



NARAYEVER NEWS

MARCH & APRIL 2011 • ADAR I, ADAR II, NISAN 5771



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 6, 7-8:30pm Town Hall Meeting about Building Proposals • March 13, 11am-2pm Poppy or Prune? Getting to the Heart of the Hamentaschen • March 19, 8:40pm Purimspiel, Megillah reading and carnival
March 20, Purim Megillah reading and costume parade • April 3, 2-3:30pm Town Hall Meeting about Building Proposals • April 16, post-Kiddush Seder & Seudah: How the Pesach Seder Sheds Light on the New Jewish Food Movement (and vice versa) • April 30, post-Kiddush Adon Olam: Familiar Treasures and the Power of Piyut • May 1, 7pm Yom Ha'Shoah program • May 22, 2-5pm Lag Ba'Omer picnic at Dufferin Grove Park • May 29, UJA Walk with Israel

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President's Message

Dear friends,
Found time – what a gift! This year has an extra month, a second Adar – the month of happiness! We can relax... Or can we? Time is flying, spring is coming and Hillel's reminder that we may never have leisure perhaps resonates more strongly. The Celebrations Committee is focusing on Purim. Pesach is not far away. Our High Holiday Committee is already starting to think about yom tov.

"Do not say, 'When I have leisure, I will study,' because you may never have leisure."

So when will you find the time to study? There are many opportunities to learn at the shul. Adult Education has new programs for spring; our Youth Committee continues to deliver Shabbat programs for our kids. Watch for the dates of Rabbi Shekel's post-Kiddush shiur or the Pathways to Prayer program led by Rabbi Miriam Margles, once a month during Shacharit until June. Our shinshinim Reut and Yuval teach us about Israel, offering programs for teens and for families both inside and outside the shul. The Kiddush Committee's Food Sub-committee educates us about making our shul values come alive through the food we eat. The Social Action Committee shows us how to make a difference outside of the shul as well as through it. And with the rabbi away, a number of members deliver Divrei Torah, giving us a unique opportunity to learn from each other.

"Do not separate thyself from the community".

Speaking of Shabbat...Kabbalat Shabbat and Shabbat morning are two chances to ensure you do not separate yourself from the community. In addition to traditional Erev Shabbat services, we have a Carlebach-style Kabbalat Shabbat on the first Friday of every calendar month until the end of June (arranged by our Special Projects Chair for the sabbatical). Join the daveners on Rosh Hodesh, or help the FNC Sunday minyanaires provide those with Yahrzeiten and those in mourning a place to say Kaddish. Meet new

members, brought in by the Membership Committee, as well as members who have been around for a while.

Our teen leader-training program for those interested in working with younger children on Shabbat and High Holidays encourages our young people to stay connected to the community. As well, Reut and Yuval organize

activities for teens, where the kids can relax and have some fun, learn more about Israel and just hang out.

Our littlest kids are building their own community at the alternating Shabbat B'Yahad family services and the Rimonim services (led by two of our teen leaders).

The Ritual Committee, which maintains the quality of our services, delights in the junior shul "members" on the bimah leading Eyn Keloheyenu and receiving their Shabbat blessing, two lovely Narayever traditions.



"If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am not for others, what am I? And if not now, when?"

All of this happens because people take Hillel seriously and give of their precious time and energy to the shul. The Building Committee continues to work on the resolution of our space question. Our Hesed Committee helps some of our members find comfort in the midst of our FNC family. Our Bar/Bat Mitzvah Committee is planning for simchas in 2013. If you are one of the people involved in the committees I have mentioned, thank you. And if you have not yet figured out how to be more involved in the shul, I encourage you to search for the committee, activity or service which will give you that opportunity. This shul is a "happenin" place and we need you to make sure it stays that way.

So, as you read this edition of the Narayever News, brought to you by our Communications Committee, keep your eyes open for all of the very cool things going on at our warm and welcoming, traditional and egalitarian, downtown community shul. I'm confident that there will be something that's just right for you!

Sincerely,
Julia Gluck

Rabbi's Message

Dear Friends,

What a blessing it is for me to be able to write to you from Yerushalayim. Despite the turmoil and uncertainty in the wider Middle East, I have managed to carve out for myself a little island of space and time devoted to personal learning, growth, and rejuvenation. Although I've been to Israel many times, the last time I was able to spend more than a month here was in the late 80's – so I'm really keeping my eyes open for the new and different kinds of opportunities possible only during longer stays. Let me share with you three experiences I've had during the first few weeks of my sabbatical which have been delightful surprises.

1. I am taking classes at two different yeshivas. In my Talmud shiur, we're studying a fascinating section of Masekhet Sanhedrin dealing with a dispute among the ancient rabbis concerning the end of days – is there a fixed date, or does it depend on humanity doing good deeds and making teshuvah? In my halakha class, we're reading conflicting legal opinions of two different ultra-Orthodox rabbinic decisors regarding the mitzvah of tokheha – the extent of our responsibility to protest when one sees a publicly committed transgression. The more liberal side of the Jewish community might take exception to the particular example under discussion in these decisions (a movie theatre open for screenings on Friday nights). Nevertheless, it was instructive to read how the debate within the ultra-Orthodox world played out vis-a-vis halakhic sources, and also to consider what we on the more liberal side would consider to be worthy of protest and to what extent. In addition to my classes, I am also doing my own research and writing in the Hebrew Union College library where I've found some wonderful texts that I hope to share with you upon my return.

2. A relatively new cultural institution, Beit Avichai, sponsors a wide range of lectures, art exhibits, classes, tours, and performances every week. One regular feature that I try to catch every Friday is called Kalabat Shabbat. Hosted by veteran Israeli entertainer Jackie Levy, it both teaches about the parasha of the week and gently spoofs aspects of Judaism and Israeli culture and politics. During the week in which we read Parashat Mishpatim, which

deals with laws pertaining to slaves, both Jewish and non-Jewish, they poked fun at the sometimes confusing laws which determine when and how Gentiles may perform tasks on Shabbat for Jews. On the week when we read Parashat Terumah, which describes the construction of the Mishkan – the wilderness tabernacle, the troupe highlighted Shammai, most famous for being the halakhic opponent of Hillel, but who was also known to be a builder. He was portrayed as promoting the spiritual virtue of making sure every measurement was exactly right. The audiences are mixed secular and religious, the humour is cutting, and it is a wonderful window on Israeli society for me.



3. On Tu Bishvat, I participated in a tree planting sponsored by Rabbis for Human Rights just outside a Palestinian village on the West Bank. It was a warm, sunny day,

and the terrain of the Judean hills was magnificent. The possibility for peace between Israel and the Palestinians felt tantalizingly close because of all the expressions of good will on both sides and how safe and welcomed we felt – but also frustratingly far away because of the bloody history between the two sides. Will partition into two states yield the peace we all dream of? I don't know that I have any more insight into the peace process and international diplomacy by virtue of being here, but so far at least the upheavals in neighbouring states have not made Israel feel more secure. I continue to believe that as Jews, we are commanded never to lose hope, and we also have to be prepared to take reasonable risks to realize that hope. I pray that Israel's leaders will have the wisdom and courage to know what those "reasonable" risks are and when is the right moment to take them.

Over the next few weeks, I look forward to celebrating Purim and Pesach in Jerusalem with Linda and Tali. I will also be training for my five-day bike ride in the north in May – I'm anticipating a grueling few days, but also an opportunity to experience a magnificent part of the country on two wheels. We miss all our friends, and our community back home in Toronto, and hope everyone is well. I look forward to sharing more with you in the next newsletter.

Rabbi Ed Elkin

Community Matters...



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BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Avi Schonbach, Hesed

Birthplace: In a tent at the Imahut Hospital, Haifa, Israel

Where were you raised?
Haifa, Israel

Education: I went to HaReali high school in Haifa, and was in the same graduating class as Amos Gitai, the director of Kaddosh and other Israeli movies (I'm not a fan). I then did my three year compulsory army service as an investigative officer, before going to the Technion where I received a B.Sc. in Computer Science. For graduate school I moved to Toronto where I completed my Masters and Ph. D. in computer science at the University of Toronto.

Work/Profession: I work as a consultant in information security and systems architecture, specifically in the management and security of access to computer systems.

Family: My wife, Difat, is an academic family physician. My daughter Maya is in grade twelve going through the university application process right now.

Outside interests: I enjoy back country canoeing and camping in the summer, as well as riding my bike. In the winter it's cross country skiing. I finally tried and fell for (not literally) downhill skiing last year. I like reading, opera, classical music, travel, yoga, and I am a regular Israeli folk dancing junkie.

FNC favourite thing: I like the community of people, the volunteerism, and the down-to-earth approach at the shul. I often experience this with my Hesed portfolio: people showing up at shiva services, stepping forward at a short notice to lead shiva services, or at the other end, volunteering to prepare and deliver food to parents of newborn babies.

Other: I have recently discovered Howard Jacobson, this year's Man Booker Prize winner. I am reading The Finkler Question and previously read Kalookie Nights. He is hilarious, clever and a beautiful writer, a combination of Richler, Phillip Roth, and Seinfeld. A recent musical discovery for me is Osvaldo Golijov—a composer of melodic music with a gorgeous Jewish *neshama*.



Tell us about Yourself... Micky Fraterman

This is an inspirational profile of a member of our community who has risen to the call of Tikkun Olam

- Tell us about yourself, family, career – some background

I grew up in Holland and came to Canada 35 years ago. Even at an early age my brother and I were aware of how important it was to participate in community work. My mother, who worked for the Jewish community in Amsterdam, was involved in fundraising activities for a number of charities. My son, Justin, attended Downtown Jewish Community School where I served on the Board for many years. And it was through working on his public school fundraising activities that I started to volunteer on a regular basis.

My brother now lives in Israel and obviously has this in his bones; he started fundraising when he was eight and now runs social enterprises in Holland and South Africa. My sister-in-law is a paediatric-cardiologist for Save-a-Child's Heart in Tel Aviv. www.saveachildsheart.ca

- What was your first introduction to social action?
Being a member of the Narayever and later moving to the Annex in 1997, I saw people living on the street right around the corner. Members of the Social Action Committee inspired and motivated me to take part in the Out of the Cold program that was located in two of the Bloor Street churches. I starting with picking up bread from various bakeries. I became more involved in coordinating the food supply and my son Justin was sometimes at the door working with the safety team.

- What kinds of things have you done in the area of social action?
I'm the Narayever liaison on the Out of the Cold Steering Committee Program and am an active volunteer. My volunteer work at Mazon Canada www.Mazoncanada.ca led to a position at the former Canadian Association of Food Banks (now Food Banks Canada) www.foodbankscanada.ca where I was communications manager.

- What projects are you involved with now?
I am still part of the First Interfaith Out of the Cold program in which Narayever is an active partner. I am the

secretary and board member of the Annex Residents' Association www.theara.org where I am very involved in neighbourhood issues. I am also part of a Limmud committee and just starting volunteering for the Hazon Yeshaya "Soup with the Stars" event at the end of March.



- Can you describe the most meaningful moment of your doing tikkun olam?

Before working in the Out of the Cold program I never thought that I had the skills or the strength to be in direct contact with people who are less fortunate. Even today I still learn a lot

from the guests and realize that kindness and listening while providing a hot meal, warmth and a safe place, create an environment that fosters trust and friendship.

- What would you say to others who are considering becoming involved?

It's an enriching and rewarding experience to know that you can make a difference by simply giving of your time and talent. Often the skills we learned in one position are transferable to volunteer work, so we might as well apply our skills in a way that adds to tikkun olam.

Over the years I have come to know several Out of the Cold guests. A lot of them are well- educated individuals for whom life has taken an unfortunate turn. It's not very different than making acquaintances at a dinner party -- sometimes it's hard to tell the guests from the volunteers. It is broadening to sometimes come out of our comfort zones.

I cannot stress enough how strongly I feel about the importance of giving not a hand-out, but a hand up, to those in need in our neighborhood, our city, and indeed the entire world, in any way we can.

If you know a Narayever member who is making a difference, please send their name, contact information and a brief description of their work to social-action@narayever.ca

Community Matters

Board Highlights

We have submitted our application for a grant from the Enabling Accessibility Fund to support a possible addition to the shul, which would include an elevator as well as other improvements to the shul as reported in the last Narayever News. Victor Helfand continues to work on the building permit process.

Our Treasurer, Stephen Benjamin, brought the Audited Financial Statements to the Board for adoption. These statements, dated June 30, 2010, are for the fiscal year 2009/2010 and will be put before the AGM in June 2011, for approval by the membership.

Narayever Community Directory

The community directory has now been sent electronically to all Narayever members. We hope it will facilitate communication and strengthen connections between members of our wonderful community. A few hard copies, for those who prefer, are available in the synagogue office.

Karen Weyman and Sid Feldman

Social Action

Do you volunteer with an organization that could use more hands?

Would you like to volunteer with an organization that could use your talents?

On Shabbat morning, April 30th, the Social Action Committee is launching Mitzvah Mentors - an opportunity to connect congregants who would like to be active in the community with those who already are. The goal is to present real and immediate volunteer opportunities with organizations outside of The First Narayever.

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If you would like to showcase the organization where you volunteer, please contact social-action@narayever.ca by March 30, 2011.



The Narayever welcomes the following new members

- Hannah Sorscher and Frank Jessie
- Evelyn Schaefer
- Elana Segal and Phillip Maerov and their children Micah and Gabrielle
- Rosemary Li-Haupt and Simon Houpt and their children Sascha, Mihal and Zoe
- Norma Latsonas
- Naomi Loewith

Mazel Tov to

- Dan and May Friedman, on the birth of their son Isaac Aaron on December 21 in Toronto
- Harvey Savage and Ruth Leneman, on the marriage of Harvey's daughter Naomi to Lawrence Axmith on December 26 in Toronto
- Leora Freedman on the publication of her young adult novel "Parachuting"

Condolences to

- Eric Letovsky, on the loss of his mother Beatrice Letovsky z"l
- Ben Mark Holzberg, on the loss of his brother Philip Holzberg z"l
- Marc Grushcow, on the loss of his father Gabriel Grushcow z"l
- Sandy Roff, on the loss of her mother Mary Gold z"l

”ויצרו בצרור החיים את נשמותיהם“

Community Matters

Library News

Here are three of the new titles in the library:

The Everyday Torah: Weekly Reflections and Inspirations, by Rabbi Bradley Artson. McGraw Hill, 2008.

Rabbi Bradley Artson, described as one of the most inviting of modern teachers of the Torah, offers his readers a collection which illuminates the sacred text "without any fear of exhausting its supply of wisdom, counsel, and kedusha (holiness)" (from the Introduction).

Two titles by well-known Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, former Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of Britain and the Commonwealth.

Covenant & Conversation, a Weekly Reading of the Jewish Bible. Exodus: the Book of Redemption. Maggid Books & The Orthodox Union, 2010.

The Home We Build Together: Recreating Society. Continuum UK, 2007.

This book offers thought provoking comments on multiculturalism. Has it contributed to fragmentation in society? How has technology affected the fragmentation of culture? Multiculturalism or tolerance? The concluding chapter suggests ways to build a new society.

Keren Camenietzki, Librarian

Building

Town Hall Meetings on Our Building

Sunday, March 6, 2011 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Sunday, April 3, 2011 from 2:00 - 3:30 pm

For many years, there has been an ongoing dialogue in the First Narayever community on our building's ability to support our current and future needs. Issues raised include accessibility for people with disabilities; sufficient capacity for services, social activities and programming; safety and fire code regulations; the need for a private study for the Rabbi; appropriate administrative space; and adequate storage. Recent municipal zoning changes and the possibility of a federal accessibility grant have created a unique time-sensitive opportunity to consider a building project that could address many of these issues. The Board is carefully analyzing this opportunity and needs your help and input before making any decision. We are committed to active community involvement and feedback, and we will present a full proposal to the congregation for a vote before any project is approved. Join us at a Town Hall Session to learn more about and discuss the proposed project.

Calling all Shmactors for The Annual Purim Shpiel!

We're looking for a handful of adult actors to perform in our upcoming Purim Shpiel, directed by Julie Tepperman.

No previous acting experience required BUT it helps if you can:
memorize lines easily, carry a tune and learn a few simple dance moves.

YOU MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR approximately five 3hr. rehearsals in March (evenings and Sundays) – dates TBA based on availability AND the performance at the Shul on Saturday March 19, 2011 after Shabbat.

We are also looking for a handful of pre-teens and teens (ages 9 and up) to perform in the Chorus. You must be available for at least 2 rehearsals in March, as well as the actual performance.

Interested Thespians should contact Julie at: convergencetheatre@gmail.com

Adult Education

Adon Olam

Familiar Treasures and the Power of Piyut Post-Kiddush, April 30.

The piyut began as sacred poetry adorning the prayers of the individual and the community, as well as religious rituals. It is a living creative work that is constantly renewed. Over the years, the piyut widened its scope and reached out beyond the range of formal prayer.

Some of our greatest hits are piyuttim -- Yigdal, Y'did Nefesh and Adon Olam. But to hear it all anew—the meaning, the sound of the words, and the melodies from across the Jewish world—and to reframe this treasure so it deeply stirs our souls, this is our task. One of only two Canadians to attend the first North American Piyut Conference hosted by B'nai Jeshurun and Hazmanah L'Piyut, Aviva Chernick has returned to share this treasure chest of poetry and melody. We will sing. Come, treat yourself.

Aviva is a Shlichat Tzibur and a Cantorial Soloist. She is the soloist at Shaarei Beth El Congregation in Oakville and co-leads a once-a-month Kabbalat Shabbat service at Holy Blossom in Toronto. Aviva has been a guest teacher and a Shlichat Tzibur at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan, and in Toronto at The Little Minyan, Temple Emanuel, and The First Narayever Congregation. Aviva is the singer of the Juno-nominated ensemble Jaffa Road with whom she writes, records, and tours traditional and original Jewish music in Hebrew and Ladino. She is also the musical director and composer of the original music in the play *Yichud (Seclusion)*, written by Julie Tepperman.

Seder & Seudah

How the Pesach Seder Sheds Light on the New Jewish Food Movement (and vice versa)

A post-kiddush talk with Nigel Savage, founder and
Executive Director of Hazon

Saturday, April 16, following Kiddush around 1:30pm

The new Jewish food movement has built powerful bridges between contemporary issues and Jewish tradition. On this Shabbat Hagadol, Nigel will lead a discussion connecting remarkable Jewish texts, the Pesach seder and a series of key contemporary issues.

A leader of the Jewish food movement, Nigel Savage founded Hazon, America's largest Jewish environmental organization, in 2000. Hazon creates healthy and sustainable communities in the Jewish world and beyond, through a series of bike rides and hikes in the US and Israel (in which a number of Narayever members, including Rabbi Ed, have participated!), a network of over 40 Community-Supported Agriculture projects (including the Narayever CSA), an annual food conference, food-related curricula for day schools and adult education, an award-winning blog, "The Jew & The Carrot," and untiring activism for improved food policies around the world.

Nigel has an MA in American Jewish History from Georgetown, and has studied at Pardes, Yakar, Hebrew University and Jerusalem Fellows. He is infamous in the UK for his cameo appearance in the cult Anglo-Jewish movie, *Leon the Pig Farmer* and is also believed to be the first English Jew to have cycled across South Dakota on a recumbent bike.

Save the date



▶ Lag Ba'Omer

Sunday May 22, 2011. Dufferin Grove Park from 2:00 - 5:00 pm. Join fellow Narayever members for a Lag Ba'Omer bonfire, marshmallow roast and lots of great activities!

▶ UJA Walk with Israel

This year's UJA Walk with Israel will take place on May 29, 2011. Details at walkwithisrael.com.

▶ Yom Ha'Zikaron and Yom Ha'Atzma'ut

Please see the *Narayever Net* for details

Israel & Community

Selecting our Young Emissaries for 2011/2012

In February, Karen Weyman travelled with Debbie Cohen Savage from the Paul Penna Downtown Jewish Day School (PPDJDS) and met Rabbi Elkin in Jerusalem. Together, they interviewed a number of potential shinshinim, Young Emissaries, and selected two wonderful young Israelis to join our Narayever community, the PPDJDS and the Downtown Jewish Community School as our YEs for next year. Details to follow soon in Narayever Net.

Would you consider hosting one of our shinshinim for 3 months next year? Here is a brief reflection from one of our 2010/2011 host families:

The Young Emissaries truly are a "living bridge" between us and Israel. Over the course of four months, during dinners and cups of tea, Yuval happily shared much information about life in Israel- it naturally brought us closer to the way Israelis eat, think, speak and live.

Hosting Yuval reaffirmed our pride and connection to the Narayever and the Toronto Jewish Community. We met other host families, attended UJA functions held for host families and became aware of a number of Community events and organizations.

In addition, while contributing to the Community as a host family, there is a sizable payoff! Yuval and our son forged a lovely friendship, there was always something interesting to discuss at the dinner table and we had fun touring him around Toronto and parts of Ontario!

Finally, we all feel as if we've created an authentic and powerful relationship with a unique and wonderful young Israeli. We hope one day to spend time together in Israel!

Jill Lefkowitz and Gary Clement

To volunteer to be a host family for 2011/2012 or for more information about becoming a host family, please contact Karen Weyman or Sid Feldman at israel@narayever.ca.

Yom Ha'Shoah



Please join us on Sunday, May 1 at 7 pm at the shul as we come together as a community to honour the memories of those murdered in the Shoah.

The program includes a speaker, songs, readings, the lighting of memorial candles, and the opportunity to recite the names of family members who were victims of the Shoah.

For more information, please contact Beth McAuley at bmcauley@web.net.

Israel and Community

MAKOM Program

March 5 and March 26, 2011

Spend an afternoon with Reut and Yuval playing Israeli Monopoly, singing Israeli songs or learning about Israeli foods. Partner with a group of other interested families or individuals and e-mail Joan Judge at judge@yorku.ca, with "Shabbat Afternoon with Reut and Yuval" as the subject, for more details or to reserve a date and time. NarayeverNet will list additional dates soon.

Communications

The Communications committee is hard at work revamping the Narayever website to make it more user friendly and to keep you up-to-date with events and services. We are gathering information on the design and/or content of the website and would greatly appreciate any input from members. Email Glen Rubinoff at communications@narayever.ca.

PURIM

*“Mishenichnas Adar Marbim B'Simcha”
When the month of Adar arrives we should increase our joy.....*

Saturday, March 19, 2011 is Purim and there is much to celebrate. Havdallah begins at 8:40 pm. Then Julie Tepperman, Aaron Willis and their band of merry Shmactors will put us in the mood for Ma'ariv and the Megillah Reading. Our teen-led Purim Carnival will commence in the Social Hall after the second chapter of the Megillah has been read.

Come dressed as your best Esther or Mordechai, join in our Purim Parade and enter our contest for the most creative costume.

Just as we should increase our joy on Purim, so should we increase the joy of others through generous acts of tzedakah. How do we at the FNC make sure we honour this mitzvah? We have the Purim Carnival!



The Purim Carnival is the major tzedakah project for our Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class, who have chosen this year to support Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger, and Aguda Lema'an Hakhayal: The Association for the Wellbeing of Israel's Soldiers. They will raise the money through the sale of carnival tickets (10 tickets for \$1.00), mishloach manot (1 for \$10 and 2 for \$18), and Wacky-Mac (1 box for \$2).

■ *Do we have more to give?* Our Purim Food Drive for Jewish Family and Child (Services) occurs on Saturday night. Please bring non-perishable, healthy foods to the Shul and we will transport them to JF & C.

■ *Can we go further? Let's re-gift.* This year we would like to challenge the congregation to make our Purim Carnival eco-friendly. Rather than purchasing carnival prizes from dollar stores—items made using cheap labour, made from dubious materials and which quickly end up in landfills—let's search our homes for (clean, safe and intact) unwanted toys, books, and gifts. Bring them to the Shul on Sunday, March 13 from 10-3 pm. Clean items in good condition will be used as carnival prizes. Let's make this a Narayever tradition.

■ *What about our youngest congregants?* Is this year's early time change making Saturday night's reading too late for your family? Don't worry, be happy! At our 9 am Sunday minyan on March 20, we will read the Megillah again. Our youngest congregants and their parents can participate in a mishloach manot exchange and costume parade. If your family would like to participate, please contact Ann Komaromi or Mitch Davis at sby@narayever.ca or mitchdavis@rogers.com.

■ *What about Hamantaschen?* Please join Andrea Most and Jackie Silverberg in the Social Hall on Sunday, March 13, between 11 am and 3 pm to learn about and bake hamantaschen. Please register for this event by calling the shul office at 416.927.0546.

To volunteer, contact the Celebrations Committee Chair at yshcacter@primus.ca.

B'Shalom,
Yael Schacter, Celebrations Chair

PESACH

Pesach this year begins on Monday night April 19, 2011

Following are some notes and information pertaining to the upcoming chag:

Every year we endeavour to match members of our community with other Narayever families for a Passover seder. If you would like to be hosted for a seder (don't be bashful!), or if you would like to open your seder to guests from the shul, please contact Alexa Sulzenko at alexa.sulzenko@gmail.com or 416.941.5883.

Please consider helping others of limited means observe a proper Pesach. One way to participate in the mitzvah of *maot hittin* is to contribute to the National Council of Jewish Women's food drive. This drive provides Pesach food for over 10,000 people in the GTA, and the NCJW must raise \$125,000 in order to be able to do it. To donate, either go to <http://www.ncjwc-ts.org/> or call 416.633.5100. Delivery day is March 21 – let them know if you can help delivering.

If you would like information about kashering your kitchen for Pesach, please call the office and they will direct you appropriately.

Pesach can be a very expensive holiday to observe properly. Are you in need of financial assistance to keep a kosher yom tov? Rabbi Elkin has special funds set aside for members of the congregation in this situation, so don't be bashful! Please contact Julia Gluck, our shul president, in full confidence, at 416.708.6558.

Authorization of Agent to Sell Hametz –
Mekhirat Hametz

There are four ways we fulfill the biblical mitzvah of ridding ourselves of hametz before Passover: 1. We clean our homes. 2. We burn any remaining crumbs. 3. We verbally declare that any hametz in our possession is worthless, nullified, and no longer owned by us. 4. In order to ensure that there is no question about our intent to remove hametz from our possession, we sell hametz to a non-Jew.

You will have to do the cleaning, burning, and nullification. But Rabbi Shekel can assist you in the sale of your hametz, if you delegate that authority to her. If you would like Rabbi Shekel to do so, please send the form below to the shul. You may either drop the form at the shul, or mail it to 187 Brunswick Ave., M5S 2M4, or fax it to 416.927.0486. We need to receive the form by April 8 at the latest in order for Rabbi Shekel to take care of this for you.



I, _____, (acting on behalf of and with the authorization of my entire family) hereby authorize Rabbi Michal Shekel to act as my agent to sell the hametz that may be at home, at my place of business, or elsewhere, in accordance with the requirements and provisions of Jewish law. I have placed my hametz and mixtures and objects containing hametz in specially designated storage areas within my home, which is at...

First Address: _____

Second Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Food for Thought

A Report from the Narayever Food Committee, February 2011

Over the past five years, the Narayever has made a significant commitment to address environmental issues from a Jewish perspective. We have invested in important upgrades to our building to increase energy efficiency, worked closely with *Faith and the Common Good* and *Greening Sacred Spaces* in interfaith environmental efforts, donated a portion of our Yom Kippur tzedakah to environmental initiatives, and established an ongoing and successful relationship with three local farms – Everdale, Stoddart, and CIPM – through our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. Late in 2009, a group of Narayever members eager to see a similar correspondence between our values and our food practices petitioned the Board to take a closer look at the food we serve in our shul. More than fifty members signed a letter requesting that a committee be formed to investigate the ways in which our food practices might be brought in line with the ethical principles of our community.

The Narayever Food Committee was formed by the Board in January 2010 to study the implications of our current food practices, to begin a communal conversation about these practices, and to formulate recommendations for change. The committee met monthly in 2010 to learn about aspects of our contemporary food system and to study relevant Jewish texts. We discussed a wide variety of issues including:

1. The need to serve food that is healthy and nutritious, both for adults and children;
2. Our ethical obligation to find sources of dairy, eggs, and fish which insure a high standard of animal welfare;
3. Our ethical obligation to be sure the food we eat is produced under fair labour and trade practices;
4. The importance of choosing food which is produced in an environmentally sensitive fashion and does not compromise our earth through pollution, unnecessary carbon production, unsustainable farming practices or chemical degradation;
5. The economic imperative to support our local farming communities so that they can continue to produce good food for us;



6. The importance of controlling waste, both in the quantities of food we discard each week and in the packaging we use; and
7. Our obligation to work to eliminate the hunger of people in our immediate and extended community.

For each topic, we researched relevant scientific and political information, and then worked through Jewish texts in order to determine an ethical and halakhic position on these issues. Early in 2011 we began assembling our ideas into a set of recommendations and investigating practical ways to implement them. We are working closely with our caterers, farmers, and local grocers and distributors to help us figure out how to make ethically based changes that are both tasty and affordable.

We are now eager to share what we have learned with the Narayever community, to begin a wider conversation with the congregation, and to gain crucial feedback on these issues. To this end, the Food Committee has planned monthly educational events. In February, we screened the excellent documentary *Food, Inc.*, which outlines many of the major issues we face today in making informed food choices. This film was an important learning tool for the committee, helping us to define our own course of study. If you missed this event, please try to see the film on your own. It is now available on DVD at video stores. Our March and April events are listed in Upcoming Events. A May event, likely a town-hall style meeting, is also in the works. In addition, we have assembled a detailed binder of information, which includes all of our study materials. This is available to all members in the shul library and much of the material will soon be on our website as well.

The Food Committee wants to hear from you! Please send questions, comments, feedback, and creative suggestions to the Chair, Andrea Most, at andrea.most@utoronto.ca.

Donations

The shul gratefully acknowledges the following donations made to our various funds from mid-December to mid- February. We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions. Please inform the shul office so that a correction can be made. If you would like to make a donation to one of our funds, you may call the information in to the shul office 416.927.0546, and we also accept donations via Canada Helps on our shul website.

Adult Education

- ▼ Leslie Starkman, in honour of the yahrzeit of her mother Mabel Laine z"l

Daniel Camenietzki Library Fund

- ▼ Stuart Schoenfeld, in memory of Tirzah Meacham's mother Marion Meacham z"l
- ▼ Elaine and Peter Gold, in memory of Marc Grushcow's father Gabriel Grushcow z"l

Donation Cards

- ▼ Margot Feferman

Hesed Fund

- ▼ Sharon Bar-David, with heartfelt wishes for a Refuah Shlemah to Stewart Saxe

Kiddush Fund

- ▼ Constantin Socalski, in solidarity with Israel as it recovers from recent forest fires
- ▼ Anonymous, in honour of Julia Gluck
- ▼ Miriam Diamond, in honour of Sarah, Terry, Kalanit and Nati Borer

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- ▼ Rebecca Smollet, Dave Ley and Abraham, in honour of Rabbi Ed to thank him for his support in preparing their family for a Brit Milah and Pidyon Haben
- ▼ Tammi Goldstein, in honour of Rabbi Ed
- ▼ Anne Weintrop and Bram Walters
- ▼ Lynda Jacobs, in memory of Donna Schachter z"l
- ▼ Peter and Elaine Gold, in honour of Rabbi Elkin's sabbatical
- ▼ Naomi Ish-Horowicz Solomon, in honour of the yahrzeit of her father Dr. Moshe Ish-Horowicz z"l

Torah Fund

- ▼ Sharon Weintraub, wishing Rabbi Ed, Linda and Tali a wonderful time in Israel
- ▼ Neil and Laraine Naft, in memory of Neil's mother Sadie Naft z"l
- ▼ Arlene Mayers, in honour of the marriage of Harvey Savage's daughter Naomi to Lawrence Axmith
- ▼ Jeannette and Paul Oeltjen, in honour of Eden and Ariel Oeltjen
- ▼ Jeannette and Paul Oeltjen, in honour of Tali Moyal
- ▼ Rebecca Smollet and Dave Ley, in honour of the Pidyon Haben of their son Abraham
- ▼ Bernard Oeltjen
- ▼ Roger Chaplin

NARAYEVER NEWS

MARCH & APRIL 2011 • ADAR I, ADAR II and NISAN 5771



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Thanks to all contributors to this issue of the Narayever News.

Read this newsletter on line www.narayever.ca.

If your information has changed, please update us so we can stay in touch with you. 416.927.0546 or admin@narayever.ca

Kiddush Sponsors & Donations

DECEMBER 11, 2010

Kiddush: The Shul. Donations to the Kiddush fund were made in honour of Rabbi Ed, Linda and Tali wishing them well in Israel by Ali Aber, Jeffrey Krusner and family; Beth McAuley, Beverly Harris and Esther Meisels; Ellen Friedland and Arthur Vanek; Esther and Ben Geva; Helene Jacobs and Bruce Rosebrugh; Joan Judge and Josh Fogel; Julia Gluck and Ted Overton; Karen Weyman, Sid Feldman and family; Joel Edelson; and Marsha Frydenberg. Other donations to the Kiddush fund were made by Benjamin Rubin, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his father Alex Rubin z"l; Nancy Sternberg, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her father Pinia Title z"l; Sue Weinstein, upon the completion of Sheloshim for her mother Ethelda Weinstein z"l.

DECEMBER 18, 2010

Kiddush: Max and Julia Dublin, in honour of Toby's Bar Mitzvah. Donations to the Kiddush fund were made by Ann Komaromi, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her father Imre Joseph Komaromi z"l; Harvey Savage and Ruth Leneman, in honour of the upcoming marriage of Harvey's daughter Naomi to Lawrence Axmith; Judita Pamfil, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her mother Eva Pamfil z"l; Linda Lipsky, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her mother Molly Lipsky z"l; Lorne Propas and Steven Propas in honour of the *yahrzeit* of their mother Pearl Propas z"l; Miriam Schlanger, in honour of the *yahrzeiten* of her brothers Moshe Aaron z"l and Haim Michael Aaron z"l and in honour of Rabbi Ed, Linda and Tali wishing them a wonderful trip and much luck; Edward Bercovici, Julia Seemangal and Raffy; Janet Horowitz, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her father Manny Kirschenbaum z"l; and Wally and Gitta Rice, in honour of the baby naming of David Kruger and Jody Rice's daughter Norah. Youth Shabbat: The Youth Committee to honour Rabbi Miriam Margles, our Youth Co-ordinator, for the year 2010, and to thank her for her inspirational leadership and wish her well in her new position.

DECEMBER 25, 2010

Kiddush: The Shul. Donations to the Kiddush fund were made by Shaya Petroff, in honour of his son David on his birthday; and Linda Ander and Mark Goodbaum, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Mark's father Julie Goodbaum z"l.

JANUARY 1, 2011

Kiddush: The Shul. A donation to the Kiddush fund was made by Nancy Singer, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her mother Edith Singer z"l.

JANUARY 8, 2011

Kiddush: Sheri Gordon and Steve Katz, in honour of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Josh. Donations to the Kiddush fund were made by Isabel and Mendl Malkin, in honour of the congregation; Jerry Enchin and Brenda Enchin, in honour of the 10th *yahrzeit* of Jerry's mother Rose Enchin z"l; and Lori Albert, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her father Henry Albert z"l.

JANUARY 15, 2011

Kiddush: Shul. Donations to the Kiddush fund were made by Liz Bohnen, in honour of the *yahrzeiten* of her parents Daniel and Judith Bohnen z"l; Shula and Uzi Dalume, in honour of the birth of May and Dan Friedman's son Isaac Aaron; Tziporah Dunsky, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her mother Esther Dunsky z"l.

JANUARY 22, 2011

Kiddush: Shul. Donations to the Kiddush fund were made by Lisa Rosen and Kivi Shapiro, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of Lisa's grandfather Irv Singer z"l; and Mendl Malkin, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his mother Mary Malkin z"l.

JANUARY 29, 2011

Kiddush: Shul. Donations to the Kiddush fund were made by Dorothy Garfinkel and Phyllis Berck, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of their father Ben Berck z"l; and Isabel Malkin, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her father Henry Michel z"l.

FEBRUARY 5, 2011

Kiddush: Karen Hoffmann-Zak and Michael Weidman, in honour of Jonathan Zak's Bar Mitzvah. Donations to the Kiddush fund were made by Michal Er-el, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her grandmother Mucie Kaplansky z"l; Richard Glazier, to mark the end of the Kaddish period for his father Edward Glazier z"l and in honour of the Sunday Minyanaires; and Susan Hoffmann and Marion and Jack Hoffmann, in honour of Jonathan Zak's Bar Mitzvah.

FEBRUARY 12, 2011

Kiddush: Shul. Donations to the Kiddush fund were made by Mel Davine, in honour of the *yahrzeiten* of his parents Henry and Irene Davine z"l; Sheldon Silverman, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of his father Harry Silverman z"l; Miriam Schlanger, in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her father David Leib Aaron z"l; and Suzanne Keppler in honour of the *yahrzeit* of her father Arnold Keppler z"l.

We acknowledge the following yahrzeit anniversaries which occur during the coming months.





May their souls be bound up in the bond of eternal life

”וַיִּצְרָר בְּצִרּוֹר הַחַיִּים אֶת נַשְׁמוֹתֵיהֶם“






Helen (Chaya) Dublin	Adar-I 25	sister of Max Dublin	Morey Speigel	Nissan 11	father of Alex Speigel
Alice Lowenstein	Adar-I 25	mother of Marjorie Gann	Jessie Berck	Nissan 12	mother of Phyllis Berck and Dorothy Garfinkel
Richard Pliskin	Adar-I 25	father of Marni Cappe	Jeanne Reichenberg	Nissan 12	mother of Janice Dembo
Harry Naft	Adar-I 26	father of Neil Naft	Max Shecter	Nissan 12	father of Trudy Shecter
Saul Zuker	Adar-I 26	father of Elaine Gold	Harold Tanenbaum	Nissan 12	brother of Carol Tanenbaum
Annie Baruch-Nink	Adar-I 27	mother of Micky Oostr Fraterman	Max Schonberg	Nissan 13	father of Arnold Schonberg
Mark Gilbert	Adar-I 27	father of Linda Tadich	Adele Zilberman	Nissan 14	mother of Helene Silverman
Constance Dorris			Anne Tanenbaum	Nissan 15	mother of Carol Tanenbaum
Roseman	Adar-I 27	mother of Ellen Roseman	Bernard (Barney) Davidoff	Nissan 18	father of Jennifer Hoffmann
Moses Slack	Adar-I 27	father of Enid Slack	Esther Goodbaum	Nissan 18	mother of Mark Goodbaum
Sylvain Caen	Adar-I 28	father of Francine Watkins	Sam Bucovetsky	Nissan 19	father of Meyer Bucovetsky
Alon Dembo	Adar-I 28	brother of Sharon Dembo	Della Overton	Nissan 19	mother of Ted Overton
Louis Cohen	Adar-I 29	brother of Suzanne Shuchat	Samuel Szmuiłowicz	Nissan 2	father of Julio Szmuiłowicz
Anne Greenstein	Adar-I 29	mother of Elaine Minsky	Bessie Kershenbaum	Nissan 22	mother of Debra Haworth
Kamilla Schonberg	Adar-II 3	mother of Daniel Schonberg	Jack Mendelson	Nissan 22	father of Leslie Mendelson
Fanny Bucovetsky	Adar-II 6	mother of Meyer Bucovetsky	Sylvia Rubinoff Kraft	Nissan 22	sister of Alfred Rubinoff
Erna Weintraub	Adar-II 8	mother of Sharon Weintraub	Barney Brown	Nissan 23	father of Keren Brown
Esther Teitelbaum	Adar-II 13	mother of Linda Wise	Rochelle Rusen	Nissan 23	mother of Janis Rusen
Ralph Snow	Adar-II 16	father of Margot Feferman	Sam Weiner	Nissan 24	father of Nan Weiner
Joseph Kuperhause	Adar-II 22	father of Jacob Kuperhause	Henry Bloom	Nissan 25	father of Lynda Bloom
Harry Elkin	Adar-II 23	father of Rabbi Ed Elkin	Michael Magen	Nissan 25	brother of Jill Magen-Lichtblau
Herbert Lyon	Adar-II 25	father of Israel Lyon	Arthur Jay Resnick	Nissan 25	father of Karen Kaeja
Steven Letovsky	Adar-II 27	brother of Eric Letovsky	Gladys Rosebrugh	Nissan 25	mother of Bruce Rosebrugh
David Shukyn	Adar-II 28	father of Claire Simon	Sidney Weinberg	Nissan 25	father of Edward Weinberg
May Judith Davidoff	Adar-II 29	mother of Jennifer Hoffmann	Miriam Drabkin	Nissan 26	mother of Denise Drabkin
Jennie Sorscher	Adar-II 29	mother of Hannah Sorscher	Joseph Stanley		
Al Lofchick	Nissan 1	brother of Lawrence Lofchick	Weyman	Nissan 26	father of David Weyman
Lazarus Solomon	Nissan 1	father of Charles Solomon			
Louise Levin	Nissan 3	mother of Robin Levin Penslar			
Rose Pascal	Nissan 3	mother of Paul Pascal			
Seymour Mayers	Nissan 5	father of Arlene Mayers			
Lolly Propas	Nissan 6	wife of Lorne Propas			
Molly Willer	Nissan 6	mother of Phillis Willer-Haimovitz			
Fred Pauker	Nissan 8	brother of Jerome Pauker			
Avraham Greenberg	Nissan 10	father of Benjamin Geva			
Max Propas	Nissan 11	father of Lorne Propas and Steven Propas			

Please inform us of any illness, bereavement or unveiling. As a community we would like to be of support during these times. Contact Avi Schonbach at 416.481.0985. In an emergency use the pager number, 416-563-2283. Please note that although the pager is turned off on Shabbat and during Chagim, calls will be returned shortly afterward.

March 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Town Hall Meeting – Building proposals 7 pm		1 Adar I 25	2 Adar I 26	3 Adar I 27	Carlebach Kabbalat Shabbat 6pm  5:51	Pikudei Services 9am Shabbat Shekalm Kensington Gardens Service 11 am
Rosh Hodesh Adar II Shacharit 9am Café Shinshinim 3 pm Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 4:45 pm	7 Adar II 1	Intro to Talmud 7:30 pm 8 Adar II 2	9 Adar II 3	10 Adar II 4	Services 6pm  6:00	Vayikrah Services 9am Rabbi Shekel Torah Study 1:30pm
Shacharit 9am Toy drop off 10 am - 3 pm Hamantashen 11 am - 2 pm Teen Leadership 4 - 6 pm	14 Adar II 8	Intro to Talmud 7:30 pm 15 Adar II 9	16 Adar II 10	Fast of Esther 17 Adar II 11	Services 6pm  7:09	Tzav/Zechor Services 9am
Purim Shacharit/Megillah Reading Costume Parade 9am	21 Adar II 15	Intro to Talmud 7:30 pm 22 Adar II 16	23 Adar I I 17	24 Adar II 18	Services 6pm  7:17	Shemini Services 9am Shabbat Parah Pathways into Prayer 9:45 am
Shacharit 9am Teen Leadership Program 4-6 pm Board Meeting 7 pm	28 Adar II 22	Intro to Talmud 7:30 pm 29 Adar II 23	30 Adar II 24	31 Adar II 25	Kensington Gardens Service 11 am PURIM Havdallah 8:40 pm Purim Shpiel Ma'ariv/Magillah Reading Purim Carnival	

April 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Town Hall Meeting – Building proposals 2 pm			Kensington Gardens Service 11 am Pathways to Prayer 9:45 am Post Kiddush Talk: Seder and Seudah		Carlebach Kabbalat Shabbat 6pm  7:25	Services 9am Tazriah Shabbat Hachodesh Kensington Gardens Service 11 am Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 10 am
Shacharit 9am Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 4:45pm	4 Adar II 29	5 Nisan 1	6 Nisan 2	7 Nisan 3	Services 6pm  7:34	Metzarah Services 9am Rabbi Shekel Torah Study 1:30pm
Shacharit 9am	11 Nisan 7	12 Nisan 8	13 Nisan 9	14 Nisan 10	Services 6pm  7:42	Shabbat Hagadol Acharei Mot Services 9am
Shacharit 9am Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 4:45pm	EREV PESACH: 1st SEDER	PESACH I Services 9 am 2nd SEDER	PESACH II Services 9 am	PESACH III (CH"M)	Services 6pm  7:50	PESACH V (CH"M) Services 9am
Shacharit 9am PESACH VI (CH"M)	PESACH VII Services 9am	PESACH VIII Services (Yiskor) 9am	27 Nisan 23	28 Nisan 24	Services 6pm  7:59	Kedoshim Services 9am Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 10 am Aviva Chernick, Adon Olam 1:30pm