



Judaism for today's active Jewish community

BETH AM

Bulletin

February 2020 Shevat - Adar 5780

hello
february!

A large graphic featuring the text "hello february!" in a white, rounded, sans-serif font. The text is set against a teal-colored speech bubble background. The speech bubble is positioned on a light green background with a repeating pattern of small white diamonds. The entire graphic is enclosed in a black rectangular border.

PRESIDENTS CORNER

January has been a very busy month. Here is a summary of what we have accomplished, what we are working on and what to stay tuned for. We welcome your suggestions and thank you for supporting our Beth Am. Together, we are Beth Am Strong.
Joanie Mayer & Dan Williams



- Bingo will be returning to two Sundays per month in February. Unfortunately, the attendance has decreased and the Bingo leaders do not feel that it is cost effective to continue on a weekly schedule. It is not too late to sign up for the Bingo Crew. Please contact Tom Mayer if you would like to help. We thank the many members who have been helping with check in, food, floor duty, calling or handling the technology. We also thank our members who have been loyal players.

COMMUNICATION

- It is one of our priorities to keep the lines of communication open. When there is information to pass on, you can expect to see an email from us regarding specific topics. This will be done through our Constant Contact system. If you are not receiving emails through Constant Contact, please call the synagogue office.

RITUAL

- As we begin the year 2020, please make a commitment to attend services at least once a month to support our members who need a minyan to say kaddish and to support the tireless effort of our dedicated Lay Leaders. Join us and see first hand the changes which have been made to our Shabbat services. You won't be disappointed and will come away spiritually uplifted.
- Plans are in the infant stage for our CBA Conversion Class. Joseph Berrios will be co-ordinating this initiative. There is talk of 6-7 people interested in this class. More information will be available in the Blast and through Constant Contact.
- A huge thank you is extended to Sherry and Dan Williams for hosting our first Chavurah for 2020. A tip of the kippah is extended to Debra Kira for leading the service. We welcomed members and friends, enjoyed delicious food and ushered in Shabbat in true Beth Am style!

FINANCIAL AND FUND RAISING

- 2020 statements have been mailed out. If you did not receive your statement in the mail, please contact the synagogue office.
- We deeply appreciate your continued support and commitment to Congregation Beth Am.
- Our synagogue is starting off on a positive note. As of this writing, we are current with our mortgage and continue to make timely payments. We are also up to date with our other debts.

- The Super Bowl Raffle is in full swing. Squares are \$25.00. Last year, we sold all 100 squares. Lets get out there and sell to friends and family so that we can do it again! As an added bonus, anyone who purchases a square will be entered into a drawing for 2 sets of Shakespeare Theater tickets for the remaining plays in the 2019-2020 schedule. This means that there will be two winners for the tickets. All lucky winners will be contacted on February 3rd.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Congregation Beth Am hosted the MAGAL School Family Dinner and Service on January 31st. Breakfast for Dinner was the theme for the MAGAL families. Following the dinner, a community family service was led by Rabbi Neeley, Cantor Kim and Cantor Fine. It was nice to see first-hand what our children have been learning in the religious school.
- The Board of Directors continues to address the needed repairs for our roof.
- Our newly formed Transition Committee held their second meeting on January 26th. Once again, when the call for help is sounded, our community responds. The list of members who have offered to help has grown since our organizational meeting. The first two agenda items are 98% complete. Thanks to the time and energy put forth by Betsy and Howard Batwin, Catherina Bloom, Michele and Stuart Bourne, Mark Davids, Becky Goldstein, Elyse and Alan Jacobs, Debra Kira, Jackie and Stan Levine, Joanie and Tom Mayer, Nancy and Simon Mendel, Susette Percy, Marcia Rosen, Lois Smith, Herb Weissman and Debbie Zerkowitz, we now have a complete inventory of the items in our building. We have begun and continue to gather information regarding several issues related to downsizing.

- Thank you to all who have brought boxes to the shul. Keep those boxes coming! Please plan on joining us for our next meeting on Sunday, February 9 at 9:30 a.m.
- January was a very active month for us. We have had 5 organizations come through to see the building with some indicating an interest in purchasing and have also been contacted by two organizations for potential leases. At this point, we do not know whether we will be staying or leaving the building but it is a comfort to know that there is definite interest. Please watch your constant contact emails for information on the status of our building this month.
- Ideas for Adult Education opportunities are being explored. Please watch your blast and bulletins for further information.
- Please watch your weekly blast for details on our February Chavurah.

Ms Tricia's grade K-1

We worked on starting the aleph bet song in different places instead of going back to the beginning for every letter. Our kindergarten students worked together to name all of the Hebrew letters, and added lamed to their Hebrew books. Our first graders worked independently on naming all of the letters and added tet and our 5 vowels to their books.

We continued reviewing the prayers that the students will be saying at the service. We looked at patterns in the prayers to help us remember them.

We reviewed the story of Noah’s ark and watched a video on it. We pretended we were Noah and thought about what the best and worst parts of living on an ark would be. We played an animal guessing game and named some of the animals Noah would have on his ark. Then our bagels and blocks friends joined us and we did a cute Noah’s ark craft and sang songs with Cantor Fine.

CBA family and friends from the community filled our social hall for a warm and welcoming Hanukkah celebration!



**MAGAL
UPDATE**

We have done a quick Hebrew RE-test of all students. Thanks to the diligence of the great Magal teachers, Rabbi and Cantor along with myself and some dedicated parents and students, everyone has made progress this year in Hebrew reading. Some students are even moving up a level this semester! Great work everyone!

Ms Melissa's grade 6-7

In class we talked about Baal Shem Tov and Tu B'Shevat. We also practiced for the MAGAL Shabbat that's coming up and the class did really well, even taking turns leading.

Ms G's grade 4-5

Today we are playing the Great Alef Beis race. We are making the games for our history game nights ! We did some research about the person we are doing the game on, and we did our story/talk outside!

Ms Liora's grade 2-3

This week we continued to practice for the Shabbat service at the end of January by learning some new songs such as Lechu Neranena and Or Zarua, and we also reviewed some that we've already learned, like Aleinu and Romemu. We also learned more about the Hebrew calendar and when the holidays occur.

Pages & Pastries



Book Club

Tuesday, February 18
7 p.m.
Panera
434 near Montgomery Rd.

February Book Selection:
Things You Save in a Fire

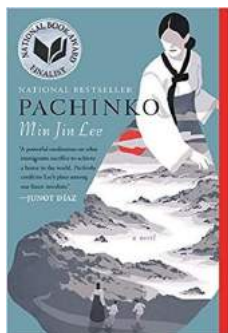


Katherine Center's *Things You Save in a Fire* is a heartfelt, affecting novel about life, love, and the true meaning of courage.

Cassie Hanwell was born for emergencies. As one of the only female firefighters in her Texas firehouse, she's seen her fair share of them, and she's excellent at dealing with other people's tragedies. But when her estranged and ailing mother asks her to uproot her life and move to Boston, it's an emergency of a kind Cassie never anticipated.

The tough, old-school Boston firehouse is as different from Cassie's old job as it could possibly be. Hazing, a lack of funding, and poor facilities mean that the firemen aren't exactly thrilled to have a "lady" on the crew, even one as competent and smart as Cassie. Except for the handsome rookie, who doesn't seem to mind having Cassie around. But she can't think about that. Because she doesn't fall in love. And because of the advice her old captain gave her: *don't date firefighters*. Cassie can feel her resolve slipping...but will she jeopardize her place in a career where she's worked so hard to be taken seriously? asking exactly the same question.

March Book Selection:
Pachinko
by Min Jin Lee



Sneakers That Fit Update



On behalf of the Social Action Committee of Congregation of Reform Judaism I would like to thank your congregation for participating in Sneakers That Fit in memory of Dr. Barry Levin. This annual project has been in existence for over 20 years. We are honored to have your congregation join us in providing brand new sneakers and socks for individuals in dire need. Each year, prior to the celebration of Hanukkah your generous donations of shoes and dollars have enabled this project to continue serving our local community with the direct impact of delivering over 300 pairs of shoes. It is a wonderful example of working together as a team for a positive result. It is with gratitude that we offer our appreciation to your synagogue and your synagogue representative, Becky Goldstein Looking forward to working together again this year!

With great appreciation
Pamela Levin
Chairperson Sneakers That Fit



February Bingo
Sunday
February 9 & 23 - 7:00 p.m.

SUMMARY OF TRANSITION COMMITTEE MEETING

One thing is for sure, when the call for help is sounded, our CBA community responds. We have formed a new committee which is dealing with issues related to the downsizing of our synagogue. As of right now, we are 32 members strong! On January 26, we had our second meeting and now we are ready for action with our next two major tasks.

Here are some highlights from the meeting:

We are so pleased to share that 98% of our building inventory is complete. Whether we stay or go, we will have a comprehensive list of our belongings for insurance purposes and for informed decision making on storage and handling respective items down the road. It is amazing what we have accumulated over the years. There are items which are already set to be donated to a local school, broken items have been thrown out, items giving us insight into our past have been found and if nothing else, we have done our spring cleaning early this year. This was a huge undertaking. We deeply appreciate the support of the following committee members: Betsy and Howard Batwin, Catherina Bloom, Michele and Stuart Bourne, Mark Davids, Becky Goldstein, Elyse and Alan Jacobs, Debra Kira, Jackie and Stan Levine, Joanie and Tom Mayer, Nancy and Simon Mendel, Susette Percy, Marcia Rosen, Lois Smith, Herb Weissman and Debbie Zerkowitz.

While this was going on, we have been collecting boxes and packing materials. We also had some committee members doing research on options for storing torahs, potential options of locations for our next home and reaching out to other shuls to discuss how they handled moving and downsizing (we are not alone); we want to know what worked for them and what pitfalls associated with relocating they experienced. As of today, we have a shul in Mt. Dora which is willing to hold three of our torahs, we are assessing the condition of the torahs, we will be donating the stained glass windows back to the original donor family if we leave the building, we have contacted a number of churches close to our current location, we have reached out to a private school close to our current location and we have begun to gather information on storage possibilities.

What is next as we move forward?

Now that we have inventoried all of our belongings, the next step is to assess what has been donated and what has been on loan to CBA. Donated items are the property of CBA. However, if there was an agreement to take an item on loan for a specific reason, we must do our due diligence and contact those people. We have boxes of documents which are far beyond the seven-year mark. There will be a major shredding project in place this month. All appropriate documents designated for shredding will be taken to a site at the beginning of March. We will also continue to explore options for our next home. Churches, private schools, hotels, store front property and rental homes are all being considered. If you have an idea for us to look into, please let us know. No idea is a bad idea.

We have listed the building with a broker for sale and lease. It is very important that we continue to maintain curb appeal. To that end, we will need to monitor the condition of the exterior of the building. We have already had movement with five organizations checking out the building and surrounding area. We have also been approached by two organizations with potential lease agreements.

Unfortunately, we do not know whether we will be staying in the building or selling, so a bulk of the work and decision making is premature. We do anticipate coming to you with news of our status this month. Please watch your Constant Contact email for updates.

Please plan to join us for our next meeting on Sunday, February 9 at 9:30 a.m. It is not too late to get involved. To do what is needed, it will take a huge village. All support is greatly appreciated.

As we say, Together, we will be Beth Am Strong.

Save the Date
February Chavurah

February 28 - 6:30 p.m.
Watch for details in upcoming Tuesday blasts

We Remember February Yahrzeits

- 1
- 1 **Sydell Bass Kutner***
- 2 **Sol Cohen***
- 3 **Earl Wilensky**, uncle of **Michael Wilensky**
- 8 **Captain Murry Cohen***
- 8 **Sylvia Miniard**, mother of **Justin Miniard**
- 9 **Sylvia (Sibbie) Mills***
- 11 **Seymour Golub***, father of **Jeff Golub**
- 12 **Nathan Batwin**, father of **Howard Batwin**
- 12 **Rose Rubinger**, mother of **Harriet Gair**
- 13 **Anna Ball**, grandmother of **Tanna Harris**
- 14 **Ruth Burnick***
- 17 **Joan Cohen***
- 17 **Sydney Kuppe**, father of **Debbie Zelkowitz**
- 19 **Lillian Podolsky**, mother of **Elyse Jacobs**
- 19 **Rochelle Olivia Izzo***
- 19 **Steven Feld**, brother of **Debra Davids**
- 20 **Martin Feuerstein***
- 22 **Anne Brumbach***
- 22 **Walter Seidler***
- 23 **Muriel Patek**, mother of **Naomi Morris**
- 24 **Dina Evans***, grandmother of **Herb Weissman**
- 24 **Jack Simon***, step-father of **Linda Zlatkiss**
- 24 **Lee Finkelstein***
- 27 **Harry Gordon**, father of **Steve Gordon**
- 27 **Howard Brodsky***
- 28 **Benjamin Jacobs**, father of **Alan Jacobs**
- 28 **Moshe Salzhauer**, father of **Shlomith Cohen**

** Indicates a plaque on our Memorial Board*



- 12 - **Isaac McGee**
- 14 - **Rebecca Kira**
- 15 – **Howard Batwin**
- 16 – **Lois Smith**
- 17 – **Kate Landis**
- 20 – **Ella Colley**
- 21 – **Dan Salomon Cohen**

*Our Congregation GRATEFULLY
acknowledges and appreciates
the following contributions*

Yahrzeit Fund

Donna & Rick Gardner

In memory of **Jack Leavitt**
In memory of **Dr. Jon Adler**

Jerrod & Linda Zlatkiss

In loving memory of **Louis Zlatkiss**

Lois Smith

In loving memory of **Rebekah**

Alan & Elyse Jacobs

In loving memory of **Sheldon Howard Jacobs**
In loving memory of **Lillian Podolsky**
In loving memory of **Benjamin Jacobs**

If we have inadvertently omitted a birthday, anniversary or yahrzeit or published incorrect personal information about you in this Bulletin, we apologize. Please let us know about the error so that we may correct our records.

Community Minyan
 7:45 a.m.
 Mon - Fri
 Jewish Academy of Orlando

FEBRUARY

Shevat - Adar
 5780

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					31 MAGAL Family Shabbat service led by Rabbi Neeley, Cantor Kim and Cantor Fine 7:30 p.m.	1 Shabbat morning service 9:30 a.m.
2	3	4	5 Mah Jongg 1 p.m.	9	7 Kabbalat Shabbat service 7 p.m.	8 Shabbat morning service 9:30 a.m.
9 BINGO 7 p.m.	10	11	12 Mah Jongg 1 p.m.	13	14 Kabbalat Shabbat service 7 p.m.	15 Shabbat morning service 9:30 a.m.
16	17 Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day	18	19 Mah Jongg 1 p.m.	20	21 Kabbalat Shabbat service 7 p.m.	22 Shabbat morning service 9:30 a.m.
23 Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. BINGO 7 p.m.	24	25	26 Mah Jongg 1 p.m.	27	28 Kabbalat Shabbat service 7 p.m.	29 Shabbat morning service 9:30 a.m.



We encourage you to support our advertisers who support us with their ads!



CASS Design Group
-All phases of construction-

Scott Halperin
President

3323 Sunset View Court
Longwood, Florida
Phone: 407 259-2716
Cell: 407 219-6376
Fax: 407 218-8899
scott@cassdesigngroup.net
License Number: CGC1516974



MODERN
PLUMBING INDUSTRIES, INC.

Plumbing • Drain & Sewer • Water Heaters
Water Treatment Systems
Commercial Plumbing • Remodeling

407.327.6000
Proudly Serving Central Florida Since 1975
www.modernpi.com

Always available for 24/7
Emergency Service



**Lucille Belnick,
M.D., P.A.**

**Lake Howell Internal
Medicine**

Internal Medicine
and Women's Health

Providing modern medical care
with an old-fashioned touch

Located in
Casselberry/Winter Park area
5558 Lake Howell Road
Winter Park, FL 32792

Currently accepting new patients

Phone: (407) 679-3400

Fax: (407) 679-3412

E-mail: LBelnickMD@gmail.com