Bat Mitzvah of Bailey Spitz
Rosh Chodesh Elul Shabbos and Sunday

See, I present before you today a blessing and a curse.
Devarim 11:26

The changes in grammar in this verse teach us an important lesson in life. The word “Re’eh” (see) is the singular form of the verb but “lifneichem” (before you) is plural. Why? Also, why was it necessary to say the word “see”? If you give someone a present, do you have to tell him “look, I am giving you a present.” Isn’t it obvious!? The answer to the 2nd question is that blessings are not always self-evident. If we don’t make an effort to “see” them, we may not ever realize that we have been blessed. If we think about it, life is full of blessings, but we take these things for granted and do not realize how fortunate we truly are. Therefore, G-d reminds us make sure you take the time to “see” (ראeh) the blessings I have given you! To answer the 1st question as to why the change of singular to plural, the Kotzker Rebbe explains that blessings can be given collectively to many people but each individual will perceive it in his or her own way.
Blessings can be universal but the perception of them is always up to the individual. Therefore, when G-d tell us to see, He uses the singular form, but the placement of the blessings is expressed in plural form. May we all merit not only to have many blessings in life, but the wisdom to also see them.

*Sefer – Rav Frand on the Parsha*

Wishing all of you an inspiring Shabbos!

*Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein*

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**CONDUCT POLICY AND BEHAVIORAL STANDARDS REGARDING CHILD SAFETY AT THE YOUNG ISRAEL**

It is tragic that we live in a time when guidelines must be stated publicly regarding the safety or our most precious gift with which G-d has entrusted us, or beloved children. As many of you may remember, this past year we sponsored a Shabbos dedicated to Child Safety. Our Young Israel is committed to providing a safe and appropriate environment for all our children. Our Shul strives to establish a safe haven for every child’s physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. Therefore, based on the discussions of that Shabbos regarding “Safety for Our Children”, the following Conduct Policy and Behavioral Standards are to be followed and respected at the Young Israel:

- No adult (other than a parent or other responsible immediate family member) may be alone with a child in any area which cannot be seen or observed by other adults.
- There must **never** be any physical contact, such as patting, squeezing, pinching, or hugging (other than by a parent or other responsible immediate family member of their own child), or any inappropriate touching of a child.
- No one may exert any form of verbal or psychological influence or control on or over a child.
- Remarks, jokes or innuendos about a person’s body or clothing, including threats of such behavior, are not allowed.
- No one may forbid a child to share any conversations or information with his or her parents or staff of the Young Israel, nor tell a child to keep secrets from their parents.

Violation of these guidelines cannot be tolerated. The Young Israel will seek to take action reasonably necessary to have those who violate these guidelines removed from our premises and, when necessary, to report it to the appropriate governmental authorities.

It is a tragedy that we live in a society where these guidelines must be stated and made public. Our concern and responsibility above all is the physical and emotional safety of our children.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. May we all see much nachas and simchas from our children and grandchildren.

Menno Ratzker
President

Moshe Gruenstein
Rabbi
Congregational Family and Shul News

- Kiddush is sponsored by Dov & Tracy Spitz in honor of their daughter Bailey becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Mazel tov to Bailey, to parents Dov & Tracy, to great-grandparents Henry & Ruth Wertheimer, to grandparents Saul & Janet Spitz, Robert Newhouse, Gail Newhouse and to siblings Riley and Jolie Spitz.
- **Sukkot:** We are going to have meals in our Sukkah for the first 2 nights of Sukkot. Reservations required. Look for more information coming soon...
- Mazel Tov to Rabbi Simeon and Rose Schreiber on the marriage of granddaughter Jillian Lev to Aryeh Katz of Los Angeles, California, and on the marriage of granddaughter Nicole Skydell to Jonathan Schottstein.
- Mazel tov to Helen & Menno Ratzker on the marriage of grandson Zach Ratzker to Alex Thurm. Mazel tov to parents Malkie & Paul Ratzker.

Building Fund

- **Important!** Please try and remit your building fund pledge commitments at your earliest opportunity. Thank you.

Youth Program

- Father and Child learning will resume this week during a special Seuda shlishis upstairs. There will be learning, Ice-cream, and prizes!!!
- This Sunday September 4th at 9pm there will be a special High School program and on Sunday September 18th from 5-7pm there will be a special Middle School (6th, 7th and 8th graders) program. Please see Rabbi Fried for more details.
- All Youth can once again turn in their tickets they received for their wonderful participation for great prizes!
- High School teens are invited to Learning and Frozen Yogurt every Wednesday night. Please contact Rabbi Fried for timing and location details.

Upcoming Events

- Ladies Tehillim group will meet on Monday at 10:30AM at the Young Israel.
- September 10, 2016 – Shabbos of gratitude and support for the police in our community.
- September 17, 2016 – Bar Mitzvah of Liam Senker

Reminder! Rules regarding seat owners

- **Men’s Section:** Until 9:30AM, the seats with names are reserved; if the seat remains vacant by 9:30AM, it is then open to anyone.
- **Women’s Section:** Until 10:30AM, the seats with names are reserved; if the seat remains vacant by 10:30AM, it is then open to anyone.

We are now in the process of assigning High Holiday seats. We kindly ask everyone to notify the shul office, as soon as possible, whether you will be with us for the High Holidays. This is especially important if you already have permanent seats, and will not be with us, so that these seats can be made available for purchase.

If you will be with us, and do not already have a permanent seat, please submit your purchase and seating request as soon as possible, so we can accommodate requests to the greatest extent possible.

We thank you all for your support and cooperation.

If you are interested in sponsoring Kiddush or Seuda Shlishis, please contact Stuart Harris or Yakira at (305) 866-0203.
New Mailing Address: 9580 Abbott Avenue, Surfside, FL 33154  
P.O. Box 545985, Surfside, FL 33154-5985

Shabbos/Holiday Schedule: To view the schedule, please go to our website, www.yicbh.org and click on Holidays/Shabbos Info.

Email Addresses: To contact Rabbi, Office, Youth Director or Gabbaim, please email Rabbi@yicbh.org; yakira@yicbh.org; Rabbifried@yicbh.org; gabbai@yicbh.org

Please respond to the email sent out last week requesting help in updating our databases for Aliyah cards and for Yahrzeits.

Thank you.

We now have photo gallery available online. Please go to www.yicbh.org and click photo gallery on the left bar. Enjoy!

The Young Israel Congregation of Bal Harbour has an extensive Torah Library both in Hebrew and English. Our English Torah lending Library is located in the conference room and will be open Monday-Thursday 9:00AM-5:00PM. The Torah library has been made possible through the generous sponsorship of Andrew and Basya Lowinger in memory of Maurice Lowinger z”l, משה בן בן-ציון הלוי ז”ל

We can now accept on-line donations via our shul website directly through PayPal. Please use this link http://www.yicbh.org/payment.php, or first go the website, www.yicbh.org, and click on Membership & Donation and press Donate. Please note it is very important you indicate in the “Payment Notes” the specific donation that is being paid for (membership, kiddush, aliyah, etc.).

Please submit all insertions for the Shmooze News to yakira@yicbh.org by noon on Thursday.