

January 2010

From the Presidents' Desk

Joyce K. Peck

Our congregation has raised about half the amount needed to retain the services of Cantor Theodore Perry for the coming High Holiday season. So far, more than 20 people have made contributions.

The board of trustees voted last spring to hire Cantor Perry only if we are able to raise in advance the necessary funding. We need about \$6,000 if he is to be with us through the entire High Holiday season.

Cantor Perry has been with us for a number of years, is well liked and certainly an asset to our High Holiday services. We very much would like to have him back again.

If we are not able to raise the full amount, we may be able to negotiate for his services for part of the High Holiday season; or we may have to make other arrangements. Since cantors usually begin making plans for the next High Holiday season in January, we need to receive donations soon. The board will meet in early January to discuss plans and make a decision.

Contributions do not need to be large if everyone gives something. Every contribution is helpful and appreciated. If you have not already given, please consider doing so. Thank you if you have already sent a donation.

We wish everyone has happy and healthy 2010.

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 on April 9, May 14, May 14, June 11, July 9,. Call the office or Joyce Peck to volunteer.

News in Brief

- A great Beth El Book Discussion, Monday, Feb 8, 7 p.m.. See next page.
- The Board of Trustees will meet Monday, Jan. 4. The Executive Board will meet at 7 p.m. and the full board at 7:30 p.m. Because of this meeting, the Rabbi's Adult Education Class will meet from 6-7 p.m. instead of at 7 p.m.
- The USY/Kadimah sleepover originally planned for New Year's Eve will be held instead on Jan. 30. For more information, call Gilah Gersten at 860-589-5355 or email her at gilahg@gmail.com.
- We're starting to add names to our Tree of Life and we'd like to add yours. A leaf is \$36, a stem \$72, and a rock \$108. Call Vicki Lynch at 860- 491-3495 to make arrangements.
- A great Beth El Synagogue Jewish Film Fest is coming Sundays at 1 p.m. in February. "Arranged," Feb. 7; "Praying with Lior," Feb. 14; "Hester Street," Feb. 21; and "Live and Become," Feb. 28. It's free.

Today, Thank you

Today to **Heidi Madow**, who with the help of her mom, **Jean Stone**, and **Diane Honig** put on a wonderful Hanukkah dinner in December for the benefit of our Religious School.

Today to **Jennifer Lotstein** who resigned recently from the board of trustees to concentrate on her new business. Jennifer served as principal and on the board for a number of years.

Today also to **Richard Lotstein** who donated most of the food for the event. There was enough left over for the school's annual Hanukkah party on the following Sunday.

Simchas to Share *Good News to All*

Dennis Gottfried attended Saturday Shabbat services on Saturday, Dec. 19, the second Saturday of Hanukkah this year. It was the 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah, which also was on the second Saturday of Hanukkah. Mazel tov.

Rebecca Perreault was one of nine members of Har-Bur Middle School's FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science & Technology) LEGO League Robotics Team. The team, the first to be fielded by the school, earned a spot at the State Competition where they won second place in the Solutions to the Transportation Problem Category. Their robot tank also took ninth place out of 52 teams through three rounds of performance at the tables. The team will present their robot and project at the Region 10 Board of Education meeting in January.

Get Well, Stay Well

Barbara and Ken Weil, parents of Nancy Gottfried

Beth El Synagogue Book Discussion

Monday, February 8, 2010, @ 7pm

The Lemon Tree by **Sandy Tolan**

"[An] extraordinary book. . . A sweeping history of the Palestinian-Israeli conundrum. . . highly readable and evocative."-Washington Post

"A handbook to understanding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a narrative that captures its essence through tracing the connected lives of two extraordinary individuals. Literally the single work I'd recommend to anyone seeking to understand why the conflict remains unresolved, and why it continues to dominate the region."-Tony Karon, Editor, TIME

BOOKLIST "Top of the List" Winner for Adult Nonfiction, 2006



Three copies will be available at the Beth El Synagogue Library. Books can be obtained through interlibrary loan at your local library. Books can be purchased at amazon.com. For more information contact Adult Ed Chair Stephanie Oakan at sroakan@optonline.net or (860)489-3044.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Joan Libby	January 5
Cydonia Boonshaft	January 5
Roland Perreault	January 9
Alec Lotstein	January 9
Arielle Lynn Brandt	January 11
Matthew Perreault	January 15
Richard Heimler	January 18
Ellen Seeran	January 20
Meryl Jo Margulies	January 21
Elly Overton	January 23
Mitch Soss	January 24
Alexandra Regenbogen	January 24
Leslie Handelman	January 24
Heidi Madow	January 30
Michael Goring	January 30
Leslie Goldman	January 30

Anniversaries

Donald Glickman and Sondra Reiff	Jan. 14	15th
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lowe	Jan. 14	32nd
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Silver	Jan. 27	21st
Mr. and Mrs. George Pelletier	Jan. 29	32nd
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Peyser	Jan. 30	55th

Condolences to:

The Rothburd family on the loss of Milton Rothburd in November.

The Guralnick family on the loss of Mal's sister, Lillian Guralnick, in December in Needham, MA.

Yahrzeits

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

Frieda Manowitz	Friday	Jan. 1
Joseph Silverman *	Friday	Jan. 1
Abram Bernstein *	Tuesday	Jan. 5
Esther Franklin	Tuesday	Jan. 5
Joseph Haupt	Wednesday	Jan. 6
Jacob Flower *	Thursday	Jan. 7
Wendy Marine*	Thursday	Jan. 7
Harry Meyerson	Saturday	Jan. 9
Anna Bloom	Sunday	Jan. 10
Abraham Broverman	Sunday	Jan. 10
Dorothy Cohen	Sunday	Jan. 10
Hedy Freund *	Sunday	Jan. 10
Esther Yavitz *	Sunday	Jan. 10
Rose Chaet	Tuesday	Jan. 12
Joseph Auerbach	Wednesday	Jan. 13
Stanley Dressler	Wednesday	Jan. 13
Solomon Reisman	Wednesday	Jan. 13
Sylvia Nitkin	Thursday	Jan. 14
Barry Gerson	Saturday	Jan. 16
Bertha Bazil*	Monday	Jan. 18
Shirley Manowitz	Monday	Jan. 18
Arnold Rubens	Monday	Jan. 18
Rebecca Blenner *	Friday	Jan. 22
Isadore Garbus *	Friday	Jan. 22
Rebecca Werbelow	Friday	Jan. 22
Samuel Lefsky	Saturday	Jan. 23
David Libby *	Saturday	Jan. 23
Robert Sherman	Saturday	Jan. 23
Ida Jacobson*	Sunday	Jan. 24
Bessie Silverman	Sunday	Jan. 24
Miriam Weiner	Sunday	Jan. 24
Louis Davidson	Tuesday	Jan. 26
Benjamin Axelrod	Wednesday	Jan. 27
Mitchell Abraham Belkin *	Wednesday	Jan. 27
Herman Cohen *	Wednesday	Jan. 27
Nancy Marine*	Thursday	Jan. 28
Margaret DiVirgilio	Saturday	Jan. 30
Gussie Garbus *	Saturday	Jan. 30
Jenny Davison *	Sunday	Jan. 31

Candle Lighting Times for Torrington, CT

January 1	4:14 pm	January 22	4:36 pm
January 8	4:20 pm	January 29	4:45 pm
January 15	4:28 pm		

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

