

RABBI'S MESSAGE: PASSOVER

Every now and then, I get a phone call from someone who has read a little Jewish philosophy and wants to make an appointment with me to discuss potentially converting to Judaism. Their reasons are usually sincere and an outgrowth of a personal study of where they want to take their spiritual path in life.

One of the first questions I ask, "Who is your community going to be?" After the reply, "What do you mean?" I explain the communal aspect of Judaism concluding with the question. "With whom are you going to celebrate Shabbat, Chanuka, Passover, etc.? And how will you feel about the family celebration with which you grew up?" A few are actually able to come up with reasonable answers and do become Jews (and very good ones, I might add), but the vast majority, I never see again.

To keep Judaism alive requires families, congregations, or other Jewish communal institutions to share our heritage. About 15-years ago, one of the Religious School teachers took a poll of her class and the results indicated that 75% of the students had a family Shabbat experience at least once a month. I thought this was pretty good. But how many have a satisfactory Shabbat experience without a family or other community with whom to share it? Based on personal experience, it's not impossible, but it is challenging.

So if potential converts choose not to convert because they see no path that includes their family or community, I find myself asking the rhetorical question, why would we remain Jewish without a family or community with whom to celebrate?

Fortunately, I have an easy answer, and you can begin (or continue) by being part of the community for our annual 2nd night of Passover Seder at the temple on Tuesday, March 30, when we celebrate, freedom, spring and our Jewish heritage.

Happy Passover.

Be-ve-ra-cha,

Joshua L. Segal, Rabbi



BETENU INFO

SPECIAL NOTE: Some members of Betenu are physically sensitive to certain aromas coming from perfumes, colognes, hairsprays the like. These aromas can cause migraines and a host of other problems. Please be aware of that when you come to Betenu.

Please **DO NOT** bring scented items for the SHARE donation bin.

Betenu has natural cleaning products available for use. Please **DO NOT** bring your own cleaning products for oneg or other cleanup.

Thank you!



AND FOR ONLINE SHOPPING... TEXTBOOKS AND A MILLION OTHER THINGS...

Don't forget to shop through Betenu's link to Amazon.com. Betenu will receive a percentage of the purchase price.

You can shop for books and a million other things through this link. Just go to our website: www.betenu.org, put your cursor over "Search new and used, Amazon.com", and when the cursor changes, click. Or you can enter your search right there and click "Go".

It's that simple! And don't forget to purchase your textbooks here!

We receive about \$20 a month from this program - Thank you & keep shopping!!!!

BETENU NOW ACCEPTS MC, VISA & Discover!

You can use MasterCard, VISA or Discover card to pay membership fees, school tuition, gift store purchases, or even to make a donation! Call the office (or stop in) to arrange the charge and let us know the amount and what it's for.



CONGREGATION BETENU

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or rabbi@betenu.org

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or president@betenu.org

VP Finance: Peter Stein 603-465-6036

VP Admin: Roberta Pavoll 603-672-9820

VP Educ: Sheryl Liberman 603-424-4609

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Trustee: Vivian McGuire 603-882-3139

Trustee: David Stern 603-880-0442

Trustee: Michael Goldstein 603-424-9953

Trustee@Large: Sara Murphy 603-465-7119

Past Pres: Elsa Conrad 603-879-9189

Newsletter Editor: Elissa Kahn



March 2010 (5770)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> Shushan Purim	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> RSVP DUE For Shabbat Across America	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 6:30pm Rabbi-led Shabbat Across America	<i>6</i> Shabbat Parah
<i>7</i> 9:30 am Religious School #22	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 7:30 pm Rabbi-led Service	<i>13</i> Shabbat HaChodesh
<i>14</i> 9:30 am Religious School #23 Daylight Savings begins	<i>15</i> 7:30 pm Executive Board Meeting	<i>16</i> Rosh Chodesh: Nisan	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> 7:30 pm Rabbi-led Service	<i>20</i> 10:30 am Tot Shabbat #5
<i>21</i> 9:30 am Religious School #24	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> 7:30 pm Lay-led Service	<i>27</i> Shabbat HaGadol
<i>28</i> 9:30 am Religious School #25 Search for Chametz	<i>29</i> Pesach 1st seder	<i>30</i> 6pm Rabbi-led Passover 2nd seder	<i>31</i> Pesach			



April 2010 (5770)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Pesach	2 7:30 pm Rabbi-led Service Pesach	3 Pesach
4 9:30 am Religious School #26 Pesach	5 Pesach	6 Pesach ends	7	8	9 7:30 pm Lay-led Service	10
11 9:30 am Religious School #27 Yom HaShoah	12	13	14 Rosh Chodesh: Iyar	15 Rosh Chodesh: Iyar	16 7:30 pm Rabbi-led Service	17 10:30 am Tot Shabbat #6
18 9:30 am Religious School #28	19 7:30 pm General Bd Mtg—All are invited Yom HaZikaron	20 Yom Haatzma'ut	21	22	23 7:30 pm Lay-led Service	24
25 <u>NO</u> Religious School	26	27	28	29	30 7:30 pm Lay-led Service	



COMING UP AT BETENU...(cont.)



SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA/CANADA

March 5, 2010 at 6:30pm
(RSVP deadline: March 3rd)

Once again this year, on Friday, March 5th, Congregation Betenu is joining with synagogues throughout North America in sponsoring “Shabbat Across America”. Coordinated by the National Jewish Outreach Program, we will learn about and share the beauty of Shabbat as a community. The evening will begin with a short, interactive prayer service and explanation of Sabbath customs and rituals, followed by a pot-luck meal and joyous song.

Want to help? We need help with setup and cleanup, and volunteers for D’var Torah.

Please contact: Rahel at 603-554-1459 or rahel@rahelmusic.com, or
Elissa at 603-673-8283 or eckahn@hotmail.com.



TOT SHABBAT

March 20th, 10:30am



For the little ones kindergarten and under: bring a healthy snack and a drink and join the fun as Rahel leads with music and movement. Note: please accompany your child(ren).

RABBI-LED PASSOVER SECOND SEDER

Tuesday, March 30, 6 pm

Join your Betenu family for the Rabbi-led traditional seder on the second night of Passover. It will be a potluck supper, so everyone needs to bring a pesadicha dish. (If you have any questions on whether or not a specific food is kosher for Passover, please call the temple office). Families should bring a main dish, and individuals, a side dish or a dessert. The cost is \$5 per person, or \$18 per family, to cover the cost of wine, matzah, seder plate items, and paper goods.



We will be using the Rabbi’s revised Haggadah. Copies are available to purchase for your home Seders. To preview a copy, or to purchase the Haggadah at \$6.00 per copy, please call the temple office.

Please call to reserve your seat(s): 886-1633, or use the sign up sheet on the front table.

Please volunteer to help with setup or cleanup and let us know if you are interested in helping plan and prepare our popular seder.



COMING UP AT BETENU...

TOT SHABBAT

April 17th, 10:30am



For the little ones kindergarten and under: bring a healthy snack and a drink and join the fun as Rahel leads with music and movement. Note: please accompany your child(ren).

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

April 19, 7:30pm

All are invited to attend the general board meetings which are even months (February, April...), usually the third Monday at 7:30pm. Talk to Dave Spokane ahead of time if you are interested in putting something on the agenda.

BETENU PAGES

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Rene Fierman, mother of Barbara Bailey and Elaine Schwartz. May the memory of her life be an eternal blessing.



**Yahrzeits for
JANUARY**



Charlotte Mendoza.....	mother of Sheryl Liberman.....	March	1
Murray Cooper.....	father of Roberta Pavoll.....	March	3
Elizabeth Krohn 'Betty' Keiser.....		March	3
Dorothy Franks.....	mother of Paul Franks.....	March	3
Abraham Applebaum.....	grandfather of Elyse Wasserman.....	March	7
Joel Mendoza.....	father of Sheryl Liberman.....	March	7
Gertrude Orenberg.....	mother of Bob Orenberg.....	March	13
Marion Krohn 'Jane' Harris.....		March	16
Etta Schuldwach.....	grandmother of Lenny Wasserman.....	March	16
Martha Sandhaus.....	longtime Betenu Congregant.....	March	16
Robin Kulm.....	friend of Roberta Pavoll.....	March	20
Lillian Sidransky.....	grandmother of Daniel Becker.....	March	22
Lillian Sigel.....	mother of Martha Sandhaus.....	March	23
Scott Thomas Nichols.....	brother of Suzanne Maine.....	March	24
Louis Arthur Gross.....		March	24
Hannah Wasserman.....	grandmother of Lenny Wasserman.....	March	25
Clifford Simonds.....	brother-in-law of Sheryl Liberman.....	March	25



ADULT EDUCATION

HEBREW LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION, TORAH STUDY AND MORE

Bar / Bat Mitzvah... not the end of the road! There's Torah study with the Rabbi, Hebrew language instruction with Rahel, Kabbalah Havruta with Eitan Zeira, and plenty of other learning opportunities throughout the year. Maybe you have an idea, or would even like to teach a class. If so, contact the office 886-1633 or Betenu@nii.net.

Quench your thirst — jump into the well of Judaic studies.

(Rahel's classes are offered at a discount to Betenu members.)



ROSH CHODESH FOR WOMEN

Join the Rosh Chodesh group for a short service, group discussion and nosh. For more information contact Sheryl Liberman 424-4609 or SAML54@comcast.net.

KABBALAH GROUP

Saturdays at 12:30pm—once a month
March 20th at Betenu

Congregation Betenu and Temple Beth Abraham have a Kabbalah group. The suggested book is Inner Space by Kaplan. For more information contact Sheryl Liberman 424-4609 or SAML54@comcast.net.

Video of Sh'ma Meditation by Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9bwEFS7Btk&feature=related





EDUCATION

Sunday Religious School Personnel:

VP Education: Sheryl Liberman

Principal: Rahel Limor

Hebrew: Sonia Campeanu

Jewish Studies: Don Wunderlich

Grades 1 & 2: Sandra Whitman

Assistant Teacher: Nina Matouka

Madrichim: Dan Thompson, Alison Chakuroff, Rachel Liff, Izzy Starr



ACCEPTING STUDENTS REGULAR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL / POST HEBREW SCHOOL

Registration is ongoing for 2009-10 for our weekly Sunday classes in Jewish studies, Hebrew, Music and Bnei Mitzvah preparation for Grades 1-7 and our Rabbi-taught post Bnei Mitzvah classes for Grades 8 & 9. For questions or to get a registration form please call the temple office at 886-1633 or contact Rahel at rahel@rahelmusic.com.

BETENU PAGES

ONEG SHABBATS

To host an Oneg, one brings the desserts, fruit, and challah, and sets up and cleans up.

To sponsor an Oneg, one pays \$54 and the Oneg committee will purchase the food, set up and clean up. Either way you do it, you can honor a birthday, an anniversary, or any other special event in your life, by choosing the Oneg closest to that special date. Or you can remember the Yahrzeit of a loved one by hosting or sponsoring the Oneg on the Shabbat when you come to say Kaddish. If you have a date in mind, please call Roberta Pavoll at 672-9820.

The following Onegs will be hosted by:

Mar 5: Open (Shabbat Across America)

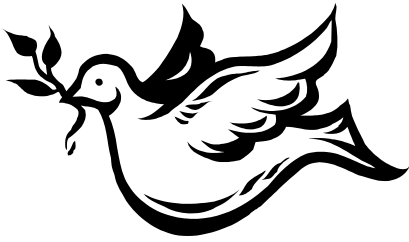
Mar12: school: Lessard (Danklef) & Rubin-Baker families

Mar19: school: Rice family

Mar26: Open



Won't you please choose an Oneg date and help foster the sense of community at Betenu? Thank you.



DONATIONS

Congregation Betenu acknowledges with appreciation the following contributions made during the month of February

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Carol S. Simonds

In Memory of her Mother Charlotte Mendoza
In Memory of her Father Joel Mendoza
In Memory of her Husband Clifford Simonds

General Fund

William & Judith Kennedy
In memory of Rene Fierman

Sondra Price
In memory of Rene Fierman

Joel & Elaine Silberberg
In memory of Rene Fierman

Elissa Kahn
In memory of Rene Fierman

David & Julie Spokane
Honoring the Life of Rene Fierman

Oneg Sponsor
Hope Rubin

Donations in Kind
David Stern for donating a door closer

BETENU THANKS

- ✧ February oneg hosts: the Rubin-Newman, Jusczak, Rice, & Rubin-Baker families, and all who contributed to the onegs.
- ✧ Hannukah oneg sponsors: Roberta Pavoll, Suzanne Maine, Jamie Stewart, Steve Blotcky and Elsa Conrad.
- ✧ Elsa Conrad for the hamantaschen.
- ✧ Barbara Bailey, Elaine Schwartz and their families for donating Jewish goods from their mother, Rene Fierman. These included decorative items, books, music recordings and ritual items.
- ✧ Harry & Carol Applebaum for donation of two pieces of framed artwork.
- ✧ David Stern for installing the door closer on the front door.
- ✧ Barbara Bailey, Elaine Schwartz, Sheryl, Elsa and Elissa for chairing the Tu BiShvat Seder.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Eran Limor
Nathaniel MacGregor
Rebecca Savage
Jay Segal
Alec Smolski
Daniel Thompson
Hannah Thompson



Cara Silverman





COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

FOOD NEEDED!

The food pantries are in desperate need this year. Any donation would be appreciated. You may bring a food item directly to SHARE or the Nashua Soup Kitchen. If it is nonperishable, you may drop it off at Betenu (no scented products please) and we will deliver it to SHARE.

Wish lists: www.sharenh.org/food.html and
www.nsk.org/CurrentWishList.asp

OTHER ITEMS

For a list of other items needed please see:

www.sharenh.org or 603-673-3660: seasonal clothes and new socks and underwear
www.nsk.org/CurrentWishList.asp Questions? Call Carol at 889-7770 ext 21



“ISRAEL IS REAL”

Listen live on the radio WSMN 1590AM or via the Internet at www.wsmnradio.com Fridays from 9-10 am. Or go to israelisreal.weebly.com and click on Archives at the top to listen to previous weeks' shows. Now you can hear what you've been missing. Advertising and show sponsorship available.



Voice of ISrael Initiative of New Hampshire

Check the website for the next **VISION MEETING** and other important information. Meetings will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays this year! All friends of Israel are welcome.

Check out www.nh4israel.org for more upcoming events, articles and more...

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE JEWISH MENS CLUB

Membership form: <http://snhjmc.home.comcast.net/~snhjmc/resources/SNHJMCFORM.pdf>

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

An Evening with
Shuly Nathan

Israeli singer best known for singing
Jerusalem of Gold (Yerushalayim Shel Zahav)

Saturday, March 6 at 8 pm

Jewish Federation Building
 698 Beech St., Manchester, NH

Can Food Drive
bring yours!

Call for tickets

603-627-7679

or purchase at the door

\$40

or more

ARTIST

MEET AND GREET

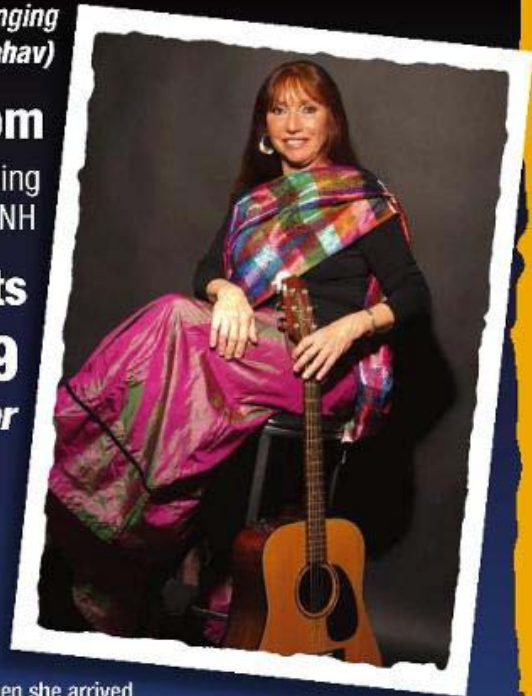
30 minutes before show

\$18

**GENERAL
 ADMISSION**

\$15

**STUDENTS
 & SENIORS**



Shuly Nathan has lived in Israel since she was two years old, when she arrived here with her parents from her native London. Songwriter and composer Naomi Shemer heard her singing, and asked Shuly Nathan to sing her composition for the Independence Day Song Contest in Jerusalem. At the time Shuly Nathan was still a soldier, and as she traveled along the war zone entertaining the troops with her singing, the song took on a life of its own, turning into a hymn, a prayer for peace. It was sung by worried civilians and by weary soldiers. It was the heartbeat of the nation.

The population of Israel was then 2,500,000 - and 300,000 records were sold, a number unheard of in those days. Since then, Jerusalem of Gold has been translated into some forty languages. More songs followed. Part of the prevailing mood of the sixties was the reawakening interest in folksongs, and Shuly Nathan embraced this grass-roots form. She collected folksongs as she traveled, and traveled as she sang her songs. She sang songs of Israel and of Jews from around the world, American and Irish folksongs, Hassidic and Ladino songs. She has toured the United States and Canada, sung in many European cities, and in Australia Japan and South America.

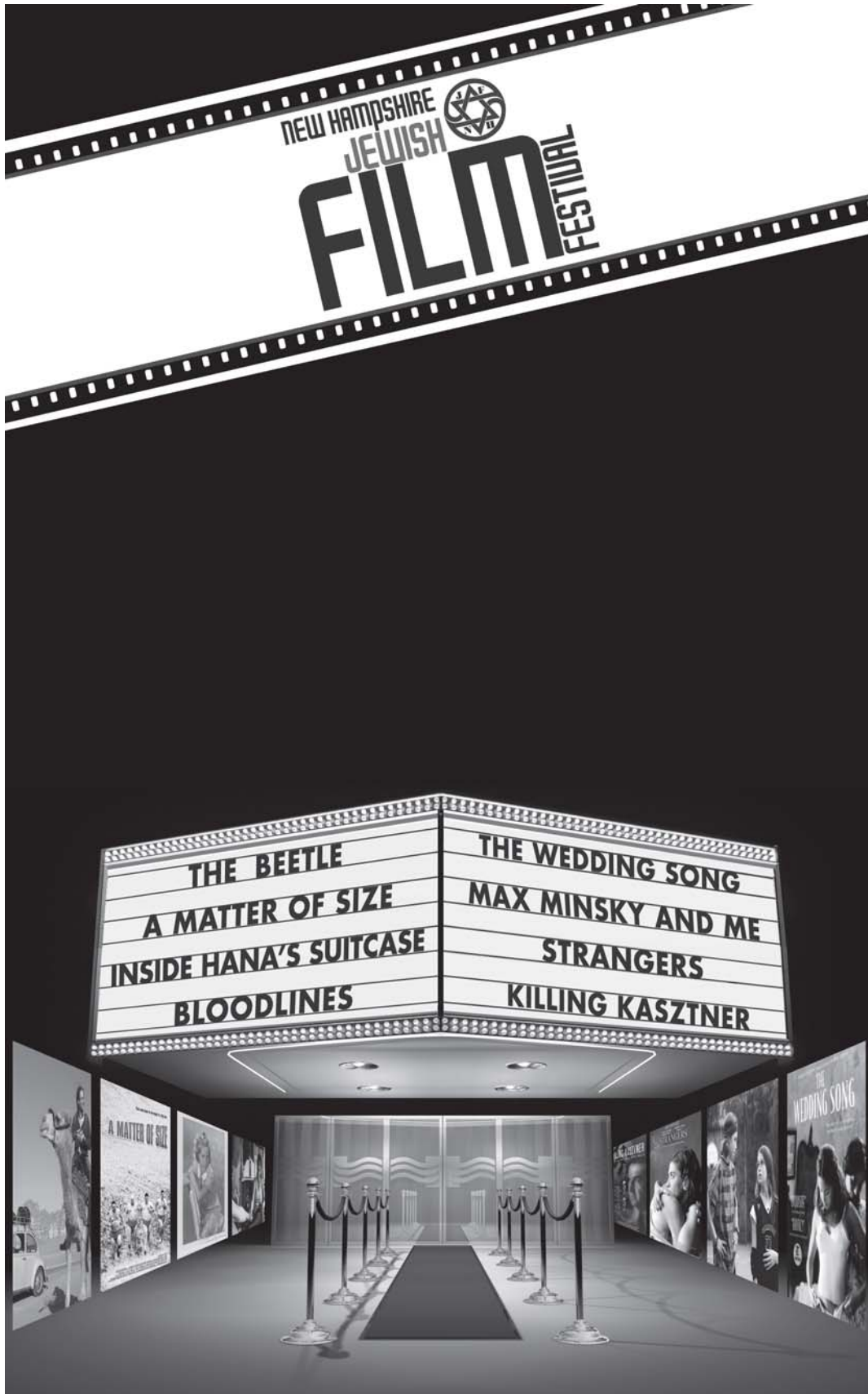


The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
www.jewishnh.org



הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל
Jewish Agency for Israel

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS





**CONGREGATION BETENU
FIVE NORTHERN BLVD #1
AMHERST, NH 03031 USA**