



The Etz Hayim Synagogue Newsletter

July-August 2011



19 Tamuz - 21 Elul

FROM THE RABBI: The D'var Torah for the Annual Meeting

This week's portion Shelach Lecha tells of the spies who were sent to scout out the Land of Israel, one from each tribe, and to report back on the conditions of the land. Here are the marching orders that Moses gave to the spies: (Numbers 13:17-20)

"Go up there into the Negev and on into the hill country, and see what kind of country it is. Are the people who dwell in it strong or weak, few or many? Is the country in which they dwell good or bad? Are the towns they live in open or fortified? Is the soil rich or poor? Is it wooded or not? And take pains to bring back some of the fruit of the land." Now it happened to be the season of the first ripe grapes.

As you may know the spies came back and like many government commissions issued a majority and a minority report. It is interesting to note what they each said, and it has three lessons for us at Etz Hayim:

1) The majority report first noted the details for which Moses had commissioned them. The land was rich, the cities strong, and the produce plentiful. Then they went beyond the report to say that they felt inadequate:

All the people that we saw in it are men of great size; we saw the Nephilim there... and we looked like grasshoppers to ourselves, and so we must have looked to them."

They prejudged their ability and backed away. In fact they were destined for great things, if only they had been bold. Etz Hayim, is, I believe, destined for great things. Be bold, set your standards high. Just as our Bar and Bat Mitzvah students rise to the challenge of the task they face, so this community can reach great heights.

2) The majority of the spies conspired against going forward to the Land of Israel by spreading rumors. It is the bane of every organization. Someone hears and the word spreads like a bad game of telephone. The antidote is simple; the more open the proceedings, the fewer rumors. The more you are willing to ask your leaders, the stronger the organization. The greater ownership you assume, the fewer surprises you will encounter. Etz Hayim has been characterized by strong lay leadership. When it comes your turn, accept the responsibility. If everyone here, and those who are not here, accepts that this is your home with both privileges and responsibilities, we can only grow stronger year by year.

3) Finally, the minority report noted the obvious: the Exodus and the march into the Land of Israel marked the fulfillment of a Divine promise. If God is with you, you cannot fail. Our Sages had their own version: any dispute that is for the Sake of Heaven will endure. Remember that the mission of Etz Hayim rests on the Torah for education, prayer, community and more. If we keep our focus clear, we will endure as a vibrant community in Southern New Hampshire for generations yet to come.

As I pass the leadership of Etz Hayim to Rabbi Bryna Milkow, I hope you will keep these lessons before you. With confidence in our goal, broad participation and a clear focus on our Holy mission, Etz Hayim will prosper.

FROM RABBI MILKOW:

All the boxes are nearly packed and I am ready for my move to the Granite State. Indianapolis has been my home for the past 5 years and I have grown to appreciate the Midwest. While the terrain is certainly flat, the sky is vast and boundless. In summertime the days last until nearly 10pm. The driving is stress-free and there is hardly any traffic. However, what I will miss most about Indy are the friends that I have made there. Those, I know, will not end with a change of address. Indy has been my home, but my heart has always remained in New England. I am delighted that I will soon be calling Derry my home. I already feel abundantly welcome by the friendship and *kehilla* (community) that I have begun to experience. In the coming weeks and months I hope to not only have an opportunity to meet each of you, but to sit and *schmooze*.

So, now I will finish my packing and look forward to the day the moving truck arrives. I can't wait for August 1st. I am already thinking about the upcoming High Holy Days. I just have one dilemma—now that I will be in Patriots territory, what should I do with my Colts jersey? Enjoy your summer!

**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



Friday evening, July 15 – Al Sandler leads services at 7:15 PM



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SHABBAT YOGA AND SHARE...

Saturday, July 23 from 9:30 AM ~ 10:45 AM

Celebrate the Sabbath with Etz Hayim's monthly Shabbat Yoga & Share.

Pray with your whole body & your whole being! Arielle Eckhaus Welch of Nahar Yoga will guide you through a 75 minute simple flowing yoga class. Come experience this meditation in motion appropriate for all abilities, flexibilities, body types. Beginners and experienced practitioners are invited to share in this full body Torah inspiration.

Continue the celebration after yoga by sharing teas and a healthy nosh in a comfortable community circle. Participants will have the opportunity to share their thoughts/reflections from the practice. (Healthy noshes will be provided on a rotating basis within the group; this is a great opportunity to share your favorite healthy snack or recipe with your Shabbat Yoga community.)

Please Note: Participants should wear comfortable clothing they can move around in and should be prepared to complete a release form prior to participating their first time. Loaner yoga mats are available, but participants are encouraged to bring their own if they have one. A \$10 donation to the synagogue is encouraged for participation in each class.



Trashy News From the Building Committee



Our trash is collected by our cleaning service as a courtesy to the synagogue, which saves us the cost of paying for a separate collection service. From time to time, the trash corral behind the synagogue gets quite messy due to items being thrown directly in barrels or on the ground. In order to maintain the good will of our cleaning crew, and continue to avoid paying a separate trash disposal fee, we all need to abide by the following guidelines:

1. All refuse must be bagged and **TIED** Securely.
2. Recycling items - Glass and metals can be mixed together. Please use the clear bags for recyclables. Cardboard is kept separate. Please flatten cardboard boxes.
3. Avoid putting anything directly in the barrels or on the ground.
4. Recyclables - including cardboard, should go in the marked container.

Please be considerate of our cleaning crew who are trying to help us out by collecting our trash for free :-)

BIRTHDAYS



Emily Brewer	July 1
Anna Loginov	July 2
Russell Plater	July 2
Haskell Pim	July 4
John Plater	July 4
Julia Wasserman	July 6
Amy Goldstein	July 9
Rebecca Rothenberg	July 9
Joshua Corey	July 11
Ilyssa Sherman	July 12
Gabriel Erhartic	July 13
Yoram Flaisher	July 15
Samuel Corey	July 16
Jason Sherman	July 16
Cynthia Landau	July 18
Kim Martin	July 18
Richard Rosenberg	July 19
Ted Medrek	July 20
Santino Cerino	July 22
Daniel Madnick	July 24
Sarah Richman	July 24
Mitchel Feig	July 25
Annette Stoller	July 25
Bob Messier	July 26
William Loginov	July 27
Daniel Israel	July 29
Ronald Chamrin	July 31
Paul Erhartic	August 1

Sam Richman	August 1
Jay Madnick	August 3
Adam Boise	August 4
Joshua Sprince	August 10
Charlotte O'Neill	August 11
Colleen Hartnett	August 12
David Meyer	August 13
Paul Rosenthal	August 15
Jennifer Cerino	August 17
Amy Silverstein	August 17
Linda Boise	August 19
Ben Richman	August 19
Benjamin Martin	August 22
Ellen Casey	August 23
Shari Kurtzman	August 24
Brad Schrank	August 24
Jordyn Tetler	August 24
Robert Lynn	August 26
Sandra Whitman	August 26
Andrea Meyer	August 27
Jill Rosenthal	August 27
Joel Rothenberg	August 27
Alison Saren	August 28
Joel Saren	August 29
Ken Silverstein	August 31
** Belated to Rabbi Milkow	June 9



ANNIVERSARIES

Jerry Robbins & Janet Brown	July 1	Lois & Paul Erhartic	August 19
Paul & Jill Rosenthal	July 9	Amalia & Yoram Flaisher	August 20
Richard & Wendy Sprince	July 19	Rebecca & Eric Tetler	August 20
Dina Chaitowitz & Robert Lynn	July 21	Rivka Schwartz & Laurence Bleicher	August 24
Jennifer & Craig Cerino	July 24	Linda & Jeffrey McGrath	August 25
Laura & Mark Aronson	August 3	Lauren & John Maloof	August 27
Arlene Agosto & Jonathan Kane	August 8	Michael Schloss & Nancy Leduc	August 27
Sarah & John Plater	August 13	Paige & Bob Duncan	August 28
Sonia & Emil Campeanu	August 17	Jill & Phil Robbins	August 28
Amy & Bryan Goldstein	August 17	Eva Bak & David Riese	August 29
		Rhonda & Jay Madnick	August 30

We would like to include significant events in our families lives in the newsletter. Please send us notices you would like noted such as special anniversaries, new grandchildren, graduations, dean's list, honor roll, etc. Please send them via email to newsletter@etzhayim.org. We are not able to include verbal submissions.

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 Rieser. 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 June 24

Andrew Wechsler	25 Sivan	June 27
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Yahrzeits to be read on July 1

Lester Diesenhof	5 Tammuz	July 7
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Yahrzeits to be read on July 22

Adelle Boise	22 Tammuz	July 24
Lois Taylor	26 Tammuz	July 28

Yahrzeits to be read on August 5

Gene N. Slater	7 Av	August 7
Joseph Boise	7 Av	August 7
William Francis Maloof	10 Av	August 10
Robert Rosenberg	11 Av	August 11
Alvin Bloomfield	12 Av	August 12

Yahrzeits to be read on August 12

Jacob Green	19 Av	August 19
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Yahrzeits to be read on August 19

Linda Rose Harris	22 Av	August 22
Melvin Kagan	25 Av	August 25

Yahrzeits to be read on August 26

Roger Lafit	30 Av	August 30
Rebecca Soreff	1 Elul	August 31
Marcia Goldstein	1 Elul	August 31

Yahrzeits to be read on September 2

Sylvia Klohn Disenhof	4 Elul	September 3
Sally Rosenberg	4 Elul	September 3
Julie Walt	5 Elul	September 4
Joe Bach	5 Elul	September 4
Gary Marc Plotkin	5 Elul	September 4

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).

Congratulations to:

Ron Chamrin and Sara Allender were married on April 16, 2011 in Frederick, Maryland. Ron is the son of Marlene and Stan Chamrin, and brother of Justin Chamrin. They reside in Washington, DC.



EVENTH ANNUAL RAFFLE

2 FRONT ROW SEATS

BOSTON RED SOX

Tuesday, August 30, 2011 at 7:10 PM

The seats are generously donated by the Saren family.

These are in the first row (i.e., the front row) at the visitor dugout (Sec 26, Box 65)!!

\$10 for 1; \$50 for 6

Etz Hayim members: We will be sending you 24 raffle tickets to sell to help raise funds for your synagogue. Please make your best effort to sell them – ask/email your friends, co-workers, relatives. If you did not receive them or need more raffle tickets, email Laurie at medrek9352@aol.com or call her at 432-9352.

Please return all stubs and money (if people give you cash, please keep it and write one check to Etz Hayim Synagogue) and send to Laurie Medrek, 16 Partridge Lane, Londonderry, NH 03053.

Nonmembers: If you simply wish to purchase raffle tickets, make your check out to Etz Hayim Synagogue, and mail to Laurie Medrek at 16 Partridge Lane, Londonderry, NH 03053. Your raffle tickets will be promptly mailed to you. *For more information contact Laurie.*

Drawing is Sunday, August 14, 2011.

ELIJAH'S TABLE

A JOINT PROJECT OF

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

AND

ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE

SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT - VOLUNTEERS INVITED

On Sunday, July 17 and August 21 at the Synagogue

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

5:00 PM–6:30 PM

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... Stanley and Marlene Chamrin

To the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund...

To the Building Enhancement Fund...

To the Torah Fund from...

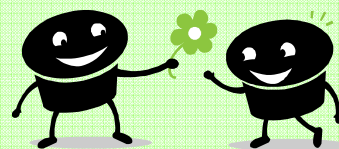
To the General Fund from...

To the William Einhorn Interfaith Education Fund from...

To the Rabbi Search Committee from.... Linda McGrath

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

Jay and Rhonda Madnick, Mark and Laura Aronson, Doug and Jane Allen

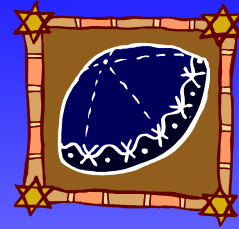
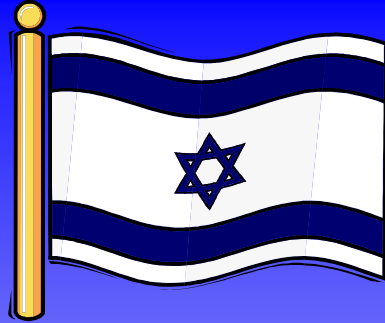


DID YOU KNOW? WE TAKE PAYPAL!

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

REFULAH SHEMELAH - FOR A SPEEDY RECOVERY

Cathy Wieder Nancie Sommer Audra Sherman Ami Bach



MAZEL



TOV

Bar & Bat Mitzvah

You are invited to join the community in welcoming

Jared & Orianna Kane

As a B'nei Mitzvah on Saturday, July 30, 9:30 am
When they ascend to the Torah for Parshat Mas'ey
And to wish them and their family Mazal Tov.



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Please consider joining us this year for Jewish Pride Night at Northeast Delta Dental Stadium for an evening of baseball, brotherhood & breaking bread! Tickets available at \$8 (box) and \$10 (field box). In addition, discounted meal tickets will be available! (includes kosher hot dog, french fries and a soda!)

Come out and celebrate your heritage as the Fisher Cats take on the Reading Phillies and celebrate Jewish Pride Night!

Thursday, July 28th, 2011 ~7:05pm
at the Northeast Delta Dental Stadium
Manchester, NH

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS
 OR WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE
 YOUR TICKETS EARLY, PLEASE
 FEEL FREE TO CALL STEPHEN SINGER
 AT 603-669-4100



www.nhfishercats.com

**The Etz Hayim Book Club
will next meet**

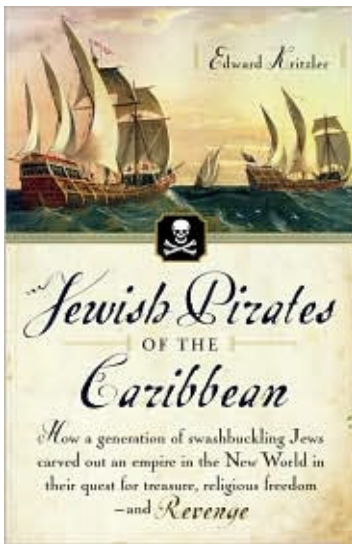
Sunday July 17, 2011 10-11:30 AM

at the home of Peggy Tucker and Steve Soreff 32 Dolloff Dam Road, Nottingham.

The book will be [Edward Kritzler's](#)

Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean: How a Generation of Swashbuckling Jews Carved Out an Empire in the New World in Their Quest for Treasure, Religious Freedom--and Revenge

Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group - ISBN 978-0-76791952-4



"Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean" takes the reader into a past not normally mentioned in school. A world of Jewish adventure on the high seas, piracy, Jews working as agents for enemy nations of Spain and outsmarting and outdoing Spanish trade in the free world - all of which helped to break the Spanish empire and the evil Inquisition it spread around the world.

"[Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean](#) " by [Ed Kritzler](#) is about a small part in the vast history of the Jewish people. This is an incredible book with many fascinating characters their intrigue, exploration and adventure. The author focuses on the Jewish pirates as well as the legitimate Jewish seamen (such as pilots, navigators, etc.) since, let's face it, there is a reason you never heard of Jewish pirates — there weren't that many.

Participating will be Rabbis Louis Rieser and Bryna Milkow

Directions 32 Dolloff Dam Road, Nottingham, NH 03290

From I 93 -Take Exit 7- NH 101 East to Raymond Exit 5 at ramp take right and follow 107 into Raymond, (you will also be following signs to Pawtuckaway State Park), at end of 107 – it T's in front of Irving Gas Station –take a left on NH 27, then a quick Right on to 156 – go approx. 2.7 miles on 156. Just before the big turn to Dolloff Dam Road there will be a dirt semi-circle turn-out on the right side of the road. Then a metal barrier over a stream (the Pawtuckaway River), Just after the metal barrier is a huge realtor's sign on the left then on left is sign for Dolloff Dam Road- on other side of entrance to this road are one zillion mail boxes.

Follow Dolloff Dam Road for 0.6 miles where the road forks. Go to the left where there are signs Private Property-No Trespassing, This is actually Dolloff Dam Road still. Go up this road for 0.1 miles-past asphalt section and then on left big sign 32 is our place.

More Information: Contact Steve at email soreffs15@aol.com

Home # 603 895-6120; Steve's Cell # 603 568-3202



Dear Fellow Congregants:

On Sunday, June 12th, we held our annual congregational meeting at which time we completed our required business of re-electing executive officers and approving the 2011-2012 operating budget. I am also pleased to announce the selection of Arlene Augusto de Kane as a member to our Board of Directors. During our meeting, we also heard from Rabbi Rieser, reviewed the status of our standing committees and shared a tribute to Jill Pelunis, our longtime education chairperson, who has recently transferred the leadership mantle to Mike Schloss and Jon Kane.

Aside from this important official business, for those of you unable to be present I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some thoughts about our membership and financial well-being. Given the recent economic downturn, many of our members have been struggling with personal financial challenges. As such, the Board has worked diligently to both restrain spending and increase fundraising opportunities. While we have been able to limit our operating deficit through sound fiscal management and planning, we currently face a significant challenge with collection of outstanding membership dues. At the present time, almost fifty families owe dues from this past year or earlier totaling over \$50,000, an amount that dwarfs the operating budget deficit. This shortfall is separate and distinct from approved abatements, and represents a real issue for our long-term financial health.

As a community, we have embraced a policy of inclusiveness which, in financial terms, means never letting a lack of income serve as a bar to membership. This warmth and acceptance has been a critical factor in our continued growth to date, despite a general decline in congregation membership nationwide. We have no reason to change this approach. In embracing such a policy however, I would also ask all members of our community to consider our collective responsibility and, frankly, our opportunity to share in the continued growth of our synagogue. This obligation is not merely financial in nature but depends upon regular involvement in religious and community events, to ensure the continued growth and success of our synagogue.

Over the coming weeks and months we will be contacting members to get updated information and to touch base about issues of importance, including membership. For those of you currently behind with dues payments, we are intending not to question one's continued membership, but rather to reestablish a bond and commitment going forward. We will also be asking each family to consider pairing with one or two other families in volunteering to host an Oneg following a Friday night service in the coming year. In the interim, if you are having difficulty making a regular membership dues payment as the result of current life circumstances, please let us know if an abatement is needed. If not, please make an effort to become current with your membership obligations. Also consider becoming active in one of our many teams and activities.

As we move through this exciting period of transition, I have been encouraged by the community-wide outpouring of energy and enthusiasm during the Rabbi search process. I anticipate such involvement will continue as we have an opportunity to grow together with Rabbi Milkow. Please keep abreast of upcoming events in August as we welcome her to the community.

Finally, as you all know, in just over a month we will bid adieu to Louis and Connie Rieser, the longtime first couple of our synagogue. They will be moving on to a new phase of their lives as they take up residence in Boynton Beach, Florida. We are fortunate that Rabbi Rieser will continue as our Rabbi Emeritus, and look forward to maintaining our special bond with the Riesers. Beginning in August we will also open a new chapter for our community as we welcome our new religious leader, Rabbi Bryna Milkow. I look forward to another eventful year. Until then, enjoy your summer.

Paul Martin, President

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

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

Rabbi Louis Rieser 603-432-0004 Lrieser@ravlou.net or rabbi@etzhayim.org

President	Paul Martin	603-434-8048	kpmartin1@myfairpoint.net
Vice President	Debby Silverstein	603-895-4397	dls315@comcast.net
Treasurer	Lisa Culleton	603-235-5709	Lculleton@comcast.net
Secretary	Andrew Corman	603-437-0808	andy.corman@rsa.com

Directors

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Jill Pelunis 434-2438 jdeep@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 @gmail.com



2011 SHEM TOV AWARDS

Mazel Tov to Steve Soreff and Miriam Gitterman who were both honored with Shem Tov Awards at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire annual meeting on June 12, 2011.

EDUCATION NEWS

Many thanks to all of our teachers, Rabbi Rieser and support staff for a successful 2010-2011 school year! We are pleased to announce that all of our teachers will be returning again in September. We will be meeting with Rabbi Milkow over the summer to ensure a smooth transition. Registration materials and the 2011-2012 calendar will be ready by the beginning of July and can be downloaded from the web site. They will also be e-mailed to our families. Materials can be returned to the office by mail (1 ½ Hood Road, Derry, 03038) or in person on Tuesday or Friday afternoons. We urge families to send in their registration forms as soon as possible. We would also like to note there is a modest tuition increase however, for our Tuesday and Wednesday night students, there will no longer be separate materials fees charges as these have been included as part of the tuition increase. There will continue to be separate “pizza” charges for our Wednesday night program students.

If you would like to participate on the education committee, please e-mail us at education@etzhavim.org to let us know. We are always in need of more participation and do continue to hold our meetings over the summer.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ETZ HAYIM

- **SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE:** *Friday, July 15 at 7:15 PM*
- **ETZ HAYIM BOOK CLUB:** *Sunday, July 17 from 10:00 AM—11:30 AM*
- **ELIJAH'S TABLE:** *Sunday, June 26, July 17 & August 21 from 5:00 PM-6:30 PM*
- **SHABBAT YOGA:** *Saturday, July 23 at 9:30 AM*
- **JEWISH PRIDE NIGHT AT FISHER CATS:** *Thursday July 28 at 7:05 PM*
- **B'NEI MITZVAH:** *Saturday July 30 at 9:30 AM*



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