter at Bangor High for Speech and Debate.

## Senior Citizen News

• The Senior Citizen Friendship Club held its annual Mother's Day Luncheon on Wednesday, May 7 at Miller's Restaurant in Bangor. A musical program followed the meal. Songs of the thirties and forties were performed by Keith, Cronin and Hall (Arlene Keith, Chuck Cronin and Naomi Hall). Paula Adelman was in attendance and announced that the annual barbecue is tentatively planned for Sunday, July 27.

• A regular monthly luncheon meeting of the Friendship Club was held on Wednesday, June 4. Barbara Wilde presided over the meeting. Liz Anderson-Leonard, public relations representative from the Rehab Center spoke about Medicare.

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