



TEMPLE BETH EL

shofar

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2012
TEVET – ADAR 5772

FINDING MEANING IN OUR LIVES

A friend of mine, who sadly passed away a few years ago, was a cancer survivor. After her treatments, and after a few years, she realized that she had survived. One day, over coffee, she looked up at me with a concerned look and said, “I didn’t die from the cancer...why? What am I ‘supposed’ to do next? What purpose should my life have in the years to come? I must be here for a reason.” During the early years she had had a focus — to get well; but recently her perspective had changed. I don’t know why the question stunned me. Perhaps it was because of its depth, and its intensity; perhaps because it is the essential question for each one of us. I desperately wanted to give her an answer — not only because I wanted to help, but because I thought that if we thought hard enough about it, we could come up with an answer.

Of course, I was wrong. No one but she could answer that question.

I think about my friend and her questions often. What does give our lives meaning, and how do we know if it is a life of meaning? I think about my life’s purpose and, I must confess, I wonder if others are conscious of their own life’s meaning, as well. Lately I have been thinking about meaning in the context of my own work. What

BY RABBI CAROLYN BRAUN

does Judaism have to do with ultimate meaning in my life? Why have I made it my life’s purpose to pass on the traditions, the significance of ritual, and the skills associated with a Jewish life, especially when the trend is away from “organized religion?” Why do I find purpose in sharing a rousing Shabbat song, in expressive and spirited community davening, in inspiring learning; in the Hebrew poetry of Torah and Siddur (prayer book)? What inspires me to insist on finding meaning in the tradition, rather than walk away from it when it troubles me or conflicts with other activities? Dr. Arnie Eisen, the Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, in his blog, *What does Conservative Judaism Stand For?* rephrases the question, “Where do we stand, and with Whom?” He suggests that:

We are the heirs to the Jewish story that began, according to Torah, with Abraham and Sarah. We stand at Sinai, with every previous generation of the children of Israel, and reaffirm the promises made there to god, to one another, and to the world. ...Participation in the set of

relationships set forth in Covenant adds immeasurably to the meaning and purpose of our lives.

For reasons that mere mortals will never understand, but for which practicing Jews are profoundly grateful, the Creator of the universe seeks human assistance in completing the work of Creation. The world is not good enough as it is, the Torah insists, and you and I can make it better.

My relationship with Community and with God gives me the impetus and the strength to do what I do. Engaging with our teachings, observance and ritual helps me to see a big picture; a picture that is more universal, that values compassion and understanding; that values life — my own as well as others’. I find our tradition compelling. Maybe because of the many ways it connects us to time, to language, to our actions, to human potential, to our inner and outer selves, to all of humanity and to the Divine. My Judaism serves as a bridge to all the important places in my life.

I don’t remember specifically what my friend ended up doing with the years she had left. I know that she was happy and that she allowed herself to enjoy friends and family in ways she was unable to before. I know that she was one of those people whom you could call for a favor, or as a volunteer; and if she could, she would be over in a second.

As always, I invite you to walk with me and with our Temple as we build and cross bridges throughout our meaningful lives.

Shofar is now digital!

To receive the e-Shofar, please contact the TBE office at 774-2649 or director@tbemaine.org with your email address.

Limited printed copies will be available at TBE.

Talkin’ Torah: A Group Discussion over Lunch

Following our regular Shabbat morning services in the TBE Social Hall, at approximately 12:00 noon.

Six Saturday sessions remaining:

- December 24 – Bob Zellan
- January 21 – Ellie Miller
- February 11 – Sanford Freedman
- March 31 – TBA
- May 12 – TBA
- June 9 – Ivan and Sue Most

House Committee Thanks

DAN GATCHELL, HOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIR

I would like to thank the House Committee and other TBE members who gave so much time and effort to help with landscaping this year.

House Committee members and Jodi Veysey participated in completing the following projects: repair, replacement or modification of roof and roof drains, foyer and sanctuary doors, updated the building key system, sanctuary windows, and school wing screens and painting. We acknowledge Bob Bradbury for his contributions.

ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY:

- 2 Glen and Danielle Sanokklis
- 2 John Riley and Carolyn Turcio-Gilman
- 6 Joe Manning and Linda Jacobs
- 7 Richard and Adele Mack
- 15 Charlie and Eddy Dibner
- 24 Michael and Harriet Turkanis
- 29 Gil and Marilyn Praver

FEBRUARY:

- 11 Bruce and Ellen Ruben
- 12 Jerry and Mary Carp
- 14 Denise and Bill Swyers
- 15 George and Bobbie Gordon
- 25 Rena and Michael Becker
- 26 Larry Brown and Sandi Goodman-Brown
- 26 Josh and Anne Praver

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

David & Beth Strassler
Justin & Samantha Lerman, and son, Grady
Isabelle Cohen-Johnson & Adam Johnson and children Riley and Eden
Benjamin & Jeri Brem
Ira Shapiro and Barbara Carlin
Justin & Samantha Lerman and sons Grady and Caleb

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Adult Jewish Learning plans to continue January's Saturday night at the movies.

Join us at 7 pm on January 14, 21 and 28. Watch for more details about movie titles.



TEMPLE BETH EL

"Our vision is to be an embracing, supportive and vibrant community which observes Judaism in the Conservative tradition and which is devoted to the perpetuation of Jewish values and culture. Temple Beth El honors the diversity of its members and is committed to their spiritual growth."

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Congregants are encouraged to make regular attendance at Temple Beth El a part of their lives.

DAILY SERVICES

Monday through Friday 6:50 am
Friday Evening Services 5:30 pm
Saturday and Jewish Holidays 9:30 am
Sunday 9:00 am
Secular Holidays 8:30 am

"Do not separate yourself from the congregation."

—Hillel, Pirkei Avot, 2:5

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Administrative Director Jodi Veysey
Administrative Assistants Anne-Marie
. Jeannine Poulin
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Joan Levy
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Ex officio: Rabbi Carolyn Braun,
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Shofar

Joy Krinsky, Production Editor



Temple Beth El is a member of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.



Funding for Temple Beth El Religious School has been generously provided by the Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine, through its Annual Campaign.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

I was recently rereading *The Insecurity of Freedom*, a collection of essays by the great Jewish teacher and theologian, Abraham Joshua Heschel. I was particularly struck by one piece, "Children and Youth." It was a paper originally presented to the White House conference on Children and Youth in March 1960. As always I was moved by the evocative power of Rabbi Heschel's language, but here, also by the continuing aptness of his words written a little over 50 years ago. This message should still sound familiar. It is a thoroughly Jewish, though non-parochial, response to the modern world; one deeply needed in our schools, in our homes, and in our lives. And so, I have reproduced some of it for your and my own reflection.

The problem of our youth is not youth. The problem is the spirit of our age: denial of transcendence, the vapidity of values, emptiness in the heart, the decreased sensitivity to the imponderable quality of the spirit, the collapse of communication between the realm of tradition and the inner world of the individual... We are all conscious of a supreme crisis in history. We are all exposed to a progressive corrosion of our moral and spiritual sensibilities...

What is the spirit of the age? It is, I believe, the instrumentalization of the world, the instrumentalization of man, the instrumentalization of all values... There are three aspects of

nature that command our attention: its power, its beauty, and its grandeur. Accordingly, there are three ways in which we relate ourselves to the world — we may exploit it, we may enjoy it, we may accept it in awe... Our age is one in which usefulness is thought to be the chief merit of nature... The

**BY DOV GOLDBERG
DIRECTOR OF
CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING**

Greeks learned in order to comprehend. The Hebrews learned in order to revere. The modern man learns in order to use... We no longer know how to justify any value except in terms of expediency. Man...feels, acts, and thinks as if the sole purpose of the universe were to satisfy his needs... In reducing the world to any instrument, man himself becomes an instrument.

Power is an instrument, not the end of living. Learning, worship, charity are ends, not means. It is wrong to define education as preparation for life. Learning is life, a supreme experience of living, a climax of existence... The ultimate meaning of knowledge is not power, but the realization of a unity that surpasses all interests and all ages... Learning, education, must not be equated with the curriculum we complete upon graduation. No one ever thinks that being entertained is a stage in one's life which is completed once a person has passed the test of being entertained. The meaning of existence is found in the experience of education. Termination of education is the beginning of despair.

We have denied our young people the knowledge of the dark side of life. They see a picture of ease, play, and fun. The fact that life includes hardship, illness, grief, even agony...are facts of which young people have hardly an awareness. They do not feel morally challenged; they do not feel called upon... The young person today is pampered. In moments of crisis he transfers his guilt to others. Society, the age, or his mother is blamed for his failure... The glorification of fun...[is] the chief purpose of existence.

Basic to man's existence is a sense of indebtedness, of indebtedness to society, of indebtedness to God. What is emerging in our society is a strange inversion. Modern man believes that the world is indebted to him, that society is charged with duties to him.

The basic issue is how young people can be brought up with a proper sense of responsibility in an affluent society.

There is no sense of responsibility without reverence for the sublime in human existence, without a sense of dignity, without loyalty to heritage, without an awareness of the transcendence of living. Self-respect is the fruit of discipline, the sense of dignity grows with the ability to say No to oneself... We ask: What is man? Yet the true question should be: Who is man? As a thing man is explicable, as a person he is both a mystery and a surprise.

see **Dov** page 6

Let Us Know Before You Go Information from the Portland Chevra Kadisha

DARRELL COOPER, CHEVRA KADISHA

If something were to happen to you today, does your family know your final wishes? Do they know your mother's maiden name, your social security number, where you want to be buried, what kind of a service and casket you desire, how you would like to be remembered, etc.?

Think about it. Is it fair to leave

your family in time of grief trying to figure out what you want?

The impetus of this article was that a person recently died unexpectedly. He was married to a non Jew. One day back in March, he asked me, "What can I do to let my family know what I want when I go?" I gave him our information sheet, he completed it and I put it in our file. Unfortunately, he died too soon, but his family was so grateful that he left his wishes with the

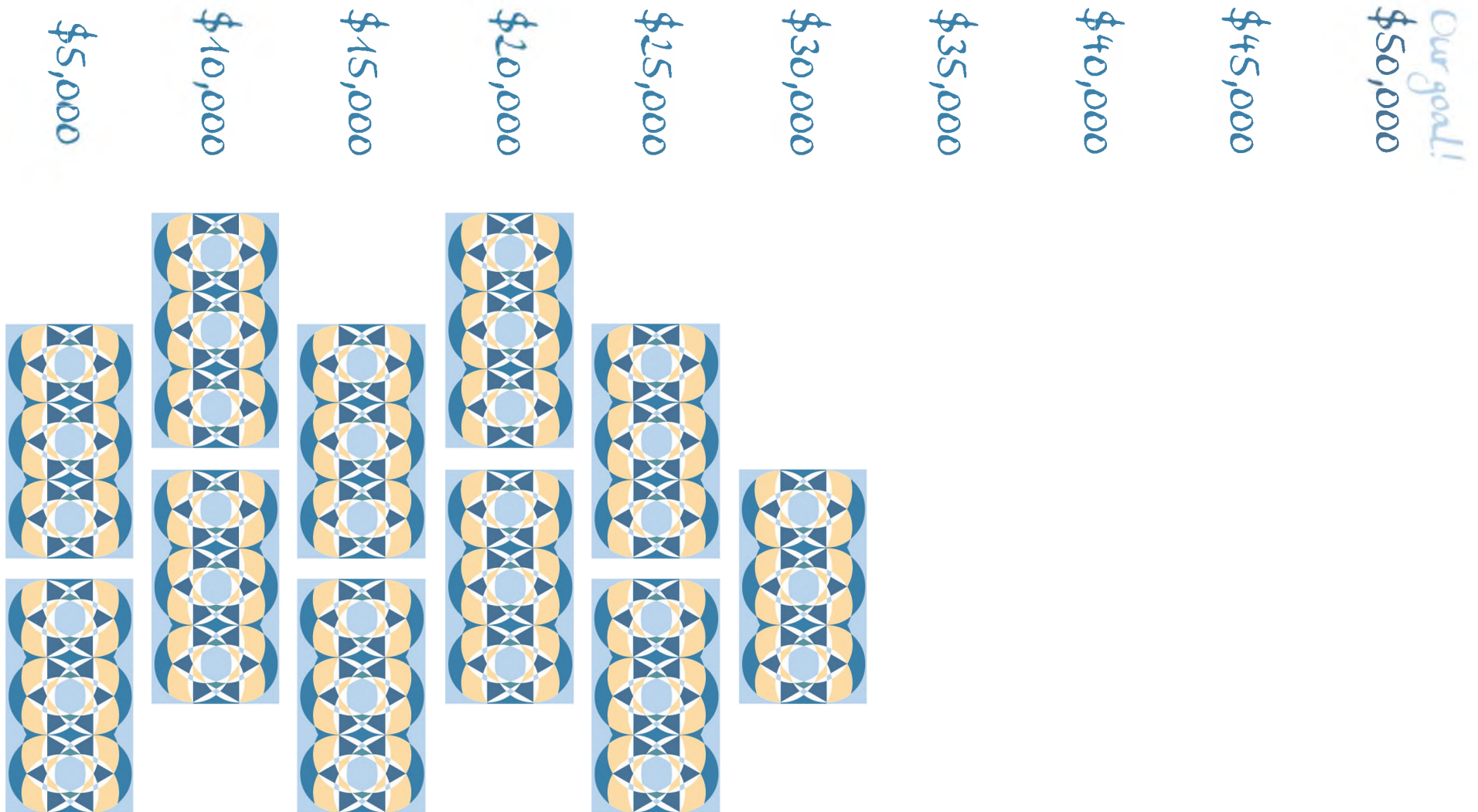
Jewish Funeral Home.

There is no cost to filling out one of these information sheets. Go to our website page www.portlandjewishfuneralhome.org/personal-info/ and complete it and e-mail it back to chevra1@myfairpoint.net (that is a number 1). You can also call us at 774-3733 and we can either e-mail you a copy or mail it to you.

There is no cost involved. Do it today!

2011 - 2012

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Save the date!
TEMPLE BETH EL
**MIRROR BALL DANCE
& WINE TASTING**
Saturday, February 4, 2012
7:00 – 10:00 pm, at TBE
Enjoy kosher wines, decadent desserts,
dancing and more!
\$36 per person.
Semi-formal attire. Snow or shine.
RSVP by Jan. 23 to the TBE office,
tel. 774-2649.

TEMPLE BETH EL ANNUAL APPEAL

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE

Volunteering at the Preble Street Soup Kitchen: Change of Date and Information 252 Oxford St., Portland

Our monthly volunteer evening at Preble Street has changed to the first Sunday of the month. Our next date for volunteering will be:

Sunday, January 1*, from 4:30 to 7:30 pm.

*Please note the change of date

Temple Beth El will start serving at the soup kitchen on **Sunday nights on January 1, 2012**. So we'll start instead on the first of the year. What a great way to welcome in the New Year!

Food prep begins at 4:30 pm and serving begins at 6:00 pm. You can come for all or part of the time, but please let us know when you will be there. **We need to have an idea of how many people will be showing up for our volunteer night, so please RSVP to Barbara Peisner at 756-3028 or Carolyn Turcio-Gilman at cturciogilman@yahoo.com.**

Preble Street Soup Kitchen is now asking all volunteers to fill out a volunteer form.

If you are interested in volunteering at the soup kitchen, please fill out a volunteer application. Here are the directions for that form: go to www.preblestreet.org, click on the 'You Can Help' tab near the top, then click on the green box that says 'Click here for the volunteer application.' In the section which asks for extra information, state that you are from Temple Beth El. **For more information, please contact Barbara Peisner at 756-3028. Thank you for your help!**

TBE IS COMING TO A NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR YOU!

From personal experience, I can tell you that our working committees and Board of Directors are a very dedicated group. They contribute so much to our community — each in his/her own way. As leadership we endeavor to have

**BY JUDY GATCHELL
PRESIDENT**

representation from our diverse community. We welcome and encourage all of our members to participate in the variety of activities, events, worship services, and holiday celebrations. That said, we know that we do not always hear from everyone — we cannot be certain that we are meeting all of the needs of our community. Although we are now publishing the *Shofar* bi-monthly and sending out weekly email updates, we also know that not everyone feels up-to-date or in the loop with happenings at TBE.

So...we are coming to you! Our staff and leadership are working out a

schedule of neighborhood meetings for our members and prospective members. These will be informal gatherings at homes in your community — maybe at your home. Every member will be invited to attend a gathering. An added bonus is that we will get to know one another

better, and make new connections. We hope that we will discover common interests and backgrounds of our members that can bring us closer. We will also have the opportunity to meet new members to our TBE community and give them a warm welcome. If you would like to host one of our neighborhood meetings, or if you would like to be sure that a friend or potential member will be invited, please call the TBE office.

I look forward to meeting and getting to know more TBE members — I hope that you do too!

Dov continued from page 3

We train the outward man; we must not neglect the inner man. We impart information; we must also foster a sense of appreciation. We teach skills, we must also stimulate insight. We are involved in numerous activities; we must not forget the meaning of stillness... We blunder into pretending that scientific information alone is capable of giving us a complete picture of man and of answering the ultimate problems of meaning and value, of solving the mystery of life and death... We evaluate the student by his ability to answer questions rather than to understand problems... The truth, however, is that the valid test of a student is his ability to ask the right questions... Our system of training tends to smother man's sense of wonder and mystery, to stifle rather than to cultivate his sense of the unutterable... Our tendency to make everything explicit, to explain the world as though everything were level and smooth, flat and bare, deprives the

world of its aspect of grandeur which is indispensable to the ennoblement of man.

Talent, knowledge, success are important to human existence. Yet talent without dedication, knowledge without reverence, success without humility may end in futility. Important is the premise that a life unexamined is not worth living, yet it is just as vital to realize that life without a commitment to what is greater than life is not worth living.

What I plead for is that education is an end rather than a means, a life-long process rather than a passing stage. We have been guilty of underestimating the mind and soul of man... We betray our youth if we fail to teach and to live by the principle that the destiny of man is to aid, to serve... There are more marvels hidden in the soul of man than we are able to imagine. He will act, if he is inspired; he will respond, if called upon.



TEMPLE BETH EL

C A L E N D A R

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2012

JANUARY

Sunday, Jan. 1	NEW YEARS DAY NO HEBREW SCHOOL Morning Minyan	Wednesday, Jan. 18 3:30 pm 6:30 pm	Hebrew School Melton Adult Ed School
Monday, Jan. 2	TBE OFFICE CLOSED Morning Minyan	Friday, Jan. 20 4:18 pm 5:30 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time Kabbalat Shabbat Services
Wednesday, Jan. 4	Hebrew School Melton Adult Ed School	Saturday, Jan. 21 9:30 am 12:00 noon approx. 5:27 pm	Shabbat Services Talkin' Torah Lunch and Learn Havdalah time
Friday, Jan. 6	Shabbat candle lighting time Kabbalat Shabbat Services	Sunday, Jan. 22 9:00 am	Morning Minyan Hebrew School Schmooze & Shmear Adult Ed Class with Prof. Danielle Freedman: <i>Polish Poetry from the Shoah</i> Adult Ed Class with Rabbi Braun: <i>The Rest is Commentary (Parashat Hashavua)</i>
Saturday, Jan. 7	Shabbat Services Havdalah time	9:45 am	
Sunday, Jan. 8	Morning Minyan Hebrew School Schmooze & Shmear Adult Ed Class with Prof. Danielle Freedman: <i>Polish Poetry from the Shoah</i> Adult Ed Class with Rabbi Braun: <i>The Rest is Commentary (Parashat Hashavua)</i>	11:00 am	
9:45 am		Wednesday, Jan. 25 3:30 pm 6:30 pm	Hebrew School Melton Adult Ed School
11:00 am		Friday, Jan. 27 4:27 pm 5:30 pm	Shabbat candle lighting time Kabbalat Shabbat Services
Tuesday, Jan. 10	Executive Committee Meeting	Saturday, Jan. 28 9:30 am 5:28 pm	Shabbat Services Havdalah time
Friday, Jan. 13	Shabbat candle lighting time Kabbalat Shabbat Services	Sunday, Jan. 29 9:00 am	Morning Minyan Hebrew School Schmooze & Shmear Adult Ed Class with Prof. Danielle Freedman: <i>Polish Poetry from the Shoah</i> Adult Ed Class with Rabbi Braun: <i>The Rest is Commentary (Parashat Hashavua)</i>
Saturday, Jan. 14	Shabbat Services Havdalah time	9:45 am	
9:30 am 5:18 pm		11:00 am	
Sunday, Jan. 15	NO HEBREW SCHOOL Morning Minyan		
Monday, Jan. 16	<i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i> TBE OFFICE CLOSED Morning Minyan		
8:30 am			
Tuesday, Jan. 17	TBE Board Meeting		
6:00 pm			

continued ➡

Dates and times are subject to change. Please see our website and announcements for the most current information.

FEBRUARY

Wednesday, Feb. 1

3:30 pm Hebrew School
6:30 pm Melton Adult Ed School

Friday, Feb. 3

6:50 am Morning Minyan
4:36 pm Shabbat candle lighting time
5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat services

Saturday, Feb. 4

9:30 am Shabbat Services
5:46 pm Havdalah time
7:00 pm Mirror Ball Dance & Wine Tasting

Sunday, Feb. 5

9:00 am Morning Minyan
Hebrew School
Schmooze & Shmear
Adult Ed Class with Prof. Danielle Freedman: *Polish Poetry from the Shoah*
9:45 am Adult Ed Class with Rabbi Braun: *The Rest is Commentary (Parashat Hashavua)*

11:00 am

Wednesday, Feb. 8

3:30 pm Hebrew School
6:30 pm Melton Adult Ed School

Friday, Feb. 10

4:46 pm Shabbat candle lighting time
5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Saturday, Feb. 11

9:30 am Shabbat Services
12:00 noon approx. Talkin' Torah Lunch and Learn
5:55 pm Havdalah time

Sunday, Feb. 12

9:00 am Morning Minyan
Hebrew School
Schmooze & Shmear
9:45 am Adult Ed Class with Prof. Danielle Freedman: *Polish Poetry from the Shoah*

11:00 am

Adult Ed Class with Rabbi Braun: *The Rest is Commentary (Parashat Hashavua)*

Tuesday, Feb. 14

7:00 pm

Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 15

3:30 pm Hebrew School
6:30 pm Melton Adult Ed School

Friday, Feb. 17

4:55 pm Shabbat candle lighting time
5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Saturday, Feb. 18

9:30 am Shabbat Services
6:05 pm Havdalah time

Sunday, Feb. 19

9:00 am Morning Minyan

Monday, Feb. 20

8:30 am *Presidents Day* - TBE OFFICE CLOSED
Morning Minyan

Wednesday, Feb. 22

6:50 am NO HEBREW SCHOOL OR MELTON
Morning Minyan

Friday, Feb. 24

6:50 am Morning Minyan
5:05 pm Shabbat candle lighting time
5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services

Saturday, Feb. 25

9:30 am Shabbat Services
6:14 pm Havdalah time

Sunday, Feb. 26

9:00 am NO HEBREW SCHOOL
Morning Minyan

Tuesday, Feb. 28

6:00 pm TBE Board Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 29

3:30 pm Hebrew School
6:30 pm Melton School

CONDOLENCES

To the family of **Shirley Slater Kazon**, who passed away in Portland on Wednesday, October 5, 2011. Shirley will be sadly missed by her daughter, Paula Bentinck-Smith and her husband, Peter, of Sudbury, Massachusetts; and her son, Peter Kazon and his partner, Paul Cunningham, of Washington, DC.; grandchildren Robert Bentinck Smith and his wife, Jackie, and Emily Bentinck-Smith, all of Boston, Massachusetts. Shirley also leaves her sister, Phyllis Klein, of Portland, Maine and her brother, Dr. Eliot Slater, of Boca Raton, Florida, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

To Marcia and Walter Goldfarb and family, and Nancy Finberg and family, on the passing of Marcia and Nancy's brother-in-law, **Kalman Liebeskind** on November 13, in Israel. Kalman was the husband of Nadeen Liebeskind (sister of Marcia Goldfarb) and brother-in-law to Marcia Goldfarb and Nancy Finberg.

To the family of **Ruth H. Abramson**, who passed away in Portland on Sunday, November 13, 2011. Ruth will be sadly missed by her daughters, Susan Leonard of Portland; Debra Siegal and her husband Ed of Shawnee Mission, Kansas; and her son, Stephen Abramson and his wife Susan of West Boylston, Massachusetts. Ruth also leaves her brothers Robert Nelson and his wife Judy of Marlton, NJ; Melvin Nelson and his wife Rochelle of Flushing, NY; as well as three grandchildren, Jeffrey, Diane and Noah Matthew, and several nieces and nephews.

To the family of **Bernice Heifetz**, who passed away in Portland on Thursday, November 17, 2011 at the age of 95. Bernice will be sadly missed by her son, Alan and his wife Nancy of West Palm Beach, Florida; her grandsons, Andrew and his wife Amy of Chantilly, Virginia; and Peter of Irvine, California; as well as two great-grandchildren, Lillian and Alexander.

To the family of **Gussy Gottschalk**, a founding member of Temple Beth El, who passed away in Portland on Thursday, December 1, 2011. Gussy will be sadly missed by her husband Oscar, to whom she was married to for 76 years; and their daughters, Norma and Anita.

To the family of **David Astor**, who passed away in Portland on Saturday, December 10, 2011. David was a lifelong member of Temple Beth El and very active in the Jewish Community of Portland. He will be sadly missed by his son Ken Astor and his wife Chris of Falmouth, Rangeley and Sarasota, FL, his daughter Martha Padernacht and her husband Robert of Columbia S.C., his grandchildren: John

TODAH RABAH

To Joan Cohen and Nadine Weinberg, who volunteered to help on TBE Landscaping Day.

To Joan & Larry Levy for the donation of two electric tea pots!

To Murray and Shirley Rosen for the delicious Entenmann's donuts enjoyed by the TBE office staff as we prepared for the High Holidays.

MAZEL TOV

To Rebecca and Jeffrey Howes and their daughter Zoe, on the birth of their new baby boy, Omri Melvin Howes, on September 25. Proud grandparents are Lisa and Larry Plotkin.

To Hannah Brier and her family on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah.

To Jahanara Freedman and her family on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah.

To Norman and Judy Wilson on the birth of their granddaughter, Mia Laura Frajnd on October 30 in Tel Aviv. Proud parents are Sara and Amos Frajnd, daughter and son-in-law of Norm and Judy. Mia joins her big sister Ella.

To Caleb Levine and his family on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah.

To Joel and Talia Timmins and their son Noah on the birth of their daughter, Aviva Alix Timmins, on November 18.

To Carl and Recia Richman on their grandson Tyler's Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, December 3 at Congregation Bet Ha'am. Tyler is the son of Michael and Nicole Richman.

To Justin & Samantha Lerman on the birth of Caleb Benjamin Lerman on December 11. Caleb joins his big brother Grady Elijah. Proud grandparents are Karen & Alan Lerman and great-grandfather is Abraham Benjamin.

Astor of Gray, Laura Mauldin and her husband Tom of South Portland, Brett Astor of Boulder, CO, Kristen Astor of Richland, WA and Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Foster of Fort Collins, CO; one great-granddaughter Melanie Esta Mauldin and one great-grandson Benjamin Foster, his sisters: Sylvia Rosenkranz and husband Mike of Plantation, FL and Muriel Benjamin and her husband Howard of Coconut Creek, FL; his sister in laws Judy Halpert and her husband Stephen of Portland and Glenyce Tarlow of Stamford, CT. He also will be missed by several nieces, nephews and cousins as well as his dear friend Rabbi Sky. He was predeceased by his sister Evelyn Rissman.

To our volunteer Sukkah Builders: Geoff and Karen Hindall and family, and Andy and Kim Shur.

To Jon and Amy Brier for sponsoring the Oneg Shabbat on October 28, in honor of their daughter Hannah's Bat Mitzvah.

To the following members who responded to our recent request for volunteers: Justin and Rachael Alfond, Ben and Judy Bertram, Jonathan Dunitz, Adam and Lisa Arens, John and Debbie Barlock, Steve Gleit and Dana Robbins, Irwin Gratz and Bonny Rodden, Tony Paratore and Elaine Kerachsky, David Kemmerer and Joy Krinsky, Paul and Sarah Muscat, Katherine Morgan, Ivan and Sue Most, Steve and Susan Schwartz, John Riley and Carolyn Turcio-Gilman, Tara Turcotte and Clara Purinton!

To those who helped during the High Holidays: Ginny Squires-Eklund for polishing the TBE silver; Arlene Schwartz, Carol Gilbert & Sandra Kornblum for baking the delicious honey cakes; and to Sherri Quint for volunteering to bake the spice cake!

To Daniel and Sabina Freedman for sponsoring the Oneg on November 4, in honor of their daughter Jana's Bat Mitzvah.

To Tom Berman and Bob Bradbury for packing away the sukkah before the October 30 storm.

To Matthew & Lynn Goldfarb for sponsoring the Oneg on November 11, in memory of their parents, Frances and Samuel Goldfarb, Evelyn and Daniel Kasen, and Dr. Manfred Kraemer.

To Debbie Kanter and Ellen & Jonathan Handelman and family for helping with the Book Fair on Sunday, November 7.

To Nancy Levinsky for coordinating the Jewish Book Fair.

To Robert Levine and Vilean Taggersell for sponsoring the Oneg on November 18, in honor their son Caleb's Bar Mitzvah.

To Judy Gatchell for pulling up most of the plants in the vegetable garden to help get it ready for winter.

To Geoff Hindall, Fred Farber, Steven Gleit and Dan Gatchell of our House Committee for installing door sweeps under all of the doors in the upper and lower foyers. Let's hope that holds out more of the snow and cold air this winter!

To Simon Handelman and Daniel Baker for their help clearing the TBE garden for the winter, as part of Simon's Bar Mitzvah project.

DONATIONS TO TEMPLE FUNDS

We are grateful for the following gifts to our Temple Funds. Donations not designated for specific funds will be placed in the General Fund.

Donations to a Temple Fund provide a wonderful opportunity to remember loved ones, honor friends and family and continue to bring strength to our Temple Beth El community. We encourage your donations and welcome your thoughtfulness.

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Nancy Finberg, in Honor of Rabbi Sky's work in the community

Education Discretionary Fund

Jon and Amy Brier, in Honor of Hannah Brier's Bat Mitzvah

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Rita Weisberg, in Memory of Howard Urdang

Rita Weisberg, in Memory of Henry Schweg

Anne Spiegel, Speedy Recovery to Richard Mack

Murray and Shirley Rosen, Speedy Recovery to Abe Benjamin

Murray and Shirley Rosen, Speedy Recovery to Jerry Rosen

Rita Weisberg, Speedy Recovery to Jerry Rosen

Rita Weisberg and Family, Speedy Recovery to Abe Benjamin

General Fund

Erwin and Audrey Muscat

Janine Collins, in appreciation of Charlie Miller

Mark and Jean Stein, for hospitality

Janine Collins, in Honor of the birth of Mia Laura Frajnd

Janine Collins, in Honor of the birth of Jacoby Loring Alford

Janine Collins, in Honor of Dov Goldberg & Danielle Romanoff's marriage

Murray and Shirley Rosen, in Honor of the birth of Ernie & Diana Sturman's 10th great grandchild

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Hebrew School Contribution

Debbie Kanter, in Honor of the birth of Callie Violet Novick

Debbie Kanter, in Honor of Phil Levinsky's special birthday

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Stephen and Lisa Schiffman, in thanks for the warm welcome to TBE

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Stephen and Francine Blattner, in thanks for unveilings

Ben and Judy Bertram, in Honor of the birth of Mia Laura Frajnd

Elaine Rosen, in Honor of the birth of Mia Laura Frajnd

Jeff and Becca Howes, in Honor of Omri Melvin Howes

Jon and Amy Brier, in Honor of Hannah Brier's Bat Mitzvah

Les Klein and Toby Rose, in Honor of Judy Gatchell's kindness to their parents, Joel and Ann Klein

Sam and Bette Novick, in Honor of the birth of Martin Phiroz Novick

Taylor Small and Lakeshia Parker, in Honor of Taylor & Lakeshia's wedding

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Donations listed were recieved at Temple Beth El by November 16, 2011.

Do you have family members or friends who are interested in what goes on at Temple Beth El?

Contact the front office and add them to our newsletter emails!

Or have them contact the Temple office for membership information.

THANK YOU

We thank Bob Willis and Nancy Winslow for their generous donation, gifted to us for use in revitalizing a section of the Temple Beth El Memorial Park. Through this funding we were able to do extensive landscaping, including along part of the road-side, in order to increase privacy and beautify the cemetery. Todah Rabah to Bob and Nancy!

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**Carolyn Turcio-Gilman
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Shofar Deadlines — March — April 2012 issue is January 13.

Please submit material via e-mail as text included in the body of the message or as an attached Microsoft Word document to office@tbemaine.org. Submissions on paper will also be accepted.