

Temple Beth Abraham Bulletin

January 2014 – Vol. 40, NO. 04 • telephone: 603-883-8184 • e-mail: office@tbanashua.org • www.tbanashua.org



Shabbat in January

- Family Service
- Celebrate our Sixth and Seventh Grade Classes and Their Learning
- Sisterhood Shabbat
- Shabbat Yachad (Together) Synaplex
- Lunch and Learn with the Raymond Street Klezmer Band

See inside for details ...

January 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			29 Tevet New Year's Day Office Closed	1 Shevat Torah Study 10:30-noon	2 Shevat CL: 4:08 Family Service 7PM	3 Shevat Bo Havdalah: 5:11 Jr. Cong. & Shabbat Shlaymah
4 Shevat Gan Katan Men's Club Breakfast	5 Shevat	6 Shevat EXEC 6:30PM	7 Shevat RSVP due for Tu B'Shevat Seder Sisterhood B.O.D.	8 Shevat Torah Study 10:30-noon	9 Shevat CL: 4:15	10 Shevat Shabbat Shirah/Beshallach Havdalah: 5:18
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11 Shevat Gan Katan	12 Shevat Ritual Committee	13 Shevat Avodah Shebalev 9:30AM Daytime Activity Group 12:30 School Committee	14 Shevat Tu B'Shevat Seder 6:30PM BABKA 8:00PM	15 Shevat Tu B'Shevat Torah Study 10:30-noon	16 Shevat CL: 4:23	17 Shevat Yitro Havdalah: 5:26 Sisterhood Shabbat & Luncheon
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18 Shevat	19 Shevat Martin Luther King Day No Heb. High School	20 Shevat Avodah Shebalev 9:30AM B.O.D. 8:00 PM	21 Shevat Lifelong Learning Comm	22 Shevat Torah Study 10:30-noon No School	23 Shevat CL: 4:32	24 Shevat Mishpatim Havdalah: 5:38 Klezmer Shabbat Yachad
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25 Shevat No School	26 Shevat	27 Shevat Federation BOD (O/S)	28 Shevat	29 Shevat Torah Study 10:30-noon	30 Shevat CL: 4:41	
26	27	28	29	30	31	

ZAYIN SHABBAT

Shabbat All Day

Until sometime in the middle of elementary school, I didn't know that Shabbat was on Saturday. We always had Shabbat dinner on Friday nights at home. My family's main congregation was a small group of families who met every other week for Friday night services in one another's homes.



Rabbi Spira-Savett

It wasn't until I was in about fifth grade that my parents became interested again in Saturday morning services, and we started attending regularly. That's when I began to understand that Shabbat wasn't just on Friday, but Saturday too.

And it wasn't until sixth grade that on a regular basis I had the experience of the end of Shabbat. The rabbi who came that year to run our Hebrew School, which was a partnership among several synagogues, invited a group of students to study *Torah* with him starting mid-Saturday afternoon. We would schmooze a lot, study, and finish up with *Havdalah*, the special ceremony to conclude Shabbat and start the new week.

Shabbat as a day has its own flavor and rhythm. It's built on rituals and the "don'ts" of not working as specified in Jewish law. A day of Shabbat in community is even more than that. Ask anyone who has been to Jewish summer camp. I don't know how to describe it, other than with a

traditional rabbinic name for Shabbat: *Me-ayn Olam Haba* – "a taste of the World to Come."

Rather than describe it, I invite you to live it for a day with us on Saturday, February 7-8. It will begin with a special Shabbat dinner at the synagogue, and there will be plans all the way through *Havdalah* on Saturday evening. But that's just the skeleton. We'll be here to have a Shabbat of leisure, to spend your afternoon in the atmosphere of Shabbat in any of a number of different ways, including just sitting and reading or taking a winter walk with friends, old and new.

We'll begin the morning with our Shabbat morning alternatives, for adults and children, and then eat lunch
(*Continued on the following page ...*)

To Trope or Not to Trope

It is important to hear the Torah sung by someone who loves it. I know what it feels like to listen to the Torah being read, but I don't know what it feels like to do the actual chanting. I have heard that to *read* from its pages is to enter into a conversation with G-d. I have had the honor of standing next to the Torah and looking on as the yad (ceremonial Torah pointer) gently glides over the beautiful words. I enjoy listening to members of our congregation young and old. I beam when I hear my own children chant a Torah portion.



President
Lisa Bonneau

I asked my children what they think of when they are about to read

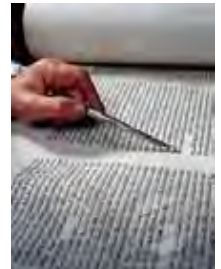
Torah and what would they say to someone who has not tried it yet. Their comments were as numerous as the amount of times they have both read *Torah*. Try and be as perfect as can be for the congregation and yourself. Study hard, it feels so good when you are done and can see what you accomplished. You feel like an important part of the community and you will always have something to connect you back to your roots. Both my children and I love the fact that our synagogue strives to involve so many teens and young adults and gives them an opportunity to read especially on Yom Kippur.

As with any new skill it will take time and practice to become proficient, but the benefits of learning trope as a system as opposed to

learning a text by rote are significant. No matter how many times a portion is learned and read, that same "aha!" moment, and "I just completed a commandment" feeling will never, as I have been told, get old.

Next time you are in shul and listening to the *Torah*, let the melody of the verses elevate you and think about the spiritual effect on those listening to it.

Not a current reader but interested in becoming one? Contact Rabbi Jon or Stan Juda.



B'yedidut (In Friendship),

Lisa

Shabbat All Day continued ...

together. Through the afternoon, there will be opportunities to sing, study *Torah*, sit and play board games or card games, have some quiet time, let your children have fun and hang out. Toward sunset, there is a special light meal called *Seudah Shlishit*, the "third meal." It's a mystical tradition, with special melodies of yearning and reaching for the messianic future. We'll finish together with *Havdalah*.

Shabbat in the synagogue together is a zone of freedom – from cellphones and electronics, from writing and business. If you haven't experienced a day like that, you'll find it unbelievably refreshing and liberating. For children, I promise there will be no boredom

(we'll have chaperones for the kids when they don't want to participate in the adult happenings).

February 7-8 will be our in-shul retreat, if you will. We've done something like this pretty much once a year, and of course my aim is to get you hooked on Shabbat. If you're skeptical, if you've never experienced a traditional Shabbat, all the more reason to stretch and to come.

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer to help organize meals or any leisure activities, please let me know.

Lshalom,

Rabbi Jon

In Case of a Storm

The next time there is a power outage in our area, the synagogue may be able to be of special service in a number of ways.

- If you have no one who checks on you regularly and you would like someone from the congregation to call you or stop by to make sure you are all right, please contact the office and let us know now ahead of time.
- If the synagogue has power and heat during a widespread outage, the building will be open during weekdays office hours and perhaps Sundays as well for people to drop in, stay warm, recharge phones, etc. If anyone is willing to be on a contact list to help monitor the building or organize any activities, please volunteer to the office.
- We hold both weekday and Shabbat services unless it is dangerous to travel or the power is out in

the synagogue. Use your judgment as far as your own safe travel. If we have to cancel our services or relocate them, we will post that information on the synagogue homepage and the voicemail if we can.

- We may use an automated phone call if there is information about services or other important activities. If you do not wish to receive such a call let us know and we can remove your number from that list. If the power is out we would include cellphones, but if do not want your cellphone to receive such a call let us know.



Egyptian Shabbat Dinner

Friday, February 7

Were you at October's Persian dinner? About 75 people attended this event and it's safe to say that it was enjoyed by all. All the food, with rare exception, was prepared right in the Beth Abraham kitchen by some very enthusiastic volunteers. A fun-to-work-with team assembled and prepared quite a feast of hummus, baba ghanoush, home baked pita, soup, salad, chicken with crispy spaghetti and a few other treats.

Our next Jewish cultural food adventure will take us exploring traditional Jewish food of Egypt. While the menu is not quite set at bulletin publication you can be assured some tasty offerings. We won't be going quite as far back as the days of Joseph!

What better way to celebrate Shabbat together than to join in a meal, sing a few songs, schmooze a bit and relax after a long week. "From 6:00-6:30 PM we will have a family service with singing and storytelling. After dinner at 8:00 PM there will be a regular Shabbat service.

This Ritual Committee-sponsored event requires reservations as all ingredients need to be purchased and all food will be prepared in our own Beth Abraham kitchen. Reservations must be made by Friday January 31, 2014. Information will be posted on the website and will be available from the office. Cost will be approximately \$14.00 per adult, \$7.00 per child with a family maximum of \$45 .

Community News

Best Wishes to:

- The Audrey & Barry Steinberg family on Jared's Bar Mitzvah
- Naomi & Bob Steinberg on the birth of grandson, Evan Jonah Abelowitz
- Debbie & Marty Rothberg on the engagement of son, Stuart to Jennifer Walton

Welcome New Members

- Heather Winer (Nashua)
- James Stewart (Nashua)

Condolences to:

- Wendy Kolopsky on the loss of her beloved mother, Leonora Kovler
- Beth Watterson on the loss of her beloved mother, Harriet Kimmel

To all those people in our community who are ill we wish you a complete & speedy recovery.

DAYTIME

ACTIVITY GROUP

The Daytime Activity Group is the new kid on the block. We are a friendly, collaborative bunch, still small in number, who enjoy trying things both familiar and new.

The December 10 get together, playing board games such as Rummy Royal and Rummikub, was postponed until January 14 at 12:30.

We could have programs such as films, speakers, easy art projects, a bit of tai chi, etc. We would like to know what you wish to share, and welcome you every second Tuesday of the month.

For more information, please call Marilyn Greenspan, 429-1675.

Assistance for Seniors

They took care of us when we were young. When we needed them, they made time for us.

They need our help now. Can we make time for them?

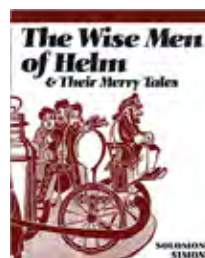
Please help us to give our seniors the support that they need. It can be as little as providing an occasional ride, picking up items at a store, or calling to say hello. Tell me what time you have available and what you would like to do and I will try to match you to a senior, who will be so appreciative. I guarantee that you will get back so much more than you give and it is a wonderful way to pass our values on to our children.

Also, if you know of a senior, or a person who is ill, who needs our help, please call, or email with their name so I can get in touch with them.

If you have questions, want to volunteer, or have the name of a senior who needs support, you can contact me at cakaplan@hotmail.com, or (603) 860 4163.

BABKA BOOK NOTES

Join Temple Beth Abraham's Book Club on Wednesday evening, January 15, 2014 for a discussion of *The Wise Men of Helm and Their Merry Tales*.



The February selection is *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. Watch for information about our February date.

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Please Join Us For Two Very Special Shabbatot!

On January 10 & 11, 2014

The *Zayin* (Seventh grade) Class will lead services, share their teaching on the Torah portion and celebrate learning together as a class.

On February 1, 2014

Kitah Vav (Sixth Grade) will lead their first Shabbat morning service as a class and share some of the things they have learned about the key prayers in the service.

Oneg Shabbat and Kiddush luncheon sponsored by the class families will be held after services.

January Service Schedule

Services are held every Friday evening at 8:00 PM (unless otherwise noted) and every Saturday at 9:30 AM.

SPECIAL EVENT SERVICES

January 3

Family Service 7 PM

January 4

Jr. Congregation & Shabbat Shlaymah

January 10 & 11

Zayin Class Shabbat

January 18

Sisterhood Shabbat & lunch

January 25

Shabbat Yachad

Oneg, Kiddush & Flower Sponsors

January 17 & 18

Sisterhood in Honor of Sisterhood Shabbat

January 10 & 11 Oneg & Kiddush

Zayin Class parents & Religious School

Tuesday, January 14 & 28 9:30 - 10:45 AM Avodah Shebalev – Devotion of the Heart

Morning Prayer Circle Led by Laura Hegfield

Drawn from the wealth of wisdom and inspiration found in *Birchot Hashachar*, the preliminary morning prayers and *Psukei D'zimra*, the Songs of Praise section of our traditional prayers and psalms that follow through to the *Shema*, the series will be an opportunity to connect as a *kehillah kedosha*, holy community, to learn about our own habits of body, mind, heart and soul, to devote ourselves to *avodah shebalev*, service, or devotion of the heart in relation to *Hashem*, and this miraculous world we live in and tend.

Simcha Club

Children whose birthdays occur in the month of January will be honored at the Family Service on Friday, January 3, 2014 at 7 PM. A special birthday dessert will be served to the children at the Oneg Shabbat. We ask the parents (or grandparents) to send a donation of \$9.00 per child to help defray the cost of refreshments. Please make checks payable to TBA Sisterhood and send or drop them off at the Temple office (mark the envelope "Simcha Club"). Be sure to include the names and birth dates of your children. Donations are always welcome and will be acknowledged in the next bulletin.

We will be celebrating the birthdays of Julie Berke, Ana Ellis, Jacob Fain, Jonah Fain, Elana Finkelstein, Kaden Garnick, Avi Goldman, Noah Goldman, Michael Greenblatt, Elzashira Grossman, Leela Spira-Savett and Jared Steinberg at services on the 3rd. Hope to see you there.



Temple Beth Abraham
4 Raymond St., Nashua, NH 03064

Gan Katan 2013 – 2014



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Next Classes Meet on January 5 and 12, 2014

Tuition: \$125 (first child) \$100 (additional children)

For more information and registration form please contact Heidi Lovitz at (603) 883-9844 or
director@tbanashua.org

So You Think it is Cold and Snowy Here?

Roads closed, “no school” announcements, thousands still without power, flights delayed, airports shut down, drivers stranded, snowy pictures on Facebook...no, I am not referring to the recent snow that fell in New Hampshire, I am describing the scene in Jerusalem. While we were gearing up for our first snow of the season during the middle of December, Jerusalem was digging out from a foot of snow. This unprecedented, rare storm took Jerusalem by surprise and kept on for three days!



Director of
Education &
Programming
Heidi N. Lovitz

As January begins although still cold and snow covered in New Hampshire, it is customary to turn our thoughts to the awakening of spring in Israel; the almond trees blossoming and the birthday of the trees. We don't often think of an abundance of snow there. *Tu B'Shevat*, the 15th day of the Hebrew month of *Shevat*, embodies our dedication to the environment in Israel. This holiday has become closely associated with the Jewish National Fund since a popular way of celebrating the holiday is to plant trees in Israel. The JNF Mission states: JNF has been the caretaker for the land of Israel since 1901, working to not just plant trees, but to preserve and develop all the land on behalf of the Jewish people.

Families can celebrate Tu B'Shevat in a variety of fun ways!

Our synagogue *Tu B'Shevat Seder* will take place on Wednesday evening, January 14. This is a lovely way to sample a variety of treats as-

sociated with the holiday and learn about our connection to the land in a biblical and contemporary context.

- Learn something unique about the ecology of the land of Israel.
- Read a *Tu B'Shevat* book or a book about trees.
- Plant some parsley indoors and watch it grow. This connects our early spring holiday of *Tu B'Shevat* with our main spring holiday of Passover.

Israel faces many challenges when it comes to fresh water supply. From the JNF website: “Seven consecutive years of drought, coupled with an increased demand from a rapidly growing population, have led to the overexploitation of Israel's limited natural water resources. Major water bodies, including the *Kinneret*—Israel's only freshwater lake—have dwindled and lowered aquifers are threatened by contamination of the water supply and long-term ecological damage.”

As a family, come up with ways that you can help to conserve water at home.

- Learn a new song!
- Use fair trade certified dried dates, almonds, and walnuts at your own *Tu B'Shevat seder*.
- Go to the hazon.org website for great music about *Tu B'Shevat*. Scroll all the way down for one of my favorites, “*Adamah v'Shamayim*”, “The Earth and the Heavens”, and download right to your mp3 player!
- Visit the g-dcast Channel on YouTube (used often in *Kitah Hai* and *Kitah Zayin*) to view the *Tu B'Shevat* video.
- Plant a tree in Israel by visiting www.jnf.org.

For more information about *Tu B'Shevat* or tree planting in Israel, contact Heidi Lovitz.

Heidi N. Lovitz
director@tbanashua.org
(603) 883-9844

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Friday Night *Ha-Motzi* תמוציא Blessing Over *Challah* חלה

1. In the middle of the table, place two whole loaves of bread and some salt.
2. To beautify this practice, people use a special plate for the bread, and also a special covering draped over both loaves.
3. Remove the cover and hold the two loaves together.
4. Say the blessing, and others answer *amen* אמן.

Blessed are You, Adonai	בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה'	<i>Baruch Atah Adonai</i>
our God, Supreme throughout time and space	אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם	<i>Elohaynu Melech Ha-olam</i>
Who brings forth bread	הַמּוֹצִיא לֶחֶם	<i>Hamotzi Le-chem</i>
from the earth.	מִן הָאָרֶץ	<i>Min Ha-aretz</i>

5. Slice or break the bread into enough pieces for everyone, and lightly salt. Take one piece for yourself, then give some bread to everyone.

Why do we have two loaves?

Two represents bounty. In the Torah, when the Israelites traveled through the desert for forty years, each day they received manna from God to collect for that day's food. On Friday, they would receive a double portion so that they would not have to work to gather food on Shabbat.

Why is the challah traditionally a braided bread?

We don't know the precise origins of braiding. One suggestion is that the braids represent the unity of the Jewish people, woven together out of many strands. Another interpretation of the braids is based on the statement of Rabban Shimon ben Gamliel in *Pirkei Avot*, a wisdom book from the third century: "The world stands on three things: on justice, on truth, and on peace."

Why is the bread covered?

According to *halacha* (Jewish law), one should not pass over one item to say a blessing on another. At a typical meal, we would begin by saying a blessing over bread. Since on Shabbat we first bless the wine or grape juice, we hide the bread, and then uncover it when we are ready to notice it. Some have suggested that the *challah* cover symbolizes the dew that covered the manna in the desert.

What is the significance of the salt?

When we eat a Shabbat meal, our table takes on the symbolism of the altar in the ancient Temple in Jerusalem. Jews used to worship in the Temple by preparing and eating a meal, an offering of meat, breads, or cakes. These offerings were often salted.



Temple Beth Abraham
Nashua, NH
Tu B'Shevat Seder



January 15, 2014

at 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00 per person

The entire congregation is invited to beat the winter and celebrate the New Year of Trees with the traditional Tu B'Shevat Seder. During the seder, we join as a community, we eat special fruits and nuts, and we reflect on the importance of nature to ourselves and our tradition. The seder will be led by members of our community, Heidi Lovitz and Rabbi Jon.

If you have never joined us for this celebration... give it a try this year!
Please RSVP to the synagogue office (603) 883-9844 or office@tbanashua.org,
return the form below
or register and pay online by
January 8, 2014

Questions or for more information – contact Heidi Lovitz,
Director of Education and Programming director@tbanashua.org or (603) 883-8184

Temple Beth Abraham Tu B'Shevat Seder – January 15, 2014

Name: _____ Number Attending _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Phone Number: _____



Yes, I would love to help! Please call me!!

Sisterhood

It is forbidden to live in a city that does not have a garden or greenery. – Mishnah, Kiddushin 4:12

Luckily for us we all live in New Hampshire where there are abundant gardens. Where greenery and foliage flourish. Many of us during the spring and summer months of the year have personal gardens in our yards with flowers and vegetables. If you do not have a green thumb yourself there are quite a few farm stands close by.

Though it is winter here, in Israel it will soon be the time of year for celebrating the planting of new crops, fruits, nuts and trees. We will join Jews around the world to celebrate Tu B'Shevat in January. As we watch the snow outside our window we will drink four glasses of wine at a Tu B'Shevat seder. We will drink the wine mixing red and white to represent the four seasons of the year.

This winter is also a wonderful time to come out and warm up with fun

Sisterhood activities, making strong and lasting friendships. There are social functions planned like Movie Night on Saturday, February 1. Stay toasty with us watching a movie, with popcorn and pizza.

There is also Sisterhood Shabbat on January 17th, because it is also important to warm the soul. Come participate with the women of our community either leading a prayer from the *bima* (front of the sanctuary) or supporting those on the bima raising your voice in song in the pews. Temple Beth Abraham Sisterhood is like a tree with many branches that spread out over us as we celebrate *Torah, Tzedukah* (Giving) and companionship.

Rabbi Shimon said in the Zohar, "The shade spread over us by these trees is so pleasant! We must crown this place with words of Torah." Zohar, 2:127a

Merle Carrus

rabbijon.net

- Podcasts – audio presentations on Jewish prayer, the Israel-Palestinian conflict, and *middot* (developing our ethical qualities)
- Information, news, and perspective on Israel
- Teachings about the weekly Torah reading and the prayerbook
- Text of sermons from High Holy Days and Shabbatot
- Melodies and more

Sisterhood Movie Night

Are you tired of the cold, winter weather?

Sisterhood has the answer to your winter doldrums. **Join us on February 1 at 7:00 PM, to see a movie, followed by a lively discussion and scrumptious refreshments and drinks.** The cost for the program will be \$10 per person. Complimentary, on site baby-sitting will be provided. Men, spouses and friends are invited to join us.

We want you to help us pick the best movie to show. Let us know what you want to see. Our only requirement

is that the movie must have a Jewish connection, or Jewish content. We will review all movie suggestions that are received by Jan 6. Thank you for helping us to make this a really special evening.

Email, or call us with movie suggestions and/or questions:

Carol Kaplan cakaplan@hotmail.com, or call at (603) 860 4163

Carol Mann Cohen carolmanncohen@gmail.com, or call at (603) 216 2849

If you are emailing us, please put the word "movie" in the subject line.

*Thank you,
Carol and Carol*



*A Klezmer Shabbat Yachad
Featuring
The Raymond Street
Klezmer Band*

January 25, 2014

**Services and Learning for all ages
Beginning at 9:30 a.m.
Kiddush Luncheon, Lively Music and Dancing**

Services in the Sanctuary
Grades 3-6 meet in the Chapel
Grades Gan – Bet meet in the School
Babysitting available for Pre-K Children
Adult Learning – Probing the Prayer Service with Noreen Leibson
Meditation Led by Laura Hegfield
Everyone joins together in the Sanctuary at 11:45 for the conclusion of services

**Enjoy a wonderful Kiddush Lunch
Stay to learn about the rich history and culture of this
joyous music**



Meet the Band!

The Raymond Street Klezmer Band plays the music of the Jewish culture often enjoyed at celebrations, social gatherings, and weddings. Since the Middle Ages, Jewish musicians, known as klezmerim, traveled at first all over Europe and now worldwide. The music they play is a blend of many musical influences of Eastern Europe and circus music.

Don't Miss It! Bring Your Family and Friends

For more information contact Heidi Lovitz, Director of Education and Programming
Temple Beth Abraham
4 Raymond St, Nashua, NH 03064

(603)-883-9844 • director@tbanashua.org

March 27 - April 6, 2014
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Sponsorship is \$180 for a light Kiddush luncheon for the congregation or \$360 for a more elaborate lunch.

For more information or to make a donation, contact Heidi Lovitz, Director of Education and Programming at (603) 883-9844 or director@tbanashua.org.

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Education and Programming

Beginning: Adult Bar and Bat Mitzvah Class!

First Class: Sunday, February 2 at 9:45 AM

If you've never celebrated a Bar/Bat Mitzvah...

If you did, but it was 13 or 26 or 39 or 52 years ago...

If you're simply interested in a year-long immersion in Judaism...

The Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class is for you.

- Learn about the core ideas of Jewish ethics, thought, and prayer
- Develop skills to read Torah, lead part of services, progress in Hebrew
 - Take on the rhythms of Jewish living

...toward a community celebration in winter 2015

If you're on the fence or are interested in learning more,

contact Rabbi Jon this month.

Torah Study with Rabbi Jon – Kings and Prophets

Thursdays from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

We are studying the biblical books of Kings, following the successors of David and Solomon and the early prophets. Join us any week or every week.

Rabbi Jon's Tish

Every Saturday Morning at 9:00 AM (except January 11)

Singing and Torah discussion before services

Lunch, Learn, Sing and Dance: Klezmer Music With the Raymond Street Klezmer Band

Saturday, January 25 after services

BABKA – Beth Abraham Book Klub Association

Wednesday evening, January 15, 2014 for a discussion of *The Wise Men of Helm and Their Merry Tales*.

Kabbalah with Eitan Zeira

Next meeting to be announced

Study the Zohar, the classic medieval work of Jewish mysticism and spirituality

Hebrew Words מילים

Here is a glossary of some Hebrew words used in the bulletin this month, plus a few more. They are listed alphabetically in Hebrew. We've listed the common way of transliterating that you will find in many places, along with the way each word sounds. Bear in mind that "ch" is the guttural, Jewish sound and not the "ch" in "chew." Most words are properly accented on the last syllable, but under the influence of Yiddish you'll hear them commonly accented on the second to last!

אָדָמָה	adamah	ah-dah-mah	earth, ground
אוּלְפָן	ulpan	ool-pahn	training -- intensive Hebrew class
בֵּי, בִּי, בְּ	b', bi, ba	buh, bee, bah	the prefix meaning "in" or "in the"
בֵּימָה	bima, bimah	bee-mah	raised section of prayer space (for us, front)
בְּרָכָה	b'racha	b'rah-chah	blessing
ה־	ha	hah	the prefix meaning "the"
הַבְדָּלָה	havdalah	hahv-dah-lah	separation -- ceremony that ends Shabbat
הַמוֹצֵיאַת	hamotzi	ha-moh-tzee	who brings forth, out -- blessing over bread
חֲזוֹן	chazon	chah-zone	vision
חָלָה	challah	chah-lah	the special bread for Shabbat
יְהוּדִי	yehudi	y'hoo-dee	Jewish, a Jew
יַחַד	yachad	yah-chahd	together
כִּתָּה	kitah	kee-tah	class, grade, classroom
לֵב	lev	layv	heart
מִידוֹת	middot	mee-dote	ethical character qualities
מִצְוָה	mitzvah	meetz-vah	commandment, Jewish practice
נֶפֶשׁ	nefesh	neh-fesh	soul
עֲבוּדָה	avodah	ah-voh-dah	serving service or worship
עֲלִיָּה	aliya	ah-lee-yah	going up -- to the Torah, to live in Israel
קֶשֶׁר	kesher	keh-sheh-r	link, bond, connection
רַב	rav	rahv	rabbi
שַׁבָּת	Shabbat	Shah-baht	the day of rest
שָׁמַיִם	shamayim	sha-mah-yeem	sky, heavens

Jewish Reader's Corner

The Laws of Gravity

Liz Rosenberg

Is Justice Linked with Mercy?

The Laws of Gravity by Liz Rosenberg is a great book group discussion type of book.

This is a story that will stimulate a conversation about ethics, legal rights and family loyalty.

Ari Wiesenthal and his beautiful cousin Nicole Greene were very close as children. There are memories of family get togethers where one cousin saves the other cousin from near disaster. They promise to always be there for each other. Now as adults, Ari has married Nicole's best friend, Mimi and their families and their children are quite intertwined.

Ari has made a name for himself and quite a good living for his family in real estate and they live in a fancy house in Glen Cove, Long Island. Nicole is married to Jay, a high school teacher and soccer coach, living more modestly in neighboring Huntington. Though there is slight tension over the difference in lifestyles, that is overlooked as Nicole and Mimi are the tightest of friends and their children Julian and Daisy are the closest of cousins.

Ari is also quite concerned about the welfare of his children and when they are born he saves their cord blood, a new technique that collects the stem cells that, thanks to advances in technology, can be stored and later used to treat a variety of diseases. When Nicole is diagnosed with leukemia and lymphoma and the standard treatments are slowing down the intensity of the disease, Ari remembers his promise to help his

cousin, but when there a question of whether he will need this cord blood for his own children sometime in the future, the tension rises between the cousins and the individual members of each family take sides.

The case is taken to court and Judge Solomon Richter agrees to try this case as his last case before retirement. Rosenberg introduces us to the judge and his family.

Judge Richter refers to this case as the "blood case" and so we are looking at how families are made up of blood relations and the many other ties that bind us together. We examine family, justice and mercy. Are they linked? Are we our brother's keeper? How important are family bonds? Are we bound just to blood relatives, or can friends become as close and important. Also as we step into Judge Richter home we see the issues around that he is personally coming to terms with. Can adopted children become as close and important in our lives as blood relations?

This story sets up very interesting ethical questions that do have precedents set in the law books and also would be fascinating to research from a Jewish focal lens. As modern medicine becomes more adept at saving lives it raises more and more ethical dilemmas.

As the judge deliberates this case, the reader will react passionately, taking sides and either agreeing or disagreeing with the outcome of the judge's decision. Rosenberg writes this story so realistically that the reader is drawn in and should have a box of kleenex ready as the judge delivers his verdict.

The Laws of Gravity is set on Long Island, where the author Liz Rosenberg was born and raised. She has written more than 30 prize-



winning books for adults and young readers. For the past 20 years she has been a book review columnist at the Boston Globe, and she is a 2014 Fulbright Fellow in Belfast, Ireland. Liz is a professor at the State University of New York at Binghamton, where she won the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Her first husband was the late novelist John Gardner, author of "*Grendel*" and "*On Becoming A Novelist*." Today, Liz splits her time between upstate New York and Florida.

Book Review by

Merle Carrus

Library News

Ellie Schwartz, TBA Library Chair

Visit our synagogue libraries for wonderful resources, thoughtful and entertaining titles. Below please find a list of our latest acquisitions.

For more information, to volunteer in our libraries or suggest new books, please contact Ellie Schwartz at ellie.schwartz@myfairpoint.net

New Books at the Synagogue Library

Becoming Frum: How Newcomers Learn the Language and Culture of Orthodox Judaism (Jewish Cultures of the World) by Sarah Bunin Benor. 2012. *Becoming Frum* explains how...newcomers learn Orthodox language and culture through their interactions with community veterans and other newcomers. Some take on as much as they can as quickly as they can, going beyond the norms of those raised in the community. Others maintain aspects of their pre-Orthodox selves, yielding unique combinations, like Matisyahu's reggae music or Hebrew words and sing-song intonation used with American slang, as in "mamish (really) keepin' it real." (from the publisher) *Call Number: 600 BE*

I Am Forbidden: A Novel by Anouk Markovits. 2012. A family is torn apart by fierce belief and private longing in this unprecedented journey deep inside the most insular Hasidic sect, the Satmar. (from the publisher) *Call Number: FIC MA*

The People of Forever Are Not Afraid: A Novel by Shani Boianjiu. 2012. Yael, Avishag, and Lea, who grew up together in a small Israeli village, are conscripted into the army where they will struggle to sustain their friendship and learn that a single moment can change everything.

(from the publisher) *Call Number: FIC BO*

Unorthodox: The Scandalous Rejection of My Hasidic Roots by Deborah Feldman. 2012. The Satmar sect of Hasidic Judaism is as mysterious as it is intriguing to outsiders. In this arresting memoir, Deborah Feldman reveals what life is like trapped within a religious tradition that values silence and suffering over individual freedoms. (from the publisher) *Call Number: 619 FE*

New Books at the Religious School Library

The Blessing Cup: A Companion to The Keeping Quilt by Patricia Polacco. 2013. A single china cup from a tea set left behind when Jews were forced to leave Russia helps hold a family together through generations of living in America, reminding them of the most important things in life. (from the Publisher) (Kirkus starred review) *Location: Children's fiction*

The Butterfly by Patricia Polacco. 2009. A girl in France learns that her aunt has been hiding Jews in her basement during the Nazi occupations and becomes friends with a Jewish girl. (School Library Journal and Kirkus starred reviews) *Location: Holocaust, Young Adult*

Emanuel and the Hanukkah Rescue by Heidi Smith Hyde. 2012. In eighteenth-century New Bedford, Massachusetts, nine-year-old Emanuel's Portuguese immigrant father still feels the need to hide his Jewish faith. Tired of secretly lighting Hanukkah candles and feeling ashamed, Emanuel decides to stow away on a whaling ship and become a strong, brave whaler. (Horn Book review) *Location: Hanukkah*

Nathan Blows Out the Hanukkah Candles by Tami Lehman-Wilzig. 2011. A boy finds a way to include his autistic brother in the family's Hanukkah celebration. *Location: Children's fiction*

Speak Up, Tommy! (Kar-Ben Favorites) by Jacqueline Dembar Greene. 2012. A boy who has moved recently to the U.S. from Israel is teased because of his difficulty in speaking English. When a police officer and his new police dog visit the school, the dog does not respond to the police officer's commands. Tommy speaks to the dog in Hebrew and the dog obeys him. We learn that the dog was trained in Israel as a bomb-sniffing canine. *Location: Children's fiction*

The Yellow Star: The Legend of King Christian X of Denmark by Carmen Agra Deedy 2000. When the Nazi occupiers threaten the Jews of Denmark, King Christian X sews a yellow star onto his own clothing, defying Hitler's orders and empowering all Danes to proclaim solidarity with their Jewish friends and neighbors. This well-told legend is coupled with handsome oil paintings that echo and extend the tale's narrative strength and precise setting. An author's note separates fact from fiction. (Horn Book Review) *Location: Holocaust, Young Adult*

Something to Think About

As you read this column, I will be packing for our biennial trip to New Zealand. We leave mid-January and will return in early April.



Elaine Brody

My next few columns will be sent from the sunny south.

There is a great deal to do in addition to packing when preparing for an extended holiday: buy gifts for friends we will visit, forward the mail, put all the plants in one place so Robyn doesn't have to wander the house watering them, be sure the phone list is up to date in case there is a problem with the plumbing or the furnace, use up as much food as is possible leaving only ketchup and mustard and canned goods behind. All of this adds to the excitement.

This year, we have also taken the time to do something serious. We have made sure our documents are

in order. Wills, Trusts, Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy, Advance Directive (Living Will), and a HIPPA form have been updated as necessary and signed. The last one is new to us. It allows the people you name to get information on your status from your doctor or hospital. This adds nothing to the excitement of the upcoming trip, but offers great peace of mind.

Most of us don't want to talk about health or end of life issues. Our children certainly don't want to hear it. When I mentioned to our girls that we were updating our documents the response was, "Okay. Just leave them in the usual place." Understandably, they want to think we will always be here.

At the end of this column, I have referenced a few sources on health care and end of life issues from a Jewish perspective. You can "Google" all of them online. Take time in this new secular year to take care of

business. Learn about your options. Decide what is best for you. Make sure your documents are in order. I hope no one will have use for them any time soon.

As always...it is something to think about.

*L'hitraot,
Elaine*

Jewish Ritual, Reality and Response at the End of Life A Guide to Caring for Jewish Patients and Their Families Prepared by Rabbi Mark A. Popovsky For the Duke Institute on Care at the End of Life, May 2007

End of Life Choices in Halacha Daniel Eisenberg, MD

Jewish Medical Directives for Health Care, The Committee on Jewish Law and Standards, The Rabbinical Assembly

SNHJMC Breakfast Sunday January 5th

For those not able to travel to the warm sunshine of the south this holiday season, the Southern NH Jewish Men's club is bringing the power of the sun to you... so to speak. The SNHJMC is proud to announce that our featured speaker will be Eitan Zeira for our Sunday, January 5 breakfast located at Temple Beth Abraham in Nashua.

Come and learn everything you ever wanted to know about solar energy but was afraid to ask. We will review the basic principles of how solar

or photovoltaic energy generation works in simple cartoons that explain it from first principles. We will then delve into solar energy production from a business perspective and how it impacts our economy and everyday life. A brief review of the past several years will show where solar energy manufacturing has gone and some thoughts will be shared about the future of solar.

So come with an open mind and lots of questions, because this is your opportunity to get the skinny on this fast moving technology. We are sure

that this will be a very interesting and informative topic to go along with a great breakfast.

Join us for a fabulous spread including our famous bagels and lox, veggies, whitefish, eggs and more!

Breakfast will start at 9:30 AM, and we hope you can join us. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask (president@snhjmc.org).

הקשר היהודי שלך Your Jewish Connection

Brought to you by the Lifelong Learning Committee – By Linda S Trapasso

You Say “Shabbos” and I Say “Shabbat”

If you’re like me, you think about learning more Hebrew. I learn a word here and there, but it’s not consistent. And there are some words used around TBA that I’m still not sure what they mean. I can read and speak the Hebrew prayers, but I have little understanding of what I’m saying. And don’t even ask about conversing in Hebrew, even though Ruth Harris tried to teach modern Hebrew to my adult B’nai Mitzvah class several years ago.

There are many things you can learn on the Internet. Hebrew is one of them. We’ll take a look at learning more Hebrew using the Internet and why you say “Shabbos” and I say “Shabbat”.

There are two versions of Hebrew: biblical; classical, used in the Talmud and prayers; and modern, spoken in Israel today. Most of the Hebrew learning on the Internet is focused on modern Hebrew. Online trope and prayer studies, of course, use classical Hebrew. There are two pronunciations – Sephardic, used in Israel for modern Hebrew, and Ashkenazic.

One of our favorite sites, [My Jewish Learning](#), offers some historical information on the Hebrew language, as well as basic alphabet and vowel information. Be sure to check out the article on [Sephardic and Ashkenazic Hebrew](#). Then let me know if you figured out why you say “shabbos” and I say “shabbat”.

Go to the Nefesh B’Nefesh site, specifically its [Ulpan and Hebrew Learning Resources Online page](#). This page is very comprehensive, covering ulpan in and outside Israel, podcasts, software for learning Hebrew, sites to help you learn the alphabet and basics, sites for building vocabulary, and more.



Another comprehensive site is [Best Hebrew Sites](#). Scroll about a third to halfway down this long page – it is chock full of links to learning sites, podcasts, audio tutorials, and more. This site is run by a former Hebrew language teacher.

Also look at [Learn Hebrew Pod](#), where you can find free lessons on vocabulary, grammar, and reading skills. This site takes advantage of technology, offering interactivity, video, and more. Scroll about halfway down the page to determine what level you are.

Scroll further and you can sign up for a newsletter. Note that additional lessons require site membership for a fee (scroll to the bottom and click on Pricing & Signup on the left).

[Learn Hebrew Phrases with Audio](#) has “...54 topics with 1,211 Hebrew phrases and sentences. In addition to the online audio flash, the site includes 152 printable study sheets” according to Jacob Richman, site owner. Lesson items are in Hebrew, transliteration, and English.



For quick lists of words and phrases, head over to The Jewish Federations of North America’s list of [Hebrew Phrases](#). Also look at Omniglot, which has a page of [Useful Hebrew Phrases](#) showing the Hebrew spelling and transliteration.

So take some time and figure out what’s the best way to pick up some Hebrew knowledge. Whether you’re a beginner or advanced, there is something for everyone!



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Yahrzeits

*During Friday evening and Saturday morning services,
Memorial prayers will be recited for the following:*

January 3 & 4

John Fabian, father of Martin Fabian
Hannah Freedman, mother of David Freedman
Lillian Furman, mother of Robin Golub
Elsie Ginsburg, mother of George Ginsburg
Benjamin Goldstein, father of Leon Goldstein
Rudy Goldstein, brother of Leon Goldstein
Mildred Krulik, mother of Arthur Krulik
Esther Bernstein Levinsky, grandmother of Steven Zedeck
Helen Nagler, mother of Irene Nagler
Jacob Nhaisi, father of Anita Hazard
Irving Pastor, brother-in-law of Selma Pastor
Jonas Schoenbach, father of Reina Brody
Lillian Schwartz, grandmother of Gorelick & Wolff
children
Norbert Bruckman Annie Cohen Simon Delinsky
Evelyn Kesslen Israel Newman Harry Shapiro
Abraham Sharpe Bessie Sidell

January 10 & 11

Franklin Alberts, father of Nancy Keyslay
Milton Banner, brother of Stanley Banner
Julius Blumberg, brother of Minette Klein
David Brooks, uncle of Mark Ferman
Paul Dobin, father of Darryl Dobin
Howard Ehrlich, brother of Nancy Katz
Morris Goldstein, father of Steven Goldstein
Franklin Kessler, father of Marcia Weiss
Nancy Marcoux, mother of Nancy Ferman
Lucille Matzkin, mother of Fern Getto
Nathan Mendelow, father of Marie Balcom
Marilyn Rich, mother of Sheryl Rich Kern
Nathan Silverman, father of Marilyn Greenspan
Anna Zevin, grandmother of Sam Brest
Rose Canner Howard Gelber Celia Herson
Myron Kasok Isaac Krentzel Harry Lynch
Maurice Mordoh Archie Sudhalter
Dora Rothenberg Goldie Winograd

January 17 & 18

Pat Berger, grandmother of Jason Himmelstein
Neil Brody, brother of Bernard Brody
Edith Ellenson, mother of Sandra McCurdy
Maurice Franks, father of Paul Franks
Eva Freedman, mother-in-law of Yvonne Freedman
Harry Freedman, father-in-law of Yvonne Freedman
Helen Kraus, mother of Ann Fabian
David Landsman, father of Jeanette Chasin
Rae Levine, aunt of Mark Levine
Theodore Levine, father of Jeffrey Levine and Mark Levine
Paul L. Levine, Esq., cousin of Mark Levine
Ruth Teague, mother of Sandie Leonard
Sandra Zedeck, mother of Steven Zedeck
Ethel Fischer Harry Goldstein Mary Gould
Samuel Kessler Esther Kohn Edith Rotberg
Rose Weisman

January 24 & 25

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Florence Brody, mother of Bernard Brody
Bernice Gordon Cohen, mother of Cindy Burrows
Dorothy Goldberg, mother of Sandee Goldberg
Samuel Harris, father of Jan Shapiro
Frank Sack, father of Lynn Schenker
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Leonard Waldman
Chanah Weiner, mother of Ruth Harris
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Rachel Berzets Morris Isaacson Jessie Kessler
Moshe Lachavitsky Janet Schuster

January 31 & February 1

Irene Brother, mother of Carole Gelman
Jim Hazard, father of Robert Hazard
Ann Herman Ostrow, mother of Jerry Herman
Morris Kozak, father of Diane Toth
Regina Little, mother of Henrietta Freedman
Jack Marsch, father of Susan Crupi
Maureen Sacks, mother of David Sacks
Rachel Schiff, mother of Howard Schiff
Rose Silver, mother of Israel Silver
Abraham Tubin, father of Barbara Garnick, and
grandfather of Kevin & Darren Garnick
Jennie Zavotsky, great-grandmother of
Rabbi Jonathan Spira-Savett
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Yahrzeit Donations

Shirley Lelchuk for husband, Jules Lelchuk
 Mitchell Wolper for parents, Rose & Morris Wolper
 Karl Schenker for uncles, Felix Schenker &

Ernst Katzenstein & grandfather, Rudolf Leitner

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Don Gorelick for mother, Bea Gorelick

Carol Gorelick for sister-in-law, Randi Thibeault

Jerome Seligman for brother, Richard Seligman

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 grandfather, Morris Wigrizzer

Leila Kupper for father, Charles Winograd

Daniel Grossman for grandmother, Jane Grossman

Marilyn Rosen for father, Harry Rosen

Enrique Sernik for father, Guillermo Sernik

Myra Krulik for mother, Rose Cohen

David Deifik for father, Max Deifik

Robert Treitel for grandfather, Emil Treitel

Zahava Salomon for brother, Nachem Salomon

Ronnie Goldstein for father, Harold Hurwitz

Laura Horowitz for father-in-law, Sam Horowitz

Mark Berger for mother, Edith Berger

Robert Weisman for sister, Bessie Weisman &
 father, Joseph Weisman

David Kosofsky for father, Jerry Kosofsky

Mark Levine for grandfather, Morris Levine

David Holt for father, Mitchell Holt

Yvonne Dunetz for mother, Ruth Ametler

Alan Slawsby for father, Archie Slawsby

Susan Schiff for father, Louis Fischman

Jan Shapiro for father, Samuel Harris

Rich Shapiro for aunt, Tillie Shapiro

Betsy Franks for parents, Dorothy & Rosario Grasso

Paul Franks for parents, Dorothy & Maurice Franks
 & brother, David Franks

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