CONGREGATION
Beth Ami
Shofar
4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa, California 95405 707-360-3000
November 2009 5770 Cheshvan/Kislev

Surf's Up!

Hang Loose at the
Beth Ami Community Nursery School
Fall Fundraiser Beach Party

Saturday, November 14
6:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Friedman Center

Hors d'oeuvres, Wine, Dessert
and Fun Summer Drinks

Please join us for our Beach Party! We will have tasty catered appetizers & desserts, lots of Sonoma County wine, a Beach Bar with great mixed drinks, like Cape Codders and S-- on the Beach, and even a keg of beer – just like a real beach party!

In addition to our SILENT auction, here's a sampling of the AMAZING LIVE AUCTION items available:

- $1,000 worth of ORTHODONTIA at Bernstein Orthodontics!
- A gorgeous 36x36 Sonoma County landscape painted by Russian artist Veronika Loginova!
- A ONE WEEK GETAWAY to Mt. Bachelor Village in Bend, Oregon!
- DINNER FOR EIGHT at the Suttons.
- A THREE DAY WEEKEND at the gorgeous Bear Mountain Ski Resort!
- 7 NIGHTS/8 DAYS in KAUAI, $1800 VALUE!
- And finally: ARTWORK in various forms created by the CHILDREN!

We want to see you there in your flip-flops!

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Congregation Beth Ami

4676 Mayette Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Telephone: (707) 360-3000
Fax: (707) 360-3003
Email: office@BethAmiSR.org
Website: www.BethAmiSR.org

We're on Facebook
Please join our online community – www.facebook.com then search for Congregation Beth Ami, Santa Rosa!

Hours of Operation

Beth Ami Main Office
Monday-Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Library
Tuesday 4-6, and Sunday 9:30 - noon.
Contact Ruth Rosenberg, 707/544-2919 for an appointment.

Gift Shop
Tuesday 3-5, Thursday 11-1, and Sunday 9:30 - noon.
Or contact the office, 360-3000, to make an appointment.

Officers and Board of Directors 2009-2010

President, **Patty Bernstein**, basberyl@sonic.net
VP Administration, **Al Batzdorff,** abatz@sonic.net
VP Facilities, **David Ballo**, klezhead@yahoo.com
VP Fundraising, **Danella Lubar**, dnlubar@yahoo.com
VP Youth and Education, **Bonnie Boren**, bonniegboren@gmail.com
Treasurer, **Henry Cohn,** henry.cohn@rocketmail.com
Secretary, **Barbara McGee**, barbara.mcgee@ffic.com
Library Committee, **Susanne Batzdorff**, sbatz@sonic.net
Membership Committee Liaison, **Richard Kahn,** earthin@sonic.net
Nursery School Liaison,
Birgit Sacher, teamsacher@sbcglobal.net
Religious Practices Committee,
Betty Boyd, bettyboyd@informingscience.org
Sisterhood, **Robin Rose**, robinandroy@earthlink.net
Mark Rosen, (860) 202-8953
Heath Winer, heath@humanloom.com
Past President, **Andy Fleming**, andyflem@gmail.com
Rabbi George Schlesinger,
Member Ex Officio, rabbi@bethamisr.org
Melissa Bloom,
Member Ex Officio, execdirec@bethamisr.org

Personnel

Rabbi George Schlesinger	360-3004
rabbi@bethamisr.org	
Melissa Bloom, Executive Director	360-3011
execdirec@bethamisr.org	
Bookkeeper	360-3012
bookkeeper@bethamisr.org	
Caroline Calvert & Robyn Fisher-Tachouet	
Nursery School Co-Directors	360-3030
nsdirector@bethamisr.org	
Nursery School Office, ns@bethamisr.org	
Rick Concoff, Chaverim Director	823-3916
concoff@yahoo.com	
Karen Gould, Newsletter	360-3000
newsletter@bethamisr.org	
Ben David, Religious School Director	360-3000
Jennifer Hayes, Religious School Assistant	
rs@bethamisr.org	
Elizabeth Jarlsberg, Administrative Support	360-3000
office@bethamisr.org	
Gabor Por, Librarian	849-7682
library@bethamisr.org	
Susy Raful & Helen Margolese, Gift Shop	360-3022
Sarah Stein, USY Advisor, scusy@bethamirsr.org	
Ruth Turner, Friedman Center Director	360-3021
ruth@friedmaneventcenter.com	

Call the office at 360-3000 to leave a message for:
- Leanne Schy, Torah/Haftarah Readings
- Andrea Nett, Catering Director
- 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 December: November 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.

The *Shofar* is a periodical issued monthly except for a combined June & July issue. It is published by Congregation Beth Ami, 4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95405. All members in good standing receive the periodical free. Yearly subscriptions are $25.00.

This month's issue is: Volume 15, Issue 3
Issue Date: November 1, 2009

Rabbi's Remarks

Rabbi George Schlesinger

What a country!

With all the negative publicity Israel has received lately due to the report about last January's war in Gaza, I'd like to reprise a column that I submitted to the Shofar in November 2002.

Little known and interesting facts about Israel

Israel, the 100th smallest country, with less than 1/1000th of the world's population, can lay claim to the following:

Israel has the highest ratio of university degrees to the population in the world. Israel produces more scientific papers per capita than any other nation by a large margin – 109 per 10,000 people – as well as one of the highest per capita rates of patents filed. In proportion to its population, Israel has the largest number of startup companies in the world. In absolute terms, Israel has the largest number of startup companies than any other country in the world, except the US (3,500 companies mostly in hi-tech). Israel is ranked #2 in the world for venture capital funds right behind the US. Outside the United States and Canada, Israel has the largest number of NASDAQ listed companies. Israel has the highest average living standards in the Middle East. The per capita income in 2000 was over $17,500, exceeding that of the UK. Israel's $100 billion economy is larger than all of its immediate neighbors combined. On a per capita basis, Israel has the largest number of biotech start-ups. Twenty-four percent of Israel's workforce holds university degrees – ranking third in the industrialized world, after the United States and Holland – and 12 percent hold advanced degrees. Israel has the third highest rate of entrepreneurship – and the highest rate among women and among people over 55 – in the world. Israel leads the world in the number of scientists and technicians in the workforce, with 145 per 10,000, as opposed to 85 in the US, over 70 in Japan, and less than 60 in Germany. With over 25% of its work force employed in technical professions. Israel places first in this category as well.

Technology With more than 3,000 high-tech companies and start-ups, Israel has the highest concentration of hi-tech companies in the world (apart from the Silicon Valley). The cell phone was developed in Israel by Motorola, which has its largest development center in Israel. Most of the Windows NT operating system was developed by Microsoft-Israel. The Pentium MMX Chip technology was designed in Israel at Intel. Voice mail technology was developed in Israel. Both Microsoft and Cisco built their only R&D facilities outside the US in Israel. Four young Israelis developed the technology for AOL Instant Messenger in 1996. In response to serious water shortages, Israeli engineers and agriculturalists developed a revolutionary drip irrigation system to minimize the amount of water used to grow crops.

Israel has the highest percentage in the world of home computers per capita. An Israeli company was the first to develop and install a large-scale solar-powered and fully functional electricity generating plant, in southern California's Mojave Desert.

Medicine Israeli scientists developed the first fully computerized, no-radiation, diagnostic instrumentation for breast cancer. An Israeli company developed a computerized system for ensuring proper administration of medications, thus removing human error from medical treatment. Every year in US hospitals 7,000 patients die from treatment mistakes. Israel's Givun imaging developed the first ingestible video camera, so small it fits inside a pill. Used to view the small intestine from the inside, the camera helps doctors diagnose cancer and digestive disorders. Researchers in Israel developed a new device that directly helps the heart pump blood, an innovation with the potential to save lives among those with heart failure. The new device is synchronized with the heart's mechanical operations through a sophisticated system of sensors. A new acne treatment developed in Israel, the ClearLight device, produces a high-intensity, ultraviolet-light-free, narrow-band blue light that causes acne bacteria to self-destruct – all without damaging surroundings skin or tissue.

Miscellaneous Israel has the world's second highest per capita of new books. Israel is the only country in the world that entered the 21st century with a net gain in its number of trees, made more remarkable because this was achieved in an area considered mainly desert. Israel has more museums per capita than any other country. Israel has two official languages: Hebrew and Arabic. In 1984 and 1991, Israel airlifted a total of 22,000 Ethiopian Jews at risk in Ethiopia to safety in Israel. Relative to its population, Israel is the largest immigrant-absorbing nation on earth. Immigrants come in search of democracy, religious freedom, and economic opportunity. Israel was the first nation in the world to adopt the Kimberly process, an international standard that certifies diamonds as "conflict free." According to industry officials, Israel designed the airline industry's most impenetrable flight security. US officials now look to Israel for advice on how to handle airborne security threats.

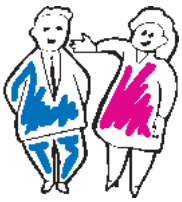
All the above while engaged in regular wars with an implacable enemy that seeks its destruction, and an economy continuously under strain by having to spend more per capita on its own protection than any other country on earth. This from a country just 55 years young having started off life on a very frontiers-like basis, whose population had mostly just emerged from the devastating World War II years.

What other country in the world can lay claim to such an achievement? How many countries with more advantages than Israel have become basket cases and a burden to the world community offering begging bowls instead of humanitarian succor? The question should be not what makes Israel such a special case, but can the world really afford to be without it?"

As Yakov Smirnoff, the Russian-Jewish comedian once said (although about America), "What a country!"

Events & Announcements

Welcome to our new members:
Melvin Decker & Judith Stern
Daniel & Katie Zelman
Abigail Zoger



Mazal Tov to:

Grandparents **Paul & Michelle Zygielbaum** and great-grandparents **Art & Helen Margolese** on the birth of Jonah Arthur Dietrich.

Grandparents **Billy & Suzie Friedman** on the birth of Molly Friedman.

With gratitude to Hashem we joyously announce the wedding of our son Daniel Butler to Beth Daskin on August 30.

Esther Baruch and David Butler

Misheberach

Bless those in need of healing with refu'ah sh'layma
The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit
Lillian Judd, Leo Gurevitch, Janet Stein-Larson, Everett Shapiro, Sheyna Bakman

Clergy visits

To ensure that Rabbi Schlesinger visits congregants in the hospital, extended care facilities and hospices, please contact the office at Beth Ami, 360-3000 when you or a family member is in need of a visit. In an effort to comply with the patient privacy laws, health-care facilities no longer release the names of their patients.

Allergy Alert

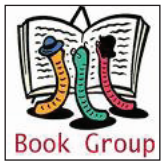
Many of our congregants experience serious adverse respiratory reactions to scents and fragrances. When attending services and Beth Ami gatherings, please refrain from wearing perfumes, lotions, moisturizers, and hair products that contain any fragrance or scent.

Beth Ami offers sincere condolences to:

Paul and Michelle Zygielbaum and their family on the death of Paul's mother, Adele Zygielbaum.

Barbara Tomin and her family on the death of her mother, Ruth Hess.

The Annual Book Discussion Series DON'T FORGET: Our first meeting of the season is November 4!



Our reading schedule for the year is as follows:

Tolan, Sandy: *The Lemon Tree*	November 4
Seierstad, Asne: *101 Days*	December 2
Auster, Paul: *The Brooklyn Follies*	January 6
Sabar, Ariel: *My Father's Paradise*	February 3
Boling, David: *Guernica*	March 3
De Rosnay, Tatiana: *Sarah's Key*	April 7
Zusak, Markus: *The Book Thief*	May 5
Paley, Grace: *Collected Stories*	June 2
Manceau: *Songs From the Butcher's Daughter*	July 7

New members, both male and female, are always welcome. We meet on the first Wednesday of every month, from November to July. We are a very friendly group of book worms who love to read and talk about what we've read to others. Any questions? Call Susanne Batzdorff at 538-9731.

Women's Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan

Please join Beth Ami women to celebrate Rosh Chodesh Kislev for an en"light"ened evening, **Wednesday, November 18 at 7 p.m. in the Beth Ami Social Hall.** All Jewish are women invited. Please call Bonnie Boren for more information. 528-1628

Save the date – Saturday, January 30, 2010

5th Benny Friedman Award Evening
Please contact Jennifer Hayes, 360-3000, for more information.

Ongoing programs at Beth Ami

♦**Israeli Folk Dancing,** Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Friedman Center. For more info contact Leanne Schy at 528-4874 or Leanne@sonic.net.

♦**Midrash Study with Rabbi Schlesinger,**
2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

♦**Torah & Talmud Study with Rabbi Schlesinger,**
Thursdays, 7 p.m. Friedman Center Board Room.

eScrip Update
THANKS To All of OUR SUPPORTERS

For the first 8 months of 2009, 138 CBA eScrip supporters have collectively contributed $1018.57 just by doing their regular shopping. As this is 41% below 2008 contributions, **we continue to have our goal of adding new supporters.** If you are not an eScrip supporter, you may get a phone call in the next few months explaining the program and encouraging you to sign up. If you are already in the program, ask your friends and relatives to sign up; anyone can support Beth Ami.

Here's how to sign up: go to www.eScrip.com and designate Congregation Beth Ami in Santa Rosa, **ID#136921119** to receive contributions. To sign up offline, there is a 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 need help to sign up or have any eScrip questions, contact Nancy Sherman at 538-9388 or enshermn@pacbell.net.

Thank you to Whole Foods for their generous donation of challah each week!

Warm clothing drive a big success!

Thank you to everyone for your overwhelming response and contributions to our community warm clothing drive. During the month of September, we collected at Beth Ami 101 sweaters and jackets, 15 hats/scarves/pairs of gloves, 5 blankets/sleeping bags, 2 pair of boots and a pack of diapers. These items along with items collected at Shomrei Torah will be distributed to patrons of Elisha's Pantry, a food distribution site. **Anyone interested in volunteering** to help distribute items at the Pantry (located on Yulupa Avenue just off Hoen) on Thursday afternoons, 3 - 5:30 p.m. during November through early December should contact Beth Ami Coordinator Nancy Sherman at enshermn@pacbell.net or 538-9388. Also we are in need of strong plastic hangers to display the coats. Please let Nancy know if you have any to contribute.

Shabbat potlucks

Can you help with a Shabbat potluck luncheon? This involves pouring the wine and juice, setting out the prepared food, and cleaning up. If you can help on one or more of these dates – November 21, 28; December 5, 19, 26 – please contact Betty Boyd at 707/ 537-2211 or BettyBoyd@InformingScience.org.

Trader Joe's is Kosher!

Trader Joe's on Santa Rosa Avenue is now stocking more kosher foods. They have increased their supplies of kosher beef, chicken and turkey. Kedem Kosher wine is once again on their shelves. This is a sweet red wine that is only $2.99/bottle. Challah and other kosher products are also sold at this store. It would be great to patronize Trader Joe's for providing the Jewish community with a nice selection of kosher foods. ~ *Charlene Bornstein*

Save the Date
Beth Ami Annual Community

CHANUKAH PARTY

December 15, 2009
Friedman Event Center, 6:00 p.m.

Bring your Chanukiah –
it is the 5th night of Chanukah!
There will be latkes, a festival of lights and fun!

Congregation Beth Ami • November 2009 • Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am - Religious School	2 Office Open 10am-4 pm 6:30pm - Chaverim - 8th Grade @	3 Office Open 10am-6pm 9am - BACNS Parenting Class @ 10:30am - Conv. Hebrew - Beg. 4pm - Religious School 7pm - Executive Committee 7:30pm - NO Israeli Dancing	4 Office Open 10am-4 pm 10am - Book Discussion Group	5 Office Open 10am - 4pm 9:15am - NS Fundraising Mtg. @ rm. 10:30am - Conv.Hebrew - Inter. 6:30pm - Chaverim - 9th Grade @	6 Office Open 10am-4 pm 4:48pm - Candle lighting @ Santa 6pm - New Member Shabbat Dinner 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneg	7 9:30am - Torah Study 10am - Shabbat Services @ 12pm - Potluck Luncheon 6:17pm - Havdalah (72 min) @
8 Erik Uriarte & Chelsie Berdux's 9:30am - Religious School	9 Office Open 10am-4 pm 6:30pm - Chaverim - 10th grade @	10 Office Open 10am-6pm 9am - BACNS Parenting Class @ 10:30am - Conv. Hebrew - Beg. 4pm - Religious School 7:30pm - Israeli Dancing	11 Office Open 10am-4 pm	12 Office Open 10am - 4pm 10:30am - Conv.Hebrew - Inter. 6:30pm - Chaverim - 11th/12th	13 Fall Kinnus Office Open 10am-4 pm 7:30pm - Chaverim Shabbaton @ Beth Ami 4:42pm - Candle lighting @ Santa 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneg	14 Fall Kinnus 9:30am - Torah Study 10am - Shabbat Services @ 12pm - Potluck Luncheon 6:11pm - Havdalah (72 min) @ 7pm - Nursery School Fundraiser @
15 Fall Kinnus 9:30am - Religious School	16 Office Open 10am-4 pm 6:30pm - Chaverim - 8th Grade @	17 Office Open 10am-6pm 10:30am - Conv. Hebrew - Beg. 4pm - Religious School 7pm - Board Meeting 7:30pm - NO Israeli Dancing	18 Office Open 10am-4 pm 7pm - Financial Development	19 Office Open 10am - 4pm 10:30am - Conv.Hebrew - Inter. 6:30pm - Chaverim - 9th Grade @	20 Office Open 10am-4 pm 4:37pm - Candle lighting @ Santa 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneg	21 9:30am - Torah Study 10am - Shabbat Services @ 12pm - Potluck Luncheon 6:06pm - Havdalah (72 min) @ 7pm - Chaverim Panel Discussion &
22 9:30am - Religious School	23 Office Open 10am-4 pm 6:30pm - Chaverim - 10th Grade @	24 Office Open 10am-6pm 10:30am - Conv. Hebrew - Beg. 7:30pm - Israeli Dancing @ CBA	25 Office Open 10am-4 pm	26 Office Closed	27 Office Closed 4:34pm - Candle lighting @ Santa 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneg	28 9:30am - Torah Study 10am - Shabbat Services @ 12pm - Potluck Luncheon 6:03pm - Havdalah (72 min) @
29	30 Office Open 10am-4 pm 6:30pm - Chaverim - 8th Grade @	1 Office Open 10am-6pm 10:30am - Conv. Hebrew - Beg. 4pm - Religious School 7pm - Executive Committee	2 Office Open 10am-4 pm 10am - Book Discussion Group	3 Office Open 10am - 4pm 10:30am - Conv.Hebrew - Inter. 6:30pm - Chaverim - 9th Grade @	4 Office Open 10am-4 pm 4:32pm - Candle lighting @ Santa 6pm - Shabbat Dinner 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneg	5 9:30am - Torah Study 10am - Shabbat Services @ 12pm - Potluck Luncheon 6:02pm - Havdalah (72 min) @

Win a trip to...
HAWAII
Big Island Hawaii, Bay Club at Waikoloa Beach Resort.
Enjoy one week in a 2-bedroom, 2 ½ -bath Villa: sleeps up to six.
INCLUDING:
Airfare for 4 and a car rental.
Good for January 1 – December 31, 2010
Raffle Tickets $25 each or 5 for $100
Winner will be announced at the 5th Benny Friedman Community Recognition Dinner.
Honoring Bruce Cohn
January 30, 2010
Winner need not be present to win.

Literary Lines

Gabor Por

In recent months, the library's charter has been changed, with the Board's approval. Over the decades, under the careful eyes and expert direction and collection development of **Susanne Batzdorff** the library became an excellent research library with thousands of volumes that could satisfy the interest of serious academic researchers. This was in addition to creating a library that has a great children's collection and materials of any Judaica-related interest. Susanne built the library with the hope and intention that it would be used by the wider community including the scholars amongst us. After years of struggling with bringing in the target audience, we have to acknowledge that this goal has not been reached. Furthermore we do not have the budget to overcome the obstacles of making it happen in the foreseeable future. It saddens us to admit that we cannot maintain a professional academic library in terms of keeping it fresh and relevant with new books, drawing in members of the wider community and having opening hours every day of the workweek.

The solution we came up with is to focus more on the needs of Congregation Beth Ami itself. In this spirit we are in the process of reducing our collection. Based on the reading interests of our library patrons in recent years, we will offer children's books, entertainment and general interest. By entertainment we mean fiction (novels and short stories) and movies. We intend to serve the latter with a growing selection of DVDs. "General interest" refers to books that are of interest to lay people, such as cookbooks, life cycle events, holidays, music, liturgy and Torah study. While we will keep books on virtually every topic we had in the past, we are happy to announce that we found a new home for the more scholarly books, which have not been circulated at all. By the time you read this, or soon thereafter, most of these books will have been transferred to Sonoma State University, where they will be integrated into their collection. As SSU now offers a minor in Jewish Studies and has for many years conducted a Holocaust and Genocide study program, we believe there is a better chance that they will be well utilized there. We believe that the value of books is in their usage and readership.

As you can imagine this decision was a painful one to make. Now, that we did it, however, we would like to refocus our energies. Four people answered our call for new volunteers. We are figuring out how best to use the time and effort they offered to improve our services.

High Holy Days A Success Because of...

Behind and in front of every great synagogue is a large corps of passionate, dedicated and committed volunteers and staff. Beth Ami is no exception and takes this opportunity to say Todah Rabah to our strong team. A hearty thanks and a kol hakavod to all of our dedicated volunteers:

High Holy Day Honors Coordinators
Torah and Haftarah Readers
Youth Service Leaders
Gabbaim
Greeters

It goes almost without saying—but not quite—that we have an extremely hardworking administrative staff here at Beth Ami that keeps things running smoothly behind the scenes year round and especially during the "high season" of High Holy Days. Whether it is coordinating childcare, arranging tickets, printing materials or doing just about anything to enhance the synagogue experience for our congregants, these men and women do it all! Please let our office and maintenance staffs know that you appreciate their extra holiday efforts when you next see them.

Before signing off I would like to recommend some of the titles we recently added:

- Bella Chagall: ***Burning Lights*** – Marc Chagall's wife's beautiful and intimate memories of growing up in a Chassidic community in White Russia.
- Geraldine Brooks: ***People of the Book*** **–** tracing the journey of a rare Hebrew manuscript from Spain to the ruins of Sarajevo, from the Silver Age of Venice to Australia.
- Alan Kaufman: ***Matches*** – Vignettes from the life of an Israeli soldier patrolling in Gaza and the West Bank.
- Tatiana de Rosnay: ***Sarah's Key*** – Fictionalizing the 1942 Paris roundups, in which thousands of Jewish families were arrested and transported to Auschwitz.
- Joseph Heller: ***Good as Gold*** – The hilarious story of an English professor's encounter with White House politics, sharing the Jewish experience of 1970s America with us.

~Gabor Por

Congregation Beth Ami is taking small steps to become more eco-friendly. One of the steps involves the newsletter you are currently enjoying.

The Shofar will only be available to read online at our website, www.bethamisr.org.

For those members for whom we do not have email addresses, we will continue to print and mail a copy of the newsletter to your home.

Thank you for helping us in our efforts.

Mitzvah Moments

Tish Levee

Paper, trees, and global warning

Most paper comes from trees which absorb air pollution and reduce global warming. The average pine tree yields about 800 pounds of paper, and, if left standing, absorbs 50 pounds of particulates and 26 pounds of CO2 annually. In honor of the *Shofar* going *GREEN,* this month's column is devoted to paper use.

• Welcome to the online *Shofar*

By sending the *Shofar* only to members without e-mail, Beth Ami will print 200 fewer copies monthly. Each issue uses two reams of 17" x 11" paper, weighing 40 pounds; going online will save the equivalent of 50% of a tree.

Save trees and taxpayer money!

The government publishes *Medicare & You* every fall. Request an electronic version at www.MyMedicare.gov and save 63 pieces of paper. Eight handbooks weigh five pounds. Sixty-four members requesting the eHandbook would save the equivalent of 5% of a tree.**

Do more online to reduce global warming.

• Bank online with today's secure sites. An average monthly statement uses four pieces of paper; banking online saves 48 pages/year. If all Beth Ami members who receive the *Shofar* online do this, it would save the equivalent of 12% of a tree.**

• Pay bills online. PGE estimates that every 38,500 bills paid online saves 1 ton of paper, preserves 3.4 tons of trees, and reduces greenhouse gases by 5,700 lb. If 200 Beth Ami members paid just PGE online, it would save the equivalent of 4% of a tree. What would we save if we received and paid other bills online? **

• Junk mail is a major part of our trash – 44% of it goes directly to landfill without being opened. Americans receive more than 100 billion pieces of junk mail annually – an average of 800 pieces per household. More than 100 million trees are cut down to produce this, resulting in greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 3.7 million cars. Go to https://www.dmachoice.org/dma/member/home.action to remove your name from mailing lists.

Become 100% replanted

At http://www.replanttrees.org/biz%20calc/BusForm.htm you can calculate the amount of paper you use and replant trees to replace the ones used to make it for $1 each.

How many trees can Beth Ami save?

CBA members putting the items with an ** into practice could save 71% of a tree/year. Let me know if you take action online on these items. I'll keep track of Beth Ami's paper savings and periodically let you know how many trees we've saved.

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mitzvahmoments@sonic.net

Memo From Jerusalem

Bob Raful

In the land of the Kassam rockets

This is a story about a young Los Angeles documentary filmmaker who has become the "official" unofficial contact for non-Israelis who want an accurate look at Sderot – that Northern Negev area, now infamous for the thousands of unaimed rockets, launched from the nearby Gaza Strip. The town has become the poster code word for the political/military struggle in the forefront of Israeli life since 2005.

Our California girl is Laura Bialis, a long-time family friend. Readers with a good memory of our local Yom HaShoah programs will recall spring 2004, when our annual program featured Laura's first successful documentary, ***Tak Fur Alt,*** the story of Shoah survivor, Judy Meisal. Laura came to Santa Rosa to introduce the film at the Rialto Cinemas Lakeside.

Since that time, Laura produced another widely acclaimed film, part of it shot in Israel. The film had its initial premiere in Israel. Subsequently, Israel became an important part of Laura's life. In May 2007 she became aware of the humanitarian crisis in the Northern Negev, the result of constant rocket attacks, in particular the traumatic impact on the 20,000 civilians in Sderot. What angered Laura the most was the almost total absence of any major attention in the world press. Her natural response was to go there with her cameras so she could tell the full story. We know this because in early October Laura gave us a four-hour personal tour of Sderot and surroundings. The tour included a stop on a hilltop, overlooking the Gaza border and the area from which the rockets are launched. In addition, Laura took us to the police station, where the recovered exploded rockets are displayed with dates and locations. That experience is worthy of a separate column, in preparation for the next Shofar.

The previous paragraph includes mention of Laura's second successful documentary. It is the story of the Soviet Jewry Movement titled *Refusenik.* The film has had wide exposure in theaters, synagogues and television, winning several prestigious awards. I cite it here because the JCC's Jewish Film Festival will feature this important film at the Rialto on November 5. Laura is trying to arrange her schedule so that she will be there to talk about the film and the new one about Sderot and the rockets. You will appreciate that our friend, Laura, has become a major storyteller!

And pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and Sderot.

Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County 14th Annual Jewish Film Festival

Refusenik is a masterful documentary about the triumph of American grassroots activism that became a global campaign to free Soviet Jewry. What started as a fledgling movement of students and housewives became, over the course of 30 years, one of the most successful human rights campaigns in history. By 1992, one and a half million Jews were freed. Features smuggled Soviet footage, interviews with world figures and Refuseniks.

Documentary, 117 minutes, English.

November 4 at 7:15 p.m.
Boulevard Cinemas in Petaluma

November 5 at 1 & 7:15 p.m.
Rialto Cinemas Lakeside in Santa Rosa

For more information and tickets:
www.jccsoco.org, 528-4222 or ellenb@jccsoco.org.

Simcha Board

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.

Sonoma County Jewish Teen Program

Rick Concoff, Program Director

Dear Synagogue and JCC Members,

The JCC's Teen Program is planning a reunion of all former Kehillah, Tzadikim, and Chaverim attendees, as well as any other Sonoma County Jewish youth group participants over the past 16 years. We hope to have this reunion next year during December break of 2010. It should be a very festive event, reuniting past youth group members who are now in college or young adults, married and/or with children. This event will give our current Chaverim members a chance to meet face-to-face with some of the alumni and hear their stories of Jewish teen involvement and subsequent Jewish adult life. We also see this as an opportunity to reconnect our own young Jewish adults, living locally, with the variety of offerings of the Sonoma County Jewish community.

We are currently in the process of gathering names and contact information as well as assembling a planning committee for the event. **Here is how you can help!**

1. If you have a son/daughter who participated in Sonoma County Jewish teen life in the past, including Camp Chai, please forward their email and mailing addresses as well, so we can inform them of this exciting gathering. Feel welcome to let them know of our plans!

2. If you know of anyone else who participated in any of these programs over the last 16 years, please help us, and them, by putting us in contact.

3. USY, NFTY members as well as former Camp Chai Counselors are welcome!

Contact information can be submitted to rickc@jccsoco.org, to chaveriminfo@yahoo.com or by calling the JCC and leaving a message for Rick at 528-4222 ext. 332.

Thanks for supporting us and our alumni in this exciting opportunity.

Religious School Report

Ben David, Religious School Director

Shalom, Shalom! It's finally over as we end all of these holidays and move into the normal part of the year. It's so nice to get back to Sunday School, and our kids are having a great time! All the classes are experiencing some great learning and always smiling!

I wanted to ask our congregants to start spreading the word about the Beth Ami Religious School. We have a great staff of teachers and *madrichim*, but we need to bring back the students! Telling friends who have students who are not in our program about some of the things we are doing will help us so much—fun art projects (Jewish bling!), learning Hebrew, exciting educational programs (Simchat Torah and Sukkot), a new Youth group (Kadima!), Jewish cooking— it's never ending.

One of these special programs I had a lot of fun at happened November 1 in Sonoma, when we visited the Sutter's home to pick grapes and learn about wine making! It was a great chance for the kids and some parents to take part in something that has been done since pre-biblical times! Thank you so much for your hospitality Sutter family!

I wanted to invite everyone to the family services on November 6, they are going to be a lot of fun and a great learning experience for all.

Nursery School News

Caroline Calvert & Robyn Fisher-Tachouet
Nursery School Co-Directors

We at Beth Ami Community Nursery School are anxiously awaiting our annual fundraiser just a few days away. Won't you please come join us? This year's theme is 'Surf's Up' so slip on a pair of flip flops and your favorite beachwear and come join the fun. Great music, yummy food and lots of auction items to choose from. All proceeds benefit our Nursery School. If you would like additional information about this event, feel free to call us in the office. We can be reached at 360-3030. Hope to see you there!

Congregation Beth Ami Judaica Gift Shop

is a GREAT place to shop for Judaica gifts and ritual items for your home.

The Gift Shop is open
Tuesdays, 3 - 5 p.m. • Thursdays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Or call the office for an appointment, 360-3000.

Raynore Paule

Raynore's philosophy for difficult times has always been to "go with the flow." She believes it is important to use your talents to teach others.

We light a candle honoring the lesson to share our gifts with others brought by Raynore Paule.

Raynore Paule was born in Chicago, Illinois on March 15, 1923. She was an only child and lived in Chicago until she was married.

Raynore loved to dance. She began dancing at seven years old. She studied ballet, toe, and tap which was her favorite. As a child she performed for many years in local variety shows. Her dance career was halted at 13 when she had scarlet fever. She was out of school for six months.

Her husband Verne was also from Chicago. They moved to San Bernadino, CA in 1961 then to the Bay Area and Santa Rosa. Verne was a newscaster and is a founding member of Broadcast Legends.

Having her children was the most memorable time of her life. Raynore has two boys and one girl. She now has seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren and one more on the way.

Her philosophy for difficult times has always been to "go with the flow." and "do the best that you can." She joined Beth Ami in 1962. She used to teach dancing to the children in the Religious School and put on a Purim show. Both Raynore and Verne were Sunday school teachers as well.

When she was younger, Raynore would attend Friday night services and participate more than she does now. She is involved with the Friendship Circle and she attends services on the High Holy Days.

Raynore was actively involved in Hadassah and was President for three years, raising funds for hospitals and research centers in Israel.

Through her connection with Beth Ami and the Friendship Circle, Raynore has made very good friends. She met one of her best friends, Hella Margolin, when she first joined Beth Ami. Hella passed away a year and a half ago at age 85.

One of Raynore's most memorable times at Beth Ami was her son's Bar Mitzvah. She fondly remembers the music program many years ago when Canter Goldstein sang.

Joyce Zenick Z"L

Joyce grew up with a dedicated Jewish family. After moving to Marin, the whole family would awake at 5 a.m. and take multiple modes of transportation, including a ferry ride from Tiburon to San Francisco, in order to get to Sherith Israel by 9 a.m.

We light a candle in honor of the fortitude of Joyce Zenick.

Joyce was born in San Francisco on August 6, 1925. She had two brothers. Her life as a child was good but hard. Her father was in the hospital for many years. Her mother had to work. Joyce was a tomboy. Whenever there was an argument with her brothers, her father said, "put on the boxing gloves." She always won because she would put her head into their stomachs. Joyce was brought up to be responsible. She even felt guilty if she wasn't as responsible as she could have been. Her family had a traditional Jewish home where they celebrated holidays and her brothers had Bar Mitzvahs. After moving to Marin, the whole family would awake at 5 a.m. and take multiple modes of transportation, including a ferry ride from Tiburon to San Francisco, in order to get to Sherith Israel by 9 a.m. Eight hours of traveling just to get to services! Joyce didn't like it that there were Jews around who didn't admit to being Jewish. Joyce was a social worker and raised two sons. One is a rabbi in Texas and the other is a professor in Wisconsin. One of her most memorable events at Beth Ami was an intergenerational Passover Seder. She has been involved in Friendship Circle.

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

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With the dynamic Rabbi Franzel, our wonderful local Rabbi Lavey Darby of Kol Shofar, teachers, musicians, and each other, we will use meditation, sacred chant, and the practice of contemplation and self-inquiry to reach the divine truth of our authentic selves, remembering who we really are. Contemplating spiritual wisdom, sacred text becomes our mirror, revealing to us the true aspects of ourselves.

Jewish Community Center
SONOMA COUNTY

1301 Farmers Lane, C103
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Register now - Limited space

For more information
call the JCC at (707) 528-4222 ext. 330;
visit www.jccsoco.org;
or contact Dr. Sheila Katz at sheilak@jccsoco.org.

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 send 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 Harold Quam
Lindsay Kvam
In memory of my brother, Hans Schiffman
Elsie Rich
In memory of Ester Pekker
Semyon & Olga Pekker
A thoughtful donation
Douglas & Sharon Kruschen
In memory of Myer Bernard & Frances Brust
Barbara McGee
A thoughtful donation
Lila & Richard Rogan
A hearty thank you to those families who contributed the lovely Rosh Hashanah bags
In memory of Ruth Hess, Barbara Tomin's mother
In memory of my father, Arnold Gross
Sylvia Sucher
In memory of Anne Mann
In memory of Avra Metzger
In honor of Billy & Suzie Friedman's new granddaughter
In honor of the birth of Michelle & Paul Zygielbaum's grandson and Helen & Art Margolese's great-grandson
Susan Miller
In memory of Thelma Dwight
In memory of Anne Mann
In memory of Avra Metzger
Welcome to Gail Negrin
Welcome to Mazie Miller
Welcome to Melvin Decker & Judith Stern
Welcome to Todd Cereghino
Welcome to Nessia & Jarrett Flugger
Wishes of hope at this difficult time to Paul & Michelle Zygielbaum
Mazal Tov to Billy & Suzie Friedman on the birth of their granddaughter
The Ballo Family
In memory of Shirley Kafton
Alan Kafton
In memory of Barbara Tomin's mother, Ruth Hess
Ed Harman & Bernice Fox
In honor of Ruth & Ira Rosenberg's anniversary
In memory of Barbara Tomin's mother, Ruth Hess
In honor of Bonnie Boren & Phil Weil's anniversary
Stuart & Ethel Schy
In memory of Paul Zygielbaum's mother, Adele Zygielbaum
The Kahn & Brown Family
In memory of Adele Zygielbaum
Edith Newman
In honor of our Rabbi on his 60th birthday
Julius & Emma Schlesinger
In honor of Ira & Ruth Rosenberg's anniversary
Speedy recovery to Edith Newman
In memory of Barbara Tomin's mother, Ruth Hess
Pat Thomas
A thoughtful donation
Judy Gunnar
In appreciation of the Rosh Hashanah Tot Shabbat service
Julia & Laurence Zimmer
In memory of Avra Metzger
Juli Scherer
In memory of Ruth Hess, mother of Barbara Tomin
In honor of the birth of Billy & Suzie Friedman's granddaughter
In honor of the birth of Michelle & Paul Zygielbaum's grandson and Helen & Art Margolese's great-grandson
Judi Hyman
In memory of Anne Mann
Sofya Pekker
A generous donation
Darrell Watkins
In honor of Rabbi Schlesinger's 60th birthday
Pat & Bill Thomas

Gift of Israel Fund

In memory of my brother, Meyer
Therese Becraft

Library Fund

In memory of my mother, Jennie Klein
Ricki Streitfeld

Malk Fund

In honor of Everett Shapiro's birthday
In honor of Rachel Sinai's birthday
Edith Newman
In honor of Everett Shapiro's birthday
Barry Sovel & Carol Newman
A generous donation in honor of Everett Shapiro's birthday
Randi & Charles Wax
Happy Birthday to Everett Shapiro
Rosalie Schweit

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In great appreciation of Rabbi George Schlesinger, for all his help, guidance, and support of our upcoming marriage
Jackie Demain & Steve Matlin
In memory of Maurice & Frances Street
Jules Street
In memory of my parents, Oliver & Hella Margolin
Isabel Margolin
In memory of Anne Mann
Tish Levee
In honor of Rabbi & Paula Schlesinger
Evey Abramowitz & Elsie Rich
A generous donation
Norma O'Brien
Wine Country Kosher
Alfred & Susanne Batzdorff
Julius & Emma Schlesinger
Tad & Debbie Shapiro
Maralee Joseph & Steve Whiteley
In honor of Rabbi Schlesinger's 60th birthday
Ahuva Simon-Sa'ar
In memory of my mother, Shana-ba-Shava bat Baruch Penkovich
Sarah Tyutinman
In appreciation of Rabbi Schlesinger and his visits to me while I was ill
Sheyna Bakman

Religious School Fund

In honor of David Sutter's Bar Mitzvah
Bobbi Massarsky

Shabbat Luncheon Fund

In memory of my father, Lester Joseph Schloner
Carol Swanson

USY Fund

In memory of Lester Schweit
In memory of Abe Gerstein
Herb & Ellen Brosbe

November 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 November 6th and 7th

November 7	Max Malk	Father of Phyllis Shapiro
November 9	David Dresser	Brother-in-law of Helen Dresser
November 9	Harold Zeamans	Grandfather of Judith Helman
November 10	Norman Schloner	Brother of Carol Swanson
November 11	Belle Rosen	Mother of Mark Rosen
November 12	Max Sucher	Husband of Sylvia Sucher
November 13	Lev Bakman	Husband of Sheyna Bakman
November 13	Hans Biberstein	Father of Susanne Batzdorff

Announced on November 13th and 14th

November 18	Shupsel Glazer	Uncle of Adolf Tyutinman
November 18	Samson Hochfield	Father of Malvina Tsipan
November 19	Florence Goodman	Mother of Andrea Goodman
November 20	Moses Kobrinetz	Uncle of Shirley Rosaler

Announced on November 20th and 21st

November 21	Alvin Dove	Brother-in-law of Betty Franks
November 22	Minnie Friedman	Mother of Harry Friedman
November 22	Kees Rijnveldt	Stepbrother of Hermina Drake
November 24	Joseph Harrosh	Uncle of Dr. Mark Sutter
November 24	Marcella Liverman	Aunt of Marc Bernstein
November 25	David Spiegelman	Nephew of Gail Negrin
November 25	Gaye Spiegelman	Sister-in-law of Gail Negrin
November 25	Mark Spiegelman	Nephew of Gail Negrin
November 25	Sylvia Spiegelman	Niece of Gail Negrin
November 26	Leonard Klein	Brother of Lillian Judd
November 27	Clara Glass	Mother of Gussie Levine

Announced on November 27th and 28th

November 28	Kimberly Ellis	Niece of Patricia Allison
November 29	Howard Blau	Father of Shari Kafton
November 29	Vivian Kearns	Aunt of Vivian Salmon
November 29	Miriam Malk	Mother of Phyllis Shapiro
November 29	Shirley Tenser	Grandmother of Valerie Kreger Mother of Dorothy Marder
November 29	Isadore Wiesenthal	Father of Natalie Friedman
November 30	Rosa Bas Natan	Mother of Evelyn Gurevitch
November 30	Jennie Goldberg	Mother of Betty Franks
December 1	Jacob Goldman	Father of Ethel Schy
December 2	Leonard Dresser	Husband of Helen Dresser
December 3	Rochelle Adler	Sister of Judith Dzik
December 3	Stanley Kolman	Father of Bruce Kolman
December 3	Nina Nekrasova	Daughter-in-law of Sheyna Bakman
December 3	Raymond Nett	Father of Stephen Nett
December 3	Abraham Schwaber	Father of Fredrika Gross

Kvell (rejoice) with us!

November Anniversaries

12	Alan Steier & Bonnie Sudler
15	Everett & Phyllis Shapiro
16	Leanne Schy & Mark Stoelting
21	Stuart & Ethel Schy
23	Sandy & Ceil Berman
23	Eli Cohen & Betty Boyd
25	Ron Welch & Ellen Watson
27	Paul & Julie Kellogg

November Birthdays

1	Roslyn Edelson
1	Vivian Salmon
3	Rosalie Schweit
7	Alan Steier
8	Martin Mazner
9	Vivian Klein
11	Harry Friedman
11	Harvey Lubar
12	Alisa Haley
12	Brian Wilson
12	Ruth Wilson
13	Rael Bernstein
13	Jane Rogan
19	Joseph Minuskin
19	Erik Uriarte
23	Claire Miller
24	Lydia Ross
26	Nancy Fleming
26	Sherrill Golemb
28	Dr. Russ Gurevitch

Community Events

Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County

The 14th annual Sonoma County Jewish Film Festival, September 30 through December 3. ***For information on tickets, locations and times, contact Ellen Blustein, 526-5538, or www.jccsoco.org.***

Friendship Circle Events
Luncheon: Singer & accordion player Dina Bray
Monday, November 9 at Noon

Chinese Food and A Movie
Tuesday, November 10

Luncheon:
Old World Charm and Romance with Due Zighi Baci
Monday, November 23 at Noon

San Francisco Symphony at Davies Hall
Thursday Matinee, December 10
Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor
Emanuel Ax, piano

Friendship Circle Hanukkah Party
Monday, December 7

Candlelighting • Shopping • Entertainment • Latkes... and More!
Congregation Shomrei Torah • 2600 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa

Please contact Fran Danoff, frand@jccsoco.org or 528-1476 for reservations and more information about Friendship Circle events and the Hanukkah party.

Jewish Family & Children's Services
Workshop Series: *Caring for Those You Care About*

Session 1: Your Life, Your Choices
Monday, November 2, 6-8:30 p.m.

Session 2: Being with the Dying
Monday, November 16, 6-8:30 p.m.

Location: Congregation Shomrei Torah
2600 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa

Contact Vicki Wedegaertner, 303-1532 or vickw@jfcs.org.
$5.00 donation to cover cost is requested.

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Jewish Community Contacts

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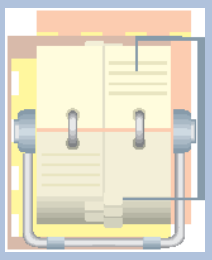
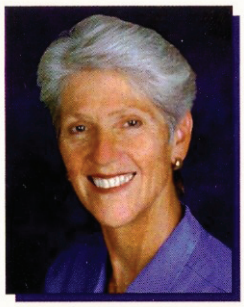
Hillel	David Rubinstein, 795-5464
Jewish Community Federation	Kirsten Miller, 568-6207
JNF-Trees in Israel	Shevi Posman, 292-7438
Jewish Community Free Clinic	Donna Waldman, 585-7780
Jewish Community Relations Council	Suzan Berns, 415/957-1551
Jewish Family & Children's Services	Diana Klein, 571-8131
Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County	Beth Goodman, 528-4222

(all area codes are 707 unless indicated otherwise)





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Congregation Beth Ami Event RSVP Form

Shabbat Dinner, 6 p.m.

- ❑ Friday, November 6
- ❑ Friday, December 4

Member Adult: #_____@ $14=____

Non member Adult #_____@ $18=____

Youth: (ages 5-12) #_____@ $7=____

Welcome Shabbat with a delicious catered Shabbat dinner, evening services, live music with Zim Zum and folk-dancing!

Please RSVP by the Wednesday prior. Reservations accepted after the deadline will have a fee of $5 added.

Registration and Payment

❑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 $_____

I will pay by credit card_____ or check_____
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Names of all attendees:_____

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Phone:_____

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Schedule of Services for November

Friday Evening, November 6
(Candle Lighting: 4:48 pm)
6:00 pm Family Shabbat Dinner
7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, November 7 • 20 Cheshvan
9:30 am Torah Study
10:00 am Vayera Service
Potluck lunch following services
(Havdalah: 5:47 pm)

Friday Evening, November 13
(Candle Lighting: 4:42 pm)
7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, November 14 • 27 Cheshvan
9:30 am Torah Study
10:00 am Shabbat Chaye Sarah Services
Potluck lunch following services
(Havdalah: 5:41 pm)

Friday Evening, November 20
(Candle Lighting: 4:37 pm)
7:30 pm Friday Evening Services

Saturday, November 21 • 4 Kislev
9:30 Torah Study
10:00 am Shabbat Toldot Services
10:30 am Alternate Service: Meditation
Potluck lunch following services
4:15 pm M&M Shabbat Mincha/Maariv
(Havdalah: 5:37 pm)

Friday Evening, November 27
(Candle Lighting: 4:34 pm)
7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, November 28 • 11 Kislev
9:30 Torah Study
10:00 am Shabbat Vayetze Services
Potluck lunch following services
(Havdalah: 5:33 pm)

Can you help with a Shabbat potluck luncheon? This involves pouring the wine and juice, setting out the prepared food, and cleaning up. If you can help on one or more of these dates – November 21, 28; December 5, 19, 26 – please contact Betty Boyd at (707) 537-2211 or BettyBoyd@InformingScience.org.