

CENTER FOR SMALL TOWN JEWISH LIFE

January 2021/Tevet 5781

Dear Friends,

It seems like a long time ago that we gathered to light the Hanukkah candles and celebrate the season of light together. As we enter the depths of winter, we are heartened by the opportunity to gather this month for havdalah and study. During times of difficulty, we remember the resilience of our ancestors and draw strength from our community. We hope to see you online this month and look forward to our Purim celebration in February. During the dark days of winter may the light of Torah and community shine in your lives.

See you soon,
The Center Staff

Hebrew Letter Videos on Our YouTube!

We had SO much fun watching videos of folks from every corner of the state sharing Hebrew letters of the day leading up to the International Day of Hebrew! You can watch the whole playlist of videos, from Alef to Tav, on our YouTube page.

Watch the Videos



Talmud at the Margins

תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI	תלמוד בבלי KOREN TALMUD BAVLI
												
ברכות BERAKHOT	שבת א' SHABBAT PART ONE	שבת ב' SHABBAT PART TWO	עירובין א' ERUVIN PART ONE	עירובין ב' ERUVIN PART TWO	פסחים PESAHIM	פסחים PESAHIM	יומא YOMA	סוכה SUKKA	ראש השנה ROSH HASHANA	מגילה MEGILLA	מועד קטן MO'ED KATAN	יבמות YEVAMOT

SUNDAYS, JANUARY 10, 17, 24, 4-6 P.M.

Join Rabbinical Fellow Frankie Sandmel as we experience traditional Talmud study in Hebrew! This class meets Sundays Jan. 10, 17, and 24, 4-6 p.m. We encourage you to attend all three classes to get the most out of it.

This class is for anyone, no Talmud experience necessary. You'll be given the tools to decode Talmud texts, work in pairs to translate, and then have some time with a large group to discuss how these texts are relevant today. We'll discuss who gets to be a judge and why. All you need is to be able to sound out Hebrew letters!

[Register Here](#)

Havdalah, Together

Saturday, January 16, 6 p.m.



Winter is here, which means Statewide Havdalah. This month we will be led by Rabbi Sruli Dresdner and Rebbetzin Lisa Mayer of Temple Shalom, Auburn and Rabbi Carolyn Braun of Temple Beth El, Portland. Join Jews from all around Maine as we say goodbye to Shabbat and welcome a new week. This gathering is sure to be spirited and musical!

Please register to receive the Zoom details. You'll receive a confirmation email that contains the link, and a reminder email the Friday before the service.

And, mark your calendars for Havdalah on Saturday, February 13 at 6 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 6:30 P.M.

Purim, Together!

A Festive Statewide Celebration!



We could all use a little celebration! Get your costumes ready, grab a festive drink, and join us for Purim. There will be a *spiel* presented by Temple Beth El (the one in Augusta), a chance to share some unusual hamantaschen combinations, and a special challenge for our local clergy (shhh.....it's a surprise). As part of the fun we'll invite you to send in a picture of yourself modeling your Purim costumes; we'll string the images together into a video. Serious prizes will be awarded. More details to come!

But wait, there's more. We'll also have a traditional reading of the *megillah*, so get out your groggers and make some noise!

Half of all donations for this program will go to support Maine's Good Shepherd Food Bank, feeding the hungry in our state. It's an easy opportunity to fulfill the Purim mitzvah of providing gifts for the needy.

To receive Zoom details, please register below. After you sign up, you'll receive a confirmation email with the program link.

[Register Here](#)

In the Community

HOW TO REVIVE A DEAD LANGUAGE IN 100 YEARS

The Hebrew language was practically dead for 2000 years.
It was revived almost single-handedly by one man:

Eliezer Ben Yehuda

The Hebrew language was practically dead for 2,000 years. It was revived almost single-handedly by one man: Eliezer Ben Yehuda, one of the founding fathers of Zionism.

Join us for a three-part virtual series to explore the unprecedented story of this linguistic miracle that continues reinventing itself to this day.

Jan. 14 - Ghil'ad Zuckermann: Do Israelis Really Speak Hebrew?

Jan. 21 - Guy Sharett: Text and the City—Learning Hebrew in the Street

Feb. 1 - Tamar E. Gindin: Pajamas in Paradise—The Iranian Connection (This session will be moderated by Rabbi David Freidenreich, Associate Director of the Center for Small Town Jewish Life and Associate Professor of Jewish Studies at Colby.)

This series is hosted by the Consulate General of Israel to New England, and co-hosted by Brandeis University's Hebrew Program, The Schusterman Center for Israel Studies, The Jewish Studies Program at Colby College, Middlebury College School of Hebrew, Hebrew College, and Northeastern University Hillel.

[Register Here](#)

[The Center for Small Town Jewish Life](#)



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