

February 2010

From the President's Desk

Joyce K. Peck

We have good news to report. Thanks to the generosity of a number of people we have raised sufficient funds to contract for the services of Cantor Theodore Perry for the coming High Holiday season. An especially large donation from new members Cindy and Michael Italiander, of Litchfield, pushed us to goal and we are grateful for their donation as well as to all who contributed. At this writing, we are negotiating with Cantor Perry for his services.

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism has notified us that the vast organization is in the process of reorganizing its structure. Over the next year, USCJ will downsize its staffing and number of offices.

Connecticut Valley Region, of which we are a member, along with the Empire, New England and Canadian Regions will be folded into one Northeast Region. Miriam Benson, who served as Connecticut Valley executive director for 12 years, has been released from her job and the Rocky Hill office will eventually close. She was a responsive and steady advocate for member congregations and we wish her well.

We have been told these changes will not affect our relationship with USCJ.

Friday Night Family Shabbat Services will not be held in January and February due to the likelihood of inclement weather. They will resume on Friday, March 12, 2010. Bea Guralnick and Kathy Carullo will host the Oneg Shabbat.

Hosts are needed for Friday night Oneg Shabbats in May and July. Call the office or Joyce Peck to volunteer.

News in Brief

- Several members of our board of trustees have resigned recently and we want to express our sincere thanks to all for their dedicated service.
- Jennifer Overton, membership co-chair, and her family will move to Baltimore later this year. Wally Wiener, who was co-chair, has also resigned.
- We are grateful that Lynn Goldman has serendipitously stepped up to enthusiastically take on the membership chairmanship.
- Rosa Shields, another trustee, is no longer in the community, having moved to West Hartford recently.
- Jennifer Lotstein who is busy with a new business also has resigned after many years of service.
- Mike Madow is interim Education Committee chair in place of Debbie Brandt, who has taken a teaching position in our religious school.
- We now have four board openings.

Beth El Synagogue Book Discussion

Monday, February 8, 2010, 6pm

The Lemon Tree by Sandy Tolan

Note change
in time.

The book traces the history of the conflict between Arabs and Israelis. The discussion, led by Joel Malkoff, will begin at 6 p.m. following Rabbi Richard Eisenberg's regular adult education class, which starts at 5 p.m. All are welcome. Several copies of the book are being circulated among synagogue members.

*Simchas to Share
Good News to All*

Goring's Mazel tov and good wishes to Debby and Bill Goring on the birth of their first grandchild on Dec. 17. Esther Clara was born to the daughter, Randi, and her husband, Thomas Perrot, in Paris where the family resides.

We'd like to share your good news. But we can't unless you tell us. Call or email Joyce Peck (joycekp@optonline.net or 860-482-0717) or call the office.



FORGET-FEBRUARY FILM FEST

Join us at Beth El Synagogue at 1 p.m. on four Sundays in February for viewing of wonderful films on a Jewish theme.



Sunday, Feb. 7: "Arranged"

An Orthodox Jewish woman and a Muslim woman, both teachers in a Brooklyn school, prepare for their respective arranged marriages, finding shared experiences between their traditional cultures and life in contemporary America.



Sunday, Feb. 14: "Praying With Lior - Lior Liebling"

A Jewish boy with Down Syndrome prepares for his Bar Mitzvah



Sunday, Feb. 21: "Hester Street"

A favorite classic about the immigrant experience.



Sunday, Feb. 28: "Live and Become"

An impoverished Ethiopian Christian woman in a Sudanese refugee camp gives her young son to a Jewish mother during Israel's Operation Moses in order to give him a better life.



14th Annual Mandell JCC Hartford Film Festival
March 13-23, 2010

See poster at Beth El for titles, dates and times.
Sign up at the synagogue if you'd like to carpool.
Contact Stephanie Oakan, sroakan@optonline.net,
or 860-489-3044 for more information.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

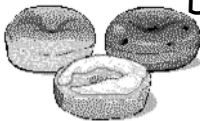
Barbara Moskowitz	February 3
Cindy Italiaander	February 4
Ronald Heimler	February 6
Hadassah Tannor	February 8
Nancy Gottfried	February 9
Dr. Isadore Temkin	February 12
Jill Ratner	February 14
Debra Seletsky	February 15
Dr. William Handelman	February 15
Stanley Cohen	February 15
Dr. Lanny Moskowitz	February 16
Marvin Peyser	February 21
Robin Faust	February 25
Dr. Walter Davison	February 25

Anniversaries

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Madow	Feb. 24	19th
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Get Well, Stay Well

Michael Libby
Ken Krasow



**Dr. Stanley Mand Lox & Lecture
at Beth El Synagogue
April 25, 2010 @ 10am**

Noted author and Beth El Synagogue member, Dani Shapiro,
will discuss her latest book , Devotion.
(See danishapiro.com for a video about this memoir).

Yahrzeits

Light the memorial candle the night before. *These names have been inscribed on the memorial tablets.

Lillian Knox	Monday	February 1
Tamara Leah Ratner	Monday	February 1
Dorothy Rubens *	Wednesday	February 3
Cindy Gaghter	Friday	February 5
Ida Cohen	Saturday	February 6
Max Radler	Saturday	February 6
Elizabeth Ginsberg *	Sunday	February 7
Morris Kaplowitz *	Sunday	February 7
Bertha Glasser	Monday	February 8
Celia Giller Greenberg	Monday	February 8
Beryl Shapiro	Monday	February 8
Miriam Pomerantz *	Wednesday	February 10
Aaron Baker*	Thursday	February 11
Eric Freund *	Thursday	February 11
Sol Benjamin	Friday	February 12
Tillie Cramer*	Saturday	February 13
Sol Rubens	Saturday	February 13
Moses Ginsburg *	Sunday	February 14
Joseph Jacobson*	Sunday	February 14
Louis Jacobson*	Sunday	February 14
Rose Moss Smith *	Sunday	February 14
Maklout Zermati	Monday	February 15
Ida Fourman	Tuesday	February 16
Selma Weitz	Tuesday	February 16
Shirley Weiser	Wednesday	February 17
Marc Polinsky	Thursday	February 18
Esther Radler *	Thursday	February 18
Charles Solly Abrams	Friday	February 19
Irving Jacobson	Friday	February 19
Bernard Paletsky	Friday	February 19
Louis Temkin*	Saturday	February 20
Rose Ginsburg *	Sunday	February 21
Sarah Radler	Sunday	February 21
Charles Solomon	Sunday	February 21
Yetta Needles *	Monday	February 22
Abram Peters *	Tuesday	February 23
Claire Reibman *	Wednesday	February 24
Harry Richard	Thursday	February 25
Goldie Axelrod	Friday	February 26
Yisroel Kantor *	Saturday	February 27
Rita Spitz	Saturday	February 27
Max Brenner *	Sunday	February 28
George Maddock	Sunday	February 28
Paul Shapiro	Sunday	February 28



If you'd like to honor someone, send congratulations or thank someone, try a **Beth El Bloom** for a donation of \$18 in the newsletter or *The Voice*. Give us the information and we'll do the work.

Candle Lighting Times for Torrington, CT

February 5	4:54 pm	February 19	5:12 pm
February 12	5:03 pm	February 26	5:20 pm

Saturday Shabbat services are held each week at 9:30 a.m.
Every person counts.