

## TEMPLE



## TOPICS

ADAR/NISAN/IYAR 5778

MARCH/APRIL 2018

## Rabbi's Message

### *From Israel to Egypt to Israel*

When I think about the Passover story, it goes something like this: the Jews were in Egypt, the Jews left Egypt, the Jews returned to Israel. But there is another important part of the story. Before we went down to Egypt, we lived happily in Israel...

*full article on page 3*

## Cantor's Corner

### *Looking back with gratitude...*

I am so very thankful to work with the group of dedicated Jewish singers in our all-volunteer adult choir. Their time and energy allows them to move us and inspire all those who witness their dynamism...

*full article on page 5*

## President's Message

### *A Light Exists*

A light exists in spring  
Not present on the year  
At any other period.

When March is scarcely here... - Emily Dickinson

*full article on page 2*

## Educator's Message

### *...you shall make them known to your children...*

And so, for this rehearsal, I brought out one of our two "Holocaust Torahs," so named because they are survivors; they each bear brass plates with a number that designates them as having been collected by the Nazis for still-unknown reasons, and then preserved by an organization in London, the Memorial Scrolls Trust. We are extremely fortunate to have two such scrolls in our Aron Kodesh (holy ark).

*full article on page 4*

## B'NEI MITZVOT

Emma Bethon & Sam Cooper, March 3  
Ryan Grossman, March 10  
Ryan & Benjamin Hoffman, March 17  
Liam Irizarry & Ilana Schulman, April 7  
Jacob Eichner & Natalie Wolfeiler, April 14  
Alexa Denburg & Jessica Epstein, April 21  
Daniel & Ian Roth, April 28  
Daniel & Jason Cohen, April 28

## THINGS TO DO:

*more info on back cover  
and throughout*

Torah Study  
10 Year Merger Celebration  
Library Program  
Miriam Seder  
Brotherhood Seder  
March Madness Party  
BHSS Community 2nd Night Seder  
Book and a Bagel  
Lifelong Learning Trip



## SAVE THE DATE

Shavuot/Confirmation Service May 19  
Teacher Appreciation Service June 8  
Farewell Rabbi Diamond  
& Brotherhood Shabbat June 15

**MAZEL TOV**  
**to BHSS on OUR**  
**10th ANNIVERSARY YEAR!!!**



# President's Message

Jen Cole

*A Light Exists...*

To my chagrin,  
Punxsutawney Phil  
(#notmygroundhog)  
spotted his shadow,

*A light exists in spring  
Not present on the year  
At any other period.  
When March is scarcely here...  
- Emily Dickinson*

so when this publication reaches your hands we will apparently still be solidly entrenched in winter. I'm guessing for most families Groundhog Day is a non-event, but in our home there were plenty of tears when the announcement was made this year (and not all of them were mine!)

You may recall a story I shared at the High Holidays of our daughter Emily's questions about what happens to unanswered prayers, including her birthday wish that she would forever remain the "perfect" age of six. Yet not even a year later, Emily is eagerly anticipating turning seven, so much so that she was temporarily heartbroken upon hearing the news of the infamous weather-predicting rodent's sighting. She assumed it meant her spring birthday would be delayed six weeks. Fortunately, after parental hugs, brotherly encouragement and a quick calendar lesson about how May 4 will in fact arrive no later despite Phil's forecast, she was all smiles and off to make a list of friends to invite to her unicorn party.

I often stand in amazement and admiration of how easily she is able to shift and bend and roll with the tides. I am reminded that as we grow older, we tend to become less flexible and less accepting of the ebbs and flows in our lives. We get stuck longing for the good old days or impatiently yearning for better times ahead. The weather notwithstanding, we cling to some seasons and wish away others. We grow nostalgic for seasons past; anxiously anticipate seasons to come; and perhaps fail to be fully grounded in the present.

One of the ways our Judaism encourages us to be mindful of the present can be found in the *G'vurot*. Depending on the time of the year, the words we recite change so that we may pray for the weather conditions that are needed. In winter, we acknowledge God's ability to cause the wind to shift and rain to fall; in summer God's power to rain dew upon us. When I utter this blessing, it serves as a reminder to simply be, to accept where I am in the here and now, loosen my grip on the past and take a break from anticipating the future.

Of course there are moments when it makes perfect sense to intentionally ponder the past and plan for the future. At

BHSS we are at one of those times. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the merger between Beth Haverim and Reform Temple of Suffern – Shir Shalom to create Beth Haverim Shir Shalom. There will be a gathering followed by a special Shabbat

service on Friday March 9 to celebrate this milestone and I hope you are planning to attend this memorable evening. I am excited and honored to be a part of the planning, although admittedly, when the merger occurred, it was a *non*-event for our family. We had only recently joined and were far removed from the many months of negotiations and planning that went into this tremendous undertaking, not to mention the myriad emotions that surely accompanied this transition. I imagine this was especially true for our Rockland County friends, who were leaving something treasured behind to arrive at a new, largely unknown destination. In our planning meetings I have so enjoyed hearing stories about what this time was like for those who most affected. If you were one of the folks who was connected personally to the merger, I invite you to come share your story.

That said, please know that if you were not intimately involved, the service on March 9 is *also* for you. It is not exclusively a service to remember the past, but one that will also celebrate the present. Ten years later, we are one strong community. More than half of our members joined after the merge, and so likely do not know who came from which of the legacy congregations. When they look around the sanctuary, they see only fellow BHSS'ers. As a single community, we have been in each other's lives to share joyous occasions as well as moments of profound sorrow. We have been there for each other through our personal transitions and seasons as well as our collective ones.

It is also a time to come together to look to our future, as we continue to move through our rabbinic transition, our hearts filled with gratitude to Rabbi Barry Diamond and, simultaneously, excitement to welcome Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman this summer and begin to write the next chapter of our synagogue's history.

May we seamlessly shift from praying "*mashiv haruach umorid hagashem*" to "*morid hatal*" this year and for many, many years to come. May we go from strength to strength...

Jen Cole, President

## *From Israel to Egypt to Israel*

When I think about the Passover story, it goes something like this: the Jews were in Egypt, the Jews left Egypt, the Jews returned to Israel. But there is another important part of the story. Before we went down to Egypt, we lived happily in Israel. Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob, Rachel and Leah all lived in the Promised Land. Each of our ancestors traveled to Egypt for a time, but always returned. We may think the Torah is a story about our life in Israel, but much of the Torah is the story of our traveling away from -- and then back to -- Israel.

Our congregation is preparing itself for another return. For over a year and a half, BHSS has either been in Egypt or slowly moving through the Sinai wilderness back to the Promised Land of a settled rabbi leading us into the future. As we learn in the Torah story, transitions are never easy. Its chapters are filled with the people complaining to Moses, Moses complaining about the people, other leaders complaining about Moses. In the Torah's pages, the people fail and learn from their mistakes as do various leaders as well. But throughout this time of transition, the Israelites experimented with new ways to worship God and organize their society. The time in the wilderness is both challenging and invigorating.

We, too, are moving through our congregation's wilderness and can see our Promised Land more clearly than ever. While we still have a number of months to go, I am grateful for what I am learning through our trek together and hope that you will feel the same. It is true that most of the Torah focuses on life in Egypt and the journey back to Israel, but the Torah is not the only book of our Bible. In the next section of the Bible called the Prophets, we see the glory and challenges of the Israelites, living in relationship with God. We see what they build together and how they change and grow over time. The fact is, the Israelites in the latter books of the Bible were quite different than our ancestors who crossed the Sinai Desert. Because the truth is, we are always crossing through the wilderness. We are always changing and becoming, adapting to our new circumstances and discovering insights about God and ourselves.

As we prepare for this season of Exodus, let's celebrate the Israel of our past, learn from the Sinai transition in which we

## Rabbi's Message

*Rabbi Barry Diamond*



now pass, and feel the excitement about the future that you will create under Rabbi Schwartzman's leadership. May the bitterness of the *maror* pass quickly, the sweetness of the *charoset* linger on your tongues, and may you tell the story of this Sinai transition for many years to come.

*Chag v'Kasher Sameach,*

A happy and Kosher Passover.

Rabbi Barry Diamond

### Lifelong Learning Trip to Beth Sholom Synagogue Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright

8231 Old York Road Elkins Park, Pennsylvania

**Sunday, April 29**

11:00 a.m. - Leave BHSS\* 1:00 p.m. - tour begins

Cost: \$10.00 entrance fee. Please RSVP by April 22, 2018  
to reserve your space.

\*We will meet to form carpools to Elkins Park.  
It is approximately a 2-hour highway drive from  
Mahwah to Elkins Park (about 10 miles north of  
Philadelphia)







## From the Educator's Office

Rebecca McVeigh

*...you shall make them known  
to your children...*

Almost every week, I have the privilege of facilitating the very first rehearsal for our b'nei mitzvah students and their families. They are all different and every time, I discover something new as I listen to each child's d'var Torah (speech). It is amazing how much they truly have learned and will teach about on a Saturday morning approximately four weeks later.

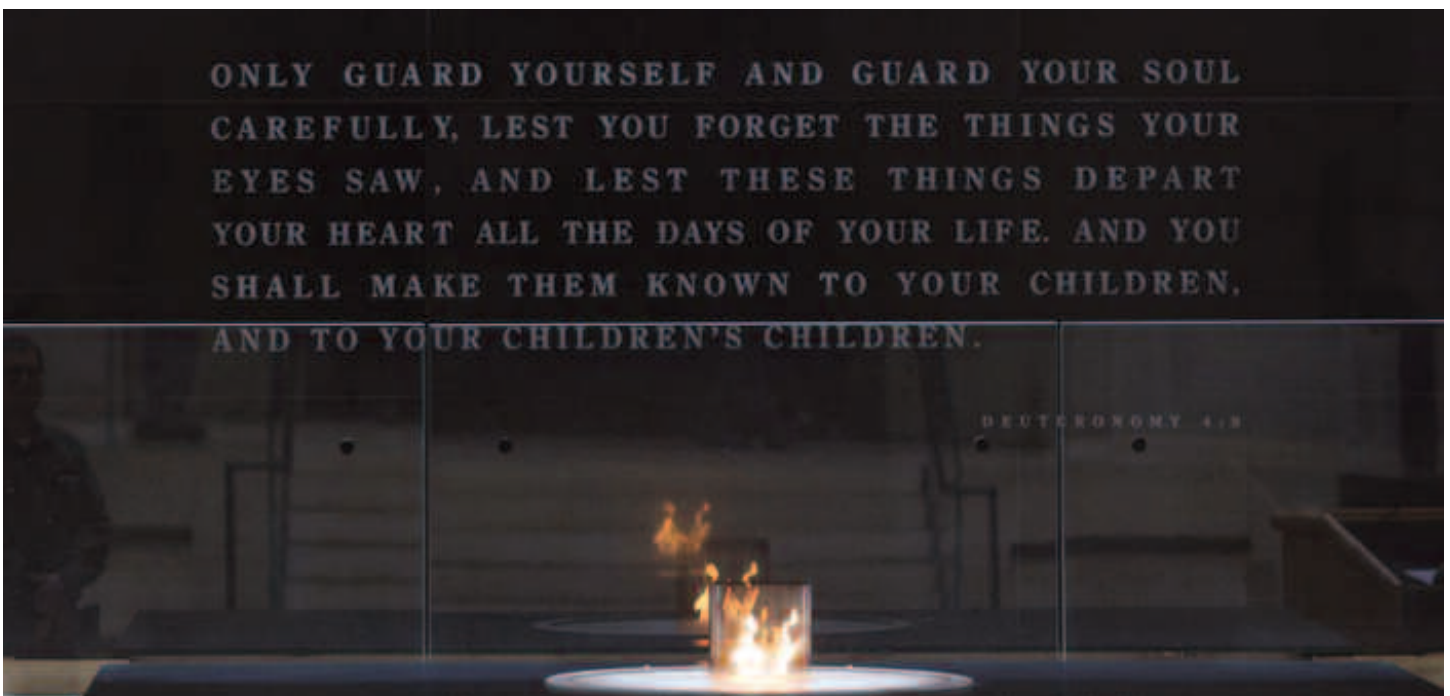
On a recent Wednesday, both students at the rehearsal are "twinning" with Holocaust victims, children who never got a chance to become Jewish adults, never mind celebrate this life cycle event with their families and friends. As a part of their service, our students will tell us something about the children they are honoring.

And so, for this rehearsal, I brought out one of our two "Holocaust Torahs," so named because they are survivors; they each bear brass plates with a number that designates them as having been collected by the Nazis for still-unknown reasons, and then preserved by an organization in London, the Memorial Scrolls Trust. We are extremely fortunate to have two such scrolls in our Aron Kodesh (holy ark).

Each of the scrolls has its own personality – one is very tall, large in circumference, and heavy (probably a function of the type of wood that the *eitzim* (the posts on which they are rolled) are made of and the quality of the parchment, and the other is tall and slim. Both of them show their age in wrinkles and faded ink. They are truly like people, and as the years go by, they will soon be our only Holocaust survivors. Some scholars say that when we are looking to have a minyan (ten people) for a service, the Torah scrolls can be counted. I think this is especially true for our Holocaust scrolls.

Because of their age, they are a little more difficult to read from than our newest scroll (only 40+ years old). They do not have the chance to "get out" as much. But, like people, the more they are used they will not just become worn – they will become more well-loved, appreciated, and help us remember. Our congregation will commemorate Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day on Wednesday evening, April 11. Let's make an attempt to honor our scrolls a little more often than once a year. Please get in touch if you would like to explore the unique experience of having your child chant from one of them for their bar or bat mitzvah.

-Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh, Educator



## Cantor's Corner

David Perper



### *Looking back with gratitude...*

I am so very thankful to work with the group of dedicated Jewish singers in our all-volunteer adult choir. Their time and energy allows them to move us and inspire all those who witness their dynamism. We work very hard all year, every Wednesday night, to prepare music of emotion, joy, and warmth. Shabbat Shirah was a beautiful evening of song and prayer.

I want to say "thank you" to all those who attended one or more of our Scholar in Residence weekend sessions, spotlighting Dr. Gilad Cohen, Assistant Professor of Music at Ramapo College. We all sang and learned, and were inspired by his guitar and piano talents. Cantor Steinsnysder and I, and the choir had so much fun making music with Gilad. The Music Committee and I are already thinking of ideas for next year's program. Thanks also go out to the Lifelong Learning Committee together with the Music Committee for their energies and organization in making the event so successful.

The choir and I are also very much looking forward to singing on Friday night, March 9 at our 7:30 p.m. service to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the merge between Reform Temple of Suffern-Shir Shalom and Beth Haverim, to create our vibrant

and thriving community of Beth Haverim Shir Shalom. There will be "Melodies of Meaning" and "Words of Memory" and some other surprises too that evening. **DON'T MISS IT! If you love your cantor etc...**

Purim was a rapping good time this year. The beat box was rockin' that night, and the Shir-Elles brought it big time, AGAIN!

### *Looking forward...*

We will be observing Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, on Wednesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. As in years past, we will be hosting the singers from Ramapo College, as well as our own adult choir. In addition we will be hearing from a Holocaust speaker. One week later, we will celebrate Israel's Memorial and Independence Days, Yom Hazikaron, and Yom Haatzmaut, on Wednesday April 18 at 7:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. On that evening we will be hosting a number of local synagogues and hearing the combined synagogue choirs. When we all sing together - what a joyful noise!

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It's (almost) spring, and that means **BOOK FAIR TIME!** Come support our school, and shop the Scholastic Book Fair for great books! There will be an amazing selection of books from pre-readers through adult, as well as great cookbooks, craft books, journals, and bookmarks! Scholastic sends us a special supply of Jewish board books, children's books, and young adult books as well as Jewish cookbooks, so stop in!

The hours are:

March 16 - 3:30-7:30 p.m. (shopping available – NEW This year!)

and 8:30-9:30 p.m. for browsing only

March 18 - 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

March 19 - 3:30 - 8:30 p.m.

March 20 - 3:30 - 6:45 p.m.

Please feel free to stop by at any of those times to check out the available books!



Not in the market for a book for yourself? Please stop by and consider purchasing a book for our donation box which will be taken to Oasis! Double good deed alert!!! Helping Oasis AND the BHSS religious school!!! What could be better!

From the entire Education Committee, we wish you and your families a very happy Passover!

-Lauren Einhorn, Chair, Education Committee

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*Zack Slater*  
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## Candlelighting times:

March 2 – 5:30 pm Ki Tisa	April 6 – 7:08 pm Pesach
March 9– 5:38 pm Vayachel/P'kudei	April 13 – 7:15 pm Sh'mini
March 16 – 6:46 pm Vayikra	April 20 – 7:23 pm Tazria/M'tzora
March 23 – 6:53 pm Tzav	April 27 – 7:30 pm Acharei Mot/K'doshim
March 30 – 7:01 pm Pesach	



# March Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				7:30 pm Seeking Everyday Holiness	6:30 pm Shabbat Shabang	Ki Tisa 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Emma Bethon & Sam Cooper
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9 am FS & 6 11:30 am Mini Shpiel 11:45 pm Purim Carnival 7 pm Healing Svce	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Class 7:30 pm Ritual Mtg.	8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Merger Celebration Service	Vayachel/P'kudei 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Ryan Grossman
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9 am FS & 6 11:30 am Group Class 1 pm Library Program - Yemini Jews	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah 7 pm Sis'hood offsite	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Class 7:30 pm Exec Mtg 7:30 pm MMG Mtg	7:30 pm Seeking Everyday Holiness 8 pm Adult Choir	6 pm Sis'hood Miriam Seder by RSVP	Book Fair 3:30 - 7:30 pm 5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Tefilot Book Fair Browsing	Vayikra 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Benjamin & Ryan Hoffman
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 - 1 pm Book Fair 9 am FS & 6	3:30 - 8:30 pm Book Fair 4 pm School K-3 4 pm PreK 6:45 pm Kadimah	3:30 - 7 pm Book Fair 4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Class 7:30 pm Bd. Mtg	8 pm Adult Choir	6 pm Bro'hood Men's Seder by RSVP	7:30 pm Tefilot	Tzav 8:15 am Torah Study 7 pm Sis'hood March Madness (offsite)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9 am FS & 6 9 am LLL Adult Learning  11:30 am Menschmakers Event 1 p.m. JYG Event	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah 7 pm LLL Adult Learning	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Class 7:30 pm Music Comm.	7:30 pm Seeking Everyday Holiness 8 pm Adult Choir		No Service Erev Passover First Seder	Pesach 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Passover Festival Service 6 pm Second Night Seder by RSVP

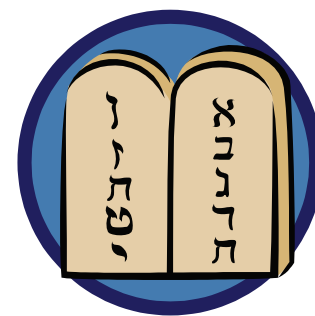
# April Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
No School	No School May/June TEMPLE TOPICS Articles DUE	No School 7:30 pm Ritual Comm.	8 pm Adult Choir		Office Closed 10 am Passover Yizkor Svce. 6:30 pm Shabbat Shabang	Passover 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Liam Irizarry & Ilana Schulman
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
No School 1 pm Book & A Bagel	No School 7 pm Sis'hood Mtg. Offsite	No School 7:30 pm Exec. Comm. 7:30 pm MMG Mtg.	7 pm Yom HaShoah Observance		5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Tefilot	Sh'mini 8:15 am Torah Study 10 am Jacob Eichner & Natalie Wolfeiler
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
No School	No School	No School 7:30 pm Bd. Mtg.	7 pm Yom Haatzmaut/Yom HaZikaron		7:30 pm Tefilot BHSSTY Creative Svce	Tazria/M'tzora 8:15 am Torah Study 9:30 am Alexa Denburg & Jessica Epstein
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
9 am FS & 6 9 am LLL Adult Learning	4 pm School K-3 4 pm PreK 6:45 pm Kadimah 7 pm LLL Adult Learning	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Class 7:30 pm Music Comm. Mtg.	8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	Acharei Mot/K'doshim 8:15 am Torah Study 9:30 am Daniel & Ian Roth 12:15 pm Daniel & Jason Cohen
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>					
9 am FS & 6  LLL trip - Synagogue Tour Elkins Park, PA by RSVP	4 pm School K-3 6:45 pm Kadimah					



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

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### **Emma Bethon – March 3, 2018**

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Lori, Father, Fred, Brother, Sam, 17 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... Her interests include lacrosse, field hockey, karate, dance, and playing the viola. "I would like to become a marine biologist. I am excited to share this special day with my family and friends. I volunteered with the Vietnam Veterans of Rockland County to raise money for a memorial to honor soldiers killed in action in Afghanistan and Iraq. I plan to continue volunteering with this amazing group."



### **Sam Cooper – March 3, 2018**

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Lauren, Father, Doug, Brother, Josh, 17 ..... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ..... His interests include basketball, soccer, PS4, and spending time with family and friends. "I hope to be happy and successful when I grow up. I am excited to become a bar mitzvah and continue the tradition of my brother, parents, cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandfathers. For my community service I volunteered with Pascack Navigators, playing modified sports with children with special needs. It was fun to play my favorite sports with new friends."



### **Ryan Grossman – March 10, 2018**

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Allison, Father, Matthew, Brothers, Drew, 14, Reid, 8, and Sister, Jane, 8 ..... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ..... His interests include soccer, basketball, Playstation, and hanging with friends. I hope to do well in school and be successful. "I'm really excited for my bar mitzvah and I'm looking forward to March 10. I helped to collect food for NEST, which stands for No Empty Stomachs Today. I enjoyed it and I hope I made a difference in people's lives."



### **Benjamin Hoffman – March 17, 2018**

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Gabrielle, Father, Adam, Brother, Ryan, 13 ..... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ..... His interests include gaming, archery, and classic rock music. "I want to become a film editor or director. It feels great to be taking this big step toward becoming an adult. I'm excited but nervous at the same time. My twin brother Ryan and I did a bunch of different things for our community service, many of which involved helping people with Celiac Disease and food allergies and also people in need of food donations. Our family has been active in the Celiac and food allergy communities for more than 10 years and I was so happy to "give back" by volunteering at the GFAF Expo and also collecting gluten- and allergen-free foods for local food pantries. I also participated in Project N.E.S.T. (No Empty Stomachs Today) and helped an effort that collected and distributed 800 Thanksgiving meals to families in need via The Apostles' House organization. My family is also connected with Nyack Hospital and I was proud to assist with preparations for their annual Teddy Bear Hospital event at YouthFest at Rockland Community College. I hope to do these things for a long time to come."

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



### ***Ryan Hoffman – March 17, 2018***

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Gabrielle, Father, Adam, Brother, Benjamin, 13 ..... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ..... His interests include basketball, baseball, and hanging out with friends. "I want to become a lawyer in the sports or entertainment industries. I'm excited and a little bit nervous about being called to the Torah, but I'm looking forward to celebrating with my family and friends. My twin brother Ben and I did many different things for our community service, several of which involved helping people with Celiac Disease and food allergies and also people in need of food donations. Our family has a deep connection with the Celiac and food allergy communities and it felt great to contribute by volunteering at the GFAF Expo and also collecting gluten- and allergen-free foods for local food pantries. I also participated in Project N.E.S.T. a program that organized and distributed 800 Thanksgiving meals to families in need in 2017. Since I'm a big sports fan, I also enjoyed weekends when I could take part in the Friendship Circle and Pascack Valley Navigators programs. We played sports with the children with special needs and got to spend quality time getting to know them. I hope to continue all of these efforts for a long time."



### ***Liam Irizarry – April 7, 2018***

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Julie, Father, Marc, Brother, Nolan, 9, Sister, Sloane, 11 ..... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Lake Middle School ..... His interests include basketball, camp, and friends. "I would love to own a sports team when I am older. I am very excited to become a bar mitzvah. I know that is challenging but I am up for it and ready for the challenge. I have participated in Project NEST (No Empty Stomachs Today) by helping to collect and deliver food for people in need for Thanksgiving meals. I am also working on something to raise money for kids with special needs, like my cousin Jonathon, so that they can enjoy sleepaway camp."



### ***Ilana Schulman – April 7, 2018***

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Heather, Father, Glen, Brother, Derek, 15 ..... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ..... Her interests include cheerleading and basketball. "I would like to be a teacher. I'm very excited about my bat mitzvah. For my community service I collected arts and crafts supplies to give to children in the hospital."



### ***Jacob Eichner – April 14, 2018***

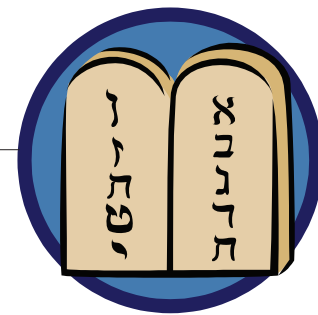
Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Kathy, Father, Randy, Brother, Samuel, 15 ..... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ..... His interests include camping, guitar, and making things. "I want to be an engineer when I grow up. I'm excited to be a man in the eyes of Judaism. For my community service I am working to help dogs."



### ***Natalie Wolfeiler – April 14, 2018***

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Debra, Father, Jay, Brother, Matthew, 14 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... Her interests include painting, marching band, cooking, and baking. "I would like to be a music teacher. I am excited and nervous to become a bat mitzvah and looking forward to sharing the day with my family and friends. For my community service I cooked meals for the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House and raised money for cancer research."

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



### **Alexa Denburg – April 21, 2018**

Lives Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Jodi, Father, Sam ..... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ..... Her interests include basketball, fashion, music, and tennis. "I want to always do my best, help others, and make a positive difference in life. I am looking forward to becoming a bat mitzvah and celebrating with all my friends and family. I have decided to help children with cancer. I am collecting unused art supplies and creating activity bags and delivering them to sick children so they have something to look forward to."



### **Jessica Epstein – April 21, 2018**

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Lisa, Father, Pete, Sister, Ava, 11 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... Her interests include soccer, tennis, and dance. "I want to live a happy and healthy life. I am very excited but nervous. For my community service I am working with residents of a nursing home."



### **Daniel Jason Roth – April 28, 2018**

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Denise, Father, Mark, Sister, Sophia, 15, Brother, Ian, 13 ..... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ..... His interests include cooking, playing chess, soccer, swimming, water sports, and playing pool. "I have a strong ambition to become an Eagle Scout. I think I've become more responsible and I think I'm growing up. For my community service I will be volunteering at Pascack Valley Meals on Wheels."



### **Ian Roth – April 28, 2018**

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Denise, Father, Mark, Sister, Sophia, 15, Brother, Daniel, 13 ..... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ..... His interests include fishing, baseball (New York Mets,) football (New York Jets,) ultimate Frisbee, outdoor activities, and Boy Scouts. "I want to be a successful business owner and to become an Eagle Scout. I feel that I've come a long way through this journey and I feel it is time to show my friends and family the hard work I put into studying the Torah. For my community service I will be providing food for people in need. I feel it would be a great experience! And it will help lots of people get food on their plates."



### **Daniel Cohen – April 28, 2018**

Lives in Airmont, New York. Mother, Kristina, Father, Jay, Brother, Jason, 13 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... His interests include baseball, basketball, and music. "I can't wait to do what I've seen my friends do many times. It will be a proud moment! For my community service I helped with Buddy Ball soccer and basketball."



### **Jason Cohen – April 28, 2018**

Lives in Airmont, New York. Mother, Kristina, Father, Jay, Brother, Daniel, 13 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... His interests include baseball, basketball, and music. "I would like to be a professional baseball player. I am really excited to experience this special moment. For my community service I helped with Buddy Ball soccer and basketball."



## From the Sifriyah

Sifriyah continues to expand its collection of books, build its services and build community. Each one of these criteria dovetails with our 2018 exploration of Jews in Faraway Places. On our first stop, on March 11, we will welcome Yemeni women who left their ancestral home for better and safer lives in the US. Their story resonates especially at a time when the issue of immigration is front page news.

### *Jews From Faraway Places:*

#### **A chance to build services and community**

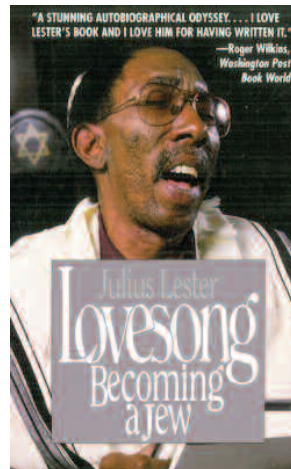
Jewish Yemeni immigrants will be coming to BHSS and share their stories about their lives in Yemen and their lives now in our local area.



**Sunday, March 11 at 1 p.m.**

Refreshments, especially Yemeni specialties.

RSVP: [bgnimerofsky@optonline.net](mailto:bgnimerofsky@optonline.net)



Julius Lester...Author of over 40 books, College Professor at the University of Massachusetts, Civil Rights Leader, African American, Convert to Judaism, died at age 78.

There were early signs that Lester would be drawn to Judaism. As a young child, he played over and over on the piano a simplified arrangement of Kol Nidre and

felt haunted by the melody. He had no idea where the melody came from or what it meant but loved it. Years later, he attended synagogue one Saturday morning as a guest, listening to the cantor singing the various melodies of the Shabbat morning service and he found himself almost in tears because he wanted to pray in song as the cantor was doing. He could not because he was not Jewish.

Much study and thought led to his and his wife's conversion in 1982. They prepared in a class of two. Often, Julius Lester devoured 20 books a week and came prepared to discuss these with the rabbi. Lester died on January 18, 2018. He leaves a rich, if sometimes controversial legacy. His memoir, chronicling his journey to Judaism, is *Lovesong: Becoming a Jew*. The memoir is in our library. It is definitely worth a read.

## Social Action Committee

Spring is almost here and social action opportunities are always budding and flowering at BHSS. Here is a list of a few that you might want to pick:

- **Ongoing projects – Syria Supper Club.**  
Contact [sgroskin@optonline.net](mailto:sgroskin@optonline.net)
- **Adopt-a-Bed in the Community Garden, clean-up April 28, planting May 6 - 20.**  
If you are curious, [marlasm6@optonline.net](mailto:marlasm6@optonline.net)

- **Soup Kitchen**, there's always an opportunity to make and serve meals on Sundays in Suffern. [Steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:Steveoum@verizon.net)

These are just a few of the opportunities at BHSS to cultivate your blossoming Social Action interests.

Whitney Speer, Chair, Social Action



*Jack Adler*  
*Jack Alpert*  
*Zachary Bibi*  
*Zachary Braunstein*  
*Daniel Cohen*  
*Jason Cohen*  
*Alexa Denburg*  
*Jack Edelson*  
*Spencer Edelson*  
*Ilana Gilbert*  
*Carson Greenberg*  
*Luke Hollander*  
*Andrew Kotz*  
*Victoria Laddy*  
*Jakob Mitnick*  
*Max Nierenberg*  
*Ryan Polansky*  
*Gabriel Reinstein*  
*Ilana Schulman*  
*Jordan Shamus*  
*Dylan Slater*  
*Parker Slivka*  
*Remi Slivka*  
*Tyler Strauss*  
*Jason Weintraub*

## Music Committee

Hello everyone!

So, what did you think of our programs in January and February? Did you like *Keeping the Faith*? We had two kinds of popcorn for the more sophisticated palates! We also had a beautiful Havdalah service to start off the night among friends.

We enjoyed a beautiful service celebrating Shabbat Shirah. This service features the talents of our very own choir and we recognize their hard work throughout the year. Our congregation is so blessed to have such dedicated volunteers among us. *Yashar ko'ach*! We also want to thank Cantor Faith Steinsnyder for joining us. The Cantors' duet for Mi Chamocha was beautiful! And Cantor Perper... we love our cantor!!!

Our February program was a joint venture with Lifelong Learning. We invited Dr. Gilad Cohen to be our Scholar in Residence to teach us about Israeli music for an entire weekend. He participated in services on Friday night, we shared a night of song and Israeli food and wine on Saturday, and he taught Family School on Sunday.

Our next program will be presented on **April 18** celebrating **Yom HaAtzmaut** and **Yom Hazikaron**. It will be a concert featuring multiple cantors and choirs from congregations in our area. Come, celebrate Israel, and support our choir!

Please save the date for **Stars of David** on **Sunday, May 6 at 7:00 p.m.** It is a musical featuring Cantor Perper and 3 cantors singing about famous Jews. Funny, touching, thoughtful, not to be missed and FREE!

The choir is looking for more volunteers. Knowledge of Hebrew or of reading music is **not** a requirement! Please contact the cantor at [cantorperper@earthlink.net](mailto:cantorperper@earthlink.net).

I started this column with a question. What do you think of our programming? I really want to know! Email me any time at [niberger@aol.com](mailto:niberger@aol.com) and let's meet. I'd love to hear from you!

Musically yours,  
Nora Berger



# Sisterhood News

Puxsatawney Phil saw his shadow—six more weeks of winter? It may be cold and windy out, and the snow may fly awhile longer, but Sisterhood is thinking warm thoughts, and planning for the spring to come.

In January, we kept warm and happy exploring Israeli dance with Rod McVeigh. We learned about the history of this important part of our culture, and something about the masters—and then were light on our feet as we took to the dance floor!

There's nothing like curling up on a cold night in a warm pair of jammies. In January and February, Sisterhood collected children's pajamas for the Oasis women's shelter in Paterson. Mona Sussman and Lisa Glick, our Social Action co-chairs helped us all "keep a child warm this winter," by selecting tags from the tree they created in the school lobby.

February 11 brought our Wine Glass Painting Party. Wendy Sommers from Arty Party came back to us, and we spent a fabulous afternoon creating wine glasses that could be used as the Miriam's Cup on our seder tables. Thanks, Wendy—it was a great time!

Many of us will be bringing our cups to our upcoming **Miriam Seder**, to be led by our own Gail Spencer, on **Thursday, March 15** at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$36 for members, \$40 for non-members and \$18 for children under 13. Please bring your mothers, your daughters, your friends and neighbors for an evening of true sisterhood! RSVP to Lisa Estrin.

And mark your calendars for Saturday evening, **March 24**, when we gather at the home of Sheryl Thailer for a "**March Madness Cocktail Party**"! This will be a potluck, similar to what we've done in other years at Chanukah time. There will be a signup sheet at the Miriam Seder, or RSVP to Debbie Falkow at [debalkow@hotmail.com](mailto:debalkow@hotmail.com)

Looking ahead, please save **Friday, May 14, Sisterhood Shabbat**, and plan to join us that night for a prayerful, meaningful celebration of women and Shabbat. Watch *Temple Topics*, and your weekly emails for more information.

See you soon!  
Leslie and Sheryl

## SISTERHOOD'S MIRIAM'S 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 MARCH 15 at 6:30 PM**



Our wonderful Gail Spencer will be leading our Seder.

RSVP Lisa Estrin at [lbestrin@aol.com](mailto:lbestrin@aol.com).

\$36 members, \$40 non-members, \$18 children.

Please bring social action donations for  
People to People Food and Family Shelter, West Nyack, NY

# Ritual Committee

## *The Counting of the Books*

One cold Sunday this past February, several members of the Ritual Committee met in the sanctuary of our synagogue to count. We were assigned the task of taking inventory of our prayer books. Put another way, it was “the counting of the books.” We were counting because of a generous donation and the possibility of replacing some of our prayer books. The Ritual Committee accepted the task to identify books that were usable and books that would need to be retired and replaced.

Twelve years ago, BHSS Sisterhood donated three hundred of the first printing run of the then-brand new *Mishkan T'filah* prayer books. They quickly found a home in our sanctuary. But that was twelve years ago and the once vibrant and crisp *siddurim* are worn and tired. Many are ripped and broken. On that cold February day, Ritual counted 208 prayer books; 165 in need of repair and 29 to be retired.

It's hard to say goodbye to old friends when they have been part of our lives for so many years. Our *siddurim* have been part of important celebrations and hardships from baby namings, b'nai mitzvahs, Shabbat services, and holiday festivals to funerals. Our tired and worn *siddurim* have been held by old members, new members and guests, children, students, teachers, parents, grandparents, lay leaders and clergy.

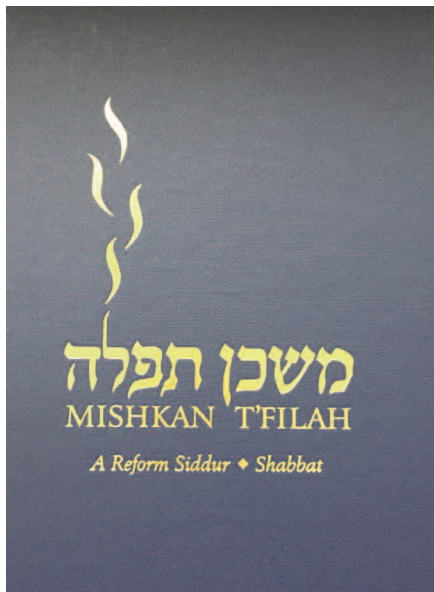
Many of our books will find a new home. The twenty-nine retired books will be donated to the Promenade Senior Living. Forty books will be donated to another temple that desperately needs prayer books. Some prayer books will be replaced. Some prayer books will be repaired.

Please consider donating to the prayer book fund by dedicating a siddur in honor or in memory of a loved one. Information can be found in *Temple Topics* or call the office.

*L'dor vador,*

Judy Teich, Ritual Co-Chair

## *Dedicate a Mishkan T'filah Shabbat Prayer Book!*



Dedications can be made in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Please send with a \$36 donation (via check or credit card) to  
Beth Haverin Shir Shalom

Dedication made by:

---

Dedication to read (Circle one):

In Honor or In Memory of:

---

A label will be placed in a siddur acknowledging your generous donation.

# Contributions

## Rabbi's Discretionary fund

with thanks - *James Morgan*

in memory of Sanford Bruckner - *Sheryl Thailer*

with thanks for all you do! - *Jane Simon*

with thanks and in memory of Louis Jerome Miller  
- *the Miller family*

with many thanks and in honor of Jesse Sobel  
- *Gail & Rich Sobel*

with many thanks and in honor of Billy Silver  
- *Roni & Andrew Silver*

## Cantor's Discretionary Fund

with thanks - *James Morgan*

with appreciation for your support - *Ellen & Brian Pall*

with appreciation and thanks and in honor of  
Jesse's bar mitzvah - *Gail & Rich Sobel*

to Marilyn Bernstein, in memory of her father  
- *Lynn & Michael Zall*

to Ellen Pall, in memory of her brother  
- *Lynn & Michael Zall*

with much appreciation for your hard work and the  
enjoyable Shabbat Shirah service!  
- *Ethel Rosen & Stuart Kirshner*

with many thanks for all the support - *Jane Simon*

with thanks and in memory of Louis Jerome Miller  
- *the Miller family*

with many thanks and in honor of Billy Silver  
- *Roni & Andrew Silver*

in memory of Norman Grossberg  
- *Deanna Grossberg & family*

with thanks for everything - *Marilyn & Ira Bernstein*

to Marilyn Bernstein, in memory of her father  
- *the Library Ladies*

in memory of Rose Jacobson - *Joyce & Stephen Weinberg*

in appreciation for all you do! - *Nadiego & Stephen Hittman*

## Educator's Discretionary Fund

with many thanks and in honor of Billy Silver  
- *Roni & Andrew Silver*

with appreciation and thanks and in honor of  
Jesse's bar mitzvah - *Gail & Rich Sobel*

## Life Fund

in memory of the yarhzeit of Nancy Morgan - *James Morgan*

in memory of Joel Sankel - *Sheryl & Joel Ives*

to Bob Meyers, in honor of his second bar mitzvah  
- *Claire & Paul Lipson*

to Whitney Speer, in memory of Joan Speer  
- *Claire & Paul Lipson*

to Ellen and Stanley Weiner, in honor of  
their new grandson - *Marilyn & Irwin Haberman*

with thanks to the BHSS community and  
Cantor Perper for all the caring - *Lisa Kahn*

to Mitchell Miller and family, in memory of  
Louis Jerome Miller - *Gail & Ranan Wichler*  
- *Brittany Silverman & Aaron Punim*  
- *Candy & Michael Kassover*  
- *Barbara & Charles Burghardt*

# Contributions

to the BHSS Choir, with thanks for the  
beautiful Shabbat Shirah service! - *Gail & Ranan Wichler*

in memory of Barbra Golub - *Sharon & Martin Arshansky*

in memory of Irene Bernstein - *Marilyn & Ira Bernstein*

in memory of Lois Fasanaro - *Ellen Fasanaro*

in memory of Janice Kaplan - *Alison & Norman Axelrod*

to Debbie Royal, In honor of her new grandson  
- *Alison & Norman Axelrod*

in memory of Celia Meyers - *Pearl & Bob Meyers*

in memory of Louis Jerome Miller - *the Miller family*

to BHSS, with thanks for all your hospitality  
- *Ziva & Rabbi Joel Schwartzman*

to Marilyn Bernstein, in memory of your father,  
Gerald David - *Sherry Levitt*

in memory of Ely Gordon - *Sheri & Allan Schott*

in memory of Beverly Schwartz - *David Schwartz*

in memory of Todd Spencer & Edward Spencer  
- *Kem Spencer*

to Ellen Pall, in memory of your brother Joseph Smolinsky  
- *Candy & Mike Kassover*  
- *Laurin & Adam Steiger*

to Ilyse Smith, in memory of her mother, Renee Kusher  
- *Candy & Mike Kassover*

## High Holiday Appeal

Terri & Jesse Coffel  
Lorraine & Marc Orlick  
The Gershengorn Family  
James Morgan  
Jennifer & Brian Altman  
Susan & Jeffrey Goldstein

## Yizkor Appeal

in loving memory of Barbara Moskowitz  
- *Ronald Moskowitz*

in loving memory of Stephen Gershengorn  
- *the Gershengorn family*

in loving memory of Fred Grossman - *Jon Grossman*

## Center for Food Action

Donated by their families in honor of the following *simchas*

bat mitzvah of Zoe Lynn  
bar mitzvah of Ryan Wolfe  
bar mitzvah of Drew Weiss  
bar mitzvah of Zach Selfon  
bar mitzvah of Ryan Grossman  
b'nei mitzvah of Benjamin and Ryan Hoffman

## Ramapo-Bergen Animal Shelter

Donated by their families in honor of the following *simchas*

bat mitzvah of Olivia Eisberg  
bar mitzvah of Ryan Wolfe

## Jewish Family Services of Rockland

Donated by their families in honor of the following *simchas*

bat mitzvah of Olivia Eisberg  
bar mitzvah of Jack Swerdloff  
bat mitzvah of Jessica Epstein



# 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**

<sup>9:29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> 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.” <sup>31</sup> 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.



Passover begins this year with the first seder on **March 30**

Many families will also celebrate a second seder on **March 31**

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!)

מָה נִשְׁתַּנָּה הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל הַלַּיְלוֹת?

*Mah nish'tana halailah hazeh mikol haleilot?*

Why is this night different from all other nights?

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין חֲמֵץ וּמֶצֶה. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלּוּ מֶצֶה:

*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.

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין שָׂאֵר יֵרָקוֹת. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מָרֹר:

*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.

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אֵין אָנוּ מִטְבִּילִין אֶפִּילוֹ פֶּעַם אַחַת. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְעָמִים:

*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.

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין בֵּין יוֹשְׁבִין וּבֵין מְסֻבִּין.

הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלָנוּ מְסֻבִּין:

*Sheb'chol haleilot anu och'lin bein yosh'vin uvein m'subin. Halailah hazeh culanu m'subin.*

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



## Spring Lifelong Learning Series – “How Did We Get Here? From Torah to Today”

Spring is (eventually) going to be with us, and what better time to come out and study! Join us to learn with master educator Sharon Halper, as we explore how Jewish practice has evolved over the years. No prior knowledge is needed, and classes are free but need an RSVP to the synagogue office to bethhaverim@optonline.net or by calling 201-512-1983.

The Sunday morning class will include bagels, and the Monday evening class will include pizza. If you're coming by to drop off a child at religious school on Sunday morning, or picking one up from Kadimah on Monday night, why don't you drop in and learn with us?

March 25, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and March 26, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. – Tzedakah  
April 22, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and April 23, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. – Ecology  
May 5, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and May 6, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. - Shabbat

## *Good & Welfare* from & for the congregation

### *Condolences*

to **Debbie Royal** on the death of her father, Sidney B. Royal  
to **Marilyn Taylor** on the death of her cousin, Susanne Buckler  
to **Jennifer Heit** on the death of her grandmother, Sylvia Ash  
to **Susan Reinstein** on the death of her cousin, Ira Weinberg  
to **Ruth and Stuart Turner** on the death of their grandniece, Alyssa Alhadeff

*R'fuah Sh'leimah*  
(For a Full and Speedy Recovery)

**Larry Israel**  
**Charles Romano**  
**Beth Wiesner**

### *Mazal Tov*

To **Rabbi Diamond** on his new rabbinic position at Temple Adat Elohim, in CA  
To all the RAC L'Taken participants: **Josh Brown, Logan Buchalter, Sarah Fasanaro, Scott Fleischmann, Kyle Freitag, Jessica Lamster, Lauren Landis, Melissa Orlick, Sophie Pavon, Ruth Schechtman, Robert Seif, and Julia Simon** - for an amazing job in Washington, DC !

### *Welcome New Members*

**Diana & Ramin Missaghieh and family**, Upper Saddle River, NJ  
**Carrie & Joseph Meyers and family**, Park Ridge, NJ

## Brotherhood 2.0

Brotherhood did something different this year. Our annual coat drive was for donations to People to People of West Nyack, NY. The main reason we chose P2P this year is because they take all clothing, and they collect seasonal clothes all year long...so we're keeping the boxes out. They have a "dress for success program", so some of the clothing that gets donated helps young people dress for job interviews and get a leg up. Also P2P has a large food pantry that feeds hundreds of people each month...and all local.

Another thing that was different about this clothing drive is the amount of donations. Usually our coat drives result in a donation of about 90 coats per year. This year, we had two boxes and we lost count! Each time we came to the synagogue, the boxes were overflowing with coats and clothing...not to mention the additional pre-donations of spring clothing that Roberto bagged for us in the back room. We are writing in this edition of *Temple Topics* to thank you all for your donations and generosity, and continued support...but also to talk about clothing donations, food donations, soup kitchens, and all we do as a community to feed and clothe people. Local donations help local people.

These are people who live next door to you, or you see them in town, or maybe on the bus or train on the way to work. Organizations like People to People help the functional, working poor. There are two kinds of poor. There are the obvious or apparent poor...these are people who may be homeless, living in shelters, perhaps they haven't worked in years. They live on public assistance, perhaps. Our donations help these people tremendously.

But there is the functional, working poor that is less apparent. These are people that maybe are underemployed, and although working one, two, or in some cases three jobs they still don't have enough to make ends meet. They make "too much" for public assistance, but not enough to sustain

themselves or their families. Most days they need to make a choice between buying food or paying the utility bill or the rent or mortgage. They look like you and I, they dress like you and I, and many times they live next door or up the street from you and I. Their children go to the same schools as your children, and you see them around town and wouldn't know they are struggling like this.

Our food donations, clothing donations, and time spent in the soup kitchens and food pantries in our towns...and working the garden at BHSS and donating the proceeds help these people tremendously. They may not get public assistance to buy food, and they rely on places to go to get clothing for themselves and their families, food and just a little help to get them through the week.

It is for this reason that we are planning to keep the clothing boxes out, and are working with others to continue to volunteer our time at the soup kitchen, and will look to do more work to feed the hungry and clothe them.

Thank you for your continued support of our Tikkun Olam initiatives. BHSS Brotherhood – changing the world, one Mitzvah at a time!

**March 4** – Help Brotherhood support the Youth Group and come out and help us cook for the Purim Carnival! RSVP [president@bhssbrotherhood.org](mailto:president@bhssbrotherhood.org)

**March 22** – Men's Seder in the Ulam – annual event...lots of fun!

**March 24** – Sisterhood/Brotherhood March Madness! at Sheryl Thailer's house...

**April 19** – Brotherhood Dinner at Allendale Bar and Grill

**April 29** – Brotherhood Raps – 10:00 at Panera Bread in Ramsey on 17

# Michelle Mitzvah Group

Shalom

Lately, where ever I turn, I keep reading about people and organizations trying to do more. Well, we at the Michelle Mitzvah Group are no different. We are trying to do more and we are starting with more enthusiasm, more passion, and more excitement.

You want enthusiasm? The Michelle Mitzvah Group had two tables of people at the Oasis Night at the Races Fundraiser on February 8. There's nothing like watching a bunch of people cheering on their horse to help raise money for Oasis. Whether or not your horse made it to the winner's circle, everyone is a winner when you have good food, good company, and you are supporting a great cause.

Want more excitement? How about running on the field of Yankee Stadium? Yes, you read that right - run on the field of Yankee Stadium. Make sure your taxes are done and then join the Michelle Mitzvah Group at the Damon Runyon 5K at Yankee Stadium for the Run/Walk for Cancer Research on Sunday, April 15.

The Michelle Group was formed as a living memorial to honor one of the children in the synagogue community who died as a result of leukemia. Actions of the Michelle Mitzvah are primarily for the benefit of youth, both within the congregation and in the greater community at large. As one member said, "We feel that we are living the Jewish teachings and giving substance to the commandments by performing the commands given by God. These are not suggestions; as Jews we are commanded to:

1. Visit the sick
2. Feed the hungry
3. Welcome the stranger
4. Do justice
5. Let no one go without shelter

It is in this spirit they we are looking to expand our collective efforts and considering new initiatives to help out our community. We are always open to new ideas and new members. The Michelle Mitzvah Group meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the synagogue. Please contact Steve Simon via email at [steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:steveoum@verizon.net) or by phone/text at 201 788-6755 for more information.



Thank You.

- Steven Simon  
Michelle Mitzvah Chair

The Applebaum, Pavon, & Gurian families work together to provide meals at the Suffern Soup Kitchen.

## Support Group for Parents of Estranged Adult Children.

This will be a peer led group, for Beth Haverim Shir Shalom members only, who find themselves in this painful situation. The focus will be on dealing with an adult child's estrangement, healing from the trauma and moving on in a healthy way.

Please contact Myra Dulberger at 201-760-1490 (feel free to leave a message if no answer) or email [myra16@gmail.com](mailto:myra16@gmail.com). A date and time will be set if there is sufficient interest from synagogue membership.

There will be no fees or charges to attend the group.



# Youth Programming

## Menschmakers and Junior Youth Group

The Menschmakers and Junior Youth Group had two events- Chanukah at The Promenade and Tubing at Campgaw. At The Promenade, the kids made edible menorahs out of candy and provided companionship for the elderly. Because of Gail Spencer and her team, our kids had such a wonderful time and we love being able to celebrate the Jewish holidays with you. Your planning and efforts are above and beyond and we cannot thank you enough.

In January, we also went tubing and the kids spent two hours on the mountain. Even in 20 degree weather, nothing stopped them! Of course hot chocolate and warm pretzels was a nice treat with frozen fingers and toes!



"We always love visiting the Promenade and its residents!"



Tubing was fun, but it was good to thaw out indoors!

We only have a few events left for the year and we would love for you to take part in them!

- **March 25 - Make Your Own Chocolate Covered Matzah**
- **April 20 - Junior Youth Group Creative Service Participation**
- **May 5 - End of Year Event**

## Senior Youth Group

On December 9, the Senior Youth Group had their first Midnight Run and it was such an eye-opening experience for many of our teens. The run was a success, but we could not have done any of this without our drivers' and parents' support: Steve Simon, Lisa Pavon, and Gary Savoy, there are truly not enough words to say how much your help was appreciated. The teens are excited for our 2018 Run and we hope you can join us!



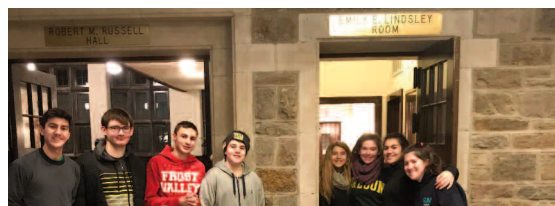
Brittany Silverman,  
Director of Informal  
Youth Programming

January was our Scavenger Event at the Palisades Mall and the teens had to snap pictures on their cell phones. See if you can guess some of the stores they had to go to:

- Victoria has a Secret about something pink
- Soar like an Eagle in something blue
- You Macy something green here

Since the teams all finished within the one hour timeframe, Coldstone Creamery was the prize won by all.

In February, we went Tubing at Campgaw and "tubed" the slopes. A bonus was the snow flurries we had at the mountain and seeing how competitive our teens were. Who knew, coming in first in a rubber tube was so important.



Our first  
Midnight  
Run to help  
those in  
need.

A great day on  
the slope!



Please join us for our final events scheduled for the year:

- **March 4 - Purim Carnival**
- **April 20 - Creative Service**
- **May 6 - Pancake Breakfast**
- **June 2 - End of Year Event**



MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING  זכרונם לברכה

## *March Yahrzeits*

MORRIS ABNER	JOHN J. HAYES	AL LOEW	AARON SHACKNAI
DOROTHY ADLMAN	DINA HEIBLUM	JUAN HANS LOWENSTEIN	FRANCES SIEGEL
LEIZER ALPERSTEIN	PHILIP HEIBLUM	EVELYN MARCUS	LOUIS SIEGEL
BERTHA ALTER	THELMA HERSHMAN	SHIRLEY MARKS	IAN L. SILVER, MD
ABRAHAM APPELBAUM	ALFRED HERTZ	ISIDORE MOSER	ALEX SILVERMAN
IBN ART	ZIPORA HOLTZMAN	BARBARA MOSS	RICHARD SITOMER
LORETTA BECKER	ISADORE ISRAEL	BEATRICE LERNER MOSS	SANDRA SLAVIN
GLORIA BELL	ROY W. KAMM	JOSEPH OPPENHEIM	JOSEPH SLUCKER
ANNA BERKOWITZ	ROBERT KARASIK	SEYMOUR OVENTHAL	BARBARA SPITZER
BARNET BERNSTEIN	SALLY KAY	THELMA OVENTHAL	SYDNEY STOLLER
SHERWOOD BOFFORD	DANIEL KESSLER	SALLY J. PARIS	ROSE SURKES
MARTIN BROWN	ROBERT KESSLER	JOY POLLACK	ILENE TANENBAUM
ISRAEL CHARNE	ABRAHAM KIRSHNER	PHYLLIS POLLACK	FANNY TREPPER
JETTY DENTZ	HELEN KLAPPER	HARRIET POPOWITZ	MARTIN TREPPER
SHEILA LEVITT ESTRIN	DORA KOHN	MARTIN POPOWITZ	FLORA VOGEL-LIRTZMAN
EILEEN FELDMAN	HELEN KUNEGO	SHLOMO POUSTY	NORMA WACHTEL
PAUL FISHER	PEARL LACHER	NATHAN ROCKER	LAWRENCE WEINBERG
MORTON FUCHS	NOEL LAMSTER	JOSEPH RUDELL	MIRIAM WEINBERG
IRVING GLICK	ELAINE LANDAU	LUDVIK SAPSOVIC	PAUL WEINBERG
NORMAN GREEN	DAVID LEITNER	ROBERT SATRAPA	THELMA WEINGAST
ESSIE GREENZWEIG	BESS LEVENE	DANIEL L. SCHACHER	ESTHER WEINSTEIN
JACOB GROSKIN	FRANCES LEVENE	LIBBY SCHLOSSER	ELYSE WEISSER
HARRY GROSSMAN	FRANK LEVENE	SOL SCHLOSSER	HELLA WEXLER
SAMUEL GROSSMAN	IRVING LEVINE	GERRY SCHOLL	ROBERT WOLFF
HYMAN GRUBMAN	SHIRLEY LEVINE	BETTY SCHOTT	SARAH WUNSCH
WALTER HARTWICH	BEATRICE LEVITT	JOSEPH SCHWARTZ	DAVID YORK
	SOL LIRTZMAN	HAROLD SENZEL	

## Tot Shabbat

Join us for a song and a story and a taste of Shabbat with your little ones!

Who: Parents, Grandparents with children ages birth to 5.

When: Friday, March 16 and April 13 from 5:15 to 6 p.m.

Open to members and non-members alike – bring your friends.

We'll share a little challah and grape juice before we go,  
wishing each other a sweet Shabbat of rest and peace.

RSVP to the office 201-512-1983

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING זכרונם לברכה ☆

## *April Yahrzeits*

GEORGE ADLMAN  
NATALIE ADLMAN  
LEON AUERBACH  
IRVING BECKER  
RICHARD BOYLE  
DENISE BROWN  
IDA CLIFF  
PHYLLIS COHEN  
ALICE COLE  
JOSEPH EISBERG  
JESSE ELLMAN  
EDWARD FINK  
BENJAMIN FINN  
ELSIE FREEMAN  
RUTH FRISHBERG  
DIANA GORDON

ERWIN HITTMAN  
NORMA HITTMAN  
JACOB HOLTZMAN  
YONA HOLTZMAN  
JACK HOMNICK  
BENJAMIN ISKOWITZ  
LENA ISRAEL  
GERTRUDE KLEIN  
ALLEN KOVAR  
BLANCHE LAMBERT  
MARILYN LASS  
BENJAMIN LEVITT  
PAUL LEVITT  
HENRY LICHTER  
MITCHELL LICHTMAN  
ERIC LIEBMANN

JUDY MAY  
MARY NEWHOUSE  
SCOTT NEWHOUSE  
LUCILLE PALL  
RICHARD PAVLOVEC  
IRVING PESIN  
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LEE ROSEN  
JOSEPH ROTHENBUCHER  
HARRY RUDNICK  
JACQUELINE SCHECHTMAN  
SIMON SEIDNER  
IRENE SHOOPS  
DAVID JOSEPH SIEGEL  
JACOB SIEGEL

ESTHER SLUCKER  
HYMAN SMITH  
ABRAHAM SPITZER  
MARION STANSFIELD  
SYLVIA STEIN  
DAVID STEINMAN  
JANE STEINSNYDER  
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**What time?** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Community  
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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  
**March 31 at 6 pm**  
\$40 adult, \$18 child under 13  
RSVP by 3/15

**BHSSTY Presents**

**PURIM CARNIVAL**

**Sunday, March 4**  
**11:30: Purim Mini Spiel**  
**11:45 - 1:45 pm:**  
**Carnival and CFA Food Drive**

# 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!

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



## Caring Committee

The Caring Committee has been quite busy making phone calls and visiting synagogue members who are ill and are in hospitals or rehabilitation centers. We have several volunteers who prepare meals that are delivered as needed, and this committee thanks each contributor for his/her kindness and generosity.

Along with our Brotherhood volunteers, we have been providing rides to doctors and Friday night services to members who are not able to drive. We are, however, in need of more driving volunteers so we don't have to turn anyone down when a request is made. If the Caring Committee has helped you in the past, and you are able, please try to "pay it forward" to provide help to fellow members.

Caring Committee members also attend shiva services. It is very rewarding to see the comfort on the face of the mourner when a temple member walks in the door to support the family at their difficult time. We encourage all to participate in this mitzvah.

If you have any availability and are willing to provide a service, please contact:

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



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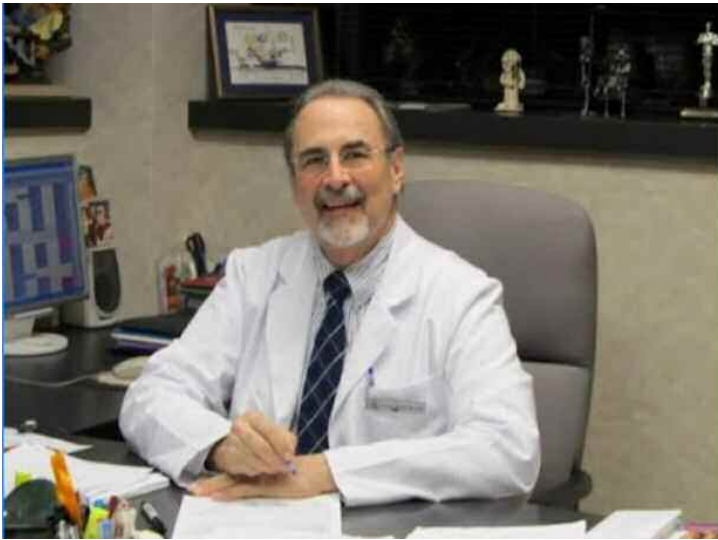
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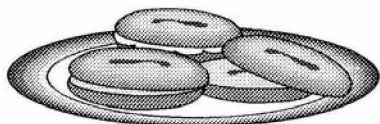


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Tickets: \$30/27/24



### *Mack Brandon's Gospel Explosion*

Share the joy of gospel music with Mack Brandon and his fabulous choir!

**Saturday March 3, 8:00 p.m.**

Tickets: \$30/27/24

Under 17: \$18

### *Cherish the Ladies*

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**Sunday March 11, 7:00 p.m.**

Tickets: \$38/35/30

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# Worship Schedule

Friday, March 2	6:30 pm	Shabbat Shabang! <i>Birthdays in March will be celebrated</i> Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Cooper & Bethon families
Saturday, March 3	10:00 am	B'nei Mitzvah of Sam Cooper & Emma Bethon
Sunday, March 4	7:00 pm	Healing Service in the Ulam
Friday, March 9	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service - 10 Year Merger Anniversary Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Grossman family
Saturday, March 10	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Grossman
Friday, March 16	5:15 pm 7:30 pm	Tot Shabbat Shabbat Evening service, Taste of Passover Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Hoffman family
Saturday, March 17	10:00 am	B'nei Mitzvah of Ryan & Benjamin Hoffman
Friday, March 23	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, March 24	NO Shabbat	Morning service
Friday, March 30	NO Shabbat	Evening service - 1st Night of Passover
Saturday, March 31	10:00 am	Passover Festival service
Friday, April 6	10:00 am 6:30 pm	Passover Yizkor service Shabbat Shabang! <i>Birthdays in April will be celebrated</i> Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Irizarry & Schulman families
Saturday, April 7	10:00 am	B'nei Mitzvah of Liam Irizarry & Ilana Schulman
Wednesday, April 11	7:00 pm	Yom HaShoah Commemoration with BHSS Choir & Ramapo Chorale
Friday, April 13	5:15 7:30 pm	Tot Shabbat Shabbat Evening service Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Eichner & Wolfeiler families
Saturday, April 14	10:00 am	B'nei Mitzvah of Jacob Eichner & Natalie Wolfeiler
Wednesday, April 18	7:00 pm	Yom HaZikaron/Yom HaAtzmaut service with choirs from the surrounding area
Friday, April 20	7:30 pm	Creative Youth Group Shabbat Evening service Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Denburg & Epstein families
Saturday, April 21	9:30 am	B'not Mitzvah of Alexa Denburg & Jessica Epstein
Friday, April 27	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Roth & Cohen families
Saturday, April 28	9:30 am 12:15 pm	B'nei Mitzvah of Daniel & Ian Roth B'nei Mitzvah of Daniel & Jason Cohen

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**Sessions of School:**

Sundays: March 4, 11, 18, 25 & April 22, 29  
Mondays: March 5, 12, 19, 26 & April 23, 30  
Tuesdays: March 6, 13, 20, 27 & April 24

**Office Closed:**

Friday, April 6

## To do in March and April:



- *Torah Study Shabbat mornings, 8:15 am*
- *Shabbat Shabang! Friday, March 2 & April 6 at 6:30 pm*
- *Purim Mini Shpiel & Carnival, Sunday, March 4 at 11:30 am*
- *Enjoy Library Program-Jews From Faraway Places, Sunday, March 11 at 1:00 pm*
- *Sisterhood Miriam Seder, Thursday, March 15 at 6:00 pm by RSVP*
- *Tot Shabbat Friday, March 16 & April 13 at 5:15 pm*
- *Brotherhood Men's Seder, Thursday, March 22 at 6:00 pm by RSVP*
- *Sisterhood & Brotherhood 'March Madness' Pot Luck, March 24 by RSVP*
- *Community Second Night Passover Seder, Saturday, March 31 by RSVP*
- *Book and a Bagel, Sunday, April 8 at 1:00 pm*
- *Yom HaShoah commemoration Wednesday, April 11 at 7:00 pm*
- *Yom HaZikaron & Yom HaAtzmaut service Wednesday April 18 at 7:00 pm*
- *LLL tour of Beth Sholom Synagogue, Elkins Park, PA Sunday, April 29*