

Temple Beth El's Mitzvah Day 2012 - Sunday, May 20

What can one person/one family do to help repair the world (Tikkun Olam) as we are commanded to do? Together, on Sunday, May 20, we can turn our individual actions into a powerful collective response. Where do we start? Right here in Shalom Park. And then we branch out into the greater Charlotte community. Pick your passion and join us on this journey.

* Registration for Mitzvah Day 2012 will be online only at www.beth-el.com and runs through 11:59 PM on Monday, May 14.

* Projects are separated into



age-appropriate groups and are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. They fill quickly. Please see www.beth-el.com for full descriptions.

* Plan to arrive at Temple Beth El at 9 AM for breakfast and the opening ceremonies. You will meet up with your project team and head out together.

* Projects last approximately four hours, so please plan accordingly. ☆

Temple Beth El's 2nd Annual Brotherhood Party 50s Sock Hop

Saturday, May 19 at Temple Beth El 7-11 PM

Members: \$20; Non-members: \$25

Please join us for beer, wine, appetizers, and a disc jockey spinning the oldies. Poodle skirts and greaser jackets encouraged. Open to the community (21 and over). To register, contact Alan Gottheim: alan@perfectimagemktg.com.

See you at the Brotherhood Hop! ☆

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New This Coming May: JLI Course to Explore the Art of Marriage

Judaism is unique among other religions in that it views marriage and loving intimacy as a spiritual as well as a human ideal. According to Jewish tradition, marriage is more than a symbiotic relationship; marriage is a union of two hitherto incomplete souls, and the bond between spouses transcends their individual needs.

Jewish culture and tradition idealizes a joyful and content marital relationship and has a treasure trove of timeless advice on how to jumpstart and maintain a happy marriage.

The Art of Marriage is a six-week course that draws on millennia of Jewish wisdom, from the spiritual to the practical, providing concrete methods for improvement. The course also highlights many age-old ideas—sourced in ancient Jewish texts such as the Talmud and Zohar—which are finding widespread acceptance in the scientific community today.

This new and exciting course will be offered in Charlotte beginning on Monday, April 30 at 7:30 PM through Tuesday, June 5, for the evening class and Wednesday, May 2, at 11 AM through Wednesday, June 6, for the morning class. The classes will be led by Rabbi Yossi Groner for the

evening class and by Rabbi Shlomo Cohen for the morning class. Classes will be held at the Lubavitch Education Center, 6619 Sardis Road, Charlotte.

The course will benefit newlyweds, couples happily married for fifty years, as well as those contemplating tying the knot. Married individuals will learn how to enhance their relationship and heighten their intimacy, and those looking to marry will discover the building blocks of a healthy relationship. Fee \$90 for single and \$160 for couples. You can register by visiting our website at www.chabadnc.org or you can call our office at 704-366-3984.

Here is an outline of the course:

Lesson One: The Case for Marriage

Antiquated Relic vs. Existential Need

In November 2010, Time magazine featured an article titled, "Who Needs Marriage? A Changing Institution." Though marriage has been an integral part of the human condition since the dawn of mankind, in recent times, many have argued that the marital institution is a relic of the age of patriarchy. Indeed, society has changed and many of the traditional reasons for getting married are no longer relevant, prompting many to predict the demise of

marriage. Is there still reason to marry? This lesson will enlighten the discussion with timeless Jewish wisdom and secrets of the Kabbalah that resonate spiritually and emotionally.

Lesson Two: Bedroom Secrets A Jewish View on Intimacy

Though the subject probably wasn't broached by your Hebrew School teacher, Judaism has much to say about physical intimacy. It is common knowledge that Judaism doesn't advocate celibacy; but many might not know that Judaism views sexual intimacy as sacred (and not only because of its procreative value).

Lesson Three: Will My Spouse Ever Change?

What You Need to Know About Your Mate

"It takes two to tango," proclaims a popular adage, but what if only one partner is committed to improving the marriage? Can his or her solitary efforts make a significant impact? This lesson examines the ideal of an expectation-free relationship, where one partner gives to the relationship without anticipating any reciprocation.

Lesson Four: Are You a Mensch?

Becoming a Better Half

Marriage can bring out the best and worst in people. According to a 2010 study published by

(Continued on next page)



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