



The Brotherhood Synagogue ביה

28 Gramercy Park South
New York, NY 10003

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www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org

קהילה קדושה בית אחים

Volume XXX Number VI

Iyar / Sivan 5772 May 2012

Rachmones

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

During national poetry month, Martin Sage was good enough to share with me a Poem-a-Day selection by our current Poet Laureate, Philip Levine. The poem entitled "The Mercy," is a beautiful meditation on his mother's immigration to America and, I would add, a call for us to be merciful to the new strangers in our midst:

The Mercy

The ship that took my mother to Ellis Island eighty-three years ago was named "The Mercy." She remembers trying to eat a banana without first peeling it and seeing her first orange in the hands of a young Scot, a seaman who gave her a bite and wiped her mouth for her with a red bandana and taught her the word, "orange," saying it patiently over and over. A long autumn voyage, the days darkening with the black waters calming as night came on, then nothing as far as her eyes could see and space without limit rushing off to the corners of creation. She prayed in Russian and Yiddish to find her family in New York, prayers unheard or misunderstood or perhaps ignored by all the powers that swept the waves of darkness before she woke, that kept "The Mercy" afloat while smallpox raged among the passengers and crew until the dead were buried at sea with strange prayers in a tongue she could not fathom. "The Mercy," I read on the yellowing pages of a book I located in a windowless room of the library on 42nd street, sat thirty-one days offshore in quarantine before the passengers disembarked. There a story ends. Other ships arrived, "Tancred" out of Glasgow, "The Neptune" registered as Danish, "Umberto IV," the list goes on for pages, November gives way to winter, the sea pounds the alien shore. Italian miners from Piemonte dig under towns in western Pennsylvania only to rediscover the same nightmare they left at home. A nine-year-old girl travels all night by train with one suitcase and an orange. She learns that mercy is something you can eat again and again while the juice spills over your chin, you can wipe it away with the back of your hands and you can never get enough.

Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 7:30 PM

[Note new start time through the Summer]

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 9:30 AM • *Bat Mitzvah of Zoe Altus*

FRIDAY, MAY 11, 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 9:30 AM • *Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Kessler*


FRIDAY, MAY 18, 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, MAY 25, 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 9:30 AM • *Bar Mitzvah of Max Teirstein*

Brotherhood Schools
Spring Benefit
May 3, 2012



The Pajama Game

Save The Date
The Brotherhood Hebrew School
Production of
The Pajama Game
an adaptation
Wednesday May 16th & Thursday, May 17th

It's not too late to purchase last minute tickets to the Spring Benefit! You may do so by calling the Schools office: 212.674.5750 x 210

To purchase tickets to "The Pajama Game" please call Bunny Blei in the School office: 212.674.5750 x 210, or turn to page 6.

My Two Cents

Davidi

by Elaine Sugarman



Historical moment from 1955: Second from left, back row, is (former) Major Arik Sharon, next to Lt. Gen. Moïse Dayan, chief of staff. At Sharon's feet is (former) Captain Aharon Davidi, today General Davidi, of Sar-El.

Aharon Davidi was an Israeli general, a paratrooper, a hero and a wonderful man who we greatly loved. He founded the Sar-El volunteer program of the Israel Defense Force, which I have been privileged to be part of for just about ten years now. It is with great sadness that I write that on the 10th of February, 2012, Davidi, which is the only way any of us ever addressed him, passed away.

At the age of fifteen, Davidi served in the Haganah and Palmach. In the War of Independence, 1948, he fought in the southern front with the Negev Brigade. In 1953, he volunteered for the new IDF paratroopers as a company commander. The following year, his unit was very active in retaliatory operations and other dangerous missions behind enemy lines. Davidi and his company supported Ariel Sharon's raid on Qibya and they remained close friends all their lives. Davidi was decorated with the Medal of Courage for his actions in the Gaza strip in 1955. As Lieutenant-Colonel and regimental commander, Davidi played a decisive role in the battle of Mitla Pass. From 1965 to 1968, as a colonel, he was the first commander of the IDF Paratrooper and Infantry Corps. During the 1967 Six Day War, Davidi commanded decisive actions to capture Sharm-el-Sheik.

In 1970, Davidi retired as Brigadier from active military service and spent three years at the University of London earning his Masters and Ph.D. degrees. He began teaching geography at Tel Aviv University in 1974. Three years later, he moved to the Golan Heights and became the Director of Community and Cultural Activities of the Golan and Jordan Valley.

It was there, in the summer of 1982, in the midst of the Galilee War that Golan Heights settlements faced the disastrous prospect of losing their entire agricultural crop. The majority of able-bodied settlers had been called up for army reserve duty and entire farms, with crops already ripened, were left unattended, due to the acute manpower shortage. Touched by the settlers' distress, Davidi sent a number of friends as a recruitment team to the United States. Within a few weeks, some 650 volunteers arrived in Israel to lend their support through volunteer labor. They didn't sleep in barracks as we do today. No, those first volunteers left their cozy American homes to sleep in tents and work harder than they ever had to save those crops. They loved it! Realizing the merits of their work, they went to Davidi and expressed the wish that the volunteer project be perpetuated.

As we say, the rest is history. In the Spring of 1983, "Sar-El"—The National Project for

Volunteers for Israel—was founded as a non-profit, non-political organization ("Sar-El" is the Hebrew acronym meaning "Service for Israel"). Over the years, volunteers from other countries came to partake in the project and to date, Sar-El is represented in some 30 countries world-wide. Historically, Sar-El's greatest number of volunteers have come from Volunteers for Israel (V.F.I.) in the U.S.A. and Volontariat Civil (U.P.I.) in France.

As any Sar-el volunteer will tell you, every year, Davidi would make at least one visit to whichever base you were stationed at. Year after year, he came to greet the volunteers. Davidi spoke many languages and when he visited us on a base, he would always deliver a most thoughtful assessment of the current conditions facing Israel that year. We would



sit around him and hang on his every word.

In 2010, among the many awards he won and honors he received in his lifetime, Davidi won the Moskowitz Prize for Zionism.

It was a privilege to know you, Davidi; you will be missed.

Elaine and her Sar-el volunteer friend, Kenny, filling sandbags and cleaning out old bunkers in 2007 up north along the Syrian border. "Doing a Sar-el program not only helps you stay fit," says Elaine, "but you meet wonderful people, who become your great friends for life."

Brotherhood Networking Group

If you are conducting a job search and would like to share information and network with others who are seeking employment or if you think you may be in a position to help those who are looking for work, please come to our next BNG meetings at Brotherhood:

Monday, May 21 • 6 pm

Thursday, June 21 • 6 pm

Thursday, July 19 • 6 pm

Thursday, August 16 • 6 pm

If you have any questions about BNG, would like to RSVP for any of the meetings, or know of jobs to be posted to the group – please write to either Marge mginsburgNYC@gmail.com or Michelle mfinger10@yahoo.com.

Shavuot Services

Erev Shavuot: Saturday, May 26, 8:30 pm

We will once again follow the practice of staying up late on Erev Shavuot, which commemorates the giving of the Torah, in order to engage in Jewish study. This study session, led by Rabbi Daniel Alder, will begin following the 8:30 pm services and will continue until 11:00 pm. Please join us for all or part of the evening. A traditional light dairy meal will be served.

First Day of Shavuot: Sunday, May 27, 9:30 am

Second Day of Shavuot: Monday, May 28, 9:30 am

Yizkor will be recited around 11:30 am at services on Monday, May 28th. Shavuot is one of the four times a year when we recite Yizkor prayers in memory of our loved ones. It is traditional to give gifts of charity in their names. May every gift be blessed and the givers thereof.



Making the Omer Period Count

On Saturday evenings between Pesach and Shavuot (during the period of the counting of the Omer), we are holding hour-and-a-half long sessions of study, supper, and song.

We will be studying a curriculum of Jewish values using Pirke Avot (Ethics of the Sages) as a guide. Following a period of study, we will share the customary third meal of Shabbat (seudah shleesheet) complete with the singing of traditional Shabbat z'mirot, and conclude with the havdalah ceremony.

These study sessions, led by Rabbi Daniel Alder, are held on Saturdays at 7:00 pm from May 5th until May 19th. Sponsorship or donations to help cover the costs of the meals would be appreciated. You may choose to attend any or all of the meetings.

SIYANKS.com

Staten Island Yankees
Class A Affiliate of the New York Yankees



BROTHERHOOD SYNAGOGUE NIGHT WITH THE STATEN ISLAND YANKEES!!

Sunday, June 24, 2012 at 4:00 pm
vs. Hudson Valley Renegades
Richmond County Bank Ballpark

The ballpark is located on the northern tip of Staten Island, adjacent to the Staten Island Ferry terminal so it's easy to get there from Manhattan via subway to the free Staten Island Ferry!

Two Ticket Options:

- \$18 Kosher MealDeal Ticket, includes a voucher for a Kosher Hot Dog, Chips and Drink
- \$14 Regular Group Ticket

Both Include:

- FREE limited edition Staten Island Yankees cap for each member of your group!!
- Welcome message on our huge video replay board in centerfield!!
- All kids 12 & under can run the bases for FREE after the game!!

Please email or call Roberta if you have any questions and to reserve your spots (rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org or 212.674.5750). Please drop off or mail your check payable to "Brotherhood Synagogue" with "SI Yankees" in the memo line to Brotherhood Synagogue, 28 Gramercy Park South, New York, NY 10003.



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President's Posting

May 2012

This is a copy of my remarks at our Annual Meeting in April.

This has been an excellent year in the life of Brotherhood Synagogue. We have accomplished a great deal and continue to thrive as a multigenerational, multiethnic and certainly a multitalented community.

Our Committees continue to thrive and create new exciting, educational, entertaining and interesting programs. From visits to museums to band concerts to our own Broadway show and so much more, we have had something for everyone. And...this year we look forward to our Congregational Annual Fund barbecue in May. Our bylaws have been updated (vote to be taken tonight) and our Strategic Planning Committee will have some suggestions for enhancing our working infrastructure.

In my first column as President in the May 2011 Bulletin I wrote:

"How will this term be different from the 20th century years? I come to the office of President with more knowledge of the working of the Synagogue and an even deeper commitment to the congregation and staff. I know that anything that happens at the Synagogue occurs because a congregant or staff

member has spent time, effort and thought on the event."

This remains true. We have some extraordinary members who work very hard to keep our community going. I will not single anyone out for fear of omitting others, but I will say that our Board is comprised of members who not only donate funds to our synagogue but also spend many of their hours working on projects that make our Synagogue an even better place.

My "theme" for the past year was "members make it happen." I believe that is still a true statement and will carry it forward for my second and final year as President.

We accomplished two surveys this year, one internal survey spearheaded by Debra Pearlstein and one external 12 synagogue survey which required support of four terrific synagogue members. We learned a lot and have implemented some new programs and changes based on the information we gathered.

Our Senior Synagogue staff continues to go from strength to strength. We have enjoyed the beautiful voice and ruach of Cantor Marina Shemesh and wish her the best as she moves on to another position in the metropolitan area. Our Synagogue has been enhanced by the new programs and activities that we knew a full time Cantor would bring to us.

Rabbi Alder continues to do the work of a superman with a congregation the size of ours.

He is there for us in times of joy as well as times of sorrow. His meaningful sermons as well as his actions are lessons for us all in becoming better Jews and citizens.

Phil Rothman is our other superman. There is nothing too large or too small for him to handle. He works his magic on everything and we know that all will be all right.

Behind the scenes Roberta Kahn keeps all of the committees moving, the Bulletin on time and interesting, the weekly email blasts up to date and a myriad of other synagogue activities going smoothly.

Our office staff and custodial staff function effectively and purposefully. Our schools run full tilt with two excellent heads as well as support staff and teachers par excellence.

A special thank you to Martin Sage who motivates us all to keep giving to the Annual Fund with his well written letters and clever ideas. He is the spicing on the cake!!

We look forward to another wonderful year as we bid good bye to Marina and welcome our new Cantor. As always, change is difficult but we expect this to be a smooth transition between two professionals.

Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to serve the Congregation for another year.

Carol Ginsburg

Happenings in Our Kehilah

B'nai Mitzvah, Mazal Tov to:

Buddy and Helaine Altus on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Zoe Altus**. Zoe is a student at the Clinton School.

Allan Kessler and Joy Bauer on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Daniel Kessler**. Daniel, a student at Fieldston, will celebrate his simcha with his older brother, **Zachary**.

Andrew Teirstein and Olga Hiiva on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Maxim Teirstein**. Max, a student at Friends Seminary, will celebrate his simcha with his older sister, **Zoya**.

Condolences to:

Mary Ann Perle on the passing of her mother, **Guta Perle**.

Fred Miller on the passing of his father, **Larry Miller**. ☹

Life Goes On

Monday, May 7, 6:00 PM

Life Goes On is a group for those of us who have lost a spouse or life partner and want to experience the beauty, joy, and opportunity that New York life offers surrounded by supportive friends who understand and share in the loss.

Our April meeting of yoga and dinner was a great success. First, our bodies were toned, relaxed, and taken care of; and then a cozy meal followed with lots of interesting conversation with kind friends to nourish our minds.

Our next meeting on Monday, May 7 at 6 pm in Brotherhood's library room will feature a great new event: a book group! By now, I hope everyone is reading the fascinating novel *Old Filth* by Jane Gardam. We will meet to discuss the book with the wonderful and talented NYU professor Margaret Boe Birns as the leader and moderator for our conversation. Add our usual wine and desserts, and we have a great evening in the making.

For the June meeting (possibly late May instead—date TBD), we are planning a tour of some Chelsea galleries followed by a dinner picnic on the Highline. Details to follow.

If you or someone you know would like to be a part of *Life Goes On*, please come to our meetings—we'll be happy to see you! If you have any questions, please call Agnes Marton at 917.519.4427 or email her at Iagnesmarton@gmail.com, or call Roberta in the Synagogue office 212.674.5750. ☹



Yahrzeits

^Garden of Remembrance

*Book of Remembrance

May 5-11

*Maurice Adams, Bernard Baumstein, Myer Block, Y'chiel Bronfman, ^Rose Carlin, Helen Cohen, ^*Julius Cohen, *Selma Eisinger, ^Renee Feinberg, Arthur Felsen, *Irene C. Field, *Anita Frankel, Beril Chazen Gershenson, Morris Goffin, ^Ceal Goldman, ^Marjorie R. Goodrich, ^Nathaniel H. Goodrich, ^Annette Green, Reuben Guthoff, Frieda Gutterman, Jean Haberman, ^Belle Hocky^, Hopestill Hunter, Irving Jacobs, Herman Kraus, ^Jonas Landau, *Joan D. Laufer, Tomara Lusko, Rose Magram, Charles Maikish, Alan Mamber, ^Joseph Margolis, *Mortimer M. Natilson, Winifred Ornati, Neil Pace, Arnold Penenberg, ^Hal Reiff, ^Lili Reinis, Max Rosenfeld, Carl Ross, **Rosalind G. Roy, Bernard Schneider, Corinne Schube, Samuel Schwartz, Fred Schwartz, ^Samuel Schwartz, ^Gittel Silberling, ^Lillian Singer Simon, Albert Soifer, Ethel Solender, Leah Spielman, Anita Stern, *Saul Unterweiser, Lenora Vassil, Samuel J. Warner, ^Isaac L. Weiner

May 12-18

Dorothy Johnson Affler, Gordon Alpert, ^Alfred Alterman, Mildred Behrens, ^Harry Berke, Wilbur Bobker, ^Harry Cohn, *Florence Dolitsky, Samuel Farber, ^Salvatore Ferraiolo, ^Scott Ferraiolo, ^Aaron Friedman, Fannie Gerstein, Carl Groh, Ethel Cohen Guild, ^Mildred Haas, Harry Hansell, Joe Hill, ^Nathan Izenzon, William Jassey, Robert Jordan III, ^Pearl Krauss, ^Israel Miller, ^Pauline Musiker, Ida Newton, ^Harold Pomerantz, ^Nathan Ray, ^Curt Reisner, *Isidore Rosenbaum, ^Emanuel Rosenberg, Sidney Rosenfeld, ^Mina Rubin Roth, Gerald Rothberg, ^Samuel Rubinoff, ^Esther Sager, Lazarus Sainer, Benjamin Salom, Abraham Schenker, Sharon Schlanger, Charles Schwartz, ^Col. Milton Seaman, ^Alita Dee Star, ^Abraham Boris Strauss, Lloyd Walther, *Anabel Weiner, ^Joseph Weisglass, ^Seymour Weisglass, Mae Winston, *Martin Wittenstein

May 19-25

^Edward S. Abrahams, Jack Abramowitz, *Simon Baumann, Myron Belkin, Roberta Berk, Jack Berkman, ^Harry A. Bernstone, Hananiah Borochoy, Marcus Breier, Sylvia Brown, Ida Cooper, *Vera Cushin, Joseph Epstein, Milton Feinman, Ralph Fleckman, Edith Glassman, ^*Pearl Greeninger, Muriel Gross, Abraham Gross, ^Carol Grunberg, ^Olly Billig Hahn, Stanley Hartman, ^Milton Hoffman, Alan Kahn, Jerry Kaleko, *Isidor Korein, *Max Krumholz, Ralph M. Larkin, ^Max Levine, Louis Lieberman, *Jennie Mahler, ^Kathe Mansfeld, *Asher Markowitz, ^Abraham Menaker, ^Harry Meyer, Manny Mortz, *Malke Moses, ^Irving Moskowitz,

Edward Perlow, Esther Rabinowitz, Joel Reiss, Clara Rofman, *Harry Schlanger, *Hyman Seidman, ^Judith (Julia) Seinfeld, Sarah Rivie Slotnick, Morris Spiegel, ^Ruth Varsano, Irving Weber, ^Jerry Weiss, Joel Weprin, Millie Wine, Irving Wolfson, Mildred Zeitlin

May 26-June 1

Sydell Alper, ^Leo Alpers, Norman Apt, Ernest Beck, Gertrude Bell, George Bergofin, *Helen Shron Berkman, Edwin Blate, ^Theodore Blum, ^Max Braver, ^Louis Hannon Burgoff, Irving Cohen, Bernard Domow, ^Ben Dubin, ^Blanche Eisenstadt, Abraham Ellias, Richard Evans, Mary Feinstein, *Dr. Arnold B. Field, Hanna Flame, *Frank Frankel, Albert W. Fuss, Celia Gardner, ^Anna Gold, ^Sally Green, *Jacob Grossman*, Charlotte Hamburger, Sidney Kabel, Edward Klauber, ^Arnold Lappert, *Esther Lipshie, Phoebe Margolis, ^George Marton, ^Frieda Meyerson, Esther Miles, ^Rudolf Nachman, Hermann Nachmann, Sherley Plasse, Bernard Plutzer, ^Fannie Cohen Poller, *Sidney Poswolsky, Jacob Pukatch, Adina Raviv, ^Herman Reinis, Richard Robbins, Louis Ross, Rose Roth, ^Abram Rubinstein, Max Jack Schneider, Jacob Schneier, Beatrice Schoenberg, Jack Silverstein, Ruth Simring, Rina Stempel, ^Stanley Topper, Lottie Tucker, Sam Weinman, Gertrude Winn

The Brotherhood Synagogue

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RABBI DANIEL ALDER,
CANTOR MARINA SHEMESH,
RABBI IRVING J. BLOCKTM D.D.:
Founding Rabbi

HERMAN DIAMOND: Cantor Emeritus
SHIYA RIBOWSKY: Cantor Emeritus
CAROL GINSBURG: President
PHILLIP ROTHMAN:
Executive and Education Director


Congregation founded in 1954
Historic Landmark Building
erected in 1859

GRAMERCY PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

353 Second Avenue New York, NY 10010
(212) 477-6334

שלום עליכם

SHOLOM ALEICHEM
96TH YAHRZEIT



"...gather with my children and with the grandchildren and with just good friends and read this last will of mine, and pick out a story, one of the really merry ones..."

As requested by Sholom Aleichem in his will, the traditional readings of his stories will take place on **Sunday, May 20, at 8 PM sharp** at the Brotherhood Synagogue and our members are again cordially invited to join in the laughter and refreshments.

Please call the office with your RSVP (212.674.5750) if you would like to be present for this joyous occasion.

Presents

The Pajama Game

AN ADAPTATION



Wednesday, May 16th @ 7:00 PM

Thursday, May 17th @ 7:00 PM

All performances will take place in the community room at the Brotherhood Synagogue

Tickets are \$18.00

You may also choose to be a FRIEND at \$36.00 per person or a PATRON at \$72.00

*Proceeds benefit the Brotherhood Synagogue
For more information call 212-674-5750*

Name: _____

Email: _____

Number of tickets for May 16th _____ @ \$18.00 _____

Number of tickets for May 17th _____ @ \$18.00 _____

Total Amount enclosed \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to "The Brotherhood Synagogue" and mailed to: "The Pajama Game"

The Brotherhood Synagogue
28 Gramercy Park South
New York, NY 10003

I am unable to attend but would like to donate \$ _____

Hebrew School News

The Month of May - While "Standing on One Foot"

As we enter the last month of our 2011-2012 Hebrew School year, we cannot help but marvel at how quickly the year has flown by. We will start off the month with the **Brotherhood Synagogue Schools' Benefit** on Thursday May 3 @ 6:30 pm. Please join us!

The following week, Wednesday May 9, we will be holding our long-anticipated **Chai-Q Contest!** Our students and their families have been studying feverishly to compete in this amazing Jeopardy style game—with questions based on basic precepts of Jewish life and Jewish law. Our emcee will be the inimitable Phil Rothman, and, as promised, there will be prizes galore! The names of the Grand Champion and 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners will be published in the June 2012 Brotherhood Bulletin.

Wednesday May 16 @ 7:00 pm marks the opening night of our Hebrew School musical "*The Pajama Game*." Our second and final performance of "*The Pajama Game*" will take place the following evening, Thursday May 17 @ 7:00 pm. Several of the musical numbers will be performed both in Hebrew and English. Among them: "*Seven And A Half Cents*," "*The Pajama Game*" and "*Racing With the Clock*." We are all very excited about this production—and hope that you will be able to attend. Tickets are now on sale! To purchase tickets, contact Bunny Blei at bblei@brotherhoodsynagogue.org.

Kitah Zayin's (7th Grade) Siyyum (completion ceremony) will take place on Friday May 18, at the 7:30 pm main Sanctuary services. Our 7th Graders will be helping to lead the service and will share reflections about what growing up in the Brotherhood Synagogue community has meant to them. They will also tell us about their tzedakah projects—and why they chose them.

Kitah Bet's (2nd Grade) Stepping Up Ceremony will take place that Shabbat morning May 19, as our 2nd graders celebrate their promotion from the Aleph Bet Club to Junior Congregation and mark their first day of attendance as full-fledged members of Junior Congregation.

The year has been a remarkable one and we owe its success to our amazing teaching staff: Merrill Feinstein, Judy Shapiro, Jonathan Berk, Simone Vogel, Paul Wolf, Maia Karo, Ilana Sheinman, Frances Oelbaum, Mira Shaar, Rebecca Kryspin-Alder, Dina Yaish, Dorothy Meyer, & Miriam Mazor. We also wish to thank our dedicated teen volunteers who came to Brotherhood Synagogue weekly to work with our students: Sonia Epstein, Zachary Alerhand, Tessa Shapiro, Ariel Goldner and Aria Mamber.

Wishing you all a healthy, safe and productive summer!

L'Shalom,

Barbara & Bunny

Nursery School Thoughts

by Danielle Vadai

I wanted to take this opportunity to wish heartfelt congratulations to all of the Blue Room families on the big milestone we will all share in a few weeks, when our children graduate from Nursery School. I feel like it was only yesterday I was anxiously trying to figure out the Yellow Room phase (in schedule) and hoping that Abigail would find a friend. Thankfully, she found many.

The Blue Room class is a remarkable group of children and it has been my pleasure getting to know them and watching them grow. When we began this journey in the Yellow Room, in addition to what Abigail was experiencing, learning how to be a friend and student in a classroom, beginning her love of Judaism and all of its beautiful traditions, my husband, Eyal, and I began to feel so welcomed by the parents of her newfound friends. Over the last three years the parents and caregivers in the Blue Room have given me some of the best advice, tips and guidance. I learned how to make the most incredible cream cheese rugalech (now a family staple), how baby powder is magical at removing sand from kids (and adults) and bigger things like how to navigate through playdates when my child seems to want to hoard all of her (suddenly), “favorite” toys and discipline and parenting tips that really helped when I needed it most. The kind word and the much needed coffee or playground dates that we have shared together over the last three years have truly been what has made the often daunting task of parenting fun.

When Abigail was in the Yellow Room, she struggled with an asthmatic infection. A mother I did not know very well called to check in after hearing from her child

that Abigail was out for the week. It was November in the Yellow Room, neither Abigail nor I had formed friendships yet, but we were navigating our way through a sea of new faces and personalities. I will never forget this phone call and how much calm it brought during days spent in and out of the hospital. To me, this moment was the beginning of several exchanges with Brotherhood parents that made Abigail's experiences so meaningful to all of us as a family. In the years since, through stuffing benefit envelopes, creating (or attempting to create) pom-pom's for last year's benefit, cleaning up after the school-wide Shabbat, and coming to family services in the Synagogue, I have shared unexpected moments with parents that I will never forget. I would encourage all new and current parents to try to get involved. You never know when what starts as a task at the end of a long day can end in hours spent laughing and bonding and staying much later than you anticipated because you don't want to leave!

I want to give a big *mazel tov* to all of the Blue Room children. Along with all of her Brotherhood teachers, each of you has inspired Abigail and our entire family. She has learned to become a friend, a learner, an art enthusiast and she has begun what we know will be a lifelong love of Judaism, all thanks to the students and caregivers at Brotherhood. We hope that within the big, wide world of Kindergarten we find parents who are as giving of their time, smiles, homes and hearts, as our first experience at Brotherhood has truly taught us the meaning of community. Congratulations Blue Roomers, we know you will all shine in all of your future endeavors and that your futures are as bright as each of you! ~

♪ Cantor's Notes ♪

Thank you to all the members of the Meshorerim Choir who participated in the community-wide Holocaust commemoration program at Congregation Beit Simchat Torah on April 19. It was a very moving and meaningful ceremony. Y'asher Koach!

I want to remind you about a very important concert that I hope you will not miss. I will be singing in a wonderful concert on Sunday, May 20 at 4:00 pm at Rose Hall at Jazz at Lincoln Center!

My choir, The Zamir Chorale, will be presenting a concert in celebration of our eternal city of Jerusalem on that day which is Yom Yerushalayim. It will be a great way to celebrate what Jerusalem means to us all through song. The famous Israeli singer YEHORAM GAON will be our special guest artist and Alberto Mizrahi will also be on the program along with many members of HaZamir: The International Jewish High School Choir. It is sure to be an important and entertaining afternoon.

Please save May 20 in your calendars and reserve your tickets in advance to make sure you don't miss this very special event which will surely sell out fast! Here is the link to order the tickets: <http://wizevents.com/register/landing.php?id+1359> and please put my name as a referral—thank you!

Cantor Marina Shemesh ~



Shavout Ice Cream Party

for Brotherhood kids and families!

Sunday, May 27th at 1 pm

Hear the Ten Commandments read aloud and join us afterwards in eating a dairy dish to symbolize the sweetness of the giving of the Torah and the land of milk and honey:

Ice cream sundaes with all the toppings!



Seeking Graduation News

We would like to hear about all graduations from High School, College and Professional and Graduate Schools for listing in our June bulletin. Please contact the synagogue with this information and any future plans of the graduates by May 13th. Phone: 212-674-5750 or Fax: 212-505-6707 or Email: rabbi@brotherhoodsynagogue.org



Brotherhood Synagogue



קהילה קדושה בית אחים

Iyar / Sivan 5772

May 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>☆ Saturday Morning Shabbat Corner 9:30 am Junior Congregation 10:30 am Alef-Bet Club 10:45 am</p>		<p>1 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 7 pm: History of Israel</p>	<p>2 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School</p>	<p>3 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers Noon: Lunch & Learn 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:30 pm: Hebrew Gan 6:30 pm: Brotherhood Schools Spring Benefit</p>	<p>4 7:37 pm: Candles IMPORTANT: New Services Time: 7:30 pm</p>	<p>5 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Zoe Altus 7:00 pm: Study and Supper</p> <p>ACHAREI MOT-KEDOSHIM</p>
<p>6 Tikvah Trip 2:00 pm: Philadelphia Museum Trip</p>	<p>7 4:00 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Life Goes On</p>	<p>8 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 7 pm: History of Israel</p>	<p>9 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 4:45 pm: Chai-Q Competition</p>	<p>10 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers Noon: Lunch & Learn 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:30 pm: Hebrew Gan LAG BA'OMER</p>	<p>11 7:44 pm: Candles 7:30 pm: Services</p>	<p>12 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Kessler 7:00 pm: Study and Supper</p> <p>EMOR</p>
<p>13 9 am - 2 pm: Tikvah MOTHER'S DAY</p>	<p>14 4 pm: Hebrew School</p>	<p>15 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 7 pm: Board Meeting</p>	<p>16 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Play- "The Pajama Game"</p>	<p>17 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers Noon: Lunch & Learn 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:30 pm: Hebrew Gan 7 pm: Play- "The Pajama Game"</p>	<p>18 7:51 pm: Candles 7:30 pm: Services</p>	<p>19 ☆ 9:30 am: Services 7:00 pm: Study and Supper</p> <p>BEHAR-BECHUKOTAI</p>
<p>20 9 am - 2 pm: Tikvah 8 pm: Sholom Aleichem 96th Yahrzeit</p>	<p>21 4 pm: Hebrew School 6 pm: BNG</p>	<p>22 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers 4:00 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan LAST DAY OF TUESDAY HEBREW SCHOOL</p>	<p>23 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School LAST DAY OF MONDAY & WEDNESDAY HEBREW SCHOOL</p>	<p>24 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers Noon: Lunch & Learn 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:30 pm: Hebrew Gan 6 pm: Annual Fund BBQ</p>	<p>25 7:57 pm Candles 7:30 pm: Services</p>	<p>26 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bar Mitzvah of Max Teirstein 8:30 pm Services, Supper and Study</p> <p>BEMIDBAR Erev Shavuot</p>
<p>27 9:30 am: Services 1 pm: Shavuot Ice Cream Party</p> <p>SHAVUOT</p>	<p>28 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>SHAVUOT YIZKOR</p>	<p>29 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers 5:40 pm: Minyan</p>	<p>30 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class</p>	<p>31 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:45 am: Toddlers Noon: Lunch & Learn 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:30 pm: Hebrew Gan</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">A Round of Cheers for Brotherhood's Homeless Program!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brotherhood's 2012 Homeless Program concluded at the end of March. We wish to thank our dedicated and generous volunteers who helped out this season and we also want to extend heartfelt thanks to the Homeless Shelter's Volunteer Coordinator, Nancy Hornstein!</p>	

If you've given to Brotherhood's Annual Fund...

You're Invited to a Sizzling Time

(if you haven't yet given, you're invited to make a contribution... and then...)

Join Us At Brotherhood Synagogue's

Annual Fund Barbeque



**Thursday,
May 24, 2012
6-8 pm**

RSVP by May 21

