

Sim Shalom

Sh'vat 5774
January 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL, HARLINGEN TEXAS

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Temple Beth Israel Of Harlingen, Texas

בית מקדש בית ישראל
invites you to our

TRIBUTE DINNER

to commemorate the lifetime
of leadership, friendship & commitment of



Stanley and Nivia Fisch

Saturday February 15, 2014 - 17th of Adar I, 5774
6:00 PM

At the temple, 1701 E. Jackson Street
Couvert \$50 per person

*A silent auction to benefit Temple Beth Israel will be held
Please return the reservation Card ASAP*

Calendar

JANUARY

- 12 Religion School, 10 a.m.
 16 Tu B'Shvat
 17-19 *Rabbi in town*
 17 Early services/Potluck Dinner
 6:30 p.m.
 18 Shabbat service 9 a.m. with
 breakfast to follow, and
 Torah discussion
 6:30 pm: Lecture by Rabbi
 Joseph on the original
 philosophy of Chabad,
 followed by Havdalah service
 19 Tu B'Shevat outing, 10 a.m.

FEBRUARY

- 14-16 *Rabbi in town*
 14 Early services/Potluck Dinner
 6:30 p.m.
 15 Shabbat service 9 a.m. with
 Torah discussion to follow
 15 Fisch Tribute Dinner, 6 p.m.

MARCH

- 16 Purim Party, Megillah reading
 23 Annual Congregational Meet-
 ing

Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

- 1/9 Rosalie Berg
 1/13 Gabriel Hernandez
 1/18 Nivia Fisch
 1/23 Zachary Wolf
 2/4 Fernando A. Russek
 2/7 William C. Stewart
 2/10 Laurie Joseph
 2/15 Joshua Jacobson
 2/18 Brett Wolf
 2/20 Bill Berg

ANNIVERSARIES

- 1/1 Ronald & Dyan Banks
 2/7 Jose & Liliana Cohen

NEWS

■ **CONDOLENCES:** Temple Beth Israel of Harlingen extends condolences to our members Jose and Liliana Cohen on the passing of Jose Cohen's father, Nessin Cohen, on Jan 8 in Argentina. Dr Cohen is in Argentina now with his family. He and Liliana wish that donations in his father's memory be donated to the Temple Beth Israel Building Fund, or another charity of the donor's choice. The Cohens' address for condolence messages is 2301 Riverside Drive, Harlingen, TX 78550.

■ **SCRIP FUNDRAISER:** Temple Beth Israel has started a new fundraiser that is painless, fun, and easy for all to participate in. We are selling "gift" cards and certificates for many of the businesses we all use regularly, through the Great Lakes Scrip company. The temple gets a percentage of each purchase, from 2 to 10 percent, and sometimes more. Here's a tiny sample of the available businesses: Amazon.com, Starbucks, Target, Best Buy, Home Depot, Marshall's, Gap, Neiman Marcus, Bed Bath & Beyond, HEB, and Subway.

Some congregants have ordered already and it works!!!

Go to the Great Lakes website to see a list of businesses for which you can buy cards: <http://www.glscrip.com/> The denominations available are listed. If you decide to order, send a check for your total amount to Temple Beth Israel, PO Box 3398, Harlingen, TX 78551, and write "scrip" on your check. List out the cards you want to buy, how many, and what denominations.

The next card order due date will be January 24.

Read more about the scrip company and see the list of gift cards available at <http://www.glscrip.com/>

Help the temple to raise some funds at no extra cost to you. Contact Liz Holzman at 459-5433 for more information. Thanks to Liz for coordinating this project.

■ **JANUARY POT LUCK SHABBAT DINNER:** This January, on Friday the 17th, will be our annual Pot Luck Shabbat Dinner. This is a chance to have an, informal, relaxed, delicious meal with Rabbi Joseph and each other.

Services will start early, 6:30 pm, and the dinner will follow. The usual rules apply:

- 1 Let Laurel know what you want to bring (550-9530)
2. Cook something great, try something new. (no meat please)
3. If you don't want to cook or bake, bring plates, coffee, plastic ware, cups, wine, juice, or water, or help with clean up or set up.
4. Bring and take home the serving dish for your food, or be prepared to stay and clean up.

■ **WATCH FOR DATE NIGHT** at the temple this winter, brought to you by the Confirmation Class. Movie and desert, for adults, with babysitting available.

■ **TU B'SHEVAT PICNIC:** On Sunday, Jan. 19, we will celebrate TuB'Shevat with our annual picnic. We will be going to the Sabal Palm Sanctuary in Brownsville, <http://sabalpalmsanctuary.org/>. We will meet at 10 am at the Temple and leave from there to go to the park, where we will have our activities and picnic. For more information on how you can help with the picnic or other information please call Fernando A. Russek at (956)970-4005. The outing is open to the whole congregation. If you want your kids to go without you, please make supervision arrangements with another parent. Thanks.

Did we miss you?

Please send birthdays & anniversaries to laurie.b.joseph@gmail.com.

Ariel Sharon, one of Israel's last warrior statesmen, dies at 85

By Ron Kampeas/January 11, 2014

(JTA www.jta.org) — Ariel Sharon, one of Israel's last warrior statesmen, whose military and political careers were woven into his nation's triumphs and failures, has died.

Sharon, 85, died Saturday at the Sheba Medical Center near Tel Aviv after eight years in a coma. "He went when he decided to go," said his younger son, Gilad, who has become the fierce guardian of his father's legacy.

He was among the last of Israel's founding fathers, fighting in every Israeli military conflict in the first three decades of the state.

As a military general, Sharon helped turn the tide of the Yom Kippur War with Egypt in 1973. As defense minister, he plunged his nation into the crucible of Lebanon in 1982, an engagement that nearly cut short his career after he was found to bear indirect responsibility for the massacre of Palestinian refugees at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Lebanon.

But Sharon would rise from the ashes of that calamity to effect an astonishing about-face as prime minister, orchestrating the evacuation of thousands of Israeli settlers from

the Gaza Strip after spending the bulk of his career championing the settlement enterprise.

As prime minister, Sharon began the construction of Israel's controversial security fence in the West Bank. His overriding concern, Sharon always said, was to protect a nation built on the ashes of the destruction of European Jewry.

"I arrived here today from Jerusalem, the capital of the State of Israel, the only place where Jews have the right and capability to defend themselves by themselves," he said in a May 2005 visit to Auschwitz to mark 60 years since the Holocaust.

He forged affectionate bonds with Diaspora Jewish leaders, interspersing his English with Yiddishisms and often urging them to emigrate to Israel.

"Sharon worked his entire life for the unity of the Jewish people," said a statement from the Jewish Federations of North America. "He was closely engaged with Jewish communities around the world, and acutely aware of their needs and aspirations. In all his leadership roles, and especially as prime minister of the Jewish state, Sharon engaged with Jewish communities across the Diaspora."

Thank You

DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

Rene & Eliza Gonzalez from *Rene, Elisa, Charim, Zabdiel & Haziell*

Robert Archer, *Memorial Donation in the name of Linette Goldmon Held*

Stan & Nivia Fisch

Oziel & Dalila Gonzalez

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Stan & Nivia Fisch

Oneg Shabbat Hosts

Each member household is asked to host one Shabbat oneg during the year. Remember hosting now involves setting up, cleaning up, and providing challah, Kosher wine, grape juice, paper/plastic goods, coffee and drinks. You can bring other treats you like, but the congregation will share the responsibility of bringing snacks and desserts. If you cannot be a host on the date assigned, please call Laurel Steinberg at 550-9530.

ONEG HOSTS

JANUARY: Pot luck supper

MARCH: Keyes, Shirazi

FEBRUARY: Silguero, Rodriguez, de Leon

APRIL: Ander, Quintero, Rojas

■ **HADASSAH ANNUAL DELI LUNCH** Our annual deli lunch will be Friday, February 7th at Temple Beth El in Brownsville. You can buy tickets from any member of Hadassah or from the Temple Beth El office. You can eat in at the Temple or take out and eat at your office. For \$10 you get your choice of lox, corn beef, tuna or turkey with coleslaw, potato salad, drink and dessert. Please support this project! It is our big fundraiser of the year.

For more information please call Emily Alpert at (956) 455-2442.

YAHRTZEIT DATES

JANUARY:

Dorothy Fridkin 8 Jan

Frank Fridkin 30 Jan

Ned Sondock 1 Jan

Ben Levine 19 Jan

Gertrude Greenfeld 19 Jan

FEBRUARY:

Burton Liberman 7Feb

Helen Koppel 28 Feb

Bertha Berg 19 Feb

Please consider a donation to the temple in memory of your loved ones.

Tonatiuh Abel Gonzalez Warshowsky Bar Mitzvah December 27-28

