



BETH EL

The Heights Synagogue

NEWSLETTER

April 2013

ביסן / אייר 5773



Rabbi Moshe Adler

**Happy
65th
Birthday,
Israel**



**Sunday
night,
April 14,
and
Monday,
April 15**

Life and Text: Israel's Independence

In 1947, shortly after the United Nations decided to partition Palestine, the Israeli newspaper *HaAretz* quoted Chaim Weizmann: "The state will not be given to the Jewish people on a silver platter." As war between the Arabs and the Jews approached, the poet Nathan Alterman expressed the people's understanding of the sacrifices that would have to be made for independence. His poem, "The Silver Platter," appeared in the Israeli newspaper *Davar* of December 19, 1947.

Foreseeing the new nation that would arise out of the smoking ruin of war, the poet pictures a young man and a young woman, dressed in torn military fatigues and nearly drained of energy, making their way toward the new nation. When asked who they are, they reply, "We are the silver platter on which the Jewish state was given."

Now, thank God, the state of Israel is a vibrant reality. Yet every year, as Jews in Israel and around the world prepare to celebrate Israel's independence, they first observe Yom HaZikaron (Soldiers' Memorial Day) on the fourth of Iyyar. Only afterward, as nightfall ushers in the fifth of Iyyar, do they joyously celebrate Yom HaAtzma'ut (Israel Independence Day). Mourning segues into celebration

because the two contiguous days are thematically connected.

This is a real-world application of what our Sages called *smichut ha-parshiyot*, contiguous narrative sections in the Torah. As our Sages saw it, "there is no earlier and later in the Torah" (P'sahim 6b) – the Torah's narrative sections do not necessarily follow chronological order. When two sections adjoin one another, the placement is meant to suggest, not chronological sequence, but some theme that connects them.

The men and women who fell in defense of Israel are inextricably linked to the people who survived them. The defenders, both those that fell and those who survived, are the silver platter on which the Jewish state is given. But unlike the people in the Alterman poem, no one in the real-world Israel asks these defenders who they are. Everyone already knows. *Smichut ha-parshiyot* -- life imitates text.

May the messianic age dawn, when all war will end and God "will wipe the tears away from all faces and will put an end to the reproach of His people over all the earth" (Isaiah 25:8). When that happens, not only the fifth of Iyyar but every day will be Yom HaAtzma'ut. *Hag sameah!*

Beth El - The Heights Synagogue builds vibrant Jewish community.

We welcome all in participatory, traditional, egalitarian worship and learning.

Rabbi Moshe Adler ♦ Saturday Morning Services at 9:15, 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118 ♦ ☎216-320-9667



**Scott Wachter,
President**

President's Perspectives, April 2013

Why We are Members

“Wow!” An offbeat way to start this article, but appropriate. And I’ll end this article with the same. Soon, you’ll see why.

Last month, I sent out an informal survey asking our members what they do with their time, their hobbies, interests, and other activities. In response I received a wide range of feedback, which mainly centered on the arts and outdoor recreation.

This month, I sent out another survey. I simply asked the question, “Why are you a member of Beth El – The Heights Synagogue?” I also provided a list of possible reasons as to why people would be part of this community. They were: Our services; We’re traditional and egalitarian; The people; The location; The community; All that we offer (i.e., Lunch and Learns, Jazz nights); All of the above; Other.

I should have known better than to try to categorize the responses. Many of our members ignored the categories and simply wrote their own reasons. The responses were wide, varied, and moving. For this month’s newsletter, I’m going to let all share in what I found to be so heartwarming:

- BE-THS is what The Heights is all about, a perfect *shidduch* of synagogue and city.
- Traditional, Egalitarian, Warm, Welcoming, Non-judgmental, Not a jealous or envious community, diverse.
- The Rabbi!! He convinced us to join, and he kept us active members. The Rabbi is the biggest part of the open acceptance of our community. I still quote the lessons I learned from him every day in Israel.

➤ Why are my family and I members of Beth El? Twelve years ago, I was looking for a shul for my oldest daughter for a Bat Mitzvah. My parents knew Rabbi Adler and told me about his congregation that met at the Mayfield JCC. I came to check out the shul, and never left, or even checked out another place. There were three main reasons for this:

#1 I was so amazed by how friendly and welcoming everyone was. I had never been to a shul where everyone was that nice, invited me and my big family to meals, and treated me like I had been there forever.

#2 Having been raised Orthodox, I had also never seen a woman lead services or read Torah. I was amazed by this, and decided right then and there that I wanted to learn how to do this! I am now very active in leading all different aspects of services, as well as reading Torah and Haftarah.

#3 I absolutely loved the traditional service. I was comfortable with the service because I already knew so many of the tunes, as well as hearing some new tunes. I felt that I could actively participate in the service from that very first day.

Not one of these three things is more important than the other; it is the combination of these three things that makes Beth El the perfect shul for my family and me.

- Authenticity, Knowledge, Sincerity, Free thinking, Great *onegs*.
- Caring and friendly community, egalitarian, small enough that it feels like an extended family.
- We left our Conservative synagogue and joined BE-THS because of the rabbi’s posi-

**QUESTIONS? CONCERNS?
COMMENTS?
COMPLAINTS?**
Please do not hesitate to contact the President by e-mail president@bethelheights.org or home telephone (216) 932-5964

**HELP US
STAY IN TOUCH!**
Please be sure we have your current contact information. Send changes to info@bethelheights.org or call (216) 320-9667

**KEEP UP WITH THE NEWS!
JOIN THE
BE-THS LISTS!**
Send an e-mail to Mick Miller, mick@mickmill.com, if you need help with signing up.

E-MAIL NEWSLETTER:
If you’d like to get the pdf e-mail version, contact news@bethelheights.org

tion on GLBT issues, especially marriage. We talked to some of the members at that time who were or had GLBT family members as well as talking to Rabbi Adler.

The first Sukkot after we joined, we were invited to lunch after services by families we had just met. That welcoming is a BE-THS hallmark.

➤ One of the friends from another synagogue who joined us one Shabbat asked if members have to audition. We sound that good! For a small *heimish* congregation, we offer a lot: Lunch and Learns, the best lunches in town, programs and activities, a decent library, involved lay participation, a caring, supportive community, activities for children and teens, and adjustable, comfortable seats.

➤ I like that women participate equally with men, I like the people, and the location. I also like that congregants often lead services and give *d'vars*. I particularly like the *d'vars* when there is a discussion. I like that the individual service leaders and *d'var* givers bring something of themselves to the tasks, so that there is an interesting variation to the services and *d'vars*.

➤ The people – a pre-Cleveland friend brought me to Beth El before I moved back here, and introduced me to the good people.

Location – in my old Cleveland neighborhood and close to my new location at Shaker Square when I moved back.

The Rabbi – The varied levels of observance, and the members' mutual tolerance – making it a good place to learn Judaism.

➤ Love the sense of community our congregation has. We foster this through weekly sit-down kiddushes, Lunch and Learns, and numerous other activities. We also come together to help all members in need. Those who are sick or in mourning know that they can count on visits, meals, *minyans*, and anything else they need. We are truly a congregational family, where everyone knows, cares about, and is eager to help everyone else.

➤ We like the sense of being unconditionally welcomed, whomever you are, and whenever you come.

➤ The service is participatory; there is lots of singing during the service; people are friendly; the atmosphere is stimulating (Lunch and Learns, *D'verei* Torah, Short Stories Group). Most of all "BEING A MEMBER AT BE-THS IS FUN."

I couldn't have said it better myself! All I can say is, "Wow."

The service is participatory; there is lots of singing during the service; people are friendly; the atmosphere is stimulating.

Most of all, "BEING A MEMBER AT BE-THS IS FUN."

Learners' Group – Torah Discussion

Join us on the 2nd and 4th Shabbat of each month to study and discuss selections from the Torah portion. We consider commentaries, raise questions, and share tips for using the *Chumash*. Each week's lesson is a self-contained unit, so come as your schedule permits. The sessions are accessible for non-Hebrew speakers or readers.

We meet when the Torah service starts (about 10:30 AM) in the Community Room and rejoin the service in time for the *d'var* Torah. Questions? Contact Mia Buchwald Gelles: miabgelles@gmail.com or 216-321-6717.

- *Parashat Tazria-Metzora* - 13 April 2013
- *Parashat Emor* - 27 April 2013

Reflections on my Grandfather's Yahrzeit

February 16, 2013

In late January, Karen Kugelman suggested I take an *aliyah* on the Shabbat of Rabbi David Genuth's *Yahrzeit*, which was February 9. I accepted readily – and I hope graciously – but came away from the conversation thinking that February 16 was the correct date and did not attend services on the ninth. Obviously, David Genuth's *Yahrzeit* is not a personally important date to me; he was something of a non-entity as a grandfather.

Karen's request stimulated me to think about the reverence we show selected dead individuals. Why did I readily accept her invitation, when the date wasn't personally significant and I know myself to be hypersensitive and get prickly when people impute to me feelings or opinions I do not actually hold? I wrote up my thoughts for my own peace of mind and to share with the congregation before chanting the blessing. These are they reworked for a newsletter context since I did not attend services on the correct date.

I think my reflexive acceptance of Karen's offer reflected my sensitivity to a powerful, widespread need among us to revere selected dead individuals. What I thought was the correct date was not just David Genuth's *Yahrzeit*, but also President's Day weekend, when all American citizens are supposed to revere George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. By revering past leaders, we consciously identify ourselves as participants in their legacies. If we're participants in David Genuth's legacy, then we may be creating legacies of our own, which is to say our lives may have meaning beyond our own life spans, which makes us better able to tolerate our awareness of our own mortality. As David's grandchild, I'm peculiarly capable of facilitating our need to hold Ecclesiastes at arm's length – maybe all is not vanity. I'm happy to do this service.

That said, I feel an urgent need to counterbalance the sense of legacy I symbolize by pointing to the important facets of life that are, or should be, products of the present or very recent past. In healthy individuals, organizations, and societies, affection, mutual respect, authority, power, friendship, love are all won and lost in the moment, not through affiliation with the revered dead. So I want to stress that being David's grandchild made me curious about Beth El – The Heights Synagogue, but that my tag line that I was grandfathered into this congregation is nothing more than my penchant to show off verbal cleverness and make it a source of amusement to others. Indeed, it is false. I am a member of this congregation because it does a good job of meeting some of my important current needs, and I'll leave should the day come when it doesn't. Or to put it more personally, I became a member not because of my relationship to David but because I sensed that I could build good, productive relationships with current and future congregants.

~ Joel Genuth

Short Stories Group Activities

Short Stories by Jewish Authors Reading and Discussion Group will next meet on Sunday evening, April 21, 7:00 PM. *The Stories of David Bergelson: Yiddish Short Fiction from Russia* (1996), translated by Golda Werman, will be read in advance and discussed at the meeting.

Bergelson was born in 1884 and was shot in Russia in 1952 on his 68th birthday along with many other Yiddish writers who were executed that same day. He had been imprisoned in 1948 and lived under gruesome conditions. His family was not allowed to communicate with him for all that time. He is considered to be an extremely important Yiddish writer. He paved new roads in Yiddish literature and brought it into the modern world. We look forward to experiencing Bergelson's stories.

Our readers found Sholem Auslander's *Beware of God* to be a blast with his outlandish story lines; his humor brings mind-jarring concepts to traditional ideas. We agreed not to be offended, but to take Auslander as he intends: a good think and a good discussion.

For information about Short Stories by Jewish Authors Reading and Discussion Group, please contact Sondra Jacobs, sondrajacobs@sbcglobal.net or 216-397-1481.

Yahrzeits, April 2013

Nisan - ניסן		Iyar - אייר	
Louis Carr	22 Nisan	Adolph Amsel	1 Iyar
Rachel Gooch	23 Nisan 5764	Yetta Leah Singer	1 Iyar 5765
Morris Harry Haskin	23 Nisan	Maurine Berman	3 Iyar 5762
Doris Silver	23 Nisan	John Berger	3 Iyar 5733
Herman Eiffer	23 Nisan	Jesse Cantleberry	3 Iyar
Jack Zollett	24 Nisan	Ralph Lerner	3 Iyar 5771
Pearl Gelfand	26 Nisan	Earon Rein	4 Iyar
Harry Katz	26 Nisan 5765	Sam Hemple	5 Iyar
Albert Paige	26 Nissan	Dorothy Katz	5 Iyar 5758
Abe Fromson	27 Nisan	George Friedlander	7 Iyar
Bessie Wasserman	27 Nisan	Sam Neuger	8 Iyar
Leo Goldstein	28 Nisan	Sam Auerbach	9 Iyar
Herman Givertz	28 Nisan	David Shamis	9 Iyar
Zev Peretz Bloom	28 Nisan	Sarah Frumker	9 Iyar
Sylvia Auerbach	29 Nisan	Annie Keller	10 Iyar
Jennie Friedler	29 Nisan	Max David Fredman	11 Iyar 5765
		Shirley Markowitz Katz	11 Iyar 5765
		Chaim Gabinet	12 Iyar
		Rose Hemple	12 Iyar
		Sarah Friedman	17 Iyar
		Ethel Eisman	19 Iyar
		Jacob Gutterman	19 Iyar
		Sylvia M. Lavine	19 Iyar 5735

*By revering
past leaders,
we consciously
identify ourselves
as participants
in their legacies.*

*If we're
participants in
David Genuth's
legacy, then we
may be creating
legacies of our
own, which is to
say our lives may
have meaning
beyond our own
life spans, which
makes us better
able to tolerate
our awareness
of our own
mortality.*

Joel Genuth

New Member Profiles

Our thanks to Nili Adler for gathering this information on some of our newest members!

Cheryl Stone and Shaul Janes

Cheryl writes: This is the story of how we met (because that's all that really matters!).

Shaul and I were students at Pardes in Jerusalem. This was his first year and my third. I was entering the final year of my program and had cycled through several student bodies, made friends, had to say goodbye, and wasn't looking for new friends, not to mention that I had given up on finding love in Israel other than my love for the country.

However, in mid-December, it was late one night and I had received some promo from Jdate, went to check it out, and while there, looked to see who had been looking at my profile. Guess who had been checking me out. So it was there that I first really learned about who Shaul was, a former French chef, Harley riding, cowboy from Hawaii.

The next day we had a school trip. I arrived early; he was there. I walked up to him and said, "I know a lot more about you now." He said, "So, you want to get married?" And I said, "Sure." and walked away. That was the beginning.

Cheryl: I grew up in Jacksonville, Florida, and went to Florida State University where I received a BFA in Design and Technical Theatre. I then moved around the country working seasonally at Shakespeare Festivals and operas, living in some amazing cities and creating beautiful costumes. I eventually landed in the San Francisco Bay Area and found that there was more to life than theatre. I gave up the stage to take on all sorts of projects ranging from nanny to event producer. I created a women's art collective of about 120 members that held shows twice a year. It was in SF that I found my first spiritual home and it was through that group, the Rhythm Society, a non-religious organization, that I became closer to my Judaism. I knew I was heading in the direction of teacher, but exactly how that would go wasn't clear. I went to visit Israel and though I didn't love it at first sight, something stirred deep within me. I kept arranging more and more time to study there until eventually I decided to make *aliyah* and start a masters program at Pardes. After three years I completed the program with a MJEEd and had to seek employment back in the great land of the USofA. After much searching, both figuratively and spiritually, I have landed here in Cleveland and am now teaching *Tanach* and Jewish Studies for the middle school of Gross Schechter Day School. I am very happy to be here. It's far lovelier than hearsay would lead one to believe, and the warmth of the community lives up to its reputation.

Shaul writes: I was born in Elizabeth New Jersey, to an unaffiliated and non-unobservant Jewish home, I did not really begin understanding my Judaism until the mid 1990s. A trained chef by trade, once I tapped into my Jewish roots, and in order to participate in Jewish life, I had to switch careers, so I started a home restoration and painting company. I had many customers within a five-mile radius from home, but also had regular customers as far out on the eastern tip of Long Island, New York. This change allowed me to set my own hours and partake of Jewish learning at my shul. There, I attended weekly services, studied Torah, sang in the choir, and spearheaded community-wide mitzvah projects which included visiting Jewish patients in the local hospital. My first trip to Israel was a solidarity mission from my temple in New Jersey during the intifada in March of 2002.

That trip forever changed my life.

Early in 2003 I officially moved to Hawaii where I had purchased property a few years earlier. There in the middle of the Pacific I built a house and developed the land into a cattle ranch known as The Shalomha Ranch. The gate was always opened to visitors. It did not take long to get involved with the Jewish community in Kona. I was quickly recruited as a board member and served happily for four years. Dedicated to my community, I served as a volunteer chaplain at the Hilo Medical Center for nearly eight years. In 2006, I became an adult bar mitzvah and chose as my *tzedakah* project, to volunteer in Israel for three weeks. Fall 2006 I worked at a supply base for the IDF in the Negev and for an additional three weeks toiled around the country, which included some learning at Pardes in Jerusalem. After this trip I decided I would make *aliyah* someday –that day came on the third of Av 2011. Due to falling in love with Cheryl, I moved to Cleveland September 2012. Recently, I began volunteering with Vinney Hospice at Montefiore.



Bernard Sharfman and Susan David

Bernard Sharfman and Susan David, long time residents of Bethesda, Maryland, moved to The Alcazar, Cleveland Heights, for the academic spring semester, January through May, 2013. They are delighted with the warm welcome they have received from this amazing synagogue community. They discovered Beth El -The Heights Synagogue on the Internet, attracted to the “traditional egalitarian” approach. Bernie is a Visiting Professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Law; you may read more at <http://law.case.edu/OurSchool/FacultyStaff/MeetOurFaculty/FacultyDetail.aspx?id=1029>. His research focus is on corporate law and governance.



Prior to going to law school in mid-career, Bernie worked for many years as a finance professional for Fannie Mae and the Office of Finance, Federal Home Loan Banks.

Susan retired from the Library of Congress’s Congressional Research Service, where she was part of a team managing the legislative databases for the US Congress.

Bernie and Susan have one daughter, Amy, who is a sophomore at Stevenson University near Baltimore.

Juliana Sadock Savino



Juliana says: My association with Beth El goes back to the early 1990s at the original Chagrin Boulevard location. I am so happy to rediscover it for the Rabbi, the congregation, and its dedication to egalitarianism in traditional Judaism. Its creative, welcoming vibe that respects past, present, and future is a mirror of what Cleveland Heights is all about. And you have jazz!

I grew up in Berea, I like to say the Cuyahoga River parted for me in 1979 and I moved to Cleveland Heights. Currently, I live in University Heights. A retired musician and substitute teacher, I still love making music, riding a bicycle, dancing, word games and puzzles, drawing, and ceramics. I collect globes and vintage perfumes. I would like to get back to playing bridge.



Mike Belusko



Michael Belusko has worked as a leading consultant and senior executive in the field of healthcare, particularly home health, with over 15 years experience in health care and hospital administration. Michael has appeared on TV and radio programs, and presented at national health care conferences, to discuss the issues facing the health care industry.

Michael also serves as a preceptor for MBA students for many of the local colleges and universities. His mentoring and guidance help students with their efforts to succeed in today's competitive market.

Michael has served on the board of Beth Israel West Temple and several committees at Temple Israel in Akron, as well as involvement with Chabad and several shuls and Jewish organizations in the Northeast Ohio community. Mike says, "BE-THS is one of the best kept secrets in the Cleveland Jewish community. I have been looking for a place to daven where I could feel at peace. This is a truly amazing place with amazing people. This has been the best shul experience of my life and I look forward to contributing to the growth and success of the congregation." Mike and his partner, Rob, live in Cleveland.

CALENDAR, APRIL 2013

5773 אייר / ניסן

MONDAY, APRIL 1 – **Seventh Day of Pesah**

9:15 AM – **Pesah VII Morning Services: Shaḥarit and Musaf**

8:33 PM – **Nightfall, Yom Tov candles may be lit**

TUESDAY, APRIL 2 – **Last (eighth) day of Pesah**

9:15 AM – **Pesah VIII Morning Services: Shaḥarit, Musaf, and Yizkor**

8:34 PM – **Passover may be ended and Havdalah recited**

(“*borey p’ri ha-gafen*” and “*ha-mavdil beyn kodesh l’hol*” – no candle or spices)

(Please allow the Rabbi an hour to buy back your hametz before you use it.)

זיכור

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2:00 TO 3:30 PM – **Yom Hashoah V’Hagvura**, Cleveland’s commemoration of the Holocaust and Heroism, will be held at Park Synagogue. The event commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, and features Rabbi Michael Schudrich, Chief Rabbi of Poland. Free and open to the community.

MONDAY, APRIL 8 – **Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Memorial Day**, commemorating those who perished in the Holocaust.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, ABOUT 10:30 AM – **Learners’ Torah Discussion Group** will meet in the Community Room to study *Parashat Tazria-Metzora*.

MONDAY, APRIL 15 – **Yom Hazikaron, Israel Memorial Day**, commemorating those who fell in defense of Israel or who died in terrorist attacks.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16 – **Yom Haatzma’ut, Israel Independence Day**, this year celebrating Israel’s 65h year. (see below for details of community-wide celebration)

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, AFTER SERVICES – **Lunch and Learn with Jay Geller**, Samuel Rosenthal Professor of Judaic Studies at C.W.R.U., who will speak on “To Germany, from Germany, through Germany: A case study of Jewish identity in the modern world.” (see attached flyer)

SATURDAY, APRIL 27,

ABOUT 10:30 AM – **Learners’ Torah Discussion Group** will meet in the Community Room to study *Parashat Emor*.

AFTER SERVICES – **Monthly Simcha Kiddush**: Join us as we celebrate the happy events that have occurred during the month of April.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28 – **Lag Ba’Omer**

לג בעומר

Celebrate the 65th year of Israel’s independence!

This family-friendly event will bring the community together for entertainment, fun activities, and a slice of Israeli culture.

This year’s event also features Israeli superstar David Broza in concert at 8 p.m. Preferred seating is available online (limited to the first 360 registrants or through Friday, April 12). Reserve your seats today!



FREE and OPEN to the COMMUNITY.

Hosted by the Jewish Federation of Cleveland with support from local organizations.

Monday, April 15, 2013; Events begin at 5:45
Executive Caterers at Landerhaven, 6111 Landerhaven Drive, Mayfield Heights

Details at <<http://www.jewishcleveland.org/page.aspx?id=261411>>

March 27
to May 15 -
Counting of the
Omer. From the
2nd day of Pesah
to Shavuot, we
count
forty-nine days/
seven weeks,
thus linking the
Exodus with the
Giving of the
Torah.

April 28 - Lag
baOmer, the 33rd
day of the Omer,
celebrating the
end of a plague
that was killing
the students of
Rabbi Akiva
(2nd century CE).
This day ends
a period of
semi-mourning
that excludes
haircuts,
marriage
ceremonies, and
live music.

NEWS FROM BETH EL

חדשות



Simcha Celebration

Celebrate your simchas with us at Kiddush on the last Shabbat of each month.

Become a Simcha

Kiddush honoree:

Donate \$36 per simcha celebrant to the Kiddush Fund.

Remember to state

- honoree's name,
- month of event and
- what you are celebrating.

Your contribution supports our synagogue.



Refuah Sh'lema to:

רפואה שלימה!

- Esther Kazdan
- Miriam Palevsky
- Blanche Valancy

Yasher Koah to:

י"שר כוח!

- Shulamit Magnus, who has been honored by Hadassah-Brandeis Institute with its 2012 Translation Award for Shulamit's translation of *Memoiren einer Grossmutter: Bilder aus der Kulturgeschichte der Juden Russlands im 19. Jahrhundert. Band II*. [*Memoirs of a Grandmother: Scenes from the Cultural History of the Jews of Russia in the Nineteenth Century. Volume Two*] by Pauline Wengeroff. Shulamit is currently on sabbatical in Israel, where she continues her scholarly work, including writing and teaching.
- **Laura Gooch**, whose nature photography will be on exhibit at the Shaker Lakes Nature Center, in a show entitled, "Birds, Bugs, and Beasts from Cleveland to the Galapagos," from April 8 through the end of June. Laura invites you to attend the reception on April 19 from 5:30-7:30 PM. Laura says the photos are mostly of birds, but that there are a few other critters – and some landscapes – thrown in.

Welcome, New Member: ברוכים הבאים

- Howard Goldberg

News from Jeff, Abby, and Raffi Halpern:

- Please peruse the Halperns' blog at <http://labbygail.wordpress.com>, where you will see detailed tales and photos of their adventures in Israel (and Egypt!). There is much too much there to publish, but it's a wonderful read!

Thanks for contributions to:

תודה!

- **Rabbi Moshe and Nili Adler**, wishing speedy recovery to Sharona Hoffman's mother, Aviva Hoffman, and to Andy Podgurski's mother, Helen Podgurski.
- **Rabbi Moshe and Nili Adler**, in gratitude for the hospitality of Enid and Irving Kushner.
- **Kenneth Bardach**, in honor of the birth of Yael Ellie Bardach.
- **Betty Bloomfield**, in memory of her mother, Selma Mayzel Z"L.
- **Susan T. David, and Bernard Sharfman**
- **Joel and Louise Freilich**, in honor of the Lunch and Learn program on February 16.
- **Marty Gelfand, and family**, in thanks to the BE-THS community for their great chesed at the time of the loss of Marty's mother, Eleanor Gelfand Z"L.
- **Adi and Judith Gerblich**, in honor of Sherry Ball for the fabulous Lunch and Learn on February 16.
- **Alan Gerstein**
- **Howard Goldberg**, In thanks for his *Aliyah Shlisheet*.
- **Howard Goldberg**, in memory of his mother, Frances Brown Goldberg Z"L.
- **Abby and Jeff Halpern**, in memory of Marty Gelfand's mother, Eleanor Gelfand Z"L.
- **Abby and Jeff Halpern**, in memory of Joe Buchwald Gelles' father, Heinz Gelles Z"L.
- **Harvey and Sondra Jacobs**, in thanks to Marvin and Miriam Palevsky.
- **Sondra Jacobs**, in thanks to Rabbi Moshe Adler for his ongoing help with answers to her inquiries.
- **Sarah Kammen**
- **Esther and Philip Kazdan**
- **Sue Klein**, in memory of Joe Buchwald Gelles' father, Heinz Gelles Z"L.

- Gary and Marilyn Magden
- Stephen Pepper and Linda Tobin, in memory of Marty Gelfand's mother, Eleanor Gelfand Z"l.
- Alice Roth, in memory of Joe Buchwald Gelles' father, Heinz Gelles Z"l.
- Shlomoh Sherman
- Eran Shiloh
- Arnold and Diane Stone, in honor of their grandson Aaron's 14th birthday.
- Connie and Harold Sussman
- Joyce Tavill, toward BE-THS' sponsorship of the Israel Independence Day community event.
- Blanche and Jack Valancy, in memory of Marty Gelfand's mother, Eleanor Gelfand Z"l.
- Beth and Scott Wachter, in memory of Marty Gelfand's mother, Eleanor Gelfand Z"l.
- Jessie M. Williams, in memory of Marty Gelfand's mother, Eleanor Gelfand Z"l.
- The Congregation, for the donation of \$318.26 for *matanos la'veyonim* on Purim. The money was donated to Matan B'sayer, a local fund for aid for the poor.

Thanks for Kiddush sponsorship to: !תודה

- March 16: Fred and Joyce Tavill
- March 23: Adi and Judith Gerblich, in memory of Adi's father, Jacob Gerblich Z"l, and Judith's parents, Buzia and Jacob Chassis Z"l, and her brother, Michael Chassis Z"l.

Thanks for dedicating copies of our new siddur, *Siddur Hallel V'Zimrah*

– *Praise and Song*, to: !תודה

- Michael and Robert Belusko, in memory of H. Doug Keller Z"l.
- Stephanie Gordon, in memory of Eleanor Gelfand Z"l.
- Scott Wachter, in honor of the 2012-2013 board of trustees of Beth El –The Heights Synagogue.
- Beth and Scott Wachter, in honor of Carol Bruml.

Thanks for contributions to the Chesed Committee, in memory of Eleanor Gelfand Z"l: !תודה

- Brian Aronson
- Henry Bloom and Marilyn Malkin
- Michael and Shelley Bloomfield
- Molly Brudnick
- Bill and Carol Bruml
- Frank and Jeanette Buchwald
- Janice Carrick
- Susan T. David and Bernard Sharfman
- Stacia Dearmin and Jay Pressman
- Adi and Judith Gerblich,
- Ari Klein and Ditte Wolin
- Stephen Pepper and Linda Tobin

Thanks for Simcha Kiddush contributions to: !תודה

- Stacia Dearmin, in celebration of her birthday.
- Judith Gerblich, in celebration of her birthday.
- Jonathan Pressman, in celebration of his birthday.
- Juliana Sadock Savino, in celebration of her birthday (and in remembrance of her mom's, a day later).

Thanks to our M'gillah readers who worked hard and did such a great job on erev Purim and on Purim day: !תודה

- Noam Gelles
- Shani Gelles
- Nan Hecht
- Miriam Palevsky
- Laura Rabinowitz
- Miriam Rabinowitz
- Becky Schur

Thanks to our March newsletter mailing helpers: !תודה

- Sherry Ball
- Robin Dubin
- Marty Gelfand
- Richard Krueck
- Honey Massey
- Bud Stern
- Teri Tomberg
- Blanche Valancy
- Beth Wachter
- Scott Wachter

Dedicate copies of Beth El – The Heights Synagogue's very own siddur, Siddur Hallel V'Zimrah – Praise and Song, to someone you wish to honor or memorialize, for a donation of \$18.00 per copy.

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Be sure to specify exactly how you want the bookplate to read: from whom, and in honor/memory of whom.



Lunch and Learn Saturday, April 20th

Presented by

Jay Geller

Samuel Rosenthal Professor of
Judaic Studies
Case Western Reserve University
Department of History

**“To Germany, from
Germany, through
Germany: A case study of
Jewish identity in the
modern world”**

In the nineteenth century and early twentieth century, Germany was at the center of many trends that shaped Jewish life and continue to shape Jewish life in unexpected ways. Professor Geller will discuss the following:

What impact did Germany and German Jewry have on Jews from Eastern Europe?
How does American Jewry continue patterns of prewar German Jewish life?
How "German" did Jewish emigrants from Germany remain?

Jay Geller specializes in Jewish history and modern European history, with a focus on Germany. He is the author of *Jews in Post-Holocaust Germany*. His current projects include *Three-Way Street: Germans, Jews, and the Transnational*; a study of migration to and from Germany; and a biography of Gershom Scholem and his family.



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Beth El-The Heights Synagogue builds vibrant Jewish community. We welcome all in participatory, traditional, egalitarian worship