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Congregation Shir Ami in Castro Valley is an intimate, inclusive, intergenerational Reform Jewish Community that welcomes interfaith families

Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism

MARCH 2011 BULLETIN

(ADAR I~ADAR II 5771)

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EVENT CALENDAR				
Day	Date, Time		Location	
Fri.	Mar. 4, 6:30 pm 8:00 pm	Potluck Dinner Shabbat Service, led by Rabbi Andrew (Rememberence of Harold Dombrower)	Shir Ami	
Sat.	Mar. 5, 3 pm	Adult Learning: Text Study with Rabbi Andrew	Shir Ami	
Tues.	Mar. 8, 7:30 pm	Rosh Chodesh/Sisterhood	Shir Ami	
Thur.	Mar. 17, 7 pm	Board Meeting (open to all members)	Shir Ami	
Fri.	Mar. 18, 7 pm	Shabbat Service& Purim Celebration Led by Rabbi Lara	Shir Ami	
Sat.	Mar. 19, 3 pm	Adult Learning: Trope with Rabbi Lara	Shir Ami	
Sat.	Mar. 19, 7 pm	Havdallah & a Movie with Rabbi Lara	Shir Ami	
Fri.	Mar. 25, 8 pm	Shabbat Service Led by Rabbi Andrew	Shir Ami	
Sat.	Mar. 26, 10 am	Shabbat Service for Men's Club (open to all men) Led by Rabbi Andrew	Shir Ami	
Sat.	Mar. 26, 3 pm	Adult Learning: Text Study with Rabbi Andrew	Shir Ami	
Fri.	April 15, 8 pm	Shabbat Service Led by Rabbi Andrew	Shir Ami	
Thur.	April 21, 7 pm	Board Meeting (open to all members)	Shir Ami	
Sat.	April 23, 5:30 pm	Community Passover Seder	UCC Community Center	
Fri.	May 6, 6:30 pm 8:00 pm	Potluck Dinner Shabbat Service Led by Rabbi Lara	Shir Ami	

Friday, March 4, 6:30 pm —

On Friday, March 4, Shir Ami will honor the memory of Harold Dombrower, Jan Dombrower's father, who passed away on February 19, 2011. Please join us as we offer Jan words of comfort and our condolences during our scheduled potluck dinner and Shabbat Service.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Shir Ami Members and Friends:

This month I am pleased to share with you information about an important change to our religious practice at Shir Ami.

Shir Ami's Religious Committee, chaired by David Schulberg and Diana Zankowsky, meets twice a year: the last weekend of August and the last weekend of January. At the August meeting we set the schedule for High Holy Days and Shabbat services and other special events for the coming year. In January we have a midyear check to make any adjustments needed to the calendar, provide and receive feedback to and from the Rabbinic Interns, schedule summer services, etc. These meetings are announced in the Bulletin calendar and are open to all Shir Ami members.

The Religious Committee is also responsible for setting policy, or *minhag*, about our congregation's religious practices. In our meeting this past January after completing our normal agenda items we discussed a proposal to change our *minhag*, specifically regarding how a non-Jewish family member may participate in passing the Torah from one generation to the next in a *bar* or *bat mitzvah* service or in carrying the Torah during the Simchat Torah *hakafot*.

Following is an excerpt from the Religious Committee meeting minutes as recorded by Judy Ganz:

Revision of Shir Ami Minhag

Neither our Bylaws nor the guidelines of the Union for Reform Judaism restrict who may touch, hold, or pass the Torah. Diana reported that our neighboring congregations, Beth Sholom in San Leandro and Beth Emek in Pleasanton, both permit non-Jews to carry the Torah.

After a lengthy and thoughtful discussion, the motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously by the attending members of

the Religious Committee that the following recommendation be brought to the Congregation Shir Ami Board of Directors for their approval: "The Religious Committee recommends that we change item number 13 in the statement of our Minhagim so that we include both Jews and non-Jews in the honor of touching, holding and passing the Torah."

If the recommendation is accepted by the Board, it will be necessary to edit our Bar and Bat Mitzvah Handbook to include in the family's preparation a consideration of which family members

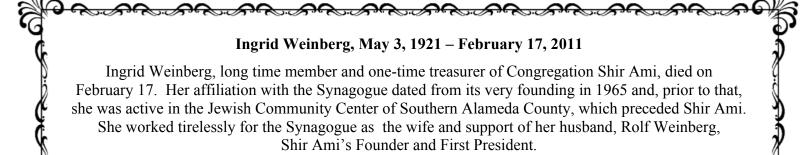
will participate in the Torah service. Andrew pointed out that the family might want to identify who brought the child to Torah, who supports the child's Jewish learning, and who would be comfortable taking part in this aspect of the religious service.



Diana Zankowsky presented this recommendation at our February Board meeting.

After some discussion the Board unanimously approved the recommendation. I am so pleased about this change as this is one more step to Shir Ami being a more inclusive community. Please contact Diana or me if you have any questions about our new community minhag.

Harriet Skelly, President president@congshirami.org



Ingrid was born in Germany and relocated to Britain during the War Years where she served in the British Army Women's Auxiliary Corps.



RABBINIC INTERNS' PAGE

Shalom from Rabbi Andrew and Rabbi Lara! We have a lot of exciting events coming up in the month of March, for the whole family. Springtime means that some great things are right around the corner, including Purim one of the most joyful of all the Jewish holidays. We hope your spring is filled with fun at Congregation Shir Ami!

MARCH SERVICES:

Friday, March 4th:
6:30 pm, Potluck Dinner
8:00 pm, Shabbat services for all, led by Rabbi Andrew

Friday, March 18th, 7:00 pm: Shabbat and Purim This Shabbat service will be combined with our celebration of Purim. Come for a good time filled with song, prayer, the reading of Megillat Esther, and more! There will be a time also for the inclusion of children in Pre-K through 5th grade. This service will be led by Rabbi Lara.

Friday, March 25th, 8:00 pm: Shabbat services for all, led by Rabbi Andrew.

Friday, March 26th, 10 am: Men's Shabbat Service Come for a Shabbat morning experience just for the guys! Our "manyin" will be a fun prayer experience with Rabbi Andrew that takes a look at what makes us Jewish men tick. Men only, sorry ladies.



ADULT LEARNING, SATURDAY

The following information and opportunities will, we hope, bring new experiences into your lives, and also some familiarity and continuity as we move into our new year together.

March 5th, 3:00 pm, will be a text study on the weekly Torah portion with Rabbi Andrew. Everyone is welcome.

March 19th, 3:00 pm, will be another session of the Trope class. This session will be taught by Rabbi Lara. Please note: we are not taking any new comers for the rest of this session. Rabbi Lara hopes to start another series of trope classes for new learners after this series has been completed.

March 19th, 7:00 pm, will be another wonderful Havdallah and Movie night, followed immediately by a discussion based on the movie to be viewed that evening. Led by Rabbi Lara.

March 26th at 3:00 pm, will be another text study with Rabbi Andrew. Everyone is welcome.

NEW BOOK FOR THE SHIR AMI BOOK CLUB!

Our second book for the year is "Have a Little Faith: A True Story" by Mitch Albom. The book club will meet to discuss this book (after reading it) on M ay 7th (plenty of time!). The book discussion will be led by Rabbi Lara.

Lara Pullan Regev <u>Rabbi.Lara@congshirami.org</u> Andrew Terkel <u>Rabbi.Andrew@congshirami.org</u>

We hope to see you all at these Shabbat services and events throughout our weekends with you and we look forward to continuing what has been a fabulous year of learning with all of you!



SCHOOL NOTES

As I think about Presidents' Day, I think about great leaders. Our lives would not be as they are today, if it weren't for these amazing men and women. This seems like the perfect time to talk about the rising stars at Shir Sholom, our teen TAs.

The PreK/K class is lucky to have Katherine Kolden as their TA every week. Whether she is taking yet another trip to the bathroom with a student, gently telling a child that coloring should be on the paper and not the table, or cleaning up after the class, Katherine does it all with a smile. Her calm demeanor and exceptional work ethic benefit everyone at Shir Sholom weekly.

Our second graders are an energetic crew; they are blessed to have Spencer Blum as their TA. His obvious and absolute love for Judaism, and Jewish learning, sets a magnificent example. Spencer assists the class with his serene manner and simultaneous passion for helping the children see all the possibilities in the day's lesson. His excitement is palpable and is appreciated by everyone at Shir Sholom.

This year, the fifth grade class is all girls. The students are fortunate to learn from and spend time with Emma Silver, their fabulous TA. Without trying (or without looking like she is trying) Emma leads by example. The pleasure that she feels when growing as a Jewish young woman is obvious and influential. Shir Sholom is also honored weekly by Emma's song-leading talents; her love for Jewish music repeatedly elevates our *shira* sessions.

We are so lucky to have such amazing young people in our community. Their willingness to spend Sunday mornings at the synagogue so that they can share their love for Judaism and their community is a true blessing. There is no doubt that the teenagers who join us at religious school weekly have helped to make Shir Sholom such a wonderful success.

L'Shalom, Rinat Manhoff



Summer Camp Opportunities

Check out camp information on <u>page 13</u> for summer camp options for Jewish children, including <u>Camp Kadkma</u>, a local day camp for kids 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 13. Camp Kadima also has openings for camp counselors.

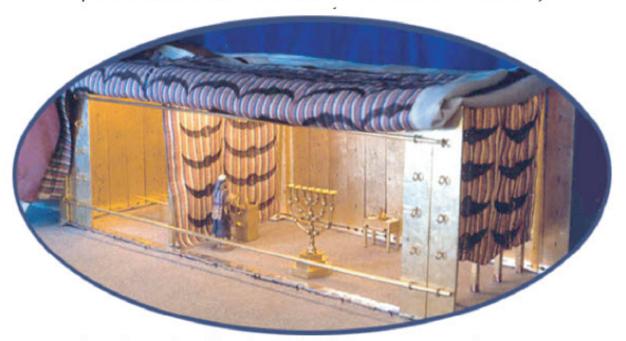
Congregation Shir Ami members can apply for a scholarships of up to \$100 to help fund camp for their child. Contact Jodi Blum, education@congshirami.com, for more information.



SHABBAT & POTLUCK, MAR. 4

Pareshot Pekudei and Shekalim

Pekudei - Let them Make Me a
tabernacle that I may dwell among them (Exodus 25:8).
Shekalim - - This week's Torah reading
also includes Paresha Shekalim (Exodus 30:11-16),which
speaks of the half-shekel which each Jew contributed to the Sanctuary.



Tabernacle original model 1 inch to 1 cubit. Glencairn Museum, Bryn Athyn PA., 1921

Shir Ami Services 8:00 PM Friday, March 4th 2011 led by ANDREW TERKEL

POT LUCK AT 6:30 PM

Please participate in our rotating assignments
Initials
L to Z....Main Dish
A to K.... Side Dish or Dessert,
Setup, Cleanup, Drinks



SHABBAT & PURIM, MAR. 18





SHABBAT, MAR. 25

Parsha Shemini - "Eighth" a reference to the eighth day after the inauguration of Aaron and his sons as Kohanim (Priests)

David gathered together all the chosen men of Israel — 30,000 in all — and went to retrieve the Ark of the Covenant from Baale-Judah. They brought the Ark out of the house of Abinadab and set it on a new cart, and Abinadab's sons Uzzah and Ahio drove the cart, with Ahio going before the Ark. When they came to the threshing-floor of Nacon, the oxen stumbled, and Uzzah put out his hand to steady the Ark. In anger, G-D smote Uzzah for his error, and Uzzah died by the Ark. David was angry with G-D; he was unable to understand G-D's wrath.



http://sharing.knowloedge.org

Shir Ami Services
Friday, March 25th at 8:00 PM
will be led by
Andrew Terkel

All are welcome, bring a friend



LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

Introduction to Judaism Judaism 101

Saturday, March 12 12 noon to 2 pm (Lunch & Learn) At Congregation Shir Ami

Introduction to Judaism

Please bring your lunch, as studying and food always go together! At this class we will conclude our study of *Pirke Avot,* The Sayings of the Fathers. We will also look at some thoughts about Purim. All are welcome, including first-timers.

Contact Diana Zankowsky, adulted@congshirami.org for directions and additional information.

Adult Hebrew

Learning Hebrew through Prayer Mondays, 7:30-9:00 pm

This weekly class is taught by Judy Ganz. If you have basic Hebrew literacy skills and you want to improve your:

- Hebrew Reading Skills
- Understanding of the Meaning of Prayers

please contact Judy at adulthebrew@congshirami.org



Book Donation

Dr. Edward Anders, currently of Burlingame, CA and formerly a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Chicago, has donated a copy of his book, *Amidst Latvians During the Holocaust*. He was 15 when he was nearly killed by the Nazis but was released from death before a firing squad by...well, you'll have to read the book to learn how Dr. Anders avoided death and what it was like to be among the only 2% of the Latvian Jews who survived the Holocaust. This book was just published (2010) and is a welcome addition to the Congregation Shir Ami library.

We received the book courtesy of Barbara-Ann Lewis.

ADULT LEARNING WITH RABBIS LARA AND ANDREW

March 5th, 3:00 pm, will be a text study on the weekly Torah portion with Rabbi Andrew. Everyone is welcome.

March 19th, 3:00 pm, Trope class for continuing students. Taught by Rabbi Lara. Please note: NO NEW LEARNERS at this time. Rabbi Lara hopes to start another series of trope classes for new learners after this series has been completed.

March 19th, 7:00 pm, Havdallah and Movie night. Havdallah at 7 pm, followed by a movie and discussion. Led by Rabbi Lara.

March 26th at 3:00 pm will be another text study with Rabbi Andrew. Everyone is welcome.



ROSH CHODESH/ SISTERHOOD

MARCH/ADAR II ROSH CHODESH Tuesday, March 8th, 7:30 p.m., at Shir Ami

"When Adar comes in, rejoicing is increased."

Lets have fun! Bonnie Frey is hosting Rosh Chodesh this month featuring a women's spa day and wine tasting!

We will pay homage to the beauty of Vashti and Esther and give ourselves facials. In the spirit of Purim, we will put on clay masks. Then after exfoliation, we, like Esther, will reveal our true selves. After that, we will increase the connectedness and pleasure of our sisterhood, and give each other chair massages.

It's customary to drink alcohol and let loose on Purim, so let's have a wine tasting. Bring your favorite wine or spirit to share.

In the spirit of Rosh Chodesh renewal, we will renew with probiotics, and there will be kefir beverages.

Look for more information and a reminder of the evening in your email as the date approaches. You may contact Bonnie Frey for questions about this event.

For questions or information about Sisterhood, please contact Jan Dombrower at Sisterhood@congshirami.org

ROSH CHODESH CALENDAR, YEAR 5771 (2010-2011)

Nisan April 5- Tuesday Iyar May 4- Wednesday Sivan June 2- Thursday

Rosh Chodesh, ADAR I, "Little Purim" Last Month's Rosh Chodesh was held at the home of Leeza Weinstein Mota, our hostess and the event creator. We enjoyed activities of both Chinese New Years and Purim, exploring how the two cultures, Chinese and Jewish, compare. When each woman arrived, she was handed the traditional red envelope with coins (gelt) inside. The meal of Chinese cuisine—pot stickers; hot and sour soup; and Chinese chicken salad—was delicious. We gathered as a group to introduce ourselves by our Chinese Zodiac birth year. The similarities between the two cultures were presented, including family values, rituals, celebrations, food, education, recreation, and holiday observances. A lively

"performance art" of readings or poems on influential woman, beginning with Esther, used percussion for the background beat. We all joined in the refrain as a chorus as a part of the presentation.





We shared the three objects we brought from home that represented our identity— with one being our Jewish identity— telling when we might hide or reveal those identities.. We ended the evening with fortune cookies, almond cookies, and other Chinese New Year sweets. It was a rich and wonderful evening.









SHIR AMI BUILDING MAINTENANCE

The Shir Ami Building and Grounds Committee has been busy. The committee has recently completed a survey of Shir Ami's maintenance needs and accomplishments and are currently updating Shir Ami's site plan.

Chairman Noah Marcus submitted the following list of work that has been completed. This progress is a result of the hard work and monetary contributions of Shir Ami members. It has made such a difference!

Thanks to all of you that have contributed in some way, and a special thanks to committee members Noah Marcus, Peter Lewis and Milt Palmer.

COMPLETED ITEMS FROM CONGREGATION SHIR AMI'S MAINTENANCE PLAN

- 1. Renovated and upgraded both bathrooms
- 2. Replaced deteriorating flooring in back classroom and office
- 3. Replaced blinds in the back classroom
- 4. Filled potholes in driveway
- 5. Replaced gate on east side of building and installed gate on west side to restrict vehicle and pedestrian access to the property
- 6. Pruned trees on east side of front parking lot that overhang neighbor's house
- 7. Pruned underside of overhanging olive tree so that it is above 8' from ground (minimizing potential for damage to vehicles)
- 8. Replaced slats on bench
- 9. Pruned plum tree in corner, "bird of paradise" plant (at the rear steps), tree by kitchen door, removed dead loquat in front and pruned partially dead loquat near carriageway, pruned dead wood from olive trees in back
- 10. Pruned and cleaned a major amount of yard area, in front and behind building
- 11. Replaced plywood with glass in front door and in windows over the back slider (sanctuary windows). Repaired window near bimah, which would not stay up.
- 12. Cleaned and painted both front entry ways
- 13. Removed old furnace controls in sanctuary
- 14. Stabilized bimah
- 15. Removed a lot of miscellaneous debris in the building: old school projects, out-dated books
- 16. Washed blinds, removed rat droppings, cleaned spider webs, etc. in the interior



COMMUNITY PAGE

"ROSE'S RAMBLINGS"

Note from the Community Editor: If you have news to share, let's hear from you! Please send your items to

community@congshirami.org



News of Members

- Lisa Silver's sister and brother-in-law are visiting from England on the occasion of Sophia's Bat Mitzvah. We hear it was a beautiful affair, and that Sofia was wonderful. Mazeltov to the whole family.
- Refuah Shlema- Wishes for good health to: Lori Knopf Santora, who is undergoing surgery.

NEW MEMBER PROFILE- **The Spitzer Family** Usually, parents join Shir Ami and bring their children with them. In the case of Tom and Susan Spitzer however, it was the reverse. It was their 15 year-old son, Reuben, who recruited his parents to join the congregation.

Reuben ("Ace") Spitzer is a sophomore at Castro Valley High School, and last year participated in a service project in which students are asked to donate their time to a community institution. With the encouragement of fellow classmate Spencer Blum, he chose to work at Shir Ami and help in a congregation-wide clean-up day. This led to his involvement in other activities, and pretty soon, the family became members! He is now attending Hebrew and Religious School, and is an excellent student. He's very grateful to Spencer for introducing him to Shir Ami.

Reuben has many interests – he plays tennis and guitar, and is an avid cyclist. He's studying Russian on his own and German at school, and he volunteers at the Chabot Space and Science Center. He's also an expert cook (as reported by his proud mother), specializing in stir fry.

As for the rest of the family: Susan was born and raised in Michigan, and graduated from Michigan State University at Lansing . She majored in Nursing. She and Tom met when he came to Lansing as an urban planner after graduating from Cornell University. Tom was originally from New York City, the son of a

German refugee. Tom and Susan were married in 1983. They came to the Bay Area in 1987.

Reuben has an older sister, Stephanie, who is studying at Macalester College in Minnesota. Tom is now working in computers at a firm in San Rafael, but spends much of his time traveling to other locations. Susan is a part-time nurse with Kaiser, and works at night. They appreciate the warm and inviting welcome that they have received from Shir Ami.

Because of their unusual work schedules, it is difficult for both of Reuben's parents to participate in Shir Ami activities, but they are happy that their son can represent them at the congregation. Of course, we in turn, are happy that he found us. We wish him much success in his Jewish and Hebrew studies. Like his parents, we "kvell." ShirAmi is proud of Reuben Spitzer!

Note: These 3 photos were inadvertently left out of the February Bulletin.

~Bulletin Editor

Wolfson-Tsabba Family



Leah Hartman



Sophia Silver





COMMUNITY PAGE, P2

Todah Rabah- Thank You to the following:

For Hosting the ONEG after services On Feb.4: The Keil Family On Feb. 18: The Silver Family

For Hosting Rabbinic Intern Lara Pullan Regev

On Feb.4 weekend: The Keil Family

For Hosting Rabbinic Intern Andrew Terkel On Feb.18 weekend: Barbara-Ann Lewis

Thank You for your Generous Donation to Shir Ami:

Rose & Hillie Levine, in memory of Ingrid Weinberg Rose & Hillie Levine, in memory of Harold Dombrower, father of Jan Dombrower

Ann & Sam Blank in memory of Gus Arthur, former member

Ann & Sam Blank, in memory of Elly Margolies, broth er in law of Layah Laks and uncle of Sid Miner Jan Dombrower, in memory of Syd Krower on his Yartzeit

Harriet and Bruce Skelly, in memory of Ingrid Weinberg, Harold Dombrower (father of Jan Dombrower), and Sherie Kidwell

Zichronam Livracha-

May their memory be for a blessing. Died:

Ingrid Weinberg, an early founder of Shir Ami, on February 17. (see article on page 2 in the Bulletin) Our heartfelt condolences to daughters Debbie Antonoff and Susan Anderson and their families.

Harold Dombrower, father of Jan Dombrower, on February 19. Our sincere condolences to Jan and family. **Sherie Kidwell,** current Shir Ami member, on February 20. Our deepest sympathy to her husband, Bernard, and to her family.

Zivia Rudman, former Shir Ami member, in February. We extend our sympathy to her family.

March 2011 Yarzheit List

MARCH 4, 2011

- Clara Finlay, mother of Todd Finlay
- Matt Ganz, long-time active member and former president of Shir Ami, and husband of Judy Ganz
- Dalton Gautreaux, uncle of Toni Schulberg, (pronounced "GO -TRO")
- Melvin Johnson, husband of Frances Johnson, father of Delores Waley
- Miriam Levine, mother of Hillie Levine
- Elsie Maas, grandmother of Toni Schulberg
- Joslyn Miner, former member of Shir Ami, and wife of Syd Miner, past president of Shir Ami
- Edna Vanous, long time active member of Shir Ami

MARCH 18, 2011

- James Finlay, father of Todd Finlay
- Jean Skelly, mother of Bruce Skelly
- Stella Small, grandmother of Toni Schulberg
- Matthew Zankowsky, father of Fred Zankowsky

MARCH 25, 2011

- Jack Skelly, father of Bruce Skelly
- Ruth Zelezny, grandmother of Julie Greenfield

KADDISH LIST

(those who have died during the past 11 months)

- Layah Laks, long time former member of Shir Ami
- Fredrick Apple, father of Angie Ross
- Florence Lewis, mother of Peter Lewis
- Frieda Greenbaum, grandmother of Diana Zankowsky
- Ingrid Weinberg, long time founding member of Shir Ami
- Harold Dombrower, father of Jan Dombrower
- Sherie Kidwell, Shir Ami member and wife of Bernard Kidwell



Barb, Matt & Caitlin – we miss you and hope you come for a visit sometime! Enjoy Virginia.



SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

Summer Camp Opportunities

Below are some summer camp options for Jewish children, including <u>Camp Kadkma</u>, a local day camp for kids 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 13. Camp Kadima also has openings for camp counselors.

Congregation Shir Ami members can apply for scholarships of up to \$100 to help fund camp for their child. Contact Jodi Blum, **education@congshirami.com**, for more information.

Camp Kadima



Camp Gan Israel



Camp Tawonga

Camp Tawonga's 2011 program dates are available online and registration is open! Camp Tawonga is a Jewish, residential summer camp that is American Camp Association accredited, and has a staff/camper ratio of 1:1.5.

Tawonga is located outside Yosemite National Park on 160 acres in the Stanislaus National Forest. Tawonga offers 2nd through 12th graders camp sessions, teen leadership, service learning, and adventure travel programs. Tawonga also offers weekend programs for individuals, couples and families.

More info: 415.543.2267, www.tawonga.org, or info@tawonga.org



CONTACTS

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Shir Ami Board Meeting, January 2011

Rabbinic Intern

President Membership School Liaison

Social Action

Social Action

Yahrzeit

Building Maintenance
Bulletin Editor
Bulletin Mailing
Oneg Shabbat (hospitality)
Community Page
Donations:General & Special Fund,
Treasurer-Receivables
eScrip
Treasurer-Payables
Men's Club
Religious
Religious
Rosh Chodesh/Sisterhood

Lara Pullan Regev Andrew Terkel

Harriet Skelly Barbara Heimowitz Jodi Blum

Noah Markus

Rose Firestone
Lilly Erikson
Sharon Golembo
Rose Levine
Florrie Finkle
Judy Ganz
Danielle Keil
Maryann Leshin
Jon Zimmerman
David Schulberg
Diana Zankowsky
Jan Dombrower
Daryl Berman
Julie Greenfield
Toni Schulberg

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JEWISH FILMS, LIVERMORE

TRI-VALLEY JEWISH FILM SERIES IN LIVERMORE MARCH 6 & 10

* Bay Area Premiere | * Contra Costa Premiere

THE JEWISH CULTURAL FILM SERIES

THREE AMAZING
FILMS COMING TO
THE VINE CINEMA,
1722 FIRST STREET,
LIVERMORE!

MARCH 6 & 10

This Film Series is presented by the Jewish Federation of the East Bay and The Jewish Community Foundation.

Co-sponsors: Congregation Beth Emek, Contra Costa JCC, Temple Beth Torah, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews and Tri-Valley/Tri-Citles Midrasha.



SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 4:30 P.M., VINE CINEMA

THE LITTLE TRAITOR *

Israel/US, 2008, 90 minutes, Hebrew/English with subtitles

Acclaimed stage and television star Alfred Molina stars in this feature film based on a story by Amos Oz. It is 1947, and Proffy Liebowitz, a sensitive 12 year-old, dreams of the time when Britain leaves Palestine and Israel becomes an independent nation. One evening while he's out after curfew, Proffy is seized by British Sergeant Dunlop (Molina). Instead of arresting him, Dunlop escorts him back bome and a friendship begins to develop. The boy helps Dunlap with his Hebrew while Dunlap provides fatherly guidance. However, tensions escalate between the British and the Jewish underground and Proffy's life changes forever. This film is for film lovers of all ages!

SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 7:15 P.M., VINE CINEMA

DIE WELLE (THE WAVE)

Germany, 2008, 110 minutes, German with subtitles

This edgy German drama centers on Rainer Wegner, a popular high school teacher, who devises an innovative way of teaching his students about fascism. But his hastily conceived lesson in social order and the power of unity soon grows a life of its own, with many of his students welcoming the very thing that they denounce. Followed by a "Conversation on The Wave with Day Schildkret."

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 7:30 P.M., VINE CINEMA

FRÈRES (BROTHERS) *

Switzerland/Israel, 2010, 116 minutes, Hebrew/English with subtitles

Conflict arises between two estranged brothers—one an observant Jew and one a kibbutznik farmer who is scornful of religion. The legal battle in which they engage is reflective of a society torn between its religious and political principles and centers on whether Orthodox yeshiva students should be exempt from military service. This thought-provoking drama stirs the debate between separation of the state and religion in Israel.

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT www.EASTBAYJEWISHFILM.ORG OR CALL 510.318.6456.