



**Our Madrikha
Presents....**

Michelle Davis, one of our Madrikhot, gave a presentation to the Humanists of Colorado (<http://humanistsofcolorado.com>) on the evening of Sunday, March 14th. She was invited by Tim Bailey, the group's vice president, to be a speaker in the ongoing series "Humanism and World Traditions", in which religious leaders discuss humanistic aspects of their religions. They were particularly interested in Beth Ami since we are fellow members of the Colorado Coalition of Reason (COCORE).

Michelle gave a presentation detailing Rabbi Wine's history, the development of Humanistic Judaism, and how it has become a worldwide movement. She provided many examples of our celebrations to illustrate how we identify with our Jewish traditions from a humanistic perspective. Her discussion was well received and generated numerous questions from the audience."

--Submitted by Ben Stafford

**Beth Ami Life Cycle
Ceremonies - Baby Naming**

Calla Jayne Stafford made her debut at Beth Ami's first baby naming ceremony on Feb. 28. Michelle Davis and Ben Stafford, proud and loving parents, shared hopes and dreams for Calla, conveyed beautiful messages from her four grandparents and shared their joy

Our very own Michelle Davis has been very busy.



with a group of congregants and friends. They were all showered with books to share for many years to come. Michelle and Sheila crafted the ceremony, which included candle lighting and blessing over wine/juice. Elaine Bloch hosted the ceremony and lunch that followed. Welcome, Calla, and mazel tov, Michelle and Ben!

--Submitted by Sheila Malcolm

Beth Ami is a welcoming community where we connect to Jewish past, celebrate Jewish present and link to Jewish future through a humanistic philosophy

**Beth Ami means:
House of my people**

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JCS Purim Carnival

Children from our Jewish Cultural School couldn't wait to start playing games at our Purim Carnival on February 26th. Pasta by Lenore Kingston and salad and garlic bread by Katrina Miller were inhaled in anticipation of games and prizes. Christie Gosch's class created our Megillah at JCS. JCS students read the Purim story aloud with audience participation and groggers. Marti Hirsch led our Purim songfest. Members of the Mitzvah class and JCS parents supervised games organized by Marti throughout Countryside Rec. Stu Budoff couldn't get enough hamantashen baked by Lenore Kingston. The prize table opened at 7:00pm with children congregating to see this year's new toys. Children first played games in order to receive tickets that are like money. Ethan Csapo and Zane Anderson had pockets full of tickets. Sam Budoff checked over the prize table many times before he made a purchase. In less than a half hour, there were over 25 contented customers.

--Submitted by Lenore Kingston



JCS Students presenting the Megillah that they created in class



Carnival participants collecting their fun prizes & candy!



Eitan Moin playing a carnival game

Being a gastronomical Jew is very important at Jewish Cultural School



What did the Jews eat in Spain 1,000 years ago? What did Jews in France and Germany eat in the 1500s? Students at our Jewish Cultural School are learning about their ancestors by eating the foods that our ancestors ate.

Thanks to Katrina Miller who has taken charge of our kitchen at Countryside Rec No one walks away hungry!



April 2010

Sun Mo Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 <i>Shabbat</i>	10
11 <i>*JCS & Adult Ed. Board Mig - date change</i>	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 <i>JCS & Adult ed</i>	19	20	21	22	23	24 <i>Havdalah & Movie Night*</i>
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Schedule of Events -

April 2010

9th - 7pm Shabbat, Montview Blvd. Presbyterian, Denver. Speaker: Susan Greene, Denver Post Columnist

**please note the date change from the 4th to the 11th due to a schedule conflict with the Countryside Rec Center.*

11th - 10am JCS & Adult Ed. Adult Ed topic: New voices & faces in Secular Humanistic Judaism. Focus on Rabbis Adam Chalom, Miriam Jerris, Greg Epstein and others.

11th - Board Meeting

18th - 10am JCS & Adult Ed. Adult Ed. Bring your calendar so we can schedule summer events.

24th - 6pm, Havdalah/ Movie night - *"Black to the Promised Land."* At the home of Barry & Donna Levene- **Please note that the date, time and venue has changed.*

Upcoming:

May:

Friday 7th - Sunday May 9th
JCS Retreat at the YMCA of the Rockies
Come for the weekend
or join us for only the day-Saturday

Contact Lenore Kingston with questions or to register: 303-828-0704
golden.paws@hotmail.com

June:

Sunday 6th Boulder Jewish Festival

July:

Sunday, 11th - 11:00am Annual Meeting for Beth Ami., see page 4 for notice of meeting

April Havdalah & Movie Night

Saturday, April 24th at 6 pm in the home of Barry & Donna Levene.

The movie is *"Black to the Promised Land"*: What happens when eleven black teenagers from Bedford-Stuyvesant – a tough New York City neighborhood of drugs, guns, and graffiti – spend ten weeks on a quiet Israeli kibbutz? How do these youths with “bad habits and unrecognized potential” adjust to the demands of kibbutz living? All they know of Jews are the black-garbed Hasidim whose communities border their own; all they know about Israel are the headlines. But when their teacher suggests the trip to the kibbutz, they’re eager to go. With winning portraits of guests and hosts, *Black to the Promised Land* explores the different expectations of the kibbutz members and the black teens. Both were alien to each other and both were surprised by what they found. As the teens grapple with structure, responsibility, and boredom, the kibbutz is infused with the high spirits of their visitors. --95 minutes.

RSVP to Barry Levene at 303-750-4317



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Board of Directors:

Jon Budoff-President
Ron Kingston-Treasurer
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Len Karasik
Elaine Bloch
Barbara Griss
Don Griss
Michelle Davis
Barry Levene

Notice of Annual Meeting

OUR ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING OF CONGREGATION BETH AMI IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, JULY 11TH, 2010 AT 11:00 AM. IT WILL BE HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM AT GOVERNORS PARK CONDOMINIUMS, 777 WASHINGTON STREET, DENVER, COLORADO 80203. A POT LUCK BRUNCH WILL FOLLOW. PARKING IS AVAILABLE IN THE GUEST LOT IN BACK OF THE BUILDING WITH ACCESS FROM 8TH AVENUE.

AFTER 5 ANNUAL TERMS OF TIRELESSLY SERVING US AS PRESIDENT, JON BUDOFF WILL BE RETIRING. WE NEED SOMEONE TO STEP UP TO OUR NOW BETTER-STRUCTURED BOARD TO LEAD US INTO THE FUTURE. YOU ALL HAVE LEADERSHIP QUALITIES WITHIN YOU BY VIRTUE OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN OUR CUTTING EDGE CONGREGATION.

PLEASE CONTACT ME WITH YOUR INTEREST IN FULFILLING THIS VITAL ROLE!

TERRY FLEISHER, 303-435-6457, TERRYFLEISHER@MSN.COM

A Taste of Passover

MazelTot under the auspices of the Rose Community Foundation invited their grantee organizations to participate in a new program at Whole Foods. On March 7th, 14th, and 21st, volunteers asked shoppers if they would like a taste of Passover.

Beth Ami is one of 29 organizations that received a MazelTot grant this year. MazelTot hopes to connect Jewish families who have children under five with the Jewish community.

I volunteered between 2:00-3:00pm on March 14th at the Superior Whole Foods. We served Turkish Charoses and chocolate macaroons.

While I was there, many people took a chance and tasted our food. They all loved it even the little children. A few people said they were Jewish and hadn't celebrated Passover for a few years. We gave them a list of Seders in the area. Beth Ami is one.

--Submitted by Lenore Kingston



A Taste of Passover at Whole Foods.



Happy birthday to:

- 8th Robby Miller
- 28th Ely Karasik
- 30th Jeremy Neufeld

Baby Calla

