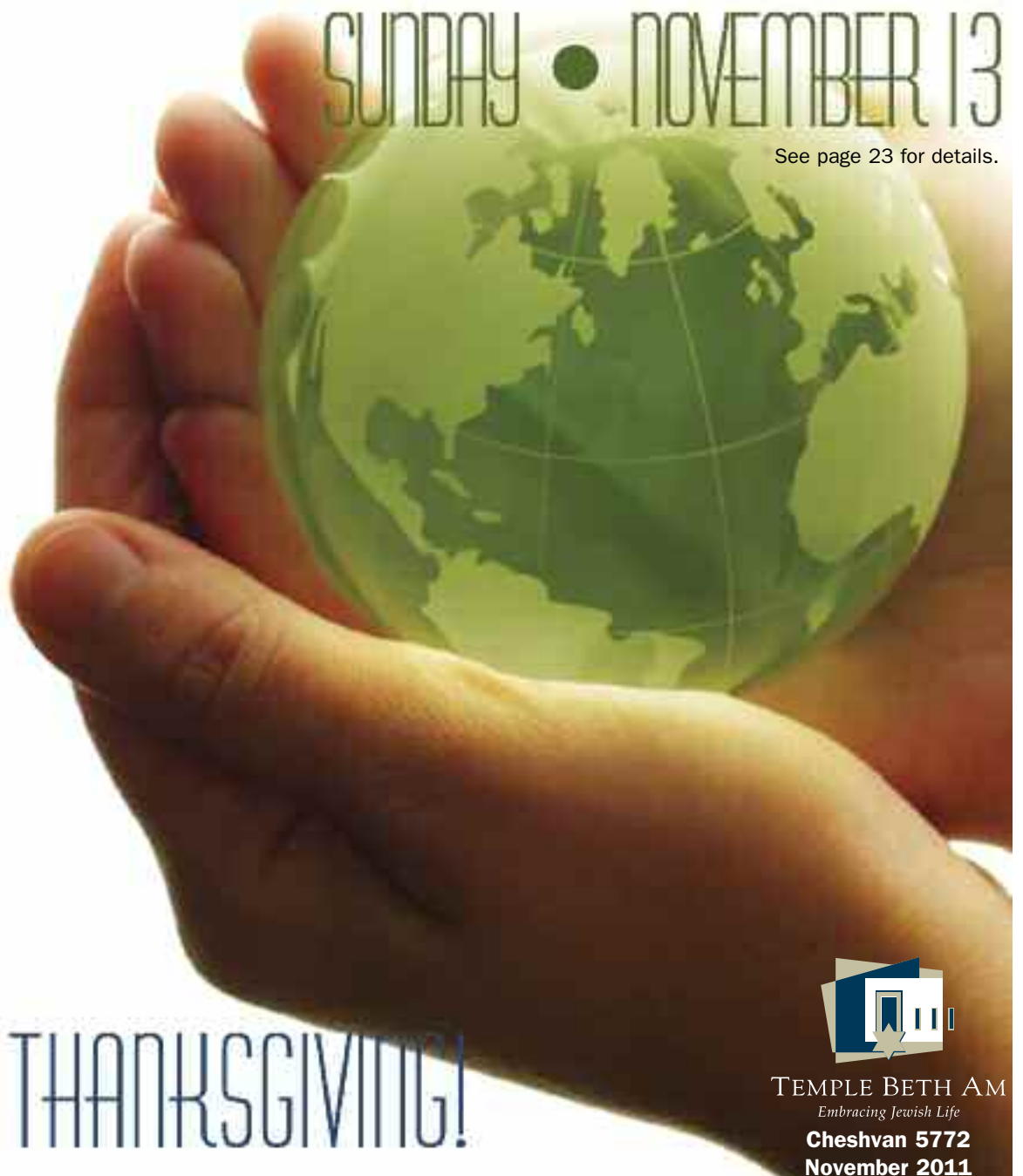


Commentator

FEED YOUR SOUL
A SOCIAL ACTION COMMITMENT TO FOOD & OUR EARTH

SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 13

See page 23 for details.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



TEMPLE BETH AM
Embracing Jewish Life
**Cheshvan 5772
November 2011**

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TEMPLE BETH AM

Monday, November 7, 2011



Thanks to Our Generous Lead Sponsors*

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Tennis

Donna Feldman • Karen Zinn

Mah Jongg

Ilana Levitt • Abbe Liebling • Jill Schwartz • Pam Wolofsky

Bridge

Nedra Oren • Cessy Rubinson

To RSVP please contact Lisa Goldstein at 305.667.6667, ext. 147 or lgoldstein@tbam.org

* As of 10/10/11

November Shabbat Services

Friday Evening, November 4, 2011

8 Cheshvan
6:00 p.m. Shabbat Worship Service/Sabbath Soul
- Sanctuary
7:15 p.m. Shabbat Oneg

Saturday, November 5, 2011

9:00 a.m. Torah Study
Munchkin Minyan - Chapel
10:30 a.m. Morning Minyan
5:30 p.m. Bat Mitzvah of Allison Siegel -Sanctuary

*Weekly Torah Portion - Lech L'cha
Genesis 12:1 - 17:27
Haftarah - Isaiah 40:27 - 41:16*

Friday Evening, November 11, 2011

15 Cheshvan
6:00 p.m. Shabbat Worship Service
Blessing of the Bellies – Sanctuary
7:15 p.m. Shabbat Oneg
7:30 p.m. Dr. Morton M. Axler Shabbat Series
- Social Hall

Saturday, November 12, 2011

9:00 a.m. Torah Study
Munchkin Minyan - Chapel
5:30 p.m. Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Joseph

*Weekly Torah Portion - Vayeira
Genesis 18:1 - 22:24
Haftarah - II Kings 4:1 – 37*

Friday Evening, November 18, 2011

22 Cheshvan
6:00 p.m. Shabbat Worship Service
with Day School 4th Grade - Sanctuary
Shabbat en Español - Chapel
How 'Bout Shabbat a Family Experience
- Extended Social Hall
7:15 p.m. Shabbat Oneg

Saturday, November 19, 2011

9:00 a.m. Torah Study
Munchkin Minyan - Chapel
5:30 p.m. Bat Mitzvah of Jordan Schwartz

*Weekly Torah Portion - Chayei Sarah
Genesis 23:1 - 25:18
Haftarah - I Kings 1:1 -31*

Friday Evening, November 25, 2011

29 Cheshvan
6:00 p.m. Shabbat Worship Service
- Sanctuary
7:15 p.m. Shabbat Oneg

Saturday, November 26, 2011

9:00 a.m. Torah Study
Munchkin Minyan - Chapel
10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Dolfi
5:30 p.m. Bat Mitzvah of Arielle Kossman

*Weekly Torah Portion - Toldot
Genesis 25:19 - 28:9
Haftarah - Malachi 1:1 - 2:7 or I Samuel 20:18 - 42*

Exciting Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Opportunity

Did you “miss” becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah when you were 13? Did your Bar or Bat Mitzvah experience not include reading from the Torah? Would you like a refresher?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, then perhaps our Adult B'nai Torah (aka Adult B'nai Mitzvah) class is for you!

Rabbi Terry Bookman will be teaching these classes, the first of which will be Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in Meeting Room 2. We will culminate with a service on Shabbat, May 19, 2012.

Please contact Mindy Robbin at ext. 131 or mrobbin@tbam.org for more information or to sign up.

If your loved one is in **LONG TERM CARE** either at **The Palace, Miami Jewish Health Systems (formerly Douglas Gardens)** or at **home**, we would love to visit them. Please call the Clergy office and give your contact information to Mindy at ext. 131 or Aida at ext. 140.

Share With Us...

Please inform our clergy office of any significant life cycle event such as births, engagements, weddings or deaths by calling the clergy office at 305.667.6667 ext. 131 or 140 or via email at clergy@tbam.org.

Reb Tuvyah *Says*

RABBI TERRY A. BOOKMAN
REBBEID@ATT.NET



What Matters Most

Over the High Holy Days (remember them? they were “late” this year) we introduced our theme for this year—*What Matters Most*. It was inspired by a book of the same title written by the Jungian analyst, Dr. James Hollis. It is not an easy book, and there is lots in it with which I disagree, but it is definitely thought-provoking.

Reflecting the universal perspective of the book itself, our focus was the self, or more accurately the authentic self, not because we don’t believe in family, community, and the like; rather, more than any of the others, the High Holy Days are our “self” holidays. Personal reflection, introspection, what the tradition calls *cheshbon ha’nefesh*/soul accounting—these are our tasks during those ten days as well as the ten weeks leading up to them. Throughout the year, we are going to give you opportunities to reflect on and discuss with us what matters most to you. As I said on the holidays, what is most important is not what you say that matters; rather, that your life is a lived expression of it. In other words, if I followed you for a week or two of your life, what would I see in your behavior that would be an expression of that which you (say you) hold dearest?

Our year of reflection will culminate with a Shavuot workshop on writing an Ethical Will, a traditional document in which we bequeath to our loved ones the values, ideals, wisdom and principals that helped inform our lives and that we would like to see remembered and continued by them. Sadly, many people wait until they are dying to tell their loved ones what has mattered most to them. We are saying, why wait?

In the days and weeks following the Holy Days I received lots of e-mail and notes thanking me for the topic which has already led to great discussions at work and at home. I am still receiving “soul food menus” so keep them coming. I was also asked why I chose what I did and why

I left out others. The easy answer is that in a few sermons one cannot talk about everything that matters. Nevertheless, having had the entire summer to reflect on them, I stand by the choices I made. Some of the things that matter most to some of you I consider “soul food.” That is, they feed my soul (which makes them

“...what is most important is not what you say that matters; rather, that your life is a lived expression of it.”

important to me) but did not make my list. Family is just one example. Spending quality time with **Karen** and the boys definitely feeds my soul, but since not everyone has a family it did not make the short list of what matters most.

On the other hand, there are two items that make a number of people’s lists that I want to challenge in this article. WARNING: You may not like what I am about to say. The first is “happiness.” I think if you asked the average person what they want for themselves the response would most certainly be, “All I want is to be happy.” That has been my experience. People want happiness, not only for themselves, but for their children and loved ones as well. We work hard at making ourselves happy. We buy books and attend classes that promise the secret; we change our diets and our partners; we change our lifestyles and travel to far off places, all in an attempt to find that elusive quality called happiness.

To be happy is to be delighted, pleased or glad; it is a mood of joy, felicity, contentment. To be happy is to feel undisturbed, untroubled, safe. As Americans, in our very constitution, we are told it is our unalienable right to pursue this happiness (though I think Jefferson meant something quite different). I am certain each of us has known such moments of happiness; at least I hope we have. But like most emotions, happiness is elusive and ephemeral; it comes and goes. To want to be happy, to be in a continual state of happiness, is not only unobtainable it is not something that matters most. I would even go so far as

to say that given the realities of our world, in light of all real the pain and suffering which exists, that to be happy, happy all the time, would be a scandal, would be a life not worth living.

We are fond of saying, “If you’ve got your health, you got everything” so being healthy tops many people’s list of what matters most. I know that when one is sick or in pain (and I have been with really sick people though I have never personally been life-threateningly sick myself) there is often nothing else we can think of. Our total concentration is on how badly we feel and on getting healthy again. It is as if the whole world has stopped and we are unable to function. So let me be clear. I am in no way denigrating the good feeling that being truly healthy brings. Certainly our body’s health is important to our quality of life, even central to our spiritual well being.

However, it seems to me that part of our focus on health stems from our desire for immortality and eternal youth. It is linked to our notion of being productive and useful, of contributing to our world and our society, of demonstrating to others that we have worth. As my teacher Rabbi Eugene Borowitz says, “We equate our value with our performing.”

In some ways our lust for health is also an over identification of the self with the body. We are much more than our bodies, but we live our lives thinking of ourselves and others as human machines which are just no good anymore if they break down or are, God forbid, out of shape and flabby. On some level our desire for health is our avoidance or even denial of the fact that disease and decay are part of the human condition and that each of us will have to face sickness and death. When we are sick, and we all spend some part of our lives being sick, we still matter. And when we are ill, or old, or in the latter stages of our lives we are still human, created in the image of God. I believe some of that gets lost in our mistaken notion that health matters most.

In Modern Man In Search of a Soul Carl Jung wrote, “About a third of my cases are suffering from no clinically definable neurosis, but from the senselessness and emptiness of their lives.” Against this rather depressing picture of our world, Judaism assures us that life is a gift filled with meaning and that we matter, that each of us is unique, special, and real. When we live into what really matters most, we sense that gift every single day.



View From The President

SUSAN HENKIN
THEHENKINS@AOL.COM

Doing What Matters Most

The ancient sage Rabbi Tarfon taught “It is not your responsibility to finish the work [of perfecting the world], but you are not free to desist from it either” (2:16). WHEW! That is a relief. Judaism only requires that we try our best, that when called upon to help we willingly do our part, however great or small. As members of *Am Yisrael*, the people of Israel, we are required to engage in the struggle of finding meaning in our lives. We also continually seek to find ways to connect with God through action guided by the principles set forth in our *mitzvot*, commandments.

Last month we introduced the theme for this year’s study at our High Holy Day worship services and study sessions. All of our clergy challenged us to evaluate what matters most in our lives and asked that we all take the time to evaluate what we do and to see whether or not these values are reflected in our actions.

In the month of November Temple Beth Am will make it easy for all of us to begin the process of *Tikkun Olam* (TO), repairing our world through action. **Feed Your Soul, a Social Action Commitment to Food and the Earth** our Mini Mitzvah Day will take place on Sunday the 13th. **Teri Golden** our TO chair has worked with her incredibly dedicated committee to bring their dream day to a reality. Our Vice President of Religious and Cultural, **Adrienne Messing**, has been actively engaged in vetting projects that will provide meaningful participation for every age group represented in our congregation. Our temple community will have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of projects either on our campus or around our city. Each project will afford your friends and family an opportunity to participate and learn about our commitment to feeding those in need, healthy and sustainable food sources, and our earth. For more information on this day, and to sign up for a project please visit our website www.tbam.org and click on the *campuslife/tikkunolam* tab.

Rabbi Kalfus will continue to work with lay leadership to encourage our commitment to our local and regional food bank. In addition to this year’s HHD food drive we will dedicate ourselves to learning more about ways to

impact hunger in our city. We hope that through participation in our mini-mitzvah day you will be inspired to continue your search for ways to help those most in need through action.

The word *Tzedakah* is difficult to translate. Many use the word charity, from the Latin *cantus* meaning love or dearness. Unfortunately as Jews we are not asked to act out of loving kindness or from the heart, instead we are commanded to seek justice in the world. Whether giving of our time or our financial resources Judaism requires, in fact commands, that we act charitably and with fairness toward others.

When we were children all of us spent some time in school learning “if...then...” statements in math class. We still make those statements today: If I had more time then I would volunteer; If I had more money then I would be more generous; If I had more interest then I would study or learn. In this New Year 5772, what would happen if we committed ourselves to “since...now...” statements instead? It might sound something like this: Since I have enough, now I will give what I can; Since I can, now I will spend time helping others; Since I have some interest, now I will study or learn.

During the High Holy Days I know we felt inspired to take action and commit ourselves to figuring out “what matters most.” We have an opportunity this month to get involved in wonderful projects that will inevitably “feed our souls.” I hope you will join me on November 13 and throughout this year and express through our individual actions what is most important in our community. I look forward to sharing a year of inspiration and growth for all of us.

B’Shalom,

Susan



Clergy's Corner

RABBI RACHEL GREENGRASS
JEWISH LIFE COORDINATOR
RGREENGRASS@TBAM.ORG

I've been rather snippy with **John** (my husband) lately. It has nothing to do with him, he's wonderful, a great husband, a great father, still handsome and from time to time even charming...he does not deserve my snippiness, but alas, he will tolerate it and so although I keep trying to stop myself, I will be short with him, or roll my eyes when I should simply be grateful to have him.

It's hard to be grateful sometimes though. Unfortunately, it's those people in our lives who we are the closest to who often bear the brunt of our moods, our stress and our desire to be mad at someone often turns to them—because we know they will still be there for us, that they love us, understand us, and will be there for us no matter what. I remember in high school my mom asking me why I wasn't so warm and cuddly anymore—and I told her the truth—high school is stressful, people are horrible, and I have to hold it all in, so you (mom) sometimes get the short end of the stick because I know you will love me anyway. While your loved ones may understand if you are snippy every now and then, or if you overreact to them because of stress from work or because someone else so upset you earlier in the day, they can only take so much abuse, and truthfully they deserve none of it. They deserve for us to come home and be grateful for them. Grateful to have someone who loves us for who we are, who gets why something would be upsetting to us, or gets that when we are stressed out we may want a certain food or to have some alone time, or a little more help than usual around the house.

So, the question is—how do we remain grateful for the gifts we have—even when under stress from work or other relationships?

Oh, the beauty of the Internet—WikiHow has taken it upon itself to try and tell us how to do everything, and one of those things, is how to be thankful. If you would like to see their full post go to: <http://www.wikihow.com/Be-Thankful> but I will summarize the points below.

Relax. Words of true wisdom. It is a challenge to be thankful when we are stressed, angry, or frustrated. In today's world, where we aspire to be successful at so many things at once (home life, work, social life, physical health, and more) it is common to experience stress and frustration. God gave us Shabbat, a time we are required to relax. On a daily basis, allow yourself a few minutes to simply breathe deeply and just be.

Live in the moment. Dwelling on what has happened and worrying about the future can ruin your present. Focus on the right now, on what you can make of the moment. There is a reason gift and present are synonyms.

Start with your senses. The most basic pleasures in life are usually accessible to us all the time, but the slip out of our consciousness because we get so used to them. Learn to notice things deliberately and appreciate them." This is our *nisim b'chol yom* – our daily miracles, things we would otherwise take for granted. Stretch your body, love that it works (or works to a point). Notice the beauty around you, the amazing tropic paradise that is South Florida. Smell the cinnamon sticks at Publix, the dew on the ground, the cut grass on the lawn. Eat slowly; savor your food (November gives us great food choices with the harvest and Thanksgiving). Appreciate the touch of a soft blanket. Take out

those cozy sweaters we can only in November (maybe) begin to wear. Touch people, hug a friend, holds hand with a partner, kiss the cheek of a child. Listen to music that moves you, listen to the wind, listen to nature's many gifts.

Cherish any kind of lightheartedness in your life. Laughter is the best medicine, and often, when a relationship loses the laughter it's hard to get it back. So play, laugh, get messy and have a good time. Try and do something lighthearted every day. These moments are precious and fleeting so cherish them when they do take place.

Take a vacation. Easy for WikiHow to suggest right? It may be hard with your schedule, the demands placed on you to take a break. God understood this, that is why God forced us to take a break each week—it's against our nature, without it, we would work every day. God even goes further and asks us to take Sabbatical, to take a Jubilee year. Imagine that! So, a weekend getaway, or even just a night out with a few good friends or your spouse (or alone) should not be that hard to find time for. And the time away, no matter how short, can help us appreciate what we have at home, and the people we spend that time away with.

Keep a gratitude journal. I love this suggestion. I recently counseled an amazingly gifted young woman who was feeling like she doesn't have much in her life to do just this. We overlook so many gifts in our lives, we take so much for granted. We often fail to realize just how many blessings we have. We forget how lucky we are, how blessed. By writing down what we have to be grateful for, we remind ourselves, even at our lowest points, that we really have so much, and that life is full of possibility.

The WikiHow article only suggests these 6 steps. I would suggest one more: **Doing for others.** There is nothing that can make you more grateful for the blessings in your life than sharing those blessings with others. There is nothing that will make you feel better about yourself and the world than making the world a better place for your fellow man. And by doing for others, we help others to appreciate the world, their fellow man, and to add to their gratefulness journals.

So this month, when we pause to think of what we are grateful for, let's remind ourselves and our loved ones of how much we appreciate them. Let's relax, live in the moment, savor something yummy, cuddle up with something (or someone) soft, laugh, play, take a break, and make a list of all we have to be grateful for.

I'm starting my list with John.

Interfaith LGBT Thanksgiving Service at Riviera Presbyterian Church

on Sunset in Coral Gables
November 17, 2011
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

RSVP to Rabbi Greengrass 305.667.6667 ext. 144





The 11th Annual TEMPLE BETH AM Chanukah & Holiday Bazaar

Wednesday, November 30
Social Hall
11:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

This is the BEST way to start holiday shopping!
The array of items for sale—from pet gifts to high end jewelry—makes it easy to find something for everyone (really, we mean everyone).

Some of our vendors are:

Ellen's Treasures • Phillips Frankel • **PJ Art Tags**
Lombaggi Knitwear • Hugs and Dreams • **Marilyn Rapaport**
Stella & Dot • **Soy Candela Candles** • **Couture Charmz**
Great 4 Gifts • **J S Beads** • Silver.com inc • Fancy Fiona's
Simply Chic • **Sassy Clips** • Lifewear Couture
Initially Speaking • Runway Collections • **Jewels by Dunn**
Linea Luxe • **Jenny B Jeweled Inc** • Kimberly Nicole Inc.
Gift Chix • Necessary Luxuries • **Sabrina Barnett Collection**
Julie Garcia • Sowinski Jewelers • Accessorize It!
Taudrey • **Soy Delicious Candles** • Hayley Style
Neptunes Kids Swimwear • Rena's Collectibles
Houda Harbie • **Veneered Art Deco** • Lifestyles of Lynne
Bissuterie • Sweet Pea LMTD. Inc • **Coco Paris International**
LizEyesDesign • Alphabet Goods Inc • **Magnif-Eyes**
Camp Experts & Teen Summers • **Blue Moon by Mariana**
Lil Girz Bowtique • **Baby Bling Street**

...And the BAFTY/B4BAFTY Bake Sale!

Kid's Corner with all items under \$5.00

Kids can go shopping for their family and friends
and learn the joy of giving!

Proceeds benefit the Youth Scholarship Fund

The Current of Life

We Mourn the Passing of:

Miriam Pulwer, mother of Shirley Sotloff
Allegra Zarmati, aunt of Paul Weiss
Sherri L. Moss, sister of Bruce Koniver
Marvin Bookman, cousin of Rabbi Terry Bookman
Robert Marcus, father of Leslie Genauer
Marsha Corsi, sister of
Dr. Florence O. Wechsberg
Amy Segal, sister of Janet Nankin
Dr. David Redlus, father of Burt Redlus
Ernest Harris, husband of Dolores Harris,
father of **Mindy Wilner**
Mildred Glassman, mother of
Donna Feldman
Leo Mandel, father of Elaine Stokes

Eternal light
is the soul of man



Ner Tamid Nishmat Adam

Mazel Tov To...

Ari and Kim Rollnick on the birth of their daughter,
Chloe Sophia Rollnick and to siblings **Chase and Cal**

Barry and Monica Fine on the birth of their daughter,
Vittoria Leonardi Holmes Fine

Dr. Jonathan and Wendy Baumgard on the birth of
grandson, **Noah Matthew Mosquera**. Mazel Tov also to
big brother, **Nathan**, great grandparents **Rabbi Herbert**
and **Selma Baumgard** and **Uncle Jason**

Scott and Katie Weinstein on the birth of their son,
Trevor Harris Weinstein and to grandparents **Richard**
and **Amy Pollack**

Barbara and Todd Berman on the birth of a grandson,
Alec Mason Sheitelman and Mazal Tov to big brother,
Jake

Jeanne and Brian Kushner on the birth of their son,
Jack Edward Kushner, and to big sister **Gaby** and
grandmother **Barbara Kushner**

Roman and Cristina Jimenez Krislav on the birth of
their son, **Victor Jimenez Krislav** and to big sister **Anya**
and big brother **Leo**

Jodi Orshan and to **Bobby Orshan** on the ordination of
their daughter **Rabbi Samantha Orshan Kahn**

Audrey and Mitchell Phillips on the birth of thier son
Aaron Benjamin Phillips and to big brothers **Max** and
Jacob



RITA DIAZ
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
RDIAZ@TBAM.ORG

MEMBERSHIP

Please support Temple Beth Am by joining our new eScrip program!

Temple Beth Am # 148862718

eScrip is a completely free program which utilizes popular merchants such as Nordstrom, Bloomingdales, Amazon.com, Apple, American Airlines, and 700 additional merchants.

Each time you buy something online, using your registered credit card, eScrip will contribute a percentage of your purchase to Temple Beth Am. Nordstrom online will give a 6% contribution, and American Airlines will give 2%...imagine how this can add up with all of us making purchases using eScrip!

Product prices remain the same, and it will not interfere with your airline miles or points. By simply registering your credit cards and shopping using the eScrip online mall, you are making a donation to Beth Am.

PLEASE enroll by visiting our website, www.tbam.org, and click on the eScrip link under the "Giving" tab on our home page.
Questions? Call **Rita Diaz** at ext. 107



When You've Lost a Spouse

Thursday, November 3, 2011
Meeting Room 3

Dealing with the loss of a spouse can be one of the most traumatic and stressful events in a person's life. This loss often occurs during a stage when many other changes are occurring.

During this time of dramatic upheaval where physical, psychological and spiritual boundaries are challenged, accepting that the grieving process will not be brief makes the whole process even more difficult.

The grieving process, given its length is not too extreme, is one of the most essential elements in the healing process.

If you've lost a spouse and want to hear how others cope during this challenging time, Beth Am invites you to be part of this new support group. Share your experience and learn from others. Whether you've recently lost your spouse or you've been alone for years....we know your input will be invaluable.

This group is facilitated by Temple Beth Am member Nancy Solomon Goldberg.





MEMBERSHIP

Give the Gift of Membership

This year, purchase the gift of membership for Chanukah for an unaffiliated friend, neighbor, or co-worker.

The Temple Beth Am Chanukah Membership gift is effective from Chanukah through June 2012. Make this Chanukah special for the special people in your life.


Please order your personalized gift certificates gift wrapped and ready to be presented.

Your name will appear on the bottom of the certificate, as well as

Rabbi Bookman's signature.

We will place the certificate in a gift box, wrapped in beautiful holiday ribbon and a gift card just from you.

Cost \$118.


 TEMPLE BETH AM
 "GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP"

This entitles _____ to full membership privileges at Temple Beth Am from Chanukah 2011 through June 2012.

A synagogue is known as a house of prayer, a house of learning and a house of assembly.

We hope that Temple Beth Am can be any and all of these for you and yours.
Temple Beth Am - House of the People

Signature of Congregant

Rabbi Jerry Bookman

Date

This special membership offer is not for families enrolling their child/children in Day School.

For more information and to place your orders, please contact Rita Diaz, Membership Director, at 305.667.6667, ext. 107 or by email rdiaz@tbam.org.



FAMILIES

WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

RABBI RACHEL GREENGRASS
JEWISH LIFE COORDINATOR
RGREENGRASS@TBAM.ORG

Parenthood is tough. Don't get me wrong—it's the best thing that has ever happened to me—but it's hard work, and exhausting, especially with everything else parents in today's world have on their plates. At the end of the week, I'm sure, you're pooped (and they probably have pooped and so there is no rest for the weary). But there are things we can do—to slow down, to catch our breath, while still creating powerful experiences for our children and one of the most powerful of those is Shabbat.

Rabbi David Wolpe said, "If you want to change how you feel, change what you do."

In his book, *Talking to Your Children About God*, which I highly recommend for everyone to read, parents and non-parents too, he describes the power Shabbat can have:

"When candles are lit for the Sabbath, it changes the atmosphere of the house and the feeling of the evening. Suddenly, there is a sense of sanctity. It is a simple act of lighting candles. The traditional blessing is only 14 words. Yet the moment is magical. When in my childhood my mother stood before two candles, reciting the blessing, the room was transformed. The action opened a path among members of the family and between us and God. "Adults who have so many other rituals in their lives sometimes forget religious ritual. They get dressed a certain way, read the morning paper in a designated spot, and never fail to catch a particular TV show. It helps to standardize life. Rituals and habits help to order the world."

I'm sure your family has rituals as well. It may be a certain bedtime routine, going to the park after school...these rituals give our lives structure, and children thrive in structure. I cannot tell you how powerful adding Shabbat to your weekly routine could be for your family. It is hard for mine, as I am usually at Beth Am for our 6:00 service and Henry is asleep when I get home (the exception is of course for How 'bout Shabbat). I was tired of missing it, so around Henry's 1st birthday, we changed our routine. We gather around the table on Friday night, we light candles (Henry now covers his eyes – precious), bless the grape juice (he yells "amen" and I *kvell*), and then I give him a personal blessing where he leans in close to me to hear

what I have to say (this took a while, he used to try and squirm away). Then Henry and Daddy eat while I go to temple. It takes about 5 minutes—but it transforms the night and elevates it for all three of us.

So, what could work for your family? Do you have the time to have the kids help you set the table, perhaps bake a challah? Do you have will power to turn off the cell phone, TV and computer for a night? Do you have only 5 minutes to give? Whatever you can do, I promise, it will give you the feeling that you have slowed down, that you have created a moment that will last for you and your child. It's a precious gift—Shabbat.

Rabbi Greengrass



| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---|
| CALENDAR | Nov 2 | L'Mazelto |
| | Nov 5 | Munchkin Minyan |
| | Nov 9 | L'Mazelto |
| | Nov 11 | Blessing of the Bellies |
| | Nov 12 | Munchkin Minyan |
| | Nov 16 | L'Mazelto |
| | Nov 18 | How 'bout Shabbat – Toy Drive Collection |
| | Nov 19 | Munchkin Minyan |
| | Nov 16 | Munchkin Minyan |

L'Mazelto Childbirth classes with a Jewish twist

Are you pregnant? Do you know someone who is pregnant? L'Mazelto combines traditional childbirth education with an Introduction to Jewish life, traditions and values, especially for Jewish expectant parents. Classes meet four consecutive Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. We started Oct. 26, 2011 but you can join us for the last 3 sessions. A light dinner is included in the fee of \$118 per couple. Contact **Francine Francis** 305.667.6667 ext. 122 or ffrancis@tbam.org.



YOUTH

ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT

JOSH LAURENCE
 DIRECTOR OF YOUTH PROGRAMS
 JLAURENCE@TBAM.ORG

Temple Beth Am Youth Committee 2011 - 2012

Co-Chairs:

Dan Levine and Janet Nankin

VP of Religious School & Youth:

Daniela Zanzuri Beiner

Alisa Oppenheim Amy Hollub
 Debbie Bortnik Donna Benjamin
 Lisa Millhauser Roberta Gold
 Susan Schwartzman

SAVE the Date

JAM for JENNY
 01.28.12

Sponsorship information coming soon

November Calendar

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Nov. 1 | Teen Tuesday | 6:15 pm – 8:00 pm |
| Nov. 2 | Club 45 Meeting | 3:15 pm – 3:45 pm |
| Nov. 3 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 6 | BAFTY Membership Day | 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm |
| Nov. 7 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 8 | Teen Tuesday | 6:15 pm – 8:00 pm |
| Nov. 9 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 10 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 12 – 13 | Club 45 Overnight | 6:00 pm – 9:00 am |
| Nov. 14 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 15 | No Teen Tuesday | |
| Nov. 16 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 17 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 19 | 7th & 8th Gr. Shabbaton | 10:00 am – 4:00 pm |
| Nov. 21 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 22 | Teen Tuesday | 6:15 pm – 8:00 pm |
| Nov. 23 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 28 | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |
| Nov. 29 | Teen Tuesday | 6:15 pm – 8:00 pm |
| Nov. 30 | Holiday Bazaar | 11:00 am – 6:00 pm |
| | *Youth Lounge Open | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm |

*The Youth Lounge is open to all 7th – 12th grade B4BAFTY and BAFTY members in the YAD Experience.



All smiles at Club 45

Club 45 Kickoff



Club 45 Bowling



Too Cool For School at Club 45 Bowling

DONATE: We recently purchased new flat screen TVs and game systems for our youth groupers, and we need your help. Do you have any old XBOX 360 or Wii games you would like to donate? Do you have old game systems like a Nintendo or Playstation that you don't use anymore? Send them our way!



S'Mores at Club 45



Having Fun at Teen Tuesday

For more information about our youth groups and the YAD Experience contact Josh Laurence, Director of Youth Programs at 305.667.6667 ext. 145 or email JLaurence@tbam.org.



PROGRAMMING

RABBI JUDITH KEMPLER
OUTREACH RABBI
JKEMPLER@TBAM.ORG

PROFESSIONAL CONNECTIONS NETWORKING LUNCHEON

Professional Connections is a networking group that is open to members of Temple Beth Am and the community at large.

Wednesday, November 2

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Chapel, Lewis Family Religious Life Complex

Luncheon Agenda

- 12:00 p.m.** - Optional Open Networking
- 12:30 p.m.** - Chairman Announcements, Blessing and CATERED Lunch
- 1:00 p.m.** - Professional Development
- 1:30 p.m.** - Optional Open Networking

Bring your business cards and enter our drawing for a prize. Cost: \$10 per person in advance.
\$15 per person on the same day at the door.
Includes lunch.

RSVP is a must/Limited space/Pre-register by calling **Michelle Cohen** at 305.667.6667 ext. 149 or online at www.tbam.org.
Adam Hellman, Chairman



Pop Up Shabbat on Brickell

Friday, November 4, 8:00 p.m.

951 Brickell Avenue,

The Plaza, 10th floor (pool deck)

A little music, wine and nosh to begin Shabbat...

RSVP to jkempler@tbam.org

Thursday, November 17, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Location on Brickell TBD

Relaxation, libation, excitement!

There are 3 Golani events in November.

Come to all 3! Show enthusiasm and become a brother!

See page 15 for Poker night details.

Axler Shabbat Series

A Shabbat Dinner

Guest Speaker: **L. Stuart Milk**

Human Rights/LGBT Civil Rights Advocate,
Global Equality Advisor, Youth and Workforce Services
Advocate and Founder, Harvey Milk Foundation

Friday, November 11 • 7:30 p.m. (after services)

Cost: \$18 per person for members/\$22 non-members

RSVP: register at www.tbam.org
or contact **Michelle Cohen** at mcohen@tbam.org,
305.667.6667 ext. 149

This program is
co-sponsored by
DAYENU



The Bnei Menashe of India

Michael Freund, moderator

Monday, November 28, 8:15 p.m.

Auditorium, Hessel Family Youth Complex

Hear members of the Bnei Menashe community, along with Shavei Israel founder Michael Freund, tell the remarkable story of how this lost tribe is finally coming home. The Bnei Menashe (Hebrew for "sons of Manasseh") of northeast India trace their roots to the ancient Israelite tribe of Menashe, one of the Ten Lost Tribes exiled by the Assyrian empire more than twenty-seven centuries ago. Despite being cut off from the rest of the Jewish people for generations, they clung to their identity. Michael Freund is the founder and chairman of Shavei Israel, a Jerusalem-based organization that reaches out and assists "lost Jews" seeking to strengthen their connection with Israel and the Jewish people.

RSVP: **Michelle Cohen** at mcohen@tbam.org
305.667.6667 ext. 149.

PROGRAMMING



**Cooking School at Temple Beth Am
Boys Only!**

**An Evening in Tuscany
through food and wine
with Chef David Schwadron**

Wednesday, November 16 • 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
\$36 per person, register online
Teaching Kitchen, Temple Beth Am
Co-sponsored by Golani
RSVP: **Michelle Cohen**, 305.667.6667 ext. 149



Contemporary Israeli Film Series
One Day You'll Understand

In French with English subtitles

Thursday, November 3, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Auditorium,

Frank and Jodi Hessel Family Complex

Directed by the famous Israeli filmmaker, Amos Gitai, *One Day You'll Understand* (2008) explores one French family's reckoning with its personal history during the holocaust. In French and starring legendary film star, Jeanne Moreau as the elegant matriarch Rivka, this movie provides a sensitive and intimate look at the effect of the war on a young Jewish woman who did what was necessary to survive.

Filed with delicacy, Gitai lets the story unfold in the nuances of the actors' performances and in the settings of old apartments full of stories and secrets.

Mother's Circle

A discussion group for women of non-Jewish women raising Jewish children.



Dates: 11/9, 11/30, 12/14

Questions? Contact **Rabbi Judith Kempler**,
jkempler@tbam.org, 305.667.6667 ext. 108.

Lunch n' Learn with Rabbi Bookman *What Matters Most*

November 22 and December 13

Noon
Adult Reading Room

RSVP to Michelle Cohen at ext. 149 if you want lunch ordered for you. Lunch - \$10.



Weekly Learning & Brown Bag Lunch with Rabbi Kalfus *Timeless Wisdom for Modern Life: A Study in Pirke Avot*

November 3, 10, 17
December 1, 8

Noon - 1 p.m.
Meeting Room 3

Adult B'nai Torah with Rabbi Bookman

Every Wednesday evening through May 16, 2012

Time: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. • Location: Meeting Room 2

RSVP: Mindy Robbin, mrobbin@tbam.org, 305.667.6667 ext. 131.

Adult Confirmation with CAJE Melton Program featuring Rabbi Bookman

Tuesday mornings • Time: 9:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Adult Reading Room

RSVP and Registration: Contact Carla Spector at CAJE:
carlaspector@caje-miami.org (305) 576-4030 ext. 128

After Torah: The Other Books of the Bible with Dr. Lenore Kipper

Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28/Dec. 5, 12

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Room 2

Cost: \$54 for members and \$60 for non-members

Selections from section two, *The Prophets, N'Vee-im*

- What do they teach us about Ancient Israel?
- Are they relevant to us today?

Registration and RSVP

Michelle Cohen at mcohen@tbam.org, 305.667.6667 ext. 149.



DAY SCHOOL

NEWS

DR. DEBORAH R. STARR

HEAD OF DAY SCHOOL

DSTARR@TBAM.ORG

“The job of administrative leaders is primarily about enhancing the skills and knowledge of people in the organization, creating a common culture of expectations around the use of those skills and knowledge, holding the various pieces of the organization together in a productive relationship with each other, and holding individuals accountable for their contributions to the collective result.”

- Elmore, R.F. (2000).

Building a New Structure for School Leadership.

Washington, D.C.: Albert Shanker Institute. p. 15

In my last few columns, I addressed how this year’s professional development is focusing on: enhancing faculty skills and knowledge; raising our expectations of students; and creating a common culture. In this column I would like to share with you how we are building professional relationships within the school and how individuals are being held accountable.

We are building professional relationships using many avenues. First, through CAJE, we have a strong coaching program at the school. Master teachers are mentoring newer teachers and supporting more experienced teachers. Second, using *Reflective Practice*, as outlined by Roland Barth, founder of the Principals’ Center at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, teachers are writing in their personal journals at each weekly Faculty Meeting and oftentimes sharing their thoughts and ideas. Third, teachers are working collaboratively on Curriculum Maps which fosters learning from one another; instead of each teacher being a “silo.” The excitement is tangible as teachers ascertain from one another new project ideas and classroom activities to implement. The teachers are also gaining in satisfaction knowing that they “own” the work they are doing and that they are developing together the excellence that is shaping the destiny of Temple Beth Am Day School. Additionally, every Faculty Meeting starts with a *Collegiality Activity*, or what might be called “ice-breakers.” These activities help us to get to know one another in ways other than professional; more personally and with humor. This builds trust and the willingness to work together. Besides, they are great fun! “Two Truths and One Lie,” “Faculty Bingo,” “Analogies,” “Sort & Mingle” – the laughs, oohs, and ahs are many.

Lastly, I would like to address “holding individuals accountable for their contributions to the collective result.” An *Evaluation Tool* has been put in place in the Elementary School for the purpose of evaluating each teacher. The many components include: the setting of personal goals and objectives; formal and informal observations by one’s supervisor; professional development (on- and off-site); self-evaluation; closure meeting; and a rating for the year. In this way, there is accountability and a transparent system of support and review. **Susy Novak**, Elementary School Director, and I are implementing this tool. **Lyn Zuckerman**, Early Childhood Director, is supervising and evaluating the Early Childhood faculty using guidelines from NAEYC. Having an evaluation and accountability process fosters continued growth of faculty, which ultimately impacts positively on our students.

Dr. Deborah R. Starr

DAY SCHOOL BOARD

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- Alex Moskovitz
- Melissa Paul
- Richard Schinoff

School and Temple Professionals:

- Dr. Deborah R. Starr, *Head of School*
- Lyn Zuckerman, *Early Childhood Director*
- Cari Altman, *Admissions Director*
- Susana Novak, *Elementary School Director*
- Joy Schandler, *Director of Jewish Learning*
- Robert Hersh, *Executive Director*
- Rabbi Terry Bookman
- Rabbi Rachel Greengrass, *Jewish Life Coordinator*

**AFTER SCHOOL
IS SUPER-COOL**

Visit www.tbam.org
for details



ADMISSIONS

CARI ALTMAN

DAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

CALTMAN@TBAM.ORG

New News from the Day School

I am excited to announce some exciting changes that are taking place in the Day School Admissions office. The first is that in the 2012-2013 school year, Temple Beth Am Day School will begin admitting children at 18 months of age. Additionally, these children will have the opportunity to stay for a full day, 5 days per week! We will continue to offer our popular half day programs, as well. This will address the growing need that we have observed in our community to provide a full day of care to a younger age group.

As we are beginning the admissions process for the 2012-2013 school year, please note the following important dates:

November 15, 7 p.m.: Taste of First Grade

Current Kindergarten families are invited to an interactive evening to learn more about our First Grade. Day School families, as well as families from other schools are encouraged to attend. No children, please.

November 16, 7 p.m.: Kindergarten 101

Current Pre-Kindergarten families are invited to a hands-on event to learn more about our Kindergarten, and to help ease the transition from Pre-K to Kindergarten. Day School families, as well as families from other schools are invited to attend. No children, please.

January 31, 2012:

All new applications for admission, re-enrollment contracts, and financial assistance applications are due.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about these events, or the admissions procedures.



Second Golani Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament

**Join us on Thursday, November 3
7:30 p.m.**

**Cards, Drinks, Food and
Poker with the Boys**

After our wildly successful First Golani Poker Tournament, we are bringing back the tournament for a second run!

For the \$50 entry fee, you will receive \$1000 worth of chips (plus food and drink). The blinds will start at 5/10 and go to 10/20, 25/50, 50/100, 100/200 from there. We will be switching every 20 minutes.

Crapped out? We will offer a half re-buy at \$50 where players will receive \$500 worth of chips. Or, sit back, have a beer and enjoy getting to know the guys. Also, pizza will be served for dinner. You can pay online at www.tbam.org/GOLANI or RSVP to Golani@tbam.org.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Jacques & Leah Bentolila, MiKayla & Matthew

Scott & Liana Bloom, Andrew & Jordyn

Adam Cervera

Sergio & Miriam Cruz

Victor & Susana Deutsch & Victoria

Lee & Melissa Geller, Alexa, Elle & Spencer

Jeremy Hoch & Stacey Baker & Bella

David & Joelle Josefsberg & Ethan, Cooper and Mason

Luda Kogan

*** Jeffrey & Adrienne Krieger**

Robert Newman & Tiffany Ann Tibbets

Daniel & Kelly Osman, Jacob, David & Alexis

David Schwart & Melissa Peerless, Nathalie & Audrey

*** Harvey & Rona Simovitch**

Jay & Tara Taub

*** Dan & Ferne Toccin**

Scott & Melissa Weingarden, Dylan and Jesse

Dustin & Amber Young, Marly Rose & Bowen

** returning members*

ברוך היום מאבא



R RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

JOY SCHANDLER, RJE
DIRECTOR OF JEWISH LEARNING
JSCHANDLER@TBAM.ORG



The Jewish Lens

This year's sixth graders will be the first to experience a new curriculum- The Jewish Lens (TJL). They are a generation of learners who are adept at using digital media and media sharing. They have digital cameras; they have cameras on their phones. They photograph and document so many aspects of their lives. How fitting that photography becomes the vehicle in which they will explore the concepts of personal identity and community, connection to Israel and Jewish values. Combining text study with interpreting the compelling photos of world-renowned photographer, Zion Ozeri, our students will travel the world, viewing the diversity of Jewish expression while exploring their own place in *Klal Yisrael*—the Jewish people. Visit www.jewishlens.org, click on For Students, click on Curriculum Photos to see these intriguing photographs and to learn more about this creative and thought provoking curriculum. Temple Beth Am Religious School is one of eight organizations who have received grants from the Greater Miami Jewish Federation to bring this curriculum to our students. The Center for the Advancement of Jewish Education is coordinating the program and its culmination—a community-wide exhibition of the participants' photography.

MITZVAH DAY - NOVEMBER 13

Temple Beth Am's Mitzvah Day on Sunday, November 13 is the ultimate Jewish classroom that turns learning into doing. This year's program offers something for everyone—children, teens, and families. When you receive the information, please review all the options for participation and choose one that works for you. Do a mitzvah and you receive the ultimate reward—the feeling of satisfaction knowing that you have made the world a little bit better because of your actions. Our goal is 100% participation.

The Temple Beth Am Religious School Board

Chairperson: Jodi Mazer - jjmazer@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Dawn Eustace

VP of Religious School and Youth: Daniela Zanzuri Beiner

Secretary: Melinda Wiser

Jewish Life Coordinator: Rabbi Rachel Greengrass

Debbie Bortnik, Myriam Grad, Lisse Kravetz,
Dan Levine, Mona Markus, Brett Panter, Denise Press,
Amy Saphier, Martha Snyder, Deborah Sperber,
Daniel Weinbach, Julie Zimmert

November Calendar

November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Readiness Class with Jackie Berney in Music Room, 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. followed by Teen Tuesday

November 2, 9, 16, 30

School and 6th Grade Cantillation Classes with Cantor Nelson

November 5

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed!

November 6

3rd Grade Lech Lecha Parent/Child Program - learn the Biblical roots of our connections to Israel and meet a guest teacher straight from the Torah.

November 13

Temple Beth Am Mitzvah Day and Global Day of Jewish Learning. See below

November 20

Camp Coleman introduction for 3rd – 6th graders combined with the musical talents of Alan Goodis, guest musician and song leader

Just 4 Parents: The Most Important 15 Minutes in Your Family's Week. A Shabbat How to and Why class taught by Rabbi Greengrass

November 23 & 27

No School – Thanksgiving Weekend

December 4

1st Grade "Havdalah Lights" Part I Parent/Child Program

Just 4 Parents: Standing On One Foot - God 101 with Rabbi Bookman

It's Our
Emerald Anniversary!
Celebrating 55 years!



LIBRARY

OF BOOKS, READING & RECOMMENDATIONS

ETTA GOLD
LIBRARIAN
EGOLD@TBAM.ORG

Laurie Naturman
LIBRARY ASSISTANT



Jewish Book Month



This is the time that the whole world seems to focus on books. The Annual Jewish Book Festival of the Alper JCC, the Jewish Book Council's Jewish Book Month, and Miami

Book Fair International – all have marvelous book promotions and author visits planned for our area this month.

And here at Beth Am, we'll be celebrating the book through a variety of programs. Our Sunday Series will feature a special musical presentation as well as a substantive discussion on current events in Israel, and with each program, a display of books reflective of the subject matter. Our students will focus attention on the particular books they adore, while our afternoon Israeli movie will direct attendees toward our diverse collection of Israeli media.



Sunday morning, November 6 at 10 a.m. in our Adult Reading Room, we'll be welcoming Andrew Sussman, who brings us *The Medgiddo Project – A Prayer Journey*.



After several years as a music teacher at Temple Beth Torah in Tamarac, Andrew was invited to participate in an experiment to bring a more spirited "Kabbalat Shabbat" service to the congregation, which led to his founding the Hearts, Minds & Music Company. Last year, he released his first full-length album, a contemporary 'look and listen' of Jewish liturgy. The album showcases the many sources of Andrew's Judaic and spiritual inspiration. The melodies and arrangements span a broad spectrum of genres including jazz, folk, pop, rock and world beat. Come to be truly entertained and inspired.

Then on the morning of November 20, Dr. Marsha Cohen will once again bring us her brilliant insight into current events in Israel. With all the news sources available today, and the constant bombardment of strident voices, it is refreshing to participate in intelligent discussion and open dialogue based upon factual resources. Join us for another scintillating get-together and bring along your questions and comments to share.



Thursday afternoon November 17 at 1 p.m. in our Adult Reading Room we'll be viewing a 2006 Israeli movie, *Close to Home*. This is the story of two 18-year-old girls, thrown together as they are assigned to a patrol in Jerusalem as part of their compulsory military service. Their job is to stop Palestinian passersby, to ask for their identity cards, and to write down their details on special forms. You don't move from this place, don't sit down, don't smoke,

don't eat, don't talk on your cell phones, says their commander, leaving them alone on the street with their patrol forms. Meanwhile, the two are busy with their own worlds—falling in love,

break-ups, and the volatile relationship between them, as their personalities are totally opposite. Their attempt to ignore the political reality slowly makes its way into their lives. The daily stress of their patrols, spiced up with some humor and a little female bonding, pulls them closer together in this thoroughly enjoyable film.

Our library programs are free and open to the public, but we do ask that you call or email us to reserve your place: 305.667.6667 ext. 128 or egold@tbam.org.

Mother Daughter Book Club meeting November 19
Our selection for this morning is *No Passengers Beyond This Point* by Gennifer Choldenko. Three siblings board a plane after their mother loses the family house and sends them to live with an uncle in Colorado. But instead of Colorado, they land...somewhere. **Hannah** and **Julie Zimmert** are hosting this gathering and are sure to bring some interesting ways to view the meaning of "home," both to the characters in the novel and to ourselves.



15th Annual BABBA Contest

The Fifteenth Annual BABBA (Beth Am Best Book Award) contest begins now! The contest runs from November 1 through the end of 2011, and it's open to all day school and religious school students. We will be distributing contest forms in each classroom with additional forms available in the library.



Now, rather than write an essay or create a movie poster, the task will be to design an original book jacket for your favorite book. Just use your imagination to fashion your new cover, – you can draw, paint, sketch, or create a collage for your cover. Think about the book's subject and the overall feeling that the book brings to you and let your creativity take over.

Choosing your book

Which book are you telling all of your friends to read? Which book kept you reading late at night with a flashlight, or so intrigued you that you couldn't pull yourself away from it to do your homework? Which book have you checked out of the library so many times you think you might have to buy it? These are the books we want you to tell us about so we can share your find with everyone else at Beth Am and let them in on a great read. We know we have some great books, but it's up to you to let everyone else know what you think.

The Rules are simple: After choosing a book from the Beth Am Library that you really, really love, create a spectacular dust jacket/cover for the book – something original and gorgeous!

Just be sure to turn it in to us by winter break.

Check us out!



Sisterhood of Temple Beth Am

Sisterhood Board

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Want to have an **ORGANIC** garden in your back yard?

Learn about raised bed gardening



November 15th, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Lynn Cromer's house

Help plant Lynn's garden as she explains how to make it grow without pesticides and traditional fertilizers!

Wear garden clothes, bring garden gloves.
Complimentary for Sisterhood members, \$5 for guests
Lunch provided

RSVP to Michelle Cohen, 305.667.6667 x149 or sisterhood@tbam.org

Sisterhood Girls Night Out!

Bowling at Splitsville Sunset Place



Join us for evening of Friends, Food and Fun (and get in a little bowling, too!)

Wednesday, November 16th
7:00-9:30 p.m.

Buffet Dinner
& Drink Coupon Included

Splitsville at Sunset Place
5701 Sunset Drive

\$35 for Members
\$45 for Guests

RSVP to Michelle Cohen 305.667.6667 x149 or sisterhood@tbam.org

Art | Basel | Miami Beach

Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011, daytime hours

Details to follow in email!!!

For additional information
contact Karen Sobel
305.254.7371

Save the Date!

Lilith Salon
Tuesday
Dec. 6th



Sisterhood Book Club

The Invisible Bridge
by Julie Orringer

Monday, December 12, 7-8:30 p.m.
more info at tbam.org/sisterhood



SOCOL SPEAKER SERIES '11



TEMPLE BETH AM
Embracing Jewish Life

Howard and Sharon Socol Family Fund

with support from Books and Books

In Memory of Our Parents

Presents...

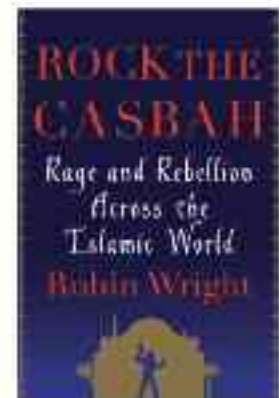
Award Winning Journalist
and MacArthur Foundation Winner

Robin Wright

*Rock the Casbah:
Rage and Rebellion
Across the Islamic World*

Save the date:
Wednesday December 7, 2011
7:30 PM

From a recognized and honored Middle East expert *Rock the Casbah* is a fresh, colorful, and ultimately hopeful view of the revolts now shaking the Islamic world.



Please RSVP to the programming dept. 305-667-6667 ext 149
or online at www.tbam.org. The first 100 to respond will receive
a complimentary copy of *Rock the Casbah*.

TEMPLE BETH AM
The Richard and Janet Vidman Campus
5950 N. Kendall Drive
Pinecrest, FL 33156



We would like to thank the Honey Bear chairs and all their volunteers who helped pack and distribute honey bears for Rosh haShanah. We wish everyone a very sweet new year.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made our Walk/Ride Your Child to school day a complete success, including **Dina Weinstein**, who coordinated this effort with our entire community. Our children all had a great time and learned about health, safety and our environment.

Remember you can help Temple Beth Am Day School by saving your box tops. Chairperson, **Katya Ilina**, collects them from each classroom twice a year. Go to www.boxtopforeducation.com and learn more about it and how you can earn money now for Beth Am Day School. More online stores than ever before are involved in this program and will give back to our school.

Save the date for our Annual Book Fair which will be held on November 30 and December 1. If you would like to volunteer for this event please let us know.

Pam Shapiro and Jackie Siegel
PATIO Co-Presidents



Bring in Box Tops –
we’re always collecting!



Happy Thanksgiving from My Family to Yours

Dear Temple Beth Am Family,

We are now into November and later this month, we celebrate Thanksgiving. At this time of year, I would like to share some special thoughts with you. Many times over the years I have been asked if the

Jewish people celebrate Thanksgiving. My answer is always a resounding “YES.” While we are expected to express our thankfulness year-round with the morning prayer of “*Modeh Ani*,” the holiday of Thanksgiving gives us a special opportunity to share company of family and friends - those who are most dear to us. Our Jewish faith places a large premium on the role of family and what better time to express our gratitude for this blessing. Today, as I sit writing and reflecting the thoughts to be shared, it is the tenth anniversary of 9/11. This day will always be a day of reflection, prayer, and remembrance and a day of thanksgiving that we are safe and surrounded by our loved ones.

One of many things for which I am thankful is the loving family we have within Temple Beth Am. It truly feels like we are at home every time we drive on to the campus. Beth Am offers so many ways in which to worship and join together as a community. As I sat with my daughter this morning in the service before religious school started, I reflected how fortunate we are, ten years after 9/11, to continue to have the right to practice freedom of religion, to be proud to be American Jews. This in itself shows that the evil creatures who spearheaded 9/11 did not and will not win. Our older daughter was born five days after that horrible day and she brought such tremendous light and joy into our lives and all of our family members’ lives. Our younger daughter came four years later, and both girls are the most precious blessings on earth to us. We try each day to instill in them what **Rabbi Bookman** calls “an attitude of gratitude.”

Another way we can all learn how to instill these values is to sign up for “The Most Important 15 Minutes,” part of the “Just 4 Parents” series. You can attend this session while your child/children are in class that morning. The session addresses how to reclaim that oh-so-special family time for interaction amongst family members in the midst of our way-too-busy society. On behalf of PSTARS, I encourage you to register for this worthwhile class. Other dynamic November programs include the third grade Lech Lecha parent/child program on November 6, and the Mitzvah Day and Global Day of Learning on November 20. Please be sure to watch out for information on these activities. Thank you for letting me share these reflections with you. What will you be thankful for at Thanksgiving and also all year round? I am truly thankful for each and every one of you.

Julie Zimmet
Vice President, PSTARS

Mazel Tov B'nai Mitzvah

November 2011



ALLISON SIEGEL
NOVEMBER 5, 2011

Allison is a sweet, compassionate girl who enjoys hanging with friends, summers at KenWood Camp and cooking, and has a passion for education and helping others. She is an Honor student at Ransom Everglades, where she runs Cross Country, and a proud graduate of Temple Beth Am Day School. Allison loves spending time with her family, including her Yorkie, Lucy. Her parents, **Jackie** and **Rich**, and little sister **Abby**, are excited to celebrate this special day with Allison!



SAMANTHA JOSEPH
NOVEMBER 12, 2011

Samantha, a seventh grader in Palmetto Middle School's Gifted Program and a graduate of Temple Beth Am Day School, is warm and loving with a bubbly personality that always makes us smile. She loves drama, singing, her summers at Blue Star, and spending time with her friends and family. Her parents, **Beth** and **Seth**, and younger sister and brother, **Abigail** and **Benjamin**, and all of her family are very proud of her and can't wait to celebrate her special day.



JORDAN SCHWARTZ
NOVEMBER 19, 2011

Jordan is a 7th grade Gifted student in the Visual Art Magnet Program at Southwood Middle School. She is creative, sensitive, loving, and has a great sense of humor. Jordan enjoys painting, drawing, cooking and spending time with her friends. Jordan's family, grandparents **Betty** and **Sandy Susman** and **Joan Schwartz**, her parents **Laurel** and **Steven**, and her sister **Kaley** look forward to celebrating her Bat Mitzvah.



RYAN DOLFI
NOVEMBER 26, 2011

Ryan is a 7th grader at McGlannan School. He plays competitive travel soccer. Ryan also enjoys basketball, racquetball, DJing, and fishing. Ryan's family is very proud of him and can't wait to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah. They include his sister **Tanya**, stepbrother **Erik**, mom **Sharon**, dad **Seth** and stepmother **Susy**, grandparents **Sandy** and **Julius Israel**, and grandparents **Eleanore** and **Gene Dolfi**.



ARIELLE KOSSMAN
NOVEMBER 26, 2011

Arielle is a seventh grade student at Gulliver Academy. She is passionate about sushi, dance, drama, and fashion design. Arielle loves watching Gulliver Lacrosse, traveling, and spending time with her family and friends. Her parents, **Ilene** and **Murray**, and her brothers, **Jared**, **Ryan**, and **Scott** are proud of all the hard work she has put into becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Everyone looks forward to celebrating with Ari.

Congratulations!



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SUNDAY NOVEMBER 13

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Join Beth Am Friends and Family . . .
A Day of Social Action, Activities and Learning

Exciting Activities On & Off Campus

Registration **REQUIRED** for Off-Campus Activities

- | | |
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| Plant a Mitzvah Garden | Create Thanksgiving Dinner |
| Feed the Hungry | Ecosystem Beach Clean-Up |
| Pick Papayas | Kosher Food Bank Field Trip |
| Advocate Against Hunger | Good Nutrition Games & Learning |
| National Food Bank of Israel | Challenge Your Body with Exercise |

More Activities With

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Hunger No More | Challahs for Hunger | Roots of the City |
| Habitat for Humanity | <i>Casa Valentina</i> | Slow Food Miami |
| Community Blood Centers of Florida | | |

Register on-line @

tbam.org/mitzvahday

Religious School students will participate in Mitzvah Day as the activity of the day.



OUR JEWISH HERITAGE

BY DR. LENORE C. KIPPER, RJE, JUDAIC STUDIES DIRECTOR, EMERITA

Middot, Enduring Virtues and Values of Judaism

Nedivut, Generosity

As we complete the cycle of the fall holidays with Sukkot and Simchat Torah, we have engaged in community celebration, joyfulness and happiness, the value of *Simchah*. The month of November does not have a Jewish holiday, but we have made Thanksgiving a part of our holiday cycle because it emphasizes the value of gratitude, thankfulness for all of our blessings, especially freedom, democracy, and abundance. It is during this month we especially think of those in our community and country who are in need of the basics, food, clothing and shelter.

A recent report indicates that 46 million people now live at or below the poverty level, defined as \$11,000 yearly. In addition, think of the homeless who may not even have that amount. Can this be happening in the United States? Are we doing enough to change this? All of us receive many mailings asking for donations to feed the poor, the hungry and the homeless. Sometimes we question the authenticity of the organizations, but, find the one that you know will be legitimate, and do the Jewish thing, fulfill the mitzvah of generosity, *nedivut*. This virtue implies more than *zedakah*, a term that is familiar to us. The quality of generosity reflects an attitude of caring and sharing with others the abundance a person has acquired. It reflects an attitude of gratitude. Our *Siddur* reminds us daily and weekly not to take our blessings for granted. We pray with words and songs, but then we really need to do acts of generosity.

Hachnasat Orchim, Hospitality

The idea of extending hospitality to guests and visitors has always been an important aspect of Judaism. Living a Jewish life requires community, and welcoming newcomers to participate in the community for holidays and Shabbat invites them to be included in our communal celebrations. This is extended to inviting people into our homes. Our first biblical story of *hachnasat orchim* starts with Abraham and Sarah. When Abraham saw three men standing at a distance from his tent, he ran to meet them and invite them in for food and rest. The text tells us he was eager to personally extend his hospitality to the strangers.

The Rabbis of Pirke Avot wrote: *"Let your house be open wide, always treating the poor as members of your own family."* We are especially reminded at Passover to invite newcomers and all who are hungry to join us at the table. There is a story recorded in the Talmud that says the people in Jerusalem used to display a flag on their front door. This was the signal that a meal was ready and visitors were welcome to come and eat. (Babylonian Talmud, Bava Batra 93b) The Rabbis of the Talmud even established guidelines for how hosts and guests should behave.

During the Middle Ages there was an association dedicated to the task of *hachnasat orchim*. It was like a Traveler's Aid Society. They provided meal tickets and youth hostels for scholars and travelers who journeyed from community to community. This was especially true for Shabbat.

In our own time, with busy schedules, it is easy to forget to keep this value alive. Yet, we can extend the meaning to include inviting people who are alone to join us for going to lunch or dinner, or many types of programs, concerts, plays, and lectures. The big idea is to make everyone in the community feel that they belong.

Sayver Panim Yafot, A Pleasant Demeanor

The essence of this virtue is to greet every person cheerfully, and to show friendliness. The Hebrew literal translation means *sayver*, brighten, *panim*, face, *yafot*, lovely or pleasant. This gives us a modern interpretation to put on a happy face. Even if we are not in such a happy mood, when we greet people a smile or a phrase can change ourselves and make the other person feel connected. A pleasant demeanor suggests a certain attitude toward people.

The following texts from *Pirke Avot*, from the Mishnah, remind us:

"Greet every person with a pleasant face...receive every person in a cheerful manner."

(1:15, 3:16)

"Be the first to extend greetings to every human being."
(4:20)

The habit of greeting everyone with a pleasant, cheerful, friendly, smile and cordial words becomes an integral part of your behavior and leads to a positive attitude and acceptance of all those with whom you interact daily, at home, at work, in the stores, even in the silence of the elevators! On a personal note, I now live in an apartment building. I have discovered that if I am the person who is first to extend a greeting, as casual as it may be, I always receive a pleasant response. This sounds like common sense, and a polite way to behave. It is easy to do with people we know, and we certainly see this in our Temple community. But, how about people we do not know, interactions with people who provide services for us, or are clerks and salespeople. Everyone deserves a smile and a greeting to brighten their day.

Chag Sameach, Happy Thanksgiving!

Lenore

IN LOVING MEMORY

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NOVEMBER 4, 2011**

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NOVEMBER 11, 2011**

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Louise Smith
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Adeline Heller Tabachnikoff
Zara Vitto
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Mauricio Weinstein
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NOVEMBER 18, 2011**

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Alexander Bedine*
Lillian Berger*
Sylvia Berger*
Solomon Bernat

Lester Blackstein*
Claire Blazer
Anne Bloom Smith
Julian Brill
Todd Burstein
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Rose Hoffman
Sylvia Jacobs*
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J. Oliver Lampen
Ida S. Lax*
Morris Levin
Ross Levin*
Eva Levins
Lorraine Levy
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Isidore Liebhaber*
Harry Linett
Hilda Margolin
Lawrence Margolis*
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David Milgram*
Stanley Mintz*
Laura Modlin
Esther K. Passon*
Hy Pearl*
Dr. David Perelman*
Bernice Goldberg Pollack*
Maria-Julia Quiros
Arthur Rauchwerger
Sylvia Reiser*
Dolores Rimmer
Mildred Robbins*
Mary Rosenberg
Michael Rosenthal
Michael Robinson Rossin*
Mark R. Rubin*
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Albert Sacks
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Douglas B. Segal*
Sadie Shane*
Eli Speiser
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Anna Stoller*
Rebecca Tannenbaum
Jerry Tillim
Mildred Weiss
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NOVEMBER 25, 2011**

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Samuel Barton

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Ely Kaplan*
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Jill Leitch
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Sally Reiken
Leah Robin
Dorothy Roman
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Raymond N. Roth*
Simon Salz
Sidney Sapurstein
Yetta Schreer*
Thomas Schultz
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Adelaide Shifrin
Gertrude N. Solomon*
Sophie Sprecher*
Chauncy Stone
Jack Louis Thaller
Morris Tischler*
Kathy Wilk

*Perpetual Yahrzeits on our memorial tables, along with others whose Yahrzeit commemoration is requested, will be read before the Kaddish prayer. The above Yahrzeits will be observed during the month of November.

WE GIVE THANKS...

We give thanks for the thoughtfulness of those who support the temple by remembering and/or honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. Donations are made online. If you have questions, please call the temple at 305.667.6667.

CANTOR NELSON'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Linda, Richard and Hallie Cahan and Alisa and Adam Bergstein in loving memory of our father and grandfather, Seymour Levinson
Beth and David Ertel in honor of Joeli's Bat Mitzvah
Arlene and Edward Feldman in memory of Mildred Glassman
Martin, Leslie and Stephanie Genauer in appreciation for the meaningful funeral service honoring Robert Marcus
Dolores Harris and Family in appreciation of your love and support and the beautiful funeral service for Ernest Harris
Adele Hertz and Family, with thanks for your everlasting support at the time of the great loss of our husband, father and grandfather, Kenneth Hertz
Fern and Daniel Lampert in memory of Barbara and Arthur Colton
Fran Lerner in memory of Dr. Michael Lerner
Fran Lerner in memory of my father, Murray Rogover
Fran Lerner in memory of Ernest Harris
Danielle Malkin and family in honor of the High Holy Day Adult Choir
Shirley Pulver Sotloff and Edward Pulver and Families in appreciation for all your love and support and in memory of our loving mother, *My Yiddishe Mama*, Miriam Pulver
Linda and Howard Zwibel in memory of Marty Ceader with special recognition for the support given to the entire Ceader family

THE JOAN KRAMER GALLANT AND MARTIN GALLANT CHILDREN'S FUND

In memory of our papa, Martin Gallant with love from Jane, Mack and Sunny
Brian Gallant in loving memory of his parents
Tracy Gallant Brody in loving memory of her parents

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Mary and Robert Belin in memory of Kenneth Hertz
Debbi and Bernie Harris in memory of Dr. Kenneth Hertz
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Faith and Richard Levine in memory of Dr. Kenneth Hertz

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Lillian and Jeffrey Rosenberg in memory of Mrs. Francine Kaufman
Lisa and Gary Saul in memory of Ernest Harris
Howard and Sharon Socol in honor of Shari and Stuart Debowsky, to help sponsor the Jewish Genetic Testing program they have established
Ronnie Van Gelder in memory of Dorothy Spar

PROGRAMAS EN ESPAÑOL

Zady Monzon and Moises Behar in appreciation of Rabbi Kalfus and his help with my conversion

LENORE KIPPER ENDOWMENT FUND

Natalie and John Breslin in memory of Dr. Kenneth Hertz

LESLEE ARONOVITZ YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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Joan and Jerry Fisher in memory of Bob Marcus, father of Leslie Genauer

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Bethany S. Ladd in memory of Norman & Donna Ladd, Jay Ladd
Bethany S. Ladd in memory of Bernice LeBrun and Nancy Pincus
Bethany S. Ladd in memory of Robert Swerdlin and Ed Swerdlin
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Bernice Sandler in memory of Prof. Robert Sandler

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Karen and Mort Kass in memory of Titia Katsikas, beloved mother and grandmother

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Judith Ratzan in memory of Mildred and Joseph Tuchman
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Florence Hyman in memory of Ben Goldberg
Ron and Karen Kammer in memory of Rose Kammer
L. Melvin and Hazel Katz in memory of Sylvia Schwartz
Dr. Barry Katzen in memory of Harry Hatzen
Lenore Kipper in loving memory of Rabbi Morris Kipper
Tammy and Steven Klein in memory of Fayth Krieger
The Klein Family in memory of Sherry Moss, sister of Bruce Koniver
Mrs. Carole Klugerman in memory of Ernest Harris
Karen and Alan Pincus in memory of Nancy Pincus
Judith and Kenneth Rosenthal in memory of Kurt Rosenthal

WE GIVE THANKS...

Lorraine and Robert Schatzman and family in memory of Yetta Berger Blitz
David and Lily Serviasky in memory of Cecilia Serviasky
Lisa Sharf in memory of Marvis Blossom Schaecter
Gail and Max Spiegelman in memory of Leo Ackerman
Alan and Lynne Stein in memory of Hana Stein

RABBI BOOKMAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Sheryl Berrin Klein for your endless support and love in times of need
Dr. Sol Center wishing you and your family a new year of peace, health and happiness from Mitzi and me
Terry and Diane Goldberg, wishing a speedy recovery to Bernie Swichkow
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Halpern in memory of Dorothy Spar, mother of Jeffrey Spar
Dolores Harris and family with gratitude and appreciation for your support and beautiful funeral service
Adele Hertz in thankfulness for your many kind words and prayers at our time of great loss
Fern and Daniel Lampert in memory of Barbara and Arthur Colton
Anita Margolis in memory of my mother, Madeleine Reibstein, in thankfulness for all your help
Drs. Jeffrey and Susan Nullman in honor of three blessings, Ashley and Zack Nullman and Ava Nullman
Shirley Pulwer Sotloff and Edward Pulwer, in appreciation for your support and heartfelt eulogy in memory of Miriam Pulwer, our loving mother
Dr. R. Judith Ratzan in thankfulness for performing the unveiling service for my mother, Mildred Tuchman
Estelle and Ira Segal in memory of Ernest Harris
Joyce and Jeff Spar and family, in thankfulness for your care and consideration during our time of loss

RABBI GREENGRASS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

Fern & Daniel Lampert in in memory of Barbara and Arthur Colton
Michael Tein and Laurie Stein in thanks and appreciation

RABBI KEMPLER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Elizabeth Ekstein in appreciation of the prayers of hope for her son, Hal Rosenberg
Noga and Paul Hoffer in honor of Rabbi Kempler's birthday
Drs. Susan and Jeffrey Nullman in honor of Rabbi Kempler's spirited minyan
Anna Shoham in honor of Rabbi Kempler's birthday
The Heller Family in honor of chanting Torah

RABBI KALFUS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

Beth and David Ertel in honor of Joeli's Bat Mitzvah
Adele Hertz and Family in appreciation of the minyan and support and friendship during difficult times
Fern and Daniel Lampert in memory of Barbara and Arthur Colton

SHEPARD KING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Bernita King, Russell King, and Tamara, Michael, David Shepard, and Sarah Anne Stark in memory of our beloved Shep

STEPHEN ARKY FAMILY CARING FUND

Bonnie and Mark Webman in memory of Ernie Harris

TIKKUN OLAM

Sari and Jack Gold in memory of Ernest Harris
Sari and Jack Gold wishing Elaine Shane a speedy recovery
Lisa and Lee Kaplan for the Bendery community
Barbara Mintz
Shelley and David Schwadron in memory of Ernest Harris
Shelley and David Schwadron in memory of Woody Weiser
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Pam and Richard Strassberg in memory of Mildred Glassman

WENDY LESTER BREAST CANCER EDUCATION FUND

Cindy and Irv Lerner in memory of Ernest Harris

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Franci Keyes in memory of Ernest Harris
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Barbara Levin in memory of Ira Fenster
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Lisa Sharf in memory of Marvis Blossom Schaecter
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Patricia and Harry Weinberg in memory of Max Weinberg

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Sunday, November 20 • 4 p.m.

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Afternoon of Broadway and Opera***
Directed by **Cantor Rachele Nelson**

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New South Florida Office at Temple Beth Am!

Contact Andi Solomon, Assistant Director

asolomon@urj.org

(305) 667-6667, ext. 142

Please Join us for a Camp presentation and Q&A
session on Sunday, November 20, at Beth Am.



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BETH AM BASKETBALL LEAGUE

A heartfelt thank you to all of our Beth Am Basketball League Volunteer Coaches and Commissioners. Your dedication and support have made our league one of the largest and most well respected recreational basketball programs in the State of Florida. We cannot do it without you!

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Eric Woolworth
Adam Yunis

**Beth Am Basketball League Registration
 will open for our Spring Season on December 15.**

Remember registration is only available online at www.tbam.org/basketball



Court's 1 on 1 Winter Camp is BACK...

1 week only – space is limited!

Monday, December 19 – Friday, December 23

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Fridays until 1 p.m.)

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BRAND NEW!

Now open to all students Pre-Kindergarten* through 8th Grade

*Pre-K 1/2 day until 1 p.m. only – includes lunch

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Arts Camp

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Grades 5-8

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Questions?

Contact **Michelle Cohen** at 305.667.6667 ext. 149 or mcohen@tbam.org
 or **Courtney Young** at 305.926.7899 or courts1on1@gmail.com

\$275 for the week includes lunch, t-shirt and awards! *Pre-K price is \$150 for the week.
 Walk-in price is \$300 and will only be taken if there is availability; you will not be guaranteed a spot unless you register.

No credits or makeups are available for absence. Refunds are only available if cancelation is prior to camp starting with a \$25 non-refundable processing fee.

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What's Up at the Gardens



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November 12, 8 PM

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Mambo your way into an evening of excitement while revisiting memory lane as these sons of legendary musicians perform in our very own Banyan Bowl. Tickets \$20 & \$25.

JAZZ
at Pinecrest Gardens



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Saturday, November 5, 8 p.m.

"Celia Fonta is earthy concentration. In "Taranto," she kicks up her heels, swings her arms overhead and propels herself across the stage with a rapid-fire cascade of footwork." Camille LeFevre, Star Tribune, Minneapolis

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CHICK FLICK November 11
Breakfast at Tiffany's (NR)



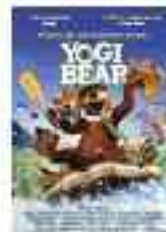
Wear your dark sunglasses, and we will provide the music, martinis and of course one fabulous night out with the girls... it doesn't get any better than this. Gates open at 6:30 PM. Movie 8 PM

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SHOWING THIS MONTH

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
November 18 Yogi Bear (G)



Hanna-Barbera's beloved picnic basket-stealing bear makes his big screen debut in this live action animation kid's flick...but remember... do not feed the bears! Movie 7:30 PM

Gardens Gallery

Pinecrest Gardens Gallery is pleased to announce Ethan Ryman Exhibiting this month at the Gardens.



Opening Reception Tuesday, November 29
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Exhibit November 29 - December 30, 2011
Curated by Tora Bueno



Saturday
November 22
11 AM - 4 PM

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