

# TEMPLE TOPICS

TEVET/SHEVAT/ADAR 5782

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

## Rabbi Ilana's Message

### *A Patch in the Tuchas*

I laughed out loud when I read the Hebrew because a more accurate translation might say, "Rabbi Simon would say, 'You do not have a single plant without a heavenly constellation that smacks it, saying to it, 'Grow.'" Far from the beautiful whisper of encouragement of one who is just short of divine, here we have fate slapping the flora, daring it to be more. I supposed I laugh because there are certainly many ways to encourage growth. Perhaps for some, it is through a gentle whisper and for others, it's a good *patch* in the *tuchas*.

*full article on page 3*

## President's Message

*To us and our good fortune.*

*Be happy! Be Healthy! Long life!*

...Matt and I got a redo when we were honored to be the designated wedding couple as part of religious school, where this year's curriculum focuses on Jewish life cycle events. And so it was that on the seventeenth day of Kislev, in the year 5782 (can you tell we are also studying calendars in Family School?), Matt Cole and Jen Cole commemorated their commitment to each other in the BHSS sanctuary.

*full article on page 2*

## Director of Education

*Winter is...coming here?*

This is the edition of *Temple Topics* where we talk about the inclement weather we may or may not have - eventually, and how you can find out if school is canceled. So, here it is... That being said, let's hope for a mild winter or, at the very least, snowfalls that help us decide definitively one way or the other.

*full article on page 4*

## B'NAI MITZVAH

January 29 Matthew Schlosser

## THINGS TO DO:

*more info on back cover and throughout*

- Torah Stories - *All new!*
- Tot Shabbat
- Torah Study with Rabbi Ilana
- Shabbat Sh'happy
- Healing Service
- Shabbat Shirah
- Tu BiShvat
- BHSS and JCO's Challah Bake





## President's Message

Jen Cole

*To us and our good fortune.  
Be happy! Be Healthy! Long life!  
And if our good fortune never comes,  
Here's to whatever comes...*

On Sunday morning, August 20, 1995, Jennifer Goldberg wed Matthew Cole. We entered marriage from different backgrounds, yet neither had an affiliation with a faith community or what could be described as firm beliefs or practices. That said, we did not want a purely "civil" service. Despite our lack of religion, we nevertheless wanted our union to feel sacred. We also wanted to be inclusive and respectful of our respective families and upbringings.

We ultimately chose an officiant from the advertisements in the back of a bridal magazine. She is a lovely woman, an ordained minister, Jewish herself (which was comforting to my family). She sat with us in her wooded home one evening, and together we designed a meaningful, if noncommittal ceremony that covered all the proverbial bases.

We walked down the aisle to a flutist's rendition of a Grateful Dead song, the lyrics of which (*"If I had a song to sing, I'd sing it to you, long as you live..."*) appear in calligraphy on our ketubah (more artistic than kosher). We stood beneath a makeshift chuppah (or so I thought, until I recently looked closely at the photographs and realized we were more in front of it than under, due to the arch's inability to sufficiently accommodate our stature). We expressed vows, exchanged rings and read what we believed to be a Native American prayer. The blessing's indigenous nature has since been debunked (it was actually written by a Western novelist and later popularized in a Jimmy Stewart movie) but its sentiment remains (*"Now you are two persons, but there is only one life before you..."*). Matt stomped on a glass, we kissed, someone yelled "L'Chaim" and it all felt very official.

Several years later, friends who were seeking to craft a more individualized, interfaith service (and could not find a rabbi that was willing to participate), asked for our officiant's contact information. A quick google search revealed that while she was still conducting weddings, our minister had expanded her services and was primarily working as...wait for it...A PET PSYCHIC!

The jokes rightfully ensued. To this day my boys relay the narrative of how their mother chose their father based on the

*To us and our good fortune.  
Be happy! Be Healthy! Long life!*



fact that he was tall and had air conditioning, and that we were married by a medium for dogs.

If you are wondering why I am sharing this, last month Matt and I got a redo when we were honored to be the designated wedding couple as part of religious school, where this year's curriculum focuses on Jewish life cycle events. And so it was that on the seventeenth day of Kislev, in the year 5782 (can you tell we are also studying calendars in Family School?), Matt Cole and Jen Cole commemorated their commitment to each other in the BHSS sanctuary.

Our second wedding included something old (us!), something new (a simple gold band for me, after my original, less traditional ring was misplaced as it long ago ceased to fit comfortably), something borrowed (a veil from Lori Yanowitz) and something blue (our jeans). We had beautiful music and walked down the aisle to *Erev Shel Shoshanim* played by Jane Koch, the words of which are remarkably similar to our original selection (*"Let me whisper a song for you slowly, a song of love..."*). Our guests included mostly 5th and 6th graders, some of whom joined us under the chuppah and offered the seven blessings in English after Rabbi Ilana beautifully chanted them in Hebrew.

*Continued on page 4*



I was reminded recently of a quote often attributed to the Talmud: “Every blade of grass has its angel that bends over it and whispers, ‘Grow, grow.’” It’s a beautiful quote, emphasizing how much encouragement every living thing needs, and of the spiritual elements rooting (pun intended!) for our success and progress. Still, I am often suspicious of textual quotes without definitive citations. I looked up this lovely sentiment, and, sure enough, it is not 100% accurate.

First, the citation is from *Midrash Rabba, Bereshit Rabba* 10:6, an important Jewish text, but not the Talmud. Second the translation is creative. I always tell my students that all translation is interpretation, but this is pushing it. For this quote, the original text reads:



אָמַר רַבִּי סִימּוֹן אֵין לָךְ כָּל עֵשֶׁב וְעֵשֶׂב, שְׂאִין  
לוֹ מָזֶל בְּרָקִיעַ שְׂמֵכָה אוֹתוֹ, וְאוֹמֵר לוֹ גִּדֹּל



I laughed out loud when I read the Hebrew because a more accurate translation might be, “Rabbi Simon would say, ‘You do not have a single plant without a heavenly constellation that smacks it, saying to it, ‘Grow.’” Far from the beautiful whisper of encouragement of one who is just short of divine, here we have fate slapping the flora, daring it to be more. I supposed I laugh because there are certainly many ways to encourage growth. Perhaps for some, it is through a gentle whisper and for others, it’s a good *patch* in the *tuchas*.

I like to think that the person who re-translated the text for merchandising understood that many people think they need nurturing rather than prodding. It’s only when people really get to know each other that they really understand what motivates them. That understanding requires relationship.

I hold an abiding belief that relationships are at the center of a good life. All of us need some time alone, but it is only through community that we affect good and lasting change in the world, and—just as atoms are the building blocks of matter—relationships are the building blocks of community.

So often when I see people at the synagogue, our conversations are the parentheses to a committee meeting or service. Now that so much of what we do has shifted to an online venue, the time we get to tend to our relationships is in shared virtual company, shortened because we don’t get to walk to our vehicles together, or challenging because so much of our focus is spent on technical details. I try to be on every Zoom 15 minutes early to greet people, check in, and share. Even so, I’ve noticed we’re not getting the quality of interaction we want, but we need it more than ever. How can we understand the needs of those around us without the time to understand their nuances?

Part of what BHSS provides is moments of connection, allowing us insight into ourselves and each other. For a moment, I want to share the voice of the whispering angel to thank and encourage all our BHSS community does. Thanks to everyone who planned, hosted, and showed up for any or all of the 8 nights of Hanukkah. Thanks to the ongoing efforts of the choir to bind soul to soul through song. Thanks to our parents, students, and teachers who stretch their creative and logistic muscles to make sure that Jewish Education continues to thrive. Thanks to the committee members and chairs who meet, plan, and act. Thanks to the friends who check in with each other, the service-goers, the volunteers, the encouragers, and the participants. Every role and every person is vital.

If you are the kind of person who gets their motivation a different way, through a challenge or some other means, I will stop short of “smacking” you through *Temple Topics*. Instead, I will invite you to connect more deeply so that you can get what you need to push you forward. One way I would love to engage with you is through conversation. Please reach out in a moment of need, a moment of joy, or a moment of opportunity. This is your reminder that I’m here at the synagogue, looking forward to hearing from you.





# From The Educator

Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh

Winter is...coming here?

This is the edition of *Temple Topics* where we talk about the inclement weather we may or may not have - eventually, and how you can find out if school is canceled. So, here it is: we will post a notice on the front page of our website, there will be an outgoing message on the school's voice mailbox, a notification will go up on cancellations.com (where you can also sign up for email alerts) and we will send emails to the address we have on file for your family. I will also post on Facebook – both on the private parents' page (have you joined yet?) and on the BHSS main page. If you happen to drive to our building, you will see signs on the front and side doors announcing that there is no school. And if you registered at Remind.com you'll receive a notification.

If you feel that the weather conditions where you are may be too dangerous to travel in, even if we have not cancelled school, then let us know that you are not venturing out. We will make our best attempt to decide in time for you to plan – by 1 p.m. on a Monday or Tuesday, or by 9 p.m. the Saturday night before Sunday morning classes.

That being said, let's hope for a mild winter or, at the very least, snowfalls that help us decide definitively one way or the other.

As we greet a new secular year, thank you to all the parents who have filled out health forms each week, who have come to the building in all kinds of weather so that your children do not venture out into our busy parking lot, who make sure our students are at BHSS or online in time for Bar Mitzvah lessons and private Hebrew sessions, and who continue to support the work that we do.



*Continued from page 2*

Stacey Coyne had our Family School class design a beautiful ketubah which included wishes from our fellow students ("We wish you a home filled with learning, laughter and compassion") and was signed by witnesses Lauren Einhorn and Elliot Feldman. The height of the canopy, if you are wondering, was more than sufficient, as the poles were previously elongated to accommodate another tall couple (I have since learned from my Sisterhood Kindness match Sheryl Rappaport, that her husband Ira originally built the structure for their synagogue nuptials in 2000). This time around, we were blessed to have our children present to hold the poles. We even had a photographer and videographer (Thank you McVeighs!) to capture the event.

I posted pictures on social media and they were quite the hit, along with the obligatory trending hashtags that I admittedly spent way too much time composing (my favorites include #MattAndJenWedAgain and #TheColesDoubleTiedTheKnot).

We simultaneously delighted, confused and disappointed our followers. Most offered heartfelt congratulations, yet others asked if their invitation got lost in the mail. To my chagrin, there was no registry.

This time around, we did not have Matt "veil" me, because a quarter of a century later there is little need for modesty nor to confirm my identity. We are also not naive enough to even wish that the broken glass, as one of the many interpretations explains, will be the worst *tzuris* in our lives. Similarly, when we drank from the kiddush cup, we did not have to speculate if we would be blessed, as the song goes, with good fortune. We already have been, many times over.

What we know now, that we did not know then, is that one of our many blessings would be a *kehilah kedoshah*, our synagogue community, with whom we could share all of it.

Here's to whatever comes...

## TRADITION AND CULTURE

### *Tu BiShvat:* *The New Year of the Trees*

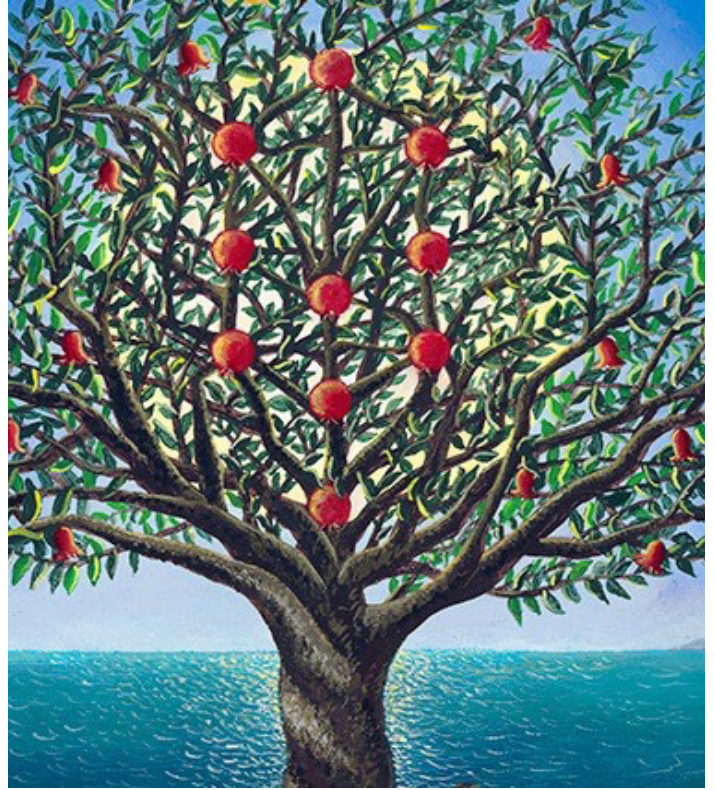
*(Rosh Hashanah L'llanot)*

*Tu BiShvat*, also known as the Birthday of the Trees, is celebrated this year beginning on Sunday evening, January 16. It is a holiday that reminds us of our connection to the earth, as we celebrate the yearly cycle for the growth of trees in Israel.

*Tu BiShvat* is one of four New Years mentioned in the *Mishnah*. In the Middle Ages, it was made to be a celebration resembling Passover. Both Ashkenazi and Sephardi communities celebrated by gathering at a home, which would be decorated with a white table cloth, candles and the holiday foods. Passages from the Talmud that related to plants and agriculture were read. Four glasses of wine would be drunk, each one accompanied by a fruit, nut or other item representing the land of Israel.

Today, we celebrate by caring for nature. For example, we can plant trees at home or in Israel, grow an herb garden or take on a cleanup campaign in our community. We will be planting seeds for a vegetable garden this spring at Oasis – A Haven for Women & Children in Paterson, NJ.

Traditionally on *Tu BiShvat* we eat foods that come from the earth, including wheat, barley (bread), grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, apples, almonds and pears.



*Tu BiShvat* is a good time to remember that it is our earth to care for... and to celebrate.

Tradition & Culture has a lot of great things in the works. Updates will be on the congregational weekly emails. Make sure to check it out!

### PLANT A TREE FOR TU BISHVAT



Planting trees is a beautiful way to show you care. The Jewish National Fund has been planting trees in Israel for over a century. It connects us to the land, it celebrates our joys and it literally plants a stake of hope and optimism in the future of Israel.

Every tree planted through JNF comes with a certificate of your choice, mailed to the recipient with your personal message.

There's no better time than Tu BiShvat to plant a tree in Israel!

For more information, go to the Jewish National Fund at <https://usa.jnf.org/jnf-tree-planting-center/>



# **BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM** **2021-2022**

## **CLERGY**

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman	201-512-1983	rabbischwartzman@gmail.com
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## **PROFESSIONAL STAFF**

Executive Director, Iris Greenberg	201-512-1983	irisgreenberg@optonline.net
Director of Education, Rebecca McVeigh	201-512-1983	schoolatbethhav@optonline.net
Administrative Assistant, Michelle Sherry	201-512-1983	bethhaverim@optonline.net
Dir. of Sr. Youth Programming, Rebeca Berger	551-427-8368	rebecaa.bergerr@gmail.com
Dir. of Jr. Youth Prog., Samantha Spencer	551-427-3663	samanthaspencer715@gmail.com

## **OFFICERS**

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Past President, Judy Teich	845-512-8506	judy.teich@gmail.com
Vice President, Renee Garbus	845-357-8865	renee.garbus@gmail.com
Vice President, Ron Mandler	646-334-3342	ronald.mandler@gmail.com
Vice President, Lauren Theodore	917-767-8973	laurenstheodore@gmail.com
Treasurer, Harvey Weinberg	201-825-8781	hbweinberg@gmail.com
Asst. Treasurer, Alexia Feldman	201-704-3321	allibre@hotmail.com
Secretary, Rebeca Berger	551-427-8368	rebecaa.bergerr@gmail.com

## **TRUSTEES**

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Trustee, Donna Kotz	201-722-8838	donnakotz@gmail.com
Trustee, Andy Silver	845-368-4836	asilver320@gmail.com
Trustee, David Wolf	845-357-9119	d.wolftaxman@gmail.com

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS & AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS**

Brotherhood, Jonathan Theodore	917-531-0043	bhssbrotherhood@gmail.com
Building & Grounds, Harris Reinstein	201-652-0898	harrisreinstein@msn.com
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Library, Ruth Turner	845-351-5732	rgtt@optonline.net
Membership, Michelle Gilbert	201-661-8033	mich319@hotmail.com
Membership, Lauren Theodore	917-767-8973	laurenstheodore@gmail.com
Michelle Mitzvah Group, Steve Simon	201-788-6755	steveoum@verizon.net
Music, Nora Berger	201-703-0132	niberger@aol.com
Outreach, Jane Young	201-679-6895	jnapfy@aol.com
Sisterhood, Lisa Estrin	845-369-3059	lbestrin@aol.com
Sisterhood, Beth Wiesner	201-857-2272	brw2003@gmail.com
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Tradition & Culture, Ritch Yanowitz	917-213-7300	ritchiano@gmail.com
Tradition & Culture, Marin Greene	201-725-7343	marinrene@aol.com
Youth Group, Tai Weiss	201-446-0526	taiweiss56@gmail.com
Youth Group, Leah Wolf	845-537-9929	555law555@gmail.com

# **Birthdays**



## **January**

*Ava Madison Diamond*

*Madison Dworkin*

*Abby Fein*

*Hailey Feldman*

*Lindsay Goldstein*

*Shelby Greene*

*Noa Kaufman*

*Samone Kaufman*

*Samantha Kotz*

*Leena Lasman*

*Emily Smith*

*Avery Spektor*

*Jeffrey Waldbaum*

*Lucas Weiner*

## **February**

*Ella Arum*

*Harry Barron*

*Gilana Brandman*

*Samuel Cohen*

*William Franklin*

*Charlotte Geller*

*Tyler Grossman*

*Dara Kotz*

*Samuel Lasman*

*Cody Levine*

*Sean Levinson*

*Jaye Evelyn Mendel*

*Ava Rozenblat*

*Reid Sendroff*

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



**Matthew Schlosser**

**January 29, 2022**

Lives in Suffern, New York.  
Mother, Julia Kaplun, Father,  
Jonathan Schlosser .....  
is a 7th grader at B.O.C.E.S. ....  
His interests include hiking and biking.  
"I am excited to stand on the bimah."



"Whoever saves a single life...it is as if that person had saved an entire world..."

Mishnah Sanhedrin 4:5, 37A

If you are blood type O and 18-59 years old,  
you could save a BHSS member's life.

Could **you** be a hero?

Call or email the BHSS front office for more information.



### Candlelighting times:

1/7/22 – Bo 4:27 pm

1/14/22 – B'shalach 4:34 pm

1/21/22 – Yitro 4:42 pm

1/28/22 – Mishpatim 4:51 pm

2/4/22 – T'rumah 4:59 pm

2/11/22 – T'zaveh 5:08 pm

2/18/22 – Ki Tisa 5:16 pm

2/25/22 – Vayacheil 5:25 pm



# January Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
						Va'eira
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No School	No School	No School	No School 7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Torah Stories via Zoom		5 pm Tot Shabbat 6:30 pm Tefilot	Bo
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study 7:30 pm Healing Svc via Zoom	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm PJ Remote Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Exec. Comm. Mtg. 7:30 pm MMG Mtg.	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot Shabbat Shirah	B'shallach
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
No School	No School	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm GVP via Zoom		7:30 pm Tefilot	Yitro
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Music Comm. Mtg.	4 pm Remote Class 6:30 pm Challah Bake		7:30 pm Tefilot	Mishpatim Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Schlosser
30	31					
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah					



# February Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		4:15 pm grades 4 & 5	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Torah Stories via Zoom		5 pm Tot Shabbat 6:30 pm Tefilot	T'rumah
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm PJ Remote Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Exec Comm. Mtg. 7:30 pm MMG Mtg.	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	T'tzaveh
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm GVP via Zoom		7:30 pm Tefilot	Ki Tisa
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
No School	No School	No School 7:30 pm Music Comm. Mtg.	No School 7:30 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	Vayacheil
27	28					
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah					

# Eternal Lights 2021

An amazing evening of fun laughter, all while supporting BHSS. A beautiful venue, wonderful food and the warmth of friends new and old.

For 23 years Eternal Lights has helped to support all of our friends at our sacred synagogue. Whether it is for programming, education or assistance to those less fortunate, Eternal Lights ensures that everyone who wants to be a part of our Jewish community can be. This was the largest Eternal Lights event we have ever had, with 96 guests attending. We raised over \$19,000 making it over \$400,000 to date.

Our heartfelt thanks to all who supported Eternal Lights this year and in the past.  
It is because of all of you that our Eternal Lights continues to shine.

Your hosts,

Deborah & Jeff Klein  
Marci & Harvey Weinberg  
Jann & Marc Reissman  
Alexia & Elliott Feldman

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## Eternal Lights Benefactors:

### **GOLD**

ALISON & NORMAN AXELROD  
JOE BERMAN  
LILIYA & MARC BURSHTYEN  
ROBIN & BARRY CASSELL  
JEN & MATT COLE  
DARA & CHRISTINE DIAMOND  
ALEXIA & ELLIOTT FELDMAN  
RENEE & GARY GARBUS  
DEBORAH & JEFF KLEIN  
JEN KRAFT  
RICH & ARLENE MANDEL  
PHIL MOSS  
JANN & MARC REISSMAN  
SAM REINER  
ROBBY & EDDIE SAIFF  
RUTH & STU TURNER  
GAIL & RANAN WICHLER  
LORI & RITCH YANOWITZ  
MARCI & HARVEY WEINBERG

### **SILVER**

SHEILA & LARRY GROSKIN  
SUE-ELLEN JOHNSON  
CANDY & MIKE KASSOVER  
GRETCHEN & ERIC MELMAN

### **BRONZE**

SYDELLE & DAVID AARONS  
JENNIFER ALTMAN  
ROBYN & DAVID BARRON  
JESSICA & GARRET BEDRIN  
JILL BEHAR  
ALLISON BERWITZ  
LAURIE & MARC DANIEL  
LAUREN & JASON DWORKIN  
SUSIE FEIN  
SHERYL & JOEL IVES  
FAITH KAUFMAN  
DONNA & ADAM KOTZ  
LISA LAMSTER  
MILANA & BARRY LIEBERMAN  
JEN & RON MANDLER  
LESLIE SAPIENZA  
RONI & ANDY SILVER  
JUDY TEICH & LOIS SCHWARTZ  
LAUREN & JONATHAN THEODORE  
LYNN & MICHAEL ZALL  
KATHY & HOWARD ZUKOF  
LINDA & ED VOGEL  
SHARI & RYAN LEDERMAN  
LISA ESTRIN  
CAROLYN & SCOTT SPUNGIN  
MARNI STEINBERG &  
JOAQUIN RODRIGUEZ  
MARNI & PAUL HIRSCHORN  
MELISSA & ERB COOPER  
JENA & ROB TELL

### **FRIENDS OF ETERNAL LIGHTS**

MAXINE & HOWARD ABNER  
LINDA & DAVID SCHWARTZ  
ILYSE & FLOYD SMITH  
REBECCA & ROD McVEIGH  
MARIN & DARYL GREENE







## SOCIAL ACTION

Shalom everyone at BHSS and a happy and healthy 2022 to everyone! Even though the days are shorter and colder, BHSS's Social Action Committee has been cooking up a selection of warm programs for everyone!

Last mid-December 2021, Ruth and Stu Turner and Jadyn Turner helped us implement a writing campaign to prominent New York State legislators who are advocates for the passage of Alyssa's Law as it has been passed in New Jersey and Florida. If passed in New York State, this law would call for the installation in every New York public school of silent panic alarm buttons linked to local law enforcement agencies. That way the police could get to the shooting scene as quickly as possible, mitigate a threat, and triage any victims. A group of volunteers from Social Action and other BHSS committees wrote and sent out 150 postcards to relevant influencers who could help pass the law. These included State Senator Elijah Reichlin, who will speak to our group on January 4 about the progress of legislating this important law.

Our second outreach initiative will be to the ultra-Orthodox

Jewish community in our midst and how we can learn more about and subsequently support each other. Lisa Estrin connected with "Footsteps", an organization supporting those who have chosen to leave this community. It suggested we all read Shulum Di's memoir *"My Unorthodox Life."*

Finally, to follow up our participation in Mahwah's Pride Festival last August, we will continue our outreach to the LGBTQ communities in Rockland and Bergen Counties and to those who approached us to become involved in our synagogue community.

We always welcome new members and ideas, so please don't hesitate to contact us and to participate in our monthly Zoom meetings (for now) held on the last Tuesday evening of every month.

Best wishes,

Co-Chairperson Jonathan A. Theodore (917) 531-0043

Co-Chairperson Lisa B Estrin (201) 745-2423

Vice Chairperson Lisa Glick (201) 819-9148

## NOTES FROM MUSIC

Hello everyone!

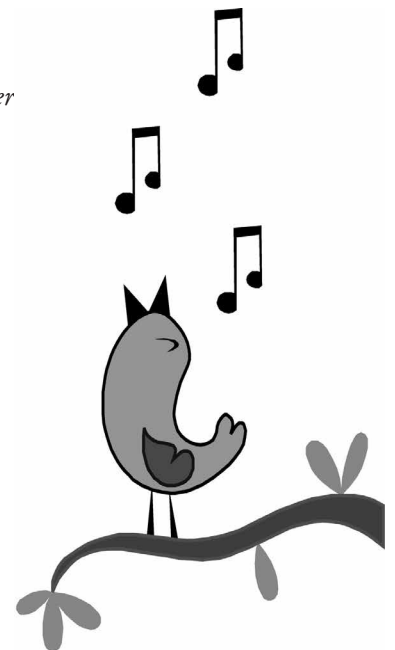
I hope you noticed our Choir Flyer in the BHSS weekly newsletter asking for new singers. All are welcome, and knowledge of Hebrew is not required. Music has always been important to our congregation and what would our services be without our choir? Please contact Michelle Sherry in the office for more information and to sign up.

I also invite you to attend services on **January 14, 2022** to celebrate **Shabbat Shirah**, when we read the Song of the Sea. This is the Shabbat when BHSS traditionally honors the choir and recognizes all the effort they put in throughout the year.

Please look for details for our annual **Music Movie Night** to benefit the Center for Food Action. The date, the movie, and the venue will be announced in the BHSS weekly newsletter.

Our meetings are always on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. We are meeting via Zoom so if you would like to see what we are all about, email me at [niberger@aol.com](mailto:niberger@aol.com) and I will send you the invitation link.

*Musically yours,  
Nora Berger*





# BHSS GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TASK FORCE

## TAKE ACTION, NOT SIDES

New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy recently urged state lawmakers to pass stricter gun violence prevention legislation before the current legislative session ends in January. The BHSS Gun Violence Prevention Committee is initiating a postcard-writing campaign to help get this New Jersey legislation passed, and we have made it easy for all New Jersey residents to participate, as well as New Yorkers who are encouraged to spread the word to their New Jersey friends!

Here is how you can help get Governor Murphy's gun safety bills passed in the current legislative session.

- Send each legislator in your district (three legislators) a postcard, **pre-printed with addresses and provided by our committee**, telling them you support these bills and you are counting on them to vote yes.

### DIRECTIONS FOR HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE POSTCARD WRITING CAMPAIGN:

- Pick up your postcards (3 total) at the BHSS office – we will provide the correct postcards for your district
- Fill in the return address with your home address
- Write on the postcard: *I am counting on you to vote 'yes' on Governor Murphy's gun violence prevention bills. Thank you for your support.*
- Print and sign your name
- Return postcards to BHSS office, or to Ritch Yanowitz's mailbox located at **41 Deerfield Road, Wyckoff**, the office will post and send.

PLEASE RETURN THE POSTCARDS BY JANUARY 4 AT THE LATEST

Please see below for a summary of these bills

- *Ensuring Firearms are Handled Safely*
  - Requiring Firearm Safety Training
  - Mandating Safe Storage of Firearms
- *Making New Jersey Safer*
  - Banning .50 Caliber Firearms
  - Closing Loophole for Importing Out-of-State Firearms.
- *Giving Law Enforcement the Tools to Address Gun Violence*
  - Establishing Electronic Ammunition Sales Recordkeeping
  - Promoting Microstamping Technology
- *Additional Actions*
  - Regulating School Shooting Drills.
  - Holding the Gun Industry Accountable

If you have questions or comments, please contact Ritch Yanowitz at [ritchyano@gmail.com](mailto:ritchyano@gmail.com) or at (917) 213-7300.

## HEALING SERVICE

Please join Rabbi Ilana on  
**Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 7:30 pm**  
**Via Zoom**

A service of healing for the mind, body and spirit.  
All are welcome.



## BROTHERHOOD

At the end of November, BHSS Brotherhood lost another one of our own. We know that you join us in bidding farewell to our friend and brother, Abe Holtzman. Abe was a fixture at the Brotherhood for many years, rarely missing a Thursday night dinner or Sunday Raps, happily sharing his political views and engaging in debate.

Abe was a truly decent and good person. He had a love of learning, of education, of Judaism and truly loved his family, his friends and his community. May Abe Holtzman rest in peace, and may his memory always be for a blessing.

In December, Brotherhood had their annual Chanukah party at Allendale Bar and Grill. We haven't had one of these in over two years, so it was nice to get out again and see some new faces, as well as some of our existing friends.

We don't have any set events yet for the upcoming year, but we will keep everyone up to date on what we are doing. We hope to have one dinner on the third Thursday of every month, and a breakfast on the third Sunday of every month. And also we are planning a roster of events, old and new.

We welcome our newest members, and invite everyone to check us out, come out, meet us and enjoy our company. We are BHSS Brotherhood, changing the world one mitzvah at a time.

L'Shalom

Sincerely,  
The Legion of Past Presidents and our Treasurer for Life

## SISTERHOOD

*"I love my husband, but it is nothing like a conversation with a woman that understands you. I grow so much from those conversations."* – Beyonce

Welcome to 2022! Dare we hope that this will be the year we get back to "normal"? Much has changed for all of us—but some things remain a constant. Not long ago, the New York Times reported that women believe they can count on their friends to come through for them no matter what they may be struggling with in their lives. We are each other's support systems, shoulders to cry on, secret-keepers, listening ears and best friends. Female friends can understand you in ways men may not. Developing strong and healthy female friendships is something all women can benefit from.

Throughout the past difficult couple of years, and continuing now in this time of uncertainty, when we feel we can count on nothing, we can count on each other. This is Sisterhood at its best and BHSS's Sisterhood is a shining example. Our Sisterhood Chanukah parties have long been the stuff of legend. When the pandemic hit last year, we found ourselves, like everyone else, "on pause". We were determined that we wouldn't let 2021 end without a chance to celebrate together. So, on December 4 we gathered together to share potluck

appetizers, dinner and drinks (hot mulled wine, anyone?) at an inside and outside party. We gathered in the kitchen and in the backyard around a blazing fire pit (thanks, Bill Pearlman!) for laughter, conversation and s'mores! It may have been dark and December-y but that night was all about warmth and fun.

Sisterhood will be back over the next months with more opportunities to connect and relate with one another. Events to look forward to include our traditional **Miriam Seder** (more about that next time) and – are you ready for it? – the return of the **Dine-Around!** There will also be an outdoor wine tasting event in the spring. Watch your weekly emails for dates, times and information, and sign up as soon as you can. Many other events are in the planning stages, and we are waiting for more opportunities to safely gather.

Do you have a great idea for Sisterhood? Please be sure to contact our co-presidents or our programming chairs – because there's nothing that this bunch of Sisters can't do!

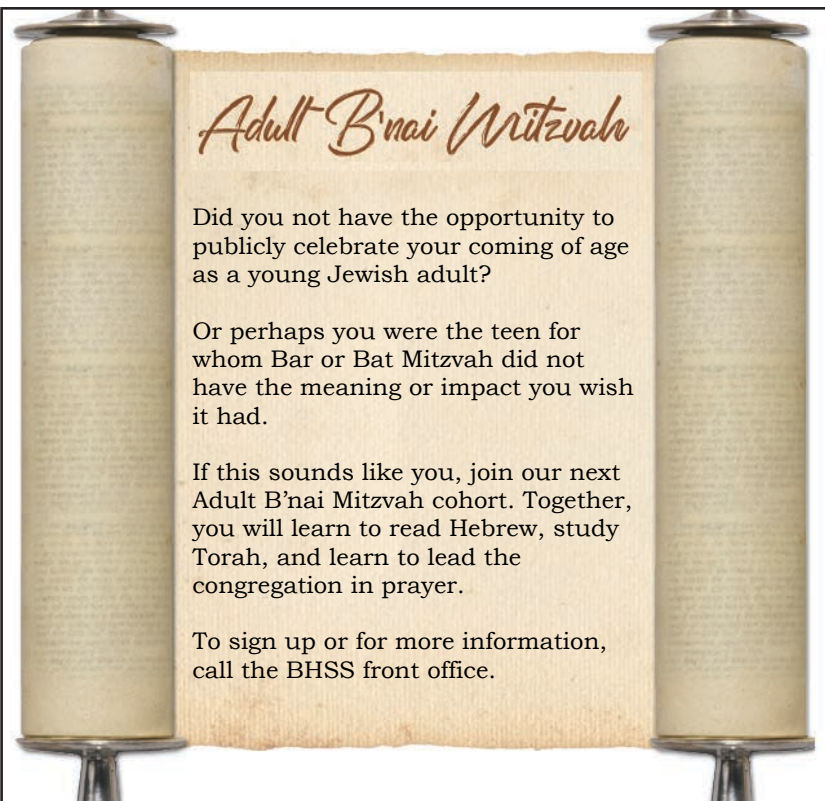
Beth Wiesner and Lisa Estrin, Co-Presidents

## FROM THE SIFRYAH

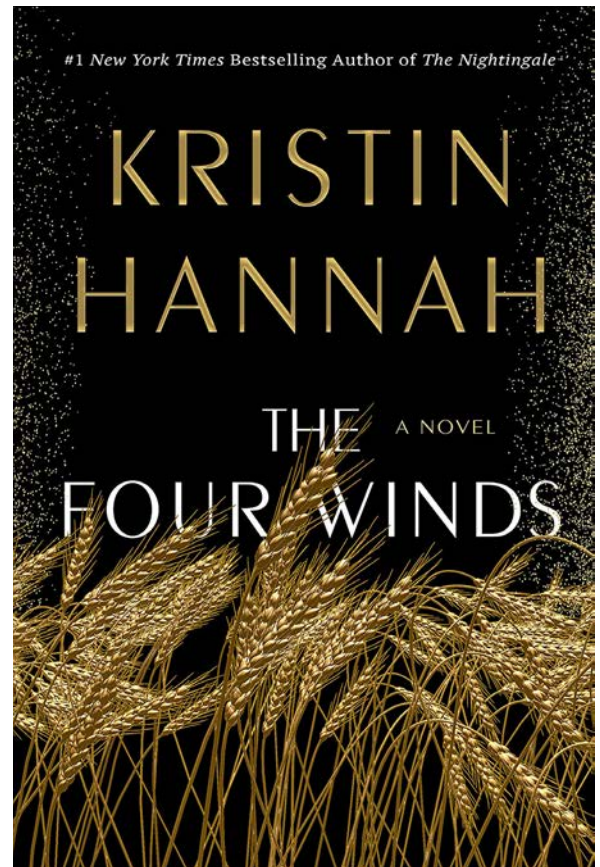
The Library Committee's "Book and a Bagel" gatherings have become the centerpiece of our programming. Over the years we have met at the synagogue on Sunday afternoons to discuss the chosen book selection. Sometimes we host the authors, but most of the time it is just us readers! If you would like to be on our email list to be informed about upcoming library events, please let Michelle in the BHSS office know.

On November 14, the Library Committee had a "Book and *No* Bagel" Zoom event. Sitting in our homes we discussed *The Choice* by Edith Eva Eger, an Auschwitz survivor and a professional therapist. After the war she, her husband and children came to the United States. She had been given a copy of Victor Frankl's book, *Man's Search for Meaning* while studying psychology in college. Frankl stressed, "Each moment is a choice...we can always choose how we respond." She explores how we can not only be imprisoned physically, but can be imprisoned in our own minds.

Edie spent decades struggling with flashbacks and survivor's guilt, determined to stay silent and hide from the past. Thirty-five years after the war ended, she returned to Auschwitz and was finally able to fully heal and forgive the one person she'd been unable to forgive — herself. Dr Eger is still seeing patients at the age of 93.



Looking for a good book for the cold winter months? We recommend *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah.



"*The Four Winds* is a rich, sweeping novel that stunningly brings to life the Great Depression and the people who lived through it – the harsh realities that divided us as a nation and the enduring battle between the haves and the have-nots. A testament to hope, resilience, and the strength of the human spirit to survive adversity, *The Four Winds* is an indelible portrait of America and the American dream, as seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation.

*... a powerful American epic about love and heroism and hope, set during the Great Depression, a time when the country was in crisis and at war with itself, when millions were out of work and even the land seemed to have turned against them."*

Happy Reading...BHSS Library Committee



# BHSS YOUTH GROUPS

Hello everyone and Happy 2022!

We hope you had a wonderful Hanukkah with your families and loved ones. We know we did - we celebrated with our **Youth Group Hanukkah Party** on December 4!

We've also been keeping up with our **Together in a Box** sessions. We're finishing up the program in January and many of our teens have already pledged to stay connected with their senior buddies at the Promenade in the coming months! We're very grateful to Gail Spencer for helping facilitate this program with us and allowing our teens to safely meet their senior buddies in person.



I am Brian Ritchin and I am in 11th grade. I have been on the board for three years now, as the vice president of religious and cultural each year. I enjoy being on the board because I can make a positive impact on our temple community. Furthermore, I am able to strengthen my bonds with those around me as we work together as one cohesive group. Something I am excited for is the service that I will be in charge of planning. My favorite memory from youth group board is participating in the Purim carnival.

## WHAT IS BETTER TOGETHER IN A BOX?

It's a grant program that facilitates intergenerational activities between teenagers and seniors. Our participants in grades 6-12 are taking part in leadership discussions, health and wellness sessions, Jewish food and culture experiences, and building relationships with local residents from the Promenade at Chestnut Ridge. It's been a wonderful community service experience thus far!

Look out for further information from us about our upcoming Winter events! If you have any event ideas or just want to chat, you can reach us at [bhssyouth@gmail.com](mailto:bhssyouth@gmail.com).

Hope we get the chance to see you soon!  
Rebeca and Samantha



Hi! My name is Annabel Theodore and I'm the Social Action Vice President for the BHSS Youth Group. I have always felt a deep connection to Judaism, ever since I was very young, and I am blessed that my family is so active in the BHSS community. Being in the Youth Group has allowed me to make lifelong friendships with kids who are just like me, excited to be a part of the larger Jewish community. Being on the Youth Group board has given me a chance to express my ideas on how to help build a safer, more loving Jewish community, and on a larger scale, a better world. I am so excited for the events we have coming up in the next year, including the Purim Carnival and the Midnight Run. My favorite memory of Youth Group is the movie night we had a few years ago, when I first started going to events and I knew nobody. Despite my initial shyness and worry that I wouldn't make any friends, a few people introduced themselves and I slowly became more comfortable around them. I now know some of the best people I have ever met, and we will continue to be friends for years to come. Youth Group is a place where everyone is welcome with much enthusiasm! We look forward to seeing you at some of our events and getting to know you better!



## MICHELLE MITZVAH GROUP

Is it really January 2022? Wow, where did the time go? Don't we always say that? During the past calendar year Michelle Mitzvah Group continued to help out those in need around the community and we will continue to do so throughout 2022.

This past summer, the Michelle Mitzvah Group sponsored 45 students from Oasis on a field trip to the Meadowlands Environmental Center. The kids explored the natural habitat around the Meadowlands, learning about the different birds and fish and the creation of the estuaries. Despite the sweltering heat, it was still a great day outside in the wonders of nature, getting hands on learning and being out of the classroom. We look to continue the collaboration this spring, when the weather is more accommodating, with different programs. Details to follow.

Speaking of Oasis, they have completed the expansion of their facility, doubling in size (and then some) in program availability and in the ability to assist the community. They have also opened their thrift shop, The Nest, to allow for on-the-job training, as well as providing women's and children's clothing, shoes, handbags, and accessories, at deeply discounted prices.

In the first quarter of 2022, we will fulfill our initial obligation to the Michelle Mitzvah Group Scholarship Endowment in Memory of Jase Barrack at Ramapo College. Creating a scholarship provides an enduring legacy to both the memories of Jase and Michelle Appelbaum, who passed away more than 35 years ago from leukemia. It was after her death that the Michelle Mitzvah Group was established. May their memories be for a blessing.

We continue to provide meals every Sunday at the Suffern Soup Kitchen, located at the Christ Episcopal Church, in Suffern, NY. The church has a food ministry program providing meals Monday thru Saturday. For over 30 years, we have supported this endeavor to allow the members of the church attend worship.

In addition to helping Oasis and the Suffern Soup Kitchen at Christ Episcopal Church, we continue to support the following missions:

- *Donating food to the Center for Food Action*
- *Supporting Emmanuel Cancer Foundation*
- *Picking up and delivering food donations*

There are always ways to help, and any assistance makes a difference. Recently, when I provided the meals at the Suffern Soup Kitchen, one guest could not be more thankful for the generosity. It helped him get through a rough patch and get back on his feet. At least he knew he could come get a meal, and it was one less thing to worry about.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Steven Simon at 201 788-6755 or [steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:steveoum@verizon.net). Time for me to head out for my appointment to donate platelets.

B'Shalom

Steven Simon

## CARING COMMITTEE

The Caring Committee has been hard at work tending to our congregants' needs. We wish to thank all those who contribute to this committee whether you donate your time or your culinary talents. The recipients of your efforts and generosity are always so very grateful.

As this health crisis continues to affect our community, the Caring Committee is making sure our members are taken care of. Especially now, we are ALL needed, and encourage you to volunteer - whether it be cooking a meal, donating restaurant gift cards, or calling to follow up on our more

vulnerable members. You would be surprised at how much you get back from devoting a little time to call and check in on someone who is not feeling well or who is simply lonely.

If you need the services of the Caring Committee or if you wish to join or volunteer, please contact

Audrey Flynn ([ablandau@aol.com](mailto:ablandau@aol.com)) or  
Laura Miller ([mlctsmiller@verizon.net](mailto:mlctsmiller@verizon.net)).

# Contributions

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## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

with thanks and appreciation

- *Leslie Kirzner*

## Life Fund

to Matt Kraft and family, in memory of Matt's mother

- *Marci & Harvey Weinberg*

in memory of Jerome Weinberg, father of Harvey Weinberg

- *Harvey Weinberg*

in memory of my father, David Goldfarb

- *Joel Goldfarb*

in memory of Sheri's father Ely Gordon  
and Allan's grandfather Moritz Schott

- *Sheri & Allan Schott*

in memory of Enid Marcus

- *Joel Goldfarb*

to Ed Vogel, sending all good wishes and positive thoughts

- *Gail & Ranan Wichler*

## Mitzvah Mile Donations

- *Sheryl & Joel Ives*

- *Harvey Weinberg*

- *Lisa Lamster*

- *Carrie Ritchin*

In honor of Helene Yagoda:

*Marsha Yagoda*

*Patti Ammerata*

*Agnes Taub*

*Florence Yagoda*

*Gail Spencer*

*Alice Klein*

*Gary Wenthold*

*Helena Moraski*

*Priscilla Kaplan*

*Eileen Dawson*

*Larry Rein*

*Helene Yagoda*

In honor of Marc Daniel:

- *Laurie Daniel*

## Michelle Mitzvah Fund

in honor of Ruth and Stu Turner

- *Anonymous*

## Ramapo-Bergen Animal Refuge

in honor of Benjamin Shamosh's Bar Mitzvah

in honor of Josh Heffernan's Bar Mitzvah

in honor of Laila Graham-Bialer's Bat Mitzvah

## Center for Food Action of Mahwah

in honor of Charlotte Barbach's Bat Mitzvah

## Join Rabbi Ilana for Torah Study

- **11:30 am on Sundays**

- **Beginners welcome**

- **No Hebrew reading necessary**

- **Learn about the Torah portion of the week**

- **Relaxed atmosphere**

**via Zoom**



**Bring your questions!**

# *High Holiday Appeal*

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Maxine & Howard Abner	Carole Goodman	Kim & Bill Pressman
Anonymous	Leona Wayser & S. Martin Gordon	Susan & Harris Reinstein
The Arlington family	The Gottlieb family	Jann & Marc Reissman
Ceil Baldwin	Susan & Dennis Gralla	The Rowbottom family
The Barrack family	Marilyn & Irwin Haberman	Janet & Andrew Schlissel
Irma Becker	Robyn & Marc Harris	Sheri & Allan Schott
The Bergers	Barbara Heitmann	David Schwartz
Shelley & Gary Bettman	Sheryl & Joel Ives	Linda & David Schwartz
Jill Blum	Sandi & Bob Jeanette	Stephen Seif
Sharon Bobroff	Sue-Ellen Johnson	Steven Selman
Hank Bordowitz	Candy & Mike Kassoover	Lori Herman & Ian Setless
Barbara & Charles Burghardt	Deborah & Jeff Klein	Michelle & Randy Sherry
Karen & George Charne	Donna & Adam Kotz	Judy & Tom Sica
Jesse Coffel	Lisa Lamster	Roni & Andy Silver
Jayne Cohen	Tara & Marc Leibman	Carolyn & Scott Spungin
Liz & Rick Cohen	Veronica & Dan Lenchner	Nancy & Jack Teichman
Jen & Matt Cole	Sherry Levitt	Jena, Rob, Ashton & Sloane Tell
Laurie & Marc Daniel	Kathy & Peter Liebmann	Mel Tenenbaum
Stacey & Michael Davis	Laura & Tom Lindsay	Arlene Toonkel
Carol Diamant	Rebecca & Rod McVeigh	Ruth & Stu Turner
Diane & Jay Dickstein	Maddie & Allan Melzer	The Ursaner family
Don Eisen	Laura & Mitchell Miller	Linda & Ed Vogel
Susie & Jonathan Fein	Lori & Lance Millman	Jewell & Stanley Waldbaum
Alexia & Elliott Feldman	Helen Milstein	Marci & Harvey Weinberg
Erica & Joshua Fox	Phil Moss	Lynn & Gerry Weston
Renee & Gary Garbus	Lorraine & Marc Orlick	Gail & Ranan Wichler
Michelle & Adam Gilbert	Sherri & Ron Nahum	Lori & Ritch Yanowitz
Isabel & Daniel Glim	Marcy & Jeremy Nanus	Beverly & Harlan York
Joel Goldfarb	Sheila Nathanson	Lynn & Michael Zall
Deena & Scott Goldstein	Judy & John Neumann	Kathryn & Howard Zukof
Susan & Jeff Goldstein	Jill & Bill Pearlman	In honor of Ronni & David Seif -Barbara & Stacy Margolis

## *January Yahrzeits*

ELLEN ABRAMS	WILLIAM GOLDSTEIN	SYLVIA MANDEL	JAN SIMON
ALYSSA ALHADEFF	ANNA HEFFLER	CELIA MEYERS	MILTON SITOMER
LENA BENDALIN	MAX HEFFLER	MURRAY MILLER	JULIUS SLAVIN
SAMUEL BORNSTEIN	IRA HIEGER	HAROLD MILLMAN	MARILYN SOLOMON
SUSANNE BUCKLER	NATHAN HIEGER	MYRA MINTY	TODD SPENCER
TERI COFFEL	PAUL JEANETTE	NANCY MORGAN	EVA STEDMAN
HOWARD COLE	NORMAN KAHN	MILTON NACHINSON	JUDITH STEINMAN
FR. GEORGE COYNE	JANICE KAPLAN	DAVID SALTZMAN	LOUIS STERNBERG
MARGARITA COYNE	GERALD KLEIN	HARRY SAULT	PAULA TENENBAUM
KURT DANIEL	DR. THEODORE LEIBMAN	RONA SCHICK	JACOB WEINBERG
ESTHER DANTO	BERT LEVITT	LOUIS SCHLUSSEL	MARTA WICHLER
THEODORE EPSTEIN	ABRAHAM LEVY	BEVERLY SCHWARTZ	JACOB WIDMAN
BERDIE GELFENBEIN	MIRIAM LICHTENFELD	SYDNEY L. SEILER	NATHAN WIDMAN
GLENN GELFENBEIN	JEANE LISK	ARTHUR SHERRY	BETTY WILDMAN
JOSEPH GINDIN	JEROME MAIDENBERG	GERTRUDE SILVER	KARL WILDMAN
LEA GLITMAN-ALKALAI	NOAH MANDEL	IRVING SILVER	HARRY ZALL
ALVIN GOLDBERG		MARGO SIMMONS	JEREMY ZALL

## *February Yahrzeits*

LEIZER ALPERSTEIN	ABRAHAM KIRSHNER	GLORIA MENDELSON
BERTHA ALTER	GLORIA KIRSHNER	DOROTHY NACHINSON
ROBERT ANESETTI, SR.	NOEL LAMSTER	SEYMOUR OVENTHAL
HERMAN ASHKANAZY	MILDRED LANDAU	TOBY PUTTERMAN
FLORENCE BRESSLER	BESS LEVENE	SAMUEL ROTH
MARTIN BROWN	THELMA LEVITT	JOEL SANKEL
JETTY DENTZ	SHIRLEY MARKS	MANDEL STEIN
CELIA FORMAN	DINA MARX	ANDREA GREEN SWAN
MARTIN FRIEDMAN	GEORGE MENDELSON	LEONARD ZINN



# Yizkor Appeal

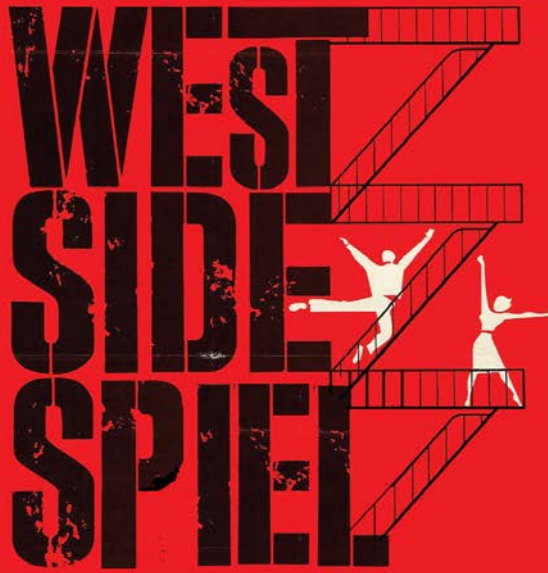
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Norman Schlissel, Lenore Schlissel, Bernard Maidenberg - <i>Janet &amp; Andrew Schlissel</i>	in loving memory of our Jase - <i>the Barrack family</i>
Hans and Kate Neumann - <i>Judy &amp; John Neumann</i>	Blanche Lambert, Ruth and Morris Abner - <i>Maxine &amp; Howard Abner</i>
Carol Dubin and Robert Pfeiffer - <i>Jill Blum</i>	Mark Cohen - <i>Jayne Cohen</i>
Leah and Eugene Reinstein, Estelle Weinberg, Jeoff Weinberg, Howard Weinberg - <i>Susan &amp; Harris Reinstein</i>	Ava Gottlieb - <i>the Gottlieb family</i>
Morton Fuchs, David York, Joseph Rothenbucher - <i>Beverly &amp; Harlan York</i>	Stephen Golub - <i>Isabel Glim</i>
Fred "Chip" Bargetzi - <i>Candy &amp; Mike Kassover</i>	Edith and Morris Roth, Gertrude and Paul Jeanette - <i>Sandi &amp; Bob Jeanette</i>
Alfred and Corinne Baum - <i>Kathy &amp; Peter Liebmann</i>	Noel Lamster, Linda Goldfarb, Terri Coffel - <i>Lisa Lamster</i>
George Orlick, Stanley and Rona Schick - <i>Lorraine &amp; Marc Orlick</i>	Linda Goldfarb - <i>Joel Goldfarb</i>
Ethel Saltzman, David Saltzman, Marion Friedman, Samuel Bornstein - <i>the Arlington family</i>	Joel Becker - <i>Irma Becker</i>
Manny Ansin, Margo Simmons, Ruth Ansin - <i>Helen Milstein</i>	Jerrold Arons, Saundra Arons, Audrey and Jerome Weinberg - <i>Marci &amp; Harvey Weinberg</i>
Alice and Edward Brickman - <i>Carol Diamant</i>	Irving Goodman - <i>Carole Goodman</i>
Paul Levitt, Eva Stedman, Saul Stedman, Beatrice Levitt Benjamin Levitt, Thelma Levitt - <i>Sherry Levitt</i>	Barbara Cassell, Sondra Wells, Stanley Wells - <i>the Cassell family</i>
Myron Newman - <i>Laura &amp; Tom Lindsay</i>	Laura Medici Fleming - <i>Bernice Widman Medici</i>
Michael Nanus, Esther Strickler - <i>Marcy &amp; Jeremy Nanus</i>	Linda and Harvey Lenchner - <i>Dan &amp; Veronica Lenchner</i>
Jeremy Zall - <i>Lynn &amp; Michael Zall</i>	Israel and Selma Kriegel, William and Annette Waldbaum - <i>Jewell &amp; Stanley Waldbaum</i>
Ada Austrian - <i>Robyn &amp; Marc Harris</i>	Paula Tenenbaum - <i>Mel Tenenbaum</i>
Sue Iskowitz - <i>Sheryl &amp; Joel Ives</i>	Charlie Romano, Vernon Taylor, Leon and Dorothy Auerbach - <i>Marilyn Taylor</i>
Allen Nudelman, Gertrude Silver - <i>Roni &amp; Andy Silver</i>	Jesse and Annette Sills, William and Hattie Gallard, Dieter Ehlermann - <i>Joanne &amp; Lee Ehlermann</i>
Barbara Moss, Esther Moss, George Moss, Bea Moss, Sarah Blacher, Victor Levy, Esther Pesin, Irving Pesin - <i>Phil Moss</i>	

ONE OF THE GREAT ENTERTAINMENTS  
IN THE HISTORY OF  
BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM



SOMETHING'S COMING....



SAVE THE DATE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16



Wednesday, January 5 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Torah Stories, our innovative approach to sacred Jewish text, invites individual congregants and visitors to share their personal and professional insights into the relationships, events, and narratives from our sacred literature. It is a personal approach to the stories that help define our Jewish lives.

Join us in January as writer, musician, performer and Torah teacher Alicia Jo Rabins leads us as we dive deep into the story of Miriam, starting with the Song of the Sea.

Miriam is celebrated for her leadership and prophecy throughout Exodus. But later in the Torah, as the Israelites wander in the desert, God strikes Miriam with leprosy, and she is exiled from the camp for seven days.

- How does this episode fit into the rest of Miriam's life?
- How might she feel about this experience?
- How can this story guide us through challenging moments in our own lives?



Alicia Jo Rabins has written award-winning collections of poetry, as well as created and performed in *Girls in Trouble*, a musical piece about the complicated lives of Biblical women. She lives in Portland, Oregon.

Zoom details to follow.

Next session, Wednesday, February 2 at 7:30pm via Zoom

## Tot Shabbat!

Fridays, January 7 and February 4 at 5 p.m.

*For children ages birth-kindergarten and their families.  
Masks required for all attending.*

*Do a craft, hear a story, sing songs...  
everything you love about Tot Shabbat!*

*Rabbi Ilana and Director of Education Rebecca McVeigh  
look forward to celebrating Shabbat with you and your tots!*





BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM & THE JCO OF NORTHERN BERGEN COUNTY PRESENT

# Challah Bake 2022!

**Wednesday, January 26**

(snow date February 2)

Doors open at 6:30 - Event begins promptly at 7pm

**\$36 per person**

includes all ingredients for your custom challah

Reserve your space - **Don't miss out** - Space is limited!

Reserve your table of 10 (\$360.00)- only 5 available  
or reserve individual spaces

Something fun  
for everyone -

families- friends-  
mothers-daughters-fathers-sons!  
**All are welcome**

# BHSS RAFFLE PALOOZA

**1ST RAFFLE - 2 WINNERS!**  
Superstar recording artist **Billie Eilish**  
at the Prudential Center - February 22

Three ways to purchase:  
One raffle ticket for \$50  
Five raffle tickets \$40 each  
Ten raffle tickets for \$36 each

**WINNERS RECEIVE FIVE VIP TICKETS INCLUDING  
VIP SUITE/VIP PARKING/FOOD/DRINKS**

WIN tickets to  
an amazing concert  
experience...

## 2ND RAFFLE

WIN a **65-inch Samsung TV**  
\$36/raffle ticket

Who doesn't need or want a new TV???

**LIVE DRAWING HELD WEDNESDAY EVENING-  
JANUARY 26 AT BHSS & JCO'S CHALLAH BAKE.**

Attendance not required to win

A Summer That Lasts a Lifetime

## EISNER, CRANE LAKE, 6 POINTS SCI-TECH

UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM CAMPS

camper-selected activities • [eisnercamp.org](http://eisnercamp.org)

cabin-centered activities • [cranelakecamp.org](http://cranelakecamp.org)

hands-on science & tech • [6pointsscitech.org](http://6pointsscitech.org)

Visit our websites to learn more,  
sign up for a tour, and register!  
[www.urjnortheastcamps.org](http://www.urjnortheastcamps.org)

Contact us at  
201.722.0400



# Good & Welfare

## from and for the congregation

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### Condolences to:

**Marilyn Israel** on the death of her son, Lawrence

**Cynthia Holtzman** on the death of  
her husband, Abe Holtzman

*R'fuah Sh'leimah*  
(For a full and speedy recovery)

Ed Vogel  
Stu Turner



A poster for Shabbat Shirah. It features a light blue background with a large, stylized treble clef on the left. Several colorful musical notes (red, green, blue, purple) are scattered across the page. The text "Shabbat Shirah" is written in a large, elegant, dark blue script. Below it, "Friday, January 14" is written in a smaller, purple script. At the bottom, the text "Join Rabbi Ilana and our awesome all-volunteer adult choir for a service of beautiful singing and spirit!" is written in a purple sans-serif font. At the very bottom, "Join us!" is written in a large, blue, cursive font.

### Welcome New Members:

**Jennifer Kruter and family**, Westwood, NJ

**Edward & Natalie Spektor and family**,  
Upper Saddle River, NJ

**Seth & Lacey Forman and family**, Hewitt, NJ



A logo for DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education). It features the word "DARE" in large, bold, red letters with a black outline. To the right of "DARE" is the text "TO RESIST DRUGS AND VIOLENCE." in white. Below this, in smaller white letters, is "DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION".

Thank you to all who contributed to the  
Suffern D.A.R.E. Holiday Toy Drive.  
We received piles and piles of toys ready  
for delivery.  
Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



A colorful illustration of a toy train. The train is blue and yellow, with a red smokestack. It has four cars: a yellow car with a red heart, a green car with a brown teddy bear, a blue and white checkered car, and a red car. A small figure of a person is sitting in the yellow car.



A logo for the BHSS Choir. It features the text "BHSS" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, followed by "Choir" in a large, elegant, blue script font. Below the text is a large, stylized treble clef in red and orange, with several green musical notes floating around it.

Participating in adult choir is a great way to  
connect with fellow congregants as well as your  
own spirituality. You don't need to have any musical  
background, just a will to learn... and sing!

We are looking for new voices to join choir. Our  
rehearsals are every Wednesday from 7:30-9 pm.

In interested, please contact Michelle (former  
choir member!) at the temple office.





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# Worship Schedule

ALL SERVICES WILL BE INDOORS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED

Friday, January 7	<b>5:00 pm</b> 6:30 pm	<b>Tot Shabbat</b> Shabbat Evening Services <i><b>Birthdays in January will be celebrated</b></i>
Friday, January 14	7:30 pm	Shabbat Shirah
Friday, January 21	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, January 28	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, February 4	<b>5:00 pm</b> 6:30 pm	<b>Tot Shabbat</b> Shabbat Evening Services <i><b>Birthdays in February will be celebrated</b></i>
Friday, February 11	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, February 18	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, February 25	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services

**STAY-TREAT 2022**  
**#ThisIsUsBHSS**

**Mark your calendar for April 1 - 2, 2022**

**The retreat is back with a new look in a not-so-new place - BHSS!**

Services, learning, laughter, and song. Exciting new chugs (workshops) and old favorites.  
If the synagogue can't get to the retreat... the retreat will come to the synagogue.

Hope you'll join us for the 2022 Stay-treat!

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

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman  
Rebecca McVeigh, Director of Education

**Sessions of School:**

Sundays: January 9, 23, 30, February 6, 13, 27  
Mondays: January 10, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 28  
Tuesdays: January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15  
Wednesday: January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, 16

**Office Closed:**

February 21



## To do in January and February

- *Take a deep dive into the tales of the Torah with the all-new Torah Stories on Wednesdays, January 5 and February 2 at 7:30 pm via Zoom*
- *Bring the little ones to Tot Shabbat - Fridays, January 7 and February 4 at 5:00 pm at BHSS*
- *Join Rabbi Ilana for Torah Study via Zoom - January 9, 23, 30 and February 6, 13, 27 at 11:30 am*
- *Find comfort in the Healing Service at BHSS via Zoom - Sunday, January 9 at 7:30 pm*
- *Sing along with Rabbi Ilana and the BHSS Choir at Shabbat Shirah on Friday, January 14 at 7:30 pm at BHSS*
- *Become one with nature, and plant a tree to celebrate Tu B'shvat on Sunday, January 16*
- *Make your very own challah from scratch with friends and family at the first annual BHSS/JCO Challah Bake on Wednesday, January 26 at 6:30 pm*
- *Save the Dates for Purim's West Side Shpiel on Wednesday, March 16, and the BHSS Congregational Stay-treat on Friday and Saturday, April 1 and 2*