

## TEMPLE



## TOPICS

ADAR/NISAN/IYAR 5783

MARCH/APRIL 2023

## Rabbi Ilana's Message

*Live! From Mahwah!*

*Over the years, we have learned that some things work well over zoom.*

Some of our meetings and learning sessions are as efficient and impactful from the comfort of our own homes. And other things like singing, informal chatting, and some rituals are truly best when we're in person.

*full article on page 3*

## President's Message

*"Doing Jewish"*

When I think about what Judaism has come to mean to me, I often find myself returning to the list of "things that are limitless" prayer that is read by our b'nei mitzvah students during Shabbat morning service...

*full article on page 2*

## Director of Education

*Shabbat Rest?*

For some, Shabbat means a full Friday sundown to Saturday sundown halt to emails, phones, and other "modern conveniences" that let us do, as the Torah calls it "*kol m'lechet avodah*" – all our usual work. But for many of us, stopping even for a short while to recognize that Shabbat has arrived is a hard ask.

*full article on page 5*



## B'NAI MITZVAH

March 4	Samantha Eisenberg
March 18	Colby Berkowicz
April 1	Bryce Ruggiero
April 15	Reid Sendroff
April 22	Noa Kaufman
April 22	Samone Kaufman
April 29	Samantha Kotz

## THINGS TO DO:

*more info on back cover and throughout*

- Family Shabbat
- Purim Carnival
- Purim Shpiel
- Torah Study
- TV Talks with Rabbi Ilana
- Sisterhood Self-defense class
- Tot Shabbat
- Sisterhood Miriam Seder
- Broadway at Your Doorstep
- Israel's Strategic Position in the Middle East with Rabbi Joel Schwartzman
- Passover Morning Service
- Community 2nd Night Seder
- Passover Yizkor Service
- Yom Hashoah Commemoration
- Yom HaZikaron/Yom Ha'atzmaut
- Book event with author A.M. Grotticelli



# President's Message

Jen Cole

*"Doing Jewish"*

A friend from high school, also named Jen, with whom I reconnected a few years back after a reunion recently texted me:

*So...my daughter at 16 declares that she wants religion in her life. This thrills me. However, I know nothing about being Jewish or picking a synagogue. Where do I start? My husband knows even less about Judaism than I do, even though his name ends in "berg." Help! I want to go on this journey with her because I think I'd be a good Jew too. TYIA*

*Oh, and Hi! Love & Miss you!*

What's interesting is that in high school there were several girls in our friend group whose families were "more Jewish" than mine. However, Jen was aware that my connection with Judaism, largely through my connection to BHSS, has grown to be an essential part of my life. That is why she came to me.

I sprang into action. I did a quick Google search and reached out to a former BHSS rabbinic intern who was in her area to give her a good place to start. I was touched and honored that she came to me for guidance.

Her text also got me contemplating what it really means to be Jewish. As I discussed in my High Holiday speech, for me *being* Jewish really is more about *doing* Jewish.

When I think about what Judaism has come to mean to me, I often find myself returning to the list of "things that are limitless" prayer that is read by our b'nei mitzvah students during the Shabbat morning service:

Honoring one's father and mother  
Engaging in deeds of compassion  
Arriving early for study, morning and evening  
Dealing graciously with guests,  
Visiting the sick,  
Providing for the wedding couple,  
Accompanying the dead for burial,  
Being devoted in prayer,  
And making peace among people.  
But the study of Torah encompasses them all.

Jewish study comes with the expectation that the lessons will be applied to life, that we will not just pray with our words but with our feet, and show up with our whole beings, *Hineini*, Here I Am, to both celebrate life's good times and support one another in times of profound sorrow.

And Jen is right...she would be a good Jew. When another friend of ours was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, Jen was the head of a tribe of wonderful women who took care of her, providing food, rides, moral support and mostly friendship. She celebrated the remission with enthusiasm and joy. And when cancer returned, this time metastasized with a vengeance, she was again there until our dear friend's last days.

I am not sure what transpired after our initial texts. It may very well be that the journey stalled, as, with no offense to 16-year-olds, they can be mercurial in their declarations. But I hope Jen continues to pursue this journey.

As Jews we are called to action to comfort the bereaved. I would be remiss not to express my tremendous gratitude for our clergy, staff and community. Our family was overwhelmed and deeply touched by the myriad expressions of sympathy and condolences after my mother's passing. This was a huge loss for our family, but being surrounded by support, comfort and love lessened our grief. As Matt said to me once the house quieted down after a very filled *shiva*, "Jews do mourning best."

Should you want to "do" Jewish, at BHSS there are ample opportunities to get involved and connect, or re-connect, with Judaism.

If you are interested in learning, consider joining Family School where our children learn alongside their parents. We also have many Lifelong Learning events, and Torah Study (it's back!).

*Tikkun Olam*, healing the world, has been at the forefront of our committee work. You have heard for many months about our ongoing efforts to support a family from Ukraine. And there is another beautiful story in the works. Our Endowment Committee recently helped a refugee family from Afghanistan to begin new lives in the United States. Our Social Action committee and Michelle Mitzvah Group are always looking for folks of all ages to be active in whatever form of *tikkun olam* means the most to them.

All services, events and opportunities to get involved at BHSS are included in this and other issues of *Temple Topics*, as well as weekly emails.

I guess what it comes down to is: "doing" Jewish is being Jewish. How you do it is up to you, and BHSS will be here for you to pursue your own journey.

*Live! From Mahwah!*

# Rabbi's Reflections

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman



*There is a man, we'll call him Ginsberg. Every day Ginsberg rails against injustice, he condemns the politics and beliefs that are the "opiates of the masses." He dismisses easy understanding and an understanding of God who acts in people's lives. Then on Shabbat, Ginsberg comes to services. Another congregant challenges him, "How can you condemn so much about belief and what we do here and still come to services on Shabbat? Isn't that hypocritical?" Ginsberg stops, thinks, and smiles. He responds, "You see that lovely woman over there?" "Yes." "Well, she comes here on Shabbat to talk to God." "Me? I come here to talk to her."*

There are myriad reasons people come to BHSS. Some come to pray, others to learn, still others to socialize. The wonderful thing about this community is that we're open to all of it. For those who pray, we have Shabbat and holiday services. For those who study, we have religious school, Torah Stories, Torah Study, and more. For those who want to socialize, the possibilities are endless.

And this year, finally, we're able to do these things in person. Over the worst days of the pandemic, we learned how to manage online—whether we were celebrating, mourning, learning, or schmoozing. Over the years, we have learned that some things work well over Zoom. Some of our meetings and learning sessions are as efficient and impactful from the comfort of our own homes. And other things like singing, informal chatting, and some rituals are truly best when we're in-person.

Maybe we're like Ginsberg, and our motives for temple attendance have more to do with who else is there. Or maybe we align with Martin Buber, the theologian, who posited that it is through relationships that we find our connection through the Divine. Maybe it's the opportunity to hear harmony or the way voices interweave in conversation.

Whatever it is, we will be in person, in the building for our Purim Spiel, for the Second Night Seder, for Broadway at Your Doorstep, for Shavuot, for our annual Family Fun Day with Noah Aronson. Each of us has someone we come to see or be seen by. Each of us has a voice to add to the chorus. Each of us has a vital role in the composition of this sacred community.

How can there be a Purim celebration without groggers and voices to shout down Haman? How can there be a seder

without questions and songs? How can there be BHSS without you?

I hope that you will join us in person in whatever ways you can and are comfortable doing.

Rabbi Avraham Yizchat Kook, one of the founders of religious Zionism, put it a different way, "...The soul of the individuals is drawn from ... the community, the community bestowing a soul upon the individuals." We are different, better in community.

Welcome back.



## Israel's Strategic Position in the Middle East with Rabbi Joel Schwartzman

March 22, 29 and April 12 at 7:30 pm  
– VIA ZOOM

Join Rabbi Joel Schwartzman for a 3-part series which will briefly survey the timeline of Israel's military conflicts. The series will cover the following:

- The origins of Israel's surrounding countries
- The Suez Canal
- Issues of water, arms, natural resources, religion and regional alliances

Then Rabbi Schwartzman will examine Israel's relations with its neighbors, along with threats to and opportunities for peaceful coexistence.

The series does NOT deal with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict except as it arises tangentially.

Rabbi Schwartzman is a Reform rabbi, ordained at the Hebrew Union College, where he received his Bachelor of Hebrew Letters, Masters of Hebrew Letters, and Doctor of Divinity (honoris causa). He served for twenty-three years as a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force, retiring in the rank of colonel. He is a graduate of both Air Command and Staff, and Air Force War College. After leaving the Air Force, he led congregations in Denver, Colorado, and served as Dean of the Denver Institute for Jewish Studies.



## BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM 2022-2023

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## March

*Colby Berkowicz  
 Sophia Corsaro  
 Hailey Dworkin  
 Samantha Eisenberg  
 Jak Henry  
 Goldberg Kaplan  
 Allie Goldstein  
 Lucas Kramer  
 Mason Lederman  
 Jonah Rose  
 Levi Rose  
 Heath Stein  
 Hannah Wood*

## April

*Asher Bell  
 Juliet Bedrin  
 Jack Berry  
 Sam Berry  
 Caleb Burshteyn  
 Jonah Cohen  
 Jacob Franklin  
 Ilana Reese Gilbert  
 Hanna Hirschorn  
 Lila Hirschorn  
 Olyvia Kaufman  
 Andrew Kotz  
 Andrew McKenna  
 Harrison Rosa  
 Kylie Rubin  
 Bryce Ruggiero  
 Paige Slackman  
 Dylan Slater  
 Parker Sliuka  
 Tyler Strauss*

## Shabbat Rest?

# From The Educator

Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh



As a part of learning about Shabbat, our traditional school fifth graders have a mock Shabbat in class and then take home 2 candles and a bottle of grape juice. They are asked to actually “do” Shabbat with their family and report back. Perhaps you’ve seen their wonderful summaries on the bulletin board by the school entrance? If you haven’t, please stop and check them out.

Here’s what we say: please say the blessings for bread, wine, and candles and light the candles. And here’s what we DON’T say: please make sure it is exactly at sundown, and everyone is dressed nicely, and there is a roast chicken on the table. When my middle son was in fifth grade, we managed to get most of the family together. I think there was pizza, and for sure it was not sundown. But we stopped whatever else we were doing, said the blessings, and had pizza. Then everyone probably went off to do their own thing and we got on with our weekend.

For some, Shabbat means a full Friday sundown to Saturday sundown halt to emails, phones, and other “modern conveniences” that let us do, as the Torah calls it “*kol m’lechet avodah*” – all our usual work. But for many of us, stopping even for a short while to recognize that Shabbat has arrived is a hard ask.

I try not to answer phone calls, emails or text messages that are work-related unless they are urgent, so I guess I’m giving

myself a little Shabbat break in that way. Having the “permission” of Shabbat to not respond immediately is very freeing.

Once in a while on Friday I light candles because I’m thinking about my paternal grandmother and grandfather, whose candlesticks I have and whose tallit I sometimes wear - and whose brand of Orthodox observance always intrigued me. Their apartment in Brooklyn was kosher but Grandpa would eat shrimp parmesan out, and if you rang the doorbell on Shabbat, they turned off the TV because they knew it wasn’t family at the door!

Some Fridays I buy a challah because I see it in the store and I think, “Oh, it would be nice to have that because it’s Friday night.” But when I learned to bake challah in the early days of the pandemic, I usually did that on Saturday because that’s when my free time was. So, we didn’t have the challah for Friday night – or even for French toast the next day.

In our school every grade has Shabbat in its curriculum in some way. After all, it’s the most important, most often-occurring Jewish holiday. However, most of us probably don’t observe Shabbat in the traditional sense, so why do we place so much importance on it in school? The freedom to define Shabbat for ourselves and our families, knowing what we COULD do, comes from having the information to make informed choices. Jewish education makes this possible.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR March - April 2023			
Monday Kadimah grades 7-12 6:45-8:15 p.m. No Kadimah 3/6/23	Sunday Family School & traditional 6th 9:00-10:30 a.m.	Monday K, 1, 2 & traditional 3rd 4:15-5:45 p.m.	Tuesday traditional 4th & 5th 4:15-5:45 p.m.
March	5	6 K/1/2/3 Only	7
2023	12	13	14
	19	20	21
	26	27	28
	2 No School	3 No School	4 No School
April	9 No School	10 No School	11 No School
2023	16	17	18
	23	24	25
	30		



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

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***Sammi Eisenberg***  
– March 4, 2023

Lives in Waldwick, New Jersey. Mother, Kerri, Father, Robert ..... is a 7th grader at Waldwick Middle School ..... Her interests include tennis, acting, soccer, singing, Girl Scouts, and hanging out with her friends, and loves sleep away camp. “I would like to create my own fashion line. I feel really excited about this occasion! I get to see my friends and family from near and far and have a great time. My community service project is to help donate money to JDRF – formerly the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.”



***Colby Berkowicz***  
– March 18, 2023

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Danielle, Father, Darren, Sister, Leni, 10..... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ..... His interests include playing baseball and the Mets. “I’d like to be a sports manager when I grow up. I am excited and feel prepared for my Bar Mitzvah. I will be selling bracelets for Mallory’s Army. It is a non-profit organization that promotes kindness and brings awareness to bullying. All proceeds will be donated back.”



***Bryce Ruggiero***  
– April 1, 2023

Lives in Airmont, New York. Mother, Beth, Father, Thomas, Sister, Chloe, 16 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... His interests include basketball, soccer, and hanging with his friends. “I would like to be successful in my future career. I am looking forward to celebrating this occasion with my friends and family. I am organizing a day with special needs children to teach sports conditioning.”



***Reid Logan Sendroff***  
– April 15, 2023

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Joie, Father, David, Sister, Julia, 10 ..... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ..... His interests include soccer, coding, and math. “I want to be a software engineer and start my own software company. I am excited about my big day and am looking forward to reading from the Torah. Since my Torah portion focuses on the Mishkan, and importance of our relationship with God as well as food laws, I chose to feed people in nearby communities by cooking food and serving it at a soup kitchen in Suffern, New York.”



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



**Samone Kaufman**  
– April 22, 2023

Lives in Montvale, New Jersey. Mother, Faith, Father, Seth, Sisters, Emma, 17, and Noa, 13 ..... is a 7th grader at Fieldstone Middle School ..... Her interests include hanging out with friends, volleyball, track, and camp. “I would like to be an interior designer when I grow up. I am excited to be considered an adult in the Jewish community. I am looking forward to spending the day with all my family and friends. I am collecting gently used sneakers in all sizes to donate to Women in Need, which is a shelter for homeless families in New York City.”



**Noa Kaufman**  
– April 22, 2023

Lives in Montvale, New Jersey. Mother, Faith, Father, Seth, Sisters, Emma, 17, and Samone, 13 ..... is a 7th grader at Fieldstone Middle School ..... Her interests include being with friends, sleep away camp, running, and volleyball. “I would like to be a teacher when I grow up. I am excited to share this day with my twin sister and all my family and friends. It is so important to carry on the traditions of the Jewish people. I am collecting gently used sneakers in all sizes to donate to Women in Need, which is a shelter for homeless families in New York City.”



**Samantha Kotz**  
– April 29, 2023

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Caren, Father, David, Sister, Leila, 10 ..... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ..... Her interests include friends, soccer, and baking. “I would like to be either a doctor, pastry chef, realtor, or interior designer. I will be donating toys, books, and games to the Hospital for Special Surgery pediatric wing game room. I got to use this room when I had my surgery, and I want to make other kids happy while they are in the hospital.”



### Candlelighting times:

March 3 T’zaveh 5:31 pm  
March 10 Ki Tisa 5:39 pm  
March 17 Vayacheil/P’kudei 6:46 pm  
March 24 Vayikra 6:54 pm  
March 31 Tzav 7:01 pm

April 7 Pesach III 7:09 pm  
April 14 Sh’mini 7:16 pm  
April 21 Tazria/M’tzora 7:24 pm  
April 28 Acharei Mot/K’doshim 7:31 pm





# March Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Tetzaveh 10 am Samantha Eisenberg
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9 am 6th trad & FS 10:30 am Purim Carnival	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 No Kadimah 7 pm Purim Shpiel	noon Torah Study via Zoom 4:15 pm grades 4 & 5	7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm TV Talks with Rabbi Ilana via Zoom		7 pm Tefilot	Ki Tisa <b>9:30 am</b> B'nei Mitzvah Shabbaton Learning Service
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9 am 6th trad & FS 2 pm Sis'hood Self Defense Class in Ulam	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	noon Torah Study via Zoom 4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Exec Comm MMG mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm TV Talks with Rabbi Ilana via Zoom		5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 7 pm Tefilot	Vayacheil/ P'kudei 10 am Colby Berkowicz
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	noon Torah Study via Zoom 4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board Mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Rabbi Joel Schwartzman Israel Seminar	6:00 pm Sisterhood Miriam Seder	7 pm Tefilot	Vayikra 7 pm Broadway at Your Doorstep
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	noon Torah Study via Zoom 4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Music Comm.	7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Rabbi Joel Schwartzman Israel Seminar		7 pm Tefilot	



# April Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1						
						Tzav 10 am Bryce Ruggiero
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No School	No School	No School noon Torah Study via Zoom		Office Closed 10 am Passover Morning Svce 6:00 pm Community 2nd Seder	6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Chol HaMoe-eid Pesach
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
No School	No School	No School Noon Torah Study via Zoom 7:30 pm Exec Comm MMG mtg	Office Closed 10 am Yizkor Service 7:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Rabbi J Schwartzman Israel Seminar		7 pm Tefilot	Sh'mini 10 am Reid Sendroff
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	noon Torah Study via Zoom 4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 6:45 pm Yom HaShoah Program	7:30 pm Adult Choir		5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 7 pm Tefilot	Tazria/M'tzora 10 am Noa & Samone Kaufman
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9 am 6th trad & FS noon - 2 Senior YG Escape Room	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	noon - Torah Study via Zoom 4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7 pm - Yom HaZikaron/Yom HaAtzmaut Program	7:30 pm Adult Choir		7 pm Tefilot	Acharei Mot/ K'doshim 10 am Samantha Kotz
30						
9 am 6th trad & FS 2 pm Sisterhood- Library Author Event						

## NEW MEMBERS MEET & GREET

We want to thank everyone who came to our New Members Meet & Greet on January 22. A good time was had by all, as new members got to meet lay leaders, staff and other BHSS members. Thanks to all who participated...and welcome to our BHSS Community. Tell your friends and family who may be looking for a synagogue to come visit...they may decide to stay!





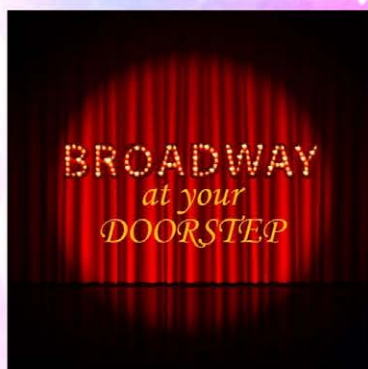
**Beth Haverim Shir Shalom  
Presents:**

# **Broadway At Your Doorstep**

## **Broadway Through The Ages...**

**Broadway's brightest stars are here to perform some of  
the biggest hits from:**

**HAMILTON  
RENT  
MOTOWN  
FUNNY GIRL  
A CHORUS LINE  
WEST SIDE STORY  
JERSEY BOYS  
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA  
AND MORE!**



*Join  
us  
March  
25th!*

**Beth Haverim Shir Shalom  
6:30pm doors open  
7 Curtain Up!**

<https://bwayatyourdoorstep.wixsite.com/baydatyourdoor>

# LIBRARY COMMITTEE

*The Library Committee is taking a detour from our book recommendations, and we are working on a new project call "Finding Your Jewish Roots." Where are your ancestors from? How did they end up here? We will be speaking with members of our congregation to share their families' stories.*

*We started at the top! Sheryl Ives and Sherry Levitt spoke with Rabbi Ilana...whose family story is different than most.*

Rabbi Ilana's maternal grandmother, Dina, came from Berlin, Germany, the youngest of three daughters. Her maternal grandfather, David, came from a small town in Germany. How did they escape the Nazis? It happened that David's sister was married to a socialist (named Karl Marx, but not THAT one), who were in danger even earlier than the Jews, so the family made *aliyah* to the land of Israel (at that time Palestine), where David and Dina met. David signed up to fight for the British Army in World War II, but the British were not training Jews for combat. So, David became a plumber, and stayed in Palestine throughout the war. Dina became a nurse.

David also fought in the War for Independence in 1948, which was the around the same time that Dina was giving birth. David wanted to see the baby, so he secretly went to where she was...noticing bullet holes in neighboring houses.

Rabbi Ilana's mother, Ziva, went to Hebrew University and she met Rabbi Joel (Rabbi Ilana's father) in Jerusalem. They married and they went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where Rabbi Joel's father taught at HUC, and where Rabbi Joel was a student. While in Cincinnati, Ziva finished her degree.

Rabbi Ilana and her brother were born in Biloxi, Mississippi. The family traveled all over the world, due to the fact that Rabbi Joel was an Air Force chaplain. Rabbi Ilana says that her life as a "military brat" affected her Judaism in many ways. The family went from Biloxi to Germany and then Colorado... not the most popular places for Jews to live. She has faced much antisemitism in her life. Her family lived in Greece in the 1980s, when Israel and the PLO were fighting. A large

faction of PLO lived in Greece, and Rabbi remembers her parents being scared, and told the kids not to speak Hebrew outside the house.

As you know, Rabbi Ilana found her way to BHSS, and will pass on these stories of her Jewish roots to her daughter, Sabine. We hope she tends to those roots, and they blossom.

The Library Committee and Sisterhood present

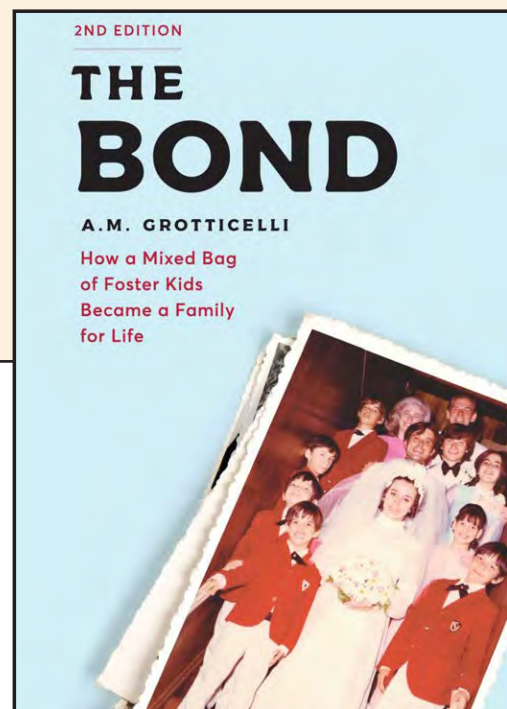
## **AUTHOR DAY with A.M. Grotticelli** **Sunday, April 30 at** **2:00 pm in the Ulam**

Join us for a fascinating conversation to discuss  
***The Bond*** with author A.M. Grotticelli.

His powerful memoir chronicles the strong relationships formed among a collection of unrelated siblings who forged a remarkable, separate and permanent family within a foster home.

*About the author: Angelo M. Grotticelli is a veteran technology journalist. This is his first book.*

Details to follow.





# SISTERHOOD

*"We may not have it all together but together we have it all."*

We don't want to brag, but if you're wondering where this mild winter came from, it's probably the warmth of the BHSS Sisterhood! The (sometimes) temperate weather and lack of snow let us keep busy all winter long, hosting events and planning new ones. Were you with us for our painting party on January 29? Ok, most of us are keeping our day jobs, but there was some pretty impressive artwork on display. What a fun way to spend the afternoon with your Sisterhood friends!

It's not too late to join us for our March events. March 12 at 2:00 p.m. will be Sisterhood self-defense, under the guidance of our own Cindy Buchalter. Come learn what you need to know to enhance your safety, and that of your friends and family. Watch your weekly emails for details.

On March 23 at 6:00 p.m., we host our ever-popular Miriam Seder, led by Rabbi Ilana. This is usually a sell-out event, where we celebrate the contributions of our maternal forebears and some of the Torah's heroines. Be sure to join us for an educational, enlightening and entertaining evening of food, worship and song.

On April 30, we will co-host with the Library committee an Author Day event. Angelo Grotticelli, author of "The Bond," wrote a memoir of relationships formed among a collection of "unrelated siblings" who forged a permanent family in a foster home. It's timely, and it's important. Watch your emails, so you can be with us.

May 12 is Sisterhood Shabbat. Sisterhood will help lead the Friday night service, again celebrating the contributions of women to our rituals and customs. Volunteers are welcome—please sign up to do a Hebrew or English reading, and to be part of a warm and wonderful evening.

Other plans remain in the works, including our annual Installation Dinner. More about that in the next *Temple Topics*.

Remember, there may be an "I" in Sisterhood—but what we're missing is a "U". Come join us.

Lisa Estrin and Beth Wiesner  
Co-Presidents

**BHSS Sisterhood**  
**SELF-DEFENSE CLASS**  
**Sunday, March 12 - 2:00 pm**  
**in the BHSS Ulam**



FREE CLASS  
FOR WOMEN ONLY

**Don't get caught off guard!**  

We will go over simple preventative measures  
and ways to fight back.

Taught by our very own Cindy Buchalter  
Kindly RSVP by March 5 [thebuchs@optonline.net](mailto:thebuchs@optonline.net)

**\*\*Please bring items to be donated to  
OASIS and Center for Safety & Change\*\***



# BHSS YOUTH GROUPS

*Hello everyone!*

We are having an awesome 2023! Thank you to everyone who donated and participated in our Midnight Run. We were able to serve many people without a home alongside our Brotherhood.

We had a blast playing BINGO at the Promenade at Chestnut Ridge. Our squishmallows are so adorable!

If you have not filled out your membership forms yet we encourage you to become a member of the youth group.

## *Menschmakers*

Grades 3-6

### **Purim Carnival**

March 5th 10:30-12:30 pm

### **Escape The Room**

May 7th 12-2 pm

## *BHSSTY*

Grades 7-12

### **Purim Carnival**

SET UP March 4th 5-7 pm

March 5th 10:00-1:00 pm for volunteers

March 5th 10:30-12:30 pm for all

### **Escape The Room**

April 23rd 12-2 pm

### **Creative Service**

May 19th 7:30 pm

### **Elections End of Year**

June TBD

We still need volunteers to help us with our annual Purim Carnival! Please reach out if you can help!

**BHSSTY Presents**

## **PURIM CARNIVAL**

**Sunday, March 5 | 10:30 am - 12 pm**

**Come in costume, play games,  
win prizes, make new friends,  
fun for all ages!**



**\$5 for 10 tickets**

**\$10 for 20 tickets**

**\$20 for 40 tickets**

**Bring in a canned good item for 10 tickets.**

**Please bring cash or check only!**

Hope we get the chance to see you soon! If you have any ideas for events or just want to chat, you can reach us at [bhssyouth@gmail.com](mailto:bhssyouth@gmail.com). Follow us on instagram @bhsstyinsta.



# MICHELLE MITZVAH GROUP

*"Many hands make light work."* I hear this phrase all the time, especially when Brotherhood is putting up the sukkah. If more people lend a hand, the task is less daunting. For Michelle Mitzvah, when more people lend a hand, the task is also more rewarding.

Back in January, the Michelle Mitzvah Group assisted the youth group by helping out with their Midnight Run event, providing transportation, and donating food and clothing. The Michelle Mitzvah Group always enjoys collaborating with Social Action and Brotherhood to assist with the youth group, and we will continue to do so. Usually, we would help with a clothing drive for Midnight Run on a specific night. Now, Brotherhood, Social Action, and Michelle Mitzvah Group are helping to run clothing drives throughout the year. If you have any clothing you would like to donate, drop it off at the synagogue and every month Social Action, Michelle Mitzvah, and Brotherhood will make sure it gets to the right place.

Another collaboration Michelle Mitzvah Group is working on is with the religious school to help donate food to support the Center for Food Action (CFA). We are encouraging all religious school students and families to bring non-perishable food and drop it off in the baskets by the school entrance. You do not have to be part of the religious school to donate. You may also donate to the baskets located at the main entrance. Specifically, CFA needs: **tuna, peanut butter, pancake mix and syrup, as well as non-food items, laundry detergent, soap, toothpaste, paper towels, toilet paper, etc.**

In addition to donating food for the Center for Food Action, there is also the opportunity to provide meals at the Suffern Soup Kitchen. Every Sunday, we assist the Suffern Soup Kitchen by providing 20 meals to help our neighbors in need. Each meal consists of a main dish, fruit, beverage, and snack/ dessert. To sign up, please contact me and I will send you the link for the schedule.

We have addressed food and clothing, and now there is an opportunity to assist with shelter. The Michelle Mitzvah Group is partnering with Rebuilding Together North Jersey to help provide repairs for low-income homeowners to ensure they are able to continue to live in their homes. More information will be provided, but save the date of April 29 for National Rebuilding Day.

We all know the teachings of *Pirkei Avot* - "You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it." So, lend a helping hand and reap the rewards. For any questions or comments, please reach out to me at [steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:steveoum@verizon.net) or call/text me at 201 788-6755.

B'Shalom


Steven Simon

Chair- Michelle Mitzvah Group

[midnightrun.org](http://midnightrun.org)

## Clothing Drive

The Midnight Run donates needed goods directly to people on the streets in New York City. After the Youth Group's successful Midnight Run in January, we will increase our donations to monthly!




Gently used  
or new please

**Adult sizes  
ONLY**

The following items are always in need:

- Shoes/sneakers of all sizes
- Jackets, Coats, Wraps
- Jeans/trousers of all sizes
- Sweatpants of all sizes
- Hoodies, Sweatshirts, Sweaters, Fleece Pullovers
- Tee Shirts
- Socks & Underwear - only new, in packages
- Hats, Scarves, Gloves
- Toiletries



We can always use help with this work. If you're interested in sorting, driving or delivering for our next Midnight Run, please reach out to us.

Sam Spencer - (551) 427-3663 - [bhssyouth@gmail.com](mailto:bhssyouth@gmail.com)

Steve Simon - (201) 788-6755 - [steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:steveoum@verizon.net)

Jonathan Theodore - (917) 531-0043 - [theodore.central@gmail.com](mailto:theodore.central@gmail.com)

This year BHSS  
is going off-off-off-off  
(how many "offs" do you need for NJ?)  
Broadway for

# A Very **BROADWAY** PURIM

**Monday, March 6 at 7:00 pm**

**FEATURING**

Musician and Choir Director Jane Koch  
and members of BHSS

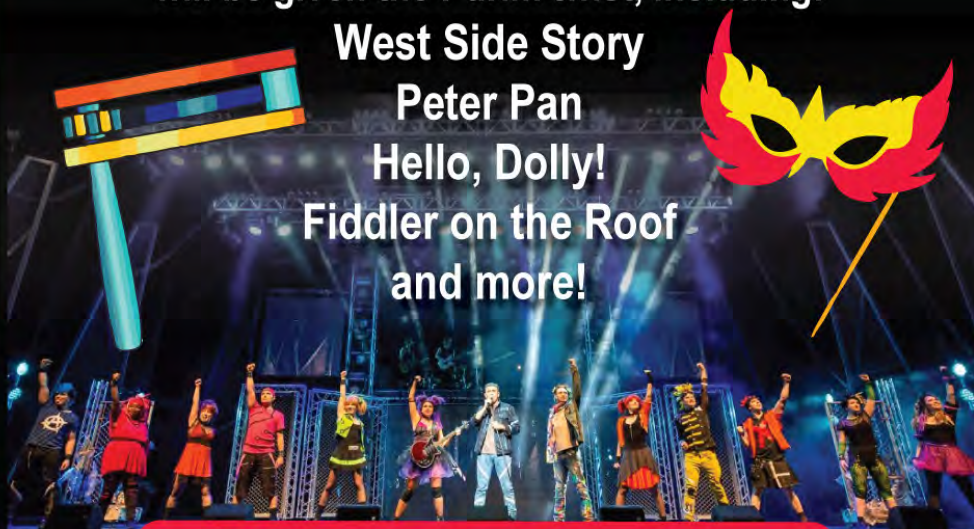
Some of your favorite Broadway shows  
will be given the Purim twist, including:

**West Side Story**

**Peter Pan**

**Hello, Dolly!**

**Fiddler on the Roof  
and more!**



**BYOG – Bring Your Own Grogger**

don't forget to bring a box of macaroni and cheese and/or  
pasta which will be donated to CFA after the Shpiel



# 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 **April 5**.

A second seder will be here at BHSS on April 6 - in person!

Contact the office to join us!

## The Four Questions

(or, 1 question and 4 answers!)

מה נשתנה הלילה הזה מכל הלילות?

*Mah nish'tana halailah hazeh mikol haleilot?*

Why is this night different from all other nights?

שְׁבֹכַל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין חֶמֶץ וּמָצָה, הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה כֻּלּוֹ מָצָה.

*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.

שְׁבֹכַל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין שְׂאֵר יִרְקוֹת הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה מָרוֹר.

*Sheb'chol haleilot anu och'lin sh'ar y'rakot. Haleilah hazeh maror.*

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

שְׁבֹכַל הַלֵּילוֹת אֵין אָנוּ מַטְבִּילִין אֶפִּילוּ פֶּעַם אַחַת. הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְעָמִים:

*Sheb'chol haleilot ein anu mat'bilin 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.

שְׁבֹכַל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין בֵּין יוֹשְׁבִין וּבֵין מְסֻבִּין.

הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה כָּלָנוּ מְסֻבִּין.

*Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin bein yosh'vin uvein m'subin. Halailah hazeh kulanu m'subin.*

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



# Community Second Night Seder



Why is tonight different than all other nights?

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

BHSS Community Second Night Seder

April 6 at 6 pm

details to follow



# Contributions

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## *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

Happy Hanukkah, thank you for everything!

- Lauren & Jason Dworkin

## *Educators Discretionary Fund*

in loving memory of my mother Phoebe Jaffe

- Irma Becker

to Jen Cole and family, in memory of  
your mother Gloria Goldberg

- Irma Becker

## *Life Fund*

in memory of Gertrude Klein

- Arlene & Richard Mandel

to Jen Cole and family, in memory of  
your mother, Gloria Goldberg

- Alison & Norman Axelrod

- the Wichler family

- Lynn & Mike Zall

- Laura & Ken Estero

- Renee & Gary Garbus

- Nina & Ray Romero

- Laurie & Mark Daniel

- Sheryl & Joel Ives

- the Spencer family

- the Lamster family

- Marci & Harvey Weinberg

- Jewell & Stanley Waldbaum

- Donna Kotz & family

- Gayle & Steve Weiss

- Leslie Sabo

- Lynne Feldman

- Roni & Andy Silver

- Marilyn & Irwin Haberman

in memory of Ely Gordon

- Sheri & Allan Schott

in memory of my brother, Louis Stiglitz

- Sheila Nathanson

in memory of Ron Johnson

- Sue-Ellen Johnson

to Elizabeth and Roy Wandelmaier, in  
memory of Rose Wandelmaier

- Lisa, Sammi, Joshua & Jessica Lamster

to Lisa Estrin, in memory of your  
sister, Lori Rosenblum Brown

- Laurie & Marc Daniel

- Jane & Eric Koch

- Lynn & Michael Zall

- Irma Becker

- Sherry Levitt

- Sheila & Larry Groskin

- Linda & David Schwartz

- Lynne Feldman

- Sisterhood of BHSS

to Nancy Teichman in memory of your sister

- Jane & Eric Koch

in memory of Joel Sankel

- Sheryl & Joel Ives

to Steve Weiss, in memory of Sanford  
Schey, father of Steve Weiss

- Elisa & Marc Bruckner

to Jane Young, in memory of her sister Leslee

- Leslie & Howie Kirzner

to Michelle Metheny, in memory of Sharon Goldberg

- Jen Cole & Family

in memory of Naomi Friedman

- Stacey & Jeff Friedman

## *High Holiday Appeal/Yizkor*

Rhoda & Marty Lonow

Jen & Matt Cole

Jill & Adam Behar

## *Center for Food Action In Mahwah*

*Donated in by their families in honor of B'nei Mitzvah*

Hailey Feldman's Bat Mitzvah

Sammi Eisenberg's Bat Mitzvah



# Good & Welfare

from and for the congregation

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## Condolences to:

**Scott Grossman** on the death of his  
grandmother, Shirley Sulkies

**Sarah Adelson** on the death of her father,  
John Howes

**Lisa Estrin** on the death of her cousin,  
Harvey Shankman

**Jen Cole** on the death of her mother,  
Gloria Goldberg

**Ken Levine** on the death of his father,  
Herbert Levine

## Welcome New Members:

**Jennifer & Matthew Wood and family,**  
Mahwah, NJ

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

**Ed Vogel**

**Stu Turner**

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## 👁 Contributions 👁

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### Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge

*Donated in by their families in honor of B'nei Mitzvah*

Hailey Feldman's Bat Mitzvah  
Tyler Grossman's Bar Mitzvah  
Bryce Ruggiero's Bar Mitzvah

### Jewish Family Services of Rockland

*Donated in by their families in honor of B'nei Mitzvah*

Bryce Ruggiero's Bar Mitzvah

## Join Rabbi Ilana for Torah Study

Tuesdays at noon via Zoom

- Beginners welcome
- No Hebrew reading necessary
- Learn about the Torah portion of the week
- Relaxed atmosphere

**TORAH STUDY  
IS BACK!**



**Bring your questions!**



# BROTHERHOOD

Shalom!

You may be wondering what BHSS Brotherhood has been up to lately...

We continue to align ourselves with Social Action, Michelle Mitzvah, and BHSS Youth as we continue our clothing collection. In January, we packed up 15 large bags of clothing, and along with several BHSS Youth group members, met up with the Midnight Run group in Larchmont, NY. There we sorted the clothing we brought along with many other donations, made sandwiches and drove into the city to hand out clothing, hot and cold food, coffee, soup, water and blankets to the people on the streets of New York City.

This experience was meaningful to all...and to the people who joined us for the first time, a brand-new experience! We were all so inspired that we decided to continue our year-round clothing collection, and once a month we will be delivering our donated clothing to the Midnight Run for their monthly runs. In February, we delivered 6 more large bags of clothing. A heartfelt thanks to our amazing community who donate so much to help so many!

BHSS Brotherhood meets on (or about) the third Thursday of every month, usually for dinner with locations to be determined. We also brought back Raps, where we meet for breakfast on (or about) the third Sunday of every month to discuss politics, religion, and plans for our upcoming events. Keep an eye out for some of our favorites – BHSS Brotherhood/Social Action/Michelle Mitzvah Shabbat; our annual suite at the New York Boulders, and we are looking into some other events in which the whole synagogue could participate.

If you would like to be part of our email list, please feel free to email us at [President@BHSSBrotherhood.org](mailto:President@BHSSBrotherhood.org) or [BHSSBrotherhood@gmail.com](mailto:BHSSBrotherhood@gmail.com).

BHSS Brotherhood.

*Tikkun Olam* – Repairing the World, one Mitzvah at a time.

L'Shalom!

Sincerely,

The Legion of Past Presidents

## Tot Shabbat!

Fridays, March 17 and April 21 at 5:15 p.m.

*For children ages birth-kindergarten  
and their families.*

*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!*



## SOCIAL ACTION

As the cold weather dissipates and spring weather approaches, BHSS Social Action is practicing the Judaic practices of *tikkun olam*, repairing our world by continuing to help the refugee families living among us, as well as actively participating in the newly established synagogue-wide Tu B'Shivat initiative.

On February 3, BHSS Social Action participated in H.I.A.S.'s world-wide Refugee Shabbat initiative by creating our own joyous service which used some H.I.A.S. liturgical material incorporated with prayers and songs chosen by Rabbi Ilana and Jane Koch. We linked the theme of "Welcoming the Strangers Among Us" with Shabbat Shirah, the "Song of the Sea", our road to freedom from Egyptian tyranny. Social Action sincerely thanks **EVERY PARTICIPANT** in this uplifting service. Sheila Groskin and Sheryl Ives spearheaded this event from its inception. We were especially inspired by our keynote speaker, a young female activist, marathon runner and medical practitioner named Nelofar, who recounted her family's heart-wrenching yet successful escape story from the claws of Afghanistan's newly risen Taliban. She immigrated here through Mexico under extreme duress with her sister and mother. Now the family is working on resettling 13 more relatives in the U.S. and we look forward to continuing to follow their brave refugee journey.

Tu B'Shivat, celebrated this year on the heels of Shabbat Shirah, opened a new window of opportunity for Beth Haverim Shir Shalom to repair and regenerate the natural beauty that unfortunately has been neglected, destroyed or overlooked by our immediate and surrounding communities. This very exciting and ongoing Tu B'Shivat initiative begun by a few active and concerned congregants will focus mainly on the consistent maintenance of our beautiful BHSS outdoor garden. We are calling on and appealing to ALL BHSS COMMITTEE MEMBERS and ALL CONGREGANTS NEW AND OLD to volunteer their time to streamline and reenergize our garden. You don't have to have a green thumb or be a master gardener to participate. You can come one or more times, enjoy the fresh air, weed, till the soil, or adopt a bed with a friend or fellow committee member. So come one, come all...it's a great project for the whole family.

B'nai Mitzvah candidates should come and gain valuable community service project/volunteer points toward their special day, as well as for school, by working the land in their own synagogue community. We will be placing reminder announcements about gardening chores that need to be done in BHSS's weekly emails, as well as posting announcements and setting up volunteer lists when the garden reopens in mid to late March (weather permitting) and early April. May our beloved BHSS garden be blessed with healthy, hearty vegetables to feed the needy and hungry among us, cultivated, harvested, and delivered by enthusiastic volunteer members of our House of Friends and Peace!

Please don't forget to attend our monthly BHSS Social Action Zoom meetings held the last Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. DO NOT HESITATE to contact our committee email or any one of us below with questions, ideas, thoughts, and how to join our growing ranks!

Upcoming spring blessings to everyone!

Jonathan Theodore, Lisa Estrin, and Lisa Glick

bhsssocialaction@gmail.com

theodore.central@gmail.com

lbestrin@aol.com

lisarglick@gmail.com



# MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING זכרונם לברכה ☆

## March Yahrzeits

MORRIS ABNER	RONA FRIEDMAN	RUTH LEVINE	SOL SCHLOSSER
LEIZER ALPERSTEIN	AVA GILLIAN GOTTLIEB	SHIRLEY LEVINE	DIANE SCHORR
BERTHA ALTER	HENRY GREENBERG	BEATRICE LEVITT	BETTY SCHOTT
MILES ALTER	ESSIE GREENZWEIG	SOL LIRTZMAN	IRA SCHULMAN
SHELBY ALTER	JACOB GROSKIN	EVELYN MARCUS	ANN SEIDNER
KEVIN ANESETTI	WALTER HARTWICH	SHIRLEY MARKS	HAROLD SENZEL
ROBERT ANESETTI, SR.	DINA HEIBLUM	DAVID MARX	FRANCES SIEGEL
HERMAN ASHKANAZY	PHILIP HEIBLUM	BARBARA MOSS	LOUIS SIEGEL
NORMA ATLAS	THELMA HERSHMAN	VIDA AMANDA	ALEX SILVERMAN
LORETTA BECKER	ISADORE ISRAEL	MARIE MYLSON	MANDEL STEIN
BARNET BERNSTEIN	ROY W. KAMM	SEYMOUR OVENTHAL	DANNY STETTIN
SIMON BORNSTEIN	ROBERT KARASIK	ARNOLD PELLER	RHODA STOLLER
MAUREEN BOYLE	HELEN KASSOVER	MARION PLOTT	SYDNEY STOLLER
MARK BRAUNSTEIN	ABRAHAM KIRSHNER	LAWRENCE ALLEN POLEY	ANDREA GREEN SWAN
MARTIN BROWN	DORA KOHN	JOY POLLACK	MARIA TITCOMB
FLORA CASSUTO	SEYMOUR KRICHMAR	PHYLLIS POLLACK	FANNY TREPPER
ISRAEL CHARNE	JOSH KRUTER	HARRIET POPOWITZ	MARTIN TREPPER
SHARON DANTZIG	PEARL LACHER	MARTIN POPOWITZ	SALLY VICTOR
SHOSHANA DAVIS	NOEL LAMSTER	ANNA PREMSELAAR	FLORA VOGEL-LIRTZMAN
JETTY DENTZ	ELAINE LANDAU	TOBY PUTTERMAN	SALLY WEINER
SHEILA LEVITT ESTRIN	MILDRED LANDAU	RUBIN REIN	ELYSE WEISSER
HERMAN FIELDS	JULIETTE LESSEN	LEAH REINSTEIN	IRIS WILNER
PAUL FISHER	BESS LEVENE	NATHAN ROCKER	ANDREW FRANK WINNING
MARTIN FRIEDMAN	FRANK LEVENE	BERNARD ROSENBERG	DANIEL REED YOUNG

## 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.

If you are interested in getting involved, there are many ways to volunteer, whether it be cooking a meal, donating restaurant gift cards, or making a phone call to a congregant in need. 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)  
or Laura Miller (mlctsmiller@verizon.net).



MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING זכרונם לברכה ☆

## *April Yahrzeits*

GEORGE ADLMAN	IRVING GLICK	BENJAMIN LEVITT	MARK SCHOTT
NATALIE ADLMAN	DIANA GORDON	HENRY LICHTER	DANNY SCHWARTZ
IBN ART	HYMAN GRUBMAN	VIVIEN LICHTER	IRENE SHOOPS
LEON AUERBACH	JOHN J. HAYES	MITCHELL LICHTMAN	DAVID JOSEPH SIEGEL
IRVING BECKER	ALFRED HERTZ	ERIC LIEBMANN	JACOB SIEGEL
ANNA BERKOWITZ	IRVING HOLLANDER	JUAN HANS LOWENSTEIN	IAN L. SILVER, MD
RICHARD BOYLE	JACK HOMNICK	JUDY MAY	CELIA SIMON
RON BRABEC	MICHAEL HOZER	ISIDORE MOSER	RICHARD SITOMER
DENISE BROWN	BENJAMIN ISKOWITZ	MARILYN MOSER	SANDRA SLAVIN
BERNICE COHEN	LENA ISRAEL	STANLEY MOSER	ESTELLE SLUCKER
JANET COHEN	LOIS JAFFE	BEATRICE LERNER MOSS	JOSEPH SLUCKER
GREG DUCHARME	DENNIS KAY	MARY NEWHOUSE	PETER STRASSER
ELLIE ELLIS	SARAH "SUE" KIRZNER	JOSEPH OPPENHEIM	IRVING TOONKEL
JESSE ELLMAN	LEONID KISSIN	THELMA OVENTHAL	MORRIS WEINGAST
SHEILA RAPHAEL FELDMAN	HELEN KLAPPER	DOROTHY OZAROFF	JULIUS WEISSER
WILLIAM FRANKLIN	GERTRUDE KLEIN	IRVING PESIN	HELLA WEXLER
ELSIE FREEMAN	HELEN KUNEGO	SHLOMO POUSTY	MICHAEL WIESNER
MARTIN FRIEDMAN	ARLENE LAVINSKY	LEE ROSEN	FRIEDA YAGODA
	DAVID LEITNER	LIBBY SCHLOSSER	
	FRANCES LEVENE	ANNABEL SCHLUSSEL	

# Yom HaShoah

COMMEMORATION PROGRAM

April 18 at 6:45 pm

LET US COME TOGETHER  
TO NEVER FORGET

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A MOVING  
PROGRAM WITH HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR  
PAUL GALAN



# NOTES FROM MUSIC

Hello everyone!

We hope you have been enjoying the many musical offerings at BHSS. There is more to come!

**Purim is on March 6!** Costumes, music, the spiel, singers, the megillah reading, the noise! What could be better? Don't miss one of the best services of the year!

**Broadway at your Doorstep is on March 25.** Tickets are \$36 per person. If you love show tunes, this is just for you! Broadway performers will sing hits from the hottest shows on Broadway.

**Service commemorating Yom Ha'Shoah /Yom HaZikaron will be held in April.** Look out for details in the weekly BHSS emails. The adult choir will be singing in this moving service.

Our choir is rehearsing in person! Here is your chance to join in the fun. They are always looking for new members.



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.

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

No previous experience or knowledge of Hebrew or reading music is required. Contact Michelle at the synagogue office for details.

I am available any time to chat if you have ideas about programming or a question. If you would like to help in the planning of events, new members are always welcome. We meet via Zoom on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Email me at [niberger@aol.com](mailto:niberger@aol.com) and I will send you the invitation link.

*Musically yours,*

*Nora Berger*

The graphic for "Rabbi Ilana's TV Talks" features a large, stylized yellow "TV" on a dark green monitor. Below the monitor, a hand holds a black remote control. The background is a light orange color.

**Rabbi Ilana's**

**TV Talks**

**Spotlight on**

**Inside Man**

*It's not a book club...but a binge-worthy series of discussions*

Abductions, depravity, deceit and danger are at the heart of some of our favorite binge-worthy shows.

This TVMA (for mature audiences) content that we are streaming is filled with material that invites us to interpret it through a religious lens.

Join us as we look at the Jewish content and symbolism of Hulu's *The Patient*, and the Christian themes and moral implications of Netflix's *Inside Man*. It should make for some riveting conversation!

**Wednesdays, March 8 and 15 at 7:30pm – VIA ZOOM**

A movie poster for "Inside Man" featuring Morgan Freeman. The poster shows a close-up of his face, with a smaller inset image of him holding a gun. The title "INSIDE MAN" is at the bottom.

**March 8 – Episodes 1-2**

**March 15 – Episodes 3-4**

# Meet the Member

## Congregational stories

Each month a congregant writes about how they became involved at Beth Haverim Shir Shalom. We hope you enjoy learning about your fellow members' individual stories.



## Jackie Lowenfels

"Hi y'all, I'm Jackie."

Life has chapters, and my BHSS story has several. My parents had been members of RTOS in the years I was away at college, and bouncing around riding and training horses. My first BHSS chapter began when my son Ben needed to start some kind of formal religious education. We started I think with Family School, and my mom used to bring him much of the time because horses still needed to eat on Sundays. Over the years, and the services, and the rituals, and the holidays, BHSS became a central part of my life. Ben became a Bar Mitzvah, and then a Confirmand, and every time I walk past the framed photos of all the classes I smile. Ben is graduating college this year, and starting an MBA program. He doesn't engage in Jewish life much at the moment, but he knows all the blessings, he knows the Mourner's Kaddish, he knows to take his shoes off on sacred ground, so to speak, and that sacred means different things to different people. BHSS gave him a wonderful foundation in Jewish life, and I am forever grateful to those who taught him, nurtured him, pushed him, and shaped the man he is today. The soundtrack of prayer that he learned here will be with him forever, and he always says that he will raise his children Jewish, and find them a BHSS, wherever he might be.

So while it was Ben who brought me to BHSS, I certainly developed a life of my own. The more services I attended the more I was hooked. I had gone to a Reform elementary school, I had sung in their baby choir, but after my Bat Mitzvah my spiritual life became horses. I knew BHSS was good for Ben, I wasn't sure it was going to mean much to me. I could not have been more wrong. I used to feel myself as the unbaptized wandering Jew, never really tethered to anything. That was just my place in this universe, to help those I could and be of service to God, in my beekeeping, flower loving, worm-raising way.

But then I started singing. I started singing along in services; I knew nothing. God bless all the ears I have trampled on as I gained confidence, knowledge, and purpose. I am by nature a person who hates attention, hates being noticed, prefers to watch and listen and help behind the scenes. But when asked if I wanted to chant haftarah for Rosh Hashanah, with Ben doing the blessings, no problem. Ben and I also chanted some Megillah, and we both know it easily to this day. As I said, the soundtrack of prayer and synagogue life runs deep between us.

Then I joined the choir. The first thing I ever sang was Shabbat Shirah six or seven years ago. I had absolutely no idea what I was doing. Music looked like Sanskrit, still does sometimes, and I couldn't tell you what was going to come out of my mouth at any given moment. But I kept going, and I made beloved friends. May everyone have friendships forged in prayer and music. I say it all the time, singing is good for the soul. I am very involved in Jewish choral music, and I will travel to Israel this summer on a singing mission trip. I have had incredible experiences, I have gone on many singing adventures, and I have learned so much.

I was away from BHSS for a while. When it came time to stop wandering my personal desert, to find synagogue life again, to reengage with community, I wasn't sure I should come back to BHSS. I thought that maybe that chapter had ended. Ben had finished Kadimah years before, I'd been away a long time, and I am not a fan of significant change. It could never be the same, it was time to move on. In love, respect, giant smiles, and best wishes for everyone I had ever known in Mahwah.

Then it was time for my Aunt Phoebe's Yahrzeit, and I walked in the door to say Kaddish for her, really to bring my mom so she could say Kaddish for her sister, and I was home. That was it. The faces I saw, and voices I heard, some of them gone, and some of them different, were like family. But I was hesitant - would it be ok? Would I find myself again? Would this new Jackie find her way back?

So, I started to come back to services. I started to sing along again. I sang with the choir for the High Holy Days and it was soul nurturing good to make music and pray together in person. I bring a different me to BHSS now. But I know that the more I show up, the more I engage, the more I connect, the more I respect Shabbat, the happier and healthier I am. I need prayer. I need ritual. I need separation of earth life and spiritual life. That's just me, like I need sunshine.

I love to sing and anyone who knows me knows that. But it's the people, y'all. It's always been the people. BHSS literally helped me find my voice, and my way across the desert. Here's to making joyous noise together.

I'll see you at services, or choir rehearsal.  
Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. Thanks for reading.



# SISTERHOOD'S MIRIAM SEDER

*Gather with Sisterhood for a complete, creative, and  
compassionate Miriam Seder led by Rabbi Ilana.  
Refugee issues will be highlighted. Bring your stories/pictures  
of loved ones who emigrated to the U.S.*

**Thursday, March 23 at  
6 PM in the BHSS social hall**



**Cost: Sisterhood members - \$45,  
Nonmembers - \$50, Children - \$25, Under 13 - free.**

**Payment options: via Venmo to @Lisa-Lamster, via Zelle to  
lisalams@optonline.net, or check made out to Sisterhood of BHSS  
and mailed to Lisa Lamster, 1053 Ash Drive, Mahwah, NJ 07430.  
Please RSVP to [lisalams@optonline.net](mailto:lisalams@optonline.net) by March 16th.**

**We are collecting non-perishable food items for Oasis to fill weekend survival  
food bags (small boxes/containers of food, snacks, water, and juice boxes).**



# MARCH MEGAfoodDRIVE

Jewish Federation's March Mega Food Drive will distribute **25,000 LBS OF FOOD** to northern New Jersey families who are struggling with food insecurity.

**FEDERATION FIGHTS HUNGER! MARCH 1 - 31**

## REGISTER TO COLLECT FOOD

Blue Bag Challenge • Scavenger Hunt • Set Up A Food Collection  
Return all collected food to Jewish Federation by the end of March.

## DONATE OR SPONSOR TODAY

Mitzvah Maker • Mitzvah Shaker • Sponsor  
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## SHOP ONLINE NOW

Federation's Grocery List • [jfnj.org/Grocery-List](https://jfnj.org/Grocery-List)  
Shoprite Gift Card • <https://bit.ly/3tWA8KW>

## COMMITTEE

Sari Gross, Volunteer Center, *Chairperson* • Tiffany Kaplan and Ellen Ginsburg Simon, *Event Co-Chairs*  
Ali Auerbach, Pam Bern, Jodi Bienenfeld, Geri Cantor, Jaime Cetlin, Meredith Conen, Randy Freedman, Jillian Herz, Debra Hirschberg,  
Lindsey Lax, Tracy Limbardo, Martha Margulies, Rilly Miron, Terise Parnes, Charu Ranganathan, Melissa Rosenberg, Gayle Samitt,  
Joy Shorr, Leslie Smith, Dale Sparber, Wendy Ward, Rachel Weiss, Laurie Ann Weinstein, Helene Zatz, *Committee Members*

**[JFNNJ.org/FIGHTHUNGER](https://jfnj.org/FIGHTHUNGER)**

SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO



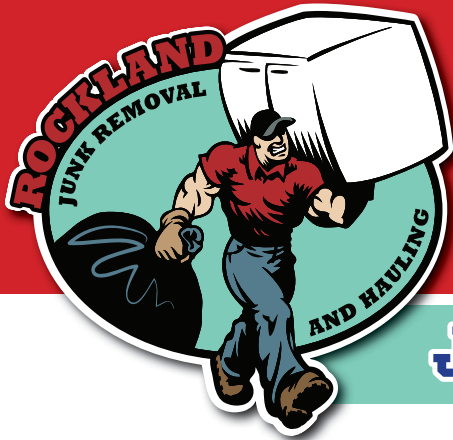
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Shara Nadler, *Director, Volunteer Center* 201.820.3947



**Yom Ha'atzmaut/  
Yom Hazikaron**  
Israel Independence Day & Day of Remembrance  
Commemoration  
**Tuesday, April 25**  
Details to come



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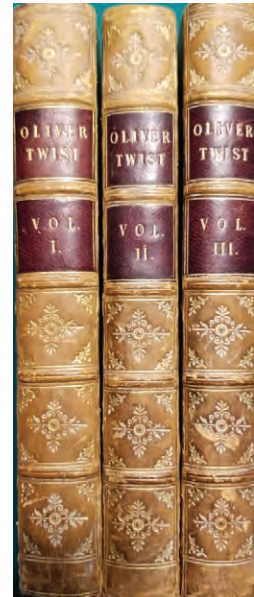
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# Worship Schedule

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Friday, March 3	6:30 pm	Shabbat Family Service <i>Birthdays in March will be celebrated</i>
Saturday, March 4	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Sammi Eisenberg
<b>Monday, March 6</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Purim Shpiel at BHSS - A Very Broadway Purim</b>
Friday, March 10	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Friday, March 17	5:15 pm	Tot Shabbat
	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, March 18	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Colby Berkowicz
Friday, March 24	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Friday, March 31	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, April 1	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Bryce Ruggiero
<b>Thursday, April 6</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Passover Morning Service</b>
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Passover Second Night Community Seder</b>
Friday, April 7	6:30 pm	Shabbat Family Service <i>Birthdays in April will be celebrated</i>
<b>Wednesday, April 12</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Passover Yizkor Service</b>
Friday, April 14	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, April 15	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Reid Sendroff
<b>Tuesday, April 18</b>	<b>6:45 pm</b>	<b>Yom Hashoah Commemoration – with speaker Paul Galan</b>
Friday, April 21	5:15 pm	Tot Shabbat
	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, April 22	10:00 am	B'not Mitzvah of Noa and Samone Kaufman
<b>Tuesday, April 25</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Yom HaZikaron/Yom H'atzmaut celebration</b>
Friday, April 28	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, April 29	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Kotz



**BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM**  
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**MAHWAH, NJ 07430**

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman  
Rebecca McVeigh, Director of Education

**Sessions of School:**

Sundays: March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 16, 23, 30  
Mondays: March 6 (K/1/2/3 only), 13, 20, 27, April 17, 24  
Tuesdays: March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 18, 25

**Office closed:**

April 6, 12



## To do in March and April

- *Bring the kids to Family Shabbat on Fridays, March 3 and April 7 at 6:30 pm*
- *Get ready for some fun at the Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 5 at 10:30 am*
- *The fun continues at the Purim Shpiel on Monday, March 6 at 7:00 pm*
- *Torah Study is back! Join Rabbi Ilana for a weekly discussion on the week's parshah at 12 noon on Tuesdays via Zoom*
- *Binge-watch "Inside Man" on Netflix, and then discuss at Rabbi Ilana's TV Talk on Wednesdays March 8 and 15 at 7:30 pm via Zoom*
- *Don't get caught off guard! Join Sisterhood for a self-defense class taught by our very own Cindy Buchalter on Sunday, March 12 at 2:00 pm*
- *We're celebrating Shabbat with the little ones at Tot Shabbat on Fridays, March 17 and April 21 at 5:15 pm*
- *Celebrate women at Sisterhood's Miriam Seder on Thursday, March 23 at 6:00 pm*
- *The stars are coming to BHSS for Broadway at your Doorstep on Saturday, March 25 at 7:00 pm*
- *Israel will be discussed with Rabbi Joel Schwartzman's 3-part lecture on Israel's Strategic Position in the Middle East on March 22, 29 and April 12 at 7:30 pm via Zoom*
- *Join us for Passover services on Thursday, April 6 for the Passover Morning Service at 10:00 am, and the Passover Yizkor Service on Wednesday, April 12 at 10:00 am*
- *We are back in person at BHSS for this year's 2nd night Community Seder on Thursday, April 6 at 6:00 pm*
- *Honor those lost in the Holocaust on Yom Hashoah - Tuesday, April 18 at 6:45 pm*
- *Let's celebrate Israel on Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut on Tuesday, April 25 at 7:00 pm*
- *Sisterhood and the Library committee host author A.M. Grotticelli who discusses his book "The Bond" on Sunday, April 30 at 2:00 pm*