



The Menorah



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

January 2007

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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

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Temple Administrator: *Lea Schultz*

Rabbi's Office Hours for January

Thursdays. 10 AM – 11 AM
January. 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
Or by appointment.

From the Rabbi's Study

So there are several rabbis sitting at a conference in Iran whose aim is to challenge the veracity of the Holocaust. You watch this in disbelief, scratch your head, and come to the conclusion that you must be dreaming.

Well you were not dreaming. The conference did occur and those rabbis were present. I want to tell you that what you saw was a diversionary tactic, aimed at you and me and the entire civilized world.

Ahmadinajad is a statesman who is playing the game of statesmanship well, even if you believe he's playing dirty by striking at one of the sorest spots in the history of the Western world, namely the Holocaust. To question the Holocaust's existence is now an old anti-Semitic ploy, one aimed at stirring up the civilized and reasonable people of the world who know that the Holocaust is a fact. The recently revealed archives at Bad Arolsen are further proof of something that needed no further proof. Ahmadinajad knows all this.

So why did he go to all the trouble of having this silly conference? Sure he wanted to hurt Jewish feelings and attack Israel's legitimacy with words. But it was a tactic to divert attention away from Iran's nuclear efforts that are apparently reaching their conclusion. Iran will soon have the bomb. If Iran can divert the world's attention while it accomplishes this feat, if the US is too mired down in Iraq and Afghanistan to be able to muster forces to stop Iran's efforts, Iran will have won this battle against us in the West.

Shame on us that we've allowed our hearts to be broken over a diversionary tactic. We must keep our eyes and our statesmanship fully on one thing: deterring Iran from getting the bomb. Israel will be first in Iran's sights. We'll be next.



Temple Board & Committee Members

TEMPLE OFFICERS

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Dottie Davis	Bob Pozner
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16 additional members

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Sherrill Zoller, Vice President sisterhood@bethhatephila.org

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Buddy Riesenberg

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house@bethhatephila.org
Ty Erickson

Menorah Editor: Barbara Jaslow — menorah@bethhatephila.org



President's Message

Official Washington's capacity for finding excuses for inaction is endless, and many people in the State and War departments who play a part in this matter can spend months sucking their legalistic thumbs over any problem. So many things that might have been done were attempted too late.

- - I. F. Stone, journalist)

The above was written in 1944 when it was becoming known what the Holocaust really meant: the genocide of a people; the Jewish people.

But, how is that any different from today when the people in Darfur are being systematically slaughtered. Since February 2003, over 400,000 people have died and over 2.5 million people have been displaced from their homes. Each day, over 500 innocent people die from violence, malnutrition and disease. Shouldn't Stone's statement be made today?

In 1944, there was a world war that many would say took priority, even though some actions could have been taken. For example, something as simple as bombing the rail lines to the death camps. But, even that was not done.

Here we are today facing another genocide in the African Sudan where government-backed militia, the Janjaweed, are murdering, raping, and displacing entire communities of the Black population in Darfur. Yes, our President has labeled it genocide. But, words without action are meaningless.

Yes, we are bogged down in Iraq. But, what of the rest of the world? What of the United Nations?

The United States can pressure the UN, the African Union and European countries to act. The United States cannot police the whole world. But, we can unite with other countries to take action.

We Jews say "Never Again." But, it has happened. Bosnia, Rwanda, Cambodia. As Jews, we are to be "a light unto the nations." So, what can we, as individuals, do? We can write and send postcards to generate action from the US government. We can call the White House regularly. We can voice our concern to all about this tragedy.

To bring attention to this plight, we are displaying a banner in front of the Temple (see below) to alert all who see it that they too can take action and pressure our decision makers into action. For further information, see the Social Justice Committee's bulletin board in Unger Hall.

Let us heed the following quote by author Helen Fein (1994):

It is not enough to say "Never Again!" unless one refuses to create new victims and throws out a lifeline.

- Howard





Chai Notes

What I've Learned

I would like to thank each and every one of you for all your support, kind words and sympathies after the very sudden death of my father this month. All of you, even if you think you didn't do anything special, have stepped up to the plate and pitched in to help in some way. Instead of writing my normal column, I would like to share with you a few of the things I have learned as I staggered through the last few weeks.

I learned that there is no right or wrong way to act in this situation. What was once normal is impossible and what was bizarre is ok. When I ran into the room moments after my father died, and threw myself across his chest, I begged him not to leave me. My moral compass and true north was leaving my world, and I could not imagine going out to face the world without him. The days that followed are now a blur; whole days have vanished as my brain doles out the pain in measured doses to my heart. Getting showered and dressed takes hours. I can't find anything.

I learned that there were 400 people at my dad's funeral because he spent an incredible amount of time keeping in touch with people all over the country. Jewish, non-Jewish, professional, blue collar, his sailing buddies from Chesapeake Bay, his lake-cabin and tennis buddies, golf buddies, insurance buddies from 40 years ago, there they all were. I left our home in Minnesota 3 years ago, and never looked back or made any effort to affirm those relationships. All those people at the funeral watched us grow up; they smiled bravely when I left, and cheered from afar when I became a Cantor. That neglect was wrong of me, and it needs to be fixed.

I learned that grieving is both an intensely private and a public struggle. No one will ever know what I whispered into my dad's ear after he died, or what I'm thinking when I stare at his picture. But Judaism asks of me that I share my grief enough that others can help carry the load. I will stand and say Kaddish with my fellow Jews. If I cry, they will understand. If I can't pull music out of my shattered heart for a little while, they will understand. If next fall Yom Kippur is agony, they will know why.

And so, we put one foot in front of the other. Each day gets a tiny bit easier. I know that my dad was almost done "baking" me. He passed down, without seeming to, how to live with a "lev tov," a good heart and how to serve the Jewish community. Now it's my job to show that I learned and understood, and that I can demonstrate to our son how we grieve and how we go on. L'dor va'dor, may his memory be for a blessing.



B'shira
Cantor Deb Winston



Sisterhood News



Brotherhood News



Hopefully all of you shoppers are enjoying your bargains from Sip, Shop and Schmooze. If you missed it, perhaps you'll get another chance next year. Thanks to **Jackie Itzkovitz** and her committee for all their work in preparing for this event: *Ellen Fisher, Linda Kavanaugh, Herta Horowitz, Gail Sobel, Natalie Nachman* and to *Nadine Fidelman* for the use of her displays.

The gift shop held expanded hours during December for Hannukah sales. A vote of appreciation for those ladies who staffed the gift shop during those hours: *Catherine Arons, Shirley Berdie, Sherry Plotkin, Pat Reader, Lulla Shermis, Gail Sobel* and *Ann Feldstein*.

CFL (*compact fluorescent light bulbs*) are still available for purchase through the gift shop. If you haven't gotten yours, it's not too late.

Put Sunday, February 11th on your calendar for an interesting and fun book discussion: ***What They Did for Love*** — *Sarah, Zipporah and Lilah*, three books by prize-winning novelist **Marek Halter** will be discussed by *Nicki Benatan, Shirley Cohen* and *Barbara Jaslow*. Coffee and love-ly desserts will be served to warm your heart.

CALENDAR

Sisterhood Board Meeting:

Thursday, Jan. 4th @ 2:30 PM in Unger Hall

Blood Drive:

Sunday, January 7th

What They Did For Love:

Sunday, Feb. 11th @ 2:30 PM in Unger Hall

With the October brunch, the Nosh and Toss, and the Lichtenfels Institute all behind us, the Brotherhood looks forward to several upcoming events. On Sunday January 7th at 10:00 AM, the Brotherhood-Sisterhood sponsored Blood Drive will be held in Unger Hall. Volunteers are needed to work that day as greeters and TLC providers as well as actual blood donors. If you can help, please call *Linda Kavanaugh* or *Vic Fahrner*. Give the gift of life to others.

Our next brunch will offer something really special for the whole family. The people of Chelm (a real village town), known to us as the Chelmites, featured wise men who asked deep questions and who came up with simple, silly answers which actually make sense (Maybe?). The January 14th brunch features **Allen Sher** telling these funny tales of the Chelmites as they tried to figure out these problems. Children will love these stories; those who have never heard of the wise men of Chelm will love them, and those of us who are a little bit familiar with them will love to relive them with Allen. There is no Religious school that day, and children and students eat free of charge. So come find out how to "capture the moon," "why the sea is salty" and other wonderful questions and answers from the "wise men" of Chelm. Don't miss it.

The end of the year is upon us. Members who have not sent in their dues for this year, please do so. Your support is vital to our programming. Thanks to you who have renewed your membership already.

Next meeting is **Tuesday January 9th at 7:00 PM**. All new and old members are welcome to attend. We need your ideas and your energy.

Arnie Sgan,
President



JCS INSTITUTE TAPES

CBHT Brotherhood has an audio tape recording of **Dr. Jill Levine's** presentation in Asheville in 2004. Dr. Levine is an Orthodox Jew who is Chair of the New Testament Department at Vanderbilt University. She is well known nationally for her work.

We also have an audio tape recording of **Bishop John Spong's** presentation in Asheville in 2003. Bishop Spong is a nationally known writer and speaker. His topic was: "Reading The New Testament Through Jewish Eyes."

Israeli Rabbi, **Michael Boyden's** evening speech: "Israel Dealing With Terror and Conflict" recorded this year at UNC-Asheville is now available.

A set of tapes (2 each set) is available for sale at \$4.00 per set. Please contact **Arnold Sgan** (252-9820) or asgan@charter.net. Make checks payable to CBHT BROTHERHOOD and state which set(s) you want.



Sunday Morning Adult Education with Rabbi Ratner

The Prophets of Ancient Israel

January 7th, 21st, 28^t — from 9:40 - 11:45 AM
(no class on January 14th)



Advanced Hebrew with Rabbi Ratner

Monday, January 8th, 22nd, 29th
2:00 – 3:00 PM in the Religious School Library
(No classes on Jan. 1st & 15th)

Conversational Hebrew with Rabbi Ratner

Thursday, January 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM in the Religious School Library



Friendship Circle

Saturday, January 13th at 10 AM

Join us for a light breakfast, a short service and a lively discussion of the book The Lemon Tree by Sandy Tolan. In particular, we will be discussing Chapter 4. So it's not too late to get the book and catch up on the reading. Or just come and join the stimulating and enlightening conversation with or without the book.



Lunch with the Rabbi

Monday, Jan. 22, 2007

This month we'll read together an article by Ellis Cose from Newsweek of December 4, 2006, "Sorry Isn't Just Another Word." Why do public figures rush to ask forgiveness of those whom they wrong? Ought they be forgiven? What are the Jewish opinions on this matter? Please bring a lunch and join Rabbi Ratner in Unger Hall on Monday, January 22nd at 12 noon.



Classes Offered by Jenny Mercer

Intermediate Hebrew — Thurs, 5:30 — 7:00,
Nov. 30th — May 10th (no class on Apr. 19th)

Learn to translate and understand basic grammar. Textbook, Prayerbook Reading The Easy Way is available in the office.

Cost: \$90 (member) \$117 (non-member).

Bible Study and Translation

Thursdays. 7:00 — 8:30 PM

Session I: Sept. 21st — Jan. 18th;

Session II: Jan. 25th — May 10th

Intermediate Hebrew literacy necessary.

No class Apr. 19th

Cost: \$60/session (member); \$78/session (non-member).

All classes are held in the religious school building.

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



Yiddish Expressions of the Month

Dos hot oyfgeton mayn kadesh, biz hindert un tvantzik yor!

That's the achievement of my son, may he live to be 120.

Here the word kadesh means son because a son could say Kadesh for you traditionally, hence having a son was important. Wishing a long life is often done for favored people or on joyous events.

Oyb di bobbe volt gehat a bord, volt ze geven a zeyde.

If grandmother had a beard she would have been a grandfather.

This also means wishing won't make it so.

Rubin Feldstein

Learning

Stepping through the doors of a Temple for a person who was raised in less than a religious setting or who hasn't been to services in a number of years (or maybe never) can be humbling, to say the least. First there is the issue of local traditions versus your upbringing. There may be new music, new prayers, new personalities, and not a single soul handing out those informative little headsets with a tour guide tape like you got when you went to Graceland or the Biltmore Estate.

Then you must dive headlong into the trilingual aspect of the service, with English, Hebrew and flecks of Yiddish raining down on your head. And of course, there's that little point of interest that there are few areas of consistency among almost all Jews. There are only about a handful-and-a-half of characteristics, beliefs or practices that are true across the board. But this you can count on: we Jews are a kissy bunch.

Now, while you are mired in horrible flashbacks of Aunt Ida's indelible Merlot Rose lipstick, let me just tell you that's not exactly where I was headed with this one. Yes, we kiss a variety of things for a variety of reasons, but we seem especially fond of kissing holy objects. While this is not technically a religious obligation, it appears to be a very widespread practice.

Like most people who move to Asheville, I have belonged to a number of temples around the country, and from the Southeast where I was raised, the Northeast where I went to college, to the West coast where I worked for many years, I have yet to see a prayer book land on the floor by accident that was not hastily picked up and kissed. And prayer books aren't the only lucky ones, no siree.

So let's get some clarity about custom here, because after age 11, it's just good to know the way to go about these sorts of things.

Ariel Scheib writes for the Jewish Virtual Library (jewishvirtuallibrary.org):

"To kiss a holy object displays veneration. This symbolically represents one's devotion to Judaism and loyalty to God. Examples of kissing holy objects include:

- The two ends of the atarah of the tallit are kissed just before putting on the prayer shawl.

Pucker up!

- The tefillin are kissed when taken out and returned to their bag.
- The tzitzit (fringes) are kissed at the end of the Baruch she-Amar and during the recitation of the Shema.
- The curtain of the ark (parochet) is kissed before opening and after closing (when the Torah is taken out and then returned).
- The Torah mantle is kissed when it passes by in procession in the synagogue.
- The Torah scroll is kissed before one recites the blessings over it, either with the intermediary of the edge of the tallit, or the sash used to tie the scroll together, but never with the bare hand.
- A siddur (prayer book) and Chumash are kissed before putting them away; they are also kissed if accidentally dropped on the floor.
- The mezuzah on the doorpost is kissed when entering or leaving a house."

And while I can't find anything about it on the Internet, I know in my family it was always equally important that you should also kiss your mother and your father and say "Shabbat Shalom" at the end of services. Preferable to add, "And thank you for the delicious dinner and for going through the pain of childbirth for my sake" while you're at it.

If you like to gather research and you delve into mystical Judaism, there is even more to consider on the subject. At JewishEncyclopedia.com I read:

"By a beautiful image, the death of God's favorites was supposed to be produced by a kiss from God ("bi-neshinah"). Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Aaron, Moses, and Miriam were taken in this manner. This mode of departure is considered the easiest of all deaths, and is reserved for the most pious."

Guess I'll have to work on my piety, because given the choice between a natural disaster, car crash, dreadful disease, and being kissed to death, the choice is pretty clear.

But I digress.

So. For any of you who were feeling lost or timid with your lips, you can now kiss with confidence. At least at Temple.

Shalom!

Kim Wilde
Ritual Committee

From the Tzedakah Committee



Tzedakah Collection

We will once again be collecting articles for children who have been removed from their homes and are being placed in foster care. Needed items for foster children: new or gently used sweatshirts, underwear, pajamas for children ages 3-8, flashlights, small toys, and school supplies.



Don't forget to bring food for the Manna food barrel whenever you come to temple.

The Tzedakah Committee is seeking new members. The Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 11:30 to 12:30. Call *Ann Feldstein* at 298-9582 if you are interested in joining or want more information. *Ann Feldstein*, Chair



It is traditional at Tu B'Shevat, our New Year of the tree, to plant trees in the land of Israel to rejuvenate our promised land.

If you would like to purchase trees to be planted in Israel please send check for

\$18.00/tree to: Jewish National Fund
42 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

From the Social Justice Committee

Want to do something to help stop global warming? Here are 10 simple things you can do and how much carbon dioxide you'll save doing them.

Change A Light

Replacing one regular light bulb with a compact fluorescent light will save 150 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

Drive Less

Walk, bike, carpool or take metro transit more often. You'll save one pound of carbon dioxide for every mile you don't drive!

Recycle More

You can save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide per year by recycling just half of your household waste.

Check Your Tires

Keeping your tires inflated properly can improve gas mileage by more than 3%. Every gallon of gasoline saved keeps 20 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere.

Use Less Hot Water

It takes a lot of energy to heat water. Use less hot water by installing a low-flow showerhead (350 pounds of CO₂ saved per year) and washing your clothes in cold or warm water (500 pounds saved per year).

Avoid Products With A Lot Of Packaging

You can save 1,200 pounds of carbon dioxide if you cut down your garbage by 10%.

Adjust Your Thermostat

Moving your thermostat down just 2 degrees in winter and up 2 degrees in summer could save about 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

Plant A Tree

A single tree will absorb one ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime.

Turn Off Electronic Devices

Simply turning off your television, DVD player, stereo, and computer when you're not using them will save thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

Be A Part Of The Solution

Learn more and get active at ClimateCrisis.net.

Temple Happenings



CONFIRMATION CLASS Sunday, January 7th @ 12:15

We'll view the documentary "Paper Clips," a remarkable story that has changed lives.

We'll begin at our normal 12:15 with pizza and ice cream and end a bit later at 2 PM.

SHABBAT SEDER Friday, January 12th – 6:00 PM

Catered by *Everyday Gourmet*

Vegetarian White Lasagna with
Roasted Vegetables & Rosemary

Pasta Marinara with Grilled Asparagus and Portobellos

Tossed Salad — Fresh Fruit — Brownies

Cost: \$9.00/Adults; \$4.50/child 6-12; 5 and under free

Call Lea (253-4911) by **Wednesday, January 10th**

FYI: Tracy catered our Passover dinner last year



January Onegs

- Jan. 5 Sisterhood
- 12 Shabbat Seder
- 19 In honor of Sam Shermis's birthday
- 26 In honor of Rabbi Ratner



Martin Luther King Day Annual Peace Walk — January 15th 11:30 AM @ St. James AME Church Walk to City-County Plaza



Our Religious School will be having a Tu B'Shevat Seder on Sunday, February 4th at 11 AM. If you are not involved in Religious School and would like to attend please call Lea at the office 253-4911.



TOT SHABBAT Friday, January 19th @ 6:45 PM



It is with great joy, but also much sadness, that I tell you I am retiring as of June 30, 2007.

My almost 5 years at Beth HaTephila have been the best work experience of my career. It has brought me great satisfaction to work with Rabbi Ratner and Cantor Deb to make our congregation the vibrant, friendly, and active congregation it is. I say "our" congregation because all of you have made Chuck and I feel a part of you.

I will miss your smiling faces whether sitting at my desk, seeing you at services or enjoying good food and great conversation at a Shabbat Seder.

Chuck and I look forward to traveling, taking classes at the College for Seniors, playing lots of Scrabble, and just being together.

Lea



I've worked with many secretaries, administrators and executive secretaries during my career in industry and at Fortune 200 companies. But, never had I met and worked with someone with all the qualities that Lea has. She is dedicated, conscientious, efficient, loyal, organized, resourceful, welcoming, and a valuable confidante. Besides all the behind-the-scenes work that gets done thanks to her, she is also the first person a visitor meets. And that has been a blessing for us. We've heard many a visitor say "what a warm place." First impressions are so important and she has done that so well.

I could go on and on bragging about our Lea and how invaluable she has been for us. But, I also know that it is time for her (and Chuck) to relax and do the many things they have been dreaming of doing. She deserves it. She's earned it.

So, Lea, we all wish you well and we thank you for all you have done for us!

Howard

More Temple Happenings



Rabbi's Discretionary Fund 2006

Donations made to:

ABCCM
Arava Hazon Bike Ridge
Asheville Jewish Community Center
Beth Israel Congregation
Center for Diversity Education
Chabad Lubavitch of WNC
Clergy Institute (Brotherhoods)
Direct Relief International
Guardian Ad Litem
Habitat for Humanity
Hadassah Freezer Fund
Hard Lox
HelpMate
History @ Hand
Jewish Heritage for the Blind
Jewish National Fund
Jewish Chautauqua Society
Jewish Foundation for the Righteous
Jewish Lights Publishing Co.
Kehillat Sulam Ya'akov
Literacy Council of Buncombe County
Maccabi Academy
Make a Wish Foundation
Manna Food Bank
MAZON
Nature Conservancy
New Israel Fund
North Carolina Hillel
NC Council of Churches
Our Voice
Save Darfur.org
Seeds of Peace
Simon Wiesenthal Center
Southern Poverty Law Center
VORP
WNC Aids Project
WNC Jewish Council on Aging
WNC Jewish Federation
Womansong
Ziv Tzedakah Fund

We have also helped our congregational family with continuing Jewish education, Jewish camping, Israel trip support and Jewish family service.



Yiddish Club

Our Yiddish Club will start meeting again on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, at 7:00 PM in Unger Hall. All are welcome to this user-friendly group. Knowledge of the language isn't needed. When it's used, it's translated. We read stories, listen to music, watch a film, sing and enjoy the company. Incidentally, in Chelm it was decreed that anything sung in Yiddish is never off-key. So come already and join us.

If you have any questions call 298-9782 or e-mail rubinf@charter.net.

Rubin Feldstein

Hard Lox

A special thanks to all the women that baked for our Hard Lox event. Whether you were part of a team or baked individually, we thank you and appreciate all your work. The sweets looked so nice.

Nicky



We would also like to thank *Myrna Shuster*, who was part of the baking brigade, and *Brett Berger* who helped in the setup of tents and booths. They were inadvertently omitted from our list of hard-working volunteers last month.

The tally is in for HardLox — \$47,500.00!

Thank you to EVERYONE who made this year's festival a huge success!

Get ready for HardLox 2007

October 21, 2007

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

**REMINDER: First Friday of each Month
Changed Service Time: 6:30 — 7:30 PM
Starts January 5, 2007**

Our Temple Family



Thank You from the Ratners!

Dear Congregation and Community,

Rabbi Ratner and I want to express our continued gratitude for your loving concern during this challenging time.

Your warm and heartfelt wishes, patience, and allowing him this time to go through surgery, treatment and recovery helped us enormously.

Together, we'll continue to work positively towards a healthy outcome.

Gratefully,

Susan Ratner



Get Well Wishes to:

Emily Clark	Marnie Kaufman
Adam Cohen	Daniel Lipman
Lawrence Cohen	Debbie Newmark Mulford
Gertrude Coleman	Don Norton
Edward Cooper	Buddy Patton
Gary Cooper	Rabbi Ratner
Adam Randal Eastus	Anna Robinson
Joseph Emanuel	Ariel Sharon
Paul Ford	Karl Straus
Deana Goldstein	Sylvia Straus
Deborah Ford Griesinger	Norman Willis
Ethel Gross	Jan Till



Condolences to **Cantor Deb, Bob** and **Adam** and **Judy Kane** on the death of **Stan Kane**, father of Cantor Winston.



Condolences to **Barbara Jaslow** on the death of her aunt **Mary Kalish**.



Condolences to the **Paly** family on the death of **Helen Paly**, mother of Scott, mother-in-law of Karen and grandmother of Erin and Brooke.



Condolences to the family of **Rose H. Rose**.



Condolences to **Ron Manheimer** on the death of his mother.



Thank you to all who contributed the yummy chili and side dishes at our Shabbat Seder on December 8th.



Mazel Tov to **Stephen and Megan Sgan** on the birth of their son, **William Evan Sgan**. Congratulations also to the proud grandparents, **Arnold and Doris Sgan**.



Mazel Tov to **Rosalie Schrier** on the birth of her third great-grandson, **Logan Adam Barr**. His parents are **Kevin and Amy Barr**.



Congratulations to **Josh Dubin** who was selected WNC Cross Country Runner of the Year. Josh won his conference and came in second in the state knocking 90 seconds off his best time. Congratulations also to **Zoe Dubin** who received honorable mention for Runner of the Year as a freshman. Congratulations to **Logan Livingstain** who was selected to the WNC 4-A All-Conference Football Team. We salute these top athletes and students.

Directory Updates are included in "directory form" in the centerfold of this Menorah. If you remove the pages, they can be cut on the centerline and then folded in the middle and placed in the back of your 2006 Directory.



Celebrate With Our Temple Families

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Jaime Rea
 1 Jesse Rea
 1 Denissa Schulman
 3 Linda Gergel
 3 Jan Till
 4 Kirsty Kline
 4 Chad Lebensburger
 4 Sara Lebensburger
 4 Amy Mandel
 4 Danny Pitter
 5 Howard Jaslow
 5 Alice Cohen
 6 Gabriella Samuel
 6 Ina Singer
 7 Samuel Rosenberg
 7 Trudy Vautrin
 9 Charles Gershon
 9 Rachel Kramer
 9 Samantha Kramer
 9 Idelle Packer
 9 David Zoller
 10 Alex Brandt
 12 John Berdie
 12 Mark Boyd
 14 William David
 14 Robert Gursky
 14 Leah Katell
 14 Donna Rinsler
 15 Robert Bayer</p> | <p>15 Sarah Cox
 15 Arvin Kaufman
 16 Brooke Paly
 16 Laurence Weiss
 17 Samuel Shermis
 18 Gloria Bjorkstrom
 18 Ethan Goodman
 18 Mary Ann Jabben
 18 Sylvia Straus
 20 Frank Goldfarb
 20 Gerard Marder
 21 Joel Sher
 25 Atom Emet
 26 Josh Dubin
 26 Hertha Horwitz
 26 Melvin (Buddy) Riesenberg
 26 Debra Slosman
 26 Adam Kane Smith
 27 Ashley Gilreath
 28 Susan Slosman
 29 Richard Blatt
 29 Robert Gardner
 29 Beatrice Greene
 29 Beverly Harris
 30 Daniel Gottlieb
 30 Savannah Stein
 31 Bobbi Langberg
 31 Lydia Nathan
 31 Robin Nathan</p> |
|---|--|

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Russell & Maureen Sher
 2 Harry & Gloria Bjorkstrom
 9 Tyrone & Niccole Erickson
 19 Herbert & Jayne Gallinger
 19 Don & Barbara Whitaker



Have you noticed the ads in the back of the Menorah?

Would you like to add your business to that page?

We are now accepting ads for the March – August issues of the Menorah.

RATES	6 Months	One Year
Business card	\$180	\$330
Quarter Page	\$240	\$440

Submission deadline February 1st.

Ads must be either business card or quarter page size.

This benefit is only available to congregants and the editorial board has the right to refuse an ad.

Space is limited. Act now!

Support publication of the Menorah and advertise your business at the same time!

Questions? Contact Barbara Jaslow (254-5541) menorah@bethhatephila.org.



Gifts and Memorials



The Congregation and its Trustees gratefully acknowledge the following gifts:

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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IN MEMORY OF

DONATED BY

IN HONOR OF

Rubin & Ann Feldstein *Morris Miller*

Sally & Lowell Pearlman *Anne Pearlman*

Nicky & Ty Erickson *Elsie Erickson*

Jackie & Chuck Itzkovitz *Louise Rubin*

Ruth Slawson & Arvin Kaufman *John Slawson*

Skip Pearlman *Olga Manket and Barney Pearlman*

Phyllis B. Scher *Robert J. Scher*

Shirley Cohen *Rose H. Rose*

Shirley Cohen *Barbara Van Buskirk*

Adele Rose *Rabbi Michael Robinson*

Pat Reader *Rabbi Michael Robinson*

Barbara Blomberg *Shirley Blomberg*

David Berkey *Maurice Berkey*

Ben & Sylvia Kanner *Sam Kanner*

Leni Senfeld *Benjamin Goodkin*

Jean & Joseph Berg *Edith & Emanuel Newman*

Gil & Dionne Kempenich *Rabbi Michael Robinson*

Irma Cantor *Irving Cantor*

Ditte Phillips & Isaac Phillips-Longon *Jeffrey W. London*

Brotherhood in honor and thanks for *Bill Sabo's recent talk.*

Harris & Laura Livingstain *Marshall's Bar Mitzvah*
Wishing Rabbi Ratner a speedy recovery

The Josh Sirkin Family *Rosalie Schrier*

Bob & Carol Deutsch *Sally & Lowell Pearlman*

Marc Rudow & Debi Miles *Rene & Wally Wolf*

Jackie & Chuck Itzkovitz *Ted & Sherrill Zoller*

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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Jackie & Chuck Itzkovitz *Ethel Itzkovitz*

Basil Goldman *Jean Goldman*

YOM KIPPUR MUSIC FUND

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The Winston Family *Robert Winston, Sr.*

In Memory of Stan Kane, father of Cantor Deb

Vic & Sharon Fahrer *Lennie Senfeld Leah Karpen*

Howard & Barbara Jaslow *Rubin & Ann Feldstein*

Dan & Gloria Pincu *Phil & Carol Cohen Michelle Tracz*

Susan Jarrett *Shirley & Paul Ford Ted & Sherrill Zoller*

David Berkey & Jack Lowell *Phyllis B. Scher Adele Rose*

Hilary Paradise *Herb & Jayne Gallinger Judy Leavitt*

Rene & Wally Wolf *Susan, Buddy & Ethan Goodman*

Lotte & Seymour Meyerson *Chuck & Lea Schultz*

John & Shirley Berdie *Helaine & Lenny Greene*

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IN MEMORY OF

Ike and Ruth Chicurel *Salo Marx*

TZEDAKAH FUND

DONATED BY

IN MEMORY OF

Allen Sher *Ruth Sher*

DONATED BY

IN HONOR OF

Howard & Barbara Jaslow *Seymour Meyerson's 90th Birthday*

DONATED BY

IN HONOR OF

Harris & Laura Livingstain *Marshall's Bar Mitzvah*



More Gifts and Memorials



The Congregation and its Trustees gratefully acknowledge the following gifts:

GENERAL FUND

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Leo & Phyllis Finkelstein	<i>Sam Baer</i>
Joe & Judi Goldenberg	<i>Esther and Raphael Goldenberg</i>
Gail & Nelson Sobel	<i>Louise Rubin</i>
Lita Diamond	<i>Alfred Diamond</i>
Leah Karpen	<i>Lillian Bieber</i>
Lowell & Sally Pearlman	<i>Barney Pearlman and Olga Manket</i>
Beatrice Greene	<i>Dorothy Gingold Peck and Harry Orenzow</i>

DONATED BY

IN HONOR OF

Syd White	<i>Rabbi Ratner</i>
Barbara Hall Berkwits & Leland Berkwits	<i>Sharon Fahrer's very successful "The Family Store" exhibition in Asheville</i>
<i>Barry LaBoda in thanks for the warm welcome at the Shabbat Seder Dinner & Services</i>	

LANDSCAPING FUND

Gail & Nelson Sobel

MAIMONIDES FUND

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IN MEMORY OF

Dorothy Z. Fligel	<i>Coleman Zageir</i>
Bill & Joan Rocamora	<i>Coleman Zageir</i>
Dick & Irene Braun	<i>Stan Kane and Rose Rose</i>
Leah Karpen	<i>Dr. Samuel Robinson</i>

LIBRARY FUND

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IN MEMORY OF

Joe & Barbara Derfel	<i>Ann Tassinger</i>
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JOSEPH DAVE CHOIR FUND

DONATED BY

IN MEMORY OF

Hyman Dave	<i>Ethel Dave and Ann Moss</i>
Rosalie Schrier	<i>Ethel Dave, Joseph Dave, Kimberly Barr, Ann Moss, Sara Rosenblatt, Earl Schrier, and Lil Schupler</i>

MUSIC FUND

DONATED BY

IN MEMORY OF

Brad and Ellen Fisher	<i>Stan Kane</i>
-----------------------	------------------



The Gift of Life



On **Sunday, January 7, 2007** beginning at **9:30 AM**, Temple Beth HaTephila will hold its second annual blood drive. Last year's drive was a huge success. We achieved over 98% of our donor goal.

Brotherhood and Sisterhood are jointly sponsoring this great mitzvah event. The often-repeated saying is so very true: **"Giving blood is giving the gift of life."**

The greatest mitzvah we can give is giving anonymously to someone we do not know. You do not actually have to give blood to participate in our Blood Drive. We also need volunteers to greet donors as they come in, provide snacks, especially sugar-free ones, and work in the canteen area. The shifts for greeters and canteen workers will each be 1½ to 2 hours in duration.

I urge all who can to join in our Blood Drive this year and help us achieve 100% of our goal!

Contact **Vic Fahrer** @vicfahrer@charter.com or **Linda Kavanaugh** @bubladdie@aol.com to sign up and/or to obtain further information.

Linda Kavanaugh



Yahrzeits



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.

Jan. 5, 2007

Dorothy Black
 Fritzi Diamond
 Tippi Galumbeck
 Fredick Goodhead
 Esther Hamburg
 Nathan Heller
 Frank Karpen
 Jacob Meyers
 Nathan Peterseil
 Samuel Plotkin
 Max Riesenber
 David M. Robinson
 Lee Sheppard
 Herb Stein
 Simpson Robert Walker Jr.
 Sigmund Weiss

Jan. 12, 2007

Samuel Black
 Walter Breen
 Esther Kanter Cohen
 Bernice R. Deutsch
 Betty Fisher
 Nathan Gershon
 Jose Hong
 Francis Hoyt
 Nettie Levy
 Rhoda Pearlman
 Barney Shwedick

Jan. 19, 2007

Anna Ainspan
 Henry Hertzberg
 Herman Kreinberg
 Sol Landau
 Mildred Heller Nathan
 Molly Sobel
 Augusta Stein
 Miriam Stein

Jan. 26, 2007

Ida Abramowitz
 Randall Ashley-Smith
 Fanny Galumbeck
 Abraham Golf
 Haskell Harris
 Myrtle Jaslow
 Moses Kaufman
 Louis H. Kell
 Sylvia Kempenich
 Sol Landau
 Arthur Lieberman
 Nathan Lipschitz
 Leon Manket
 John R. Matthews
 Blanche Rindsberg
 Dot Rocamora
 Lillian Schas
 Sam Schrier
 Meier Strauss
 David Tennes
 Boris Zohar
 Nina Zohar



Contact	E-Mail	Telephone
Lea Schultz , Temple Administrator M-Th: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Friday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM	admin@bethhatephila.org	253-4911
Howard Jaslow , Temple President	president@bethhatephila.org	254-5541
Rabbi Robert Ratner	rabbi@bethhatephila.org	296-1395 (Emergency Answering Service)
Cantor Debbie Winston	cantor@bethhatephila.org	253-4911

Community News



JCC ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, January 25th at the JCC

6:00 PM – Reception & Year-End Slideshow

6:30 PM – Meeting

Agenda

Approval of 2006 Minutes

2006 Financial Report

Director's Annual Report

President's Annual Report

Special Presentations & Honors

Election of New Board Members

All JCC members are encouraged to attend.

If you cannot attend, please send us your proxy!



JCC Teens Events

Thursday, January 11th, 6 – 8 PM:

Volunteer at MANNA Food Bank

Meet 5:30 at the JCC for carpool, or meet us at MANNA at 6PM!

Sunday, January 28th, 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Skiing at Cataloochee in Maggie Valley

Skiing lift ticket and rental: \$25 (includes group lesson)

Snowboarding lift ticket: \$25; rental: \$10; lesson: \$12.

Dress in layers, warm socks, gloves, etc., Bring snacks or money for snack bar. Transportation by JCC Bus and/or Parent Carpool. If weather/road conditions are poor, call 258-2591 (*Laurie Chess*). Volunteer drivers needed!

February 15th – Cooking for Homeless Shelter

February 25th – Skating, Bowling or Climbing – TBA

March 4th – Volunteer at JCC Purim Carnival



Hadassah Mitzvah Day


Mitzvah Day for Hanukkah was a community effort. While Hadassah and the JCC started the process, we could not have accomplished it without so many people wanting to help.

We packed toiletries and gifts in bags decorated by the Maccabi Academy on Wednesday December 13th with *Ellen Fisher, Gail Sobel and Carol Cohen* helping.

On Friday, December 15th the delicious meals were ready to be packed along with our goody bags, fresh flowers and some menorahs. The people who helped pack and deliver were *Wolff Alterman, Gail Ashley-Smith, Elise Israel, Sheldon Neuringer, Ellie and Lester Goldstein, Alan Lipsky, Gail Shulimson, Jay Jacoby, Elizabeth Labar, Jeremiah Mattysse, Tammie Mesnard, Carol Cohen, Marge and Harold Hankin, Leona Stern and Marla Drucker.*

Many members of our community donated items for Mitzvah Day. I would like to thank everyone who participated in our success.

Judy Cordover



Please change your address book to reflect the new email addresses of CBHT:

Beth HaTephila: admin@bethhatephila.org

Rabbi Ratner: rabbi@bethhatephila.org

Cantor Winston: cantor@bethhatephila.org

February Menorah Deadline: January 15th

menorah@bethhatephila.org

(No room in this issue for any cute plea.)

Thanks. Barbara

In collaboration with the University of North Carolina Asheville's
Center for Jewish Studies, Asheville's Jewish Community Center presents

Shver Tzu Zayn A Yid **It's Hard to Be a Jew:**

Five Films about Jewish Identity in America

This film series draws from the Jewish Heritage Video Collection at UNCA's Ramsey Library. The films focus on the twin forces of assimilation and anti-Semitism and how they shape Jewish life in America from the 1920s to the 1990s.

Films will be screened on Sunday afternoons at the Asheville Jewish Community Center at 236 Charlotte Street. All films run between 90 minutes and 2 hours. Discussion will follow each screening. Unless otherwise noted, all films will begin at 2 P.M.

January 28: *The Jazz Singer* (1927)

Al Jolson as a jazz singer and son of a cantor who must choose between his new-found American fame and the traditions of his Jewish heritage

February 4: *Gentleman's Agreement* (1947)

Gregory Peck as a gentile journalist who decides to write a series about anti-Semitism in America

February 11: *Daniel* (1983)

Timothy Hutton in an account of how the son of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg tries to learn the truth about his parents' deaths and create his own future

February 18: *Crimes and Misdemeanors* (1989)

Martin Landau in Woody Allen's study of the amorality of a respectable man that raises questions about Judaism, faith, love, justice, and human nature

February 18: *Homicide* (1991)

Joe Mantegna as a tough cop who has buried any traces of his Jewish heritage and uncovers an anti-Semitic conspiracy during a routine homicide investigation



Progressive Dinner Fund Raiser

The Sisterhood of Beth HaTephila is pleased to announce our First Progressive Dinner to be held on Sunday, April 22, 2007. Here's how it works:

1. We have hosts who will serve us tasty appetizers at their home.
2. We have hosts who will serve us our main course at their home.
3. We then all gather together at Temple Beth HaTephila for our desserts, lots and lots of desserts and coffee or tea.
4. The cost for this delectable and delightful evening is \$25.00 per person, tax deductible. If you are not a member of Beth HaTephila, you pay \$30.00 per person.
5. If you are a volunteer host, you do not pay at all.

We are now asking for volunteer hosts for appetizers, main course, or making or buying of four desserts to participate and get all this for free.

PARTICIPANTS: Please fill in the following information:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE OR CELL: _____

FOOD RESTRICTIONS: _____

VOLUNTEERS: Please fill in the following information:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT NUMBER (PHONE OR CELL): _____

FOR MAIN COURSE:

HOW MANY YOU CAN SEAT COMFORTABLY: _____

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST? CIRCLE ONE:

APPETIZER; MAIN COURSE; 4 DESSERTS



Detach and send this to Gloria Pincu, 210 Coachman's Court, Asheville, 28803 or email her at Gloria@basic-learning.com.



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Contact Barbara Jaslow
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January 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED Lea - Vacation	2 7:00 PM Yiddish Club	3 6:30 PM Cong. Choir	4 2:30 PM Sisterhood Brd. Meeting 5:30 PM -7:30 PM Immed. Heb w/Jenny 7:00 PM -8:30 PM Bible Study w/Jenny	5 -12:49 PM Oneg - Open 7:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6
7 9:30 AM Blood Drive 9:30 AM -12:00 PM Rel School 9:40 AM Adult Ed Class 12:15 PM -1:45 PM Confirmation	8 12:00 PM Social Justice Mtg.	9 11:30 AM Tzedakah Mtg 7:00 PM Brotherhood Mtg - School	10	11 5:30 PM -7:30 PM Immed. Heb w/Jenny 7:00 PM -8:30 PM Bible Study w/Jenny	12 6:00 PM Shabbat Seder 7:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	13 10:00 AM Friendship Circle
14 NO REL SCHL OR ADULT ED	15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Menorah Deadline OFFICE CLOSED	16 7:00 PM Yiddish Club	17	18 5:30 PM -7:30 PM Immed. Heb w/Jenny 7:00 PM -8:30 PM Bible Study w/Jenny	19 6:45 PM Tot Shabbat 7:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	20
21 9:30 AM -12:00 PM Rel School 9:40 AM Adult Ed Class	22 12:00 PM Lunch with the Rabbi	23 7:30 PM Board Meeting	24	25 5:30 PM -7:30 PM Immed. Heb w/Jenny 7:00 PM -8:30 PM Bible Study w/Jenny Session II	26 7:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	27
28 9:30 AM -12:00 PM Rel School 9:40 AM Adult Ed Class	29	30	31			

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HOWARD JASLOW, PRESIDENT



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Resolve to do all your shopping using Temple food cards.

Available for Earth Fare, Fresh Market, Greenlife, & Ingles

January Dates to Note

Jan. 4 th	Sisterhood Business Meeting	Jan. 14 th	Brotherhood Brunch
Jan. 5 th	Early Shabbat Service: 6:30 – 7:30	Jan. 15 th	<i>Menorah</i> Deadline
Jan. 7 th	Blood Drive	Jan. 22 nd	Lunch with the Rabbi
Jan. 13 th	Friendship Circle	Jan. 28 th	<i>The Jazz Singer</i> @ the JCC