



BETH ABRAHAM SYNAGOGUE

Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 6

MARCH 2010

ADAR-NISAN 5770

Upcoming Events

- March 6:** Men's Club/Sisterhood Shabbat
- March 7:** Speaker, Professor Mark Washofsky following Chevra Kadisha dinner
- March 14:** Men's Club Deli/Raffle/Film night
- March 19:** Shabbat With a Beat featuring Anita Silvert

Anita Silvert Brings Theatre Judaica To Shabbat With A Beat

By: Rabbi Barsky

Anita Silvert, a gifted Chicago-based storyteller and performer, calls her Theatre Judaica, "the art of living midrash." By inviting participants to get inside the heads and hearts of the characters of Torah, she helps her audience merge biblical voices and experiences with our own. Rather than simply "reading the lines" of a Moses or a Miriam, Silvert encourages us to feel what it would be like to be Moses or Miriam, as real flesh-and-blood people not so unlike ourselves, yet caught up in a world-shaking drama with God.

Anita Silvert brings her Bibliodrama to Beth Abraham on

Friday evening, March 19, for our Shabbat With a Beat. With the approaching Passover seder in mind, her program will focus on the journey of the Israelites from slavery to freedom, using the biblical text to explore not only the voices in the biblical story but also our own personal experiences of journeying, both physically and spiritually.

Anita Silvert received an MA in Jewish education from Spertus College in Chicago, and attended Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Jewish Studies in England. She was trained in Bibliodrama by the renowned originator of this form of "living midrash," Dr. Peter Pitzele.



The evening begins with Kabbalat Shabbat With a Beat at 6:15pm, then a delicious dinner by Steve Bernstein, followed by this unique experience, led by Anita Silvert.

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Men's Club Presents Enthralling Israeli Film During Deli Dinner

By: Ira Levine and Harold Rosenberg

At its annual dinner and raffle evening on Sunday, March 14, Men's Club will present the local screening of one of the most popular and thrilling Israeli films, "Walk on Water." This is the last film in our film series.

The international award-winning movie, directed by acclaimed filmmaker Eytan Fox, is about a sophisticated top assassin of the Israeli secret service and his mission to locate and eliminate an aging former Nazi war criminal. The engrossing film explores his motives, strengths and, ultimately, humanity in trying to rectify a wrong committed five decades earlier. It results in a triangle of murder, friendship and fate.

The program begins with a wonderful deli-style dinner buffet (featuring corn beef, turkey, assorted goodies and dessert) at 6:00 PM followed by the movie and an open discussion on the film led by Rabbi Barsky. People attending the program, who purchase raffle tickets, will have the opportunity to win door prizes including restaurant certificates and entertainment books. The evening program costs \$17.00 per person.

Reservations are required and must be made by March 10. You can make reservations on-line at www.bethabrahamdayton.org and clicking on the event or go to the calendar and click on March 14. You may also call the office at 293-9520 to make a reservation.

Professor Washofsky at Beth Abraham

By: Claudia Feuer

On March 7 at 7:30, Rabbi Mark Washofsky, the Solomon B. Freehoff Professor of Jewish Law and Practice at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, will speak about "Jewish Medical Ethics: Is There Such a Thing?" Prof. Washofsky, who is one of the Reform Movement's outstanding authorities on Jewish law - and widely praised as a witty and thoroughly engaging speaker on any subject he addresses - has also written extensively on Jewish bioethics, organ donation, cloning and stem cell research. His presentation is open to the entire congregation and you won't want to miss it. No reservation is required to hear Professor Washofsky speak.

The Cantor's Corner

Cantor Andrea Raizen

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For those who may be wondering, my trip to Washington, DC last month was wonderful. It was truly inspiring to finally see all those buildings and monuments in person and to be at the Capitol on the morning of the State of the Union Address. My eight-hour bus tour of the city before I left gave me a good overview of the area, a desire to return, and an awesome sense of the history-making-moments that have occurred there. I was there primarily to attend the 58th annual conference of the Jewish Educators Assembly. The theme this year was, "Ayeka – Where are you? Answering the Call to Action." We were challenged to explore ourselves, our community and the guiding principles of Jewish education. Just as Washington, DC represents leadership, ideas and governance, the ingredients needed to make our country run and achieve great things, so too do Jewish educators answer the call to serve.

This was a gathering of Conservative Jewish educators, primarily representing congregational religious schools across the country. Reflecting the decreasing number of families affiliating with Conservative synagogues, so too, the number of students enrolled in our religious schools is declining. Even the very large schools of 300+ students have shrinking enrollment. Right now the majority of affiliated synagogues have less than 100 students in school programs, and a growing percentage have fewer than 60 students. This might help us all better understand our seemingly small numbers at Beth Abraham. With more of us in the same situation, we are able to be supportive of one another in developing new strategies and innovative approaches to Jewish education. I have said, and will continue to say, that our numbers often allow us to do things that a larger school cannot. I believe we are doing well, but of course, we can always do better.

A big part of the upcoming holiday of Passover is the transmission of the story from one generation to another. The entire Seder itself is the opportunity to experience the hardships of slavery and feel the joy of freedom. We are to interact with one another, inspire the children to ask questions and struggle with making sense of the texts together. This is a perfect example of inter-generational learning. For over twenty

years, family education has been a big part of Jewish education, but this is usually directed only to the parents and the children. However, in a congregation such as ours, we could potentially bring together four generations to learn together. Recently our 4th-7th grade class was learning about the value of honoring the elderly. Each child began by filling out a questionnaire that addressed their attitudes towards older people and aging. Some of the questions were: "What is the first thought you have when you hear the word 'old age'?", "What is the first feeling you have when you meet an 'old person'?" and "How do you think elderly people view young people?" The students then conducted a survey of adults who were attending that morning's Men's Club Brunch and asked them questions also relating to the subject, such as, "From what age should a person be called 'old'?", "What do you think are special problems of the elderly?" and "What do you think our community should do in order to improve the quality of life of the aged?" Watching the interaction of these children and seniors was amazing. Every one of them was fully engaged in the task. The students then returned to the classroom to compare and discuss the answers from both surveys. Every student had something to say and all admitted they had learned something new that morning. This experience convinced me that we need to make this type of learning program a regular occurrence at Beth Abraham. Just as the

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The printing of this publication is funded by private donations.

Jewish community at large is commanded to tell the story of Passover, our multi-generational Beth Abraham community needs to keep its story alive by telling it to the next generation. I am looking for adults, young and old, who would like to become a part of this venture, both as participants and some to help plan. If you are interested, please contact me.

I wish you all a happy and kosher Pesach.

Bat Mitzvah Announcement for Laura Allison Schear

Laura Schear will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April 10, 2010.

Laura's parents are Lee and Patti Schear. Her grandparents are Doris and Eugene Schear of Florida, and the late Vivian and Joseph Stoler. Laura is a 7th grade honor student at Miami Valley School. She is a member of the Miami Valley School volleyball and softball teams. Laura also loves acting in the school plays, singing and being with her friends. She is surrounded by a loving family including her brothers, Nick and Sam, and her sister Libby. For her mitzvah project, Laura is collecting new and gently used stuffed animals for abused children at the Care House.



What's to Become of Penney's Lunches?

Rabbi Bernard Barsky

Some of you have heard me tell the story of the congregant who approached



me a few years ago to say how truly wonderful the atmosphere of Shabbat at Beth Abraham had become.

Anticipating a compliment on my relaxed and engaging wit on the bimah, I took the bait and asked nonchalantly, "Well what do you think is the reason for that?" The answer? "Penney's lunches!" As if there could be any other explanation! Well, I won't disagree. Even I enjoy the food more than my sermon.

About five years ago Penney Fraim, with help in the first years from Judy Schwartzman, undertook to prepare a substantial lunch for our Shabbat crowd every week. In fact, Penney took over the kitchen, became a passionate student of the dietary laws, upgraded Beth Abraham's standards for and supervision of kashrut, headed the planning for the new kitchen at Sugar Camp, and has even helped some of our members kasher their own homes.

But certainly her most profound impact on all of us has been those lunches. I'm sure there must be other synagogues which offer substantial, nutritious and varied meals every single Shabbat at no charge, but I've never known one. And so our entire congregation stays together for at least an hour after services are over, eats together, and builds new and lasting friendships. People who had seen one another at synagogue events for years, but never really had gotten to know one another, are now dear friends.

The sad but inevitable news is that after five years of indefatigable work, Penney has decided that it's time for her to enjoy a well-earned retirement. The good news is that, after the initial panic and the fear that something special at Beth Abraham would surely disappear, the crew of women and men that Penney has assembled over the years has risen to the task. The lunches will continue, albeit with some inevitable changes to simplify things.

We have taken it all for granted, but the truth is that Penney has spoiled us. You wanted to sponsor a kiddush lunch? Penney would plan with you your own

special menu. Inviting additional guests? Penney would adjust the menu quantities to feed more people. She spent long hours each week going from store to store to find the best kosher products at the lowest prices. She was the on-call *mashgiach* (kitchen supervisor) when no one else was available. I never had to have her on speed dial because she was always already here at the synagogue.

Well, until we clone Penney or *Mashiach* comes, we can't replicate that or even try. We have to spread the responsibilities around and make some simplifications. Happily, volunteer cadres of shoppers, *mashgichim*, kitchen captains and kitchen workers have come forward to carry on.

Here is what everyone needs to know:

1. Penney has provided us with five diverse and appetizing menus, which she has developed for us over the years, each with complete ingredients and instructions. These menus provide meals for between 80 and 100 people – more than enough food for our normal weekly lunches. These menus will rotate in sequence through the weeks. Both sponsored and un-sponsored kiddush lunches will use these menus.

2. The synagogue will no longer be able to do in-house catering for congregants' special occasions if more than one hundred people (regulars plus guests) are expected. The sponsor for such an occasion will need to hire an outside caterer.

3. All arrangements for a sponsored kiddush lunch or any synagogue event requiring use of the kitchen must be made through Annette in the synagogue office. Annette will coordinate kitchen volunteers, *mashgichim*, and arrangements with caterers. If congregants engage a caterer for an event, of course they may choose the menu, but all matters of kitchen use must be handled and scheduled through Annette.

4. For the time being, the standard cost for sponsoring a Shabbat lunch for up to 100 people will be \$200. (That's just \$2.00 a meal.) That still does not cover the cost of paper goods (about \$60 a week), and after a few months we will reevaluate whether this charge is sufficient.

In 2009, thirty-nine weeks of lunches were sponsored. If more congregants will step forward so that every week is sponsored, this will help enormously to ensure that our terrific lunches continue without interruption. I will set an example by committing to sponsor two lunches a year, on the *yahrzeits* of my father and mother. For congregants who may not be able to afford the full \$200, I encourage you to join with friends to co-sponsor a lunch once a year, or to make smaller contributions to Beth Abraham's kiddush fund, which bears whatever costs our \$200 fee does not cover.

Beth Abraham will announce a Shabbat date this spring at which to honor and thank Penney Fraim for the gift of Shabbat fellowship her lunches have given us. But the best way to honor that gift is for all of us to contribute, so that Shabbat lunches at Beth Abraham continue to knit us together as a family.

(For Rabbi Barsky's Passover reflections, please see his article in the forthcoming Pesach issue of the Dayton Jewish Observer.)

Sisterhood Update

By: Bernadette O'Koon

The winter meeting of the Sisterhood book club was a fabulous success! Angela Frydman opened her home to a group of nearly twenty women, treated us to a delicious brunch, and lead a thought-provoking discussion of Geraldine Brooks' *People of the Book*. At the end of the meeting, the group chose *Black, White and Jewish: Autobiography of a Shifting Self*, by Rebecca Walker as the Club's next selection. In *Black, White and Jewish*, Rebecca Walker, daughter of famed African American writer Alice Walker and liberal Jewish lawyer Mel Levanthal, examines her experience growing up as a bi-racial child in race-obsessed America and her struggle to make sense of rigid cultural and religious boundaries for which she was never fully prepared by her parents. This is a memoir of honesty and insight you will not want to miss. Copies will soon be available in the Gift Shop. The next meeting of the Book Club will be on Sunday, May 2, 2010, time and location to be announced.

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Treasurer's Report

Lee Shear

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The science of Godliness and the logic that we treasure

I try to be as scientific as possible here as your treasurer. Moving money around. Analyzing accounts. Conducting due diligence to keep our records sacred.

"Sacred?" OK, I exaggerate to make a segue. And a point. The point is that we assume, from past experience and performance, that we are able to influence the future and to predict with some precision where we are headed – as individuals and as a congregation.

We hide behind logic and probability and experience to make decisions that take hope and faith and trust. Sometimes we don't make the right decision simply because we can't articulate it well enough. Or sometimes we do as the French like to say: "I know it works in real life, but will it work in theory?"

The past performance of the stock market should have been a harbinger of the folly of the notion that past performance is anything other than a place holder in the decision-making process. As my mother likes to intone, "Man plans and God laughs." Is that intonation to make us more humble? To make us understand that randomness and chance pervade our every action? Yes and yes.

As your Treasurer and a Board member, I can often "intuit" good decisions but struggle to justify them to others who are not as intimate with the on-going processes here. Staff decisions and financial decisions and ritual decisions and – yes – merger decisions all seem so clear and apparent in the middle of the night. Then we try to make them scientific and obvious in a committee and, well...almost everything is lost in the translation.

Which gets us back to the tug of war between "science" (you can read "rationality") and "religion" (you can read "faith"). Too often, science has seemed to put us at odds with religion as if they are opposing forces rather than an eventual confluence that actually supports each other. In this "age of reason," it is unreasonable *not* to consider how God's plan affects one's understanding of science, of planning and preparation and of our decision-tree analysis. Even as fairly observant board

members, we don't often enough consider the Godly function as we go about our Beth Abraham business functions.

The quest of science is to explain "how." The quest of religion is to explain "why." I like to apply those differences to the rigors of statistics (and my favorite new whipping boy – randomness) and suggest that by studying the regularities of nature and society, we are not challenging God's authority but rather learning about his ways.

Secondly, once we "lose our faith" by letting science or business rationale dictate our synagogue actions, we end up in a vacuum of defensible decisions that don't always reflect the dictates of our *true* faith. Examples might be: Should we raise dues to maintain the attributes of our congregation? The business model says "no." The faith model says "of course." Should we affiliate with other congregations to offer more spiritual or programming opportunities and increase the survival odds of the continuity of a Conservative shul? The rational model says "Absolutely." The emotional response traditionally is "I'm not sure."

Statistically, there is a bell curve's chance that 75% or so of a combined congregation can agree on a major issue such as the one on the table. Yet – ironically – there's a 100% chance that the combined entity will be stronger and maintain the type of Jewish institutional character that should be so important for generations to come. Generations that – by the way – will still only agree on 75% of issues; if they are lucky.

The denominations of Judaism (like "Conservative" or "Modern Orthodox" or "Reform") have all relied upon their own specific rational judgments to try to create a balance between Judaism and their preferred way of living secularly. It's really the recognition that the ideal and the real are aligned but not always overlapping. That is, we know the ideal way to live. It's hard to convince Jews to live that way! As Oscar Wilde once said, "Love is the ideal thing. Marriage is the real thing. Those that confuse the real with the ideal are bound to suffer."

When I study the possibilities in a commercial matrix, I don't give enough credit to being truly objective, to truly understanding the effect that randomness has on the information I am able to filter. Any board question, any financial question, hey – any personal or

spiritual question is profoundly subjective *and* subjected to my own inherent biases. Francis Bacon – almost 400 years ago, said, "The human understanding, once it has adopted an opinion, collects any instances that confirm it, and though the contrary instances may be more numerous and more weighty, it either does not notice them or else rejects them, in order that this opinion will remain unshaken."

In the end, we always *think* we take the rational approach. The intelligent approach. We can even call it the scientific approach. But if it's not the approach that works, morally and spiritually, then it fails all tests in the end. That's not bad karma, that's lack of faith over the long haul. That's not "willpower"; it's the lack of faith in "God's will."

Maybe that's why we rail against "bad luck" or even seemingly "chance events that cause us grief." For as an expert in the laws of randomness recently concluded, "Randomness has taught me to appreciate the absence of bad luck, the absence of events that might have brought us down, and the absence of the disease, war, famine, and accidents that have not – or have not yet – befallen us."

We should be thankful, both for all the good things *and* for the absence of bad things. At Beth Abraham, we should be especially thankful for the position in which we have now established ourselves. And not let randomness and bad experiences and "financial logic" rule the day. It's a time that is perfect for faith and trust.

It's a time to do the right thing and not make perfect sense of it all!

Two new and exciting programs at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin

Ramah Wisconsin Family Camp: August 11-15

Enjoy a stress-free vacation relaxing in the beautiful Northwoods. Children and adults will participate in fun-filled camp activities led by our fabulous Ramah Wisconsin staff.

Ta'am Ramah-Taste of Ramah: July 25-26

Ramah Wisconsin is offering an opportunity for families with children currently in 3rd - 5th grade to get a taste of camp first hand! Spend the day at camp seeing the exciting activities, touring the facilities and meeting our staff.

"So, I was thinking..."

David Fuchsman, Beth Abraham President

I love the Olympics. I have never skied, but I marvel at the strength and the daring of the Olympic skiers as they shoot down a mountain traveling at



speeds of approximately 80 miles per hour. I have never ice skated, but I am mesmerized by the beauty and the athleticism of the figure skaters. As I write this month's column, I am reveling in the victory of the American ice hockey team over

a strongly favored Canadian team (sorry Vandersluis family) in an upset that brought back memories of the famous "Miracle on Ice" thirty years ago today.

It is not the events, nor the individual athletes that impress me most. Rather, it is the reality that the collection of athletes who participate in the Olympics have trained almost every day, for the past four years, to compete for this one, hoped-for shining moment. When they win, my emotions soar for the victors and for those who lose my heart aches. Four years of training, preparing, abstaining, pushing, grinding, and enduring, and for some athletes it is over in a matter of seconds. Whether it was the "thrill of victory" or the "agony of defeat," it is over. That is until tomorrow, when training begins anew.

Four years ago, our congregation was undertaking the daunting task of reinventing itself. We committed ourselves to raising approximately seven million dollars in order to move to a new location. There were no guarantees that the monies would be raised. No guarantees we would enjoy the thrill of victory. In fact, for a congregation of our size to have raised that seven million dollars is no less a miracle than for that United States team of college kids to have beat the Russian Olympic hockey team in Lake Placid.

But of course winning a gold medal in this event involved much more than raising money. An architectural group and a construction group had to be put together. We drafted two team captains in Jay Brown and Rick Stahl who would motivate and inspire their players (managers, workers, sub-contractors and congregants) to strive for excellence. And

our Beth Abraham Olympic Committee - made up of the Steering Committee, the Campaign Committee, the Building Committee, the Dedication and Recognition Committee, the Marketing Committee, the Real Estate Committee, the Moving Logistics Committee, the Torah March Committee and our staff - provided the necessary resources to overcome injuries (obstacles) that occurred during that grueling period of time which began with a vote to move, and ended years later with the dedication of the new synagogue at Sugar Camp.

With the rave reviews we have received from the local community, and with the articles and advertisements that have featured our synagogue in national publications, is there any question whether we were victorious? Like the Olympic athletes we have watched every four years, there were no guarantees we would win. In fact, there were no guarantees we would finish the race. But with a tremendous amount of time, energy and resources put in by our congregational team, and an unyielding faith in our mission and our abilities, we captured the gold medal. And for the two years that have passed since our move, we have continued racking up medals for innovations in our religious school and upgrades in our ritual and social programming. We won!!

But like the Olympic athletes who already have begun to train for the 2014 games in Sochii, Russia, we too must continue to work hard on all aspects of our game. We have moguls ahead, none greater than the financial health of our body. This is no mild strain, but it is not a career ending injury either. It is the type of trauma that will take time, renewed energies and resources to heal. When it does heal, like a broken bone, we will be stronger than before the break. Our religious school and programming that have been praised throughout the community must build on the momentum and not stand passively on the medal podium of past success. We must continue to be innovative as we look for ways to form partnerships in the community.

There are no guarantees that four years from now we will be a gold medal team. Like all aspects of life, there are no guarantees. But there is every reason to believe that with continued hard work, innovative thought, generosity and team effort, we will continue to experience the

thrill of victory. Let us continue to reach for the gold!

Men's Club News

By: Ira Levine

SUNDAY MARCH 7 BRUNCH

The brunch will feature Jim Leftwich, President of the Dayton Coalition, talking on the operation of the company and recent developments between Israel and Dayton.

YOM HASHOAH VOLUNTEERS

The Men's Club is looking for volunteers to help with delivering candles by April 11. Each volunteer will be asked to deliver 6-8 candles in their neighborhood. Please contact the office or Ira Levine (836-8939).

SOCIAL ACTION - WEGERZYN

Beth Abraham will have an organic vegetable garden at Wegerzyn Garden Center off Siebenthaler again this year. Last year BA donated over 500 pounds of produce to the Food Bank. We are looking for people to help about 2 hours a week whenever they can spare the time. Please contact the office or Ira Levine (836-8939).

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Beth Abraham Participates in Greater Dayton IAF Listening Campaign

By: *Ralph Williams*

On Monday evening, January 25, Beth Abraham Synagogue hosted a training session of the newly organized Greater Dayton Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF). The meeting was attended by approximately 130 people representing Christian, Muslim and Jewish faith communities, as well as a local union and a school. Beth Abraham was represented by nine congregants, at the invitation of the Social Action committee. Rabbi Barsky opened the meeting with words of welcome, and closed it with a benediction.

The IAF is a well-recognized international citizens' action organizing group, which has helped many communities learn how to identify social justice issues that are of concern across diverse interests within a community and to develop and put into action strategies to address those issues. The Sponsoring Committee for the Greater Dayton IAF has just recently gotten off the ground as an outgrowth of the 2008 Vote Dayton

effort and is headed by Rev. Darryl Fairchild, formerly the executive director of the Greater Dayton Christian Connection. Rabbi Barsky, as well as Rabbi Sofian of Temple Israel, are both members of the Sponsoring Committee.

The IAF process begins with a series of small gatherings (or "House Meetings") of 8-10 people. With the assistance of a facilitator, the participants share their personal concerns and then begin together to identify and discuss the needs of the community and how to address them. A significant goal of the process is for individuals from varied sectors of the community to become acquainted with one another and, in the process, learn different perspectives on issues which concern us all. This should facilitate the development of creative and effective strategies to address those issues. Based on the conversations at these House Meetings, the IAF participants will select the issues that appear to be of

greatest immediate importance to the community and develop strategies to address them that will be set before the appropriate public agencies and decision-makers. The principal purpose of the meeting at Beth Abraham was to train individuals to serve as facilitators for future House Meetings.

The Beth Abraham attendees have committed to holding at least six House Meetings between now and the end of April. At least some of those meetings will be held in conjunction with members of other faith organizations involved in the IAF. More information regarding the time and place of future House Meetings will be forthcoming. This is a real opportunity to form bonds with others in our community and to bring about positive change for all of us. If you are interested in becoming involved in the process by attending a House Meeting or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bonnie Rice at 409-2880.

Hametz for the Hungry

Friends,

I'm sure you know how severe the burden has become on the food pantries of Dayton due to the current economic crisis and the steep rise in unemployment. At Beth Abraham we take pride in our strong and ongoing commitment to feed the hungry through our contributions to the Jewish Federation's Food Pantry. Now I'm asking you to do even more.

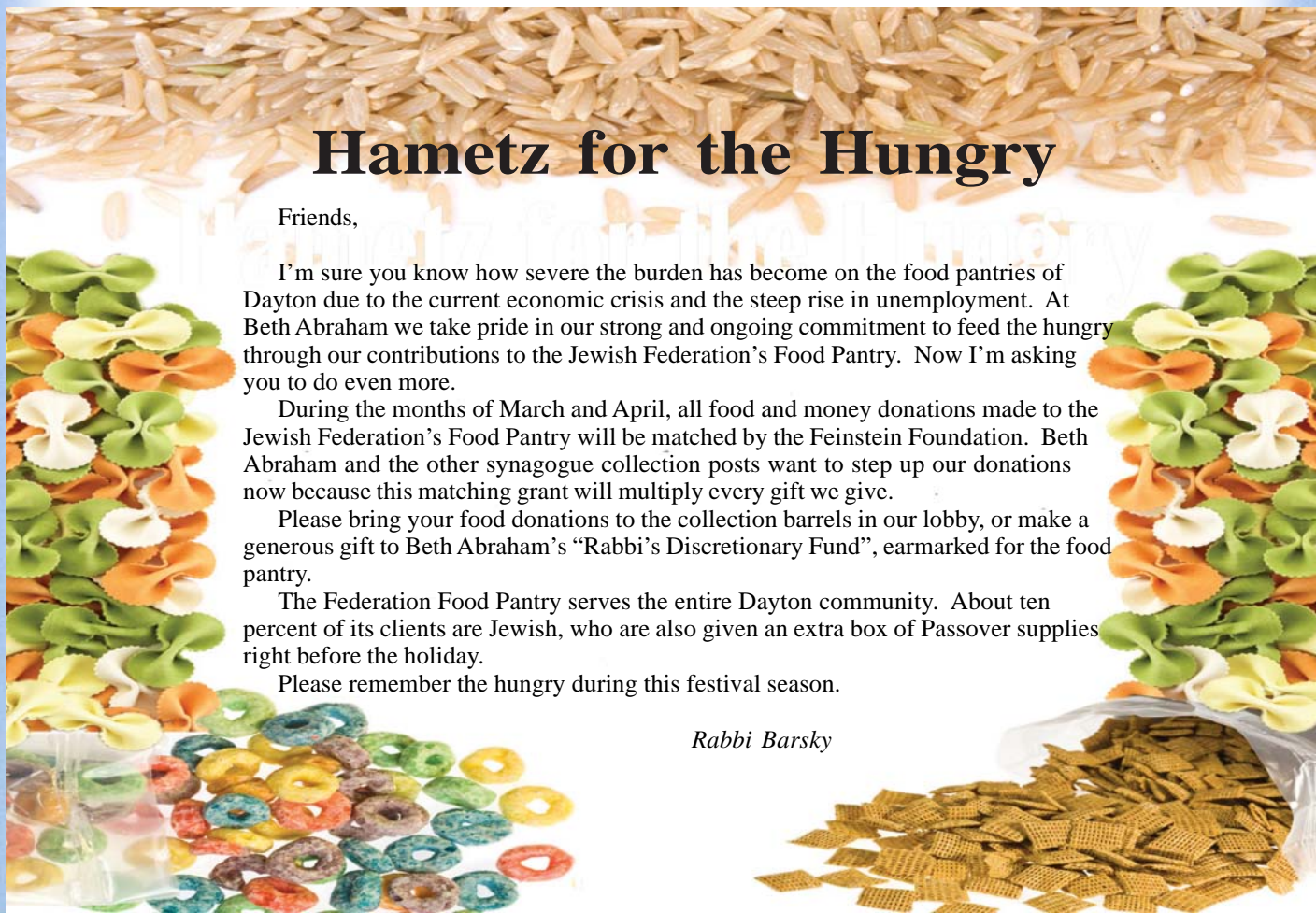
During the months of March and April, all food and money donations made to the Jewish Federation's Food Pantry will be matched by the Feinstein Foundation. Beth Abraham and the other synagogue collection posts want to step up our donations now because this matching grant will multiply every gift we give.

Please bring your food donations to the collection barrels in our lobby, or make a generous gift to Beth Abraham's "Rabbi's Discretionary Fund", earmarked for the food pantry.

The Federation Food Pantry serves the entire Dayton community. About ten percent of its clients are Jewish, who are also given an extra box of Passover supplies right before the holiday.

Please remember the hungry during this festival season.

Rabbi Barsky



SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

Bonnie Beaman Rice and Helen Abramovitz

There is a place where dreams come true!

Poverty, homes filled with acts of violence, abandonment, parents struggling to put food on the table...these are not the usual ingredients to ensure that your teenage son or daughter is college-bound. And yet, only blocks from our synagogue, young high school students are working hard every day to escape this cycle and venture off into the world of higher education. Their leader and inspiration: the truly charming and passionate Dr. Judy Hennessey, former Superintendent of Oakwood Schools. She and her staff share a passion that, against great odds, is propelling young people forward and creating the leaders of the future. It is indescribably exhilarating to witness this magic... but you can see it for yourself. JOIN US as we kick off our latest Social Action project: the adoption of The Dayton Early College Academy (DECA).

DECA Shabbat

March 20

Speaker: Dr. Judy Hennessey

Meet and speak with some of the students who are living this dream. If you need a dose of magic to brighten your day...you will not be disappointed! In honor of this kickoff, we would like to surprise Dr. Hennessey and the students with a collection effort. We have learned that there are many times when the young men at DECA go for job interviews but do not have a dress shirt and tie to wear. So please help with our newest collection effort: please donate your clean, and in good condition, MEN'S DRESS SHIRTS AND TIES.

CATCH THE PASSION * COME ON MARCH 20 * DONATE

SOCIAL ACTION UPDATE

-Thanks to all of you who donated calendars for the New Year. We are happy to report that over 130 calendars were collected! Even better, our very own Beth Abraham Religious School students were able to deliver them in person on a Sunday visit to Covenant House. Thank you, as always, for your enormous generosity!

-By now, those of you who supported our recent Social Action fundraiser have already enjoyed the delicious hamantaschen baked in our synagogue kitchen. With those ordered in advance, plus extras made for those of you who forgot to order, we ended up making almost 1,000 hamantaschen! It took a month of Mondays to fill all of the orders and we could not have done it without the hard work of our volunteers: Helen Abramovitz, Beth Adelman, Claudia Birch, Bonnie Deutsch, Penney Fraim, Arlene Furst, Linda Horenstein, Marilyn Lustig, Bonnie Rice, and Janine Thomas. A very special thanks to Penney, as always, and to Claudia who not only helped multiple times, but even braved a snow storm to do so!

Surprise!

NORM LEWIS

You have been caught by the Mitzvah Squad doing mitzvot!

You have always been a sage member of our Board of Directors, a volunteer in our kitchen, a daily minyanaire, one of our lay Torah readers, a great help when it comes to securing donors for our blood drive and, yet, that was not enough for you. When asked to take a tour of DECA (The Dayton Early College Academy) with fellow members of the Social Action Committee you came willingly... and then you caught the DECA PASSION! Since that first visit, you have returned to the school to help students edit papers and have volunteered to lead a current events discussion group. For the enthusiasm with which you have embraced our social action projects, and the many lives you have, and will continue to positively touch, we wish to thank you. You are a true mensch. Mazel Tov to you, this month's Mitzvah Hero!!!

If anyone knows of others within our Beth Abraham community who quietly and routinely perform mitzvot, please contact our Mitzvah Squad by calling Bonnie Beaman Rice (409-2880) or Helen Abramovitz (223-2891), your Social Action Co-Chairs.

Women of Valor

By: Lynda A. Cohen

Watch for your invitation that will be coming in the mail for the first Beth Abraham Sisterhood Women of Valor to be held at Beth Abraham on April 14, 2010. We will be honoring seven women who have exceeded all expectations in their commitment and dedication to the Jewish and general community. The 2010 honorees include: Elaine Bettman, Deborah Feldman, Marni Flagel, Renate Frydman, Susan L. Katz, Meredith Moss Levinson and Julie Liss-Katz.

Gather a group of eight of your friends to share a table and show your support to the honorees and to Beth Abraham Synagogue Sisterhood. Your RSVP is due by April 7, 2010.

Save the date. **Women of Valor Luncheon on April 14, 2010. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. Lunch and program at 11:30 a.m.**



BETH ABRAHAM SYNAGOGUE

Bulletin published monthly by Beth Abraham Synagogue
www.bethabrahamdayton.org

Address Service Requested

Rabbi	Bernard Barsky
Cantor	Andrea S. Raizen
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Vice-President	Ralph Williams
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	Elaine Arnovitz
	Lynda A. Cohen
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Cantor Emeritus	Jerome B. Kopmar

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PESACH SERVICES 2010-02

Monday, March 29, 2010
TA'ANIT BECHOROT (FAST OF THE FIRST BORN) / EREV PESACH

Morning Service (includes Siyum for first born)	6:30 AM
Latest time for eating Hametz	10:00 AM
Candle Lighting	7:39 PM
First Seder	

Tuesday, March 30, 2010
FIRST DAY PESACH
Office Closed

Morning Service	9:00 AM
Mincha/Maariv	5:30 PM
Candle Lighting	7:41 PM
Second Seder	

Wednesday, March 31, 2010
SECOND DAY PESACH
Office Closed

Morning Service	9:00 AM
Mincha/Maariv	5:30 PM
Havdalah	8:44 PM

Thursday, April 1, 2010
CHOL HAMOED PESACH

Morning Service	6:40 AM
Mincha/Maariv	5:30 PM

Friday, April 2, 2010
CHOL HAMOED PESACH

Morning Service	6:40 AM
Kabbalat Shabbat	5:30 PM
Candle Lighting	7:43 PM

Saturday, April 3, 2010
SHABBAT CHOL HAMOED PESACH

Morning Service	9:00 AM
Havdalah	8:47 PM

Sunday, April 4, 2010
CHOL HAMOED PESACH

Morning Service	8:30 AM
Candle Lighting	7:45 PM

Monday, April 5, 2010
SEVENTH DAY PESACH
Office Closed

Morning Service	9:00 AM
Mincha/Maariv	5:30 PM
Candle Lighting	7:47 PM

Tuesday, April 6, 2010
EIGHTH DAY PESACH
Office Closed

Morning Service	9:00 AM
Yizkor	10:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:30 PM
Havdalah	8:50 PM

Holiday Over