



# The Menorah



Congregation Beth HaTephila: a Reform Congregation in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Founded 1891

June 2006

Vol. 66 No. 9

Sivan — Tammuz 5766

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*Rabbi Robert J. Ratner, Ph.D.*  
*Cantor Debra Winston*  
*Howard Jaslow, President*

## SERVICES

Fridays – 7:30 P.M.

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## **Temple Office Hours**

### **New office hours:**

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Friday – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Temple Administrator: *Lea Schultz*

## Cantor Deb's Office Hours for June

Tues. – Fri. from 11 AM – 3 PM.

Or by appointment.



## **CABARET/SILENT AUCTION/ CONCERT**

**Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30 PM — Bidding Opens**

**7:30 — Show Begins**

**ACT I:** *Vance Reese* and two of his colleagues, in an original musical comedy. Includes *Ed Fidelman* and *Cantor Deb*.

**ACT II:** *Cantor Deb* and *Vance Reese* in concert.

*Appetizers, cheeses, wine, sweets and coffee and tea will be served before and during the entertainment.*

*Ticket Prices:*     *Blue \$10*  
                              *Red \$20*  
                              *Gold \$30*  
                              *Platinum \$50*

Starting at 6:30, for one hour before curtain time, and during intermission, a silent auction will be held with amazing goods and services on the auction block.

Let's dress up! How fun to make attire for the evening "dressy." Then Cantor Deb can appear in sequins!!

*All proceeds will go to the General Fund to support programming and education.*

See Page 4 for all the details.

**Tickets can be purchased from Brotherhood and from Lea in the office.**



## President's Message

*"I came home from school one day in 1948. I found my father sitting alone in the dark. I turned on the light. Tears were coming down his cheeks. It was the day Israel was declared a state."*

*- Hal Linden, Actor (TV's Barney Miller, Broadway)*

It was a profound moment. After 2,000 years, finally a state of Israel. A piece of land. A small piece of land. A very small piece of land. But, what potential. What a precious piece of land. A land where our ancestors lived; where Judaism flourished.

The promise of Israel was that it would be a place where Jews could now live and be free of pogroms and anti-Semitism. A place where survivors of the Holocaust would have a home. A place where the dream of peace would be realized. A place where...

Or, so it seemed.

But, tears of joy were followed by tears of mourning. Wars, terrorism, worldwide condemnation and isolation. It hasn't been easy for Israel. Why, we ask. Why, after the Holocaust?

There are no simple answers. Don't even try to find them. History is a strange bedfellow.

Israel can and must persevere. It must continue to strive for a better world. It must continue to be a haven for Jews. It must be a "light unto the nations."

And it has been. It is a major center of research in science and medicine and technology. Israel continues to aid other countries through its technological advancements in agriculture, medicine, electronics, water purification, safety, anti-terrorism, to name just a few. Hardly a month goes by without a technical paper published by an Israeli in an international professional journal. So much from so small a country.

Someday the world will thank Israel. Someday, we will once again

**Let our tears be tears of joy.**

**- Howard**

### CONGREGATION BETH HATEPHILA'S VISION STATEMENT

*Adhering to the ideals of Reform Judaism, we strive to become the Southeast's preeminent midsize congregation for the learning of Jewish traditions, history and Torah in a spiritual environment that encourages open-mindedness, a sense of belonging and Tikkun Olam.*



## Chai Notes

*I remember a time when the summer season at a Temple or synagogue was a period of quiet and pause. Not much went on, service attendance was iffy, and the congregation seemed to "take a break" as they awaited another High Holiday season. Boy, is that not the case at CBHT! This summer promises to be just as busy and interesting as the rest of our year, and we need your participation. Here are just some of the things you can expect to experience this summer:*

1) There will be a

**CABARET SHOW, SILENT AUCTION  
AND CONCERT on  
Saturday evening June 24<sup>th</sup>**

The first half of the show will be a musical comedy written and performed by our own Vance Reese and two of his colleagues. The second half will be a concert featuring yours truly with Vance on the keyboard.

**Time: 6:30 PM Sip, Schmooze, Nosh, and Bid**  
*(Amazing items will be auctioned off.)*  
**7:30 PM Concert begins**

**Serving:** Sweets, cheese, fruit, wine, coffee and tea

**Cost: Blue \$10**  
*General Admission.*

**Red \$20**  
*Seated in middle area of Unger Hall.*

**Gold \$30**  
*Seated in front of stage and includes a backstage pass and photo with the performers.*

**Platinum \$50**  
*Seated in front of stage and includes backstage pass, photo with the performers and the honor of choosing all the music for the Shabbat service of your choice!!!*

**Attire:** Dressy (what fun!)

**Tickets:** May be purchased from Lea in the office, from Brotherhood members, and at all Temple events. You must have a ticket to attend the evening.

Proceeds from the concert will go to the General Fund to support Temple activities and programming.

2) The **CBHT Congregational Choir** will be at **Given's Estate** performing a full concert of Jewish music accompanied by our beloved Vance Reese on **Thursday evening, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM**. The congregation is welcome to come and hear us, Contact me for exact directions to the correct building that evening.

3) The long-awaited **Bikkur Cholim Class** will be held during the month of July on the following dates:

**Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup>,           7 – 8:30 PM**  
**Sunday July 16<sup>th</sup>,       7 – 8:30 PM**  
**Sunday July 23<sup>rd</sup>,       7 – 8:30 PM**

This class is for adults only. We will study and gain skill in Jewishly visiting the sick and dying. You do not need to have a desire to be a part of an actual "Bikkur Cholim" team, just a desire to have skill in visiting. Sign up by calling the Temple office.

4) The **Congregational Choir** will be taking the month of June off as a well-deserved rest. This would be a great time for you to call and join in the fun. We will be starting new music in July, and will be singing in the Yom Kippur afternoon service for the first time. You don't need talent or Hebrew skills. Just come, meet new people and make beautiful music that will astound you! Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 7 PM in Unger Hall.

5) As you know, I will be covering for Rabbi Ratner until the middle of August. Please don't hesitate to call me anytime with questions, concerns, to make an appointment or just to chat. I will be in the office Tuesday through Friday from 11 AM – 3 PM, and available at other times by appointment.

B'shira (in song),  
**Cantor Deb Winston**





## Sisterhood News



## Brotherhood News



Thanks to *Alice Goldstein* and to all those who participated in the Sisterhood Shabbat service and to those who contributed to the Oneg Shabbat.

The Sisterhood closing luncheon and annual meeting at the Greenery will soon be here, but there is still time to get your reservation in to the Temple by **June 2<sup>nd</sup>**. See flyer in the back of the Menorah.

And don't forget the last in our film series on Jews in Film. On Sunday afternoon, **June 11<sup>th</sup>** we will be showing "*Hester Street*." Admission is \$6.00, so come and enjoy an afternoon at the movies with popcorn, cookies and iced tea. See details below.

Thanks to *Rubin Feldstein* for his presentation on Yizkor Books at our April Brunch and to *Marty Stickle* and *Ted Zoller* and all the others who helped organize the Lag B'Omer picnic and hike on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Lake Powhattan.

Brotherhood is always looking for new people to help out (not to mention to serve as officers for next year). Our meetings are held in Unger Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM. Old, new and prospective members are always welcome.

*Vic Fahrer*  
Brotherhood President



**Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> — 3:30 — Beth HaTephila's Unger Hall**

The concluding film in the Sisterhood Film series:

***“Hester Street”***

Post-film discussion led by *Shirley Cohen*

Admission: \$6 — includes refreshments.

Please call Lea (253-4911) with your reservation.

We want to be sure to have enough noshes.



## Hebrew Classes with Jenny Mercer

**Beginning Hebrew:** Thursdays, 5:30 – 6:30 PM  
June 29<sup>th</sup> – Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>.  
Learn to read Hebrew.  
No prior Hebrew skill necessary.  
Cost: **\$30.00**

**Summer Torah Study** – Informal drop-in study group.  
Our texts will be various commentaries and the Torah,  
English and Hebrew. Read, translate and discuss.  
Hebrew literacy not necessary.

Thursdays, 4:30 – 5:30 PM, May 25<sup>th</sup> - Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>  
(no meeting July 13<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>).  
Free-will donation appreciated.

Call **Jenny** at 254-2448 for more information.



## Religious School Updates

**Kindergarten:** We now have the official name of one of the Kindergarten Tzedakah funds. It's called "*Mountain Hopes Therapeutic Riding Center.*" (It's horseback riding therapy for disabled children, located in Mars Hill.) \$18.



The Religious School wants to thank **Ned and Eileen Simon** for their very generous gift of a framed aleph bet print.



Have a great summer. The new school year begins September 10<sup>th</sup>. Look for all the information in the September Menorah.

## Friendship Circle

Due to unavoidable conflicts (spring sprang), all of the leaders of the Friendship Circle were unable to guide the May meeting, which was to discuss and define next year's Circle subjects.

Therefore, the first meeting of the 2006-07 season, date to be published later in the Menorah, will be dedicated to that task, and will also feature a potluck luncheon after the session's work is done.

**We will also be needing a new leader to step forward to help guide the Circle.**

Don't worry, we'll remind you...

Thanks for a superb season, and we'll see you in September!

Have a happy summer!

*Mark Boyd and Ellen Rubenstein Chelms*



## Yiddish Expressions of the Month

*Oyf a sheynem is gut tsu kukn... mit a klugn is gut tsu lebn.*

It's good to look at an attractive person...it's good to live with a smart person.

*Tsu zayn kluger vi alle is di greste narishkayyt.*

To be smarter than everyone is the greatest foolishness.

*Rubin Feldstein*

# Learning

## renewal

### The Jewish Wedding Ceremony

In traditional Jewish literature, marriage is actually called *kiddushin*, which translates as “sanctification” or “dedication.” “Sanctification” indicates that marriage is not just a social arrangement or contractual agreement, but a spiritual bonding and the fulfillment of a *mitzvah*, a Divine precept. “Dedication,” indicates that the couple now has an exclusive relationship with total dedication to each other, to the extent of them becoming, as the Kabbalists state, “one soul in two bodies.”

#### Chupah

The wedding ceremony takes place under the Chupah (canopy), a symbol of the home to be built and shared by the couple. It is open on all sides, just as Abraham and Sarah had their tent open on all sides to welcome friends and relatives in unconditional hospitality. The groom and then the bride are usually escorted to the chupah by their respective parents. When the bride arrives at the chupah, she circles the groom seven times. This symbolizes the idea of the woman being a protective surrounding light of the household, which illuminates it with understanding and love from within and protects it from harm from the outside. The number seven parallels the seven days of creation, and symbolizes the fact that the bride and groom are about to create their own “new world” together.

#### The Ring

The groom takes the wedding ring in his hand and declares to his wife, “Behold, you are betrothed unto me with this ring according to the laws of Moses and Israel.” He then places the ring on her right hand pointer finger so that the witnesses can see. The ring symbolizes the concept of the groom encompassing, protecting and providing for his wife. After the ceremony, the ring is transferred to the traditional fourth finger of the left hand. (This is based on an ancient belief that a vein runs directly from this finger to the heart.)

#### Ketubah (Marriage Contract)

The ketubah is often written as an illuminated manuscript and becomes a work of art in itself, displaying for all to see the agreement made between the groom and bride. It is often read as part of the ceremony.

#### Wine/Blessings

Two cups of wine are used in the wedding ceremony. The first cup accompanies the betrothal blessing. The Seven Blessings are recited over the second cup of wine. The theme of these blessings links the groom and bride to our faith in God as Creator of the world, Bestower of joy and love, and the ultimate Redeemer of our people. After each set of blessings, the couple drinks from the cup.

#### Breaking the Glass

A glass is now placed on the floor, and the groom shatters it with his foot. This act serves as an expression of sadness at the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, and identifies the couple with the spiritual and national destiny of the Jewish people.

#### Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov is shouted to the bride and groom at the end of the ceremony. In biblical and Talmudic times, the word *mazel* referred to a star, a constellation of the zodiac, and also a planet. In those days it was widely believed that a man’s fate depended on the position of the stars. *Mazel tov*, “good star,” later took on a secondary meaning, “good luck.”

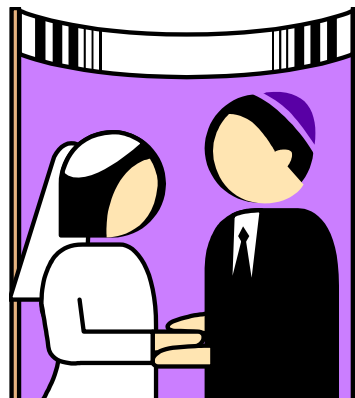
References:

*Guide to the Jewish Wedding* by Andy Shulman

*The Jewish Book of Why* by Alfred J. Kolatch

*The Jewish Wedding Ceremony* by Rabbi Mordechai Becher

*Dottie Davis*  
*Ritual Committee*





## From the Social Justice Committee

### LIVING WAGE

The issue of economic justice has been on the agenda of the Social Justice Committee from the beginning. We have studied the move toward the establishment of living-wage ordinances across the country. The Reform Movement has a long-standing position in favor of a living wage and last year we had a presentation on it at the Temple.

Deep in the American tradition is the belief that hard work leads to economic independence. Unfortunately, this is not true for many Americans. In the last 30 years the income needed to afford the very basic necessities of living has far outpaced wage compensation in this country. Workers' wages have been stagnating or shrinking and the disparity between rich and poor has been growing. The service sector, where low-wage jobs are concentrated, is growing faster than other employment sectors in the U.S. job market. Data from the 2003 census suggest that 49% of North Carolina families are unable to earn enough income to meet basic needs.

The purpose of the recently formed Asheville/Buncombe Living Wage Campaign is to educate and engage residents of Asheville and Buncombe County in support of a living-wage ordinance in the city and the county and an increase in North Carolina's minimum wage. The campaign believes that the growing reality of the working poor is an issue of fairness and human dignity.

Such a living-wage ordinance would require that government workers and those who work for government contractors – jobs supported by our tax dollars – be paid wages that make it possible for them and their families to live in the communities they serve.

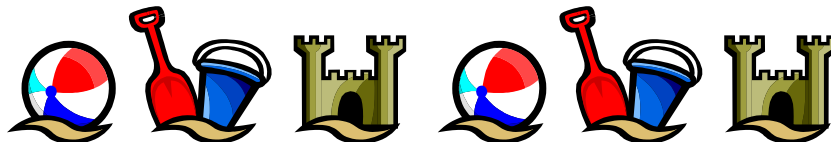
The Campaign wants to work with the community and our representatives, using local economic data, to determine reasonable living-wage standards.

As to the minimum wage, the NC House passed a bill last year to raise it to \$6.00. This is an increase from the federal minimum of \$5.15, which was last raised in 1997 and today is worth 94 cents less than it was in 1997. The NC Senate will now be taking it up during the current session.

Far from destroying jobs and hurting business, as some say even a minimum wage increase would do, a study of Baltimore, MD, which has the oldest living-wage law, business investment in the city increased, and contractors had less turnover. Putting more money in the pockets of low-wage workers means more money spent in the local economy and fewer tax dollars needed for housing subsidies, medical assistance and other public benefits. A recent study from Chicago found that it costs more to keep families at minimum wages than to pay a living wage.

*Most of this material is from publications of the NC Justice Center.*

*Lotte Meyerson*



### Summer Menorah Deadline Reminder

Send your articles in by June 15<sup>th</sup> for the July/August combination issue. Two for the work of one.

*What a deal!*

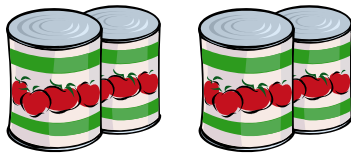
*Barbara Jaslow — [Barbjas@aol.com](mailto:Barbjas@aol.com) — 254-5541*

# From the Tzedakah Committee



The Tzedakah Committee is still collecting medical devices. If you wish to donate any please call Lea at the Temple office before you bring it in.

We now have available one wheelchair, one walker, one boot and two canes. If you need to borrow any of these items call **Ann Feldstein** at 298-9782 or **Pam Gretz** at 298- 4170.



**FOOD FOOD FOOD**

**Keep filling those food barrels.**

There is still hunger in Western North Carolina.

*Ann Feldstein*

## Shelter Serving



May's volunteers for the monthly shelter serving were *Rose Rose*, *Rusty Schapiro* and *Ann Feldstein* who made baked chicken, and *Arnie Sgan*, *Hilary Paradise*, and *Susan Jarrett* who schlepped

the food over to the shelter, and did the preparing and serving. Besides the chicken, they served roasted potatoes and vegetables and ice cream and macaroons for dessert. It all made for a wonderful lunch. Thanks to everyone for answering the call.

We are always in need of volunteers to help cook, and serve lunch on the **third Friday of each month** at the ABCCM men's shelter. It's a very rewarding experience. Call Chuck at 658-3795 or email [chuckitz@charter.net](mailto:chuckitz@charter.net) to join the crew. We need you.

*Chuck Itzkovitz*

Again this year our congregation is participating in the annual **Interfaith House Build** sponsored by Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit ministry dedicated to building simple, decent houses with community volunteers in partnership with qualified families currently living in inadequate housing. Each year the Faith community builds a house with a partner family, and Congregation Beth HaTephila has participated for the last three years. Over 21 of our members have helped in the last three years, and we would like to increase that number this year. No special construction skills are required and excellent instruction and supervision are available making for a very satisfying experience. Also men, women, and teens over 16 are welcomed and play essential roles. This year the Interfaith Build will be from **Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> to Oct 14<sup>th</sup>**, and volunteers are needed for one or more days during that period. Work takes place Tuesday through Saturday weather permitting. Please call **Ann Feldstein** at 298-9782 or [anncf@charter.net](mailto:anncf@charter.net) to sign up. You can choose whatever day or days you are available.

The partner family is **Otis and Juanita Holloway** and their 4 children: 8-year-old twins, and two younger girls, ages 6 and 1. The family is required to put in a certain number of hours as "sweat equity" in their contribution to the building. The Interfaith House will be built in Enka Hills off of Sand Hill Road in Enka. It will be a 4-bedroom, 2-bath home with 1280 square feet. We are arranging for the family and a representative from Habitat to join us at a Shabbat Service in August, so we can meet them, and learn what Habitat does throughout the world in providing housing for people.

In addition to participating in the Interfaith Build, there are other ways you can contribute. Our congregation has contributed over \$2000 in the last 3 years to Habitat. Give to the Rabbi's discretionary fund and designate it for Habitat for Humanity. Additionally, Habitat runs a Home Store at 30 Meadow Rd. which accepts donated furniture, appliances, housewares, and building supplies. They will pick up from your home, or you can drop off items. Lastly, shop there to find some good and unusual items. So call or email Ann, write a check, drop off items at the Home Store, or drop by the store just to see what you might find. It's a worthy cause.

*Chuck Itzkovitz*

# Temple Happenings



***Thank You!***

I want to thank the Temple Board and membership for giving Rabbi Ratner the sabbatical. Studying Hebrew in the Ulpan (immersion) is a dream come true. My wish is to finally be able to speak Hebrew more fluently. I'm so excited! I also can't wait to learn more Israeli folk dances to teach you.

Thank you to *Cantor Winston, President Howard Jaslow, Lea, Edward* and all of you for together so ably taking care of the Temple.

We'll savor every minute of this incredible opportunity, look forward to sharing it with you, and thank you for this perfect gift!

Sincerely,

*Susan Ratner*



## ***June Onegs***

- |      |    |   |
|------|----|---|
| June | 2  | Picnic  |
|      | 9  | Barbara & Howard Jaslow's 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary  |
|      | 16 | Susan & Buddy Goodman 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary      |
|      | 23 | Jackie & Chuck Itzkovitz's 45 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary |
|      | 30 | Sonja & Bob Hruska                                      |



I thank heartily *Lotte Myerson, Idelle Packer* and the other members and friends of the temple who recently cleaned the bank above the stonewall and the sidewalk below it on Washington Road. It looks great! It gives the neighborhood a visual and moral boost. Merima and I will try to maintain it free of trash since it is a place we pass daily.

*Jody Friedman*

## **"THE MANY FACES OF POST-ZIONISM"**

**Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6 PM**

**Sid Singer** will present another of his insightful seminars on Israel.

*Is Zionism still a relevant concept today?*

There are a number of Jewish voices in Israel and in the Diaspora that are critical of what has become of Israel — from different perspectives — and feel that we have entered the era of Post-Zionism.

Bring-you-own-supper and join us at Beth HaTephila's Unger Hall for an interesting and stimulating discussion. No reservations needed

*Brought to you by the Social Justice Committee*



## **YES, WE DID IT!**

Monday morning, May 8<sup>th</sup>, thirteen determined volunteers tore through the brush and rubbish on Washington Street, trimmed the weeds pouring through the sidewalk cracks and pulled the vines that were overcrowding the stone walls. The far side of the Temple grounds had been spoiled by broken bottles, old pipes, boards, tree limbs, and various junk, creating an eye sore to the community for way too long.

From 8:30 AM to noon the group did not come up for air!

Several neighbors have already expressed thanks for the transformation of their street.

Our team: *Idelle Packer, Joe and Judi Goldberg, Gail Ashely-Smith, Marty Stickle, Chuck Itzkovitz, Nelson Sobel, Janet Grant, Sherill Zoller, Terry Kirkpatrick, Ann and Rubin Feldstein, Bob Davis, and Burt Horowitz.*

Thanks to *Bob Winston*, House Committee for arranging the dumpster.

Kudos to the Social Justice Committee and the House Committee  
for working together to organize the clean-up.

Kudos to all the workers.

Please enjoy the clean view along Washington Street.

*Idelle Packer*



***BEFORE***



***AFTER***

# Israel Revisited

Continuing thoughts about the Nov. 30 – Dec. 13, 2005, Journey



For months I've been asked to write about Israel as I experienced her in December 2005 with the rest of the Beth HaTephila "pilgrims." For months I've been resisting this exercise and I don't know why. Perhaps it has to do with the deeply personal emotions the memory of the trip arouses. Maybe I feel that I'm not qualified to write about Israel. Sometimes I think I'm guided by the misperception that whatever I have to say must be exceptional, profound. So, putting all of that aside, here is what I think of when I remember Israel.

*Food.* Yep, food is never far from our Jewish hearts, is it? And, from the day I decided to take this trip, I'd heard about two things: Israeli falafels and the sumptuous, scrumptious hotel breakfasts. I wasn't disappointed by either.

*Small country, gigantic landscapes.* And every landscape with a piece of Jewish history. My history. It continues to overwhelm me. I've lived near and far in my lifetime, but never have I felt so safe, so at home and so bonded with a place than I did nearly anywhere we went in Israel. The feeling was compounded when I had the chance to meet and toast with several cousins from Haifa and Tel Aviv who I didn't even know existed until a month before we left Asheville! I know that at any time I have a home—a place I can land and where I belong—in Israel.

*Diversity.* I did my fair share of reading prior to our trip, but still I was amazed at the many shades, faces and languages of Israel. I was moved by the courage of the Ethiopian children and their parents at the absorption center where, not only were they learning Hebrew, but also how to use electric appliances, eat with silverware and shop in grocery stores! I was amused at the Dead Sea by the phalanxes of Russian tourists, dressed to the nines for an evening out — a la 1970-something. I was surprised that nearly everywhere we went everything was translated from Hebrew into English and Russian. I was delighted when, in one afternoon, I spoke Russian with a priest and Spanish with a Sephardic shopkeeper. (Seems I spoke just about every language but Hebrew. That will not happen next trip!)

*Secularism.* I also had read that the vast majority of Israeli Jews were not terribly observant. Nevertheless, I was surprised when I discovered that this is true, again taking a cue from my cousins, who were surprised and politely restrained (not exactly what I had come to view as Israeli traits!) when they learned how often I attend Shabbat services and how involved I am with our temple.

*Pride.* My pride in being Jewish and in our people and our ancestors, the courage, the wit, the intelligence, and the resourcefulness that have allowed our people to exist for so many thousands of years. The point is driven home when you visit Israel. Israeli ingenuity is alive and well. You sense it from the Golan Heights and Gaza, where you clearly can see that, only about 100 yards ahead, entire communities have been under terrorist attack and have survived against all odds. You experience it in the remarkable technological breakthroughs in medicine, communications and other sciences housed in technology parks in and around Tel Aviv.

*Zionism.* Having experienced a brief introduction to Israel, I now fiercely defend her against those who would tell me that she has no right to exist. I am a proud, new, eager ambassador with a great deal to learn and a passion that has been ignited deep within my heart.

My experience of the Beth HaTephila trip to Israel had a profound effect on me, one that has led me to question my life's purpose and the path (or paths) I will choose to travel from this point forward. We recently observed Yom HaShoah and, at the time I write, we now approach Israel Independence Day. I hope you looked for me. I was the one with the Magen David painted on my face, eating a falafel and singing HaTikvah.

*Susan Jarrett*

# Our Temple Family



Condolences to **Janet Grant** on the death of her father **Marshall Minner**



## Get Well Wishes to:



Condolences to **Brenda Lebensberger** on the death of her mother **Virginia Breen**,

Annie Laura Anders	Dionne Kempenich
Toby Cohen	Neil Kravitz
Edward Cooper	David Levine
Gary Cooper	Debbie Newmark Mulford
Jay Cooper	Michael Munger
David Gettleman	Tom Rohan
Ashley Gilreath	Ilona Sena
David Gould	Ariel Sharon
Deborah Ford Griesinger	Sylvia Sherr
Ethel Gross	Barbara Van Buskirk
Marnie Kaufman	Lois Williamson
Eleanor Keen	Wally Wolf
Shelly Kellnor	



Condolences to **Rita Reiser** on the death of her husband **Peter**.



Mazel Tov to **Matthew Barry** and **Oliver Sholder** on their B'nei Mitzvah.



Mazel Tov to **Jack Lowell** on his conversion.



Mazel Tov to **Adam Smith** on becoming an Eagle Scout in the tradition of his family. Adam is the son of **Dana and Rachel Smith** and the grandson of **Leah Karpen**.



Mazel Tov to **Sarah Cox** and **Josh Karpen** on their engagement.



Dear Sisterhood members,

Thank you so much for baking for the Adult B'not Mitzvah celebration. We could not have had such a fine one without your help. And to whoever gave me the little blue angel, thank you very much!

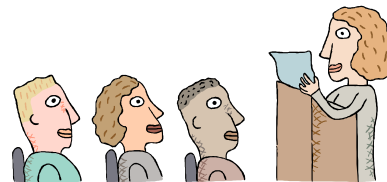
Affectionately,  
**Lulla Shermis**



Mazel Tov to **Fran Myers** on the engagement of her son **Dr. Kenneth Myers** to **Marianne Elrick-Manley**.



Mazel Tov to **Jonah Berkowitz**, son of **Alison Gilreath** and **David Berkey**. He was married on May 28<sup>th</sup> in Macon, Georgia, to **Jennifer Webster**, daughter of Pam & Bill Webster. Jennifer has an M.A. in Special Education and will be teaching in a Pre-K/Kindergarten classroom next year. Jonah is working on his M.A.T. and will be teaching Language Arts in a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade classroom. The couple resides in Athens, Georgia.



Several women of our congregation were honored at the **April Volunteer Recognition Luncheon**: **Barbara Whitaker** by Kids Voting Buncombe County; **Shirley Cohen** and **Rusty Shapiro** by the Jewish Council of Aging of the JCC; and **Leah Karpen** by the Asheville Art Museum. Congratulations to all!



## Congratulations to our Graduates



**Matthew Benatan**, grandson of *Jack & Nicki*, who lives in England, is graduating high school this month and in the fall plans to start his Freshman year at an Art and Music College in Devon.

**Shawn Davis**, son of *Bob & Dottie*, is graduating this May from University of Texas in Austin with an Electrical Engineering degree and a minor in business. Shawn will be taking a position with Microsoft following graduation. He and his bride - *Brooke Rivera* (also his high school sweetie) will reside in Seattle after their July wedding in Houston.

**Carla Faye Farson**, daughter of *Idelle Packer and Bo Farson*, is graduating from Asheville High School and the Middle College program at AB Tech. She has been accepted at the University of North Carolina Greensboro where she intends to major in theatre studies.

**Iaina Gooden**, granddaughter of *Telly and Deb Spencer* is graduating from Hiram High School, GA on May 27, 2006. College plans are undecided.

**Louis Gud**, son of *Hilary Paradise* will be graduating from North Buncombe High School. Come fall he will be attending North Carolina State University where he plans to study to become an aeronautical engineer.

*Jeff Boris & Sheila Cohig-Boris's* nephew, **David Gura** of Chapel Hill is graduating from Cornell University with a Bachelors Degree in Journalism. He will be working at NPR in Washington, DC after his graduation, and then plans to pursue his Masters in Journalism. His sister & brother, their twin niece and nephew, are graduating from Chapel Hill High School. **Katherine Gura** will go to Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont, and **Daniel Gura** will be attending Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts.

**Michael Keesler**, son of *Lisa Friedenber*g, is graduating from UCLA with a degree in Psychology. He also has received two awards: One is a service award from the LA County District Attorney's office for his work with their victim's assistance program, the other is from UCLA's student government for his work as secretary to their organization. Michael is taking the next year off during which he will apply to graduate programs in psychology and law.

**Jake Kravitz**, son of *Neil and Joanie*, graduated from Appalachian State University with a degree in Hospitality and Tourism Management and is working in Hilton Head

**Elliott Maurer**, son of *Bruce & Melissa Maurer*, is going to graduate from Hendersonville High School on June 9<sup>th</sup>. He plans to attend New York University (NYU) in the fall. He is graduating among the top 15 in his class and is expecting to be awarded a variety of scholarships that will help him at NYU.

**Leanna Maxine Miller**, daughter of *Jeff & Cindy Miller*, is graduating May 28<sup>th</sup> from the American Hebrew Academy in Greensboro, NC (high school). She will be attending Syracuse University in the Fall.

**Sara Lebensburger**, daughter of *Scott and Brenda*, is graduating from high school at The Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, New York and is planning on going to seminary in Israel next year, and then onto New York University where she has been accepted.

**Joshua Chalmers Pozner** will be graduating from Asheville High School and will be attending UNC-Greensboro starting in the fall. He has been Chairman of the Asheville Buncombe County Youth Council for 2 years. He is to receive an award at the AHS Seniors Banquet.

**Dena Ratner**, daughter of *Rabbi and Susan* graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on May 14, 2006.

**Nate Schulman**, son of *Denissa and David Schulman* of Scottsdale, Arizona, and Asheville will be graduating Savannah College of Art and Design on June 3. He was one of only six students to be accepted for graduate study at the California Institute of Art in Valencia, California, for Fall. His research paper on graphic design in world propaganda was selected for presentation at Bowling Green State University in February at the mid-year national conference for Educators in Journalism and Media.

**Ezra Stuetzel**, son of *Maggie Barry*, is graduating with honors from Tuscola High School in Waynesville. He will be attending UNC-Chapel Hill in the fall. He plans to major in pre-med.

**Molly Sweetser**, *Jenny Mercer's* daughter, will be attending UNC Chapel Hill this fall. She graduated last spring from NC School of Science and Math and deferred her admission for a year to allow travel in South America.



# Celebrate With Our Temple Families



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1	Emily Abrams	18	Margaret Baker
1	Sandra Layton	18	Barbara Brodbar
2	Patricia Silverberg	18	Juli Dave
3	Robert Ratner	19	Lita Diamond
3	Travis Shlein-Dellinger	19	Ginger Lerner
4	Carol Cohen	20	Vanessa Vargas
5	Xandy Chelms	21	Ron Goldstein
5	Sharon Lee	21	Judith Kane
5	Thomas Miller	21	Joshua Pozner
6	Helaine Greene	22	Maggie Barry
6	Joe Karpen	22	Jennifer Jenkins
6	Gail Sobel	23	Audie Bayer
6	Debra Winston	24	Christina Abrams
7	Eric Brandt	24	Frank Abrams
7	Jacob Weiss	24	Hannah Dave
8	Stephanie Cooper	25	Mia Kline
8	Joshua Erde	25	Gary Kramer
8	Jack Sholder	25	Sandy Langberg
9	Elizabeth Gergel	25	Jesse Miller
9	Janet Grant	25	Jeff Younger
10	Hugh Feinberg	28	Joe Harrison
10	Jonathan Pearlman	28	Shirley Rapoport
11	Graycon Dave	29	Dorothy Golf
12	Justin McCarthy	29	Richard Kort
14	Teresa Baggish	29	Gabriela Landau
17	Frederick Barry	30	Preston Diamond
17	Matthew Barry	30	Woldemar Dogny
17	Andrea Block	30	Samantha Younger
17	Shayne Stone		

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

1	Jeffrey & Sheila Boris
1	Bob & Carol Deutsch
7	Joseph & Barbara Derfel
9	Howard & Barbara Jaslow
9	Scott & Brenda Lebensburger
9	Alan & Patricia Silverberg
9	Charles & Barbara VanBuskirk
10	Chuck & Jackie Itzkovitz
11	Leo & Phyllis Finkelstein
15	Buddy & Susan Goodman
16	Alan & Cindy Feiler
17	Charley & Maggie Barry
17	Eric & Heidi Scheffer
18	Bob & Dottie Davis
21	Jack & Nicki Benatan
21	Marty & Barbara Stickle
22	Randy & Linda Gergel
23	Basil & Irma Goldman
27	Evan & Ashley Gilreath
29	Hugh & Lara Feinberg
29	Joshua & Carolyn Sirkin
30	A.N. & Merilyn Kaplan Jr.



### ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**TUESDAY, JUNE 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM**

#### KEY AGENDA ITEMS

- State of the Congregation
- Committee Reports
- Elections
- Cantor's Contract
- FY07 budget



### Shabbat Seder Picnic

**June 2, 6:30 PM**

**Bring your own picnic supper and enjoy the summer evening.**

**Services at 7:30 PM**



# Gifts and Memorials



The Congregation and its Trustees gratefully acknowledge the following gifts:

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

<u>DONATED BY</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF</u>	<u>DONATED BY</u>	<u>IN HONOR OF</u>
Alan Cutter & Children	<i>Carol Spencer Cutter</i>	Dan & Gloria Pincu	<i>Dionne Kempenich's Bat Mitzvah</i>
Gloria & Harry Bjorkstrom	<i>our brother-in-law Monty Finkeltaub</i>	Pat Reader	<i>Dionne Kempenich's Bat Mitzvah</i>
Myron Corets	<i>Mark Corets</i>	Joe & Barbara Derfel	<i>Lulla Shermis' Bat Mitzvah</i>
Pat Reader	<i>Constance Robertson</i>	Sidney & Ina Singer	<i>Barbara &amp; Howard Jaslow's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary</i>
Marvin, Susan & Rachel	<i>Benson Slosman</i>	Pat Reader	<i>the Jaslow's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary</i>
Miki Cohn Caplan	<i>Morton Cohn</i>	Noah Ratner and Family	<i>Gabe Chess's Bar Mitzvah</i>
Marvin Nockow	<i>Marjorie Nockow</i>	Gail Ashley	in appreciation of <i>Rabbi Ratner</i>
Anthony Joseph	<i>Marjory Joseph</i>	Jack & Robin Sholder	in appreciation of <i>Rabbi Ratner and Oliver's Bar Mitzvah</i>
Idelle Packer	<i>George Packer</i>	Rose Rose	wishing <i>John Berdie</i> get well wishes

## JOSEPH DAVE CHOIR

<u>DONATED BY</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF</u>
Steven J. Dave and Ken A. Dave	<i>Evalyn Dave</i>
Alan Cutter & Children	<i>Carol Spencer Cutter</i>

## B'not Mitzvah of Dionne Kempenich Lulla Shermis and Barbara VanBuskirk

Bob & Dottie Davis                      Michael & Michele Heller  
Leah Karpen

## HADDASSAH HOSPITAL FREEZER FUND

<u>DONATED BY</u>	<u>IN HONOR OF</u>
Dick & Irene Braun	<i>Dionne Kempenich, Lulla Shermis, Barbara VanBuskirk</i>
Kerry & Anna Friedman	<i>Dionne Kempenich, Lulla Shermis, Barbara VanBuskirk</i>
Fran Myers	the engagement of my son <i>Dr. Kenneth Myers to Marianne Elrick-Manley</i>

<u>DONATED BY</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF</u>
Allen Sher	<i>Ruth Sher</i>
Woldemar Dogny	<i>Rudolf Vrba</i>
Doris & Arnold Sgan	<i>Sidney T. Small</i>
<u>DONATED BY</u> Beatrice Greene	<u>IN HONOR OF</u> <i>Dionne Kempenich Lulla Shermis and Barbara VanBuskirk</i>

In honor of the Kindergarten of BHT Religious School.  
(We love and admire what you are doing.)  
*The children brought Tzedakah each week and want to  
give it to you.*

BHT Religious School Grades 5, 6, 7

Rabbi Robert & Susan Ratner in Honor of our Parents,  
Children, Daughter-in-law and Grandchild

Marvin & Susan Slosman                      Malenda Matthews

Rubin & Ann Feldstein                      Anthony & Janet Joseph

Sam & Lulla Shermis    Janice Rosenberg    Charles Gershon

Sunny & Marvin Newmark                      Roberta Newman

Doris & Arnold Sgan                      *Barbara & Howard Jaslow's  
50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

## CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

<u>DONATED BY</u>	<u>IN HONOR OF</u>
David Berkey & Jack Lowell	<i>Dionne Kempenich, Lulla Shermis, Barbara VanBuskirk</i>
Barbara G. Lubran	the B'not Mitzvah of <i>Dionne Kempenich, Lulla Shermis, Barbara VanBuskirk</i>
Gail A. Ashley	in appreciation of <i>Cantor Winston</i>

## LIBRARY FUND

<u>DONATED BY</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF</u>
Jayne & Herb Gallinger	<i>Lila Silverman</i>



# More Gifts and Memorials



The Congregation and its Trustees gratefully acknowledge the following gifts:

## INTERFAITH FUND

DONATED BY

Judith Haller

IN MEMORY OF

*Jacob Haller*

DONATED BY

Wally & Rene Wolf

IN HONOR OF

*B'not Mitzvah of  
Dionne Kempenich, Lulla Shermis  
Barbara VanBuskirk*

## GENERAL FUND

DONATED BY

Gerard Marder

IN MEMORY OF

*Ida Marder*

Rosenberg & Gilreath families

*Betsy Rosenberg*

Elise Israel

*George Tushak*

DONATED BY

John & Shirley Berdie

IN HONOR OF

*Dionne Kempenich,  
Lulla Shermis, Barbara VanBuskirk*

## OTHER

DONATED BY

The Kindergarten of Congregation Beth HaTephila gave a Tzedakah donation to *Seeds of Peace*.

The Kindergarten of Congregation Beth HaTephila purchased 2 trees in Israel with their Tzedakah money.

## TZEDAKAH FUND

DONATED BY

Doris & Arnold Sgan

IN MEMORY OF

*Janet Small*

Chuck & Jackie Itzkovitz

*Jack McLean*

DONATED BY

Chuck & Jackie Itzkovitz

IN HONOR OF

*Matthew Barry's Bar Mitzvah*

Barbara & Howard Jaslow

*Jack Lowell's conversion*

Joyce Davis & Alan Cutter

*Basil & Irma Goldman's  
daughter's wedding*

Brotherhood

*Rubin Feldstein for his  
brunch presentation on Yiskor Books*

## OPERATION IRAQI CHILDREN

DONATED BY

Sherrill & Ted Zoller

IN MEMORY OF

*Frances Miller*

Julienne Winner

*Ida Marder*

Ellen Knoefel

Jonathan B. Pearlman

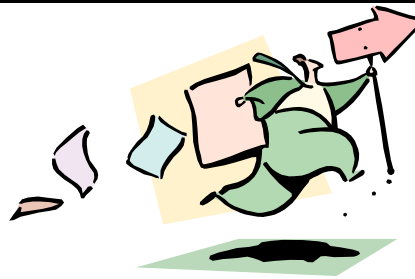
## SABBATICAL FUND

DONATED BY

Marty and Sally Kaplan

IN HONOR OF

*Susan and Rabbi Bob Ratner  
and their dedication to the Temple.*



# Hard Fox

## Asheville's Jewish Food Festival

### Sunday, October 22, 2006

We have a new location — Battery Park, adjacent to the Grove Arcade.



# YAHZEITS



The Yahrzeit policy at our Temple is as follows:

- ⊖ The Anniversary date can be celebrated either in the English calendar or the Hebrew calendar.
- ⊖ A letter to remind you about your upcoming Yahrzeit is sent to you two weeks before the actual date.
- ⊖ The name of your loved one is read at the Friday evening service immediately before the date of the Yahrzeit.
- ⊖ If your Yahrzeit actually falls on a Friday, it will be read the previous Friday.
- ⊖ If for any reason, changes must be made, please call the Office before the scheduled date of service.
- ⊖ Please keep the Temple Office informed of any incorrect dates or new dates you wish to include.
- ⊖ It is important to give the Office the complete date (month/day/year) and whether it is the English or Hebrew date.
- ⊖ Please take a moment to update the Office now. Thank you.

## June 2, 2006

Ethel Arlen  
Eva R. Dave  
Hope Diffenderfer  
David Ford  
Bernard Goldstein  
Minnie Himoff  
Marcia Levine  
Milton Lipman  
Fannie Milburg  
Emanuel Robinson  
Harry Sena  
Pearl Silverman  
George Tushak  
Sidney Wall

## June 16, 2006

Hannah Myerson Barwald  
Cecilia Baumgarten  
Mary DeRousse  
Sara Goldstein  
Rose Greenberg  
Murry E. Itzkovitz  
Leonard Levine  
Miriam Maiten  
Irving Nathan  
Emanuel Newman  
Harvey Penson  
Cele Resnick  
Frank Rosch  
Pearl S. Sher  
Margaret Smith

## June 23, 2006

Joann Atwater  
Harry Berman  
Lloyd Cooper  
Miriam Itzkovitz Ehrlich  
Dorothy Zaikaner Ettinger  
Benjamin Goldman  
Rose Goldman  
Louis Jaslow  
Geraldo Kempenich  
Maurice Herman Leterman  
Sam Levy  
Joseph Lichtenfels  
Robert Missig  
Herman Pitter  
Julie Reiss  
Louis Schwartz  
Gitel Singer

## June 30, 2006

Edna Feldstein  
Hyman Fidelman  
Terryce S. Kaplan  
Katie Karesh  
Bertha Kramer  
David Levitch  
Sadye Peyser  
Terry Shainberg  
Nancy Sheppard  
Hilton G. Spencer  
Daniel Studenberg  
David Thaler  
Fannie Winkelman  
Ray Pearlstine Wolff

## June 9, 2006

Ted Cohen  
Barbara Friedman  
Jacob Greenberg  
Albert Kaufman  
Ella Marx  
Jack Rosenstein  
Eli Rosenstein  
Lewis Ross  
Rose Weinstein  
William Weinstein



### While Rabbi Ratner is on Sabbatical

The two private communication methods to normally reach him will not be active during his absence: neither the 296-1395 answering service nor his personal email [ratner.tephila@charter.net](mailto:ratner.tephila@charter.net) will function.

So please be sure to call the Temple **253-4911** during regular office hours or email *Lea* or the *Cantor* at [tephila@charter.net](mailto:tephila@charter.net).

In case of emergency outside of the regular office hours please call **BOTH:**

- 1) President, Howard Jaslow, 254-5541
- 2) Cantor Deb Winston, 687-3660



# SISTERHOOD OF BETH HATEPHILA

## *Closing Luncheon*

Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> @ NOON

The Greenery on Tunnel Road

\$18 per person

Join us for this final get together of our successful season.

**PROGRAM: Election of Officers for 2006-2007**

**Guest Speaker: Donna Clark**

Donna is an Emmy Award winning writer who, prior to moving to Asheville, was director of public information at NPR in Washington D.C.

She is currently Director of Communications for Pack Square Conservancy; downtown's \$17.5 million dollar park which will be filled with original art, fountains, stages, and native flora. Donna will bring us all up to date on this exciting venture.

**You MUST RSVP by June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Make checks out to CBHT Sisterhood.**

**Mail or drop off your check with the form below at the Temple Office.**

Questions? Call *Jackie Itzkovitz* (658-3795) or *Ann Feldstein* (298-9782).



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée choice — please check one:

Grilled Salmon

or

Vegetable Lasagna

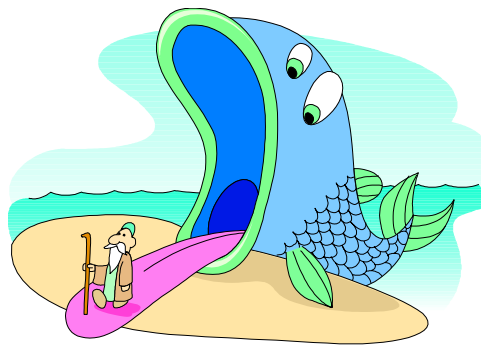
# June 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Congregation Beth HaTephila</b>                      43 North Liberty Street                      Asheville, NC 28801-1822                      253-4911</p>				1	2 6:30 PM Shabbat Seder Picnic 7:30 PM Kabbalat Services <b>Shavuot</b>	3 10:00 AM Shabbat Service including Torah, Shavuot prayers, chanting from the Book of Ruth and Yizkor
4	5 First day of JCC Camp	6	7 6:00 PM Sid Singer Program - Bring your on supper	8 12:00 PM BHT Sisterhood Closing Lunch	9 7:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service Oneg - Barbara & Howard Jaslow - 50th Anniv	10
11 3:30 PM Hester Street - film (Unger Hall)	12 12:00 PM Social Justice Mtg.	13 11:30 AM Tzedakah Mtg	14 6:00 PM Brotherhood Mtg - Unger Flag Day	15 Menorah Deadline	16 7:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service Oneg -Buddy & Susan Goodman- 20th Anniv	17
18 Father's Day	19 6:30 PM Annual Meeting	20	21 9:00 AM -3:00 PM Quilt Guild 6:00 PM Sid Singer Program - Bring your on supper Summer begins	22 Lea - Vacation	23 7:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service <b>Installation of Officers</b> Oneg -Jackie & Chuck Itzkovitz - 45th Anniv	24 6:30 PM "Life is a Cabaret" Performance & Silent Auction - Unger Hall
25	26 Lea - Vacation	27	28	29	30 7:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service Oneg - Bob & Sonja Hruska	

**CONGREGATION BETH HATEPHILA**  
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**ASHEVILLE, NC 28801-1822**  
**(828) 253-4911**

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**HOWARD JASLOW, PRESIDENT**



When Jonah escaped from the whale he went shopping with his Food Card.

Available for Ingles, Fresh Market, BiLo and EarthFare.

## **June Dates to Note**

June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Shavuot Service @ 10 AM	June 19 <sup>th</sup>	Congregational Annual Mtg.
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Sid Singer Seminar	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Sid Singer Seminar
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Sisterhood Closing Luncheon	June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Installation of Temple Officers
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Sisterhood Film Series: " <i>Hester Street</i> "	June 24 <sup>th</sup>	Cabaret Show & Concert
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Menorah</i> Deadline		