



The Etz Hayim Synagogue Newsletter

March 2012



7 Adar 1—8 Nisan 5772

FROM THE RABBI...

In the Talmud it is written: “*meshnichnas Adar, marbim b’simcha*, when the month of Adar arrives, our joy increases”. Why? Because Adar is the month of Purim, the merriest holiday on our calendar.

Since Purim is a holiday in which we dress in costume and make a lot of noise, it is often considered to be a holiday that is especially for children, but there is plenty here for adults as well. On the surface we have all the elements of a good fairy tale. There is a beautiful princess, a king, an evil villain and a hero to save the day. However, on a deeper level this is an intricate story which prompts us to think about fate and faith, what we keep hidden within ourselves and what we choose to reveal to the world, and so much more. Megillat Esther is also a beautifully written piece of literature that can stand on its own.

This year Etz Hayim will be celebrating Purim on Saturday evening, March 11th. It will be an evening of fun for young and old alike. We will begin the evening at 5:30pm with mask decorating as well as other arts and crafts. We will proceed to gather to greet the week with havdallah and then, the *real* fun begins. Our Purim shpiel is based on the story of Fiddler on the Roof and there is a role for everyone. With just two rehearsals (Sunday March 4th @ 11:00 am and Thursday March 8th at 7pm) we will create a musical, fun evening for the whole congregation. EVERYONE is welcome at the rehearsals, but please let me know if you plan to come so that I can have a sufficient number scripts available.

Most importantly, on Saturday evening, grab your grogger, don your best Purim costume, bring your favorite hamentaschen to share, and come have fun!

Rabbi Milkow



FILM SERIES

Saturday, March 3rd 7pm
Etz Hayim Synagogue 1 1/2 Hood Rd.



Free. Refreshments. Babysitting.

Iran's nuclear program presents a threat to international stability. Yet successive American administrations, Republican and Democratic alike, have misread the intentions and actions of the Iranian regime.

How dangerous is a nuclear Iran, even if it never detonates a weapon? What are the guiding principles of the Iranian leadership? To what lengths would the regime go to carry out its agenda? How far have Iran's leaders already gone to fund the world's most powerful terrorist organizations? And why have American leaders failed to gain the upper hand in relations with Iran during the past 30 years?

In approximately 60 minutes, Irianium powerfully reports on the many aspects of the threat America and the world now face using rarely-before seen footage of Iranian leaders, and interviews with 25 leading politicians, Iranian dissidents and experts on Middle East policy.

RABBI MILKOW'S FORMAL INSTALLATION

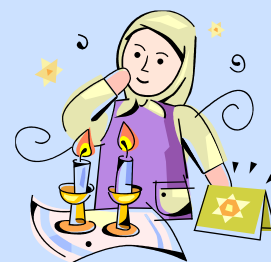
We would like the congregation to know that we have scheduled Rabbi Milkow's formal installation as our new religious leader for Friday evening, April 20, 2012. This will take place during our regular Shabbat Evening services, beginning at 7:15 and followed by a special oneg. Please save the date and plan to attend with your family.

FAMILY SERVICE...

Saturday, March 3 at 9:30 AM

TORAH TOTS SHABBAT...

Saturday, March 17 at 9:30 AM



FROM THE RABBI EMERITUS...

This is a story about encountering and coping with tragedy.

We have friends who lost their child a few weeks ago. She was hit by a car while jogging. I don't have the details, though I can say that no charges were filed.

The death is devastating for the family, but also for a large and supportive community who love the young woman and her family. What I want to share are two things the parents have talked about as helping them in the initial days following their loss.

First, the young woman was an organ donor. In the words of her father: "Her donation of her heart, liver, pancreas, kidneys and one lung changed the lives of 5 recipients and the people who love them." There is a great solace the family receives from knowing that their daughter lives on in these five individuals who were at death's door until her donations saved them. It is worth asking the question for yourself, would you and your family find comfort at a time of tragedy knowing that you could save lives in this way? If so, then now is a time to act.

Second, the mother shared that for many years she had kept a daily journal of gratitude. Whatever happened to her that day, large or small, for which she felt gratitude, found a place in her journal. When she got the call about her daughter's accident and had to travel to be at her bedside, she took the journal with her. She said that the journal gave her comfort. She also noted that the long-standing practice of recording her gratitude day-by-day was helping her cope now that she mourned deeply, day-by-day.

I will add only the thought that the way we greet the world on a daily basis serves as the foundation for the way we cope with the world in times of distress. The conscious practice of gratitude served this mother well. The commitment to bettering the world through our lives gave the family confidence that organ donation made a difference in the world even through the tears they shed at the loss of their daughter.

I pray that we never experience such a tragedy. At the same time I encourage you to consider your daily spiritual practices, (prayer, journaling, social action, meditation, spiritual study), with an eye to how they would serve you in times of distress. All of these and more are in your Jewish tool box. If you want to learn more, ask your rabbis.

Wishing you all many blessings.

All the Best,
Rabbi Louis Rieser

Yahrzeit Plaques

If you wish to purchase a Yahrzeit Plaque for a loved one, please contact Larry Boise at L.boise@comcast.net or 603-432-9291. The requested donation is \$250.00. Larry will need the English name, Hebrew name and date of death to have the plaque cast. Our non-Jewish loved ones may also be remembered with a Yahrzeit plaque (the Hebrew name is omitted).

Yahrzeit List

The Yahrzeit marks the anniversary of a death. Traditionally one recites the kaddish memorial prayer on the Yahrzeit of seven primary relatives: son, daughter, brother, sister, mother, father and spouse. It is customary to light a Yahrzeit candle the evening before the Yahrzeit date and to recite kaddish at services on the Shabbat close to the memorial date, usually the week ahead. For additions or corrections to this list, please contact Rabbi Milkow. We also provide a Yahrzeit Finder, listed under Resources on our web site, www.etzhayim.org

Please note that all dates listed are according to the Hebrew date of death, which will vary from year to year.

Yahrzeits to be read on March 02, 2012 (8 Adar)

Herbert Aronson (Hayim Leib ben Moshe)	February 21, 1999	5 Adar
Blanche Vick	February 28, 2004	6 Adar
Elsie Rosenberg	March 1, 2001	6 Adar

Yahrzeits to be read on March 09, 2012 (15 Adar)

Albert Kaplan	February 15, 2008	9 Adar I
Judith Rashkin Lewis	February 22, 2002	10 Adar
Paul Steinberg	February 15, 1973	13 Adar I
Anna Green	February 18, 1962	14 Adar

Yahrzeits to be read on March 16, 2012 (22 Adar)

Dorothy E. Solomon	February 24, 1997	17 Adar I
Edward Einhorn	March 2, 1975	19 Adar
Marvin Goldberg	March 6, 2010	20 Adar
Lorraine Adcock Simonoff	February 27, 2008	21 Adar I

Yahrzeits to be read on March 23, 2012 (29 Adar)

Joseph Spickler	March 4, 1989	27 Adar
Mitchel Aronson	March 1, 1973	27 Adar
Lillian Weisner Saren	March 29, 1987	28 Adar

Yahrzeits to be read on March 30, 2012 (7 Nisan)

Harry Boise		7 Adar II
Paul Rosenberg		1 Nisan
Mae Kagan	April 3, 1984	1 Nisan
Marian Silverstein	April 12, 2008	7 Nisan

Yahrzeits to be read on April 6, 2012 (14 Nisan)

Nathan Wieder	March 31, 2004	9 Nisan
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***The 4th Annual Jewish Film Festival
March 17-25, 2012.***

This year's film line up and related programs for our yearly Jewish cultural event are exciting, engaging and entertaining. It is our strongest Festival offering yet. Films and all program information will be announced soon.

We wish to collaborate with your congregation to get the word out about this signature event on a statewide basis.

For your use, I've attached a 'Save the Date' advertisement for use in your congregational newsletter and website.

Thank you for your valued assistance and support in keeping your congregants informed about the ***New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival***.

We will be showing films in more cities this year to give Jewish New Hampshire and the general public additional opportunities to see top notch Jewish themed films. If you have any questions, feel free to be in touch.

Best regards,
Linda Gerson

Co-chair, NH Jewish Film Festival
JEWISH FEDERATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
698 Beech Street
Manchester, NH 03104
Our community, our inspiration.

Let us entertain you.

SAVE THE DATE

Playing in theaters statewide:
Manchester Merrimack Concord Keene Hanover

Presented by the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
www.jewishnh.org



Looking for a special something for your home, or a gift for someone else?

Look at [Sand and Water Creations in Glass](#) by Amalia Flaisher, who made and donated the Ner Tamid (eternal light) in our sanctuary.

<http://www.sand-and-water.com/servlet/StoreFront>

Order through the gift shop at Etz Hayim Synagogue and get a discount. Some of Amalia's work is on display in our case in the lobby.

Call Miriam at 483-3969 to inquire about pricing.



CONDOLENCES

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of Arlene Jillette, grandmother of Lisa Culleton, great grandmother of Hannah and Mikayla.

May the Eternal God comfort Lisa and her family and may the memory of Arlene always be a blessing.

Visit the Dead Sea Scrolls!



To see the Dead Sea Scrolls, you normally would have to go to Israel. The Scrolls are currently at the Discovery Museum in New York City and will be until April 15. The New Hampshire Board of Rabbis has arranged a bus trip to New York and a docent tour of the Dead Sea Scroll exhibit on Sunday, April 1, 2012.

Departure: 6:00 am, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, 698 Beech Street, Manchester.

Return: Approximately 9:00 pm.

Cost (bus and ticket into the Discovery Museum):

Adults: \$55.00

Children (4-12): \$47.00

Seniors (65+): \$52.00

Send payment to: Temple Beth Jacob

67 Broadway,

Concord, NH 03301

no later than March 9, 2012.

Funded in part through a generous gift from the Jewish Federation of NH. Participation is limited to the first 55 registrants whose payment is received.

Questions? Contact:

Rabbi Bryna Milkow 603-432-0004 or rabbi@etzhayim.org

Rabbi Robin Nafshi, 603-228-8581 or rabbi@tbjconcord.org.



MAZEL TOV....

Congratulations to Sarah Finne Sandler for receiving her Master of Public Health degree from the University of Massachusetts.

CALL TO ACTION FROM THE BOD

As you will have noted in the e-mail of February 12, 2012 from Rabbi Milkow and Paul Martin, we are at the beginning stages of our committee re-organization project. We would encourage ALL members of Etz Hayim Synagogue to become involved in the area of their choice. The committees are as follows: Religious Living, Life Long Learning, Membership, Programming, Strategic Planning, Communications and Technology and Building. To date, the following initial committee meetings have been scheduled:

Religious Living: Wednesday, February 22, 7:00 pm

Membership: Tuesday, March 13, 6:15 pm

Life Long Learning: Wednesday, March 14, 7:15 pm

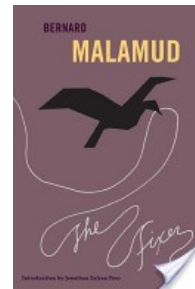
To ensure success, we need as many people as possible to participate and encourage all of you to join us in this venture. If you are unable to attend a scheduled meeting but would like to be included on a particular committee, let the office know of your interest and we will contact you directly. Many thanks in advance for your continued dedication to Etz Hayim Synagogue!

Etz Hayim Book Club

Next meeting Sunday April 22 , 2012 10 -11:30 AM
At Etz Hayim

The Fixer by *Bernard Malamud*

Published 1966 by Farrar, Straus and Giroux



The Fixer is a 1966 novel by Bernard Malamud inspired by the true story of Menahem Mendel Beilis, an unjustly imprisoned Jew in Tsarist Russia. The notorious "Beilis trial" of 1913 caused an international uproar that forced Russia to back down in the face of world indignation. The Beilis case is fictionalized along a highly similar story line. The book won the National Book Award for Fiction^[1] and the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the in 1967.

This is a powerful story!!

For more information Steve Soreff soreffs15@aol.com or 603 895-6120

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Cell: 603-661-7154

Jewish Community Purim Blood Drive

Fulfill the mitzvah of Purim and S'lach Manot

The annual Purim Blood Drive is on for the entire month of March.

Wednesday, March 7, is our official sponsorship day, but please come any day in March.

Manchester Blood Donation Center

425 Reservoir Ave

Manchester, NH 03104

Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday: 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Call 625-1951 to schedule an appointment.

SUNDAY FAMILY CAMP

Sunday, March 11 at 10:00 AM

SPONSOR AN ONEG

Do it in honor of your birthday, anniversary, friendship, your children, parents, or just because! It is easy and fun to do! Bring a challah, a few snacks, and enjoy Shabbat with your community!

To host an oneg, check the website to see if your date has already been claimed.

Then e-mail office@etzhayim.org to let us know of your date. We will post it on the website

NOTE: There is a sign up sheet outside of the office and envelopes for each date. Please sign up and take the envelope for your date.



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Etz Hayim Community Second Seder
Saturday April 7th, 2012
5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Please accept this invitation to celebrate a second Passover Seder.

We begin with reading the Haggadah, led by Rabbi Milkow, followed by a family style dinner and a search for the affikomen (prizes for children only).

The menu will include:

Matzo Ball Soup
 Gefilte Fish
 Roast Chicken or Vegetarian option
 Potato and Farfel Kugel
 Tzimmis
 Haroset
 Plenty of Matzah!
 Bring your own Passover Dessert to share



So that we can order enough food for everyone, please R.S.V.P. with acceptances by Monday, April 2nd to: office@etzhayim.org

Please specify your preference for chicken or vegetarian, as well as the number of adults and children planning to attend.

The cost will be:

\$28.00 for adults and \$16 for children (ages 12 and under) if paid in advance
\$30 for adults and \$18 for children (ages 12 & under) if paid at the door.

We would prefer prepayment to Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1 ½ Hood Rd, Derry, NH 03038

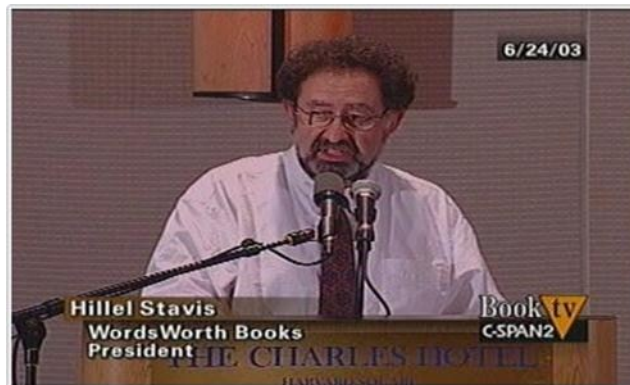


REFULAH SHEMELAH - FOR A SPEEDY RECOVERY

Cathy Wieder Wes Richards Laura Aronson

Speaker Hillel Stavis - "Is J-Street a Pro-Israel Organization?"

Wednesday, March 28th 7 p.m.
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
698 Beech St. Manchester.



If you have not been reading your copy of The Reporter, you have missed months of spirited letters to the editor concerning J-Street. To learn more about this controversial group, NH4Israel and the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire is sponsoring Hillel Stavis to speak, "Is J-Street a Pro-Israel Organization?" The event is free with light refreshments.

Hillel Stavis is the former owner of the country's largest independent book retailer, WordsWorth Books in Cambridge MA. He has been a Peace Corps Volunteer, A Freedom Rider, Outreach director of The David Project, board member of CAMERA (Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America) and is currently a writer and blogger based in Cambridge, MA.

Hillel is a tireless Israel activist. He played a prominent role in stopping the divestment movement in Somerville, MA. He also led the protests against Sabeel at the Old South Church in Boston and Noam Chomsky at Newton South High School. Currently he is focusing on an investigative report about Harvard University's Middle East Outreach Center promoting Anti-Israel learning and a misguided understanding of the Middle East in the Boston school system.

ADULT EDUCATION...

Thursday, March 1 from 7:30—9:00 PM "Purim": Although we tend to think about Purim as a children's costume holiday, the story told in the Megillah is anything but that. Come learn about this subversive, salacious, and very adult text.

Mondays, April 12, 19 and 26 from 7:30-9:00 PM "Jewish Understandings of G-d": There is only one certainty about the Jewish view of God: God is One. Many of us however, wish for a more robust understanding of God. Is there a personal God, or is God transcendent? Does God work miracles today, or only in the time of ancestors? Our questions are numerous and so are the answers. There are many authentic Jewish ways of conceptualizing God and we will try to understand several of them. We will also examine how these views of God resonate with our own, personal understandings of God.

BIRTHDAYS



Linda Aronson	March 2	Debra Eisner	March 19
Evan Loginov	March 2	Stan Chamrin	March 20
Nancie Sommer	March 2	Diann Steinberg	March 20
William Maloof	March 4	Bob Duncan	March 24
Tim Rego	March 4	Clinton LeBlanc	March 26
Michelle Freeman	March 5	Susan Simonoff	March 28
Jeffrey McGrath	March 8	Russell Wolff	March 29
Hannah Culleton	March 10	Shahked Bleicher	March 30
Joshua Aboody	March 12	Rebecca Kahn	March 31
Allison Aboody	March 13	Alexander Rothenberg	March 31
Cara Lavoie	March 14	Eric Sherman	March 31
Cynthia O'Neill	March 14		
Alyssa Rosenberg	March 15		
Debby Silverstein	March 15		
Joan Diamond-Rego	March 16		
Laura Aronson	March 17		
Rob McAlpine	March 18		
Heather Needleman	March 18		

ANNIVERSARIES



Larry & Linda Boise March 15



Please Note: If we have omitted a special date for your family, please contact the office so we can update our records

ELIJAH'S TABLE

A JOINT PROJECT OF

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

AND

ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE

SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT - VOLUNTEERS INVITED

On Sunday, March 11 at the Church

On Sunday, March 18 at the Synagogue

ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR DINNER.

5:00 PM–6:30 PM AT ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE

IF SOMEONE IS ILL:

The Rabbi is happy to call or visit individuals when they are in the hospital or are ill, but the only way we can know that someone is in need of a visit is for you to inform us. Please let Rabbi know by calling the office at 432-0004. We regularly include prayers for healing (a Mi Sheberach) as a part of our service. Feel free to attend and to offer a prayer for people you know who would appreciate receiving a blessing.

DONATIONS

To the Building Fund from...

To the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund...

To the Building Enhancement Fund...

To the Torah Fund from...

To the General Fund from...

To the William Einhorn Interfaith Education Fund from...



To the Building Fund as part of Capital Campaign Pledge...

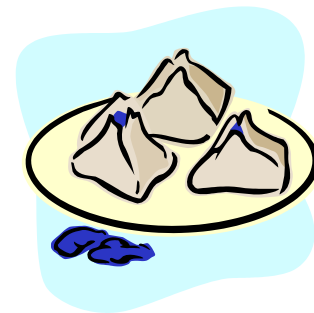
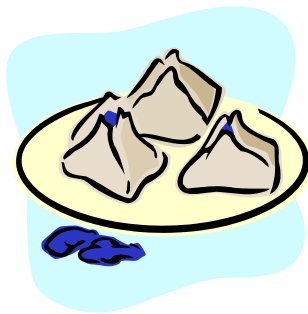
Jay & Rhonda Madnick Ami Bach Mark & Laura Aronson Doug & Jane Allen

DID YOU KNOW? WE TAKE PAYPAL!

You can make payments or donations to Etz Hayim via PayPal! Our PayPal name is payments@etzhayim.org



Saturday night, March 10 at 5:30 pm
 Come in costume, make a grogger, make a
 mask and sing along as
ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE PRESENTS
MEGILLAH MADNESS:
 A Fiddler on the Roof Purimspiel
 An evening of fun, food and music!



Rehearsals for the purimshpiel will take place on Sunday March 5 at 11:00
 am and Thursday March 8 at 7:00 pm---no acting experience necessary---
 all ages welcome ---contact Rabbi Milkow if interested!



**COME JOIN US FOR TORAH
 STUDY...**
Sunday, March 11 at 10:00 AM



Ecosmith Recycling

Have you noticed the huge tan bin next to the waste bin on the driveway of Etz Hayim? Ecosmith Recyclers of Londonderry has partnered with Etz Hayim to recycle clothes.

What do we get out of it?

- Payment of 3 cents per pound on the collected items
- A chance to support a local business
- Tikkun Olam – we can be green and get some green at the same time
- Cleaner closets and basements

Acceptable items do not have to be in usable condition so this is a great place to get rid of torn jeans and other soft goods like sheets and towels which are no longer usable.

Collection Materials

- used clothing
- household linens
- paired footwear
- stuffed animals
- belts
- pocket books



So pack up your old clothes, stuffed animals and shoes and drop them in the bin. You will be helping to support Etz Hayim and a greener planet!



OFFICE HOURS

The office will be open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM

You may call the synagogue at 603-432-0004 at any time.

ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE www.etzhayim.org

Rabbi Bryna Milkow 603-432-0004 rabbi@etzhayim.org

Rabbi Louis Rieser, Rabbi Emeritus lrieser@ravlou.net

Office Manager: **Laura Galvin office@etzhayim.org**

President	Paul Martin	603-434-8048	kpmartin1@myfairpoint.net
Vice President	Jill Pelunis	603- 434-2438	jdeep@comcast.net
Treasurer	Lisa Culleton	603-235-5709	Lculleton@comcast.net
Secretary	Andrew Corman	603-437-0808	andy.corman@rsa.com

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Debby Silverstein 895-4397 dls315@comcast.net	Susan Simonoff 893-5848 susan@simonoff.com
David Riese 893-5494 davidriese@yahoo.com	Arlene Agosto de Kane 432-9657 arleneagosto@gmail.com
Miriam Gitterman 483-3969 Miriam.gitterman@gmail.com	

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ETZ HAYIM

- **ADULT ED:** *Thursday, March 1 from 7:30—9:00 PM*
- **FILM “IRANIAM” AT SYNAGOGUE:** *Saturday, March 3 at 7:00 PM*
- **FAMILY SERVICE:** *Saturday, March 3 at 9:30 AM*
- **MAGILLAH MADNESS:** *Saturday, March 10 at 5:30 PM*
- **TORAH STUDY & SUNDAY FAMILY CAMP:** *Sunday, March 11 at 10:00 AM*
- **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING:** *Tuesday, March 13 at 6:15 PM*
- **LIFE-LONG LEARNING COMMITTEE MEETING:** *Weds., March 14 at 7:15 PM*
- **TORAH TOTS SHABBAT:** *March 17 at 9:30 AM*
- **ELIJAH’S TABLE:** *Sunday, March 18 from 5:00—6:30 PM*
- **DEAD SEA SCROLL TRIP TO NY:** *Sunday, April 1*
- **ETZ HAYIM COMMUNITY SEDER:** *Saturday, April 7 from 5:30-8:00 PM*
- **INSTALLATION OF RABBI MILKOW:** *Friday, April 20 at 7:15 PM*



Etz Hayim Synagogue
1 1/2 Hood Road
Derry, New Hampshire
03038