



CONGREGATION
Beth Ami

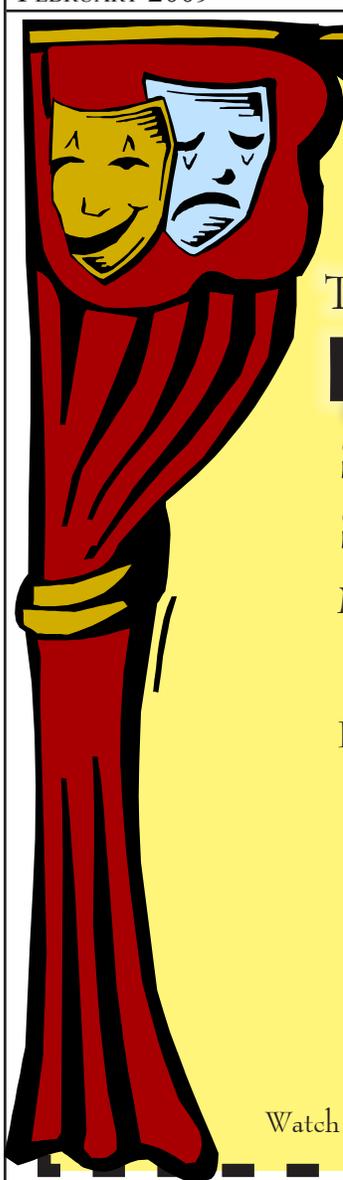
Shofar

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

707-360-3000

FEBRUARY 2009

SHEVAT / ADAR 5769



This year it's the...

Broadway Megillah!

Saturday, March 14: Evening performance

Sunday, March 15: Matinée

Mordechai: Esther, you cannot abandon your people. Just look into your heart, and you will realize that your fate lies with us.

Esther: My heart. . . Yes, yes, I feel it beating a definite hora rhythm. Possibly Hava Nagila. Why, I feel, I feel. . .

I feel Jewish,
Oh, so Jewish,
It's so true like a Jew's how I feel!
So Hebrew-ish,
Think I'll star in someone's Purim spiel!



Watch your mailbox for prices, times and more information about the Purim Spiel.

IN THIS ISSUE...

Rabbi's Remarks	page 3	Mitzvah Moments	page 11
Events & Announcements	page 4	Literary Lines	page 11
February Calendar	page 5	Generous Contributions	page 12
President's Page	page 6	Yahrzeits, Anniversaries & Birthdays	page 13
Israel from The Left Coast	page 6	Jewish Community Events	page 14
SCUSY Stuff	page 7	Directory Updates	page 15
Mazal Tov to our Bnot Mitzvah	page 8	Advertisements	pages 15-19
Chaverim Events & Classes	page 8	Event RSVP Form	page 19
More from our Matriarchs	page 9	February Services	back page
Lox Box Order Form	page 10		

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Hours of Operation

Beth Ami Main Office

Mon/Wed/Thu/Fri: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Library

Monday - Thursday: 2 - 6 p.m.

Sunday: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Gift Shop

Tuesday: 3-5 p.m.

Thursday: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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- ▶ Leanne Schy, Torah/Haftarah Readings
- ▶ Andrea Nett, Catering Director
- ▶ Francie Rogovin, Kitchen Manager
- ▶ Edythe Smith, Invitations, 538-3698

Congregation Beth Ami Mission Statement

Through celebration, learning, prayer and community, we seek to enrich our lives, transform our hearts, help heal the world and sustain our Jewish heritage.

Congregation Beth Ami Vision

A vibrant, growing campus for Jewish living where the joys of Jewish values and rituals are made accessible and relevant to the everyday lives of our members.

A flourishing, prospering congregation enjoying the wholehearted support, commitment and involvement of all our members.

Deadline for March Shofar: February 16

All editorial submissions must be received in the *Shofar* box in the Beth Ami office or via email on or before the deadline. **All submissions are subject to editing for clarity, brevity and content.** Please submit articles as Microsoft Word documents via email attachments. Contact Karen Gould, Editor, at 360-3000 or at newsletter@bethamisr.org with corrections, concerns or questions.

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This month's issue is: Volume 14, Issue 6

Issue Date: February 1, 2009



RABBI'S REMARKS

Rabbi George Schlesinger

Gaza is ablaze and once again the world blames Israel for a lengthy list of “crimes” and “human rights violations.” Certainly the death and destruction that we witness every day is horrible and tragic. Without a doubt, more Palestinians have lost their lives than Israelis. Yet, the world seems unwilling to view this tragedy with any kind of historical perspective. Wars don’t generally start without some kind of grievance or provocation, and while it’s true that any one of us could probably point to many examples of “trumped up” grievances, this is not one such case.

In the period since September 11, 2001, when not one more terrorist act has been committed on American soil, Israel has sustained 29,000 terrorist acts: daily rocket fire from Gaza, suicide bombings, border infiltrations, shootings, kidnappings...and the list could go on and on. That’s an average of 10+ terrorist acts every single day for seven and a half years. One can only imagine how the United States would have chosen to respond if there were 29,000 terrorist acts committed against our country...on our soil. For that matter, how would/should any country respond to such constant threats? From this perspective, Israel has shown tremendous restraint.

It must also be remembered that Israel unilaterally evacuated Gaza in the summer of 2005. At great financial AND emotional expense, Israel uprooted thousands of its own citizens from Gaza and gave the Palestinians a chance to create a peaceful place for themselves. Israel gave them a chance to create the infrastructure of a nation: to create jobs and industry, governing agencies, and schools. Instead, violent conflict between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority broke out and in open street fighting, the more moderate PA was forced out of Gaza and the radical Hamas took over. Committed to the destruction of Israel and refusing to acknowledge Israel’s right to exist, a campaign of daily rocket fire was initiated, terrorizing the Israeli population of the south. In addition, Gilad Shalit was kidnapped on June 29, 2006 and remains in Hamas custody.

And now in the current conflict more Palestinians are dying than Israelis and the news media bombards us with images of dead and wounded Palestinian children without offering any commentary or perspective of why there might be such disparity of numbers. For example, as has happened since Israel’s war in Lebanon in the early 80s, the Palestinians have resorted to hiding and embedding weapons, munitions, and combatants in the midst of civilian populations: in schools, in mosques, in hospitals and in dwellings. Knowing Israel’s reluctance to harm civilians, Hamas relies upon Israeli restraint and when Israel relaxes some of that restraint there are horrible and unwanted casualties. News media from around the world then castigate Israel for “the carnage.”

One could easily ask, though, why the news media don’t show the pictures of the children in the Hamas training camps. Images of young children with AK-47s, hand grenades, rocket

launchers and bomb vests are available to those who seek them, yet rather than show these kinds of images, the media chooses to show images of children in hospitals or of grieving parents at the funerals of their children.

Without a doubt, civilians are suffering in this crisis, but legitimate philosophical questions can be raised about innocence. When a population allows itself to be ruled by thugs and terrorists, even voting them into power...knowing full well the platform of hate and rejection upon which they stand...are they “innocent” when they reap what was sown? When one chooses to associate with thieves, when one aids and abets a criminal, is one “innocent” of any culpability when the police arrive simply because the crime was actually committed by someone else? Hamas has never hidden its intentions regarding Israel; they were voted into power by the residents of Gaza...the same residents who either aided the Hamas takeover of power or who passively watched from the sidelines. Now that the agenda of terror and death has come back to their front door, are they “innocent?” Not only did Gazans allow Hamas into their lives, they invited them in. It’s something to ponder.

In the meantime, our Masorti (Conservative) Movement in Israel is mobilizing to aid and comfort those who are on the “front lines.” Congregations in the north are hosting busloads of children and adults from the south (just as the southern congregations did two years ago during the Lebanon war) to bring welcome relief from the constant shelling and gunfire. Members of our youth movement (NOAM) are distributing warm hats to soldiers...both regulars and reservists. Services in the southern congregations continue on Shabbat as scheduled although mostly in “safe rooms” or air raid shelters. A mission of Conservative rabbis from the United States is visiting the congregations in the southern part of the country expressing solidarity with the people and with the country. The congregation in Ashkelon is working to reinforce the kindergarten area, to provide air conditioning for the shelters, to provide protective coverings for windows and to raise funds for a social worker to help with problems of traumatic stress among the children. Day trips out of the affected areas are scheduled to provide sightseeing and a good restaurant meal as a respite from the fighting.

All of this requires funding, and I’m asking all who are able to make a contribution to the Masorti Foundation, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 832, NY, NY 10115. Checks should be marked Emergency Appeal. Online contributions can be made at www.masorti.org. Click on “Contributions” and then in Gift Allocation click Emergency Appeal.

God willing, by the time you read this, a just and lasting ceasefire will have been achieved and people on both sides of the border will be able to live in peace and tranquility and be able to fulfill the biblical promise: Each person shall sit under his fig tree and his vine and none shall make him afraid.



Mazal tov to parents Julie & Darrell Keller and grandparents Suzie & Bill Friedman on the birth of Emily Rose Keller on January 5, 2009.

The Beth Ami community offers sincere condolences to:



Claire Miller and her family on the death of her husband, David Kerben.

Robin Rose and her family on the death of her father, Ben Friedman.

Lillian Judd on the death of her brother-in-law, Ernest Mittleman.

Todah Rabah

Mary's Pizza Shack Dine & Donate

The Beth Ami Community Nursery School raised \$451.00! Thank you to everyone who dined in, took out, had food delivered and/or purchased a gift card.

eScrip Report – THANKS TO OUR NEWEST SUPPORTERS: Ina Price, Jane Rogan & Phil Dwight, Fredrika & Brian Gross!

Purchases are down compared with the first nine months of 2008, which makes sense in our current economic situation. This means that the eScrip payment to CBA is lowered and affects our ability to pay the bills. We need 100% member participation during this time more than ever before. Please take a few minutes to join us in this painless fundraiser.

Here's how to sign up: **1)** Go to www.eScrip.com and designate Congregation Beth Ami in Santa Rosa, ID#136921119 to receive contributions. **2)** Register your Safeway club card, Macy's card and other credit or debit cards that you might use at participating merchants. **3)** If you would rather not sign up online, there is a sign-up form in the office as well as on our website. Just fill it out and return it to the office and we will sign you up.

If you have misplaced your **Safeway Club Card** number, we can get it. All information will be kept confidential. Don't forget that if you are already signed up for eScrip with your school, you can split your contribution with Beth Ami. If you need help to sign up, contact Nancy Sherman at 538-9388 or enshermn@pacbell.net.



The 26th Annual Book Discussion Series 2008-2009

Vivian Salmon led our discussion of Tamar Yellin's, *The Genizah at the House of Shepherd*.

Our group gave the book mixed reviews, admiring the beautiful writing and descriptive passages, but criticizing the disjointed character of the novel in its entirety. The bottom line was that the format of the short story would probably suit this author better.

Our next discussion will take place on Wednesday, February 4 at 10 a.m. The topic will be *The Centaur in the Garden*. This discussion will be led by Alfred Batzdorff. New members are always welcome.

Any questions? Call Susanne Batzdorff at 538-9731.



Rosh Chodesh – Save the Dates!

The Women's Rosh Chodesh gatherings will be moving to seasonal celebrations, rather than meeting every month. Please mark your calendars with the following dates:



Sunday, April 26	12 p.m.
Thursday, August 20	7 p.m.
Wednesday, November 18	7 p.m.

We hope to continue our Beth Ami tradition of celebrating the new moon and reconnecting with each other. We invite girls and women of all ages to join us. Stay tuned for program information as each date approaches.

Ongoing programs at Congregation Beth Ami

◆ **ISRAELI FOLK DANCING**, Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Friedman Center. For more info contact Leanne Schy at 528-4874 or Leanne@sonic.net.

◆ **BIBLE STUDY WITH RABBI SCHLESINGER**, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

◆ **TORAH & TALMUD STUDY WITH RABBI SCHLESINGER**, Thursdays, 7 p.m. Friedman Center Board Room

February 2009

January 2009

February 2009

March 2009

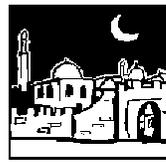
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 USY Lox Box Delivery 9:30am Religious School 1:00pm Movie/ Pizza Chaverim	2 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 4:00pm Religious School 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	3 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 4:00pm Religious School 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	4 10:00am Book Discussion Series	5 10:30am Hebrew-Int. 7:00pm Talmud Study	6 6:00pm Shabbat Dinner 7:30pm Shabbat Services	7 Alea Sander's Bat Mitzvah 9:30am Shabbat Services 12:30pm Hosted luncheon
8 9:30am Religious School	9 Tu B'Shevat 6:30pm Chaverim 10th	10 10:00am Bible Study 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 4:00pm Religious School 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	11	12 10:30am Hebrew-Int. 6:30pm Chaverim 8th 7:00pm Torah Study	13 7:30pm Shabbat Services	14 Rachel Simkowitz's Bat Mitzvah 9:30am Shabbat Services 12:30pm Hosted Luncheon
15 No Religious School	16 Office Closed 6:30pm Chaverim 9th	17 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 4:00pm Religious School 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	18	19 10:30am Hebrew-Int. 7:00pm Talmud Study	20 7:30pm Shabbat Services	21 9:30am Shabbat Services 10:00am Tot Shabbat 10:00am Jr. Congregation 12:30pm Potluck Lunch
22 8:45am Library Breakfast 9:30am Religious School 1:00pm Chaverim - Chop's	23 6:30pm Chaverim 10th	24 10:00am Bible Study 10:30am Hebrew-Beg. 4:00pm Religious School 7:00pm Israeli Folk Dancing	25	26 10:30am Hebrew-Int. 6:30pm Chaverim 11th/12th 7:00pm Torah Study	27 Chaverim Ski Trip 7:30pm Shabbat Services	28 Chaverim Ski Trip 9:30am Shabbat Services 12:30pm Potluck lunch
1 Chaverim Ski Trip	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Patty Bernstein, President



ISRAEL FROM THE LEFT COAST

Bob Raful

Tzedakah now, more than ever

Does it seem like I'm the Queen of Chutzpah bringing up the subject of giving when our economy is in such a crisis mode, when foreclosures come so close to home, when issues of trust cloud our investments? Please, don't shoot the messenger.

As Jews, we are obligated to give. Tzedakah comes from the Hebrew word for righteousness and justice. It is unjust and even illegal for Jews to not give charity to those in need. You might say that giving charity is obligatory self-taxation, not simply voluntary donation. The duty to give is so important in Judaism that even recipients of charity are obligated to give something.

According to Jewish tradition, the spiritual benefit of giving charity is so great that the giver benefits even more than the recipient. By giving charity, Jews recognize the good that God has given to them. Some scholars see charitable donation as a replacement for animal sacrifice in Jewish life in that it is a way to show thanks to and ask forgiveness from God. Contributing toward the welfare of others is a central and fulfilling part of one's Jewish identity.

As a Jewish community we have limited means and a great many financial causes which need our support. Understanding the need to help the individual prioritize how to allocate tzedakah funding, rabbinic scholars offered a strict set of legal and ethical guidelines for giving. These guidelines set a Jewish communal standard for how much to give, the most compassionate ways to give and to whom we are most obligated to support.

Please take some time to read the "Did you know?" box, then spend some time reevaluating how you are able to fulfill the commandment of tzedakah.

Did you know?

- ▶ Rabbinic scholars set a standard that at a minimum every individual is obligated to allocate 10% of their annual income for tzedakah. This sets a tone where all share in the communal responsibility of supporting those in need. At the same time, a cap of 20% of annual income was placed on the individual's giving so as not to create a culture where the wealthiest members of the community are expected to carry the community. Instead everyone has the opportunity to feel significantly invested in the process of philanthropic giving.
- ▶ The obligation to give tzedakah extends even to poor people themselves. This demonstrates that in the Jewish tradition giving is not simply about raising funds, but more so, the transformative act of linking principles to practice; an opportunity so important, no one should be denied it.
- ▶ Maimonides explains that because the Torah says you should give a person "whatever he needs" our obligations differ for each person. For a poor person, we may be obligated to provide him with the basic means to purchase food, clothing, and shelter. For a person who enjoyed a more comfortable lifestyle, we are obligated to give at a higher level so as not to make them feel ashamed. As the same time, we are not obligated to restore this person to his wealthy status.
- ▶ Even if the community chest or our individual resources are depleted, we are obligated give some small contribution to every person (not only Jews) who extends his hand asking for assistance.

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During recent weeks I have been asked several times about travel to Israel in light of the Gaza war. I reply, "A trip to Israel now is a major show of support. It is safe. Do it!"

So, I decided to write about several people who have shown that support and gone to Israel as participants of the Birthright Program – that unique initiative, begun about eight years ago, which provides free 10-day Israel trips to young people –18 to 26 – who have no previous experience on peer trips. Here are three stories:

1st Story–Ashley Cleeves, a relatively new member of Beth Ami, is a graduate student at Sonoma State. We were delighted when she told us that she had been accepted for Birthright, leaving January 8. Ashley has been asked to write about her trip upon her return. But, she agreed to let me quote from an email she sent on January 11: "I am at my youth hostel in Tel Aviv. I am having so much fun. My favorites, so far had to be climbing Masada at sunrise, swimming at Ein Gedi Nature Reserve and the Dead Sea (ed: Ashley is a swim instructor). Tomorrow we head north to the Golan Heights and Sea of Galilee. I am so excited! I am glad I came to Israel. I feel the trip has already strengthened me religiously and has made me feel a closer, deeper connection to Israel and Judaism."

2nd Story–Dara Slavin, is a close family friend. She was one of 45 Birthright adventurers who were in Israel from December 29 –January 8. Here is part of her inspiring story: "...Israeli soldiers travel with the group the entire time as peers. What a wonderful perspective and harsh reality they brought. Most important, their love and pride for OUR country and OUR people. One of the hardest realities came to me the night our tour guide was called to duty. Our leader told us to meet in a common area at midnight and tearfully told us the news. Our wonderful, charismatic, loving tour guide, Tzuki, who is 32 and has a pregnant wife at home, was leaving any minute. The call was for tank combat training and then on to Gaza in the next few days. Ten minutes later, this brave man joined us, a big smile on his face, ready to answer any questions we had. He said all he wanted to do before he left was wish us an amazing rest of the trip and give his wife one last kiss before he leaves..."(she concludes with story about her Israeli cousins, also waiting for call up; and the sobering tears all around).

3rd Story–Our own Evey Abramowitz was a worrying grandmother for her two granddaughters, Jamie and Lori Abramowitz, who were on Birthright from the end of December until January 11. She reports that "they loved it—it was so perfect." More in a future memo.

Interested in Birthright? Check out www.birthrightisrael.com/site/.

And—Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!



SCUSY STUFF

Sharon Kruschen, SCUSY Youth Advisor

Our recent Fire & Ice event held at Snoopy's Home Ice Arena was a great success! We had 17 SCUSYers conclude their Shabbat with a Havdalah service led by our very own SCUSY board, fun ice breakers and of course ice skating. Thank you for those who came out on such a cold night! It was lots of fun, even though I fell on my tushie. Our next event is January 31. Please be on the look out for your LOX BOWL order forms. All our fundraisers help support our programing, scholarships and more! Have you joined our SCUSYNF Facebook group? Add us today!

USYers breaking the ice before ice skating at Snoopy's Home Ice Arena in January



Check out photos from our events:
<http://albums.phanfarecom/4194001/2008/>



USY website:
www.scusynf.com

Haley Pleasant on USY's International Convention

Over winter break, I attended USY's International Convention in Washington, D.C. and a post convention hosted by a USY chapter in Baltimore. Along with 30 other USYers from Northern California and Reno, I spent the week participating in programs centered around Israel, leadership, and other Jewish values. The trip, along with giving me the chance to reunite with friends from IC 2007 and meeting many new ones, was also an incredible opportunity to learn valuable leadership skills that will benefit SCUSY and to learn about current events in Israel while living in a Jewish environment for a week. Throughout the week, we visited the D.C. Zoo, the Smithsonians, the Baltimore Science Center, Baltimore Aquarium, and went on a tour of the national monuments. Some of the programs and activities consisted of leadership workshops, creative tefillot, a concert by the Humble Kings, a Ben Yehudah street fair, and much more. We were also spoken to by Ms. Mazi Melesa, a representative from the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry, and Eric Lynn, a former USYer and the Middle East Policy Advisor and National Jewish Community Liaison for Obama for America. And, of course, the week was also filled with prayer three times a day and kosher meals. After a week of social action programs, friends, and ruach in the nation's capital, it was hard to leave. But I and the other USYers from the New Frontier region will reunite with our new friends next year at IC 2009 in Chicago!

~Haley Pleasant

Jacob Kreger on the Diller Teen Fellowship

My name is Jacob Kreger. Leah Pickar and I have been accepted to the Diller Teen Fellowship program. This Jewish teen leadership program began January 11 with our first meeting at the Bureau of Jewish Education in San Francisco.

In addition to meeting the other 18 teens in the program we learned the role of pluralism in Judaism. Leah, our new friend Nadiv, and I will be responsible for planning our Shabbat services for our upcoming retreat in February at the Marin Headlands. I am excited to have this opportunity to be part of the adventure.

~Jacob Kreger

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- ▶ After assuring for one's own livelihood, one is first obligated to support his immediate family, then his extended family, neighbors, local community, and so on.
- ▶ The Torah states, "for the sake of paths of shalom, peace" we are obligated to give tzedakah to all people in need, not only Jewish people. Some scholars explain this to mean that when striving for shalom, a true peace, we must extend our obligation beyond the Jewish community and to the entire world.



**MAZAL TOV TO OUR
BNOT MITZVAH**

ALEA SANDERS
FEBRUARY 7, 2009
13 SHEVAT 5769



RACHEL SIMKOVITZ
FEBRUARY 14, 2009
20 SHEVAT 5769

Hi, my name is Rachel Simkovitz. I have been coming to Congregation Beth Ami for as long as I can remember. I will be a Bat Mitzvah on February 14, 2009. I am in the 7th grade at Rincon Valley Charter School. I love music, art, animals and synchronized swimming. I am a big reader and lately a HUGE fan of the "Twilight" saga. I spend most of my time with my friends. I love to spend my time at Beth Ami and hope to become a madracha next year. I hope you will join my family and me in celebrating my Bat Mitzvah!



CHAVERIM

Rick Concoff, Program Director

Wow, what a great month this has been for Chaverim.

Our dinner discussions continue with 100 students participating twice a month for dinner and conversation on a Jewish topic. We are graced with 90% attendance by the teens at these meetings. We have recently been looking into the history of the Israel-Palestinian conflict and the presentations have been real eye-openers for the students.

Socially the 8th grade enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon at Chop's teen center in Santa Rosa which offered an event of fun, visiting, enjoyment and games. The event was well attended and Chop's continues to be a great venue for our teens. If you have never seen it, look it up and stop by. It is an amazing asset to our teen community and a great gift as well.

The high school students had one of their most successful events, as 46 students walked into a mock casino in the hall at Shomrei Torah and were they pleasantly surprised. The kids were treated to a Monte Carlo night presented by none less than 10 of our Committee and parent community. The room was decorated to a tee and the event was enjoyed by all. Of course, we began with a lovey Havdallah service in the dark of Shomrei Torah's beautiful synagogue and proceeded to enjoy the activity. The kids enjoyed the recreation of the evening and left with prizes and gifts! Thanks so much to the Chaverim Committee Monte Carlo subcommittee, ably led by Barbara Rosenthal for their support on this event.

We are looking forward to more social events, dinner discussions, a ski snow trip, a Shabbaton, an 8th grade campout, ice skating and much more!

It is also important to mention that 12 of our Chaverim students have been participating in a wonderful project with the Jewish Family and Children's Services in learning ways to support and assess needs of their fellow teens. This effort has been a collaborative one between Chaverim and the JFCS and we hope for many more in the future. Thanks to Diana Klein and Mary Hirsch for their able leadership on behalf of the JFCS and the students.

CHAVERIM EVENTS FEBRUARY & MARCH		CHAVERIM CLASSES FEBRUARY & MARCH	
Sunday, February 1 1-4 p.m.	MOVIE & PIZZA at CBA 8 th grade only	8 th grade:	Feb. 12 March 5 & 19
Sunday, February 22 1-4 p.m.	ACTIVITIES AT CHOP'S 9 th -12 th grade only	9 th grade:	Feb. 16 March 2 & 16
Friday, February 27- Sunday, March 1	WEEKEND SKI TRIP NORTHSTAR TAHOE Registration as space allows. All (8 th -12 th) grades	10 th grade:	Feb. 9 & 23 March 9 & 23
Sunday, March 22 1-3 p.m.	ICE SKATING AT SNOOPY ARENA All (8 th -12 th) grades	11 th & 12 th grade:	Feb. 26 March 12 & 26
		Beginning in January 2009 ALL Dinner/Discussions will meet at Congregation Shomrei Torah (CST) from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please be on time!	
		<i>Chaverim is a beneficiary of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties.</i>	



The Stories of Our Matriarchs

Woman of Valor
More precious than rubies
Passing her knowledge from generation to generation
~Proverbs 31

Each issue of the Shofar will feature several biographies of the Matriarchs who were honored at the Rosh Chodesh Chai Tea held on November 23, 2008. The biographies, written by Rosh Chodesh members and Religious School students, were originally printed in the event program. Paula Schlesinger wrote the introduction to each honoree.



Elsie Rich
Elsie has always tried to do what is asked of her and to treat people respectfully. She believes that when you live this way, it is like an echo and the goodness you share comes back to you.

We light a candle in honor of the strength, stamina, and mental acuity of Elsie Rich.

Elsie was born on August 6, 1901 in Vienna, Austria. She had three brothers and one sister. She lived in a small Jewish community but did not have a Jewish education. Life was less hectic than it is today. Her father moved to London for business and died young of pneumonia. Two of her brothers were drafted. They were surrounded by enemies and there wasn't much food. They got food from the black market. She and her sister supported each other through these hard times.

Elsie liked to work and was always happy. She believes getting along with people makes life easier. She has learned that keeping busy and finding time for fun is a good way to live. When life seems difficult, Elsie suggests that you are not alone, ask for help, and believe in G-d. Don't let something that bothers you eat at you. She has always tried to do what is asked of her and to treat people respectfully. When you live this way, it is like an echo and the goodness you share comes back to you.

Elsie came to the United States in 1938. At first she lived in New York. It was too cold, so four years later she drove to the West Coast because she had a friend here and she "never looked back." She was here when Beth Ami started. Elsie likes to come to services and make donations to the synagogue. A very memorable time in her life was when the Mayor of Santa Rosa invited her to the City Hall to celebrate her 106th birthday. She has made good friends and feels that Beth Ami is her family.



Sylvia Sucher
Sylvia's belief in the strength and worth of every individual and our responsibility to take action to make our own lives and those of others better is an inspiration to our community.

We light a candle in honor of the intellectual prowess of Sylvia Sucher.

Sylvia Sucher was born July 1912 in Brooklyn and grew up there with her parents, brother and sister. She describes her childhood as very different from today because there was no TV and no radio until she was 10 years old. Her family did not have a car or electricity in the house until she was seven or eight. When Sylvia was four, she was hospitalized with polio. Her mother helped her learn to be very determined and not give up overcoming the problems with polio. She encouraged her to try her hardest and to believe that she could do whatever she set her mind to do.

During WW II, everybody was involved in some way to help the war effort. Everybody wanted us to win the war. There was food rationing, which meant that you had ration stamps for meat, sugar and other scarce materials.

Many women went to work in factories taking the place of the men who were drafted into the war. Sylvia's husband worked for the Navy. He was a physicist and worked at installing anti-magnetic mine machinery to save the ships from being torpedoed by the Nazis as they crossed the ocean. Later on they began to hear about the Holocaust that was taking place. Those were terrible times.

Sylvia's belief in the importance of being positive helped her to overcome hard times. She also appreciates the importance of having friends who care about you, to share your happiness and who want to help and support you. She feels that Beth Ami has given her a "family of friends" that have enriched her life.

Sylvia came to Beth Ami 26 years ago and was instrumental in the founding of Friendship Circle, the Book Discussion Series and the Holocaust Studies Program at Sonoma State University. She is an avid reader, enjoys reading the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker* magazine and books, of course.

Sylvia believes in the strength and worth of every individual and our responsibility is to take action to make our own lives and those of others better.

*...your eyes shine with the light of holy words,
and your face reflects the brightness of the heavens...*
Talmud, Berachot 17A



PRE-ORDER YOUR LOX BOX TODAY!

SONOMA COUNTRY USY'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER!

Enjoy your Superbowl morning with a Lox Box made by SCUSY!
Each box has a breakfast for two of bagels,
cream cheese, lox, sliced onions, sliced tomatoes, juice,
and a special treat.

All proceeds benefit USY programming and regional conventions.
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Call Sharon at (707) 478-2663 for more information.



Please cut out bottom and send cash or check
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Name: _____
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- () I will pick up at the Synagogue on February 1st (between 9am - 12 pm)
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- () I'm really not in mood for breakfast, but here is my donation instead \$_____.

____ One Lox Box - \$15
____ Two Lox Boxes - \$25



Deadlines for all orders are January 28th.





MITZVAH MOMENTS

Tish Levee

Tikkun Olam – Repairing the World

Global warming, water, fuel use, and electricity are all interwoven.

◆ Now in our third drought year, mandatory water rationing seems likely. Since July, our rainfall's been 50% of normal. Water garden and houseplants by capturing water when you turn on the hot water tap. Plan ahead for a dry summer—view the Sonoma County Water Agency's water-saving CD at www.sonoma.watersavingplants.com/.

◆ Although gas prices have dropped dramatically, they're going back up. Last year Americans drove 100 billion fewer miles than the year before—using 3.2% less gas. Now we need to keep conserving to save fossil fuel and reduce global warming.

◆ Send clever “appliance-grams,” with tips on saving natural gas, to family and friends at www.wintergassavings.com/.

◆ PGE buys power from non-renewable sources when there's not enough water for hydroelectric generation. Unplugging electronics and chargers that aren't in use saves electricity, burning less fossil fuel. If every Californian did this, it would be like taking 120,000 cars off the road. Go to www.pge.com/myhome/saveenergymoney for other energy-saving ideas,

Ma'achil R'evim—Feeding the Hungry—and other mitzvot. Click daily at www.thehungersite.com to help six charities. Join with other people clicking daily to make a real difference in less than a minute. Last year clicking—and shopping—provided 72 million cups of food for the hungry, nearly 7600 mammograms, health care for close to 1,000,000 children worldwide, over 500,000 books for children, nearly 78 million bowls of food for animals, and preserved almost 15,000 acres of land.

Celebrate Tu B'Shevat—February 9—and Valentine's Day. Purchase Dagoba® Organic Chocolate at Whole Foods and Pacific Markets and help fund tree planting projects in Costa Rica. Find more information at www.dagobachocolate.com.

Col Yisrael—All Israel

◆ Be prepared to discuss Israel's position in Gaza with friends. Get daily updates, quick facts and talking points from the Israeli consulate at <http://israeliconsulate.org>.

◆ Pray for members of the IDF. Download a prayer written by two Masorti (Conservative) rabbis at www.masorti.org. Donate to Masorti's Emergency Appeal at the same time.

◆ Help boost soldiers' morale and show your support and appreciation by donating to <http://pizzaidf.org/> for pizza and sodas delivered to troops in Gaza.

◆ Help Colel Chabad meet the government's request to provide hot meals, delivered under rocket fire, to 1500 needy seniors—who aren't able to make it to the shelters—in Ashkelon, Ashdod, Sderot, and Be'er-sheva. Donate at www.colelchabad.org/Donate_Email.bp?aCampaign=EM09&aId=775.

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LITERARY LINES

Gabor Por, Librarian

Our catalog and blog are online at www.bethamisrael.org/library

One of my favorite holidays is Tu B'Shevat, and this year it falls on February 9. I like it because it inspires me out of my sedentary lifestyle and into nature, to enjoy and appreciate a taste of spring. On this day I surely have my recommended amount of daily fruit.

However, I also have an ambivalent relationship with this holiday. It is about celebrating trees and as a librarian I surround myself with fallen trees, in the form of books. I feel guilty because a large number of trees had to be cut down to create the books that fill our library. I console myself in two ways.

First, I hope that more trees are planted than the ones that were cut down. Israel is a leading force in this regard, their tree-planting programs were essential in turning the desert into a living and livable place. I also enjoy planting trees myself, but I admit not doing it as often as I wish or should!

Second, as there is nothing I can do for the trees that were already turned into the books in the library I want to make sure that their sacrifices were not in vain, but to try to interest you in reading these books. The more books you, dear readers, borrow and read the less guilty I have to feel. In this spirit let me recommend the four very different items we have on Tu B'Shevat itself.

Our 30-page picture book for toddlers and older, titled **Tu Bi-Sh'vat: The New Year's Day for Trees**, follows two children throughout their day of celebration at home with their family and in school with their classmates. We also offer two different **Seders** for the holiday to help you celebrate it. One of them—written by Appelman and Shapiro—is full of joyful illustrations and is geared for 8-11 year olds. The other, by Adam Fisher, is richer in content suitable for all ages. It contains more songs, blessings, stories, and poems for your pleasure.

Finally, if you really want to be engaged with Tu B'Shevat check out our thick (500 page long) anthology titled **Trees, Earth, and Torah**. Its three editors, Ari Elon, Naomi Mara Hyman and Arthur Waskow, did a superb job of selecting essays covering the holiday from every imaginable angle, including its growth in history, its roots in biblical and rabbinic Judaism, its connection to Kabbalah, Hasidism, Zionism and Israel and its development into eco-Judaism. The last third of the book has everything you would ever want to know on how to celebrate it and why.

Let me end now with the opening words of the introduction to **Trees, Earth and Torah**.

“I hope more than any other Jewish festival, Tu B'Shvat is the celebration of Becoming. There is no halakha, no legal structure, to define it. It springs wholly from the spiritual depth and growth of the Jewish people in relation with the One Who always beckons us to grow and in relation with the earth where all things grow.”



Generous Contributions to our Congregation

The next time you are looking for a meaningful way to celebrate a joyous occasion, remember a loved one, or comfort a mourner, please consider a donation to Congregation Beth Ami.

When you make a gift, a card is sent to the honoree or the family and your donation is proudly acknowledged in the Shofar.

The minimum donation for each occasion is \$7.50. Congregation Beth Ami truly appreciates your support.

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Eli's mother, Gertrude Cohen

Eli Cohen & Betty Boyd

Thank you to one & all for the birthday wishes

Natalie Friedman

In honor of Rabbi & Paula Schlesinger, with thanks to them and the Beth Ami community for your warm hospitality

Ilana, David, Zev, & Shira Goldhaber-Gordon

A thoughtful donation

Max Graff

In honor of Dave Rubin's 90th birthday
In honor of Art Margolese's 80th birthday

Gussie & Harry Hankin

In memory of Rose Kovar

Gary Herzberg

In honor of Art Margolese's birthday

Jackie Katzel

In memory of Lillian Judd's brother-in-law, Ernest Mittelman

In honor of Douglas Kruschen, Mac maven extraordinaire, for all his help

Tish Levee

A thoughtful donation

Joshua Lipp

In memory of my mother, Bea Kaplan

Helen Margolese

In memory of my parents

Joseph Minuskin

In honor of Natalie Friedman's 90th birthday

Edith Newman

In honor of Natalie Friedman's 90th birthday

In honor of Dave Rubin's 90th birthday

In memory of Susy's sister, Mary Lastofka

Bob & Susy Raful

In honor of Bob Raful – for helping me

For the aliyah at Natasha Nett's Bat Mitzvah

Elsie Rich

In memory of David Kerben

In memory of Ben Friedman, father of Robin Rose

Judi Rosenthal

In honor of Howard & Adrea Moss – in celebration of the holiday season

Roselyne Swig

In honor of David Rubin on his 90th birthday

Larry Wallcave

Mazal Tov to Natasha Nett on her Bat Mitzvah

In memory of Stephen Nett's mother, Bertha Nett

Thanks to the Rosh Chodesh group
In memory of Nancy Daniels father, Conrad

In memory of Elisabeth Van Nuys' mother

In appreciation and gratitude to the Chai Tea committee members

In memory of Ben Friedman, Robin Rose's father

In memory of David Kerben

The Ballo Family

In memory of Nancy Daniel's father, Conrad Smeeth

In memory of Arlene Rosenbaum's mother

The Kahn/Brown Family

In memory of Vivian Frye

The Mlynarczky Family

In honor of Dave Rubin's 90th birthday

Pat & Bill Thomas

In memory of my mother, May Tannenbaum

Pat Thomas

In memory of Goda Tyutinman

In memory of Cemen Nemchenko

In memory of Chaya Rachel bat Baruch Penkovich

In memory of Nochem ben Shleine Kanckin

Sarah & Adolf Tyutinman

GIFT OF ISRAEL FUND

In memory of my mother, Zahra Hazan
Therese Becraft

In memory of my mother, Ruth Schwartz Susnow
Nancy Fleming

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of my mother, Rosa Bas Natan

Evelyn Gurevitch

A thoughtful donation

Zara Raab

MALK FUND

Happy 80th birthday to Art Margolese!

Carol Newman

Edith Newman

In memory of Ginny Sundheim
In honor of Devon Greensweig's engagement

Congratulations to Art Margolese on his 80th birthday

Phyllis & Everett Shapiro

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

A generous donation

The Grove Family

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In memory of my mother, Munje Pipkin

Sheyna Bakman

In memory of my father, Abraham Backman

Roz Edelson

In memory of Terry Kale

Betty & Harold Kale

In memory of Patrick O'Brien

Norma O'Brien

In memory of my brother, Henry Rosenblatt

Miriam Rubinstein

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In honor of Sam Kemiji's Bar Mitzvah

In honor of Rachel Simkovitz's Bat Mitzvah

In honor of Alea Sanders' Bat Mitzvah

Elisabeth Van Nuys



February Yahrzeits

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death
Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day
All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami

Announced on February 6 & 7

- February 8 Lillian Margolese
Mother of Arthur Margolese
Grandmother of Michelle Zygielbaum
- February 9 Florence Alexander
Grandmother of Abraham Alexander
- February 9 Mariya Antonovsky
Mother of Olga Pekker
- February 9 Marguerite Connors
Mother of Tish Levee
- February 9 Eliezar Kleinbort
Father of Susan Kleinbort
- February 10 Yakov Zalessky
Brother of Sheyna Bakman
- February 11 Hershel Ben Yacov
Father of Evelyn Gurevitch
- February 12 Mark Gurevitch
Brother of Leo Gurevitch
- February 13 M. Robinson
Husband of Esther Robinson

Announced on February 13 & 14

- February 14 Sheyna Morse
Mother of Myrna Morse
- February 16 Gorge Tyutinman
Father of Adolf Tyutinman
- February 16 Freda Weiss
Mother of Mortimer Weiss
- February 17 Erwin Batzdorff
Father of Alfred Batzdorff
- February 17 Milton Jekel
Brother-in-Law of Elsie Rich
- February 18 Harry Goldblatt
Father of Dorothy Trichter
- February 18 Helen Keller
Mother of Ruth Weiss
- February 19 Rayfield Helman
Father of Judith Helman
- February 19 Hillel Shiffman
Father of Elsie Rich
- February 20 Zislye Bas Mendel Laib
Mother of Leo Gurevitch
- February 20 Sylvia Gerstein
Mother of Abe Gerstein
- February 20 Sophie Shapiro
Mother of Everett Shapiro

Announced on February 20 & 21

- February 23 Glen Branagan
Father of Barbara Branagan
- February 25 Milton Landesman
Father of Marlene Lowenthal
- February 26 Anna M. Branagan
Mother of Barbara Branagan

Announced on February 27 & 28

- February 27 Sam Dzik
Father of Judith Dzik
- February 27 Hatskel Pipkin
Father of Sheyna Bakman
- February 28 Mae Bernstein
Grandmother of Marc Bernstein
- March 2 George Steier
Father of Alan Steier
- March 4 Carrie Rubin
Mother of David Rubin
- March 5 Deena Boorstein
Mother of Seymour Boorstein
- March 5 Martin Boimoil
Father of Susy Boimoil Lipsin
- March 6 Sylvia Feingold
Mother of Stanley Feingold
- March 6 Nichama Rivkina
Mother of Adolf Rivkin
- March 6 Andor Taubner
Father of Susy Raful

SIMCHA BOARD

We gratefully acknowledge the newest leaf on our Simcha Board.

*Honoring the 60th Anniversary of
Ethel & Stuart Schy
with love and admiration from their children
and grandchildren
November 21, 2008*

Honor thy mother...also thy aunt, uncle, cousin, child, best friend, teacher with an engraved leaf on our Simcha Board commemorating any joyous occasion, bestowal of an honor, or cause for thanksgiving.

LEAF \$360

SMALL STONE \$1000

LARGE STONE \$2500

We also provide the opportunity for you to memorialize loved ones on our Yahrzeit Board.

A PLAQUE IS \$450.

Kvell (rejoice) with us!



February Birthdays

- 2 Debbie Shapiro
- 3 Ellen Mundell
- 5 Eli Cohen
- 5 Hope Rambo
- 6 Julie Simkovitz
- 7 Ina Price
- 7 Rayme Shapiro
- 8 Ed Harman
- 10 Edith Friedman
- 10 Semyon Pekker
- 11 David Ballo
- 11 Andy Fleming
- 14 Daryl Schloss
- 15 Barbara Branagan
- 17 Maya Colvin
- 18 Sid Burwell
- 18 Ira Lowenthal

- 19 Alfred Batzdorff
- 20 Yona Miller
- 21 Elizabeth Boyd
- 21 Audrey Darby
- 23 Bernice Fox
- 23 Barbara McGee
- 24 Alicia Tonelli
- 25 Boyd Lane
- 27 Dorothy Gerstein
- 27 Michael Newman
- 28 Stuart Ross

February Anniversaries

- 4 Harry & Edith Friedman
- 16 Stuart & Lydia Ross
- 20 Patty & Marc Bernstein
- 22 Julie & Dee Trichter
- 23 Irvin & Vivian Klein

JEWISH COMMUNITY EVENTS



**JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER,
SONOMA COUNTY**

“Laughter Yoga For A Healthy Heart!”

Monday, February 9 at Noon

Carmela Carlyle, M.A., Registered Yoga Teacher and Certified Laughter Yoga Teacher, will lead us in an energizing session of Laughter Yoga at our meeting. Carmela says, “One minute of mirthful laughter is the cardiac workout equivalent of nine minutes on a rowing machine.” Let’s laugh our way to healthier, happier hearts!

▶ **RSVP REQUIRED BY FEBRUARY 5 BY NOON**

Luncheon with Yiddish Music

Alby Kass with Sonia Tubridy

Monday, February 23 at Noon

Back by popular demand, our Russian River musicians of Yiddishkeit will feature Yiddish favorites and songs from *Fiddler on the Roof*. Alby Kass is well known as a star of local theater and musical stage. We know Sonia Tubridy as part of the talented Jubilee Klezmer ensemble who have performed widely in the Bay area. Sonia will accompany Alby on piano.

▶ **RSVP BY FEBRUARY 19, BY NOON**

Lunch Details: The fee for the luncheons are \$8 for members of Friendship Circle \$10 for non-member and includes lunch and dessert. Payment is accepted at the door. Congregation Shomrei Torah is located at 2600 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa. Call Fran Danoff, 528-1476 to save your place. All older adults (55+) are invited to our Friendship Circle luncheons.

For a full schedule of classes offered by the Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County, please go to www.jccsoco.org, and click on Friendship Circle.

Friendship Circle conducts many enjoyable and affordable events and excursions. We can also arrange carpools or free rides on the JFCS van for those who do not drive. Many of our JCC programs are funded by the Jewish Community Federation, with a mission to reach out to newcomers and to those who feel isolated. If you know of any Jewish seniors who should be contacted (including those not affiliated with a synagogue), please call Fran Danoff, Outreach Coordinator, at 528-1476.

The 24th Jewish Music Festival presents Bukharan Jewish Folk Ensemble *Hai, Nozanin (Hi, Beauty!)*

Wednesday, February 11, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

JCC East Bay: 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, 94709

\$18 General/ \$15 Seniors, Students, JCC members

Tickets: 800-838-3006 or www.brownpapertickets.com

A riveting blend of Central Asian, Sephardic and Arab styles, Bukharan Jewish music reflects a community with roots in Central Asia going back to the seventh century BCE. Don’t miss this rare opportunity to hear the leading proponents of an ancient musical tradition saturated with unique rhythms and entrancing tone colors. *Info:* 510/848-0237 x 148

Co-Sponsored by Silk Road House and Afsaneh

The 24th Jewish Music Festival, March 21-29, 2009

A program of the JCC of the East Bay with concerts throughout the Bay Area

The Festival Week opens Saturday night, March 21, with Kosher Gospel featuring Joshua Nelson and the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir. Highlights include America’s First Lady of Sephardic music, Flory Jagoda; klezmer and bluegrass giant Andy Statman at Yoshi’s SF and several concerts celebrating Swiss-American composer Ernest Bloch. The Festival is premiering a JMF-commissioned work by experimental Bay Area composer Dan Plonsey with the Dandelion Dancetheater; presenting the American premiere of Canadian Yiddish swing sensation Sisters of Sheynville; and hosting the CD release party for the radical Yiddish group Daniel Kahn and the Painted Bird, direct from Germany. *Info:* 510/848-0237 x 148

Tickets go on sale February 1, 800-838-3006 or www.jewishmusicfestival.org

Discounts available for groups of ten and more.

Marin Yiddish Group

Vilst du reden oder heren ah bissel fun de Mame Loshen -

Yiddish? The Marin Yiddish Group meets at 2 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month at the Osher Marin JCC. All are welcome regardless of Yiddish speaking skills. For further information and future meeting dates, call Alan Smith, 415/472-1099.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Hadassah.....	Rose Ann Premi, 537-9208
Hillel.....	David Rubinstein, 795-5464
Jewish Community Federation	Kirsten Miller, 568-6207
JNF-Trees in Israel	Shevi Posman, 292-7438
Jewish Community Free Clinic.....	Donna Waldman, 585-7780
Jewish Community Info & Referral	Judy Musante, 877/777-5247
Jewish Community Relations Council	Suzan Berns, 415/957-1551
Jewish Family & Children’s Services	Diana Klein, 571-8131
Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County	Beth Goodman, 528-4222
(all area codes are 707 unless indicated otherwise)	





At the Friedman Center

THE 2009 ABSOLUTE MUSIC SEASON

All concerts are on Sundays from 2-4 p.m.

February 15 CHAMBER MUSIC

STRING CIRCLE - Joe Edelberg, violin; Katie Kyme, violin;
Anthony Martin, viola; Thalia Moore, cello
String Quartet Opus 18 #6, Ludwig van Beethoven
String Quartet Opus 161 in G Major, Franz Schubert

March 8 SPECIAL PERFORMANCE

FRANZ SCHUBERT: THE TROUT QUINTET
featuring Guest Artist Norma Brown, piano;
Joe Edelberg, violin; Katie Kyme, viola; Thalia Moore, cello;
Ken Miller, bass

April 26 CHAMBER MUSIC

STRING CIRCLE - Joe Edelberg, violin; Katie Kyme, violin;
Anthony Martin, viola; Thalia Moore, cello
String Quartet Opus 135, Ludwig van Beethoven
String Quartet Opus 96, The American, Antonin Dvorak

May 31 MIRIAM'S WELL

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June 14 ATLANTIC BRASS QUINTET

PROGRAM TO BE ANNOUNCED

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Synagogue Directory Updates

Mark & Kathleen Epstein new address:

12422 Westside Rd.
Forestville, CA 95436-9807

Sharon Kruschen new e-mail: Sharon@eventsbp.com

Miriam Rubinstein new address:

530 Rohnert Park Expressway West, Apt. 103
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

Tova Rostov – new address(es)

WindChime of Marin (assisted living)
1111 Sir Francisco Drake Blvd.
Kentfield, CA 94904
415/482-4100 (she does not have a phone in her room,
you must ask to talk with her)

Mailing address (c/o Mike and Lisa Gorham)

Tova Rostov
PO Box 629
Ross, CA 94957

Mike & Lisa Gorham (grandson and wife)
415/524-8006



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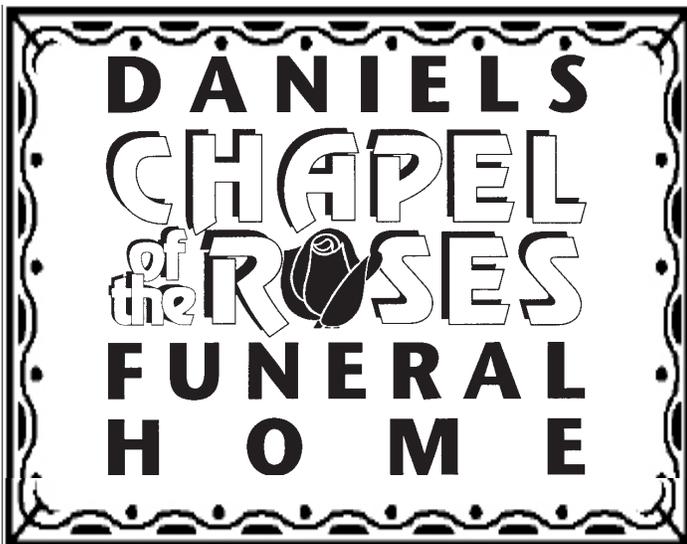
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**Monthly
Family
Shabbat
Dinner**

SHABBAT DINNER RSVP FORM



Please join us each month at 6 p.m. for a family-style Shabbat dinner, followed by a service and Live Music by Zim Zum with Israeli Folk Dancing!

- Friday, February 6, 6 p.m.
- Friday, March 6, 6 p.m.
- Friday, April 3, 6 p.m.

- Friday, May 1, 6 p.m.
- Friday, June 5, 6 p.m.

Dinner Prices

Adult: \$14 # _____ @ \$14= _____
Youth: \$7 (ages 5-12) # _____ @ \$7= _____

Donation

I/We would like to make a contribution to the following event: _____
for someone who would otherwise be unable to attend in the amount of \$ _____.

Total enclosed: _____

I will pay by credit card _____ check _____ (please check one)

Registration and Payment Information.

Names of all attendees: _____

Phone: _____

Mastercard or Visa # _____

Expiration Date: _____

Please RSVP
Wednesday
by 4 p.m.
the week of the
dinner.

Mail, fax or bring this form with payment to:

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Schedule of Services for February

Friday Evening, February 6

(Candle Lighting 5:20 pm)

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Dinner

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday February 7 • 13 Shevat

9:30 am Shabbat Beshalach-Shira Services

Alea Sanders, daughter of Jayne Sanders and Steve Sanders, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah.

Hosted luncheon after services

(Saturday Havdalah 6:21 pm)

Friday Evening, February 13

(Candle Lighting 5:28 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, February 14 • 20 Shevat

9:30 am Shabbat Yitro Services

Rachel Simkovitz, daughter of Julie and Jon Simkovitz, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah.

Hosted luncheon after services

(Saturday Havdalah 6:29 pm)

Friday Evening, February 20

(Candle Lighting 5:36 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, February 21 • 27 Shevat

9:30 am Shabbat Mishpatim-Shekalim Services

Guest: Charles Kirschner Deputy Director AIPAC

10:00 am Tot Shabbat with Lauren Kalmanson

10:00 Jr. Congregation

Potluck lunch following services

(Saturday Havdalah 6:37 pm)

Friday Evening, February 27

(Candle Lighting 5:43 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, February 28 • 4 Adar

9:30 am Shabbat Terumah Services

Potluck lunch following services

(Saturday Havdalah 6:44 pm)



It is a Tree of Life to those who hold fast to it,
and whoever holds onto it is happy.

Her ways are ways of pleasantness and all its paths are peace.

~Proverbs 3:18, 3:17,

from the liturgy for returning the Torah to the Holy Ark.