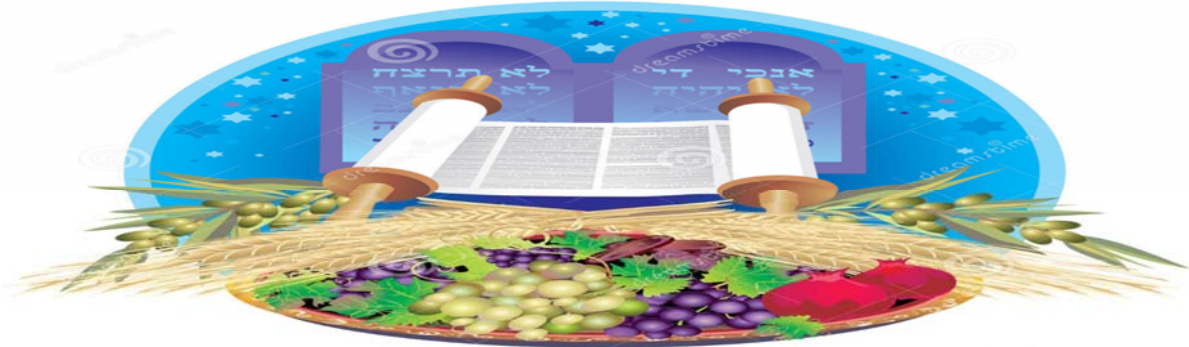


BETH OHR NEWSLETTER

Vol. 61 Issue 5

May 2017

Iyar/Sivan 5777



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Shavuot / שבועות

The festival of Shavuot is a Jewish holiday that occurs on the sixth day of the Hebrew month of Sivan (late May or early June). Shavuot commemorates the anniversary of the day God gave the Torah to the entire Israelite nation assembled at Mount Sinai, although the association between the giving of the Torah (Matan Torah) and Shavuot is not explicit in the Biblical text. The holiday is one of the Shalosh Regalim, the three Biblical pilgrimage festivals. It marks the conclusion of the Counting of the Omer. Shavuot begins at sundown on Tuesday, May 30, 2017.

On Wednesday, May 31, 2017, services will be held at Beth Ohr at 9:30AM followed by kiddush and on Thursday June 1, 2017, the second day of Shavuot, Yizkor is recited. We plan to have a Kiddush after services. Everything is being done to encourage you to come to our Synagogue to celebrate and pray together during this important holiday.

Since it is customary to make a memorial contribution to the Synagogue at this time, we trust that you will continue to aid our Congregation as generously as possible. Please send your checks along with the form below to:

**Congregation Beth Ohr, P.O. Box 206,
Old Bridge, NJ 08857**

Thank you,
The Ritual Committee

**Congregation Beth Ohr
Yahrzeit/Yizkor Donation**

In Loving Memory of _____

Donated by _____

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

All Friday evening services begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise stated, Saturday morning Shabbat services begin at 9:30 a.m., Sunday morning minyan begins at 9:00 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon. May 1	Yom Hazikaron	
Tues. May 2	Yom Haatzma'ut	
Thurs. May 4	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
Fri. May 5	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat. May 6	Shabbat Morning Service	9:30AM
Sun. May 7	Sunday Morning Service	9:00AM
	followed by Men's Club Breakfast	
Tues. May 9	Rabbi's Wise Aging Class	7:30PM
Thurs. May 11	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
Fri. May 12	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat. May 13	Shabbat Morning Service	9:30AM
Sun. May 14	Sunday Morning Service	9:00AM
	Followed by Men's Club Breakfast	
	Mother's Day	
	Lag Ba'Omer	
Mon. May 15	Sisterhood Dominoes	1:00PM
Tues. May 16	Rabbi's Book Discussion Class	11:00AM
	Talmud Class	7:30PM
Wed. May 17	Sisterhood Board Meeting	7:30PM
Thurs. May 18	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
	Men's Club Barbeque & Elections	7:00PM
Fri. May 19	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat. May 20	Shabbat Morning Service	9:30AM
Sun. May 21	Sunday Morning Service	9:00AM
	Followed by Men's Club Breakfast	
	Interfaith Program at Old Bridge Library	2:30PM
Tues. May 23	Rabbi's Wise Aging Class	7:30PM
Wed. May 24	Sisterhood Donor Dinner	7:00PM
	Yom Yerushalayim	
Thurs. May 25	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
	Temple Executive Board	7:00PM
	Annual Membership Meeting	8:00PM
Fri. May 26	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat. May 27	Shabbat Morning Service	9:30AM
Sun. May 28	Sunday Morning Service	9:00AM
	Followed by Men's Club Breakfast	
Mon. May 29	Memorial Day—Office Closed	
Tues. May 30	Rabbi's Book Discussion Group	11:00AM
	Erev Shavuot	
Wed. May 31	Shavuot Service	9:30AM
Thurs. June 1	Shavuot Service & Yizkor	9:30AM

Rabbi Mishkin's Message

A Challenging Thought In Anticipation of our Sixtieth Anniversary



A few years back on a quiet morning in November a congregant came to see me. I was still in Florida at the time. She told me that she had a serious decision to make and would like my thoughts on the matter. Her name was Ruth. She was in her nineties. Ruth's husband had passed away several years prior. She lived in a small condo in Florida while her children and grandchildren were all in California. For her entire life Ruth had been a traditional Jew. She attended synagogue regularly, kept kosher, observed the holidays and genuinely cherished our tradition. Ruth had always thought that because of these religious inclinations she would prefer a traditional funeral service and burial.

However, now that Ruth's time on this earth was growing short, she was having second thoughts. So Ruth came in to see me. We spent a few moments exchanging pleasantries and then Ruth got to the point. She told me that since her husband had died and all of her children lived so far away she was no longer certain that she wished to be buried in a cemetery. Perhaps it made more sense for her to be cremated. Yes, her husband had been buried in Florida, but the truth of the matter was that, with the exception of the rare visit, her children's lives were in California. If she were to be buried it would need to be alongside her husband in Florida so a burial in California was out of the question. And then she said rather firmly, "I would never expect my children to come to Florida only so that they could visit their parents' graves." And so Ruth was leaning towards cremation which would essentially save her children and grandchildren the inconvenience of traveling across the country. Her feeling was that her children had been good to her and her husband during their lives and it was almost foolish of her to be a burden to them in her death.

I have to admit, that while I was deeply saddened by Ruth's words, I was not surprised at her sentiment. Several of my congregants in Florida had chosen cremation in recent years for reasons such as the ones that Ruth was considering. Either they felt that there would be no one to visit their graves once they were gone or the expense of a funeral was, to their thinking, excessive. "Let them think of me as I once was rather than feel obliged to visit my grave," seemed to be a common thought these days. Life, not death, was what was important, they would tell me. And while I understood on an intellectual level what they saying, on a religious and emotional level it made me feel despondent. The very idea that somehow visiting the grave of a loved one is a burden troubles me deeply.

Yesterday morning on the seventh day of Passover we read from the Torah portion called *Beshallah*. It tells us of the sequence of events for the Israelites from the Exodus of Egypt to their crossing at the Sea at Reeds. If the observance of Passover is about anything, it is about the limited time that our ancestors had to leave Egypt. They clearly anticipated that Pharaoh, who had been given to changing his mind throughout the Ten Plagues, might do so again. Thus, they needed to leave Egypt in a hurry.

(continued on page 4)

Rabbi Mishkin's Message (continued from page 3)

We read in the Torah: "The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, aside from children. Moreover, a mixed multitude went up with them, and very much livestock, both flocks and herds. And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had taken out of Egypt, for it was not leavened, since they had been driven out of Egypt and could not delay; nor had they prepared provisions for themselves. The length of the time that the Israelites lived in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years."

The starting point of Passover is that the Israelites were in a frenetic rush and the dough did not have time to rise. That, in a nutshell, is the reason we do all that we do. And yet, as the Israelites are rushing off to freedom, their leader Moses is doing something completely different. While the Israelites are rushing off to freedom, Moses has other concerns.

"Now the Israelites went up armed out of the land of Egypt. And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph who had exacted an oath from the children of Israel, saying, "God will be sure to take notice of you: then you shall carry my bones up with you."

Imagine: While everyone else was rushing around frantically, occupied with the tasks of readying themselves for the journey that lay ahead, Moses was busy keeping the promise of Joseph's dying wish: "When God has taken notice of you, you shall carry my bones from here." The text does not tell us what was entailed in Moses' gathering of Joseph's bones. We don't know if he had to collect them from a sacred burial place. We only know that while he should have been rushing around with the other Israelites he chose to tend to the needs of a deceased ancestor, no matter how burdensome that might have been.

Which leads me to ask the following somewhat disturbing question. When did we begin to feel that being Jewish was supposed to be easy, was supposed to be without burden, and always convenient? It seems to me that this underlying sentiment is one of the reasons why the Jewish world faces the challenges it does these days. Let's face it - it's not just that it would be too inconvenient for Ruth's children to travel across country to visit her grave. We have allowed almost everything to be thought of as "too inconvenient" when it comes to our religion.

Think about our little synagogue for a moment. I believe that I have been around long enough now that I can ask the following question. And I hope that you will forgive my candor. But is it really the case that some people choose not to come to minyan on *Hol Hamoed* Sunday morning because they realize that the service for the holiday will take an additional thirty minutes? Can that really be the measuring stick that we rely upon when it comes to attendance? Yes, we have a small membership but clearly we should have at the very least a quorum of ten Jews at each and every service and anyone who has the obligation to say Kaddish for a loved one must be able to acquit themselves of that obligation every single time we meet.

(Rabbi Mishkin's Message (continued from page 4))

I understand that many of you support our synagogue in so many important ways and how can more be expected of you? But what other choice do we have? If we really love this place, if we really love what we are doing here, then we have to guarantee that there will be a minyan no matter what. If each one of us made the commitment to come to just **one more service** each and every month, then what a difference that would make.

Yes, my friends, the truth of the matter is that it is inconvenient to be a Jew. It is inconvenient to be kosher. It is inconvenient to come to synagogue. It is inconvenient to say kaddish for eleven months for a parent. It is inconvenient to light Shabbat candles. It is inconvenient to give tzedakah. Almost everything about being a Jew is inconvenient. But that is also what makes being a Jew so precious and such an extraordinary blessing. *Vayikah Moshe et atzmot Yosef imo*: "And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph." Was that inconvenient at the time? You bet it was. But it was also the reason why Judaism has survived for thousands of years. And our task is no less inconvenient, and no less sacred - to guarantee that it survives for the next thousand years.

Interfaith Program **Sunday, May 21** **2:30 PM** **Old Bridge Library**

Passover, Easter and Ramadan, periods sacred to three major religions, will be discussed at an interfaith program to be held on



Sunday, May 21, at 2:30 PM at the Old Bridge Library. Speakers from St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Congregation Beth Ohr, and Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Central Jersey will explain what their holidays mean and how they are observed.

All are invited to attend. Questions may be asked following the formal presentation.

The Old Bridge Library is located at 1 Old Bridge Plaza at Route 516 and Cottrell Road.

CONGREGATION BETH OHR MEMORIAL FUNDS

The following is a listing of the Memorial Funds that you may make tax-deductible contributions to:

- David Benish Memorial Fund*
- Stephen Edwards Memorial Youth Fund*
- Elaine Leibowitz Memorial Fund*
- Beautification Fund*
- Herman & Frieda Lipp Memorial Fund*
- Mindy Nightingale Memorial Fund*
- Stuart Polovsky Memorial Fund*
- Herb Reinstein Memorial Fund*
- Heidi Rogol Memorial Fund*

***When donating to these funds, please make your checks out to **CONGREGATION BETH OHR** and write in the fund in the memo portion of the check.

**THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE DURING
THE MONTHS OF APRIL & MAY**

General Fund

In memory of Harriet Rabinowitz’s father by Sara and Steven Ullman

David Benish Memorial Fund

In honor of Linda Benish’s Special Birthday by Alan & Beth Sender

In memory of beloved mother “Gugu” of Susan & Bill Erlich and Pam & Allen Lazar by Allan & Linda Benish



Tree of Life Leaf

Maxine and Kenneth Kaufman for
Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Paige Baron
May 13, 2017

Rock on Tree of Life

Ed and Ronnie Mendlowitz for Amy, Richard, Samuel, and Ryan Mendlowitz

P.O. Box 206
Old Bridge, New Jersey 08857

For your convenience, we have included this **Yahrzeit Memorial Plaque Form**. If you would like to order a plaque, please fill out and return this form with a check in the amount of **\$300** to the Synagogue office. If you have any questions about Hebrew names and/or dates, please call Phyllis at the office at 732-257-1523.

(Print Name in Hebrew Here)

(Print Name in English Here)

(Date in English) _____

(Date in Hebrew) _____

PLEDGE

I hereby authorize you to supply and maintain permanently on your Memorial Tablet, a name plate *in memory of*

NAME IN FULL _____

for which I agree to pay \$300.00. It is mutually agreed that each year, on the Yahrzeit of the departed, and, on other appropriate occasions in accordance with Jewish custom a Memorial Prayer will also be said.

Signed by _____

Date _____

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Leaf - \$118.00

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FOR BAR AND BAT MITZVAHS

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1000 Old Bridge Turnpike, Suite 100, Old Bridge, NJ 08857
732-257-1523
www.israelbonds.com

Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

We honor the memories of our loved ones whose Yahrzeits were observed during the months of **March, April and May**. We acknowledge the following for their contributions to the Yahrzeit Memorial Fund:

DONATED BY:

Steven & Sara Ullman
Paula Yourman & Family
Glenda Levenstein
Seymour Nussenbaum
Susan & Herbert Goldenberg

Ilene & Barry Gray
Mel & Phyllis Ward
Joyce Silverstein

Harriet Cohen
Ed & Ronnie Mendlowitz & family

Ralph & Roberta Karpel

Ann Branfman

Sy and Elizabeth Golden & family

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Arthur C. Ullman
Sol Yourman, Helen Yourman
Aaron Levenstein
Yette Ribet
Irving Feuer, Rose Feuer, Sadie
Goldenberg & Philip Goldenberg
Alexander Linz, Eleanor Gray
Violet Davidowitz
Charlie Silverstein,
Betty Hill Lionheart
Mary Cederbaum
Emma Weisgold
Ellen Mendlowitz
Harold Karpel
Sylvia Karpel
Anna Beer
Max Kosser
Harold Branfman
Janette Hollander Golden



BETH OHR CEMETERY

Congregation Beth Ohr owns and operates a cemetery which is located on Ernston Road in Sayreville. The cemetery is a non-profit entity using existing funds and fundraising as its source of operating revenues. Membership in Beth Ohr entitles each congregant to one individual plot which must be reserved at a cost of \$50. All other costs such as perpetual care, administrative fee, funeral, plot opening, headstone, etc. are borne by the family of the deceased. Please call Phyllis Greenberg in the office at 732-257-1523 for further details.

MayYahrzeits

The actual date that the Yahrzeit is observed is to the right of the name. It is customary to light a memorial candle on the eve of this date and to give tzedakah in memory of the deceased. One should recite the Mourner's Kaddish at services the evening before as well as the day of the Yahrzeit. Please call Phyllis in the Synagogue office at 732-257-1523, if you need information about the schedule of worship. The name of your departed will be read at the Friday evening and Shabbat morning services, the week before the Yahrzeit date which are represented by the dates in the columns which are in bold print.

<u>May 5/6</u>		<u>May 19/20</u>	
Benjamin Chancy	5/6	Eli Becker	5/20
Louis Rothlin	5/6	Albert Nussenbaum	5/20
Frank Hecht	5/7	Herman Ravnitzky	5/20
Harry Meislick	5/7	Joseph Shapiro	5/20
Anna Rosenthal-Charoff	5/7	Lillian Lustgarten	5/21
Samuel Smith	5/7	David Ingber	5/22
Doris Springer	5/7	Lola Praport	5/22
Julius Kaplan	5/8	Edward Haft	5/23
Carolyn Lanzoff	5/8	Eli Jaffe	5/23
Lee Myra Schuman	5/8	Esther Beer	5/24
Louis Aroyo	5/9	Abraham Mann	5/24
Sylvia Karpel	5/9	Mildred Weissman	5/25
Sidney Krantz	5/9	Simon Douglas Babitz	5/26
Ida Samuel	5/11	Molly Pincus	5/26
Eva Mann	5/12	Alice Rogol	5/26
David Schwartz	5/12	Samuel Star	5/26
Irving Shapiro	5/12		
	<u>May 12/13</u>	<u>May 26/27</u>	
Helen Gertler	5/13	Marlene Honig	5/28
Leonard Rosenthal	5/13	Max Mordecai Klein	5/28
Eleanor Solomon	5/13	Frank Schaffer	5/28
Dora Merein	5/14	Stephen R. Silberstein	5/28
George Nikop	5/14	Bernard Berkley	5/29
Henry Tuteur	5/14	Mary Elkan	5/29
Mollie Nagler	5/15	Abram Erlick	5/29
Louis Polansky	5/15	Bessie Nemet	5/29
Gertrude Satmary	5/15	Richard Sommers	5/29
Dorothy Simon	5/15	Meyer Salstein	5/30
Edward Socoloff	5/16	Joel Weprin	5/30
Fay Weintraub	5/16	David Benish	5/31
Gertrude Becker	5/17	Herb Reinstein	5/31
Gerald Scherline	5/17	Minnie Fachler	6/1
Eva Silver	5/17	Leon Kurtz	6/1
Betty Kornblatt	5/18	Pearl Cohen	6/2
Sonia Levine	5/18	Joseph Gilbarg	6/2
Chaim Sapozhnikov	5/18	Bernard Weiss	6/2
Natalie Weprin	5/18		
Barry Bernhard	5/19		
Janette Hollander Golden	5/19		
Jeffrey Zekser	5/19		
Elizabeth Zeltzer	5/19		



**Congregation Beth Ohr of Old Bridge
Cordially Invites The Community To
Torathon 5777
Sunday, April 30, 2017**

**Registration at 12:30 PM
First Class starts at 1:00 PM**

Area Rabbis will teach classes covering diverse elements of the Jewish experience. The afternoon will consist of four 50-minute sessions, with refreshment breaks between sessions. Attendees will choose which sessions to attend. The Rabbis who are attending are:

**Rabbi Eric Eisenkramer
Rabbi Dov Goldberg
Rabbi Ira Grussgott
Rabbi Bryan Kinzbrunner
Rabbi Nathan Langer
Rabbi Ben Levy
Rabbi Joel Mishkin
Rabbi Robert Pilavin
Rabbi Ari Saks
Rabbi Eric Wisnia
Rabbi Robert Wolkoff
Rabbi Eliezer Zaklikovsky**

Admission is \$5.00 and canned food for the Old Bridge Food Bank

**For Information call: Phyllis Greenberg 732- 257-1523 or
Linda Benish at 609-426-8727**

Adult Education (Continued)

Torathon 5777



HERE COME THE RABBIS!

Yes, it's Torathon time. It's just a few days away! Sunday, April 30th from 1 to 5 p.m. Come to listen and learn from the wonderful Rabbis of our community. They are coming from East Brunswick, Freehold, Manalapan, North Brunswick, West Windsor, even as far away as Rumson, and other towns. Join us for such varied topics as

Finding G-d; The Pesach Haggadah as a Guide to Contemporary Judaism and Political Thought; The Korah Rebellion: The Revolt of the "Common" Man; The Jewish History of Intermarriage; Prayers don't change things. Prayers change people and people change things; Esther – A Modern Heroine; and The Two-Faced Torah.

Come join us to learn, to discuss, to nosh, and to schmooze with your friends and neighbors from all over Middlesex, Monmouth, and even Mercer Counties.

Cost is \$5.00 and canned food for the Old Bridge Food Bank

See you there!

ADULT ED NEWS

Are You Interested.....

In an Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class?

Did you never have the opportunity to study to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah? Would you like to learn some of what you missed growing up without a chance to attend Hebrew School? Would you like to go back to study in depth some of those things you didn't pay attention to in Hebrew School? Rabbi Mishkin would be glad to start a class if you are considering the idea of becoming a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, studying some basic Judaism, and taking part in a Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony.

In a Basic Hebrew Class?

Would you like to take a "crash" course so you will read Hebrew in **6 weeks!!!!** If so, I would be glad to start another crash course on Thursday mornings at 10 or 12. Please contact Linda Benish if you can't read at all, or once knew and forgot how. No tests, no homework (well, maybe a little practicing) and lots of fun. Then you could even join us for the reading and discussion group at 11 a.m., if you like. We discuss all kinds of things: the meanings of the prayers we read, the traditions that we sometimes don't understand, and why we do what we do at services.

In learning how to chant a Haftarah? Or how to chant a Torah portion?

You can learn the "trope" (the musical notes) for either a Haftarah or a Torah portion. Once you learn the notes, you can read any Haftarah or chant any Torah portion. A "good" voice is not a requirement,

For any of these, contact Linda Benish at 609-426-8727
Or Phyllis in the office at 732-257-1523



AND OUR RABBI CONTINUES TO TEACH US!

Rabbi Mishkin's classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursday mornings. His morning and evening class schedule can be found in our monthly newsletters, in e-mails, in our weekly Shabbat booklets that are available in the synagogue sanctuary, and on the Sisterhood calendar.

His every-other-Tuesday evening classes of Practices and Customs 2.0 continue. The Rabbi is inviting his present students and newcomers to join him at 7:30 P.M. for a spirited discussion revolving around the book, Wise Aging, Living with Joy, Resilience and Spirit by Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal. This class will involve interactive sessions, reflective discussion and textual study around the topic of enhancing our lives spiritually, religiously and emotionally at the various stages of living. It is intended for interested students of all ages. If you will be joining him regardless of whether you have been a member of the class, please call Phyllis Greenberg at 732-257-1523 and RSVP so that the Rabbi can have a handout available for you for our session. We will then make arrangements to purchase the book, available in paperback. He looks forward to seeing you on Tuesday evening.

AND OUR RABBI OUT IN THE COMMUNITY!

Rabbi Mishkin will be part of an interfaith panel discussion on May 21st at the Old Bridge Library. The discussion will be on the theme of spring festivals for three religions – Easter, Passover, and Ramadan. The panelists who will join Rabbi Mishkin are the clergy from St. Thomas the Apostle Church and Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Central Jersey.

And looking into the future –

Rabbi Mishkin will be holding a mini-series after the High Holidays at the Barnes and Noble Book Store in East Brunswick. The series is, called "Coffee, Talk and Torah," dates and time to be determined. Stay tuned.....

Meanwhile

The **Conversational Spanish class** is led by Terrie Polovsky, who assures me that anyone can join at any time. The class will be held every Wednesday morning at 11:00 a.m. once Terrie is able to resume teaching. But meanwhile, we wish her a speedy recovery so she can be back teaching her anxious students once again.

The **Hebrew Reading class** will also continue. If you read Hebrew but would like to become more fluent, or if you would like to come practice reading while we discuss some of the prayers, come to our class on Thursday mornings at 11AM.



News from the Beth Ohr Family

Moment Magazine

Subscriptions for Moment magazine have been renewed for the coming year for Temple members with love in memory of Stu Polovsky.

Thank You

Sue Edwards wants to thank her Beth Ohr family for all their good wishes and gold cards sent in honor of the marriage of Barry to Stephanie Weiss.

Thank you to Edna Yourman, Ashna Pincus, and Meryl Finkelstein for helping in the Office in April.

Thank you to Chuck Rogol for sponsoring the Kiddush for the Yahrzeit of his wife, Heidi Rogol from the Heidi Rogol Fund.

Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to Joe Shafran for chanting his Bar Mitzvah Haftorah and thanks to Joe and Dorothy for sponsoring the Shabbat Kiddush on April 1, 2017.

Mazel Tov to Ed Mendlowitz for chanting his Bar Mitzvah Haftorah and thanks to Ed and Ronnie for sponsoring the Kiddush on April 8, 2017.

Congratulations to Liz Aroyo for winning the Passover sweepstakes!! Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets. Hope all had a sweet Passover!

Monica and Mark Atzbi announce the birth of their beautiful granddaughter, Hannah Monica Spiegel. Mazel Tov to Monica and Mark.

Mazel Tov to Estee & Brendan Spiegel on their new baby girl, Hannah Monica Spiegel.

DAYTIMERS NEWS

THURSDAY, MAY 11: TOUR ROOSEVELT, NJ (JERSEY HOMESTEADS HISTORIC DISTRICT)

Please join the Daytimers for a 10:30 AM guided tour of historic Roosevelt, NJ.

Roosevelt, originally called Jersey Homesteads, was created during the Great Depression as part of Roosevelt's New Deal. Its main purpose was to resettle Jewish garment workers. The town, conceived as an integrated cooperative project, was largely planned out by Benjamin Brown. The economy of the town consisted of a garment factory and farm. Artist Ben Shahn lived in the town and painted a fresco mural viewable in the Roosevelt Public School.

The cost of the tour is \$10.00 per person. The tour will be followed by lunch (optional).

For details and to RSVP, please call Ira ([732-679-2652](tel:732-679-2652)) or Linda ([609-642-8182](tel:609-642-8182)) by Sunday, May 7.

Tuesday May 23, 2017 1:30 PM **MICHAEL AMANTE**

Tickets are available for a free 1:30 performance at the PNC Arts Center
Michael Amante is affectionately known as the "People's Tenor". With a combination of suave all-American good looks, romantic charm, and phenomenal singing, Michael has wowed audiences everywhere. From Phantom's Music of the Night to Puccini's La Boheme, it's all on his playlist.

A limited number of free tickets are available on a first come, first served basis.

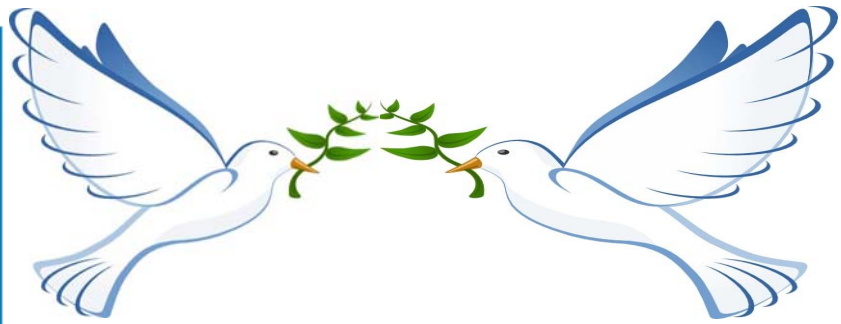
For tickets, please call Ira ([732-679-2652](tel:732-679-2652)) or Linda ([609-642-8182](tel:609-642-8182)).

SATURDAY, JUNE 10: DAYTIMERS SHABBAT

(Please note change of date from May 13 to June 10).

The Kiddush will be sponsored by the Daytimers.

Details to follow. Save the date.



CELEBRATE ISRAEL 2017

**PLEASE JOIN AS WE PAY TRIBUTE TO
ISRAEL HEROES AND
CELEBRATE ISRAEL'S 69TH
INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**MONDAY, MAY 1ST, 2017
EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER
511 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick NJ**

Pre Program 6 PM Lecture and discussion

with Martin Silver

Participant in secret mission to bring displaced Holocaust survivors to emerging State of Israel, 1948

Memorial Service for the Israeli soldiers and victims of terror at 7 PM honoring all who served in the IDF Led by Rabbi Finkelstein with participation of Rabbi Eisenkramer and Cantor Edison

Followed by Yom Ha'Azmaut Celebration and Israeli Dinner At 8 PM Audio/visual entertainment , Israeli folk dancing with Vera Galleid, Activities for children ages 4-10 run by Hashomer Hatzair , Nostalgic and Israeli-contemporary music & dancing , Kosher Israeli (salatim) food

RSVP BY APRIL 24TH FOR CELEBRATION AND DINNER ONLY

Contact: EBJC office 732-257-7070 Cost: \$10 per person/\$36 per family Price at the door: \$14 per person/\$40 per family

Strict Dietary Laws Observed

Sponsor: East Brunswick Jewish Center, Temple B'nai Shalom of East Brunswick, Jewish Federation in the Heart of NJ, Israeli American Council, Hashomer Hatzair youth movement

MEN'S CLUB *Minyan Every Sunday. Come and also enjoy a bagel and the camaraderie.*



Men's Club Annual Election & BBQ
Thursday May 18 at 7:00 PM
All are invited. No RSVP needed.
 Rain or shine.
 Only Men's Club members could vote—One Vote per member.
 Anyone not continuing on Board that wants to be on the Men's Club Board should contact Harvey Cohen by Sunday May 14.

Big Doings at the Men's Club last month!

The top: Laining Torah and Hagba on Rosh Hodesh Nisan at a Sunday Minyan. Seymour Golden with a Duke hat at one of our Minyan.

Second row: Rabbi Mishkin presenting a lesson at the Siyum for Fast of First Born on the morning of the first seder. The yellow candles that were distributed by the Men's Club. A notice for our annual election and BBQ—do not miss this. We need every one to vote.

**Sunday morning is a good time to be at Beth Ohr.
 Shul, Schmooze and Schmeat!**

Men's Club Program of Events (partial listing)

May - No Sunday programs scheduled. A lot is happening at the Shul on Sundays and do not forget the 60th Anniversary Brunch and Reunion on June 4. Minyan at 10:00 AM. See Brunch info described elsewhere in this newsletter.

Ed Mendlowitz

May 18 - Thursday at 7:00 PM Men's Club BBQ and Election

Jun 11 - Men's Club Installation at end of Minyan

Come 3 extra times in next year and join in the fun!

Save a Life. Improve a Life. Arrange to become an Organ Donor!

Ed Mendlowitz, Men's Club President, emcpa1@aol.com tel 732 890-3344



If you don't usually attend, try coming once in a while and see what we have to offer. It ain't what you think it is!

YOM HASHOAH PROGRAM



We MUST Never Forget!

Yom Hashoah Program

Beth Ohr's Special Yom Hashoah Program on April 20 was led by Eva Wiener, one of the youngest passengers on the S.S. St. Louis, the ship that spawned the book and movie "Voyage of the Damned." Ms. Wiener's presentation was moving, touching, insightful and made us outraged at the situation where our government did nothing to save the people on the ship. When the ship landed in Cuba only a small handful were permitted to leave. It seems those that left had genuine Visas while almost everyone else had visas that were set up to cause the voyagers to not be permitted to disembark in Cuba. This was a Nazi trick that the Cuban and United States governments supported. After the ship left Cuba it went to Miami where it was not permitted to dock, eventually traveling back to Europe. Eva's family was allowed to land in England. Al Engber, shown with his friend Annette Collins, was in Cuba at that time and remembers a cousin being allowed to leave the ship (after his Uncle paid considerable bribes). The Jews in Cuba offered to pay for all the Jews to leave, but the prearranged Nazi deceit stopped this from occurring except for the 27 or so people with "legitimate" documentation. American Anti-Semitism was rampant!

MAXINE KAUFMAN TORAH FUND HONOREE



Maxine Kaufman 2017 / 5777 Torah Fund Benefactor

Clockwise are Maxine accepting the award flanked by her two brothers who were in the front row. Next are Heather and Piper presenting a lovely commentary about their mother. Rabbi Mishkin gave a review of his days at the Seminary and some of their current activities. Maxine and Ken's family that were at the luncheon. The luncheon was sponsored by the Sisterhood.

BETH OHR PHOTO GALLERY



Top row: Photos of the Jewish Family Service crew loading cars at back of our Shul on Sunday before Passover to deliver Pesach food bags to area residents. Ira Donenfeld is in photo at left.

2nd row: Harvey Cohen providing breakfast for the JFS crew. As always Harvey is there to help. Next is Andy Mendlowitz holding the Greater Middlesex Conference Wrestling Coaches Association Media Person of the Year Award. Also shown is a mock up headline prepared for the event!

Bottom row: The guys loading up yellow candle bags and boxes for mailing. Included clockwise are Ira Donenfeld, Andy Mendlowitz, Allen Skupp, Ed Mendlowitz, Dan Grynberg and Bob Weiss. Not shown is Stan Perlman. Next photo are some 60th Anniversary Brunch Committee members stuffing envelopes with invitations. Shown are David Honig, Ed Mendlowitz, Andy Mendlowitz, Edna Yourman, Phil Rabinowitz, Harriet Rabinowitz and Bob Weiss. A lot of work going on...by a lot of people.

Why you should attend the 60th Anniversary Brunch

There is Always Time to go to a Funeral

By Edward Mendlowitz
Reprinted from a blog posted by Ed.

I wrote this just after I returned from a funeral and noticed some people there that have been “too busy” lately to get involved in other things. However, there always seems to be time to go to a funeral.

We get caught up in things – work (especially accountants in tax season), caring for sick relatives (but they can be left alone for the hour and half to go to the funeral and back), busy with fixing things around the house (there is always something that needs fixing) and church (but many times you can rearrange the time you normally go.)

The point is – we always make the time to go to a funeral.

I saw many mourners expressing their grief and how much the newly deceased would be missed. But, I realized I did not see these “good and dear” friends at a breakfast about a year ago honoring the deceased. They likely did not attend because they 1) were too busy, 2) didn’t want to make a contribution “at this time,” 3) didn’t like the organization presenting the honor, 4) didn’t like the person too much, had a fight with them and haven’t spoken to them in “years,” 5) too far a trip or 6) they just did not care.

These “good and dear” friends missed an opportunity to honor and to hear and say some nice things while their friend was alive and could enjoy it, be happy and be complimented by the attendance and the support of an organization important to them.

My friends, life is too short and precarious and we should never pass up an opportunity to honor someone in life who we would drop everything for to go to that person’s funeral.

DO NOT MISS THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY BRUNCH AND REUNION!



Beth Ohr 60th Anniversary Celebration and Reunion

Mark your calendars—June 4, 2017

Gala brunch 11:00 to 2:30 at Beth Ohr

Honoring
BEVERLY & RABBI JOEL MISHKIN
ROBERTA & LAWRENCE FACHLER
HELENE & DANIEL GRYNBERG
CHARLES "CHUCK" ROGOL

HELP

Help make this celebration a great event.

Plan to attend. Mark you calendar now!

Please reach out to people you know that were past congregants who have moved, and alumni of our Hebrew school and those that became a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at Beth Ohr. Let them know about this 60th Anniversary Celebration and Reunion. Or give us their address and we will contact them. Send to Ed at emcpa1@aol.com or put in Dinner Dance Committee mail box at Temple.

Also, we would like as many people as possible to write their reminiscences that we can include in the Journal (there is no charge for this). Mail to Dinner Dance Committee at Temple or email to emcpa1@aol.com.

And we need all of our members to sell ads so we could also make this a great financial success. A reproducible ad form is on the next page. Every member that sells \$250 in ads (\$500 in ads for a couple) can attend the celebration for free.

If you want to be on the committee,
contact Ed Mendlowitz, 732 890-3344 or emcpa1@aol.com

Congregation Beth Ohr 60th Anniversary Celebration and Reunion

CELEBRATION & REUNION SOUVENIR JOURNAL

Honoring

**BEVERLY & RABBI JOEL MISHKIN
ROBERTA & LAWRENCE FACHLER
HELENE & DANIEL GRYNBERG
CHARLES "CHUCK" ROGOL**
Sunday June 4, 2017

Special Alumni Page
\$36 contribution.

Special In Memorium page for
Heidi Rogol.
To be included on that page,
please send a \$36
contribution.

Journal Ad prices - 8½" x 11" page size

Back cover supporter (full color)	\$2,500.00
Inside front or inside back cover supporter	\$1,800.00
Gold page supporter	\$1,000.00
Silver page supporter	\$750.00
Full page	\$500.00
Half page (8½ x 5½)	\$275.00
Quarter page (4¼ x 5½)	\$150.00
Business card	\$ 75.00
Congratulatory personal mention	\$ 36.00
In memorium listing	\$ 18.00
Family Jewels (list your children and grandchildren) per name	\$ 18.00

All ads except back cover are black and white. Either PDF or JPG formats are acceptable.

YES! Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution to Congregation Beth Ohr of \$_____ for a _____ (specify size) ad in the souvenir journal. Ad copy is attached. (Please attach camera ready copy, if available.) (NOTE: DO NOT STAPLE ads or business cards to this form)

YES! I want to attend the 60th Anniversary Celebration and Reunion. Enclosed is my check for \$60.00 per guest. (Please provide the names of the attendees):

Ad deadline May 19, 2017

Send your ad today to

Beth Ohr Journal Ad Committee
c/o Allan Benish
114 Avignon Road
Monroe Township, NJ 08831

Tel: 609.426.8727 Email: abenish@aol.com

Name _____

Co. Name _____

Tel _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Ad solicited by _____

SISTERHOOD PRESIDUM PRESIDENT

Passover has come and gone, and spring is definitely in the air.

Congratulations to the winners of our annual Passover lottery. Thank you to all that participated in this fundraiser!

Here at Beth Ohr, our Sisterhood had a successful Torah Fund Benefactor's reception honoring Maxine Kaufman. We enjoyed an afternoon of good food and good company. Thank you to Lee Hyman and her committee for a job well done!

We are putting together our new Sisterhood slate. We are in need of ladies to serve in a few key positions. Please contact Barbara Schneider if you are interested in joining our Sisterhood Executive Board for the 2017-2018 year.

Our annual Donor Dinner will be held on Wednesday, May 24, 2017. Please contact Liz Aroyo or Ilene Gray for details.

As always, thank you for supporting our many ongoing fund-raisers. We welcome and appreciate your help! And also, thank you for your continued support and participation at our Sisterhood events.

Shalom
Monica Atzbi

Sisterhood Donor Information:

The donor year ends April 30th and if you have at least \$90.00 of credit by then you will be invited to our Donor Dinner on May 24th. This is a lovely evening with a catered cocktail hour and full dinner reception.

In addition, any carryovers or extra donors can be used to be a Torah Fund Benefactor or for admission to the Temple Journal event or to be spent at either Aramis Jewelers which is on Route 9 South in Manalapan next to Mom's Griddle or this year an added choice is G&W Jewelers located on Ryders Lane in Milltown in the mall with Lox Stock and Deli.

Any questions call Ilene Gray 732-390-5017 or Liz Aroyo 732-257-6010.

SISTERHOOD CONGREGATION BETH OHR CALENDAR PERSONALS

Dear Members:

Sisterhood is once again planning to make up our Jewish Calendar for the year 5778 (2017-2018).

There will be a place on the calendar for your personal dates. Your cost will be \$2.50 for each birthday, anniversary, wedding, and yahrzeit. Personals will be listed on each month's page. Full donor credit will be given for these contributions.

In addition to the above, for a donation of \$10 your name (or those of your friends and relatives) can be listed as a patron. Full donor credit for each \$10 patron obtained by a Sisterhood member.

We need the support of the entire Congregation to make this as successful a year as last year. Please enclose your check payable to Sisterhood Congregation Beth with your imprint order and mail to Linda Garfinkel, c/o Congregation Beth Ohr, P. O. Box 206, Route 516, Old Bridge, N.J. 08857.

Thank you for your support. DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS JULY12, 2017.

Linda Garfinkel

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Birthdays _____
(\$2.50 each)

Anniversaries _____
(\$2.50 each)

Yahrzeits _____
List name, English month,

Day & Year _____
(\$2.50 each)

Weddings _____
(\$2.50 each)

Patrons _____
(\$10.00 each)



Thank you to all who contributed to making the Torah Fund Benefactors Luncheon so successful:

Allen Appel
Monica & Mark Atzbi
Lisa Clark
Marion Falkowitz
Ilene Grey
Helene Grynberg
Roberta Karpel
Men's Club
Ed Mendlowitz
Rabbi Mishkin
Ashna Pincus
Phil Rabinowitz
Barbara Schnieder
Sharon Silverman
Allen Skupp
Edna Yourman
Paula Yourman
And, as always, my family: My husband Paul and my son Matt Brenner

If I forgot to thank anyone.....,I'm so sorry.

THANKS TO EVERYONE THAT CAME

BE WELL
Lee Hyman



HIGH HOLIDAY MACHZOR

If you are interested in dedicating a High Holiday prayer book, please contact Estee Spiegel by e-mail at estee86@msn.com. Donations can be made to memorialize someone special or in honor of a simcha. The cost for each book is \$36.00 and checks should be made payable to Sisterhood Congregation Beth Ohr. The donation must be paid in full before a bookplate will be affixed.

**Thank you so much to everyone who purchased and donated
a new Etz Chaim Chumash!**



LARGE PRINT SIDDURIM

The synagogue owns four large print Siddurim. If anyone needs one at services, please see Ira Donenfeld, Phil Rabinowitz or Larry Fachler.



SCRIP

*Sisterhood sells **Shoprite**, **Stop 'n' Shop**, and **Acme** Supermarket Gift Cards. We also sell Kohl's Gift Cards.*

*This ongoing fundraiser helps support **Oneg Shabbat** and other areas of our congregation.
(Sisterhood members receive 5% donor credit of their scrip purchase.)*

Kohl's Gift Cards may be used to purchase merchandise or to PAY your Kohl's charge card in-store so you continue to get your discounts. By purchasing Kohl's Gift Cards you are doing a double mitzvah as these card purchases support Kohl's Cares for Kids charities.

You may contact the following for purchasing scrip and/or information:

Monica Atzbi 732-390-5890

Sharen Silverman 732-266-2389

Marcia Trechak 609-655-9507 (summer months)

Phyllis Greenberg -- Temple Office 732-257-1523

When ordering from Phyllis at the temple office, please try to call in your order at least one day earlier and pick up your order during the following hours: 10 am-12 noon or 1:30 pm -3:00pm.



Announcements

The deadline for the next newsletter will be
Wednesday, May 10, 2017

Please send all of your thank you, articles
and announcements via e-mail to:

congregationbethohr@gmail.com

or call

Phyllis in the Synagogue office at 732-257-1523

“Ritually Speaking”

If you are interested in sponsoring a Kiddush to celebrate a simcha, commemorate the Yahrzeit of a loved one, or “just because”, contact Phyllis in the office at 732-257-1523.

Sisterhood is selling Kohl’s Cares for Kids Gift Cards. You may purchase these cards as gifts or to pay your bill in the store so you can continue to use your charge card and get your discounts.

For more information and to purchase cards, please call Monica Atzbi at 732-390-5890. When ordering Kohl’s please use a separate check—not to be combined with scrip checks.

Rabbi Mishkin’s Contact Numbers

If you need to reach Rabbi Mishkin, please use any of the following phone numbers:

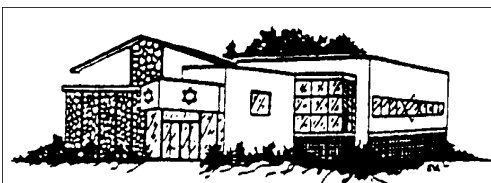
Office Phone # 732-257-7031

Home phone #732-967-6710 after hours for emergencies

e-mail address: rabbijoelmishkin@gmail.com

+

Rabbi Mishkin will be available for counseling by appointment.



Congregation Beth Ohr
P.O. Box 206
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times For May



May 5	7:39
May 12	7:46
May 19	7:53
May 26	7:59