

## TEMPLE



## TOPICS

IYAR/SIVAN/TAMMUZ/AV/ELUL 5783

MAY/JUNE/JULY/AUGUST 2023

## Rabbi Ilana's Message

### Judaism - A Love Story

My father says (I'm paraphrasing a bit here) that you don't fall in love with your life partner just once, you choose to love them every day. I think the best relationships with Judaism are like that too. We each decide how much to engage with that world. Part of what we do as a synagogue is to provide as many opportunities as possible for our members to fall in love.

*full article on page 3*

## President's Message

### "Where Does the Time Go?"

It has now been nearly nine years since I wrote that first article as president. Today, as I look around on any given day at BHSS I see people connecting and sharing, teaching and learning, worshipping and singing, and doing all kinds of work to repair our broken world. If I had even the slightest bit to do with facilitating any of it, it was all worthwhile.

*full article on page 2*

## Director of Education

### "I may not have gone where I intended to go..."

When I was young, I remember formal Jewish education was like all that stuff you had to learn - algebra and chemistry - that you thought couldn't possibly matter once you grew up. So I guess I was a typical, short-sighted child... growing up on Cape Cod at that time meant driving at least 20 minutes to meet up with another Jewish kid. And still, rebellious teen that I was, I was sure it wouldn't matter in the long run.

*full article on page 5*



## B'NAI MITZVAH

May 6	Parker Slivka
May 13	Benjamin Rose
May 20	Jaye Mendel
May 27	Samantha Geller
June 3	Eric Sica
June 3	Matthew Levin
June 10	Benjamin Hirsch

## THINGS TO DO:

*more info on back cover and throughout*

- Family Shabbat
- Sisterhood Kindness Chain
- Torah Study
- Sisterhood Shabbat
- Constructive Feedback session
- Tot Shabbat
- Youth Group Creative Service
- Family Fun Day *with*  
**Noah Aronson concert**
- Teacher Appreciation Shabbat/Confirmation
- Shavuot Festival Service and program
- Shavuot Yizkor Service
- Pride Shabbat
- Brotherhood/Social Action/Michelle Mitzvah Group Shabbat
- Boulders Night with Brotherhood



# President's Message

Jen Cole

*Whoa, oh, what I want to know  
Where does the time go?*

— Jerry Garcia/Robert Hunter

When our family joined our synagogue 18 years ago, we were a family of 5 - My husband Matt and me, and our three sons, Aidan, Garrett and Brady. When Aidan (now 27) was entering fourth grade, we enrolled him in what was only the second year of a new and exciting option for religious education, Family School, where students learn alongside their parents or other adult family members. Family School deserves a standalone article for sure, but suffice it to say, it has been a transformative experience. Whether we are studying Hebrew, learning about lifecycle events, tying *tzitzit*, discussing diverse conceptions of God or baking challah, we are a very special community within a community. This option is one of countless offerings that makes BHSS so unique.

As I type these words, my daughter Emily is soon to turn 12. I am savoring her last year as a pre-teen (as from what I have heard from the girl moms, what lies ahead can be tricky) and simultaneously looking ahead to her becoming Bat Mitzvah next May. It is difficult to believe that we have only one Sunday morning session of Family School remaining.

It seems that now, perhaps more than ever, time is flying by and the days simply blend into one another.

As it turns out, Judaism has a remedy.

We currently find ourselves in *Sefirat Ha'Omer*, the Counting of the Omer, which occurs during the 49 days between Passover and Shavuot. Translated literally, an *omer* is a sheaf, or measure of grain, which in ancient times was offered to God as an expression of thanksgiving in the period between our liberation from Egypt and the giving and receiving of the Ten Commandments. Like everything else in Torah, there are multiple levels of meaning and endless spiritual underpinnings to this ritual. As modern-day Reform Jews, we continue this practice of reciting a blessing each evening, largely as an exercise in self-reflection. We remind ourselves that freedom without responsibility is inherently incomplete and our evolution remains unfinished. We count up, rather than count down, to cultivate excitement about what is to come.

The counting of the Omer is a way of slowing time down a bit, of taking the time to noticing the passing of each day and mindfully noticing where we have been, where we are, and where we are headed.

*"Where Does the Time Go?"*

As I wind down my time as a Family School parent, I am also winding down my term as president. It has been an honor and privilege to serve this community. They say it takes a village, and what an amazing village we have. My profound gratitude goes out to Rabbi Ilana and our incredible core staff including Rebecca McVeigh, Iris Greenberg, and Michelle Sherry. When BHSS counts its blessings, you rise to the top of the list. I also want to thank the lay leaders in our community including those who serve on the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees, our committee chairs, the leaders of our auxiliary groups and countless others who work behind the scenes. You have made my job easy and it has been a pleasure to partner with you. Thank you to all of our teachers, with a special shout out to Stacey Coyne who is a rockstar and has made our final year of Family School simply unforgettable. Thank you to Brian Gelfand and Jane Koch for bringing your talents and music to enrich our spiritual experiences, and to Roberto Lara for caring for our building as if it were your own home.

To each and every one of our members - Whether you've been here since the beginning or you've just joined; whether you're deeply entrenched in leadership or here only occasionally; regardless of where your family is in your Jewish journey, please know that we are so very grateful to have you as part of our congregational family and when we imagine our future we proudly count you in.

I stood tall on the shoulders of those presidents who served Beth Haverim, Reform Temple of Suffern-Shir Shalom and BHSS before me, including Stu Turner of recent blessed memory. At the service where we bid farewell to our beloved Stu, Rabbi Elyse Frishman spoke so eloquently about the role of the synagogue president, noting that the position can be *"rife with potential, yet fraught with the possibility of disaster."*

In September 2014 I published my first *Temple Topics* article. I expressed my vision for my presidency was to further the creation of *Kehillah Kedoshah*, sacred community. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these past two years have been extremely challenging. It was difficult to maintain our connection, let alone make progress. Admittedly, at times it felt as if we were leaning more toward the disaster part of the equation as opposed to the potential. I am certain that at times I may have missed the mark, and for this I offer sincere apologies. Not by way of excuse but more of an explanation: It is far more difficult to ensure that congregants' needs are met and our connections remain strong when we can only meet virtually, must wear masks and are required to "socially

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Recently, I was speaking with an old friend, another rabbi's kid who I met on the Israel trip from our Reform Jewish summer camp in the middle of Texas. We've known each other 30 years at this point. I was saying to him that I don't know what people talk about; I've been a rabbi so long that every conversation I have is about Judaism, leads back to Judaism, or relates to Judaism. He laughed—a little too knowingly—and pointed out that I didn't know what normal conversations were like long before I became a rabbi. He has a valid point! At least now, I can bring it back to Judaism—when I was younger, it was just awkward or a little bizarre.

There was a time in high school when I dissuaded a classmate from asking me out by going through my trusty thesaurus and sharing my favorite words with him. You can't make this stuff up.

I am fortunate, now, to have a husband who loves my idiosyncrasies. My father says (I'm paraphrasing a bit here) that you don't fall in love with your life partner just once, you choose to love them every day. I think the best relationships with Judaism are like that too. We each decide how much to engage with that world. Part of what we do as a synagogue is to provide as many opportunities as possible for our members to fall in love.

From Family Fun Day to Shavuot to Shabbat services, Torah Study, gardening, making friends, donating clothing or food, and online offerings—there is something for everyone at any point in our relationship with Judaism. Like any love story, there are ebbs and flows, times when we reevaluate and reconfigure. But like the best relationships, both partners are adaptable and committed.

My personal choice was and continues to be to dive deeply into Judaism, spending my life steeped in our tradition. I think one of the things I love about Judaism is that it has the depth and breadth to be pervasive in our lives. There is no aspect of life, major or minor, that cannot be seen through a Jewish lens or that has not been addressed by Jewish commentary, ancient or contemporary. We will never run out of things to say or opportunities to try.

I choose to love Judaism over and over again. I invite you—wade, dive, plunge, or paddle—discover all there is to love about Judaism.



Rabbi Ilana is inviting you to participate in quarterly feedback sessions relating to holidays, rituals and/or observances of the past quarter. These will be held in the evening both in-person and via Zoom to focus on ways of improving our offerings at BHSS. Please bring actionable solutions and ideas for the future.

Wednesday, May 17 and Tuesday, August 1 – 7:30 pm

*Shavuot Festival  
Service and Program –  
Thursday, May 25 at 7 pm*

*Shavuot Yizkor Service  
Friday, May 26 at 10 am via Zoom*



## BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM 2022-2023

### 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
Religious School Assistant, Laura Miller	201-512-1983	lauramjmillar@gmail.com
Dir. of Youth Programming, Samantha Spencer	551-427-8368	bhssyouth@gmail.com

### OFFICERS

President, Jen Cole	201-891-2438	thecole6@yahoo.com
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

Trustee, David Aarons	201-962-9316	daarons@afd-inc.com
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Trustee, Andy Silver	845-368-4836	asilver320@gmail.com
Trustee, David Wolf	845-357-9119	d.wolftaxman@gmail.com

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS & AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Building & Grounds, Harris Reinstein	201-652-0898	harrisreinstein@msn.com
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Tradition & Culture, Marin Greene	201-725-7343	marinrene@aol.com
Social Action, Jonathan Theodore	917-531-0043	bhsssocialaction@gmail.com
Social Action, Lisa Estrin	201-745-2423	bhsssocialaction@gmail.com
Brotherhood, Jonathan Theodore	917-531-0043	bhssbrotherhood@gmail.com
Sisterhood, Lisa Estrin	201-745-2423	lbestrin@aol.com
Sisterhood, Beth Wiesner	201-857-2272	brw2003@gmail.com
Michelle Mitzvah Group, Steve Simon	201-788-6755	steveoum@verizon.net
Youth Group co-President, Annabel Theodore	845-598-8143	annabel.theodore4@gmail.com
Youth Group co-President, Leah Wolf	845-538-9929	555law555@gmail.com

## Birthdays



May

Emily Cole

Benjamin Feldman

Leah Feldman

Carly Gottlieb

Grant Herrman

Trevor Herrman

Sabine Kieres

Adam Lenchner

Hunter Nitzberg

Stella Nitzberg

Lyla Rosenstock

Lindsay Spungin

Jada Verbel

Alice Viezel



*"I may not have gone  
where I intended to go..."*

## From The Educator

Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh



*"I may not have gone where I intended to go, but  
I think I have ended up where I needed to be."*

- Douglas Adams

When I was young, I remember formal Jewish education was like all that stuff you had to learn - algebra and chemistry - that you thought couldn't possibly matter once you grew up. So I guess I was a typical, short-sighted child.

Sunday school was holiday crafts, food, a little singing, and then you were done for the week. Then, Hebrew school came two days a week, then Bat Mitzvah practice. After my Bat Mitzvah I continued with school and was confirmed in 10th grade, was a leader in my youth group and went with NFTY (North American Federation of Temple Youth) to Israel for a summer. I sang in the choir and my parents were active in synagogue leadership. My parents made sure that everything that could be done, was done to support their daughter's Jewish identity, despite the fact that growing up on Cape Cod at that time meant driving at least 20 minutes to meet up with another Jewish kid. And still, rebellious teen that I was, I was sure it wouldn't matter in the long run.

After high school, I pretty much dropped out of being an "active" Jew. I came back home for the high holidays, spent Passover and Chanukah with my family when it was convenient, and of course I knew I was Jewish because, well, just because. And that was pretty much it for a long time. If I ever thought back on my Jewish experiences as a child, I remembered them mostly as a kind of forced labor, especially the High Holy Days, with new outfits too warm for early fall on the Cape, and listening to what felt like endless speeches and sermons.

When I married and had children, my husband and I felt very strongly that it was important to raise our sons as Jews, to pass along the heritage and traditions that my parents had given to me. Although I have always had Passover seders and lit Chanukah candles in my own home, I knew that they needed a formal Jewish education. At the gentle but firm suggestion of Rabbi Milton Weinberg, z"l, we brought our family here, to what was then Beth Haverim, so that they could begin.

What I found here was so much more than that. I found what my parents had on Cape Cod - friends and colleagues, and a community who welcomed my whole family, both Jewish

and "Jewish-adjacent", and who were happy to have us participate in synagogue life however we felt most comfortable. My sons made new friends, my husband got involved with the Men's Club - he's still the Brotherhood treasurer - and I helped with paperwork and used my degree in Education a little by tutoring in the religious school. Along the way I volunteered in the choir, as bulletin editor and webmaster, Education Committee Chair, trustee, and vice president, and am proud to have co-chaired and/or served in an ex-officio capacity on rabbinic, student rabbinic, and cantorial search committees. As my friend Rabbi Jen Gubitza would say, I am certainly #tragicallyjewish.

Our family joined about 26 years ago. My boys are now 37, 33, and 28 and they all know that they are Jewish - it's just part of who they are. I am so proud of each, unique one of them. And this community helped them get to where they are, because it helped me get to where I am. Along the way I discovered that all those amazing Jewish opportunities I had as a child really did matter after all. They made me part of who I have become. I thought I came here for my children, but guess what happened? In the end, I came here for me.

If you recognize a little bit of your family in my story, let me know. I'd love to compare notes.

I am so honored to be finishing my 20th year in this position, and strive every day to help you find that Jewish education at BHSS will teach your children in a way that helps you carry on your family traditions, in a safe and warm community.

As you will read elsewhere in this *Temple Topics* issue, the Education Committee chair torch is being passed from one amazing leader to another. I cannot express my gratitude sufficiently to Lauren Einhorn for her friendship and partnership, and I'm excited to welcome Ronni Seif as our new chair.

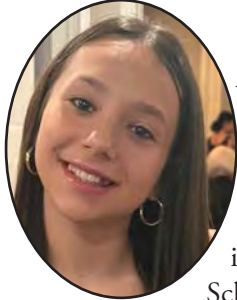
I hope YOU find your one level of comfort in participating in the life of BHSS. Come and join the Education Committee, or even just bring the kids to a service on a Friday night. Summer is an amazing time for Friday night services - if the weather cooperates, we are outdoors. And whether outside or indoors, the ice cream truck comes!

As we enter our summer break and begin planning for September 2023, I wish you fun, relaxation, good health, and lots of time together with family and friends.



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

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**Parker Slivka – May 6, 2023**

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Dana, Father, Barry, Brother, Jaden, 17, Sister, Remi, 15..... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ..... Her interests include dance, shopping, and spending time with family and friends. “When I’m older I want to do something that involves fashion. I am excited to celebrate this special occasion and be a part of a meaningful tradition with my family and friends. For my community service project, I organized a dog walk and collected donations to be allocated to local pet shelters.”



**Benjamin Rose – May 13, 2023**

Lives in River Vale, New Jersey. Mother, Nora, Father, Craig, Sisters, Maya, 16, and Alayna, 6 ..... is a 7th grader at Holdrum Middle School ..... His interests include football, lacrosse, and sneakers. “I want to live life to the fullest without any regrets. I am proud to be Jewish and grateful for the freedom to be able to celebrate my Bar Mitzvah. I volunteered at the Jewish Home in River Vale, spending time with residents and talking with them about their lives.”



**Jaye Mendel – May 20, 2023**

Lives in Ramsey, New Jersey. Mother, Dori, Father, Mat, Brother, Wade, 15 ..... is a 7th grader at Smith Middle School ..... Her interests include playing soccer, lacrosse, volleyball, skiing, and hanging out with friends. “I would like to be successful and maybe work in the field of business when I grow up. I am excited to celebrate this occasion with my friends and family. I will be collecting toys, crafts, and games for the Child Life department at Hackensack University Medical Center. They provide a much needed distraction for kids who are going through treatment at the hospital.”



**Samantha Geller – May 27, 2023**

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Stacey, Father, Justin, Sister, Charlie, 9 ..... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Lake Middle School ..... Her interests include dancing, skiing, and spending time with friends. “I am excited for my Bat Mitzvah and to spend this special day with my family and friends. I volunteered with the adaptive ski program at Mount Snow to help those with disabilities. Skiing is something that I love and I am happy to help others experience it as well. I also volunteered with an organization to help rescue dogs get adopted.”

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distance,” when we are unable to break bread together or share an embrace at an oneg. These past few months when many of our restrictions have been lifted have brought much relief and an abundance of joy.

It has now been nearly nine years since I wrote that first article as president. Today, as I look around on any given day at BHSS I see people connecting and sharing, teaching and learning, worshipping and singing, and doing all kinds of work to repair our broken world. If I had even the slightest bit to do with facilitating any of it, it was all worthwhile. As the lessons of the Omer teach us, there is always work

to be done. We are fortunate to have new leaders emerging including Linda Schwartz, who will be stepping in as our next president. Linda has already made wonderful contributions to BHSS, and I am overjoyed that she will be assuming this role that I have so treasured. Linda will be leading alongside trusted and experienced officers and Board members, as well as new faces who will offer fresh perspectives and energy to our circle of leadership. A circle where, by the way, there is always room for more to be counted...

*L'Shalom,*  
Jen Cole, President



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



**Matthew Levin – June 3, 2023**

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Elizabeth, Father, Jeffrey, Sister, Emily, 15 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... His interests include listening to and playing piano and trombone, doing puzzles, playing games, and hanging out with friends. "I would like to be an engineer. I have been practicing for a long time and I am looking forward to completing my Bar Mitzvah service. I am proud of my accomplishment and I look forward to celebrating with my family and friends. I have been playing music for many years. I began in fourth grade playing the trombone, and I am now playing in the school band, the jazz band and the marching band. I also began playing the piano. I feel very lucky that the Suffern music department has enriched my life so greatly. I chose to raise money to give to an underfunded music department at a high school in the Bronx. I hope to provide the chance for students to get the same opportunities that I have been given here in Suffern."



**Eric Sica – June 3, 2023**

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Judy, Father, Tom, Brother, Ryan, 16 ..... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ..... His interests include baseball, golf, skiing, and cooking. "I would love to be a chef. I am very excited to share my special day with my friends and family. I love animals, especially dogs, and love to cook. With a friend I was able to do both. We made homemade dog and cat treats to give to a few different animal shelters in the area. We were able to see some of the animals enjoy them as well."



**Ben Hirsch – June 10, 2023**

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Allison, Father, Noel ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... His interests include music, theatre, and playing guitar. "I would like to be involved in the music industry, both on the performance and production side. I am very much looking forward to celebrating my Bar Mitzvah with my friends and family. I plan to raise money to donate to a charity that will help provide musical instruments and lessons to students who do not have access to these resources."

## Candlelighting Times:



May 5, 2023 Emor 7:38 pm  
May 12, 2023 B'har/B'chukotai 7:46 pm  
May 19, 2023 B'midbar 7:52 pm  
May 26, 2023 Naso I 7:59 pm  
  
June 2, 2023 Naso II 8:04 pm  
June 9, 2023 B'ha-a lot'cha 8:09 pm  
June 16, 2023 Sh'lach L'cha 8:12 pm  
June 23, 2023 Korach 8:13 pm  
June 30, 2023 Chukat/Balak 8:14 pm

July 7, 2023 Pinchas 8:12 pm  
July 14, 2023 Matot/Masei 8:09 pm  
July 21, 2023 D'varim 8:04 pm  
July 28, 2023 Va'etchanan 7:58 pm

August 4, 2023 Eikev 7:51 pm  
August 11, 2023 Re'eh 7:42 pm  
August 18, 2023 Shof'tim I 7:32 pm  
August 25, 2023 Ki Teitzei 7:22 pm



# May Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	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 Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Emor 10 am Parker Slivka
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9 am 6th trad & FS Noon Menschmakers Escape Room 7 pm Healing Svce via Zoom	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Exec Comm MMG mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir		7 pm Tefilot Sisterhood Shabbat	B'har/ B'chukotai 10 am Benjamin Rose
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		noon Torah Study via Zoom 4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board Mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Constructive Feedback Qtrly		5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 7 pm Tefilot Youth Group Creative Service	B'midbar 10 am Jaye Mendel
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Noon - 3 "Let There Be Love" Family Fun Day! 3 - 4 Noah Aronson in Concert		noon Torah Study via Zoom 7:30 pm Music Committee	7:30 pm Adult Choir	7 pm Shavuot Festival Service and Program	10 am Yizkor via Zoom 7 pm Tefilot Confirmation Teacher Appreciation Shavuot	Naso I 10 am Samantha Geller
28	29	30	31			
	OFFICE CLOSED	noon Torah Study via Zoom	7:30 pm Adult Choir			

# June Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
					6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Naso II 10 am Matthew Levin & Eric Sica
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		noon Torah Study via Zoom	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot Pride Shabbat	B'ha'lot'cha 10 am Ben Hirsch
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		noon Torah Study via Zoom 7:30 pm Exec Comm MMG mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir		5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 6:30 pm Tefilot Brotherhood/ Social Action/ Michelle Mitzvah Service	Sh'lach L'cha 6 pm Brotherhood Night at the Boulders Game
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		noon Torah Study via Zoom 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot Board Installation Service	Korach
25	26	27	28	29	30	
		noon Torah Study via Zoom 7:30 pm Music Comm.	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot	

# FAMILY FUN DAY

♥  
LET THERE  
BE LOVE

SUNDAY, MAY 21

*(rain date June 4)*

FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 12PM



*Entertainment!*

*featuring the music of NRG*

*Food Trucks!*



*featuring Callahan's, Rolling Pita & Sweet Ice Queen*

*Games! Inflatables!*

**SPECIAL GUEST ARTIST-  
NOAH ARONSON**

Concert to close out the day! You don't want to miss this!!!!



*Adults \$36/pp – Kids \$18/pp*

*Kids under 13/free*

*RSVP no later than May 12*

*Everyone welcome!*



**SHABBAT  
family  
SERVICES**

**Fridays, May 5 and  
June 2 at 6:30 pm**

**Join Rabbi Ilana for our  
Shabbat Family Service!**

We hope you join us for this  
fun, music-filled service for the whole family  
to participate in and enjoy!

join us for Oneg Shabbat  
right after the service

**Everyone Welcome!**

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!



**Adult sizes  
ONLY**

Gently used  
or new please

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  
Steve Simon - (201) 788-6755 - steveoum@verizon.net  
Jonathan Theodore - (917) 531-0043 - theodore.central@gmail.com

# Tot Shabbat!


**Fridays, May 19 and June 16 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!*

**May is  
Shavuot!**

**June is  
Honoring  
Parents!**



## LIBRARY COMMITTEE

*The Library Committee continues their new project "Finding Your Jewish Roots." We are speaking to member of our congregation to share the stories of their ancestors. Where are they from? How did they get here?*

*Sheryl Ives and Sherry Levitt spoke with Library Committee and Choir member Lynn Zall, (right.) Her musical endeavors are no surprise...that kind of talent seems to run in the family!*



### LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

Lynn and Mike Zall have been members of our congregation for decades. Lynn's story of how she came to BHSS goes all the way back to how her mother came to America. Lynn's grandmother Mitzi came to the US with her daughter Edith, in September of 1939. Mitzi's husband, Leo, had a Polish passport and could not leave Europe. Mitzi and Edith had Austrian passports and were able to depart for the United States from Antwerp, Belgium. Two years later Leo finally made it to the United States.

Mitzi and Edith had an address for relatives living in the Bronx. When they arrived in New York City they were told what train to take to get to the address in the Bronx. They accomplished this without knowing any English! The very next day Edith's cousin, with whom she was now living, took Edith to the Tremont Temple to junior choir practice. At the choir practice, 14-year-old Edith noticed a young boy who seemed to attract the attention of the other teenagers. When he spoke, the other kids laughed. Edith assumed that he was funny. Though there was a language barrier, they started dating. Edith was a classically trained pianist and the young man named Irving played the organ, accordion and piano. Irving was planning to go to Music and Art high school and Edith the same. They were both accepted and they dated throughout high school.

After graduation in 1944, Irving was drafted. He returned from Europe in 1946, and Edith and Irving

were married. They lived with his parents for 4 years. Lynn was born 9 1/2 months after the wedding. Irving was the organist at the Tremont Temple and Lynn sang in the children's choir.

Irving was a professional musician. He played piano and accordion for weddings and bar mitzvahs. He also gave piano lessons. Lynn's mom went to Parson's School of Design and she became an interior designer. She had her own business in New York City and the surrounding suburbs.

In 1968 Lynn filled out an application for "Meet a Mate". Mike also filled out an application for "Meet a Mate". There was no computer dating in those days. Lynn and Mike were matched, and two years later they were married. Mike was a chemical engineer when he decided to change careers. He entered law school, and he is now a lawyer.

Lynn and Mike lived in Manhattan and then moved to Philadelphia for Mike's first job as a lawyer. Their daughter Rebecca was born in Philadelphia. Their son Jeremy was born in Westchester. The four members of the Zall family moved to a beautiful home in Suffern decorated by Lynn's mom.

Soon after their move to Suffern, Lynn joined ORT and at one of the meetings Rabbi Elise Frishman spoke about, "how to deal with your children at Christmas". Lynn was impressed with Rabbi Frishman and Lynn and Mike joined the Reform Temple of Suffern (RTOS-Shir Shalom). When RTOS-Shir Shalom merged with Beth Haverim they came to Mahwah with the merger, and have been members of BHSS ever since. Lynn is on our Library Committee, and also sings in the choir.

In 2016 Lynn and Mike went to Europe, including Vienna and Austria. Lynn's mom had drawn a map for them to follow to get to her apartment building. The map was absolutely accurate. They went into the lobby of the building and they said it must have been beautiful when her mom and her grandparents lived there.

# SISTERHOOD

*“True sisterhood allows us to see the best of who we are in the eyes of another woman.”*

It's spring, and the women of Sisterhood know it is the season of new beginnings. We've shared some amazing events, and hope you were a part of them, too. In March, we took a break from all our Passover prep for the Miriam Seder. If you haven't participated, you should know it's an evening for exploring our matriarchal heritage, the contributions of Jewish women throughout history, and our own struggles and achievements. There's a warmth in that room that defies any cold day. Thank you to Rabbi Ilana for leading us in another not-to-be-forgotten evening.

April 30 brought us another epic event: we were privileged to meet A.J. Grotticelli, the author of a fascinating memoir called “The Bond.” The book took us on the author's childhood journey through the foster care system, and the bonds he made with people who came in and out of his life. We learned so much!

This May brings the next edition of the Sisterhood Kindness Chain. Right before Mother's Day, we each get the chance to make new friends and re-connect with our long-time ones, when we bring a “kindness” to another sister; and another sister brings one to us! What a great way to get to know your sister BHSS women, and to let someone special know you are thinking about her.

Now, as we get ready to wind down the year, please join us for the final two Sisterhood events. **May 12 brings Sisterhood Shabbat**, another chance for us to celebrate the contributions of the wonderful women in our lives, and add our reflections to our worship. Would you like to be part of the service? There's room for everyone. Just watch your weekly emails.

Finally, our Sisterhood Installation Dinner will be on Monday, June 5 at Delpino restaurant in Montvale. We will celebrate our outgoing officers and board members, and welcome the 2023-24 board. Mostly, it's an evening full of fun and friendship. Be there!

A poster for the Sisterhood of BHSS Kindness Chain. The top half has a yellow background with the text "SISTERHOOD OF BHSS" in pink and "KINDNESS CHAIN" in large blue letters. To the right is a graphic of colorful heart-shaped links. A pink oval says "Back by popular demand!". The bottom half has a pink background with white text. It says "Sunday, May 7" in large letters, followed by "Express your gratitude to Sisterhood members by participating in the Sisterhood Kindness Chain." Then, "Please email Stacey Coyne at staceycoy@aol.com by April 13 to participate. Please note any allergies or scheduling conflicts." Next, "Once you decide to give you will also receive! We will send you detailed instructions including the name and address of the person you will be linked to. In this spirit, we kindly ask that you make a \$5 donation to the Center for Hope and Safety." Then, "Donation options: via Venmo to @Lisa-Lamster; via Zelle to lisalams@optonline.net, or a check made out to Sisterhood of BHSS and mailed to Lisa Lamster, 1053 Ash Drive, Mahwah, NJ 07430." Finally, "The donation for the total will then be sent by Sisterhood."

SISTERHOOD OF BHSS

## KINDNESS CHAIN

Back by popular demand!

### Sunday, May 7

Express your gratitude to Sisterhood members by participating in the Sisterhood Kindness Chain.

Please email Stacey Coyne at [staceycoy@aol.com](mailto:staceycoy@aol.com) by April 13 to participate.  
Please note any allergies or scheduling conflicts.

Once you decide to give you will also receive! We will send you detailed instructions including the name and address of the person you will be linked to. In this spirit, we kindly ask that you make a \$5 donation to the Center for Hope and Safety.

Donation options: via Venmo to @Lisa-Lamster; via Zelle to [lisalams@optonline.net](mailto:lisalams@optonline.net), or a check made out to Sisterhood of BHSS and mailed to Lisa Lamster, 1053 Ash Drive, Mahwah, NJ 07430.

The donation for the total will then be sent by Sisterhood.

Before we finish our co-presidencies, we would both like to thank the Board members who have worked with us to make this a memorable year, the Sisterhood members who gave their all making everything joyful, and the entire BHSS community for supporting the work Sisterhood proudly does. On to the next chapter!

Lisa Estrin and Beth Wiesner  
Co-Presidents

# BHSS YOUTH GROUPS

*Hello everyone!*

Can you believe we're already nearing the end of the school year?

A huge thank you goes out to the Senior Youth Group and Brotherhood for putting on an amazing Purim Carnival in March - it was a total blast! Thank you for all of your food donations and feedback.

We would love to have you all at our **Creative Service on Friday, May 19**. See you at 7:00 p.m. Bring a friend!



We are always collecting clothing, shoes, and canned goods for the Midnight Run. As you clean out your closets, feel free to leave some of these goods in the education wing. We will do another Midnight Run next school year, and hope you can join us!

We also hope to see you at our end-of-year events! Stay tuned for more information about these and elections. Look in your email, the weekly BHSS newsletters and on social media.

As always, if you have any event ideas or just want to chat, you can reach us at [bhssyouth@gmail.com](mailto:bhssyouth@gmail.com).

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and safe summer!

Sam Spencer

Director of Informal Youth Programming

Friday, May 26 at 7 pm

Join Us to Thank and Celebrate  
our Religious School Staff!

**TEACHER  
APPRECIATION SHABBAT**

<i>Staff:</i>	<i>Morei Derech/ Tutors:</i>
Rebecca Berger	Hannah Altman
Cindy Buchalter	Matthew Altman
Tiffany Cohen	Rebecca Blankman
Stacey Coyne	Adam Buchalter
Sheila Groskin	Danielle Kissin
Eli Katriel	Brian Ritchin*
Jane Koch	Annabel Theodore
Sammi Lamster	Leah Wolf*
	<small>*Graduating Seniors</small>

## Birthdays

### June

Evan Harris Aarons  
Reid Forman  
Samantha Geller  
Margo Jackter  
Maya Freddie Kaufman  
Samuel Kingsley  
Matthew Levin  
Quinn McVeigh  
Rebecca Nanus  
Dylan Nielsen  
Zachary Rein  
Joshua Rosa  
Brooke Rosenkrantz  
Julia Sendroff  
Eric Sica  
Eliana Silver  
Joelle Strow  
Elliot Sugalski  
Ruby Sugalski  
Ashton Tell  
Madison Torrente  
Jordan Weeks  
Dylan Zalensky  
Keira Zweig



### July

Duke Crockford  
Benjamin Dworkin  
Zachary Flanz  
Spencer Greene  
Benjamin Hirsch  
Lily Jackter  
Adam Knott  
Linda Lenchner  
Sasha Melman  
Simone Melman  
Levi Meyers  
Ryan Root  
Jordana Slackman  
Talia Viesel

# MICHELLE MITZVAH GROUP

Think back to the High Holidays: How many of us wanted to do a mitzvah and “get involved” to usher in 5783? And, after a few months, things got busy, and you decided to add this to the New Year’s Resolutions- like going to the gym- to usher in 2023. And now, as school is winding down and the summer months are upon us, we still want to get involved and do good. You still have that chance. Here are some options to help get your “mitzvah” on for the summer.

**Donate Blood** - “Always give 100%, unless you’re donating blood.” There is always a need for people to donate blood, and blood products (plasma, platelets, and red blood cells). Personally, I always donate platelets as much as I am able to. All donations are welcome. Two good things about donating- 1) free juice and cookies after your donation, and 2) no “honey-do” list as you need to rest and relax and drink plenty of fluids. Donate blood, free juice and cookies, and I then am able to take the rest of the day off? Where do I sign up? Right here- [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org).

**Donate Food** - During the school year, students faced with food insecurity receive “Snack Packs” (care packages) for the weekend. This allows them to eat so they do not arrive at school Monday morning feeling malnourished. But what happens when school is not in session? To help alleviate this, please consider donating food to the Center for Food Action. You are always welcome to drop off the food at the synagogue in the baskets by both the Religious School entrance and the front lobby.

Below is the list of items most requested. You can always find additional information at [www.cfanj.org](http://www.cfanj.org).

**Food Deliveries** - During the week, members of Michelle Mitzvah will pick up food at Fresh Market in Montvale, NJ, and drop it off at either Center for Food Action, Oasis in Paterson, or Christ Episcopal Church in Suffern, NY.

**Soup Kitchen** - Speaking of Christ Episcopal Church, every Sunday, we help serve meals to our neighbors in need through their Feeding Ministry. Volunteers provide the entire meal, consisting of an entrée, beverage, snack, and fruit (usually 20 lunches) “take-out” style to guests from 11:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Please sign up for a date this summer by contacting Steve Simon

**Community Garden** - How many benefits are there to gardening? Let me count the ways. Among them, it reduces stress, it’s good for your heart, provides Vitamin D, and makes you happy. And all the produce is donated to the Food Pantry at Christ Episcopal Church, as it is their primary, sometimes their only, source of fresh produce. Come get your hands dirty at the garden located just to the right of the main entrance to the synagogue.

Those are just some of the ways to get involved and get your “mitzvah” on. And while there is no deadline, just remember, like going to the gym, the sooner you go, the quicker you will see results.

For questions and inquiries, please contact Steve Simon via email at [steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:steveoum@verizon.net) or call/text at 201-788-6755.

- Supermarket Gift Cards
- Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, etc.)
- Canned Hearty Soups
- Canned Vegetables
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Tomato Sauce
- Toothpaste, Toothbrush & Dental Floss

- Cold Cereal (low sugar) and Oatmeal
- Powdered Milk and/or Boxed Milk, such as Parmalat
- Canned Fruits
- Instant Potatoes
- 100% Juice
- Baby Formula & Diapers sizes 4, 5 & 6
- Bar or Bottled Soap
- Canned Dog Food & Canned Cat Food

# Sisterhood Installation Dinner



**Monday, June 5 at 6:30 pm**  
**Delpino in Montvale, NJ.**



A SPECIAL  
*Sisterhood  
Shabbat*

**Friday, May 12 at 7 PM**

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



## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

### Birthdays



Sophie Wolf Baker

Ellie Berin

Lyla Berry

Hannah Cohen

Lillian Corsaro

Aidan Defrino

Mason Defrino

Sydney Flanz

Abigail Ginsberg

Hannah Ginsberg

Teague Hink

Lyanna Ikin

Sydney Kaplan

Sawyer Meyers

Mason Morris

Emily Nanus

Skylar Rosenkrantz

Cayla Slackman

Hudson Smith

Emma Somberg

Harrison Sugalski

Sloane Tell

Drew Tetefsky

Andrew Weiner

Grace Weiner

Zoe Viesel

Sienna Zweig

*Thank you to all of our families for helping us maintain our wonderful school community by bringing your children – and Family School parents coming with your children – to classes this year. As the Education Committee chair for over ten years, I have been proud to lead our dedicated group of volunteers. And there is always room for more on the committee, so please reach out to join us.*

*I am also grateful that as I step down, Ronni Seif has agreed to step up. I will leave it to her to introduce herself below. I know the Education Committee is in good hands!*

-Lauren Einhorn, Education Committee Chair

What do you do when you hear that after a decade as Education Chair that Lauren Einhorn is stepping down? As member of the Education Committee who has over that past decade witnessed Lauren's expertise using her imagination, wit, and plain old common sense to deal whatever issues have arisen along the way; you wish the next person in line --- good luck! What happens if Rebecca asks you to step into those shoes? Run? Politely Decline? Say we're moving? Nope, none of the above and as you've probably already guessed; yes, I said, yes.

As we all already know, Rebecca is smart. She's reeled me in slowly but steadily over time. It started with my volunteering for little things at school like cutting fruit for the Tu Bishvat Seders or heating up latkes for Hannukah. Then while I was waiting in the hallway for pickup one day, she said, "Would you be interested in sitting on the Education Committee?" As a Montebello Elementary parent, I volunteered for the PTA, ran the book fair and Fall Festival, and later became president of Suffern Central's Education Foundation, the REACH Foundation. I mean, why not? My kids were in religious school and Rebecca said meetings were once or twice a year, maybe a few emails; this is something I could handle.

Fast forward, my son Bobby is a 2023 graduate of Purdue University, and will continue there next year as a candidate for his Masters in Mechanical Engineering. My daughter, Mady (that rhymes with "lady"), is Class of 2025 at Purdue studying Civil Engineering. Now the only Seif attending religious school is me, as I study to become an adult Bat Mitzvah in March 2024. Having spent the last few years at home with my husband, David, I'm not ready to put myself in the 'empty nester' category, but I will cop to having some extra time on my hands now that I'm not attending softball, basketball, or robotic competitions on the regular. There's only so much bad golf a girl can play, and we do live in a cold weather climate.

Having branched out and participated in Tradition and Culture last year as well as joining the Membership Committee this year I am looking forward to my new role as Education Committee chair. After the past few years, I'm looking forward to re-connecting with committee members I haven't seen outside of my computer screen as well as getting to know some new folks that have decided to participate. I know Lauren has cast a large shadow (and that's not just because she's taller than me), but one of the many things I've learned as a member of our congregation it is that it takes a village and should I have any questions, I think my biggest problem will be figuring out who to call among the many awesome and generous people I've grown to know.

Ronni Seif, Incoming Education Committee Chair  
seif4email@gmail.com

# *Good & Welfare*

## from and for the congregation

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### *Condolences to:*

**Ruth Turner** on the death of her husband, **Stu Turner**  
**Audrey Flynn** on the death of her mother, Phyllis Landau  
**Elyse Burrows** on the death of her cousin, Alan Moskin  
**Leslie Sapienza** on the death of her mother, Rosalind Kamlet  
**Benjamin Steinman** on the death of his father, Jerry Steinman  
**Phil Moss** on the death of his brother-in-law, Charles Pesin  
**Ian Coyne** on the death of his niece, Lauren Coyne

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

**Ed Vogel**

### *Welcome New Members:*

**Janis Schwartz**, Mahwah, NJ  
**Robin and Benjamin Steinman**, Montebello, NY

### *Mazel Tov*

to our B'nai Mitzvah class of  
2022-2023/5782-5783

**Alexis Harris**  
**Sam Roth**  
**Jaden Bugni**  
**Brooke Reissman**  
**Eli Wunder**  
**Jane Grossman**  
**Reid Grossman**  
**Gavin Shecter**  
**Avery Braunstein**  
**Hailey Berwitz**  
**Madison Dworkin**  
**Sophie Smith**  
**Hailey Feldman**  
**Tyler Grossman**  
**Samantha Eisenberg**  
**Colby Berkowicz**  
**Bryce Ruggiero**  
**Reid Sendroff**  
**Noa Kaufman**  
**Samone Kaufman**  
**Samantha Kotz**  
**Parker Slivka**  
**Benjamin Rose**  
**Jaye Mendel**  
**Samantha Geller**  
**Eric Sica**  
**Matthew Levin**  
**Benjamin Hirsch**



*Mazel Tov*  
to the Confirmation Class  
of 5783:

**Adam Buchalter**  
**Gabrielle Heffernan**

*Mazel Tov*  
to our Kadimah Graduate  
**Leah Wolf**  
and to all of our  
**BHSS High School** and  
**College Graduates!**

### *Thank you to:*

**Meri Senchak**  
for creating beautiful bimah baskets  
for us throughout the year!

## Meet the Member Congregational stories

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*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.*

### Sheryl & Joel Ives



Our fathers, Charles Sankel and Benjamin Iskowitz Ives, both recited Torah at their Bar Mitzvahs just about 100 years ago in 1923.

We were able to trace the paper trail of Sheryl's family in Galicia and Russia/Ukraine to the early 1800's, and my family in Poland and Romania to the early 1700's.

Sheryl's DNA indicates that she is 100% Ashkenazi, and I'm the same with possibly some Sephardic (Spanish) ancestors. So, our Jewish ancestry probably goes back at least 2500 years to the Second Temple times in Jerusalem.

By a miracle of chance, our families survived due to hundreds of ancestors who were able to live and procreate through the ages while maintaining a Jewish identity. This continued to modern times where Sheryl and I met in the East Bronx in the 1950's and continued our relationship at James Monroe High School and CCNY and, we later married and lived on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx and then Co-op City before moving to Fair Lawn.

Sheryl's grandfather, Solomon Korsunsky, and my grandfather Kaddish Kaplan were classically observant Jews but, for some reason they didn't teach about their Jewish heritage or pass their knowledge to us, except at once-a-year gatherings during Passover where they read endlessly in a language that we didn't understand before we were allowed to eat. In retrospect, it seemed that automatically we would continue being practicing Jews; however that didn't work for us. Sheryl never had religious training. Her mother was an atheist. My parents sent me to an orthodox synagogue for only a few months where I learned to read the Haftarah in transliterated English. My family wasn't part of a congregation because we couldn't afford the dues. There was a break in the centuries long chain of synagogue-attending Jews in both our bloodlines. This void probably started in 1923 after our fathers became Bar Mitzvah and continued into the 1950's when our grandparents died. So, from that point on, about 30 years transpired and those in our families rarely stepped foot in a synagogue, although our world stopped on Yom Kippur. For us, this day was the only representation of our Jewishness and an opportunity to stay home from school and hang out with friends.

After moving to Fair Lawn, Sheryl announced that we needed to join a synagogue for our sons Brian and Steven. At that point in our lives, we had no religious training and the only connection to the organized Jewish world was that I played softball for a B'nai B'rith team in NYC. We were lucky that Temple Avoda welcomed us in Fair Lawn. It brought us back to Judaism! We learned what it was to be Reform Jews and became involved with a congregation. At one of my first experiences during the high holidays, the rabbi's sermon started with the words, "we all come back to the synagogue year after year." I'll always remember that moment since I recall thinking that it was the first time as an adult that I had ever attended a high holiday service.

Although there were many outstanding leaders at Temple Avoda, it couldn't survive within the changing demographics, and it never reached the critical mass of dedicated people needed for a congregation to prosper. Regrettably, Temple Avoda was closed down and the building was purchased by the Chassidim. This set us on a search for a new congregation and led us to BHSS. In our research, we attended services at most of the Reform synagogues in the region in order to make this important decision; however the combination of the rabbi, the vibrant congregation, and the fact that our niece Beth Dubiel attended BHSS made the decision easy.

We've come very far in repairing the break in Jewish continuity for our families. We have made many friends at BHSS and have been blessed with inspirational religious leaders with whom Sheryl and I feel that we have a personal connection, and a truly outstanding temple administration and ongoing stream of amazing leadership.

During the years my interest in Jewish history, holocaust research, and genealogy has intensified and I've been fortunate to have been the architect of a few synagogues along the way. Sheryl has been involved with the synagogue board and library committee, "Book and a Bagel" and Social Action Committee and is often present when members of the congregation need a helping hand. We have travelled to Israel and Poland with BHSS. We have found a home for ourselves and our Jewish identity at BHSS. There is a lot more to come and, oh yes, I still play softball in a Bnai B'rith league.

# 👁 Contributions 👁

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## *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

in memory of Charles Pesin - *Phil Moss*

in appreciation of all you have done for our family  
- *Ken Levine & Family*

in commemoration of the yahrzeits of  
Harry and Rose Friedman - *Janet & Ron Javer*

## *Educators Discretionary Fund*

in memory of Loretta Becker, Joel's Mother - *Irma Becker*

## *Life Fund*

to Leslie Sapienza and Family, in memory  
of her mother, Rosalind Kamlet  
- *Lisa Lamster*  
- *Barbara Lacher*  
- *Gloria Leder*  
- *Lisa Estrin*  
- *Irma Becker*

in commemoration of the Yahrzeit of Yair Kissin's father  
- *Yair Kissin*

to Leslie Kirzner, in memory of Frances  
Larson, with our condolences - *Karen & Bruce Silverman*

in memory of the Yahrzeits of Barbara  
Burghardt & Herman Ashkanazy - *Charles Burghardt*

to Al and Gail Schlosser, in their honor - *John Holland*

to Benj and Robin Steinman, in memory of Jerry Steinman  
- *Barbara Lacher*

in memory of Essie Greenzweig  
- *Marilyn & Irwin Haberman*

with thanks - *Janice Smith*

to Phil Moss, in memory of Charles Pesin  
- *Gail & Ranan Wichler*

in memory of our loved ones - *Roberta Alter*

to Jen Cole and family, in memory of Gloria Goldberg  
- *Deborah & Jeff Klein*  
- *Jane & Eric Koch*  
- *the Bennett - Jones family*  
- *the Bizub Family*  
- *the Calabrese family*  
- *the Edwards family*  
- *the Elgin family*  
- *the Giampa family*  
- *the Keith family*  
- *the McKenna family*  
- *the Murray family*  
- *the Pane family*  
- *the Pappas family*  
- *the Puglisi family*  
- *the Viaggiano family*  
- *the Young family*

to Jeff Graubard, in memory of Florence Graubard  
- *Harvey Weinberg*

in memory of David Goldfarb - *Joel Goldfarb*

in memory of the Yahrzeit of Barbara Moss - *Phil Moss*

in honor of my great granddaughters, Thaila  
Asch-Ortiz and Emilia Asch-Ortiz - *Joyce Keshner*

to the Feldman family, in honor of Hailey's Bat Mitzvah  
- *Jane & Eric Koch*  
- *Lisa Lamster*

in commemoration of the yahrzeits of parents  
Betty Wildman & Karl Wildman - *Ariela Wichler*

in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Paula Tenenbaum  
- *Mel Tenenbaum*

to Francine Gattow, in memory of Judy Schaffel  
- *Joel Goldfarb*

in commemoration of the yahrzeits of  
Sylvia Mandel and Noah Mandel - *Arlene & Rich Mandel*

in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Paul Jeanette  
- *Sandi Jeanette*

to Nancy Teichman, in memory of her dear sister  
- *the BHSS choir*

# 🦋 Contributions 🦋

## Tree of Life

in honor of Jessica Lamster's graduation  
from college-Mazel Tov!

in honor of Joshua Lamster's graduation  
from high school-Mazel Tov!

## Center for Food Action

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

Reid Sendroff  
Bryce Ruggiero  
Sammi Eisenberg

## Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge

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

Reid Sendroff  
Bryce Ruggiero  
Colby Berkowitz

## 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!**

## NOTES FROM MUSIC

Hello everyone!

The *Shir* (song) is loud and strong at BHSS! You can hear it at religious school, at services, and at the many special programs throughout the year. Our 2022-2023 season is coming to an end but not without a big musical finale! **Noah Aronson is coming to BHSS!** He will be performing as part of **Family Fun Day** on **May 21**. Please look out for details in the BHSS weekly emails. You won't want to miss it!

Our committee does not meet during the summer, but I am always available to chat if you have an idea about programming or a question about what we do. If you would like to help in the planning events, new members are always welcome. We meet via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. Email me at [niberger@aol.com](mailto:niberger@aol.com).

Our choir rehearses throughout the summer. Here is your chance to join in the fun. They are always looking for new members. No previous experience or knowledge of Hebrew is required. Contact Michelle at the synagogue office for details.

*Musically yours,*

*Nora Berger*



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 Wednesdays.

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

# BROTHERHOOD

What does Brotherhood mean to our congregation?

Brotherhood is one of three major fundraising and leadership groups within our congregation at Beth Haverim Shir Shalom. Simple.

What does this mean? We do know that Brotherhood builds the sukkah each year, has an open fire pit and makes smores in the fall and winter, hosts a suite at the New York Boulders each year, meets once a month for dinner, once a month for breakfast, and we also host an annual Hanukkah dinner/party. Wonderful.

But that's not all. Brotherhood co-sponsors many other activities. We sell hamantaschen and give the proceeds to the Youth Group on Purim. We collect clothing and coats and other items year-round in conjunction with our Youth Group and deliver them to Midnight Run to distribute directly to the homeless community in NYC. Twice a year we participate in Midnight Run, where we are actively out on the streets making a difference in the lives of others.

But that's not all. Brotherhood supports Social Action, Michelle Mitzvah and Sisterhood in many social action events, supports the BHSS Community Garden, and so much more at BHSS and in the communities at large.

Brotherhood is one of the many supports that holds our congregation high. It's not what we do for the community, but it is about creating a community within our congregation where brothers and sisters can get together and have a safe place to express themselves, relax and do good for others and ourselves.

We are grateful for our members, both existing and new, and would like to invite everyone at BHSS to check out some of our events, come to a meeting, participate in a community building event and strengthen our position within our BHSS Community.

If you would like to learn more, or become part of our email chain, please reach out to us at [president@bhssbrotherhood.org](mailto:president@bhssbrotherhood.org) or [bhssbrotherhood@gmail.com](mailto:bhssbrotherhood@gmail.com).

We don't have a president, or a formal board. We do have a bunch of past presidents and dedicated people who participate and help us do good in the community.

We are BHSS Brotherhood. Repairing the World, one Mitzvah at a time.

Sincerely yours,

— Legion of Past Presidents

PS – please look out for our upcoming events!



## SOCIAL ACTION

BHSS's Social Action Committee has many exciting events taking place in the coming months. We hope you can participate in any or all of these events listed below:

1. As a result of Tu B'Shevat committee meetings, Social Action has become even more focused on tending to the **BHSS Garden** so it continues to thrive and grow hearty produce brought to nearby community food banks and soup kitchens. Due to a great turnout of BHSS congregational volunteers, mulch was successfully delivered and spread out to officially launch the garden's planting and growing season. The BHSS garden is in need of new "bed tenders" to support its current volunteer group. **NO GREEN THUMB IS REQUIRED!** Please check out the Garden subcommittee flier posted in the weekly BHSS emails and simply click on the sign-up link to volunteer. Or, just show up every Sunday morning, weather permitting. We'll be out there getting our hands dirty! The fresh air and camaraderie will provide you with infinite physical and mental health benefits, so it's a "win-win" situation for everyone!
2. Our committee has begun to work more closely with a 13-member **Afghani refugee family** that lives in Valley Cottage, N.Y. Anyone who attended or live streamed the memorable H.I.A.S. sponsored Refugee Shabbat/Shabbat Shirah service held on February 3 will recall listening to Nelofer, an eloquent and brave young woman who spoke about her prior life in Afghanistan before she was forced to flee with her mother and sister and then help other family members find refuge in the United States. We will be working with a stellar refugee non-profit agency named "Hearts and Homes" based in Pelham, New York that has already set up a network with this and other refugee families in Westchester County and the lower Hudson Valley. We will "fill in" by helping Nelofer and her family obtain needed self-care and household items, plus navigate their adjustment educationally and emotionally to daily life in their new community. A donation box will be set up at the school entrance to BHSS with items that would be needed on a weekly or monthly basis, so check it out! More specific details will follow, so please continue to check your weekly emails. This will be an ongoing initiative, so we hope other committee members and congregants will participate.
3. Social Action will again have a table at the third annual **Mahwah Pride Day on Sunday, June 11, from 3-6 p.m.** at Commodore Perry Field. Please

mark your calendars and come check it out. Bring your friends and family. The more, the merrier!

4. On Friday evening, **June 16, at 6:30 p.m.**, Social Action, Brotherhood, and Michelle Mitzvah will hold a special Shabbat Service. We hope you can attend.

Please don't hesitate to email us at [bhsssocialaction@gmail.com](mailto:bhsssocialaction@gmail.com) with any new ideas or questions. We always welcome new members and feedback! Our committee usually meets the last Tuesday of every month, via Zoom so far.

Have a relaxing and healthy summer!

Best wishes,

Jonathan Theodore: [theodorecentral@gmail.com](mailto:theodorecentral@gmail.com)  
Lisa Estrin: [lbestrin@aol.com](mailto:lbestrin@aol.com)  
Lisa Glick: [lisarglick@gmail.com](mailto:lisarglick@gmail.com)

Beth Haverim Shir Shalom

# Pride Shabbat

Friday, June 9 at 6:30 pm



Please join us for Pride Shabbat as we celebrate the LGBTQ community.

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING זכרונם לברכה ☆

*May Yahrzeits*

DEENA ALLEN	GREGORY DU CHARME	PAUL LEVITT	SAMUEL "LANE" SAYLES
CINDY ALLMAN	ARTHUR FASSLER	JEANETTE LICHTER	SIMON SEIDNER
JERROLD ARONS	FRANCINE FEDER	BERTHA LIPSKER	DOROTHY SELIGMAN
STANLEY AXELROD	CHARLES FEIN	MELVIN LISK	THEODORE SIEGEL
JASE BARRACK	HAROLD FELDMAN	JOAN LITTMAN	HYMAN SMITH
RUTH BAUM	BENJAMIN FINN	SADIE MILLER	JOAN SPEER
IRVING BEDELL	DAVID GOLDMAN	FRANK NATHANSON	SOPHIE SQUIRES
JOEL BERKOWITZ	NATALIE GORDON	KATE NEUMANN	MARION STANSFIELD
MOLLIE BLACKMAN	FRANCES GROSSMAN	SCOTT NEWHOUSE	DAVID STEINMAN
RUTH BUCKLER	JESSE HERSHMAN	JOSEPH NURNBERG	AUDREY WEINBERG
RAFAEL CHMIELEWSKI	MAURICE SONNY ISRAEL	HELEN OSHEROWITZ	RABBI MILTON WEINBERG
RUCHLA LENA CHMIELEWSKI	LORE KAHN	HARVEY PACKER	IRVING WEISS
HARRY COHEN	STEVEN KOMINSKY	NORMA PALANT	GITTY WIDMAN
JUDITH BERNSTEIN COHEN	JOSEPH KURTIN	PHOEBE PEISTER	GILBERT WUNSCH
ALICE COLE	BLANCHE LAMBERT	MAZAL RUDACH	HARRY YAGODA
ISABELLA LEAH DEBETHENCOURT	MARILYN LASS	ELLEN SABLOFF	SEYMOUR YANOWITZ
	MONA LEHRFELD	HERBERT SAKOW	ROSE ZAHM
			MAX ZUKOF

*June Yahrzeits*

RUTH ABNER	HARRIET GORDON	RONALD LANDAU	DIANE SCHILDKRAUT
SUSAN ARKAWY	THOMAS GROSSMAN	SAUL LESSEN	FRAYDA FAY LEVY SEIF
BARBARA BERDON	SOL HEILBRAUN	REBA LEVY	ALEKSANDER SHLAHET
PEARL BERGER	EDNA HOMNICK	ALLEN MAY	JULIUS SHMARUK
JILL BERNSTEIN	FRED HYMAN	STEVEN MERMELSTEIN	RUTH SILVERMAN
BARBARA BURGHARDT	HOWARD ISRAEL	MAX MILLER	PHILIP SIMON
IRENE BYNE	MENDE JAFFE	ALLEN NUDELMAN	LOIS STARTZ
ESTHER CITRIN	SCOTT JOSEPH	DAVID ROBBINS	RALPH SUESKIND
BERNARD COHEN	JANICE KAMM	ANNE ROBINOVITZ	ROBERT THEODORE
ESTHER COLE	ROMOLA KAPLAN	LANNY ROOT	KATHERINE TOWELL
BLANCHE CRAMER	SIMON KASPER	EDITH ROTH	MORRIS TREPPER
DOROTHY FINN	MURRAY KAUFMAN	EDWARD ROTH	BARNEY VICTOR
ANDREW FISHER	ROBERT KOPELMAN	MORRIS ROTH	HAROLD WEINBERG
SADIE GETTLEMAN	HAROLD LANDAU	JEANETTE SAIFF	FRED WICHLER
RHEA GOLDFARB	NATHAN LANDAU	PAULA SCHECTER	CHARLES WISEMAN

## July Yahrzeits

HERBERT E. ALLEN	BARBARA GREENBLATT	HARRY MEYERS	SUSAN SCHLUSSEL
SHIRLEY ANESETTI	SAMUEL GREENE	IDA MEYERS	SYLVIA SCHWARTZMAN
BRIAN BANDREMER	BENJAMIN ISRAEL	LAWRENCE EDWARD MILLER	BLANCHE SEIDNER
BEN BENDALIN	JEROME JOHNSON	JAMES MINTY	ESTHER SENZEL
ABRAHAM BERKOWITZ	DANA KANTOR	FRED MOSER	IRA SIEGEL
DAVID BERMAN	ALAN KARASIK	GEORGE MOSS	MARTHA SILVERMAN
SIDNEY BLUMENFELD	RONALD KERN	SOLOMON NAHUM	MILDRED SITOMER
JACKLYN BOFFORD	ADA KOHLREITER	HANS NEUMANN	RUTH SOLOMON
JACK BRODY	MORRIS KOHLREITER	MILTON NOVACK	MILTON STARTZ
FERN BRUCKNER	SANDRA KOPELMAN	MAXINE PACKER	ARTHUR STERNBERG
MORTON BRUSSEL	MARILYN KRICHMAR	BRAD PERLSTEIN	VERNON TAYLOR
RITA COHEN	PHILIP LACHER	BARRY RAFTEN	DAVID TEICHMAN
CHARLES COLE	ALAN LEFKOWITZ	BEN RICE	ROBERT TOWELL
LEATRICE ERLMAN	MARILYN LERNER	CHARLES ROMANO	EFRAIM WAINER
SEYMOUR FRIEDMAN	MILLIE MARKS	JEROME ROOT	PAUL WEISKOP
PHILIP GORDON	BARBARA MCKENNA	CHARLES SANKEL	FRED WICHLER
MILTON GRALLA	TOM MCVEIGH	JOHN SCHIAVO	RAMZA WORM

## August Yahrzeits

JERALD AFIR-HEFFLER	RYNA GERBER	MURRAY KESHNER	ED RUZINSKY
SYDEY ALTMAN	CHELSEY GOLDMAN	LIZ KOLMAN	BETTY SANKEL
RUTH ANSIN	IRVING GOODMAN	KEN KRESCH	GEORGE SAULT
SAUNDRA ARONS	MICHAEL SCOTT GORDON	FANNIE KURSMAN	RUTH SCHOENFELD
DAVID ATLAS	HARVEY GREENBERG	NATHAN LAMBERT	ESTHER BAYLA SMALL
EDWARD BARBACH	LAWRENCE GREENBERG	MICHAEL LIPSKER	FRANCES SPIELBERG
ARON BERGRYN	MYRON GREENZWEIG	RALPH LITTMAN	ELAINE SPIELER
HARRY BYALICK	JULIAN HAUSER	ESTHER LONOW	AL STOLOFF
DAVID COHEN	ROSLYN HESS	EDITH LUCKOM	REBECCA STONE
SIDNEY DEMSKY	IDA HIEGER	MAGGIE MCVEIGH	LOREN TEDROW
ELLEN ESTRIN	MOLLY HOLLANDER	MARK MENDELSON	FRANK THEODORE
CHRISTOPHER FIELDS	PHYLLIS HYMOWITZ	DEBBIE MOSES	THOMAS TOWELL
ERIC FIELDS	SUSAN IVES	SEYMOUR MUNY	OTTO TUTEUR
SOL FISHKIN	GERTRUDE JEANETTE	INGE OELBAUM	HAROLD WEINSTEIN
FREDERICK FLISSER	LEE JOHNSON	ROBERT OELBAUM	MORRIS WEISBERGER
IRVING FRANK	MERYLE KAPLAN	JONAS PALANT	BERTHA WEISSER
ETHEL FREEMAN	WILLIAM KAPLAN	ETHEL PESIN	STANLEY WELLS
HARRY FREEMAN	BENJAMIN KASSOVER	EUGENE REINSTEIN	SOL WEXLER
EVAN GARBUS	ROBERT KASSOVER	SONDRA RITCHIN	SADIE WIDMAN
MAC GELFENBEIN		ELINOR ROOT	ZEVIK YOLES



The Community Garden is planning their new season for planting, growing and harvesting produce to help those in need. Last year we donated over **50 bushels of produce** to local organizations.

In April, our awesome group of volunteers spread 65 pounds of mulch in the garden to prepare for planting. We worked hard and got dirty...and had a lot of fun doing it!

If you are a gardener, or have the interest to learn, please connect with us. We will have a planning meeting in the coming weeks and invite you to attend. For additional information, or any questions, contact Jonathan Theodore at [bhsssocialaction@gmail.com](mailto:bhsssocialaction@gmail.com)

JUNE  
17

6:00

(game starts  
6:30)



## NEW YORK BOULDERS BASEBALL WITH BHSS BROTHERHOOD

Clover Stadium, Pomona, NY

Come for a night of baseball, food, and fun! All are invited to this fun family event. Game starts 6:30, so plan to arrive by 6. Cost is \$54 per person, and includes a buffet with food & soft drinks (6:30 – 7:30), in our own private suite with indoor and outdoor seating.

Your check payable to BHSS Brotherhood is your confirmation. Payment is required by June 10. Bring your whole family and maybe some friends, this event is always a big hit!

RSVP to [president@bhssbrotherhood.org](mailto:president@bhssbrotherhood.org), and Venmo payment to:

[@Jonathan-Theodore-5](https://www.venmo.com/@Jonathan-Theodore-5)

Or mail a check to:

BHSS Brotherhood  
c/o Temple Beth Haverim Shir Shalom  
280 Ramapo Valley Road  
Mahwah, NJ 07430



*What a great year of programming at BHSS!*

*Thanks to all who created and worked on the year's services, events and celebrations, and those who attended as well.*



**Abortion Rights protest  
in Washington, DC**



**Youth Group in action**



**Family School  
Challah Bake**

*We hope to see you this summer for outdoor services!*



**Family Fun Day**



**Eternal Lights**



**Hanukkah Concert with  
Temple Beth Rishon**



**Hanukkah at BHSS with  
Michelle Citrin**



**Fun times with friends... thanks to  
Sisterhood's Goods & Services Auction!  
Shushan Shenanigans at the Coles**



**Shavuot with Nefesh Mountain**



**Purim Shpiel and Carnival**

**Fun times with friends... thanks to  
Sisterhood's Goods & Services Auction!**



**Cocktails at Leslie Sapienza's**



**Dinner at Lois and Judy's**



**Broadway at your Doorstep**

# Worship Schedule

STARTING IN JUNE, ALL SHABBAT SERVICES WILL BEGIN  
AT 6:30 PM - OUTDOORS, WEATHER PERMITTING

Friday, May 5	6:30 pm	Shabbat Family Service <i>Birthdays in May will be celebrated</i>
Saturday, May 6	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Parker Slivka
Friday, May 12	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service – <b>Sisterhood Shabbat</b>
Saturday, May 13	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Rose
Friday, May 19	5:15 pm	Tot Shabbat
	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service – <b>Youth Group Creative Service</b>
Saturday, May 20	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Jaye Mendel
<b>Thursday, May 25</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Shavuot Festival Service and Program</b>
Friday, May 26	10:00 am	Shavuot Yizkor Service
	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Service – <b>Teacher Appreciation Shabbat: Honoring our Confirmands</b>
Saturday, May 27	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Geller
Friday, June 2	6:30 pm	Shabbat Family Service <i>Birthdays in June will be celebrated</i>
Saturday, June 3	10:00 am	B'nai Mitzvah of Eric Sica and Matthew Levin
Friday, June 9	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service – <b>Pride Shabbat</b>
Saturday, June 10	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Hirsch
<b>Friday, June 16</b>	5:15 pm	Tot Shabbat
	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service - <b>Brotherhood/Social Action/Michelle Mitzvah Group Shabbat</b>
<b>Friday, June 23</b>	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service – <b>Board Installation</b>
Friday, June 30	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service



## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Friday, July 7	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services - <i>Birthdays in July will be celebrated</i>
Friday, July 14	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, July 21	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, July 28	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, August 4	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services - <i>Birthdays in August will be celebrated</i>
Friday, August 11	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, August 18	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, August 25	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services

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

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman  
Rebecca McVeigh, Director of Education

**Sessions of School:**

Sunday: May 7  
Mondays: May 1, 8  
Tuesdays: May 2, 9, 16

**Office closed:**

Friday, May 26



## To do in May and June

- *Enjoy Shabbat with the whole family at Family Shabbat, May 5 and June 2 at 6:30 pm*
- *Put a smile on a sister's face with the Sisterhood Kindness Chain, Sunday May 7*
- *Torah Study is back by popular demand every Tuesday at 12:00 pm via Zoom*
- *Celebrate the strong bond of Sisterhood with Sisterhood Shabbat on Friday, May 12 at 7:00 pm*
- *Do you have a suggestion, comment or question for Rabbi Ilana? Join her for Constructive Feedback sessions on Wednesday, May 17 and Tuesday, August 1 at 7:30 pm*
- *The little ones (birth to 5 years old) will have lots of fun at Tot Shabbat... and pizza, too! Fridays, May 19 and June 16 at 5:15 pm*
- *BHSS Youth joins Rabbi Ilana to lead the Youth Group Creative Service on Friday, May 19 at 7:00 pm*
- *Family Fun Day is back! Don't miss the food, music, games and more...and then stay with us for a concert by renowned Jewish musician Noah Aronson, Sunday, May 21 starting at 12:00 pm*
- *Join us to honor our Confirmands and all teachers at Teacher Appreciation Shabbat on Friday, May 26 at 7:00 pm*
- *Spring has sprung...which means it's time to celebrate Shavuot! Festival service and program on Thursday, May 25 at 7:00 pm, Yizkor service via Zoom on Friday, May 26 at 10:00 am*
- *June is Pride month, and we will celebrate with Pride Shabbat on Friday, June 9 at 6:30 pm*
- *Brotherhood, Social Action and Michelle Mitzvah Group are teaming up to lead the Shabbat service on Friday, June 16 at 6:30 pm*
- *Ready for some baseball? Join Brotherhood for their Annual Brotherhood Boulders night on Saturday, June 17 at 6:00 pm*