

# Sim Shalom

Iyyar 5774  
May 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL, HARLINGEN TEXAS

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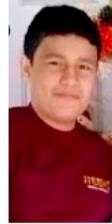
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With great joy and gratitude to Hashem we would like to cordially invite you to the

***Bar Mitzvah celebration***  
where B. Natanael Gaytan  
will be called to the Torah for the first time  
accepting upon himself to follow the  
commandments on his own.

**Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> 2014**

**at 10:00am Temple Beth Israel**

1702 E. Jackson St. Harlingen, Tx. 78550

**Shabbat Parshat (Torah portion) Bamidbar**

We will feel honored by your presence in the  
Religious Ceremony, Kiddush & Lunch following.

## B. NATANAEL GAYTAN

### *Bar Mitzvah*

### *Saturday, May 24*

**F**irst, I thank G-d for the life He's given me and for the people He put in my life to support me until this day. Next, I thank the congregation for teaching me, preparing me, and being another part of my family. Then I thank the rabbi for choosing the right words to motivate me and clarifying the meaning of being a Bar Mitzvah. Last, I thank my family. I thank my distant family for their presence, which means everything. And I thank my close family, my parents and my siblings.

— Natanael



## Confirmation Shabbat

7:30 p.m.  
Friday, May 23

DETAILS ON PAGE 3

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

We will be planning our calendar for next year very soon. I am requesting ideas for activities for the upcoming calendar year. Our next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 23, at noon at the Temple. Please email me ideas at gonsky@sbcglobal.net or, better yet, come to the meeting to present your ideas! We would like to have some fun activities, but it requires your participation.

— Abby Warshowsky

# Calendar

## MAY

- 18 Religion School, Lag B'Omer  
 23-25 *Rabbi in town*  
 23 Confirmation Shabbat  
 24 Natanael Gaytan Bar Mitzvah,  
 10 a.m.  
 24 Havdallah and movie  
 (*Rambam: The Story of Maimonides*), 6:30 p.m.  
 25 Last day of Religion School

## JUNE

- 3 Erev Shavuot, Services  
 4-5 Shavuot  
 6 Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m.  
 20-21 Rabbi will be in Israel during  
 this time (*Change to the  
 calendar*)

## JULY

- 4 Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m.  
 18-20 *Rabbi in town*  
 19 Havdallah and Review of  
 Israel trip by Rabbi Joseph, 7:30  
 p.m. (*Change to the calendar*)

# Celebrations

## BIRTHDAYS

- 5/2 Susan Ander  
 5/4 Patty Gaytan  
 5/14 Marisa L. Kahn  
 5/15 Benjamin Gonzalez  
 5/30 Andrew Newman  
 6/3 Benjamin Newman  
 6/18 Yosef Paul Jacobson  
 6/24 Tomer Simha  
 6/26 Madeline Huff

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 5/14 Danny & Marisa Wise-Herring  
 Khan  
 5/29 Bill & Monica Stewart  
 5/30 Bill Berg & Laurel Steinberg  
 6/20 Lewis & Dena Levine  
 6/29 Harry & Elizabeth Holzman  
 6/30 David & Laurie Jacobson

*Did we miss you?*

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

## NEWS

■ **RABBI JOSEPH WILL BE TRAVELING TO ISRAEL JUNE 14-25 WITH THE KOPPEL FAMILY** and will not be visiting Harlingen as scheduled on the weekend of June 20-22. He will offer a special Havdallah presentation on July 19 outlining the trip.

### ■ CONGRATULATIONS SPRING GRADUATES:

**From Rachel Russek:** I will be graduating from Harlingen South High School in a few weeks. I've made many friends and memories throughout my years in high school, but I am excited to start a new chapter in my life. I will attend be attending Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas where I plan to pursue a degree in Biochemistry. It has been a long and bumpy road to the finish line, but I have pushed through it all. Thank to everyone who has helped me along way. I'm blessed to have been in such an amazing Jewish community.



*Rachel*

**Tona Gonzalez-Warshowsky** is graduating from 8th grade at South Texas Preparatory Academy and will be attending Science Academy next year.

**Gabriel Hernandez** is graduating from Coakley Middle School and will join his mother, Meredith Linsky, in Maryland next year.

■ **SCRIP FUNDRAISER:** Remember the Temple's fundraiser! Go to the Great Lakes website to see a list of businesses for which you can buy cards: <http://www.glscrip.com/>. 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.

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

## RELAY FOR LIFE



*On May 2, the Stars of David Relay for Life team hit the track for another successful year. We raised some money for cancer research and celebrated the lives of those fighting cancer. It is always a wonderful event. Temple Beth Israel was well represented. This is an annual event that we participate in honoring our members who have succumbed to cancer as well as those still fighting. Already looking forward to next year! — Abby Warshowsky*

# Thank You

## DONATIONS

### SHABBAT BREAKFAST

Tamarah S. Spink  
Robin Cate

### GENERAL FUND

Tamarah S. Spink  
Sheila Greenfeld *in Loving  
Memory of Harry Greenfeld  
(Yahrzeit)*

### CONFIRMATION CLASS TRIP TO HOUSTON

*Every other year, Confirmation  
students spend a weekend in  
Houston to visit the Holocaust  
Museum with help from  
generous donors:*

**Rollins and Amalie Koppel  
Foundation  
Bert & Jamie Wolf**

# Oneg Shabbat

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

**May: Warshowsky-Gonzalez, Gaytan,  
Goldstein**

**July: Moskal, Minck, Weiss**

# Confirmation Shabbat

## 7:30 p.m., Friday, May 23

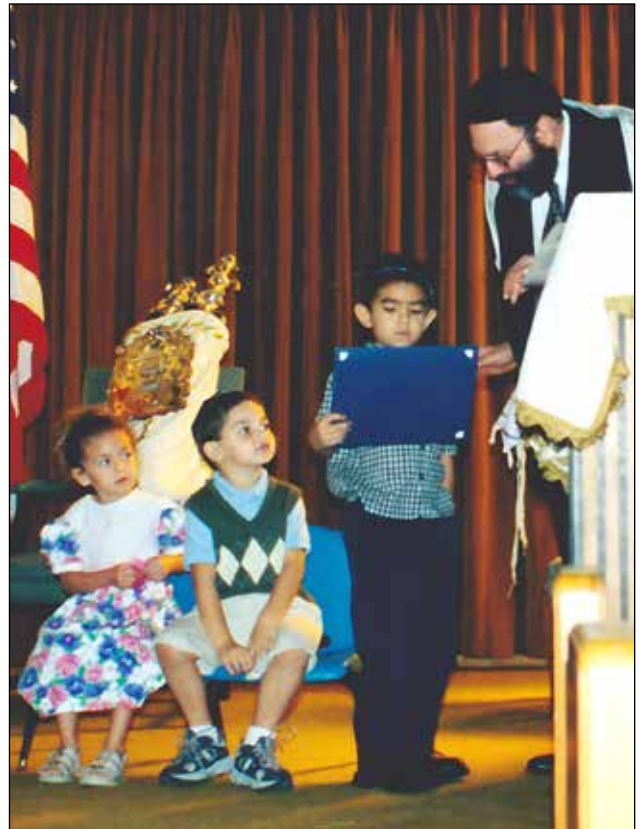
Benjamin Gonzalez-Warshowsky will help lead the Friday night service on May 23 to celebrate his Confirmation. Benjamin has been a student in the Religion School throughout his Jewish studies.

Melanie Goldstein will also be Confirmed this year, however, she is unable to attend the Confirmation Shabbat. We will celebrate Melanie's Confirmation in August.

Mazel tov to Melanie and Ben, seen here at a Religion School Consecration many years ago!

Also at the service, please welcome Dr. John Teer and several members of his church, who have asked the rabbi for an explanation of ritual objects

used in the Synagogue. Dr. Teer and his guests will meet with the rabbi earlier and stay for the Confirmation Service.



*Ben, yesterday and today*



# PASSOVER

