

#### TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH

111 Valley Road, Clark NJ 07066 732-381-8403 TBETHOR@GMAIL.COM

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# TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH BETHREPORTER

SHEVAT / ADAR 5772

FEBRUARY 2012

Shabbat Shirah, (The Sabbath of Song) Celebration Saturday, February 4 9:30 am

Following Services - a TISH (Extended Kiddush)

Please let us know that you will be attending by calling the office (732)381-8403.





# SOL SERN MEMORIAL LECTURE

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 7:30 PM PRESENTS

# **REUVEN RUSSELL**

Reuven Russell, an accomplished actor and comedian, with an extensive theatrical background has been seen on *ER*, and the feature films, *Chaplin*, *Inside Monkey Zetterland* and *The Proprietor*. He has toured nationally in Neil Simon's *The Sunshine Boys* starring Mickey Rooney and Donald O'Connor. His one-man show, *Gathering the Sparks* has played to audiences in over 100 cities around the world. He can currently be seen in the films *Advice and Dissent* with Eli Wallach and Rebecca Pidgeon, *The Permeable Man*, and the children's video series, *The Adventures of Agent Emes*. Reuven recently finished an Off Broadway run in the play, *The Quarrel*, by David Brandes and Joseph Telushkin.



A graduate of the Yale School of Drama, Reuven teaches Theatre and Public Speaking at Stern College for Women and is the Artistic Director of the Stern College Dramatic Society. He is a husband and father of five, and is the son of comedian and Jewish humorist Joey Russell.

The Program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

### FROM THE CANTOR



As I write these words, we are finally having a spate of cold weather befitting a mid-January in the Northeast. The temperature last night was hovering near the single digits. Many of us, myself included, were getting a bit spoiled by the almost spring-like weather

we've been having until now. And yet, I'm sure some have been disappointed by the almost balmy days of this winter, complaining that a foot or so of snow would be far better for skiing, or that some nice frigid weather would bring greater appreciation for the newly purchased winter coat. And of course, if snow and blistery cold were to finally arrive by the time you read these words, there will not be a lack of complaints about how much better the folks have it down in sunny Florida. The truth, as we all know, is that everyone always complains about the weather, yet nobody does anything about it!

Well, that's not exactly true. When it comes to weather, at least with regard to the Land of Israel, we certainly do try to do something about it. We insert into our prayers, specifically the Amidah, the Silent Devotion, a prayer for rain during these months: "Mashiv haru'ach u'morid hagashem." We pray for the wind to blow and the rain to descend. For it is the rainy season in Israel that will nourish the trees and cause the sap to rise and bring on the first buds around the time of Tu B'Shevat, the New Year for Trees, celebrated on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month of Shevat. The earth is then awakened and there is the promise of new life.

As an aside, I might point out that not everyone would have us celebrate Tu B'Shevat on the fifteenth of the month. The School of Shammai, the Talmud tells us, would have us place the New Year on the first of the month, but we follow in this, and in most matters, the teachings of Hillel. For an explanation of the basis of Hillel and Shammai's disagreement, I would invite you to attend our Tu B'Shevat Seder on Friday, February 10, following our Shabbat services, at which time we will deal with such questions. Incidentally, our seder happens to take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> of Shevat, but that's another matter altogether!

So come and join us at the seder, not merely for answers to all these interesting questions, but also for the delight of sampling the fruits of the Land of Israel—

pomegranates, carob, wines, and much more, and also to experience the mystical beauty of the natural world, as we explore in the Haggadah of Tu B'Shevat the mystical world of the Kabbalah.

I am taking a moment right now to check the weather forecast for the next few days, and it appears we may get a snow shower or two with several inches of accumulation. I really do feel like complaining, but at second thought, I'd better just go and look for my old pair of winter boots....

Stay warm and be healthy! B'Shalom,

Cantor Steven Stern

# What's Up for Shabbat in February?

## **Shabbat Shirah Tish**

Saturday, February 4

# Sisterhood Service & Tu B'Shevat Seder

Friday, February 10

## **Dress Down Shabbat**

Come casual for our Shabbat services on Friday and Saturday, February 17 &18.

# Simcha Shabbat

We will celebrate all birthdays and anniversaries in the month of February on Friday, Feb. 24. Come for a blessing and share your simcha with the TBO/BT family!

#### SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday Evening Services @ 8:00 pm Saturday Morning Services @ 9:30 am.

**February 3 & 4**Shabbat Shirah
B'SHALAH

**February 17 & 18**Shabbat Shekalim
MISHPATIM

February 10 & 11 YITRO

2

February 24 & 25 TERUMAH

# Mitvah Corner

# Are you throwing out your old greeting cards?

## **Rethink and Recycle**

St Jude's Ranch for Children, Recycled Card Program, is accepting all types of greeting cards, card fronts only. These cards are re-cycled into new cards and sold at their gift shop.

Please collect all the cards you are planning to discard, band them together and deposit them in a collection box located in the Temple lobby.

You can learn more about this program on their website at stjudesranch.org.

Any questions, call Rayna Warner at 732-382-5757.

## Yes, We Care Soup Kitchen

A Non- Profit Organization

We need your help! Over the years our student volunteers have graduated and moved away. Please come and help us make sandwiches

Monday evenings at 5:00 pm at Zion Lutheran Church 559 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ

Call Arlene Fineman, 908-403-6554, for further details.

Time commitment is less than an hour.

Yes, We Care Soup Kitchen continues to collect canned goods. Please leave them in the box in the temple's lobby.

# SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA

# Friday, March 2nd Festivities begin 6:30 pm

\*Come and join your fellow congregants for a wonderful Shabbat dinner and service.

\*Dinner to start at 6:30 pm followed by a FRIDAY NIGHT ALIVE! Service at 8:00 pm.

\*Price: \$15 per adult \$10 children ages 13 and under.

Please RSVP to the temple office at (732) 381-8403 by Tuesday, Feb.28.

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# Thank you - תודה רבה

Sebley Hausler thanks all her temple friends for their good wishes during her recent illness.

# JOIN OUR AFFINITY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM WITH TD BANK AND EARN MONEY FOR TBO/BT.

Open an account at TD Bank and the bank will make a contribution to Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah. Their annual contribution is based on the average balance in all members' accounts. Checking, savings, money market, CD and retirement accounts are all included in the Program.

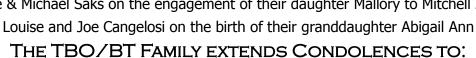
Contributions are calculated at 1/2% on checking balances and 1/4% on savings, money market, CD and IRA balances. <u>Members' accounts are not affected in any way by this contribution. Your account balances are used to determine the level of contribution and are kept strictly confidential.</u>

If you are already a TD Bank Customer, visit any TD Bank location and ask to have your balances included as part of Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah's Affinity Membership Program.

Joining the TD Bank Affinity Program is easy. It costs you nothing. It earns money to support the many programs and activities of Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah. Thank you!

# THE TBO/BT FAMILY EXTENDS MAZEL TOV TO:

Elaine & Bob Kolker on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Gabriel Kolker Laurie & Michael Saks on the engagement of their daughter Mallory to Mitchell Zipkin



The family of Pauline Feibush

Joe Cangelosi on the passing of his father Joseph Peter Cangelosi

## THE TBO/BT FAMILY WISHES SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

Sebley Hausler, Rose Handler, Gloria Sern

#### WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS MADE TO TBO/BT DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY:

(To make a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, call the temple office at 732-381-8403x11 or email tbethor@gmail.com.)

#### **GENERAL FUND:**

Sue & Eli Robbins in honor of Mallory Saks' engagement MINYAN BREAKFAST FUND:

Ruth Dengrove in memory of her father Irving Dengrove

#### YAHRZEIT FUND

Gene Berry Blanche Mandel Flora Mae Weiss Gitta Harel Milton Loshin Myrna Young Thelma Purdy Steven Hurok Gladys Blum Joyce Goldberg

#### ONEGS & KIDDUSHES SPONSORED BY:

Congregation, Sisterhood Lisa & Dick Lavroff Evie Shulman

People in our community are hungry! ...and the food pantry shelves are bare.



To Benefit the Jewish Family Service Kosher Food Pantry

Join this community-wide Mitzvah project and make a difference!

**SUNDAY** MARCH 18 2012



# A Very Special Thank You to Pavol

for his expert maintenance work at the Bayit. Your work is much appreciated!

# **February** Happy Anniversary!

Harvin & Sheri Freedman

#### Happy Birthday!

Susan Barr Noah Needleman Claudia Dorsch Alan Rubin Morgan Dorsch Meryl Rubin Beverly Elsner Joyce Scher Alex Falk Evelyn Schisler Joel Glassman Jay Schlesinger Doris Kalish Scott Seidman Russel Kelner Matan Shavit Howard Silverman Leonard Kosberg Mindy Leibowitz Michelle Sion Lorraine Loshin Muriel Tannenbaum Arthur Weiner Alan Mandelbaum Sue Margulies

Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah has for so many years been an important part of our lives, helping us to celebrate simchas, and providing us with an extended family for support and comfort in difficult times. Would you please consider providing a generous bequest in your will so that our "House of Light & Torah" can serve the needs of generations to come.

We thank you.

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS



Dear Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah Family,

It is our great pleasure to inform you that we have reached a historic moment in the life of Temple Beth O'r / Beth Torah. Thanks to the generosity of two of our member families, who have requested anonymity, we are about to embark on the redesign and renovation of our Bima window wall in the main Sanctuary.

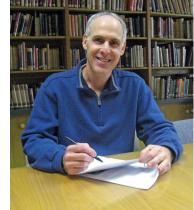
The Window Committee has agreed to hire Ascalon Studios, Inc. as our contractor on this

major project. The committee is now entering the design phase and, if all goes well, the newly designed and rebuilt window wall will be completed by Rosh Hashanah 5773.

Yasher Koach and Todah Rabah to the families whose largess has made this possible. Thank you to our members who serve on the committee and have given their time, creativity and passion to this project. They are listed here in alphabetical order: Debbie Freedman, Joanne Goldstein, Sebley and Bill Hausler, Lillian Makow, Leon and Joan Oberman, Cantor Steven Stern, Martin Richstein, Alan and Rayna Warner, Arny and Myrna Young.

May we always go from strength to strength.

Lillian & Thelma



Our House Chairman Martin Richstein signing the contract with Ascalon Studios.

## **Highlights of January Programs**

### **Edith & Mark Lief Memorial Lecture**

Dr Matthew Halper, Professor of Music at Kean University, highlighted a few of the musicians who composed music in the Terezin camp. It was a moving tribute to their creativity in the face of the horrors of the Holocaust.

Dr. Halper also played selective recordings of their music. The program was well attended and appreciatively received.



## Israeli Emissary Natalie Elgrabli at the Bayit

It was a full house at the Bayit on Saturday evening, January 14, as Cantor Stern hosted Federation's Israeli Emissary Natalie Elgrabli for the first "Coffee & Conversations" program. After a spirited Havdalah, Ms. Elgrabli sat down to discuss her childhood growing up in Jerusalem, her Moroccan Jewish ancestry, and Sephardic vs. Ashkenazi cuisine. As the evening unfolded, the focus turned to the Haredi--non Haredi/secular divide in Israel, its implications and how it might be addressed. All in all, it was a wonderful evening of intimate conversation and great desserts!



10



# SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I inadvertently left out a thank you to Janice Hymanson for guiding us in our craft at the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting in last month's bulletin. We also want to thank Roz Shifrin for doing the billing and keeping track of donor credit for Golden Books for many years. We are in the process of finding someone to replace her. Another thank you to Esther Schlesinger for hosting Sisterhood's

game night. We had a luscious dairy dinner and a very enjoyable evening playing 25 Words or Less.

Friday February 10 will be Sisterhood Shabbat. This year it coincides with the Tu B'Shevat Seder. The 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat is known as Tu B'Shevat, the New Year for Trees. The celebration at this time of the year has to do with the rainy season in Israel, which commences with the festival of Sukkot. It takes four months for the rains to saturate the soil, nurture the trees and coax them into producing fruit. The Torah says, "Man is a tree of the field." We are nurtured by deep roots, as far back as Abraham and Sarah; we reach upwards to the heavens while standing firmly on the ground; and when we do all this right, we produce fruits that benefit the world—namely our good deeds. Please join the women of Sisterhood as we follow the order of the Tu B'Shevat Seder and sample a wide variety of fruits native to Israel. Any Sisterhood members interested in participating in the service should call Fern Cammy (732-549-2652).

Watch your mail for the information about sending Shalach Mones baskets. This year Purim falls on Thursday March 8, with the evening Megillah reading on Wednesday, March 7. We will put the baskets together at a general meeting on

#### **Golden Books**

To send a Golden Book for any occasion, call: Joan Oberman (732-381-4322) Evie Shulman (908-276-6894) Betty Needleman (908-389-0911)

Cards are sent for \$3.00 and you will receive \$1.50 donor credit, or pick up a pack of 10 cards for \$20.00 with \$10.00 donor credit and send them yourself. They can be picked up from the office.

#### Special Fund

Donations to Special Fund can be made for any occasion for a minimum donation of \$5.00. You will receive 100% donor credit.

To send a beautiful Special Fund card call: Fern Cammy (732-549-2652).

Monday March 5 at 8:00 PM. This is Sisterhood's largest fundraiser. Support Sisterhood while fulfilling the mitzvah of sending *Mishloach Manot* (literally, "the sending of portions") to family and friends.

The members of the Presidium look forward to seeing you at Sisterhood Shabbat on February 10.

Louise Cangelosi

#### **GOLDEN BOOKS**

#### **GET WELL**

To: Sebley Hausler

From: Adeline & Arthur Gesten

To: Gloria Sern

From: Julia & Yakov Vinokurov

To: Rose Handler

From: The Temple Family

#### **MAZEL TOV**

To: Laurie & Michael Saks on the engagement of their daughter Mallory

From: Julia & Yakov Vinokurov

To: Marilyn Weinstein on the naming of her great granddaughter Rayna Abigail

From: Audrey & Howard Silverman

To: Leah & Kenneth Davidson on the naming of their

daughter Rayna Abigail

From: Helene & Michael Miller



# SISTERHOOD TALENT SHOW WE WANT TO SHOWCASE YOUR TALENT!

Join Sisterhood on **Sunday April 29, 2012 at 7:00 pm** for a Talent Show. Wine, cheese and desserts will be served. Cost is \$18.00 in advance and \$20.00 at the door. RSVP to Louise Cangelosi (732-634-3019 or lgc@comcast.net) or to the office.

Contact Louise if you would like to participate. She will need to know the nature of your talent and approximately how long you will perform in the interest of managing the length of the program. There are no tryouts. We will accept approximately 2 hours worth of entertainment, so don't wait to register. We want to applaud your talent!

#### Vouchers:

Shoprite, Pathmark and A&P vouchers are available at Sisterhood functions, and in the temple office.

#### FROM THE MEN'S CLUB PRESIDENT



It's cold, it's not, it's cold, it's not, but inside the Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah Men's Club it's warm and welcoming, and our events are going forward. Men's Club continued celebrating Shabbos with the area Jewish special adults in January. We had an extraordinary trip over the mountains in

an old steam engine driven train from the late 1800's-early 1900's. Our conductor was Dr. Michael Miller. Jay Schlesinger continues his educational poker game program, raising a level of camaraderie and fun to the members of our club

Even our Board meetings offer more than a bit of friendship and fellowship during a dreary cold winter. Bill Haulser and Theo Morienes run a tight ship at these meeting, while Dan Shifrin keeps a log of our happenings, Mike Goldstein leads us down a religious path, Dennis Berry helps bring in new members and Cantor Stern gives us a momentary glimpse of study. Dr. Mike Miller keeps us going forward, Jay Schlesinger brings in new ideas and Paul Hymanson makes sure we have funds to do "what we gotta do". After our Board meetings you will likely find most of us at a local hangout over a cup of coffee. Something to see, guys hanging out together as friends, our ages spanning almost a forty year

difference, but our hearts and minds in synch together for the progress of our Men's Club and our Temple.

This February 5<sup>th</sup> is one of our most important events, our participation with hundreds of other minyans internationally laying tefillin at the same time. Jews from Israel, Europe, South America and the Australian continent will participate in this event, won't you? Join us on Sunday morning at 9am even if you haven't seen your tefillin in 40 years. Men and women are invited to participate and learn in Sunday morning minyan about laying tefillin and the meaning of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs of the Conservative movement making this one of its premiere events. Of course there's breakfast. RSVP the Temple office, please.

Additionally, all our Men's Club members are invited each month to our board meeting, this month on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Come, we'll talk, we'll debate, we'll have a good time.

The purpose of Men's Club is to serve as an arm of the Temple by putting on programs on topics of interest to our members, the men of our Temple and any other interested parties. We have programs on men's health, the environment, religious programs and general interest programs. If you are not a member, please join. If you have ideas or suggestions, please contact me.

Harvin Freedman

### Shomrei Ha Artez (Stewards of the Land) Men's Club Program

This program was a key feature throughout the FJMC national convention in June 2011. Rabbinical speakers related the Stewardship of the Land to specific passages of Torah and Midrash. All plastic-ware used at breakfast and lunch was compostable.

I will discuss the problem that the huge use of plastics causes to the environment.

This article will focus on plastics. In 2009, Americans generated **30 billion tons** of plastic waste. Plastics are extremely useful materials because they resist decay by design. Much of the plastic items are single use and are then thrown away. The "away" is mainly landfills, some to incinerators, a small amount (7%) recycled and large amounts as litter, on roadways, in streams, and in oceans. The number in the triangle on the bottom of the container indicates the type of resin, not the chemical additives.

The most efficient and cost effective solution to minimize the harm that plastic does to human health and the environment is to refuse wasteful single-use plastic. The simplest first step is to restrict use of plastic bags and small single use plastic bottled water. Bring your own reusable shopping bags and carry a refillable water bottle. Participate in your community recycling program, encourage your work site or

non-profit organizations to use waste haulers that recycle.

Most communities collect #1 and #2 plastic bottles. Do not add #1 plastic clam shell food containers unless the recycler separates them. The different additives and melting point contaminates the bottle plastic batch and prevents its use. Some cities accept #3-#7 materials. The #5 (polypropylene) has a market; the rest is often sent overseas for hand sorting and landfills.

#### **Recyclers:**

Fanwood Recycle Center accepts hard plastic; toys, furniture and buckets.

Whole Foods Store's Gimme 5 Program accepts clean #5 plastic.

Local Pack and Ship stores accept packing peanuts and bubble wrap

Weisenbach Recycled Products (www.CapsCando.com) accepts clean plastic bottles and jar caps, fliptop caps and flexible lids.

Timbron International (www.Timbron.com/recycler.htm) accepts clean Styrofoam; but no peanuts.

TerraCycle (www.Terracycle.net) accepts plastic cereal and chip bags, candy wrappers, single use packaging by mail in program.

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# Gomias soon!

February Regional Event: Mid-Winter Kinnus—February 10th-12th in Livingston. It's the place to

# Action requireds

Hagalil Jr./Sr. Prom will be held at TBOBT on March 3rd 8:00 PM to midnight. Send in your completed form and payment to the regional office by February 27th. Get ready for a fabulous evening!

# Bookias Aheadi

It's not too early to be making plans to spend your summer with USY. Check out www.usy.org for info on all summer programs.

Purim Madness in March—start planning now. Contact the Cantor to let him know you would like to participate in the reading of the megillah. He will be happy to help you prepare.

March 18th—Hagalil USY Purim event in Morris Plains.

March 9-11—Heschel Kinnus in Washington, DC.

Hagalil Spring Convention—April 27th to the 29th. Mark your calendars now!

# Belaved birthday wishes

Steven L.—January 23rd.

# Vour featless Beaders:

Dan B.—Pres., Alex C. - Rel/Ed & Exec./IA V.P., Ilana D.—SATO V.P., Steven L. —Freshman Rep and Barbara James—Advisor.

CHECK IT OUT: If you have a Jewish friend who isn't a USY member, but wants to check us out—let 'em come to any chapter program! We can't wait to meet them.

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

clark USY is hosting the Hagalil USY Midnight Masquerade Junior/Senior Prom On Saturday, March 3, 2012 8:00 PM to Midnight

> Volunteers are needed for set-up, decorating, chaperoning, serving, clean-up, and more

Please help out. You will have a fun time Contact Barbara James and say, "YES."



## ISRAELI DANCE for beginners

**Tuesday Nights** True beginners at 7:00 pm, advanced beginners/intermediate 7:45 pm

> \$9.00 per class/\$40 prepaid for 5 Proceeds go to TBO/BT Led by Elyse Litt 732-396-8299

### The Roots of Anti-Semitism

Led by Rabbi Charles Lightner

Tuesdays at 8:00 pm: March 13, 20, 27, and April 3

Anti-Semitism, whether openly acknowledged or cloaked in the guise of anti-Zionism, is alive and flourishing in the 21st century. We'll examine its roots: in Christianity, in Islam, in secularism, socialism and communism. Is it a religious phenomenon; is it cultural; political; economic? How has the expression of anti-Semitism changed since the founding of the State of Israel? What is the Jewish community's response?

# Got a Simcha?

**Birthday?** Anniversary? Graduation? New grandchild?

## Commemorate a Yahrzeit?

Host a Kiddush at TBO/BT. You can sponsor the entire Kiddush or be a cosponsor with a donation of \$18 or more.

<sup>7</sup>aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa

#### **JUDAICA SHOP NEWS**

Come and see our wonderful Judaica items!

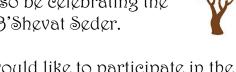
The Judaica Shop has some lovely new items: new mug and coaster sets, a tzedakah box shaped like the Eldridge Street Shul, and a beautiful photo album. There are several new mezuzahs. We also have a new supply of "meat" and "dairy" oven mitts. Remember to make the TBO/BT Judaica Shop your first stop for any gift needs. If you don't see what you want, please call Diane Goldstein (908 -241-0509) or email her at cowsndlg@aol.com, or contact Louise Cangelosi (732-634-3019) or email her at lgc@comcast.net.

# SISTERHOOD SHABBAT

Please join the members of Sisterhood for Sisterhood Shabbat

Friday February 10, 2012 at 8:00 PM.

We will also be celebrating the Tu B'Shevat Seder.



If you would like to participate in the service, please call Fern Cammy (732-549-2652).

#### **PURIM BASKETS**



Come hear the Megillah reading on the first night of Purim on March 7th. After the fun service you can pick up your Shalach Manos Baskets, which once

it is a Mitzvah to send them.

You will soon be receiving by mail the form for ordering the baskets. This year's theme is the Olympics, in honor of the 2012 Summer Games in London. You can send the baskets to members as well as to non-temple members. New this year are certificates, which can be purchased for the same price as a basket to be sent to out of town members and nonmembers. So look for a separate mailing coming by mail.

Don't delay in sending in your orders as they



again are being sold by Sisterhood. Remember,

are due by March 1st!

# Are you missing out?

If you are not currently on the TBO/BT email list, please notify the office and you'll begin to receive timely information each week about our exciting programs that will keep you in the loop.

Don't miss out!

#### MEMBERSHIP PHONE DIRECTORY

• We are planning to publish a new membership



phone directory. We will be including your favorite kosher recipes whether they are for the holidays, Shabbat or everyday meals.

Please send your favorite kosher recipes to the temple office by email

(tbethor@gmail.com), mail, or drop them off. You will be receiving additional information • shortly.

• We appreciate your help.

Audrey Silverman

# **Morning Minvan Update!**

Our morning Minyan serves our temple community by providing us with a place to pray and say Kaddish for those in mourning and those commemorating a yahrzeit. It's there for us when we need it. Will you do your part to insure that it continues to thrive? Join us for one morning a week, or at least whenever you can. Breakfast is included, so we feed both the body and soul. Thank you!

In the month of February Morning Minyan will be held in Clark

Monday & Thursday – 6:50 am, Tuesday, Wed., & Friday – 7:00 am,

Sundays & Holidays - 9:00 am in Clark.

Evening Services are held every day at 7:30 pm in Cranford.

# Men's Club "Steam Train Trip" Program

# Happenings at TBO/BT

"Coffee & Intimate Conversations" at the Bayit























Yaldeinu & Hebrew Academy





