

TEMPLE



TOPICS

ADAR/NISAN/IYAR 5780

MARCH/APRIL 2020

Rabbi Ilana's Message

If you are not a better person tomorrow than you are today, what need have you for a tomorrow?

This search is as much an exercise in congregational self-awareness as it is in candidate assessment. Like finding a partner in a relationship, we know that there are many people with whom we could forge a future, but only select few who will inspire us and coax us into being our best selves.

full article on page 3

Cantor's Corner

Cantors Farewell - Installment #2 - To My Choir

Each and every year of my time being your cantor, music director and conductor, and at times your accompanist, has been very special. We have all been through so much together, both as a choir, and as friends. You have been an inspiration on a weekly basis.

full article on page 5

President's Message

Wherever You Go...

One of the more memorable moments was attending Friday evening Shabbat services at Temple Beth Shalom in San Juan. The temple was within walking distance - great. Per Beth Shalom's website, I emailed the temple to let them know we would be attending and attached our ID's. Yes, even in Puerto Rico there is security.

full article on page 2

Educator's Message

By Virtue of Their Office

I looked at my dad with all the admiration a daughter can have, plus a little more, and decided he's right, and it doesn't change a thing about the love I have for this place. And – the work I am doing as an ex officio member of our Cantorial Search Committee is no exception.

full article on page 4

B'NAI MITZVAH

March 7	Amanda Glucoft
March 14	Ashley Ehrlich
March 21	Zack Slater
April 4	Eli Swerdloff
April 18	Gabriel Reinstein

THINGS TO DO:

more info on back cover and throughout

- Torah Study
- Hebrew 101
- Tot Shabbat
- Purim Carnival
- Purim Spiel and Megillah reading
- Dine-A-Round
- Healing Service
- Miriam Seder
- Mah Jongg Tournament
- Community Second Night Seder

Donate to the CFA each time you come to synagogue!

Help us "fill the CFA truck" all year long!





President's Message

Judy Teich

Wherever You Go...

*Wherever you go there's always someone Jewish,
You're never alone when you say you're a Jew
So when you're not home,
And you're somewhere kind of 'newish'
The odds are—don't look far—
'Cause they're Jewish, too.*

- Rabbi Larry Milder

With all the strife and tension in the world, It is reassuring that we can walk through the doors of any synagogue and know that we are at home.

In February, Lois and I celebrated our recent marriage with a trip to Puerto Rico. We stayed at a quirky B & B in the community of Ocean Park in San Juan. The Dreamcatcher is very zen and laid back. Rather than staying in a big resort hotel, we chose to stay at The Dreamcatcher so we could be in a smaller neighborhood. We wanted to experience the local neighborhood to have an opportunity to get to know the people living in the community.

The B & B provided a hand-drawn map and suggested walking as an alternative to other transportation, so walking we did! We wandered, we walked, we stumbled upon interesting sites ... roosters and chickens in the park, beautiful homes, and even a Holocaust memorial near the government buildings. By night, Uber was our best option. People were friendly and glad to see tourists supporting Puerto Rico by spending money!

One of the more memorable moments was attending Friday evening Shabbat services at Temple Beth Shalom in San Juan. The temple was within walking distance - great. Per Beth Shalom's website, I emailed the temple to let them know we would be attending and attached our IDs. Yes, even in Puerto Rico there is security.

As we approached the temple a few minutes before services were to begin there was much ado at the entrance. Apparently the homemade oneg cake had arrived! The security guard was carrying the cake from the congregant's car into the temple. I guess protecting the cake is one of the responsibilities of the security personnel. Lois and I were greeted with a warm welcome as we entered, we were checked off the list and made our way to our seats in the sanctuary where we joined the

congregation in joyful song and prayer. A quick game of Jewish geography led us to realize that a part of our extended family was at the oneg, friends of the bat mitzvah ... talk about a small world ... now we were truly a part of this larger community!

I've been thinking a lot about *kehillah*, community, and what it means to be part of something bigger than ourselves. *Am Yisrael*, the people of Israel is what we call ourselves. We are people who place community over everything else.

Like we were so warmly welcomed in Puerto Rico, I know that guests to BHSS feel the same way. I am proud of our tradition of being gracious to all that come through our doors.

As we are shortly entering the Passover season, a time when families may travel away from BHSS to celebrate, my wish is that you feel not just welcomed, but embraced wherever you go and that you always return to us, your spiritual home.

Chag Pesach Sameach,
Judy Teich, President

SAVE the DATES

Cantor Perper's Farewell Service

Join us on
Friday, June 12 at 7:30 p.m.
As we celebrate Cantor Perper!

Yom HaShoah Commemoration

Monday night, April 20 beginning at 7:30 p.m.
Join your community, our choir,
and our Kadimah students as we
observe Yom HaShoah

Rabbi's Reflections

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman



If you are not a better person tomorrow than you are today, what need have you for a tomorrow?

We sift through resumé's, getting the general feel for our candidates, looking at how their experience and their passions manifest through their education and work. We read their personal statements, learning about their lives and their motivations. We are searching for skills and encounters that overlaps with our congregational needs and visions for the future. This search is as much an exercise in congregational self-awareness as it is in candidate assessment. Like finding a partner in a relationship, we know that there are many people with whom we could forge a future, but only a select few who will inspire us and coax us into being our best selves. Our committee is committed to finding the individual who can best partner with us and lead us.

All this brings me back to my search process, when BHSS and I found each other. Recently, I shared my personal statement with one of the chairs of the search committee. They pointed out that the only people who really got to see that statement were those who were on the Rabbinic search. So, today, I humbly submit to you the personal statement with which I asked BHSS to consider me as your rabbi. In our time of transition, rereading my statement re-commits me to BHSS, to the rabbi I hope to be, and to who we can be in the future. I hope it does the same for you.

If you are not a better person tomorrow than you are today, what need have you for a tomorrow?

— Reb Nachman of Breslov

I believe that Judaism is about relationships. It is about our responsibilities to our families and to our community, and about how we behave towards others in the world. I believe that interpersonal kindness embodies Jewish ideals and teaching. One of the wisest Jewish thinkers of the past century, Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel said, "When I was young, I admired clever people. Now that I am old, I admire kind people."

In Salt Lake City, for years Irwin led morning minyan and began our Shabbat services. He and I would chat before others arrived—he told me about his bum knee, his daughters, and about his bowling league. Together we celebrated my 35th birthday and then his 75th. Through years of weekday and Shabbat mornings, I noticed his chanting slowed and that perhaps his memory was not all it had been. Last year when I saw him between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, something was different. He told me his

sister had passed away. When I asked her name, Irwin could not recall. I knew something was wrong. A few days later, after talking to his daughters, I told Irwin we needed to consult with his doctor. When his doctor did not answer, I drove Irwin to the emergency room. His daughters told me they could not convince him to go to the hospital, and they thanked me for taking him. I was there when his cancer was diagnosed. It was years of talking and praying together that made me realize when something was not right and allowed Irwin to trust me enough to take him to the hospital. I miss Irwin every day— each time I pray the morning blessings I miss him, and I missed him the day my daughter was born. Our relationship helped give meaning to my life and to my Judaism.

We started out not knowing each other much at all, and our relationship deepened over time. It is my hope to deepen relationships with each person I encounter. It is not unusual for me to walk over to people during a *Mi Sheberach*, a prayer to God for healing, with a box of tissues or to hold a hand during Mourner's *Kaddish*. Those who attend synagogue should also connect with one another, not just with me. So as we welcome the Shabbat in *Lecha Dodi*, I encourage people to introduce themselves and wish one another a *Shabbat shalom*. When we study together, we engage each person at the table, not only the ancient text and rabbinic interpretations. The interpersonal is integral to all that we do. That is what will continue to draw people towards synagogues and Judaism.

I like to know the name of every person who comes through the door of the synagogue—Jewish or not, member or not. I do not always remember every name the first time around; what I do remember are the stories people tell me of what is happening in their lives. I find that when I reach out to people, talk to them and learn about them, others do the same. As a rabbi, I try to be a *dugma'it*, an example, to my congregation of how to interact. I do not always do it perfectly, but I have succeeded in creating lasting relationships with people who were not always initially comfortable in the synagogue.

One particular Friday night, I was considering *Parashat VaYeshev*, the section of Genesis about Joseph and his brothers. This was my Bat Mitzvah portion, and I have always been confounded by Joseph's behavior towards his brothers,

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From the Educator's Office

Rebecca McVeigh

By Virtue of Their Office

I'm going to preface this by stating what I hope is obvious to most of you: my heart and soul lives in this congregation; in the years before I became the education director I was a vice president, a trustee, and a committee chair. And I have loved it all. I'm interested in congregational governance even as I strive to make all of our educational programming meaningful and in line with our congregation's mission statement, which includes the words "...we are dedicated to the never-ending process of Jewish learning."

Over the long weekend, Rod and I drove up to visit my 94-year-old dad, a career lay leader of my hometown Cape Cod Synagogue, and he says I'm crazy. I looked at my dad with all the admiration a daughter can have, plus a little more, and decided he's right, and it doesn't change a thing about the love I have for this place. And – the work I am doing as an ex officio member of our Cantorial Search Committee is no exception.

On first glance, the term ex officio would seem to have a negative connotation, ex most often meaning something one is no longer, like an ex-president, ex-employee, etc. One might even assume it means "ex-official". However, it is a wholly positive expression.

Robert's Rules of Order explains: "Frequently boards and committees contain some members who are members by virtue of their office, and, therefore, are termed ex-officio members."

At another website that dives deeper into the details of board and committee work in general, I found something even more specific: "Ex officio board members are not necessarily elected or appointed, rather they agree to serve in a position because the organization needs their expertise or influence in that position."

I particularly love the part that reads "...because the organization needs their expertise..." Not only did I agree to be on the Cantorial Search Committee, I am excited to be a part of it. I am honored to be thought of as someone whose expertise will lend itself to furthering the sacred work of this committee. But – that expertise has been enhanced, refined,

and informed by the wonderful partnership I have had with Cantor Perper. His sense of humor, his voice, his spirit, his presence in my life here at BHSS has made it richer and his friendship and steadfast support have lifted me up many times in the past 13 years.

Along with Rabbi Ilana and our president, Judy Teich, the other ex officio members, we as a committee are reading resumes, asking questions and listening for answers – and voices. We have come together as a unified group of very different people to discuss and consider- not always agreeing - but always respectfully, and we are going to find a cantor who is everything this, my beloved congregation, deserves.

- Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh, Director of Education

**Always Wanted to
Read
HEBREW
but
never had a chance to learn?**

**HEBREW 101
with Rebecca McVeigh**

Wednesday mornings
from 10 to 11 a.m.
beginning January 15
through April 8

Think you'll miss a class or two? Remote learning will be keep everyone on track. Book fee is \$15.

Get ready to unravel the mystery of all those lines and dots and learn with us!

For questions and to sign up, call the office at
201-512-1983



March Birthdays

Colby Berkowicz

Julian Brandman

Jonathan Cassell

Hailey Dworkin

Ashley Ehrlich

Samantha Eisenberg

Amanda Glucoft

Samuel Hoffert

Rachel LaCorte

Theodora Leibman

Zack Slater

Eli Swerdloff

Cantor's Corner

Gratitude & Farewell Installment #2

David Perper



To My Choir,

Each and every year of my time being your cantor, music director and conductor, and at times your accompanist, has been very special. We have all been through so much together, both as a choir, and as friends. You have been an inspiration on a weekly basis, and the BHSS community has been very vocal in their support. At the High Holy Day receiving line at the end of Erev Rosh Hashanah services, everyone says how wonderful the choir sounds, and how much they appreciate your dedication. They are correct of course. Our choral rehearsal schedule is intense. Year-round, Wednesday evenings, 90 minutes of learning, prayer, singing, laughter, and lots of hard choral work. The repertoire of the choir has grown, and the quality of their delivery at services cannot be measured.

I want to thank our rehearsal pianist, Jane Koch, who also teaches music in our religious school, and Itay Goren, our accompanist on the High Holy Days and other special events and services. Thank you both for your dedication and talent, for your time and musicality. Without you both, the results and effectiveness of our labors would not have reached the heights of our intention.

To the BHSS community I want to say the following: Please continue to support, and demand that the choir moves forward, and perhaps gets new members, too. I have tried to grow the choir and was somewhat successful. Having said that, your adult choir has grown in skill and expression as well as developing a wide range of repertoire.

B'Shalom,
Cantor

Our beautiful space, The *Ulam*, is available for your next event!!

Are you having a meeting? A small intimate gathering? Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation or Extended Kiddush?
Please call the office for more information on renting out this space.



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Youth Group, Jason Ritchin, Co President	201-230-1931	jasonritch@gmail.com

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Victoria Laddy

Gabriel Reinstein

Jordan Shamus

Dylan Slater

Parker Slivka

Remi Slivka

Jason Weintraub

Candlelighting times:

March 6, Tetzaveh 5:36 pm

March 13, Ki Tisa 6:44 pm

March 20, Vayacheil/P'kudei 6:51 pm

March 27, Vayikra 6:59 pm

April 3, Tzav 7:06 pm

April 10, 2020 Chol Hamoed Pesach 7:14 pm

April 17, 2020 Sh'mini 7:21 pm

April 24, 2020 Tazria/M'tzora 7:29 pm



March Calendar

Sunday 1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 4	Thursday 5	Friday 6	Saturday 7
No School	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Class	10 am Hebrew 101 7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Tetzaveh 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Amanda Glucoft
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9 am FS & 6th 11:30 am Mini Spiel 11:45 am Purim Carnival	No School 7 pm Purim Spiel	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Class 7:30 pm Exec. Comm. mtg. 7:30 pm MMG mtg	10 am Hebrew 101 7:30 pm Adult Choir		5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Tefilot	Ki Tisa 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Ashley Ehrlich
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9 am FS & 6th	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 7:30 pm Board mtg	10 am Hebrew 101 7:30 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot Refugee Shabbat	Vayakhel/P'kudei 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Zack Slater
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9 am FS & 6th 7 pm Healing Service	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 7:30 pm Music Comm. mtg 7:30 pm Thought for Food	10 am Hebrew 101 7:30 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot JYG Helps Lead	Vayikra 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am B'nai Mitzvah Learning Service
29	30	31				
9 am FS & 6th 1 pm Menschmakers Event 3 pm K/1/2 Youth Event	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 7:30 pm Ritual mtg				

April Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3	Saturday 4
			10 am Hebrew 101 7:30 pm Adult Choir	6 pm Sisterhood Miriam Seder	6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Tzav 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Eli Swerdloff
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
No School 9:30 am Sis'hood Mah Jongg Tournament	No School	No School	Erev Passover First Seder	Office Closed 6 pm Second Night Community Seder (by RSVP)	7:30 pm Tefilot	Chol HaMoed Pesach 8:15 am Torah Study
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
No School	No School	No School 7:30 pm Exec. Comm. mtg 7:30 pm MMG mtg	Office Closed		5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Tefilot	Sh'mini 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Gabriel Reinstein
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9 am FS & 6th 12 pm 8th/9th class trip NYC.	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah 7:30 pm Yom HaShoah Program	4 pm School 4/5 7:30 pm Board mtg	10 am Hebrew 101 7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Thought for Food		7:30 pm Tefilot Senior Youth Group Leads	Tazria/M'tzora 8:15 am Torah Study
26	27	28	29	30		
9 am FS & 6th 1 pm JYG Comm Svce event 1 pm Book & A Bagel	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 7 pm Yom Hazikaron & Yom Haatzmaut Concert (off-site)				

...will be called to the Torah...



Amanda Glucoft – March 7, 2020

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Lynne, Father, Gary, Brother, Michael, 17 is a 7th grader at Ramapo Ridge Middle School Her interests include softball/baseball, basketball, and music. “I would like to be a college softball catcher. I feel excited that I get to share all of my hard work with my family and friends. My community service project is helping out the special needs community in organizations like Access for All and All Stars.”



Ashley Ehrlich – March 14, 2020

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Erika, Father, Bryan, Brother, Hunter, 10 is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School..... Her interests include hanging out with friends and family, and exercising with friends. “I would like to become an interior designer. I have participated in giving back to others through Project NEST and collecting art supplies for children in need to participate in art classes in New York City.”



Zack Slater – March 21, 2020

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Stacy, Father, Farrell, Brother, Dylan, 8 is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School His interests include sports, video games, computer design, movies, camp, vacations, and going places. “I would like to go to a good college and get a good job. I am very nervous and excited. For my community service I raised over \$1,000 and made personalized tutoring bags, including picking out specific books and a lot of other stuff for each person, to give to kids at an organization called NAC.”



Eli Swerdloff – April 4, 2020

Lives in Montebello, New York. Mother, Jessica, Father, David, Brothers, Jack, 15, Miles, 9 is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School His interests include science, reading, art, and games. “I would like to be a physicist. I am excited to share my special day with friends and family. I am collecting new or slightly used books for classrooms in the East Ramapo School District.”



Gabriel Reinstein – April 18, 2020

Lives in Frankford, New Jersey. Mother, Jodi, Father, Ari, Brother, Jack, 16, Sister, Leah, 14 is a 7th grader at Frankford Township Middle School His interests including football, skiing, gaming, Rubik’s cube, and Boy Scouts. “I would like to be a pilot or an astrophysicist and study space. I worked very hard and am excited to celebrate with my friends. I am making homemade dog treats and toys, and collecting monetary donations that will be donated to a local animal shelter.”

Rabbi's Reflections *continued from page 3*

both when he shares his self-aggrandizing dreams with them and when he meets and tests them in Egypt. This year I expressed my frustration with his selfishness to the congregation in an open discussion. I was humbled and enlightened by the insight brought by two congregants. The first shared that, having been through the hardship of prison, she could understand Joseph's inability to forgive his brothers after his imprisonment. The second talked about what it was like to have been bullied in his childhood and how he has always identified with Joseph. I continue to have profound gratitude to those congregants for sharing their traumatic experiences. They provided us with new ways of understanding Joseph, and they helped us all to recognize that we as a congregation must be doing something right when even the most vulnerable among us are comfortable enough to challenge their rabbi and share their stories.

In *Pirkei Avot* 5:6 Ben Bag Bag says, "*Hafoch ba vehafoch ba dekula ba,*" turn the Torah over and over for everything is in it. We read the Torah every year, not because it changes, but because we do. Each time we meet a new person, the Torah influences that relationship, and the relationship changes the way we understand the text. They are inextricable. The experience of discussing the Joseph story in this context brought me closer to my congregants, to the text, and to a better understanding of people more generally. I believe that it also brought those sharing and those witnessing into a holy place, closer to each other and closer to God. We could not have had this exchange in any place but a synagogue, where we delve into Jewish text and know one another well enough to share ourselves.

As a rabbi, my responsibility is always to my congregation, but it is also to the community at large. When there was concern over the Latter-Day Saint Church posthumously

baptizing deceased Jews, I could have dismissed it thinking, "We don't believe in posthumous ordinances. It doesn't matter." But if we are to respect those of other faith traditions, we must discuss those acts that disturb us and invite conversation. To that end, I reached out to the Church to talk about why this behavior was troubling. In both my personal and professional life, I think it is true that a good friend calls, even when she doesn't need something. I continue to work with the LDS Church and its membership. There is an ongoing conversation between intellectuals in the LDS and Jewish communities. The LDS group is from Brigham Young University and most of our Jewish representation comes from Los Angeles.

As the local rabbi, I have brought the practical, boots-on-the-ground perspective to the conversation. I have also participated in the Liberal Clergy Group and the Millcreek Bridging Group. I have learned about other faith traditions, made dear friends, and had a support system composed of various clergy. Because of this interfaith work, I have been able to advocate effectively for the LGBTQ community, hate crime legislation, action against homelessness, and—most recently—against the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia, and the hate groups who perpetrated it. When we build relationships in quiet times, we can work together in times of need and concern.

The contemporary synagogue includes prayer, spirituality, social action, study, leadership, and engagement; and as a rabbi and a Jew, I am also devoted to these pursuits. I see the synagogue as a place where we can practice being our best selves, which we can only do together, in relationships with one another and with God. I include myself in that practice, which is at the center of my understanding of Judaism and my vision for the community I hope to serve.

From the Cantorial Search Committee

It is an exciting time for the BHSS Cantorial Search Committee. The committee has come together cohesively, openly sharing our opinions, truly being present and listening to each other's point of view. We have received many resumes from an impressive group of candidates and are currently interviewing viable candidates via SKYPE. We have started to schedule in-person meetings as well, continuing the process with those we feel could be our next cantor.

During the in-person visits, the cantors are with us for brief yet extremely busy periods. The visits typically include an opportunity to meet individually with Rabbi Ilana and each staff member, a formal interview with the Search Committee,

and a brief "audition." Additionally, the cantor may be asked to conduct a learning session with groups of adult and/or youth learners.

We will continue to provide updates via *Temple Topics* and through our website's Cantorial Search link. If you have questions or thoughts please don't hesitate to reach out us.

Cantorial Search Committee Co-Chairs,

Gary Buchalter – gbuchalter@jennison.com
Stacey Coyne – staceycoy@aol.com
Gail Spencer – gailspencer1014@gmail.com

Good & Welfare from & for the congregation

Condolences

to **Lisa Lamster** on the death of her dear friend, Terri Coffel
to **Andrew Silver** on the death of his grandmother, Gertrude Silver
to **Ian Coyne** on the death of his uncle, Fr. George Coyne
to **Sharon Berman** on the death of her mother, Sylvia Kadish
to **Joel Goldfarb** on the death of his cousin, and to

Lisa Lamster and **Carrie Ritchin** on the death of their second cousin, Enid Marcus
to **Howard Falkow** on the death of his sister, Nancy Falkow McBride
to **Ritch Yanowitz** on the death of his mother, Jane Yanowitz
to **Brandon Gottlieb** on the death of his grandmother, Beatrice Mendelowitz
to **Barry Cassell** on the death of his mother, Barbara Bette Cassell
to **Jennifer Cole** on the death of her great aunt, Beatrice Farber



Mazal Tov

to **Alison and Norman Axelrod** on the marriage of their daughter Sydney to Jeremy Colvin
to **Kathy and Howard Zukof** on the birth of their grandson, Will
to **Brittany and Aaron Punim** on the birth of their son, Hudson

A celebration of Jewish Music on Broadway

JEWSICAL

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, March 21, 2020
Doors Open: 7:00 PM - Concert: 7:30pm
Tickets: \$36 per person
Special Sponsor Package: \$118
(Includes two reserved center seats)
Special Benefactor Package: \$360
(Includes two reserved center seats, two drink vouchers & your own parking spot)

Featuring Performances By:

Cantor Sally Neff	Cantor Chanin Rosen
Cantor David Perper	Cantor Randall Schloss
Cantor Faith Steinsnyder	Cantor David Rosen
Cantor Hayley Poserow	Cantor Anna Zhar
Cantor Tracey Scher	Cantor Erica Rubin

\$5.00 Cash Wine Bar

For more information or to reserve your tickets email
susan@rtrny.org subject "Jewsical" or call 845.358.2248.
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**THE REFORM TEMPLE
OF ROCKLAND**

Mah Jongg TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

CASH PRIZES

Doors open at 9:15 AM.
Play begins promptly at 10:00.

at Beth Haverim Shir Shalom
280 Ramapo Valley Road
Mahwah, NJ 07430

Breakfast and lunch included.
Six rounds - Cost is \$54/per person

**BENEFITING
BHSS SISTERHOOD**

We will be playing with the 2019 card.

Checks payable to
"Sisterhood of Beth Haverim Shir Shalom"
Registration due March 25.

**SPONSORED BY
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CARE**
Heart. Health. Home

Any questions please contact
Debbie Falkow att 201-681-6379
or debfalkow@hotmail.com

Ritual Committee

Big news from ritual...Michelle Sherry, co-chair of the committee is stepping down to start her new role as BHSS Administrative Assistant. Michelle will still be there to offer support, just from the other side of the desk. We're happy to announce that Nancy Levene has stepped up to serve as co-chair of the ritual committee. Nancy brings years of experience and leadership to this role, and I am excited to have the opportunity to partner with her! We wish Michelle much success in her new role as well!

And now on to a more serious topic...

*Birth is a beginning and death a destination.
But life is a journey, a sacred pilgrimage - made stage by stage -
to life everlasting.*

The Talmud tells us that *Nihum Avelim*, comforting mourners, is considered one of the classic forms of kindness in Jewish tradition – one of the ways for humans to fulfill the principle of “Walking in God’s Ways,” and the mitzvah of loving one’s neighbor as oneself. It is not simply considered a thoughtful thing to do....it is a commandment!

The essence of what it means to be part of our BHSS community is to be there for others and to know that they will be there for you. As congregants, we have the obligation to attend shiva minyans, to stand together as a community in support of a member family in their time of need.

The shiva minyan provides an opportunity for grieving families to feel the arms of the BHSS community wrapped around them. This experience can provide exactly the support people need to move from the moment of grief to celebrating the memory of a loved one. As I reflect on my experience when my father passed away two years ago, one of the things that I remember most is the feeling of love and support of the BHSS community. So many of you took the time to come and simply “be” with me during those difficult days, and for that I will always be grateful.

One of the ways that the Ritual Committee serves our sacred community is by providing shiva minyan leadership when our clergy is not available to lead. If leading shiva is something that you are curious about, and that you might consider taking on as a way of fulfilling this mitzvah, let us know! We understand that leading a Shiva can seem intimidating. Don't

worry...we will pair you with an experienced shiva leader until you feel ready to lead alone. We are in the process of planning and scheduling lay leader training for the spring...stay tuned for the details.

In the meantime, if you would like to attend a shiva minyan but don't want to go alone, contact Nancy or Debbie we'll find someone to go with you.

Other upcoming dates to remember...

- Don't miss the Purim Spiel on Monday, March 9
- Attend our community 2nd Seder on Thursday, April 9

Debbie Royal, co-chair



Guidelines:

No Pork, No Shellfish
Please honor the month's milk or meat designation; *parve* (neither meat nor dairy) dishes always welcome!
You only need to make one batch/recipe's worth.
Everyone will have a chance to have a taste of each recipe. Everything needs to be prepared at home; we will not be reheating or cooking at BHSS.

Bring 20 copies of your recipe - or email to temple and we can copy for you!

March 24 - What's for Seder?

Passover favorites
Please bring *pesadich* dish...dairy
7:30-8:30 p.m.

April 22 - Spring is almost here!

Desserts that represent spring
Dairy dish, please no meat, *parve* always welcome!
7:30-8:30 p.m.

Sisterhood News

It's March – keep your eyes peeled for the crocuses and daffodils – once you spot them, spring is on the way, no matter what the forecasters say. We've made it through another winter, and we're getting ready to welcome the light!

Sisterhood is having another busy year. We hope you were able to join us over the winter for some or all of our great events, like our Potluck Holiday Dinner, where Vintage Souls kept us up and dancing all night. January brought Yoga for Every Body and *L'Dor V'Dor* Bingo, where the generations came together to see who could yell "Bingo" the loudest!

You already know that at each of our events, we try to contribute to our neighbors and communities, but do you know how Sisterhood contributes to our own BHSS community?

Have you noticed the big, beautiful screen in the school lobby, while you're doing Hebrew school dropoff and pickup? That is a gift from Sisterhood to the congregation.

For many years, Sisterhood's fundraising efforts have made it possible for dozens of BHSS children, who wouldn't otherwise have had the opportunity, to attend URJ summer camps. This year, Sisterhood donated camperships in excess of \$8,000, all raised by our events and programs. When we ask you to join us for an evening, sure, we want to see your faces, but we also depend on your help, to allow us to continue our tradition of helping our members and their families.

So please come out and be a part of the good we do – we promise it won't hurt, and you'll have a great time! Coming up, Sisterhood hosts one of the BHSS favorites, **Dine-A-Round on March 14**. Join your friends old and new at a cocktail party at one site, an intimate dinner at a member's home, and dessert with everyone together. Check the screen in the main lobby for more details!

Don't miss our annual **Miriam Seder on April 2**. Rabbi Ilana will lead us in a moving, empowering and joyful evening. Bring your daughters, your mothers and your friends to celebrate with us.

Are you a **Mah Jongg** person? We are hosting a tournament at BHSS on April 5. Watch your emails!

On April 11, our lucky **Elton John winner** will be rocking out at the Barclay's Center – we don't know who it is at press time – hopefully, it's you!

As an early reminder, **May 15 is Sisterhood Shabbat**. Worship with us as we celebrate our foremothers, our role models and ourselves. It wouldn't be the same without you.

Sisterhood is a powerful force in BHSS life, because we care. Want to help us? Have a great idea? Contact us and let us know – there's always room.

Happy Spring!

Linda Vogel and Mona Sussman, co-presidents

Sisterhood's

Dine-A-Round/Progressive Dinner

**Come Meet
Some Old Friends
and Make
Some New Ones**

**During an Evening of Food and Fun
Saturday, March 14
6:30 PM
\$40 per person**

**Appetizers, dinner, and dessert
at the homes of host congregants**

RSVP to Lisa Lamster, lislam@optonline.net
or 201-230-1936 by March 1

Michelle Mitzvah Group

A few days after I write this, I hope to “win, place, or show” at the Oasis Night at the Races Beefsteak Dinner. The past few years, members of the Michelle Mitzvah Group have attended this great event to raise money to support Oasis A Haven for Women & Children in Paterson, NJ. I do have to admit I am looking forward to the Tricky Trays for I usually walk away a winner.

Of course, I do not need to attend a fundraiser and hope to win a Tricky Tray to be a winner. There are a variety of ways to win with the Michelle Mitzvah Group. Let's first start with Oasis. You can help tutor children with their homework or help young women prepare for their citizenship test, or even help take care of children while their moms attend classes. For further information, you can go to the Oasis website- <https://oasisnj.org/volunteer>.

There are other opportunities available to be a winner, and not just at Oasis. Volunteer to provide lunches at the Christ Episcopal Church in Suffern, NY, thru the “Lunches with Love” program. Yours Truly coordinates the schedule for Sunday meals, and there are also lunches, Monday thru Saturday. For more information on weekday opportunities, please visit the website- www.christchurchsuffern.org/ministries/

The Center for Food Action needs donations. The collection bins are by the entrance to the synagogue and they can always use supplies. Below is a list of the most needed items- <https://cfanj.org/125>

Supermarket Gift Cards	Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, etc.)
Canned Hearty Soups	Canned Vegetables
Macaroni & Cheese	Peanut Butter & Jelly
Tomato Sauce	Cold Cereal (low sugar) and Oatmeal
Powdered Milk and/or Boxed Milk, such as Parmalat	Instant Potatoes
Canned Fruits	Baby Formula & Diapers sizes 4, 5 & 6
100% Juice	Toothpaste, Toothbrush & Dental Floss
Bar or Bottled Soap	

Another way to volunteer is to help support The Emmanuel Cancer Foundation. ECF provides New Jersey “families facing the crisis of pediatric cancer a place to turn for comfort and support through professional in-home counseling and a uniquely tailored package of assistance - all free-of-charge.” <https://www.emmanuelcancer.org/>

With the Michelle Mitzvah Group and at the horse track, there are plenty of options. Unlike betting at the horse track, if you pick Michelle Mitzvah Group, show up anytime and show any interest, no matter the place, no matter the location, I guarantee you, too, will be a winner.

We meet the second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 p.m., at the synagogue. For more information, please contact me at steveoum@verizon.net or via cell 201 788-6755.

B'Shalom

Steven Simon, Michelle Mitzvah Group Chair

Space is limited.
Register today!



BHSS ADVENTURE IN ISRAEL

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AUGUST 15-25, 2020

with BHSS
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From the *Sifriyah*

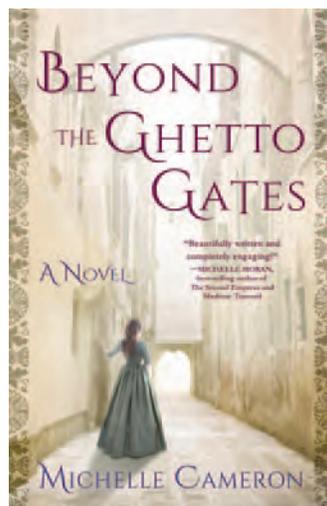
A word after a word after a word is power.
- Margaret Atwood

We Library Ladies are very excited. **On April 26 we will welcome author Michelle Cameron to a special Book and a Bagel.** Her newest book, *Beyond the Ghetto Gates*, is set in 1796. Napoleon had marched into Italy and opened up the ghetto gates, freeing the Jews who had been trapped behind them. The historical novel raises questions about religious tradition and assimilation, intermarriage, and the struggle between love and family, all issues relative to our time. More information will soon follow as we near our April 26 date. In the meantime, mark your calendars and plan to attend this important event.

In 2018, there were 1,879 Anti-Semitic incidents in the U.S. Although not calculated for 2019, it is widely assumed that these figures rose. The most widely reported and terrifying incidents are seared in our memories: Rally in Charlottesville, Virginia,

Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, storming of Rabbi's house in Rockland County.

Keenly aware of these deadly persistent incidences, the library purchased American historian author Deborah Lipstadt's new book, *ANTISEMITISM: Here and Now* to help readers understand the resurgence of anti-Semitism on both the right and the left of the political spectrum. Lipstadt's book won accolades from many different sources. Anthony Julius, author of *Trials of the Diaspora: A History of Anti-Semitism in England* wrote, "Deborah Lipstadt is that rare person able to play a leading part in events and to fathom their meaning. Having triumphed in a court case brought by an anti-Semite, she now explains anti-Semitism to us and thus performs a double service. This is a valuable book, containing many lessons." Do put this National Jewish Book Award winner on your MUST READ list.



Join us for stories, singing, and snacks with our clergy and educator and a taste of Shabbat with your little ones!

Parents, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles with children ages birth to 5 (siblings welcome too.)
Fridays from 5:15 to 6 p.m. (see dates below)

Tot Shabbat

Join us for Tot Shabbat followed by dinner.

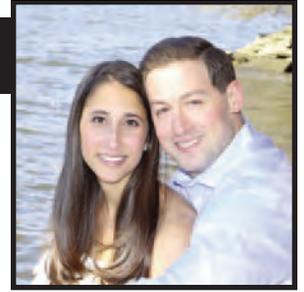
March 13
April 17
May 15
June 19

Please RSVP to the temple office,
201-512-1983



Youth Programming

Brittany and Aaron Punim, Directors of Informal Youth Programming



K-2

Please join our K-2 youth group for their upcoming events:

- March 29 – Chocolate Matzah Mash – 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- May 17 – Bergen County Horse Rescue – 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Menschmakers

In the month of January, the Menschmakers created birthday cards for the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation. Michelle Mitzvah and our Menschmakers have partnered together to create birthday bags for children with cancer. The kids decorated each card with kind words such as “have a sweet birthday” and “shine and smile,” hoping to send some sunshine their way.

We also had a Minute to Win It event and who knew the activities would become competitive? Some activities included putting together a 48-piece puzzle, stacking cups, stringing fruit loops on a pipe cleaner to make a bracelet, M&M races, spelling words out of toothpicks, being wrapped in streamers, etc. Our Menschmakers had such a great time, but the pictures say it all.

We would love to have you attend one of our upcoming events and hope you can join us!

- March 29 – Passover Cooking Class – 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
- May 3 – Challah Baking – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.



Junior Youth Group

The Junior Youth Group has a few events left for the year, and we would love for you to join us!

- March 27 – JYG Leads Services – 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
- April 26 – Community Service Event – “Kozy Kits” – time TBA
- May 3 – Challah Baking & Challah Trays – 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Senior Youth Group

The Senior Youth Group hosted Cupcake Wars with The Reform Temple of Rockland in Upper Nyack. Heather Romoff coordinated all activities that took place and we truly appreciate the time that was spent to make this event possible. The best part was being able to meet teens from another congregation and eat the dessert at the end of the event!

On January 25, the Senior Youth Group also took part in another successful Midnight Run. This is something our teens look forward to each year, as they have shared “it’s extremely rewarding,” and were able to take part in *Tikkun Olam*, healing the world. Our Senior Youth Group would like to thank Mrs. Pavon for helping to coordinate this event as well as Brotherhood and Michelle Mitzvah for supporting our youth and being able to help as drivers.

We hope you can join us for our upcoming events we have planned:

- March 8 – BHSSTY Presents the Mini-Spiel and Purim Carnival – 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- April 24 – BHSSTY leads services – 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
- May 17 – Community Service Event- Bergen County Horse Rescue 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Brotherhood

Shalom, all! So, a few weeks back, the Senior Youth Group (with Junior Youth Group representation) did the Midnight Run, along with Michelle Mitzvah group and BHSS Brotherhood. They do this about twice a year. For those who don't know what the Midnight Run is, it's a fantastic event to help the homeless. What happens is this: A bunch of youth group members meet at the synagogue, and we all caravan in a few cars to a church in Larchmont where we meet up with members of the Larchmont Temple and the Midnight Run coordinators. The kids all prepare food, sort clothing, shoes, blankets, toiletries and essentials and we stock up several cars with all the stuff. One car is the shoes car, one is jeans of all sizes, one is toiletries (that car is called the "CVS" car), one with hoodies and sweatshirts, one with jackets, gloves and hats, and another with tee shirts, underwear, socks, and blankets. One of the vehicles is a large pickup truck that is the food truck...loaded with sandwiches, coffee, soup, snacks and whatever else they're serving that night. After a walk to get pizza, we come back to the church, meet with the coordinators of the Midnight Run where we outline all the stops in NYC, exchange cell phone numbers, and then head off to NYC...returning back to the synagogue and home no earlier than 1:30 a.m.

Details about where we actually go, and with whom we meet, must remain confidential. These folks on the street – some of whom have been living out there for ten years or more, and others for just a few weeks or months – ask us to respect their privacy...so no names or pictures. I'll tell you this, though: Engaging in conversations with some folks, you really learn about who they are as people, some of the issues that keep them on the streets...and some of their stories are truly heartbreaking. Mostly, though, they are all grateful for our service to them, and thank us for doing "God's Work."

Why are we telling you this story? Well...just to keep you all in the loop...and answering the question that is always asked, "what does Brotherhood do?" Well...we do things like this. We support the youth groups in our synagogue by selling

food at Purim, by co-sponsoring and co-hosting events with Youth, with Michelle Mitzvah, with Sisterhood...and with the Membership Committee, clergy and administration to help carry out initiatives. We build and take down the sukkah, we usher, we co-sponsor B'nai Mitzvah gifts... and... we also have fun events! Twice a month we have a dinner and a RAPS breakfast. We have a bike ride (or two), we sponsor a suite at the Boulders every Father's Day weekend, and let's face it...we are a nice, fun group of guys with whom to hang around.

So, we'll say it again as we say it always...come check out the Brotherhood. Come to one event. Help us with just one initiative. Come to a board meeting and talk about events and ideas that you would like to see...and help us plan and deliver those ideas.

BHSS Brotherhood – *changing the world, one Mitzvah at a time.*

Upcoming events:

March 8, 2020 – Purim Carnival – Brotherhood is cooking and selling food – all of the profits go to the Youth Group (never too early to volunteer to help!)

March 19, 2020 – Dinner at Sarina's Afghani Restaurant in Suffern – 7:30 PM

March 29, 2020 – Brotherhood RAPS – Panera in Ramsey - 10:00 AM

April 16, 2020 – Break Passover with the Brotherhood – Peshwari Grill, Mahwah, NJ – 7:30 PM

April 26, 2020 – Brotherhood RAPS – Panera in Ramsey – 10:00 AM

Also – keep an eye out for an April board meeting...TBD

Come join the unofficial

BHSS Bicycle and Hiking Club

We ride on Sundays at 9 a.m. and sometimes at 8 a.m. when the weather warms. We like the rail to trail best, but sometimes ride on the road.

We mostly ride the Monroe-Goshen rail to trail and sometimes find other trails as well. We always end with food, coffee and conversation. When we can't cycle we hike. Good company - good conversation - cycling, hiking and fun.

Give a shout out to Michael Feldman at jurisfeld@gmail.com. See you soon!



Contributions

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

to Julie and Marc Irizzary, in honor of Sloane
becoming a Bat Mitzvah - *Arlene & Ken Bernstein*

with thanks - *Michelle & Randy Sherry*

thank you for helping us with our *Ketubah* and for the
marriage blessing - *Anabel & Brian Schlosser*

in commemoration of the *yahrzeit* of Jon Grossman's
Father, Fred - *Lisa & Jon Grossman*

with thanks for a great first semester!
- *BHSS Religious School families*

to Marilyn Taylor, In memory of Charles Romano
- *Barbara & Joe Friedman*

Cantor's Discretionary Fund:

with thanks and appreciation - *Dara & Brandon Gottlieb*

with thanks and in memory of Mark Cohen - *Jayne Cohen*

Life Fund

in commemoration of the *yahrzeit* of Janice Kaplan
- *Alison & Norman Axelrod*

to Lisa Barrack - well wishes on your new journey!
- *Ruth & Stu Turner*

in commemoration of the *yahrzeit* of Rose Jacobson
- *Joyce & Stephen Weinberg*

to Marilyn and Ira Bernstein in honor of the birth of their
granddaughter Flora Lynn Bernstein - *Lynn & Michael Zall*

in commemoration of the *yahrzeit* of Gerald Klein
- *Arlene & Rich Mandel*

in honor of the engagement of Phillip Mandel
- *Arlene & Rich Mandel*

in memory of Jase Barrack - *Michelle and Randy Sherry*

to Dr Larry Glaser, in memory of Rabbi Samuel Glaser
- *Joel Goldfarb*

in commemoration of the *yahrzeit* of Beverly Schwartz
- *David Schwartz*

to Sheila and Larry Groskin, in honor of Noa Zylbershlag
- *Lynn & Michael Zall*
- *Ruth & Stu Turner*

to Norma Berman, in memory of Rudy Valente
- *Barbara Lacher*

in commemoration of the *yahrzeit* of Dr Theodore Leibman
- *Tara & Marc Leibman*

to Lori and Ritch Yanowitz, in memory of Jane Yanowitz
- *Alison & Norman Axelrod*
- *Marci & Harvey Weinberg*

in memory of my cousin, Enid Marcus - *Joel Goldfarb*

to Howard and Debbie Falkow, in memory of Nancy
Falkow McBride - *Jane Simon*

in memory of Sheri's father, Ely Gordon
- *Sheri & Alan Schott*

to Barry and Robin Cassell, in memory of Barbara Cassell
- *Marci & Harvey Weinberg*

in commemoration of the *yahrzeits* of Kurt Daniel and
Claire Novak - *Laurie & Marc Daniel*

High Holiday Appeal

Michelle & Randy Sherry
Whitney Speer & Nathan Stern
Judy & Jon Neumann

Yizkor Appeal

In loving memory of: Barbara Moskowitz
- *Andrew & Marcy Moskowitz*

Contributions

Prayer Book Dedication

in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of
Noa Zylbershlag, January 11, 2020
- Sheila & Larry Groskin

Center for Food Action of Mahwah

(donated by their families in honor of the following simchas)

Bat Mitzvah of Amanda Glucoft
Bat Mitzvah of Ashley Ehrlich
Bar Mitzvah of Jonathan Grossman
Bat Mitzvah of Remi Tetefsky

Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge

(donated by their families in honor of the following simchas)

Bat Mitzvah of Julie Mandler
Bat Mitzvah of Sloane Irizarry
Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Sica
Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Berwitz

Jewish Family Services of Rockland

(donated by their families in honor of the following simchas)

Bat Mitzvah of Sloane Irizarry
Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Berwitz

Refer a Friend or Family Program

Help us grow our community and share all that BHSS has to offer by referring a friend or family to join our synagogue. Here's how:

How it works:

- For each family/friend referral, the referring member will receive a \$360 dues credit.
- In order to refer a family, please contact the office with the friend/family you are referring.
- If the family joins within 6 months of referral, you are eligible for the credit.
- Credit will be issued in the form of a check which will be distributed during the month of December of the current year.

FAQs:

What if multiple members refer the same friend/family?

If this occurs, the credit may be split between a maximum of two referring families.

What if I don't want the dues credit for the referral?

We ask that you accept the credit and then donate it back to the synagogue to an area that is meaningful to you.

Can I refer someone who has previously attended synagogue events?

Yes! However, the spirit of the program is for new introductions.

If the prospective member is already a part of our formal weekly mailing list, this will not be considered an introduction.



March Yahrzeits

MORRIS ABNER	SAMUEL GROSSMAN	SOL LIRTZMAN	ANN SEIDNER
LEIZER ALPERSTEIN	STEWART GROSSMAN	AL LOEW	HAROLD SENZEL
BERTHA ALTER	WALTER HARTWICH	ANNA LOS	FRANCIS SIEGEL
SHELBY ALTER	DINA HEIBLUM	MARTHA MAIER	LOUIS SIEGEL
ROBERT ANESETTI, SR.	THELMA HERSHMAN	EVELYN MARCUS	BARBARA SPITZER
HERMAN ASHKANAZY	MIRIAM HOLTZMAN	SHIRLEY MARKS	SHEILA STARK
NORMA ATLAS	ISADORE ISRAEL	DAVID MARX	MANDEL STEIN
LORETTA BECKER	ROY ISRAEL	NORMAN MOSKOWITZ	SUSAN STERN
BARNET BERNSTEIN	ROY W. KAMM	BARBARA MOSS	SYDNEY STOLLER
SIMON BORNSTEIN	ROBERT KARASIK	SEYMOUR OVENTHAL	NICK SUSA
MAUREEN BOYLE	HELEN KASSOVER	ARNOLD PELLER	ANDREA GREEN SWAN
MARTIN BROWN	EDITH KAUFMAN	MONA SALAMON PETERS	JACOB THAILER
ISRAEL CHARNE	ABRAHAM KIRSHNER	MARION PLOTT	MARIA TITCOMB
JETTY DENTZ	DORA KOHN	HARRIET POPOWITZ	FANNY TREPPER
MONTY DWECK	SEYMOUR KRICHMAR	MARTIN POPOWITZ	MARTIN TREPPER
SHIRLEY ELLIOT	PEARL LACHER	ANNA PREMSELAAR	SALLY VICTOR
SHEILA LEVITT ESTRIN	NOEL LAMSTER	TOBY PUTTERMAN	FLORA VOGEL-LIRTZMAN
LARRY FELDMAN	MILDRED LANDAU	MERRIE RABIN	NORMA WACHTEL
SOPHIA FEYGIN	LEE LANDIS	LEAH REINSTEIN	LAURIE WEINBERG
PAUL FISHER	JULIETTE LESSEN	MELVYN ROMOFF	MIRIAM WEINBERG
MARTIN FRIEDMAN	BESS LEVENE	BERNARD ROSENBERG	PAUL WEINBERG
RONA FRIEDMAN	FRANK LEVENE	SOL SCHER	ESTHER WEINSTEIN
AVA GILLIAN GOTTLIEB	RUTH LEVINE	SOL SCHLOSSER	ELYSE WEISSER
HENRY GREENBERG	SHIRLEY LEVINE	GERRY SCHOLL	HELLA WEXLER
ALAN S. GREENE	ADELIN LEVINSON	DIANE SCHORR	ANDREW FRANK WINNING
ESSIE GREENZWEIG	HOROWITZ	IRA SCHULMAN	ROBERT WOLFF
HARRY GROSSMAN	BEATRICE LEVITT	TESS SEGAL	SARAH WUNSCH
			DANIEL REED YOUNG

Caring Committee

Once again, the Caring Committee has been hard at work tending to our congregants' needs. We wish to thank all those who have contributed to this Committee no matter whether you donated your time or your culinary talents. The recipients of your efforts and generosity are always overwhelmed and touched.

The Caring Committee anticipates a busy time making sure our members are taken care of. We are ALL needed year-round and encourage you to volunteer to cook meals or soup, drive members to appointments and/or synagogue

functions, call to follow up on our more vulnerable members, or attend shiva services.

Thank you for all you have done for each other to date. If you need the services of the Caring Committee or if you wish to join or volunteer, please contact:

Candy Kassover (candy1951@optonline.net)
or Laura Miller (mlctsmiller@verizon.net).

Thank you.

April Yahrzeits

BESSY ADLER	JACOB GROSKIN	FRANCES LEVINE	BETTY SCHOTT
DOROTHY ADLMAN	HYMAN GRUBMAN	BENJAMIN LEVITT	JOSEPH SCHWARTZ
GEORGE ADLMAN	JOHN J. HAYES	HENRY LICHTER	IRENE SHOOPS
NATALIE ADLMAN	PHILIP HEIBLUM	ERIC LIEBMANN	JACOB SIEGEL
ABRAHAM APPELBAUM	ALFRED HERTZ	JUAN HANS LOWENSTEIN	IAN L. SILVER, MD
IBN ART	NORMA HITTMAN	ISIDORE MOSER	ALEX SILVERMAN
LEON AUERBACH	JACOB HOLTZMAN	BEATRICE LERNER MOSS	CELIA SIMON
IRVING BECKER	YONA HOLTZMAN	MARY NEWHOUSE	RICHARD SITOMER
ANNA BERKOWITZ	ZIPORA HOLTZMAN	MARILYN NIMEROFSKY	SANDRA SLAVIN
SHERWOOD BOFFORD	JACK HOMNICK	JOSEPH OPPENHEIM	ESTELLE SLUCKER
RICHARD BOYLE	MICHAEL HOZER	THELMA OVENTHAL	JOSEPH SLUCKER
DENISE BROWN	BENJAMIN ISKOWITZ	SALLY J. PARIS	ABRAHAM SPITZER
IDA CLIFF	LENA ISRAEL	IRVING PESIN	SYLVIA STEIN
GREG DUCHARME	LOIS JAFFE	JOY POLLACK	ALFRED STEWART
JESSE ELLMAN	LEONID KISSIN	PHYLLIS POLLACK	IRWIN THAILER
EILEEN FELDMAN	HELEN KLAPPER	SHLOMO POUSTY	SARAH THAILER
ELSIE FREEMAN	GERTRUDE KLEIN	NATHAN ROCKER	LAWRENCE WEINBERG
MORTON FUCHS	HELEN KUNEGO	LEAH ROSEN	JULIUS WEISSER
IRVING GLICK	ELAINE LANDAU	LUDVIK SAPSOVIC	MICHAEL WIESNER
DIANA GORDON	DAVID LEITNER	LIBBY SCHLOSSER	DAVID YORK

Music Committee

Hello everyone!

For the first time BHSS is joining with The Reform Temple of Rockland to bring “**JEWSICAL: A Celebration of Jewish Music on Broadway.**” Cantor David Perper and Cantor Sally Neff have invited eight guest cantors to perform with them, including our own Cantor Faith! **Save the Date: March 21 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$36 per person.** RSVP at 845-358-2248. Please see the full ad for more information on special ticketing options! It will be a spectacular event for all of us who love our Cantor!

On **Monday, April 20 Yom HaShoah** will be commemorated at BHSS with Ramapo College, our choir and Kadimah students. All are invited to this meaningful service.

In celebration of **Yom HaAtzmaut and Yom Hazikaron** a special concert “Voices in Harmony” will be performed at **Barnert Temple on April 28 at 7:00 p.m.** Cantor Perper is directing. If you enjoyed the Concert of Thanksgiving, don’t miss this one!

I would like to invite you to our meetings on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Attendance to all the meetings is not a requirement, neither is musical talent. Come see what we are about. All are welcome! Do you have suggestions for what you would like to see? I’d love to hear from you!

Musically yours,
Nora Berger

Four Mitzvot of Purim

There are four basic mitzvot established by the Mishnah, the first Rabbinic law code, based on the text of the Book of Esther. Following the salvation of the Jews, Mordecai decreed the everlasting observance of the holiday, and Esther confirmed his ordinance:

Esther 9:29-31

^{9:29} Then Queen Esther daughter of Abihail wrote a second letter of Purim for the purpose of confirming with full authority the aforementioned one of Mordecai the Jew. ³⁰ Dispatches were sent to all the Jews in the hundred and twenty-seven provinces of the realm of Ahashuerus with an ordinance of “equity and honesty.” ³¹ These days of Purim shall be observed at their proper time, as Mordecai the Jew—and now Queen Esther—has obligated them to do, and just as they have assumed for themselves and their descendants the obligation of the fasts with their lamentations. [I.e., the Jews are to celebrate this festive holiday in addition to their commemorations of national tragedies.]

1. Reading the Megillah (*Mikra Megillah*)

And Esther’s ordinance validating these observances of Purim was recorded in a scroll (Esther 9:32).

Each year, we retell the story of Purim, found in the Megillah (which is the same as the biblical book of Esther). As this story is one of overturned fortunes and unexpected endings, our recitation of the story is often humorous, honoring the festivity of the holiday.



2. Festive meal (*Se’udat Purim*)

They were to observe [these days of Purim] as days of feasting and merrymaking... (9:22).

Purim is a time for feasting and making a day of gladness. Purim is a time for special foods such as *hamantashen* (cookies filled with poppy seeds or jam) and *kreplach* (dumplings).

3. Sending gifts to friends (*Mishloach Manot*)



...for sending gifts to one another... (9:22)

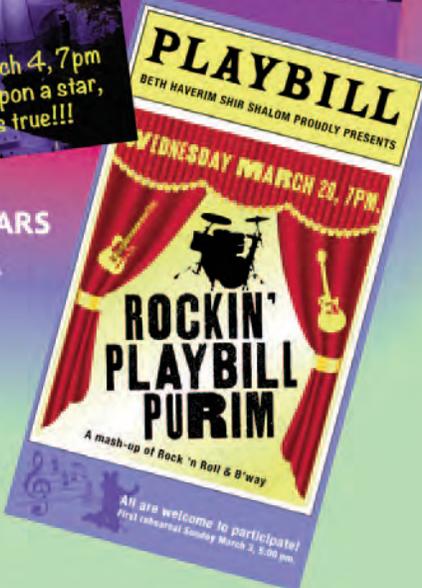
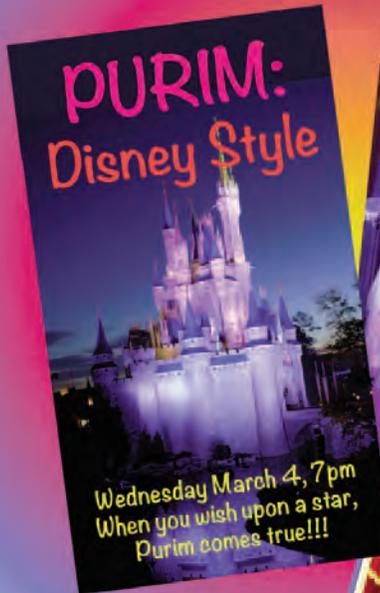
On Purim, Jews across the kingdom of Persia celebrated their freedom, and they continue to share in that joy every year. Sending gifts to friends, often baskets of food and treats, is a practice intended to increase everyone’s joy, both the sender and the receiver.

4. Sending presents to the poor (*Matanot L’evyonim*)

...and [sending] presents to the poor (9:22).

The festivities of Purim are not reserved only for those who can afford them. Giving money or other gifts to those who are in need allows the spirit of the holiday to spread to every corner of the community.

BEST OF PURIM!



THROUGH THE YEARS WITH CANTOR

Monday, March 9 at 7 pm

BHSSTY Presents

PURIM CARNIVAL

Sunday, March 8

11:30 am: Purim Mini Spiel

11:45 - 1:45 pm:

Carnival and CFA Food Drive



All are encouraged to wear costumes!



GIFT CARDS

Meeting friends at Panera? Sipping Starbucks? Do you shop at ShopRite, Stop & Shop, Acme or Fairway? Support BHSS with this easy, ongoing fundraiser by buying gift cards to use at these and dozens of other stores and restaurants!

They also make wonderful gifts for teachers, coaches, birthdays, anniversaries and any holiday!

Please contact Lisa Lamster at (lisalams@optonline.net) or 201-760-1935 with any questions or to order cards today!

SISTERHOOD'S MIRIAM SEDER

Why Is This Night Different From All Other Seder Nights?

At all other Seders, we hear the stories of our forefathers, but the voices of our mothers are silent. *This night they will be heard!*

THURSDAY APRIL 2 at 6:30 PM



RSVP by March 26

RSVP to Lisa Lamster lisalams@optonline.net
\$36 members, \$40 non-members, \$25 children (under 13)

Please mail a check payable to Sisterhood of BHSS to the temple
Please contact Lisa Lamster at above email
if you would like to Venmo your payment.

Bring donations of food items for
People to People Food and Family Shelter, West Nyack, NY

Community Second Night Seder



Why is tonight different than all other nights?

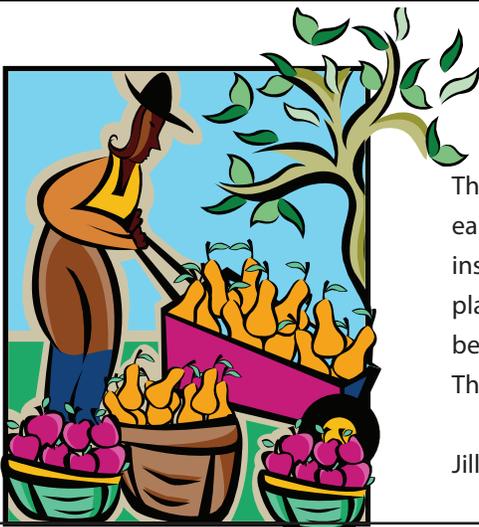
For the answer to this question and much more come to the

BHSS Community Second Night Seder

April 9 at 6 pm

\$40 adult, \$18 child under 13

RSVP by 4/2



Attention all Gardeners!!!

The BHSS Community Garden will be holding our seasonal planning meeting in early March. (Date to follow.) We plant then share the harvest with the food insecure members of our greater community. Each gardener will enjoy planning, planting, and then harvesting produce in one raised garden bed. Help offered for beginners. Please e-mail me if you would like to join us for the 2020 season. Thanks!

Jill Blum, Riley0404@gmail.com

Passover begins this year with the first seder on **April 8**.

Many families will also celebrate a second seder on Tuesday night, April 9.

Join your friends at BHSS for a congregational second seder!

Information is located in this issue of Temple Topics. RSVP is a must!

The Four Questions

(or, 1 question and 4 answers!)

מה נשתנה הלילה הזה מכל הלילות?

Mah nish'tana halailah hazeh mikol haleilot?

Why is this night different from all other nights?

שבכל הלילות אנו אוכלין חמץ ומצה. הלילה הזה כּלוּ מצה:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu och'lin chameitz umatzah. Halailah hazeh kulo matzah:

On all other nights we eat leavened products or matzah. On this night all of it, matzah.

שבכל הלילות אנו אוכלין שאר ירקות. הלילה הזה מרור:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu och'lin sh'ar y'rakot halailah hazeh maror:

On all other nights we eat all vegetables. On this night bitter herbs.

שבכל הלילות אין אנו מטבילין אפילו פעם אחת. הלילה הזה שתי פעמים:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu mat'beeleen afilu pa-am echat. Halailah hazeh sh'tei f'amim:

On all other nights, we don't dip our food even once. On this night we dip twice.

שבכל הלילות אנו אוכלין בין יושבין וביין מסבין.

הלילה הזה כלנו מסבין:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu och'lin bein yoshevin uvein m'subin. Halailah hazeh culanu m'subin.

On all other nights we eat sitting or reclining. On this night we all recline.



Worship Schedule

Friday, March 6	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening family service <i>Birthdays in March will be celebrated</i> Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Glucoft family
Saturday, March 7	10:00am	Bat Mitzvah of Amanda Glucoft
Friday, March 13	5:15 pm	Tot Shabbat
	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Ehrlich family
Saturday, March 14		10:00 am Bat Mitzvah of Ashley Ehrlich
Friday, March 20	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service - Refugee Shabbat Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Slater family
Saturday, March 21	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Zack Slater
Friday, March 27	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, March 28	10:00 am	Shabbat Learner Service – B’nai Mitzvah Shabbaton
Friday, April 3	6:30 pm	Shabbat Family service <i>Birthdays in April will be celebrated</i> Oneg Shabbat hosts: the Swerdloff family
Saturday, April 4	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Eli Swerdloff
Friday, April 10	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, April 11		No Shabbat Morning service
Friday, April 17	9:00am	Passover Yizkor Service
	5:15 pm	Tot Shabbat
	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service Oneg Shabbat Hosts: The Reinstein family
Saturday, April 18	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Gabe Reinstein
Friday, April 24	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service – Senior Youth Group Leads
Saturday, April 25		No Shabbat Morning service

BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM
280 RAMAPO VALLEY ROAD
MAHWAH, NJ 07430

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman
Cantor David Perper
Rebecca McVeigh, Director of Education

Sessions of School:

Sundays: March 8, 15, 22, 29 & April 19, 26
Mondays: March 2, 16, 23, 30 & April 20, 27
Tuesdays: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 21, 28

Office Closed:

Thursday, April 9
Wednesday, April 15

To do in March and April



- *Torah Study Shabbat mornings, 8:15 am*
- *Learn Hebrew with Rebecca McVeigh, Wednesday mornings*
- *Celebrate Purim with the Mini Spiel and Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 8, 11:30 am and Purim Spiel and Megillah reading on Monday, March 9 at 7 pm*
- *Tot Shabbat Friday, March 13 & April 17, 5:15 pm*
- *Share a meal with new friends and old at Sisterhood's Dine-A-Round, March 14, 6:30 pm*
- *Attend Shabbat Family Services Friday, March 6 & April 7 at 6:30 pm;*
March & April birthdays will be celebrated
- *Healing Service, March 22, 7 pm*
- *Thought for Food, on Tuesday, March 24- What's for Seder? and on Wednesday, April 22 - bring a Dessert That Represents Spring , 7:30 pm*
- *Celebrate Passover with Sisterhood at the Miriam Seder Thursday, April 2, 6:30 pm*
- *Try your luck at the Sisterhood Mah Jongg tournament, Sunday, April 5, 9:30 am*
- *Attend Community Second Night Seder, Thursday, April 9, 6 pm (by RSVP)*
- *Purchase a raffle ticket from BHSS Sisterhood to see Elton John's Farewell Tour*
- *Book and a Bagel Speaker, Sunday, April 26, 1 pm*

*Donate to the CFA
each time you
come to BHSS!
Help us
"fill the CFA truck"
all year long!*