

jca

הקהילה היהודית של אמהרסט

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST



Jewish Reconstructionist
Federation 

CANDLE LIGHTING

- February 3 ~ 4:48 pm
- February 10 ~ 4:57 pm
- February 17 ~ 5:06 pm
- February 24 ~ 5:15 pm

Times shown are 18 minutes before sunset for Amherst, MA

SPECIAL EVENTS

- February 4**
Shabbat B'Yachad
- February 7**
Tu B'Shevat Seder
- February 11**
Borscht Belt Comedy Night
- February 26**
Project Rehovot Benefit Concert



MEETINGS

- February 1**
Ritual Life Committee
- February 2**
Board Meeting
- February 29**
Ritual Life Committee



BAT MITZVAH

- February 11**
Lydia Sawyer

Message from Co-President

Richard Cohen, 256-6145, ra_cohen@msn.com

When my wife and I were searching for our new home "somewhere in New England" between 2007 and 2008, we visited the Valley several times. At the JCA we were always welcomed, fed (even though we never remembered food for the pot-luck), educated and uplifted. Before long we found ourselves measuring each new synagogue against the JCA. It was just what we were looking for.

In our old shul we were both pretty involved, and we joked that what we wanted now was a place where we could just sit in the back. Yet three years later here I am writing my first column as co-president. I have to begin by sincerely thanking the congregation for the opportunity to serve. As I write this, I've been on the job a little more than a week. Already there have been plenty of telephone calls, meetings and emails. For the January Board meeting, we met for a change on Sunday morning. There were obviously logistical and other issues posed by sharing the space with Sunday school. At one point I found myself on a telephone call from our wonderful office manager, Marcia Howard, asking whether we should set up round or rectangular tables for the meeting. Somehow, in my naivete, I never expected my co-presidential decisions to include the shape of tables. A good lesson in the principle that "sometimes you just have to laugh."

Actually, I feel very fortunate to be co-president at this time. Financially, the JCA is on a sound footing (although we still need to raise another \$20,000 or so to successfully wrap up our 2011 Building & Annual Fund Campaign. If you haven't yet been called, you will be shortly!) Attendance at services is up. Adult education is flourishing. Our Sunday school is growing. Energy is high. We have many hardworking volunteers and committees. Our Board and staff are talented, knowledgeable and committed. We have an amazing and well-loved Rabbi. In short,

we have momentum and all the ingredients for a great shul. But, of course, having a great shul is a process, and there is nothing to be complacent about. Things could always be improved. I've drawn up a list of my goals for 2012, some of which should be simple, quick and inexpensive to implement. Others are long-term, more expensive and "structural" in nature. The Board will be grappling with 2012 goals at its next several meetings, and, of course, communicating on a regular basis with the congregation on this subject.

Recently I had the pleasure of celebrating erev Shabbat with Lewis and Caden Mainzer, two of the JCA's founding members. As a relative new-comer, it was enlightening to get their historic perspective. They described starting the JCA (then the Amherst Jewish Community) in the mid-'50's with about ten other families in order to ensure a Jewish education for their children. They and the other founders deserve our heartfelt thanks for their foresight and their efforts to preserve Jewish community life not only for themselves but for future generations of Jews in the Pioneer Valley. So as co-president, I feel a deep sense of responsibility not only to the present members of the JCA, but to the future.

I am reminded of the famous Talmudic story from Vayikrah Rabbah in which an emperor passes the field of an old man who is planting a fig tree. The emperor is amused by this sight, and summons the man. The emperor asks, "Old man, why do you work so hard to plant that tree? You must realize that at your age you are unlikely to benefit from your efforts by eating the fruit of the tree." The old man smiled and answered, "If God wishes me to taste the fruit, I will. And if not, my work will not be in vain, for my children will reap its fruit." Several years went by, and the emperor again passed the old man's

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February 2012
Shevat/Adar 5772
Vol. 11, Issue No. 2

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST, INC.

742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002
 (413) 256-0160, fax (413) 256-1588
 Religious School (413) 256-0160 ext. 203
 email: info@j-c-a.org; On line at: www.j-c-a.org

Rabbi Benjamin Weiner

Rabbi David Dunn Bauer (2003-2010)

Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg (1989-2002)

Rabbi Emeritus Yechiael Lander

Director of Lifelong Learning: Jody Rosenbloom (256-0160 ext. 203)

Director of Teen Programming: Rachael Goren-Watts (256-0160 ext. 208)

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday: 10:30 - 4:00

Wednesday: 4:00 - 6:00 & Sunday 9:00 - 1:00

(When Religious School is in session)

Board of Directors

Officers:

Co-Presidents: Richard Cohen (256-6145)

Eli Kwartler (253-2929)

Co-First Vice Presidents: Eva Rosenn (549-6672)

To be announced

Second Vice President: Michael Burkart (256-8139)

Third Vice President: To be announced

Treasurer: Jonathan Shefftz (256-1106)

Members:

Maryann Barakso, Marcia Black, Robert Brainin, Molly Goren-Watts,
 Oran Kaufman, Fred Levine, Margaret Mastrangelo,
 Sara Schley, Andra Rose, Sarah Thomson, Phil Weilerstein,
 Janis Wolkenbreit, Guy Wood, William Zimmer

Membership: Robyn Miller (549-4060), **Oran Kaufman** (548-8139)

Office Administrator: Marcia Howard (256-0160, info@j-c-a.org)

Administrative Assistants: Susan Thomas, Eric Delisle (256-0160)

For information about using JCA space including
 renting the Social Hall, contact:

Events Coordinator: Karen Loeb (256-0160 ext. 207)

For a list of committee chairs and members, go to:

<http://www.j-c-a.org/committees.html>

Please refer to your Guidebook for contact information.
 (If you have not received your Guidebook, call the office.)

NEWSLETTER

Editor/Graphic Designer: Aaron Bousel

(Voice: 253-3544, Voice & Fax: 253-3846; news@j-c-a.org)

Proofreader: Sarah Thomson

Deadline for the March issue is February 12th

February 2012, Vol. 11, Issue No. 2

Newsletter is published 11 times per year.

Subscription price is included in membership.

Chesed Committee

The Chesed Committee assists JCA members in times of joy, sorrow and need, coordinating volunteers to help with meals, rides, errands, visits, shiva minyans, and other needs. We also welcome new members and babies! Please contact us if you would like to join the committee or be added to our list of volunteers.

Also, if you, someone in your family, or someone in the community is ill, hospitalized, or in need of assistance, please contact us right away. Even if visits or phone calls are not desired, it is important to us as a community to be aware of the health and well-being of our members and their families. We realize that providing this kind of information feels awkward to many people, but it is an important facet of being in community. We cannot help if we do not know.

Contact the Chesed Committee through the JCA office at 256-0160.

Beit Shalom Committee

The Beit Shalom Committee is available to members of the JCA congregation wishing assistance in addressing personal differences that have arisen between individuals, among committees, or with those in leadership positions within the JCA. Accordingly, if you have concerns or disagreements, or feel a desire to enhance communication with another member, a committee, or leader, please contact a Beit Shalom Committee member to facilitate this process. All such communications will be kept strictly confidential unless agreed upon differently by the participants.

Committee members are:

Eva Metzger Brown: 256-8066
 embrown13@comcast.net

Josette Henschel: 213-0186
 josette.henschel@gmail.com

Rob Okun: 253-9372
 raokun@verizon.net

Kitty Talan: 253-2248
 kittytalan@comcast.net

Haim Gunner: 549-0447
 haim_gunner@yahoo.com

Devarim:
Words from Rabbi Benjamin Weiner



I recently had a conversation with a congregant about the difference, in psychological terms, between “denial” and “compartmentalization”. We agreed that these are related responses to information that is difficult to bear. Denial may be an immediate response to distressing news, a refusal to allow such facts to enter the conscious mind that takes the form of weaving or clinging to an alternate, undisturbed reality. Such a state of mind may persist until such time as these facts can be assimilated into consciousness, which in more than a few cases is never.

Compartmentalization is more drawn out and sophisticated, more of a long term strategy than a kneejerk reaction. What do we do with those difficult aspects of reality that we may sometimes face up to—the illness of a loved one, our own mortality, or the alarming state of our ecology and resource base—but cannot keep ever before our eyes and still continue to function on the day-to-day with a modicum of pleasure in living?

This is an especially perplexing question for a personality or worldview that prizes integrity, search, and honesty—having to recognize that it is very difficult to be both fully honest and sane at the same time.

It’s a blessing, I think, that our minds can develop the capacity to hold things in their place; to take a distressing thought out of its compartment, examine it, and then put it back in. This is a form of denial, perhaps, but without quite the same degree of self-delusion. “I know what I know,” we say to ourselves, “but there are only certain times, and certain circumstances, at which I feel safe enough to acknowledge what I know—to take it off its shelf and assimilate some small piece of it into my waking mind.”

Here’s the question I’m really driving at: what is religion? What is Judaism, when thought about in these terms? Is it a form of denial, or is it an elaborate, culturally inherited mechanism of compartmentalization?

The answer is, of course, “Yes.” To persist, in the face of the compelling evidence of evolutionary biology, in a naïve belief in the seven literal days of creation is a form of denial, as is the belief that a supernatural god will inevitably swoop down to save us from ourselves. But to say to yourself: I will give myself moments, seasons, holidays, to consider the fleetingness of my days, my tenuous place within the natural world, the duties and the costs of freedom, and then, at least once a week I will fill my spirit with rest and song so that come what may I will always remember that there is an aspect of life that is always sweet—this is a more sophisticated course of action.

It may even be that through the discipline of this subtle cultural mechanism we gradually become more adept at bearing that quality of reality that is always most worthy of reverence: the truth.

b’shalom,
Rabbi Weiner

Rabbi Liaison Committee

The purpose of the Rabbi Liaison Committee is to:

- Act as a channel between the rabbi and the congregation for the communication and processing of comments, issues, and complaints,
- Further increase the effectiveness of the rabbi-congregational relationship,
- Provide a way for people who are hesitant about contacting the rabbi directly to do so.

We encourage you to contact any member of the committee whenever you feel there is an issue that you would like them to consider with Rabbi Weiner.

Please be assured that all information is confidential.
 Amy Mittelman 256-0883, amGU@hampshire.edu
 David Levit 548-1083, dblevit@crocker.com
 Aaron Bousel 253-3544, abousel@comcast.net
 Barbara Burkart 256-8139, barbruth@comcast.net
 Ted Slovin 253-3518, tslovin@acad.umass.edu
 Deb Fine 256-1572, zohar01@comcast.net



Ritual Life Committee

Paul Breyer-Charette, Co-chair, 860-559-4926, pcharette@lightingaffiliates.com
Sarah Thomson, Co-chair, 413-253-2930, allset22@verizon.net

RELIGION CALENDAR

Shabbat Shirah, Parashat Beshalach **Exodus 13:17-17:16**

February 3, Friday

5:30 PM

Intergenerational Family Service and potluck supper
 Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

February 4, Saturday

Shabbat B'Yachad (see page 8)

9:15-10:30 AM

Shabbat Yoga

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



February 7- Tu B'Shevat Seder at 7:00 PM



Shabbat Yitro, Exodus 18:-20:22

February 10, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

February 11, Saturday

10:00 AM

Bat Mitzvah: Lydia Sawyer
 Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Lydia Sawyer



Shabbat Shekalim, Parashat Mishpatim **Exodus 21:1-24:18, Exodus 30:11-16**

February 17, Friday

6:15 PM

Farbrengen Friday (see following page)
 Service Leader: To be announced

February 18, Saturday

9:15-10:30 AM

Shabbat Yoga

10:00 AM

Service Leaders: Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser & Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner

1:00 PM

Torah Study with Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser



February 23/24, Thursday/Friday-
Rosh Chodesh Adar



Shabbat Terumah, Exodus 25:1-27:19

February 24, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 Tamar Shadur will speak about the exhibit at the JCA of her work and the work of her mother, Yehudit Shadur.

February 25, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



Meditation Minyan

Each Wednesday at 7:30 AM there is a morning service of meditation, prayer and singing. This is a very special time to sit in quiet in the beauty of our small sanctuary. You do not have to be a meditator to join the service. Come try it out and see what it can do for the rest of your day and week.

Shacharit (morning) Minyan

The Tuesday morning minyan is a wonderful way to start the day. Join with us in gratitude for the many blessings in our lives. Your presence is a gift that allows those who are in mourning or celebrating a yahrzeit to be able to say Kaddish. Please join us once a month, or **every Tuesday morning from 7:30-8:30 a.m.** Try it! It's amazing how energized your day will be!!

Kiddush and Oneg Sponsors

January 14-

Donna Baron and Steven Silvern, in honor of their son Nathan becoming Bar Mitzvah

January 21-

The JCA, in honor of Sara Berger

February 11-

Cheryl Zoll and Eric Sawyer, in honor of their daughter Lydia becoming Bat Mitzvah

If you would like to help with or sponsor a kiddush, please contact Karen Loeb at: 256-0160 ext. 207

First Friday Evening Family Service

Please join us on Friday February 3rd at 5:30 pm for a brief child oriented service followed by a potluck supper. Although the service is geared towards young children, it contains all the elements of a regular Friday evening service, including mourner's kaddish. People of all ages are encouraged to attend. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Can You Lead Shabbat Torah Study?

Does the idea of leading one of our Shabbat Torah study sessions intrigue you? If you would like to lead a session, please contact Rabbi Weiner. If you're not sure that you can do this, Rabbi Weiner can help you get started.

We meet for an hour on Shabbat following kiddush (~1:00 pm) twice a month and welcome new voices to the discussion.

Farbrengen Fridays:

The Kabbalat Shabbat ("Welcoming the Sabbath") service formerly known as the "Carlebach Service", is now "Farbrengen Friday."

With this name change, we are both clarifying and enhancing the original mission of the "Carlebach Service", and developing it into a full Shabbat evening of song, Torah, and celebration, taking place at the JCA on the third Friday night of every month.

The tradition of a farbrengen, a joyous gathering for melody and learning in honor of holy Jewish time, comes out of Chabad-Lubavitch Hasidism. The JCA's farbrengen will begin with a Kabbalat Shabbat service in which we emphasize the singing of, and absorption in, Jewish liturgical music over and above excessive words of orientation and explanation--something that can captivate the spirit even if you don't happen to be an expert in this music.

Following the service, we will have a potluck supper, and as we sit around sharing our Shabbat meal, we will sing zemirot and niggunim, (songs and wordless melodies) and invite people to offer words of Torah and wisdom, and maybe even explore other ways to experience our creativity in celebration of Shabbat.

We hope you will join us in the evolution of this program.

Torah Reading Co-ordination

If you are interested in reading Torah and would like to schedule a time to read, please contact:

Gordon Freed 256-0355, g.freed@comcast.net (for reading in March)
Randi Stein 549-0526, randistein@earthlink.net (for reading in April)
Ruth Love Barer, 253-4923, ruthlove7@hotmail.com (for reading in May)



"God's Image in the More Than Human World"
JCA Tu B'Shevat Seder 5772
with special guest teacher Rabbi David Seidenberg

February 7th at 7:00 PM

Tu B'Shevat--the New Year of the Trees--is a time when the Kabbalists would pray and meditate to bring blessings to all the fruit trees, and to repair the Tree of Life itself, which was the pathway through which God created the world. They said their prayers over fruit--as many as thirty different kinds or more, in what we call a Tu B'Shevat seder.

The Tree of Life for us is something new: the tree of evolution and the tree of our relationship to every other living creature on the planet. Even though we understand this, we are "pruning" the Tree of Life, extinguishing species, unraveling the weave of Life that sustains planet Earth. We really do need to pray for the Tree of Life--not just for the sake of next year's fruit crop, or for mystical blessings, but also for all living things.

The JCA's Tu B'Shevat Seder will be a joyful spiritual exploration of our place on the larger tree of life, a divine image that extends far beyond human beings to encompass all of natural reality. Co-led by Rabbi Weiner and Rabbi Seidenberg, we will journey through the four mystical worlds, drinking wine and eating fruit, studying, singing, and dancing, celebrating the abundance of life with everything we have.

*The evening begins at 7:00 pm, with the family-friendly Seder lasting approximately an hour and a half.

*Afterwards, everyone is invited for a *Tikkun Leyl Tu B'Shevat*, a deeper exploration of relevant Jewish texts, led by Rabbi Seidenberg.

David Seidenberg holds rabbinic ordination both from the Jewish Theological Seminary and Reb Zalman Schachter-Shalomi. A theologian, dancer, and activist, he is also the founder and driving force behind neohasid.org, a website intermingling Hasidic song and the Torah of the Earth. We are honored to have the "Tu B'Shevat rabbi" joining us this year, especially as he has just completed, and will be sharing with us, his groundbreaking manuscript "Crossing the Threshold: Ecology, Kabbalah, and God's Image in the More Than Human World".

Education News

Jody Rosenbloom, Director of Life Long Learning, 256-0160, ext. 203



Whose Bar/Bat Mitzvah Is This, Anyway?

On Sunday, February 12 from 10-11:45, fifth & sixth graders and their parents are invited to a morning workshop with author, family therapist and congregant, **Judith Davis, Ed.D.** Based on her work, *Whose Bar/Bat Mitzvah Is This, Anyway? A Guide for Parents Through a Family Rite of Passage*, Judy Davis will encourage participants to embrace the challenges and opportunities of children becoming b'nai mitzvah. She guides a thoughtful and stimulating conversation ranging from the psychological and developmental issues of the bar/bat mitzvah year to creating meaning for the whole family.

Learning and Doing - A Lesson in Chesed

Reed Alper, of the JCA Chesed Committee, visited with students in 3rd grade, on Sunday, Jan. 8 as part of their unit on the Jewish life cycle. Chesed is the Hebrew word for compassion/kindness. Students learned that at the JCA we have a committee that helps community members facing challenging circumstances such as illness, hospitalization or mourning. Chesed may take the form of meals, visits, rides, phone calls, cards or other support. Students decorated cards for people who have had a new baby or who are recovering from an illness or surgery. The class also discussed ways that members of the JCA can help each other in times of need. Third graders include: **Rafi Ash, Nasia Benvenuto Ladin, Sonai Donnell, Ethan Flint, David Greenbaum, Ava Greenbaum, Nora Harris, Julian Keins, Nora Klotz, Lydia Powell, Ben Schwab Rehorka, Sarah Tepfer, Jacob Smalley, Maya Weilerstein, Ethan Wilkinson, Aza Wolfwood, and Nathan Zierlein.**

Shalom Sunday Teacher, Melissa Zeitz Nominated for HGF Award

Nominations were solicited from Jewish schools across Western Massachusetts, Western Connecticut and Southern Vermont, resulting in over 15 nominees gathered at the home of **Harold Grinspoon** and **Diane Troderman** in early January to learn about this year's **Harold Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education**. Our veteran, 9th year JCA teacher, **Melissa Zeitz** was among the nominees. Melissa has teaching and special education certification and an MA in Education from UMASS, certification in Jewish Early Childhood Education from Boston Hebrew College and certification as a school technology specialist. She has taught in Amherst & Greenfield and is currently teaching in the Springfield Public Schools. Once nominated, teachers are invited to apply for the award. The award selection process includes submitting sample lesson plans, writing a description of your educational

background, and a teacher observation by representatives of the Selection Committee. Winners will be announced in May of 2012. Previous award winners from the JCA include **Ruth Love Barer** (2007), **Andrea Olkin** (2005), **Jody Rosenbloom** (2003), and **Lara Temkin Pisani** (1999).

Announcing New Fundraisers

1. A Double Mitzvah: Recycle Your Shoes & Support JCA School

What to do with shoes you have outgrown or don't wear anymore? Bring them to the drop box in the JCA lobby (coat room) in March & May. The shoes will be recycled and reused and we will get paid/pound for the school. Spread the word to friends and neighbors – collect men's & women's shoes (no fashion boots), cleats, sandals, athletic shoes and kid's shoes. **NO WINTER BOOTS**, torn or worn out shoes. Thanks to **Michael Aronson** for his support and coordination of this effort.

2. **Hiddur Mitzvah/Beautifying Ritual**. Our school has teamed up with Original Works- the #1 art based program in the country – to offer a very special program which mounts a child's own artwork onto a selection of nearly 30 quality products. These products range from magnets, mugs to mouse pads to t-shirts, tote bags and tiles. The wide selection of professionally produced, full color products offers something for everyone, and they make memorable gifts for any occasion. Students will have the opportunity to create their artwork on the themes of Shabbat or Passover this month. Then par-

continued on next page

Calendar

Fri, Feb. 3	Family Service at 5:30pm followed by a potluck supper
Sat, Feb. 4	Required: Shabbat B'Yachad (see page 8)
Sun, Feb. 5	No Classes
Wed, Feb. 8	Class for grades 3-7 with Tu B'shvat activities School Committee: 7:00 pm
Sun, Feb. 12	Shalom Sunday for 4-6 year olds In God's Image/B'Tzelem Elohim Group Workshop for grades 5 & 6 with parent: "Who's Bar/Bat Mitzvah Is This, Anyway?"
Wed, Feb. 15	Education Committee: 7:00 pm
Sat. Feb 18 - Wed, Feb. 22	No Classes- President's Holiday Week
Sat/Sun Feb. 25/26	Classes Resume

continued from previous page

ents or other interested customers order whatever products you wish with the artwork featured on each product. The JCA School will benefit from each sale. We are thrilled to be participating in this unique and innovative program. More complete program, product and pricing information will be coming soon. Additional product and program information, as well as customer testimonials, can be found at www.originalworks.com

Thank-you to:

Ariella Schwell for leading Tot Shabbat services in December and January.

Rachel Flint for helping 3rd graders, make hannuka menorot.

Sara Berger and Ruth Love Barer for donating books to the school.

JCA Adult Reading Group

The 3rd meeting of the year of the ARG will be on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 7:30 PM in the JCA library. We will be discussing the novel, *Heir to the Glimmering World* by Cynthia Ozick. It is in paperback and has received very positive reviews. Come join us; new participants are always welcome! Any questions, please call Ken Talan, 253-2248.

JFN & NIF

On behalf of the Jewish Federation Network and New Israel Fund we'd like to thank the following people for their generous contributions:

Jeff and Marilyn Blaustein

David Levit and Ruth Kane-Levit

Monroe and Joan Rabin

Ted and Barbara Slovin

Gerda Wald

Frieda Howard, JCA Chair for JFN/NIF

Co-President's Column, continued from page 1

field and found the fig tree in full bloom. The emperor was surprised to see the old man still there. When the man saw the emperor, he presented his ruler with a basket of figs from the tree that he had planted. The emperor was so pleased that he ordered his servants to fill the old man's basket with gold. A neighbor's wife observed this encounter and ran home to tell her husband. "Quick," she screamed, "fill a basket with figs and take it to the emperor. It seems that he loves the produce from this region so much that he is willing to pay for it with baskets of gold." The husband did as he was told. However, instead of rewarding the man, the emperor was so angry at his impudence that he ordered his courtiers to throw the figs at the man. The man returned to his wife, bruised and swollen, and reported, "I am lucky to have survived. Had I brought a basket of apples to the emperor, I might have been killed by my own fruit."

The lessons of this story are useful ones. First, we should honor the efforts of those who preceded us by working for the benefit of future generations, even if we may not enjoy the fruits of our labor. And further, we should not let visions of immediate reward lead us to risky shortcuts. I am confident that the JCA leadership will take these lessons to heart. The welfare and future of the JCA is not just the responsibility of the co-presidents, the Board or the Rabbi. Rather, "aleinu", it is on all of us. As co-president, I invite and welcome your feedback. If you have concerns about any aspect of the JCA, let me know. If I can't address the situation, I'll try to at least steer you in the right direction. I would also like to hear any suggestions about how we could do things better. To quote Tom Cruise (from *Top Gun*), "Talk to me...." Finally, help us keep our momentum by volunteering for a committee or an event (did anyone mention the JCA auction?), even though there may not be a basket of gold waiting for you.

*b'Shalom,
Richard*

JCA Hall Gallery Exhibit

The Hall Gallery is pleased to announce that starting on January the 26th we will be exhibiting the work of Jerusalem artist Yehudit Shadur (1928-2011) and her daughter, Tamar Shadur. Yehudit was one of the foremost contemporary artists in the field of Jewish decorative arts. She is particularly known for pioneering the revival of the Jewish papercutting tradition. Her work is represented in major museums and Judaica collections in Europe, North America and Israel.

We will be showing some of her original papercuts, serigraph prints and lazercuts. This show will mark the one year anniversary of her passing.

Tamar will be exhibiting her tapestries, some based on her mother's designs, such as the one now hanging in our sanctuary, and others of her own design. Locally, her work has been exhibited at the Fiber Arts Center and at Leverett Craftsmen and Artists.

We are looking forward to her talk to the congregation at services on Friday, February 24th. Please join us then.

Thank You For Your Generous Donations To Project Rehovot

Jeff and Marilyn Blaustein

Susan and Peter Cinner in memory of
Ethel Frank

Judy Glaser and Bob Stern

Irving and Frieda Howards in honor of
Yaffa Gunner

Eva Goldwater

Carol Kaminsky

Ellen Koteen and Diane Palladino

Eli Kwartler

Rose and Rabbi Yechiel Lander

Steven and Michele Marantz

Dorothy Nemetz and John Todd

Linda and Dan Reif

The Resnick Family

Ted and Barbara Slovin

A.M. Treston

Guy Wood

A NEW YEAR TO JOIN TOGETHER FOR
SHABBAT B'YACHAD #2
Parashat Beshallah and Shabbat Shira/Song

*For households with children in JCA School, this program is in place of JCA School on Sunday, February 5.

Saturday, February 4, 2012

At the Jewish Community of Amherst

A Shabbat where we all come together

A prayer service and diverse opportunities for participation on a restful day

9:00-10:15

Shabbat Yoga with Corinne Andrews (optional— all ages)

10:00-10:45

Services Together

Led by Rabbi Weiner with Av Harris, Cara Silverberg and friends
 with song and diverse prayer melodies

Halacha Alert: Instruments used during services

To study Torah in ways both traditional and eclectic, choose from:

Exodus and Interpretations on the Parting of the Sea

10:45—12:00

~~Traditional Torah service with Rabbi Weiner in the Sanctuary

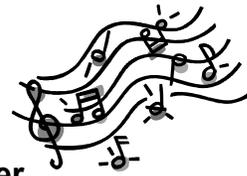
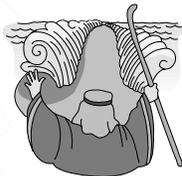
~~A Taste of Torah Study

~~Active Story Time for 3rd grade and younger

~~Art Drash

~~Meditation & Movement

~~Chanting and Song



12:00-12:30

Conclude Services Together



Followed by a POTLUCK Shabbat Meal

Including singing *zemirot*/lively Shabbat songs.

To make this event more “green,” you have the option of bringing your own dishes (plates, silverware, cups, etc.) to use and wash so that we don’t have to use paper products.

Generous funding provided by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation’s Family Education Initiative.

***From JCA Volunteer Coordinator Marcia Black
413-256-4715, or at marciablack@comcast.net.***

I have recently volunteered to be the Volunteer Coordinator at the JCA, having realized how many people are looking for a way to get more closely engaged with the JCA, and how many tasks - big and small - need to be done. I am already feeling that happy, gratified feeling that a matchmaker experiences when there is a good match - in this case between the needs of people to feel valued, and the needs of the JCA to thrive. PLEASE do not hesitate to contact me if you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, or simply interested in finding out more about what needs doing. I can be reached at 413-256-4715, or at marciablack@comcast.net.

I gave the following dvar Torah at the first Board meeting of 2012, about what motivates people to volunteer.

Shemot - The Call to Volunteer

I volunteered to give this d'var torah about parasha Shemot because it seems, in some ways, to be the quintessential text about volunteering. Or, if we were to take the perspective of Moses, it is a story about being volunteered, told by God to volunteer. Maybe Moses had a choice, but it's not really how the text comes across. Mostly it reads - You Will volunteer to go down to Egypt and liberate the Israelites.

When I lead guided imagery in psychotherapy or in spiritual direction, I always begin with the phrase - feel your breath, the natural flow of the inhale and exhale, as though your breath is breathing you, as though you are being breathed. Without force, or effort, allow yourself to be breathed. See if you can feel the Divine Breath breathing you.

I think this parsha tells us that being a volunteer is somewhat like this. We can force ourselves to volunteer, or we can allow ourselves, in the natural rhythm of our lives, to be volunteered - like Moses - to hear and respond to an inner call, to God's call.

But it's rarely easy to hear, and then heed, this call; it's not usually our

first impulse. Our lives are busy, we have other things to do, other responsibilities, other distractions. In this parsha we read, "An angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in a blazing fire out of a bush. He gazed, and there was a bush, all aflame; yet the bush was not consumed. Moses said, "I must turn aside to look at this marvelous sight, why doesn't the bush burn up? When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to look, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Hineni," "Here I am."

(Ex: 3:2-4).

Moses has to be called twice before God is able to get his attention, before Moses is able to say - oh right, sorry. At first I thought it was just the flaming bush talking, and then I realized it was something more. I got distracted by your beautiful and surprising world for a moment. I'm here now, I'm listening.

We all know that God then asks Moses to go down to Egypt, into the fray of community, of heartache, of suffering, of struggle, of confusion, of danger, and to liberate the Israelites. We also know that Moses did not acquiesce to this request to volunteer easily. He was full of doubt, about his own capacities, and about whether the community would believe him, would respond to him. Perhaps these are doubts that some of us have had as we hear the call to volunteer at the JCA. Perhaps I need to take a lesson from this as I try to find volunteers for various needs - I have to call twice!

These days, most of us do not hear the call of God directly, but we do hear the call of responsibility. Responding to the call of responsibility is central to Judaism. Here is the way that Rabbi Ira Stone, from the Mussar tradition, puts it: *We become who we are, we forge our souls, by responding to this infinite call that stands outside of ourselves but, at the same time, constitutes the innermost core of our being. Torah is the call that makes us human... The call commands us to bear the burden of our neighbor and it elects*

us to shoulder our responsibilities for another, through the minute details of living everyday in the world. (143-144, *A Responsible Life*.) This sense of responsibility at the core of our being is what, I think, brings us to volunteer at the JCA.

Aviva Zornberg, in her remarkable commentary on Exodus, puts it differently. Calling on Rashi's commentary, she writes:

The angel appears to (Moses) in a blaze which is the very heart of fire (be-labath esh), in the midst of the bush. Here, there is a burning without consumption..... Commenting on this unusual word - be-labath - Rashi reminds us of the fire of Sinai which will burn on this same site "the heart - lev - of the heavens." Rashi associates these words (labath), lehava, shalhevet (flame) and lev (heart); evoking questions about fire and the human heart. For the angel appears by means of the heart's fire; he cannot exist without it.....From the heart of both fires - (the Burning Bush and Sinai) comes the voice of God conveying messages to the people. (Zornberg, 338-339)

When we volunteer from this place of answering the inner call, the divine call, the call of responsibility, the call of the heart - whatever we call it - we discover new capacities in ourselves, and a new, more intimate relationship with God. When we volunteer from this place of hearing and responding, something different can happen - in community we can create something new and beautiful and never seen in the world before; something that will help people find the liberation that arises from listening to the call of the heart within community, here in Amherst.

Stone, Ira, *A Responsible Life; The Spiritual Path of Mussar*, Aviv Presss, New York, 2006.

Zornberg, Aviva Gottlieb, *The Particulars of Rapture, Reflections on Exodus*, Doubleday, New York, 2002.

**See page 10 for
volunteer opportunities.**

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers needed for the soup Kitchen, **Not Bread Alone**, 2nd Sunday of every month, either the cooking/prep shift (9:30 a.m. - Noon) or the clean up shift (Noon - 2 p.m.)

The soup kitchen is at the 1st Cong. Church in Amherst center. Families, teens, couples, singles, are invited to join the JCA crew. Please contact Not Bread Alone JCA Coordinator Devorah Jacobson at devorahj@comcast.net, or JCA Volunteer Coordinator Marcia Black at marciablack@comcast.net

Volunteers needed at the **Amherst Cot Shelter**, 9-11 pm, one week a month. You can sign up for one shift, or several! Please contact Amherst Cot Shelter JCA Coordinator Amy Rothenberg, at amy@nesh.com or JCA Volunteer Coordinator Marcia Black.

Chesed Committee

Essentially we are always looking for folks who can help with the following tasks:

- make a meal
- offer a ride to a medical appointment or services
- visit a homebound or sick member
- run errands
- attend a shiva

Generally these folks would be contacted by email as the need arises.

MORE URGENTLY, we need a few additional members to join our Chesed Committee, which coordinates the response to the ever-growing needs of our Community members. We find the members who are willing to provide the services described above and arrange for the act of lovingkindness, the Chesed act to be done. It is a win-win situation for both the person/family who has the opportunity to give, and those who so warmly receive.

Thank you in advance for considering these mitzvah opportunities.



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JCA Auction- 2012

WE NEED YOU! Calling one and all - please help with the JCA's Grand Auction! The Auction is a FUN fundraiser and a very important one for us. To pull it off we will need many volunteers for many different types of tasks. You can volunteer to do a little or a lot - anything from helping with a mailing to creating the catalog to helping on the night of the event.

Please email Volunteer Coordinator Marcia Black at marciablack@comcast.net or Auction Coordinator Maryann Barakso at m.a.barakso@gmail.com. They will tell you more how you can meet great people and support the JCA by participating in this event

JCA Member News

Mark your calendars! On Sunday, February 26, 2012, *The Gefiltefish Chronicles*, a documentary about JCA member **Ruth Love Barer's** family's 100 year old tradition of preparing for Passover will be aired on WGBY TV at 1:00 PM. Those who have seen it say..." it's not to be missed!"

There will be an exhibit of **Richard Cohen's** pastel landscapes at Henion's Bakery, 174 North Pleasant St., Amherst, until February 10th. 25% of proceeds will go to the Amherst Survival Center,

Create Your Jewish Legacy...

What will be your legacy?

Bring your charitable dreams to life with a planned gift to the JCA through the Create a Jewish Legacy of Western Massachusetts program. There are many different ways to leave your own legacy. Your legacy can reflect everything that is most important and meaningful to you. The act of creating a legacy empowers you to complete the work of your heart, and to enjoy the peace that it brings. You are assured that your work will continue and the Jewish future will be bright.

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413.297.5500 or
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www.jewishlegacywesternmass.org



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How many bubba's does it take to.....She leaned over the jewelry case to admire the necklace and let out a huge....

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ALL JOKES MUST BE UNDER 3 MINUTES — NOT (TOO AWFULLY) OFFENSIVE (USE DISCRETION)

If you are particularly sensitive to being offended- this may not be the event for you

SATURDAY, FEB 11, 2012 7:30PM

For more information contact Oran Kaufman at 413-548-8139 or oran@orankaufman.com

AT THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST

A Celebration with Music & Food!



MUSIC:

Mak'hela, Jewish Chorus of western Massachusetts

Kayla Werlin, director; Cantor Elise Barber, soloist

Felicia Sloin, Singer/Songwriter

the old time country musicians: Rabbi Ben Weiner, Bob Solosko & Susan Mosler, banjo; Ben Levy & Ed Herbst, fiddle/mandolin; John Loeb & Elena Wikner, guitar; Elise Barber, vocals

Hope Community Church Choir, Rhonda Gordon, music minister

Henry the Juggler, Henry Lappen

FOOD: (Just in time for dinner) *An à la carte* feast, Mediterranean specialties & desserts (moderately priced) by Chef Karen Loeb & her Project Rehovot team

WHEN/WHERE: Sunday, February 26, 4:30pm, Jewish Community of Amherst, 742 Main Street Questions? 413 253 0336

CONCERT TICKETS: \$10, \$5 students/children--at the door

A Benefit Event for Project Rehovot, helping immigrant & other needy children in Rehovot, Israel, since 1991.

Building & Annual Fund Campaign

The 2011 Building & Annual Fund Campaign has been in progress since late October, 2011, so I'd like to update you on the status. Our goal for the Annual Fund was \$30,000 and for the Building Fund, \$70,000. The good news is that we are more than 80% of our way to the combined goal of \$100,000. Our deep thanks to those JCA members who "dug deep" in these difficult economic times, to the Campaign Committee and the Board solicitors.

However, the Campaign is not over--over 70 members have not yet been contacted. If you haven't already, you should be receiving a call by the end of January. Please give as generously as you can. Be aware that our dues do not come close to covering the JCA's operating expenses. So every year we try to close the gap by raising at least \$30,000 in donations through the Annual Fund.

The \$70,000 goal for the Building Fund is equally as important. Our operating budget is tight and can only support

the most basic building maintenance activities. It has been over 10 years since we did any major building work. For too long we have been putting off critical building and renovation projects. For example, we need to renovate the flooring in the Social Hall, Library, Sanctuary and offices. We need to finish the stained glass project in order to create a more welcoming entryway and one that identifies our building as a place of worship. Other projects include overdue painting and repairs of walls, steps and sidewalk. Money permitting, we would like to install air conditioning in the Main Sanctuary and Library, install a sound system in the Main Sanctuary for the hearing impaired, make the bimah handicapped accessible, and more. Again, please help us preserve and enhance our building by contributing to the extent that you're able.

Todah rabbah!
B'shalom,
Richard Cohen

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Co-President Areas Of Responsibility

Through this division we hope to respond to your suggestions and concerns more promptly.

Please feel free to contact either of us with your concerns and/or suggestions

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Agendas	Administration
Beit Shalom	Cemetery
Building & Grounds	Finance
Chesed	L'Dor v'Dor
Chevra Kadisha	Membership
Education & School	Nominating
Camp Shemesh	Leadership
Fundraising	Personnel
High Holidays Planning	World Jewish Concerns
Ritual Life	
Shomerim	
Tikkun Olam	

Don't Forget The Food Collection Box

As you enter the JCA, between the outside and lobby doors, there is a food collection box. The next time you're going shopping, why not pick up a few extra non-perishable items for the box. Items will be delivered to The Amherst Survival Center.

The process of replacing our chumashim in the sanctuary continues.

Our only source of revenue for this is from your donations to the prayerbook fund.

Please consider aiding this effort.

Donations of any amount are gratefully accepted, however a minimum donation of \$65.00 is required for a book dedication plate.

JCA At The Northampton Cot Shelter

It is a blessing to coordinate the meal on Christmas Eve at the Cot Shelter in Northampton. Providing the meal for the shelter guests involves the efforts of many.

THANK YOU to those who prepared the food--**Elissa Rubinstein, Neubauer/Donnell family, Barbara Slovin, Heather Hornik, Esther Mercer, Anita Page, Henion Bakery, Judith Souweine**. The food was delicious---the turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, roasted vegetables, mac and cheese, salad, cranberry sauce, bread and amazing desserts--prepared with love and caring and was appreciated and enjoyed by the guests and the staff. The tables were festively decorated with red tablecloths and candy canes and santa baskets filled with toiletries provided by **Robin Diamond**. The gift cards, hats and gloves, provided by **Judith Souweine, Kitty Talan, Judy Glaser, and Michael Stein** were an added PLUS.

AND the service provided, at the shelter, by "our group", **Josh, Leah and Noah Danoff, Clare Storck, and Michael Stein**, was done with much efficiency, sharing and warmth.

The extra bonus, this year, was the return of **SAUL GLADSTONE** and his trumpet, providing us all with music and wisdom.

Same time next year....

The Deadline for the March Newsletter is February 12th

All submissions MUST be made either by e-mail or e-mail with a file attached.

If you do not have access to a computer or email, please contact the editor.

PLEASE RESPECT THE DEADLINE!

Thank you, Aaron Bousel,
news@j-c-a.org 253-3544



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JCA Member	\$ 180.00	\$ 605.00	\$ 1390.00
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Have you checked out the JCA Judaica Store lately?

Books by JCA members and others, siddurim, chumashim, tallitot, mezzuzot and many lovely gift items.

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You can read the JCA Newsletter on line at:
www.j-c-a.org/news/current.pdf

Many of our members have elected not to receive a printed copy of the Newsletter and read it on line instead (or print their own copy from the on line edition). This helps reduce the cost of producing the Newsletter each month.

Please contact the office if you no longer need to have the Newsletter mailed to you.



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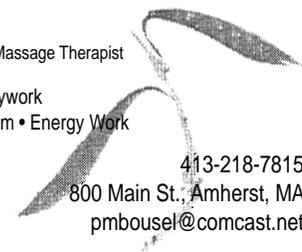
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In memory of Clara Sadick (Jeffrey & Marilyn Blaustein)

Children's Scholarship Fund

In memory of Susan Cinner's dad, David H. Weinstein
(Peter & Susan Cinner)

Combined Building & Annual Fund Campaign

Norman & Eva Brown

In memory of Esther Wisotsky (Hadar Grabel)

In honor of the wedding of Amos Levy & Emily diMarco
(Stephen & Moira Clingman)

Eva Rosenn

In memory of David H. Weinstein, father of Susan Cinner,
father-in-law to Peter & grandfather to Juliana
(Peter & Susan Cinner)

Joshua Goldstein & Andra Rose

Joel Kaminsky & Jody Rosenbloom

Robert Stern & Judith Glaser

Madeline Charney

In honor of Jerome Liebling (Jules Chametzky)

In memory of Anne Halley Chametzky (Jules Chametzky)

Jeffrey Cohen & Lori Holder-Webb

Edith Allen

Daniel Berlin

In honor of our family (Lawrence & Vera Wishnow)

Bonnie Diamond & Daniel Price

Peter & Lillian Albanese

Maryann Barakso

In memory of Ann & Harry Blaustein and

Ruth & William Hecht (Jeff & Marilyn Blaustein)

Daniel & Jane Giat

Kitty Axelson-Berry

Laurie Nisonoff

Ronnie Janoff-Bulman & Michael Bulman

Carol Kaminsky

In memory of Felice Yeskel

(Jeanne Ryan & Marjory Ackerman)

In memory of Louis Jacobson (Esther Jacobson)

Judith Souweine

Hannah Blau

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Ronnie Williams & Suzanne Arnopolin

Catherine Madsen & Sarah Thomson

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Natalie Jarmon

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Cynthia & Joseph Gensheimer

Nancy Cohen

Ted & Barbara Slovin

In memory of my parents, who helped build their temple in
greater Boston, many years ago (Anna-Beth Winograd)

Thomas Butler & Jody Wax

In memory of Joseph Spitz (Larry Goldbaum & Jody Spitz)

In honor of the office staff (Helena Donovan)

In memory of George Tice, uncle

(Richard & Barbara Alpert)

Ellen Grobman

Margaret Mastrangelo & Rabbi Devorah Jacobson

Kenneth & Kitty Talan

In memory of parents Muriel & Morry Katz

(Jaqueline Katz)

David Levit & Ruth Kane-Levit

Robert & Katherine Feldman

Abby Coren & Paul Bobrowski

Janet Kannel

In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of our son,

Nathan Baron Silvern (Donna Baron & Steven Silvern)

Janis Wolkenbreit

General Fund

Norman & Eva Brown

In honor of Clay & Johanna Ballantine's daughter Hannah's
Bat Mitzvah (Vera & Laurence Wishnow)

Best wishes to Rabbi Benjamin Weiner & Elise Barber in
your new home (Vera & Laurence Wishnow)

In honor of the Yahrzeit of Charles Lubinsky

(Leonard & Marian Lubinsky)

continued on next page

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continued from previous page

With thanks to John & Karen Loeb who practice what they pray (Frederick & Patricia Levine)

B'nai Tzedek Fund (Solomon Goldstein-Rose)

B'nai Tzedek Fund (Seth Blaustein)

B'nai Tzedek Fund (Peter Gladstone)

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B'nai Tzedek Fund (Rosa Friedman)

B'nai Tzedek Fund (Jillian Diamond)

B'nai Tzedek Fund (Leah Elman)

In memory of Fay Katz, sister of Anita Page (Lewis & Caden Mainzer)

In memory of my father Warren Weinberg (Barbara Burkart)

Prayerbook Fund

In memory of Rabbi Weiner's middle school Tanakh teacher, Peter Stark (Catherine Madsen & Sarah Thomson)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Norman & Eva Brown

Peter & Lisa Blain

In honor of Herschel of O and The Chanukah Crew in appreciation of friendship & longevity (Susan Zarchin)

In memory of Philip A. Winston-Dec 29, 1911-Dec 29, 2011 (Bob & Janet Winston)

Scholar-in-Residence Fund

In memory of Anne Halley Chametzky (Jules Chametzky) Judith Souweine

Michael & Jaymie Chernoff

In memory of my parents (Barbara Burkart)

In honor of Karen Loeb (Suzanne Arnopolin)

In honor of Aaron Bousel (Ronnie Williams)

Fay Zipkowitz

Sara Schley & Joe Laur

In honor of Rabbi Weiner (Margaret Mastrangelo)

Condolences

We offer our sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have recently died:

Beatrice Lazarowitz, mother of Alan Kellman, mother-in-law of Brenda and grandmother of Wyatt

Harry Jacob Harmatz, father of Morton Harmatz and Rose (Harmatz) Steinberg, father-in-law of Robin Harmatz, grandfather of Mark David Harmatz, Sheryl Goldstein, and Ellen Zimmerman, great-grandfather of Ian Zimmerman, Marty Zimmerman, Courtney Goldstein, and Scott Goldstein

Fay Katz, oldest sister of Anita Page

Rand Hutcheson, father of Sarah and Ian Hutcheson and ex-husband of Eva Rosenn

New or Returning Members

We warmly welcome the following people to the JCA community:

Rose Foster

Celebrating Babies

Know any new babies in the community?

The JCA's Chesed and Membership Committees have teamed up with Havurah K'tana (Little Friends Circle) to welcome new babies into our community with a Shalom Baby Basket.

Please contact us when you learn of families with a new baby (JCA members or potential members).

We will stop by with a decorated basket containing a menorah, PJ Library book, and a card made by children in the JCA Religious School as well as information about area Jewish resources for families. We'll also bring a meal and a plate of goodies for the family!

Please contact Ariella Schwell at ariellachef@yahoo.com or 230-3694 or Reed Alper at reedmangels@comcast.net or 549-0438.

If someone in your family, or someone you know in the community, is ill and/or in the hospital, please contact the Chesed Committee by calling the office (256-0160).

Even if visits or phone calls are not desired, it is important for us as a community to be aware of the health and well being of our members and their families.

We cannot help if we don't know.



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Community Announcements

Gan Keshet Preschool

Gan Keshet Jewish Community Preschool is accepting applications for the 2012-2013 school year. Come visit, meet their experienced staff, and explore the classrooms with your child. Gan Keshet is a play based, discovery oriented preschool that offers part and full day options, extended day, and a summer program! For additional information and/or to plan your visit, please call the preschool's Director, Wendy Stein at 413-584-3593 ext. 204.

The Harold Grinspoon Foundation: Open Positions

Mentor (New)

The Grinspoon Institute for Jewish Philanthropy, an award-winning program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, seeks an experienced Mentor for full-time work in capacity building

with Jewish nonprofit overnight camps throughout the United States.

Data Analyst (New)

The Harold Grinspoon Foundation, located in West Springfield, Massachusetts, is seeking a Data Analyst for the PJ Library program.

'PJ Goes to School' Educator (New)

PJ Library is seeking a dynamic, sharp, self-directed educator with knowledge of early childhood and Jewish education to provide professional development and create curricular resources as part of the PJ Goes to School initiative.

For all positions apply to: JOBS@HGF.ORG No phone calls please.

Applications will be accepted until positions are filled.

More information about these positions can be found at:

<http://www.hgf.org/about-hgf/careers.aspx>

Meditation Group

Thursday Morning "Lecha Dumiyah Tehillah"* Meditation Group
Every Thursday in the CBI Library,
from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Led by Rabbi Nancy Flam

Please know that is not an instructional group. Rather, each of us comes with our own silent meditation or prayer practice and draws strength and affirmation for our deep, inner work by being together in community.

- Arrive & Settling In:
8:00 – 8:15 a.m.
- Setting of Kavvanah/Teaching:
8:15 – 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to begin silent meditation:
8:25 a.m.
- Bell to end silent meditation:
8:55 a.m.

* "To You silence is praise."
Psalm 65:2

You're staring right at it! You don't have to search all over town for the right place for your party.
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Call for an appointment today.

Our events coordinator will help you plan your party and access the resources you need for a truly joyous event
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JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST
February 2012
 8 Shevat ~ 6 Adar



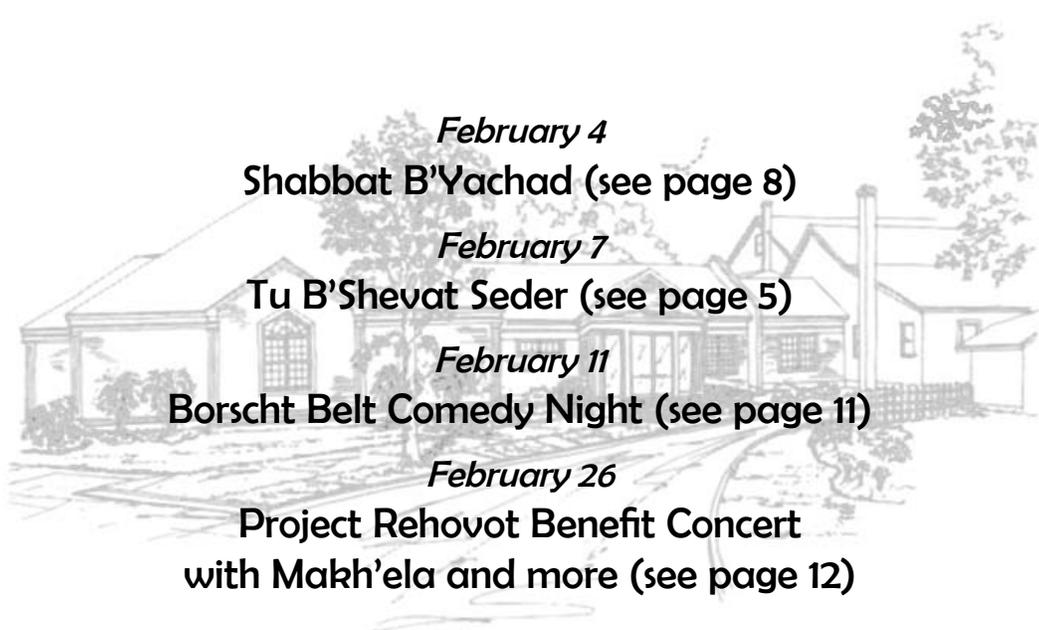
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8 SHEVAT 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 7:30 pm Ritual Life Committee	2 9 SHEVAT 7:00 pm Board Meeting	3 10 SHEVAT 11:48 5:30 pm Intergenerational Family Service and potluck supper Tot Shabbat	4 11 SHEVAT Beshalach Shabbat B'Yachad (see page 8) 9:15 am Shabbat Yoga 10:00 am Shabbat Services
5 12 SHEVAT NO JCA School	6 13 SHEVAT	7 14 SHEVAT 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 7:00 pm Tu B'Shevat Seder (see page 5)	8 15 SHEVAT Tu B'Shevat 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation	9 16 SHEVAT	10 17 SHEVAT 11:48:57 6:15 pm Shabbat Services	11 18 SHEVAT Yitro 10:00 am Shabbat Services Chanting Service Bat Mitzvah: Lydia Sawyer 7:30 pm Borscht Belt II (see page 11)
12 19 SHEVAT Lincoln's Birthday Shalom Sunday for enrolled 4-6 yr olds 10:00 am B'tzelem Elohim/In God's Image Parent Support Group	13 20 SHEVAT	14 21 SHEVAT 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	15 22 SHEVAT 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation	16 23 SHEVAT	17 24 SHEVAT 11:50:06 6:15 pm Farbrenge Friday: Service and potluck supper	18 25 SHEVAT Mishpatim Parashat Shekalim 9:15 am Shabbat Yoga 10:00 am Shabbat Services 1:00 pm Torah Study with Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser
19 26 SHEVAT NO JCA School	20 27 SHEVAT Washington's Birthday (observed)	21 28 SHEVAT 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	22 29 SHEVAT 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation NO JCA School	23 30 SHEVAT Rosh Chodesh Adar - Day 1	24 1 ADAR Rosh Chodesh Adar - Day 2 11:51:15 6:15 pm Shabbat Services Speaker: Tamar Shadur	25 2 ADAR Terumah 10:00 am Shabbat Services 10:00 am 7th Grade
26 3 ADAR 3:00 pm Mak'hela Concert to Benefit Project Rehovot (see page 12)	27 4 ADAR	28 5 ADAR 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	29 6 ADAR 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 7:30 pm Ritual Life Committee			

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST
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February 4
Shabbat B'Yachad (see page 8)

February 7
Tu B'Shevat Seder (see page 5)

February 11
Borscht Belt Comedy Night (see page 11)

February 26
**Project Rehovot Benefit Concert
with Makh'ela and more (see page 12)**