



BETH ABRAHAM SYNAGOGUE

Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

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Upcoming Events:

Donor Dinner honoring Susie Katz for her 6 dedicated years as President of Beth Abraham Synagogue will be held on **May 17** beginning at 6:00 pm in the Rabinowitz Family Social Hall. If you have forgotten to mail in your RSVP card, please do so immediately.



Synagogue Annual Meeting On May 13th

by Mark Feuer

The Beth Abraham Synagogue Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday May 13, beginning at 7 pm in the Rabinowitz Family Social Hall. At the meeting, the congregation will elect officers who will serve the synagogue until May 2011 and will elect directors for three-year terms expiring in May 2012. Following the election, Rabbi Barsky will install the new officers and directors. The meeting will also include a financial report from Treasurer Lee Schear, a report on the status of the Beth Abraham Foundation, as well as comments from incoming President David Fuchsman. Time will also be reserved for questions and comments from the congregation. The meeting will mark the end of President Susie Katz's six-year tenure as the lay leader of our congregation. All synagogue members are invited to attend and participate.

The Synagogue Board of Directors has nominated the following candidates:

Board of Directors
Nominated for 3 year terms ending May 2012 are Penney Fraim, Mike Freed and Bonnie Rice. Connie Roberts, Beth Adelman, Charlotte Jacobson, Marilyn Lustig and Allen

Katz are ending their terms of service to the Synagogue Board. The Board of Directors thanks them for their dedicated service. Special thanks to Connie Roberts who has served as the Secretary of the Board for many years, as well as President of the Dayton Jewish School.

Officers:

David Fuchsman - President.
David brings to the Presidency a keen intellect, the skills as a mediator he uses everyday as a Magistrate at the Common Pleas Court, and a sense of humor about himself. A devoted morning minyanair, David has devoted long hours first as the synagogue building committee chair, and then as the co-chair of the Building Committee for the new Sugar Camp building.

Joel Frydman - Honorary Vice President.
Joel has served on the Board of Directors for decades with distinction. Joel also served on the Capital Campaign Committee for the new building.

Scott Liberman - Vice President.
Another regular morning minyanair, Scott chaired the Dues Committee this past year. As a member of the Executive Committee, Scott has been involved with most major policy

decisions of the synagogue. He is always willing to lend his time and judgment to synagogue matters.

Ralph Williams - Vice President.
For a number of years, Ralph has chaired the Ritual Committee. A minyanair and gabbai, Ralph continues to negotiate the difficult religious questions that always arise with gentlemanly grace and a strong attention to detail.

Bernadette O'Koon - Secretary.
New to Dayton, Bernie has jumped into leadership positions as she became active in the Sisterhood and Social Action Committee. She brings to the Officer group the fresh perspective of someone born after 1970.

Lee Schear - Treasurer. When he was first elected as Treasurer, Lee and fellow congregant Bill Cohen transformed the synagogue's accounting and budget systems. Lee continues to devote a significant amount of his time balancing the finances at the synagogue. Lee also served on the Capital Campaign Committee for the new building.

We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting on May 13.

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Beth Abraham Redefines "Retreat"

by David Fuchsman

The Oxford Dictionary defines the word retreat, as follows: "retreat...go back, retire, relinquish position." If this is how the word "retreat" is defined, then the Board Retreat held April 17th was a real misnomer. As the large number of Board members who attended will attest, we did anything but go backwards during the six hours we spent together.

Much of the morning session focused on future programming at Beth Abraham; future as defined as two and three years down the road. A calendar of the 2009-2010 programs was shared with the

Board. In looking at long term programming, we discussed prioritizing our program efforts in terms of who we are trying to reach; both within our congregation and outside our congregation. We discussed providing a possible part-time program coordinator to help the volunteers carry out the program committee's ideas. We discussed how to better market our programming, and how we fund our programming ideas.

Also discussed were possible changes that should be looked at in regards to the way the Board currently operates. For example, the idea of having Vice Presidents responsible for

certain aspects of synagogue management, such as a Fund Raising Vice President (rather than a First Vice President with little or no assigned duties) was debated. In addition, the size of the Board was also discussed. As a result of this discussion, a committee is being formed that will look at our current Constitution, and make recommendations to the Board as to how our governance can be more effective, can promote leadership development and can promote a certain level of transparency the congregation desires.

Continued on page 2

The Cantor's Corner

Cantor Andrea Raizen

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It is hard to believe that just one year ago we formally dedicated the new building. What a glorious afternoon that was. There were still a few things not quite finished, but within a few short weeks, everything was complete. We continue to have visitors coming to the building to look around and comment on what a wonderful place this is. But, as we always knew, Beth Abraham must be more to people than a beautiful structure. A one year anniversary is a good time to reflect on where we have come and where we'd like to see ourselves going.

We are about to wrap up the year for the Religious School. Our large, well-lit, inviting classrooms provided our students with an environment conducive to a variety of learning experiences. I was so fortunate to have a dedicated staff of teachers to assist me in the sacred task of educating the next generation. Our youngest learners were a group of six preschool-aged children who, once a month have come with their parents for an incredible journey through the Jewish calendar with teacher Melaney Cohen. Each month these families engage in stories, music, food and art activities bringing the holidays and Jewish values to life. We also have a class of five children in Pre-K through first grade who attend weekly with their beloved teacher, Rochel Simon. This class has carefully crafted posters of the days of creation, studied each holiday through art and cooking as well as having learned the basic prayers of the morning service. The four children in our combined third and fourth grade class have had to put up with me as their teacher this year. We spent this year learning about life in modern Israel, using maps, posters, the internet, art, music and, of course, food. On Wednesdays, this class also spent an hour improving their Hebrew reading skills with Rabbi Levi Simon. The five students in the combined sixth and seventh grade class studied the Jewish Life Cycle. Before she left for graduate school, Chava Vidal wrote a year's worth of lessons for this group. Congregant and parent, Cheryl Levine was gracious enough to step forward and help to implement these lessons. In their outer-space themed classroom, they learned about everything from birth to death.

They took a couple of mini-field trips and were treated to some special guests. Each Sunday all of the students concluded the morning with a prayer service and songs and several times throughout the year, we all spent time in special activities devoted to the holidays. I can't thank these teachers enough for the time and effort they have devoted to our students.

But where do we go from here? I recently received a copy of a new study titled, "Schools that Work: What We Can Learn from Good Jewish Supplementary Schools." I am thrilled to report that we are utilizing many of the approaches that were attributed to the 10 schools singled out in this study. These include cultivating a nurturing Jewish community, engaging with Judaism at a high level, exposing students to powerful Jewish experiences and valuing the school and its students. I'd like to see even more congregational involvement with our students. For next year I propose we pair each student with an adult or teen Hebrew mentor. Each student could then receive a 30-minute one-on-one session specially tailored to their learning needs and goals. This would mostly focus on reading fluency and prayer work, so you need not worry if you do not speak or understand the language. Please contact me if you are interested in helping out.

Switching to my other *kippah* as your cantor, we have also just concluded a year's worth of special Shabbat services we have called "Shabbat With A Beat." We are looking to enhance the service portion of these evenings by perhaps introducing an instrumental ensemble and a small group of singers. Just today I received a 2-volume set of Shabbat music arranged for instruments, many of the pieces being those we sing at our services. If any of you musicians out there would like to get together and play through some of this music, give me a call. There are parts for instruments in C, Bb, Eb and in bass clef, as well as lead sheets with chords. I would like to meet on Sunday, May 31 at a time to be determined with the participants.

So, repeat after me. "We are more than just a pretty building." Let's continue to be a beacon in the Dayton Jewish community. Call me today and let me know that you will help in these new endeavors.

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Beth Abraham Redefines "Retreat"

Continued from page 1

In addition, it was agreed that a survey of the congregation will be drafted and distributed in order to gather information from the membership as to what Beth Abraham is doing right, what we are doing wrong and how we can make changes that promote greater spiritual, educational and social enjoyment through Beth Abraham membership and attendance.

I think you would agree, with all that was discussed and is being acted upon, there was certainly no "retreat" in our Retreat.

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There Was A Famine In The Land

Rabbi Bernard Barsky

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When my previous synagogue in Scarsdale, New York relocated to a building which had been a Christian Science church, we were all surprised to



learn that it didn't have a kitchen. What kind of religion doesn't have a kitchen? We were told – but I don't know if this is really true - that Christian Science churches never have kitchens and their religious activities never involve food. For a Jew, inconceivable!

Who has not heard the old quip which says that all the Jewish holidays are about basically the same thing: "They tried to kill us, we won, let's eat!" Now the part about their trying to kill us and we won does fit nicely with Pesach, Purim and Chanukah, with their triumvirate of villainy, Pharaoh, Haman and Antiochus. But there are no villains out to slay the Jews in the stories of Shavuot, Sukkot or the High Holidays. Yet the last part of that quip does seem to be universally true. Food is always central to the Jewish holy days.

Not just eating, but making sure that everyone is fed. When we sell our *hametz* before Pesach we make a financial contribution known as *Ma'ot Hittim*, which is used to provide food to the needy. And then we begin our Seders by proclaiming the invitation, "Let all who are hungry come and eat, all who are needy come and celebrate Passover."

Two of the commandments of Purim are sending gifts of food to friends (*Shalach Manot*), and making contributions to the needy. Sukkot is *par excellence* the festival of hospitality after the autumn harvest, when we feed our guests in the Sukkah.

Even the 25-hour total fast of Yom Kippur is marked by the reading from Isaiah in which God asks, "Is this the fast that I desire, a day for people to starve their bodies? No, this is the fast I desire . . . that you share your bread

with the hungry." (And I have special pride in my Beth Abraham family that on my first Yom Kippur with you all I needed to do was ask the question, "Why don't we observe the Fast of Isaiah all year round," and you responded at once by making our ongoing food collection a signature project of this congregation and a model for the rest of the Jewish community.)

Shavuot is soon upon us, celebrating the giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai. And the Book of Ruth, our reading dedicated to this festival, is set in the context of famine, hunger, and the obligation to feed the poor. Even though

"Even though feeding the hungry is not specifically one of the Ten Commandments celebrated on Shavuot, it surely falls under the heading of the first: 'I am the Lord your God.' Feeding the hungry is what we do in our service to the Lord our God."

feeding the hungry is not specifically one of the Ten Commandments celebrated on Shavuot, it surely falls under the heading of the first: "I am the Lord your God." Feeding the hungry is what we do – it's what Jews do! - in our service to the Lord our God.

The beautiful story of Ruth only reveals its prophetic message in its final verses, where we learn that the descendant of Ruth and Boaz in the third generation is David. Every reader understands that this is the line of the Messiah. Ruth and Boaz marry and create the spiritual DNA of the redeemer, the DNA of compassion and justice.

Ruth is an embodiment of complete faithfulness, love and humility in her care for her widowed mother-in-law, Naomi, and these qualities mark her for Boaz' attention. Boaz, whose name literally means "strength in him", uses his power and authority to protect Ruth, the vulnerable stranger and widow in need of food. The story which began in famine concludes with new birth, rejoicing, and the implicit promise of the redeemer who will come forth from Zion.

This is not just a story of once upon a time, nor does Shavuot simply memorialize an event three thousand years in the past. The Torah and its commandments are proclaimed from Sinai every day, and the needs of the hungry literally surround us, right here in Dayton. And what Jews do when we

celebrate our sacred festivals – before we eat ourselves – is feed the hungry. A little of the DNA of Ruth and Boaz is in each of us, at least a spark of the messianic flame.

Know, then, that the food bank of our Jewish Federation is struggling to answer a need that has become three times greater this year than last, and is still growing. Is this not a famine like the famine in the days of Ruth and Boaz?

Do you hear the call from Sinai – "I am the Lord your God" - in the cries of the hungry?

As we approach the celebration of Shavuot, remember that the food barrels at Beth Abraham

need to be filled three times as fast now. Or if a financial gift is easier, send your checks earmarked for the food bank either to my discretionary account or directly to the Federation. Warm yourself from that spark of *Mashiach* in your heart, that spark we all have from the DNA of Ruth and Boaz. And when you hear the words of the Ten Commandments on Shavuot, you may answer in truth, as we have for three thousand years, *Na'aseh v'Nishmah*. We will do and we will heed.

TIKKUN LEYL SHAVUOT – THE "REPAIR" OF THE NIGHT OF SHAVUOT

Thursday, May 28 6:30pm

An evening of study and celebration to prepare ourselves for receiving the Torah.

According to Kabbalah, the Tablets of the Law were a wedding gift from God to Israel, and Shavuot enacts the mystical marriage to repair the brokenness of the world.

Stand together under the *Huppah* when we conclude our evening of Tikkun Leyl Shavuot with a ceremony of recommitment to God and Torah.

Treasurer's Report

Lee Schear

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That which we treasure - our Susie Katz...

Each month, those of us in accounting try to measure the value of our assets, in the form of a balance sheet.



The endowment funds? We measure those about every three months. A spiritual inventory? Supposed to take one every shabbos.

So is it too much to ask that we take just a moment - every six years or so - to reflect upon the value of our most precious assets: our leadership?

And I am thinking of the most valuable of them all - Susie Katz, who has served remarkably these past six years as Beth Abraham's President; through some of the most transformative times in our storied history. Is it coincidental that Susie was in office while we made the profound decision to move Beth Abraham to Sugar Camp? I think not. Would we have made it to Sugar Camp and would we be the aggressive and vibrant congregation we are today without her? I am *sure* not!

Susie has become the face and spirit of our synagogue to many inside our walls and for many more in the Dayton Jewish community. We recognize the overall respect afforded to our Rabbi and Cantor and staff, of course. In fact, we probably lead the world (well, *Dayton...*) in that category. But - hey - the staff at least has competition! For Susie, to whom can we compare?

Emerson once said, "The only true gift is a portion of thyself to others." The portion of herself that Susie gave to us is immeasurable and now our true treasure. I wish I had the power of the pen of an Emerson but I can only pen the ode that she *is* owed - a lot - by a lot of us. And I can't let this treasure slip downstream without saying that out loud.

The reign of good Queen Susie started a little more than six years ago after she initially turned down the opportunity to replace old King Mark as our next president. Her reason? She said she couldn't read a financial statement. That she was virtually innumerate. I railed that we needed someone more

expert at using a *compass* than we needed a calculator jockey! We needed a sense of direction and momentum to get us on the proper path. The re-arranging of numbers would take care of themselves.

Under the dictum that "no good deed goes unpunished," Susie then challenged me, saying that she *would* become President and take over navigation for the shul if I would become Treasurer and take over the accounting. Sure, I thought naively. How hard can this be?

Well, my complaints are for another time. Now - it's Susie Time.

I asked Susie once: what was the secret to her success as the best President in the history of synagogues in the United States? She thoughtfully answered, "Well, I don't really have a life." So, her glib reasoning went, she had the time and focus we needed. On reflection, she *gave* a life - to us, the congregation. In her life, maybe she never really understood the concept of "profit"; but she was familiar with the concept of "loss," like most of the rest of us. And she forced us toward constant "gain" as our programs sharpened, our spirits soared, we moved our home and positioned ourselves for the next hundred years.

As part of the consideration for our private President/Treasurer deal, Susie promised to say nice things about me and I promised to remind her that parentheses on a financial statement was a *bad* thing. She promised to keep her temper under control (well, almost!). I promised to help her become an iron fist in a velvet glove - and to wear out "their" fists with "our" chins. She has succeeded admirably, with a lot less help from me than for which she bargained.

I have said before that we all stand on the shoulders of giants at BAU. All you have to do is read the dedication book from 1948 to realize the debt we owe those that came before us. Susie's shoulders will be an ample platform for a generation of leadership to come. And can anyone out there doubt that we are not better off than we were six years ago? We don't even have to go that far - we are all better off just for having Susie in our lives.

I have known Susie Unger Katz for

more than fifty years. Other than the unimaginable task of keeping Eddie in line, and the nearly impossible goal of raising almost-perfect children, there is nothing in her life that speaks more eloquently about her dedication, her accomplishments and her resourcefulness than the current state of affairs at Beth Abraham. It is something you can't simply explain to others - it can only be revealed over time. And the results of her efforts will continue to be revealed over a length of time that stretches our imaginations.

A few shabboses back, we talked about Ezekiel and the bones coming to life - before they were swept away into oblivion. I don't want to get too carried away *myself*, but Susie (SusEkiel?) put her manic energy into ensuring that our bones wouldn't get swept away on the tides of time and neglect.

She is our treasure. Please spend a dinner recognizing that - this month in her honor (on May 17th). And in a small way, you can donate back to Susie Katz the enormous gift of herself that she has given to Beth Abraham.

Bar Mitzvah

Samuel and Kelley Beloff of Beaver Creek are proud to announce the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jacob Solomon Beloff, at Beth Abraham Synagogue in Dayton, OH on Saturday, June 6, 2009. Jacob is in seventh grade at Ankeny Middle School in Beaver Creek and is active on various sports teams including soccer, swimming, and softball. Jacob enjoys reading, studying planetary sciences, playing with the family's two dogs, and battling for the safety of humanity on the HALO video game series. The congregation is invited to share in this Simcha!

Katz Tales

Susie Katz, Beth Abraham President

This column is difficult to write. It's my last one. And writing Katz Tales has been a blast for me. By the way, thanks to Marc Katz for the column title (figures it would be a Katz and a *real* writer to come up with it!). So, let me move my box of tissues a bit closer and I'll begin...



First, I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed writing what, for me, has felt like a love letter to this congregation each month. Having this venue to bare

my soul about everything from the big issues to all the little nuances that affect Beth Abraham has been nothing less than precious. Sharing with you my own Jewish observance shortcomings and my leadership inadequacies and getting only your acceptance in return has been a gift. Getting to be the one who "pulled back the curtains" on our grand successes has been a privilege. Bringing to you the funny, interesting, quirky and wonderful little moments that happen inside our synagogue on a regular basis has been a joyful undertaking. Giving you a front row seat to my own expedition into synagogue practice "Beth Abraham" style has helped me focus on the journey and has truly enriched the experience for me. And for all of that, I am deeply, deeply grateful. I know that my writing has sometimes been a bit self indulgent, at times a little irreverent, never too scholarly, and maybe even a little tongue in cheek once in awhile. But, believe me when I say that each month when I've taken my seat in front of my computer to write what's on my mind (such as it is), it has been with joy and enthusiasm to share my feelings about all things Beth Abraham from my little perch. Did I know *everything* about Beth Abraham? Well, no, likely it's only Dennis who holds that distinction. Has the perspective of my writing ever been skewed? I think you know the answer to that question. Do I prefer my thoughts tinted in shades of rose? Heck, yes! Why wouldn't I? Was some of what I wrote perfect for lining the

bottom of bird cages? Absolutely! But, do I consider contributing to this bulletin for the last six years an incredible privilege that you have allowed me? Well, from the bottom of my heart, my answer to that is a resounding "yes"!

It is my prayer that you have received my musings in the spirit that they were intended – that my love for our synagogue came across – that my appreciation for the many, many congregants who put incredibly long hours into making our shul the amazing place that it is was acknowledged, that my gratitude for Rabbi Barsky and Cantor Raizen and their profound contributions to our congregation was made clear, that my indebtedness to Annette, Claudia, Marilyn, Dennis, Bob and the other staff who have assisted us over the last six years was obvious. And if I've fallen short here, it's not from a lack of trying, but more from my own inability to shine a spotlight in words bright enough to capture the many treasures that make up Beth Abraham.

I'm going to have a very hard time exiting many of the responsibilities that have been mine during my tenure. (In case you just came back from a six year trip to the moon, you might be surprised to know that I am a bit of a control freak and I use that term lightly because it doesn't come close to what I *really* am – just ask Eddie, my kids, Annette, Claudia, Rabbi, etc. etc.!). Anyway, writing for this bulletin will be one of the most difficult to let go of....and so, I'm probably going to find a way to sneak back in from time to time. But I suspect that the next administration will have some grand ideas, some fresh approach, some new way of looking at things that will intrigue and delight us and I look forward to that. And in the meantime, we should all be aware of and grateful for what endures – no matter who is president, or in charge of a committee or chair of an event.

What endures is that regardless of the individuals who come and go through volunteer positions, we have all the ingredients that are necessary for a vibrant synagogue and that begins with you. It's not that I didn't already know it, but if the last six years made anything crystal clear for me, it's that our congregation is extraordinary. We are committed. We are spiritual. We have

incredible amounts of resources – energy, time, financial assets, creativity – that we are willing and eager to give to our shul. And we do this with a love not just for Beth Abraham, but for each other that I believe, and I've had verified by outsiders, is exceptional. We have clergy who deeply care about us and work diligently to make our faith more embraceable and our participation in Tikkun Olam more accessible. We have a circle of active volunteers who constantly amaze us with the lengths they will go to in order to make Beth Abraham shine with a beacon of light that has brightened the entire Jewish community and beyond. We have a staff that loves and cares for our synagogue with a dedication that defies all reason. And we have our magnificent building. We truly have it all.

And so as I struggle to get comfortable in new roles for Beth Abraham, I do it with abundant gratitude. Thank you for allowing me the incredible opportunity to serve our synagogue and for the warm and gracious reception you have given me as I've felt my way through what was, for me, uncharted territory. I will owe this congregation forever for your patience and your acceptance. This has been the adventure of a lifetime.

I want to close this column in the spirit the entire effort began with – as a love letter to the congregation that I love. I look forward to all the years we have yet to enjoy together in the arms of our beloved synagogue. May we experience them in good health and with strength of purpose and may we reach each and every lofty goal that we set before ourselves. I am humbled by you and I am continually nourished by your presence in my life. May God bless all of us. Thank you.





Library News-Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter

An addition to the synagogue library book collection is a unique study, Polish Jews in Paris: The Ethnography of Memory, by Jonathan Boyarin. An anthropologist who specializes in the study of Yiddish culture then as it flourished into the early 20th century, and now as it continues to fade away, Boyarin relies on oral history through interviews with many of the Polish Jews who relocated to Paris in the two decades between World War I and World War II.

France always has been and continues to be a haven for refugees. While France's relationship to the Jews among its population has at times left much to be desired, especially during World War II, France has a special place in the history of the Jews of Europe. The French Revolution made France the first nation in Europe to recognize Jews as completely equal citizens. Napoleon brought the idea of Jewish equality to all the lands he conquered.

Poland, which did not exist as an independent nation after 1795, regained its independence only at the end of World War I in 1918-1919. Unfortunately, Poland almost immediately went to war with Russia, under the control of Lenin and his fellow communists, while Poles carried out a series of pogroms against the Jews for supporting the Russian revolution. Even after the war ended in early 1921, as Boyarin describes it, the economic and legal situation of the Jews in Poland continued to deteriorate.

About 150,000 Jews came to France in the 1920s and the 1930s, and the vast majority came from Poland. While the United States and Great Britain began to close the doors to immigration in the 1920s, many Poles, especially young men desperate for a better life, chose an alternative destination, Paris, about 850 miles from Warsaw. They did not have to cross the English Channel or the Atlantic. It proved relatively easy to travel to Paris by train.

Some of the elderly Polish Jews recalled the scene for Boyarin. Every day a train would arrive in Paris. Young men from Warsaw always would be wearing "worn suits of a long forgotten style." Their baggage would be tied by rope. Some brought kosher food because they

did not know if that would be available in Paris.

France, which had suffered a terrible loss of manpower with the number of killed, wounded and missing in World War I, welcomed young immigrant workers in the 1920s. As the elderly Polish Jews described it, the young men would be recruited to work in the garment industry as soon as they stepped off the train. They may have worked long hours for low pay, and they often worked at home, but they looked forward to a better life than they could have hoped for in Poland.

All along, many of the Jewish immigrants from Poland entered France illegally, without visas. Apparently, the illegal found an easy route to France through Belgium. Then the Great Depression came, which hit France by 1930. By 1932, France established a quota system for immigrants, making it difficult even for those who tried to enter the country with visas. Polish Jews in France, whether there legally or illegally, would find themselves in a vulnerable position, but they could not have imagined how vulnerable.

Immigrant Jews outnumbered the native French Jewish population by the 1930s. When France surrendered to Germany in 1940, the entire Jewish population of France, but particularly the immigrants and especially the illegal, found themselves in great danger. Some Jews went into hiding, ironically some would survive as prisoners-of-war, some headed to the south, where Germany had created a puppet Vichy French regime, and some joined what became known as the Resistance.

Tragically, about 75,000 Jews would be sent to concentration camps. Only a few thousand would survive. Not only did France decide to try to save native born French Jews and to sacrifice immigrant Jews, whether legal or illegal immigrants, but French authorities cooperated with the Germans. Some elderly Polish Jews remember, however, that French police would warn them to leave Paris.

Many Jewish children would be sent to live with Catholic families. Some would convert to Catholicism, including

Aaron Jean-Marie Lustiger, who lost his mother in the Holocaust and who went on to become the Archbishop of Paris and a cardinal. When French Jews installed their first Chief Rabbi of Sephardic origin, Polish Jews of Ashkenazi origin said, "The Sephardim can have the Chief Rabbi. We have the Archbishop."

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Social Action News

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Bonnie Beaman Rice

Be sure to attend our synagogue's annual meeting on May 13 when your Social Action committee will be announcing the newest Go Green project: "We CAN Make a Difference." Be there for the kick-off and learn how you, too, can be a member of our Green Team.

GO GREEN TIP OF THE MONTH: REDUCE YOUR PAPER WASTE BY ONE-HALF

When using paper, always use **both sides before recycling it**. We can help you do this. Stanley Blum has volunteered to take your paper that has been used on one side and make it into notepads so that the unused side can also be used. Stop by the synagogue office to take advantage of his generous offer. **If we reduce paper use of all kinds by half, we would clear space currently occupied by more than 1,000 landfills!** Be a member of our Beth Abraham Green Team by getting the most use out of your paper.

Jewish War Veterans

Jewish War Veterans Post 587 will be placing American flags on the graves of veterans for Memorial Day. This year the flag placement will take place at Beth Abraham and Temple Israel cemeteries on Sunday, May 24 at 1:00 p.m. Beth Abraham members and friends are invited to help place the flags. We place over 400 flags at the respective cemeteries. If you can help, please meet us at the Beth Abraham cemetery at 1:00 p.m. on May 24.

Join us!

Men's Club News

The Men's Club will be sponsoring a Sunday brunch in honor of Mother's Day on May 10th at 10:00 a.m. The brunch will feature lox and bagels and a blintz soufflé. For your entertainment, a musical group from Wright State University will perform. Please call the office to make your reservation.

The Men's Club is looking for a treasurer. Anyone interested, please contact Irwin Dumtschin at 271-5307. The Men's Club is also looking for new board members. Anyone interested, please contact Ira Levine at 248-5200.

Surprise!

Marilyn Lustig

You have been caught by the Mitzvah Squad doing mitzvot!

You have been a volunteer on numerous synagogue committees and projects. Most recently you have been spearheading our outreach project to our college students, sending them care packages at Hannukah, Purim and Pesach. Between the holidays, you have spent endless hours putting together a Sisterhood cookbook, which we all eagerly await. And our Social Action committee is greatly indebted to you for your beautiful design of our Go Green button to promote our Go Green campaign. We are so grateful for your hard work and many efforts. Thank you for all that you are doing. Mazel Tov to 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 at 409-2880.



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Synagogue
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Address Service Requested

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Times for Shabbat and Yom Tov Candle Lighting & Services

Friday, May 8		Friday, May 22		Saturday, May 30, Shavuot	
Kabbalat Shabbat	5:30 p.m.	Kabbalat Shabbat	5:30 p.m.	Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Candle Lighting	8:19 p.m.	Candle Lighting	8:32 p.m.	Yizkor	10:45 a.m.
				Havdalah	9:42 p.m.
Saturday, May 9		Saturday, May 23		Friday, June 5	
Shacharit	9:00 a.m.	Shacharit	9:00 a.m.	Kabbalat Shabbat	5:30 p.m.
Havdalah	9:23 p.m.	Havdalah	9:36 p.m.	Candle Lighting	8:43 p.m.
Friday, May 15		Thursday, May 28, Erev Shavuot		Saturday, June 6	
Shacharit	9:00 a.m.	Mincha	6:30 p.m.	Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Candle Lighting	8:26 p.m.	Candle Lighting	8:38 p.m.	Havdalah	9:46 p.m.
		Ma'ariv	9:00 p.m.		
Saturday, May 16		Friday, May 29, Shavuot			
Shacharit	9:00 a.m.	Shacharit	9:00 a.m.		
Havdalah	9:30 p.m.	Kabbalat Shabbat	5:30 p.m.		
		Candle Lighting	8:39 p.m.		

FREE RIDES TO SHABBAT SERVICES AND EVENTS

If you need transportation to any Beth Abraham Shabbat service or Shabbat event, please call the office (293-9520) or Diane Williams at home (885-7135) at least a few days before the service or event and the synagogue will help you find a ride. If you would like to volunteer to be a driver either on a regular basis or for a particular event, please contact the office at 293-9520. This is a project of the Beth Abraham Social Action Committee.