## Beth Haverim Shir Shalom

## **FMPLE** PICS בית חברים שיר שלום BETH

#### ADAR/NISAN/AYAR 5775

HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM

#### MARCH/APRIL 2015

Wednesday, March 4	7:00 PM	Purim Shpiel. Pizza before at 6:15 pm
Friday, March 6	6:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service
	7:00 PM	Congregational Dinner following services by RSVP
		Oneg Shabbat hosts: the Abramson and Simon families
Saturday, March 7	10:00 AM	B'nai Mitzvah of Madeline Abramson and Joshua Simon
Sunday, March 8	11:30 AM	Mini Purim Shpiel, followed by Purim Carnival
Friday, March 13	7:30 PM	Family Service. Camp Shabbat. <i>Birthdays in March will be celebrated.</i> Oneg Shabbat hosts: the Ravett family
Saturday, March 14	9:30 AM	Tot Shabbat
	10:00 AM	Bar Mitzvah of Jake Ravett
Friday, March 20	7:30 PM	Sisterhood Shabbat
		Oneg Shabbat hosts: the Buchalter and Mitchell families
Saturday, March 21	10:00 AM	B'nai Mitzvah of Logan Buchalter and Andrea Mitchell
Friday, March 27	7:30 PM	Social Action Shabbat
		Oneg Shabbat hosts: the Murphy and Schwartz families
Saturday, March 28	10:00 AM	B'nai Mitzvah of Skyler Murphy and Owen Schwartz
Note: No services or	1 April 3 due to first	
Saturday, April 4	10:00 AM	Shabbat Festival Morning Service
	5:30 PM	Havdallah and Congregational Second Seder (by RSVP only)
Friday, April 10	10:00 AM	Festival Yizkor Service
	7:30 PM	Family Service, Composer in Residence Jordan Franzel
		Birthdays in April will be celebrated.
Saturday, April 11	10:00 AM	Shabbat Morning Service
Wednesday, April 15	7:00 PM	Yom HaShoah Commemoration Program
Friday, April 17	7:30 PM	Scholar in Residence Dr. Gary Zola
		Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Dweck family
Saturday, April 18	9:30 AM	Tot Shabbat
	10:00 AM	Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Dweck
	7:00 PM	Havdallah and Lifelong Learning Scholar in Residence Program
Wednesday, April 22	7:00 PM	Yom HaZikaron/Yom HaAtzmaut Concert at
		Temple Emanuel of the Pascack Valley in Woodcliff Lake
Friday, April 24	7:30 PM	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, April 25	10:00 AM	Shabbat Morning Service

האיתור ליהדות רפורמית SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA V

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# President's Message

The fact that our Purim spiel is fast approaching has me pondering princesses. Given our weather, you might assume an obvious target for contemplation would be "Frozen"'s

Elsa, but I've traveled outside the Disney box and have been thinking instead about "Wicked." Specifically, how during the course of her transformation, Oz's notorious "good witch" changes her name from "Ga-Linda" to "Glinda...with the silent "Ga."

I've gone through some name changes myself. As #19 on my Facebook "25 random things about me" states, for a brief period of time I insisted on being called "Jennifer Alyse Goldberg Jewish." The reasons for my adopting the suffix are complicated and multi-layered, but suffice to say I was a child who craved transparency. Our family did not belong to a temple, but I wanted to make certain my affiliation was loud and clear, and so I did.

Years later (as I joked in my HHD speech from a few years back) when I married Matt in a ceremony which blended traditions from our respective faiths, I went from being Jennifer Alyse Goldberg **JEWISH!** to Jen Cole, Jew-"*ish.*" While I never consciously intended to discard my faith, my relationship with Judaism was in serious need of redefinition, and truth told, I wasn't super-motivated to redefine it. Matt and I never doubted that we would raise our children with Jewish traditions, but joining a synagogue was never a part of our plan, and that was fine with me.

When our kids entered the picture, however, things changed (kids seem to have a knack for changing plans). There was not a large community of Jewish families in our town, and consequently finding friends in school who shared Jewish beliefs and holidays was not an easy task. So we decided to join Beth Haverim, with the simple goals of providing a Jewish education and along with it, opportunities for our kids to socialize with and learn alongside other Jewish children. Admittedly, the price tag for membership seemed a bit steep, but we figured we'd give it a try and see if it was indeed "worth" it. Needless to say, it was... but not simply because it was a place for our kids to be with other Jews or fulfill the requirements to become b'nai mitzvah. It became a place where I rediscovered and re-embraced my Judaism, not just other Jews.

There has been a lot of chatter recently about the challenge of declining synagogue membership and Jewish affiliation faced by Reform synagogues. One recommended approach is to remove the financial barriers. In a recent *New York Times* 

article by Michael Paulson, "*The 'Pay what you Want Experiment' at Synagogues*," he describes how some synagogues across the country have shifted from a mandatory dues model to a system of voluntary pledging. In light of the economic climate, such an approach is both naturally appealing *and* yet clearly not without significant risk. We all have heard the unfortunate stories of synagogues worrying about keeping their lights on and snow plowed, let alone affording sufficient clergy/staff and keeping their programs running, and of course those that have been forced to close their doors.

In one of many responses to Paulson's article, Nina Badzin's op-ed piece speaks of how she polled her Facebook community about what prevents them from being more Jewishly involved in and out of synagogues. As she suspected, only a small percentage of responders noted money, leading Badzin to conclude that while a shift in dues structure may be necessary, it may not be sufficient. She argues that perhaps the focus of getting people involved at synagogue is not the answer, and a better approach would be to get people involved with Jewish life. She writes:

"Provide value and people will pay. Show members the joy of Judaism and empower them to bring that joy home. Engage members with discussions on how to be a better person, a better parent, sibling, spouse, friend, and a more ethical businessperson, and they will come back for more. If congregants do not see how Judaism can be relevant in their homes and everyday lives, then they will go somewhere else in search of meaning and take their dollars with them."

I hope you'll agree that our BHSS embraces the mission she describes. If you have ideas on how we could move closer to this ideal, please share them.

I, for one, am thankful to have found this community and believe our family is better because of it. With our eldest now in college, the dues continue to be a stretch, but it is hard to put a price on all that we have gained. Without a doubt my membership at BHSS and more importantly my connection with its clergy, staff and community, has been the main reason I carry my Jewish-ness once again with pride and joy. Although my "Jewish" may be silent, it is nonetheless an important and integral part of who I am today. Matt and I made the decision to join Beth Haverim in order to infuse our children's lives with Jews, but thanks to BHSS we wound up infusing our own lives with Judaism. Just as Glinda and Elphaba sing to each other as the Broadway curtain falls, I'll end by singing the same to everyone at BHSS who have been (and there are many) a part of my journey - Because I knew you, I have been changed for good!

- Jennifer-Alyse-Goldberg-Cole-Jewish, President

I almost never tell you how to vote. Almost never.

I always want you to <u>vote</u>; Jewish tradition teaches that we are not to separate ourselves from the community, and I believe that engaging in the political process is a critical part of being a part of the communities in which we live. So I am always reminding you to vote. And our congregation has a proud tradition of seeing beyond the walls of our beautiful space to participate actively in the affairs of the community; people of faith have an important and powerful role to play in making our communities more just places.

But the not-for-profit status of the synagogue prevents me from endorsing candidates, and I honor that obligation very attentively when it comes to American elections.

On the other hand, every four years I have the opportunity not only to urge you to vote, but also to tell you who I hope you'll seriously consider voting for. That election season is now. Jews around the world are voting right now for the World Zionist Organization, and I'm asking you to vote today in those elections for ARZA: Representing Reform Judaism. If you're over 18 years old, you can make a difference for an even more just Israel by making your voice heard in this way.

What is the World Zionist Organization? The World Zionist Organization (WZO) was founded by Theodor Herzl at the First Zionist Congress in Basle in 1897. Today it forms the backbone for The Jewish Agency for Israel, the Jewish National Fund, *Keren Hayesod*, and smaller affiliates.

The World Zionist Congress is the World Zionist Organization's supreme institution and legislative body that meets every four years in Jerusalem. The Congress determines policy and courses of action and chooses the leadership of the World Zionist Organization. These decisions influence hundreds of millions of dollars in funding and paid portfolios. The Congress also makes decisions that affect the status of Reform Jews in Israel and across the world, as well as the funding available to Progressive Jews in Israel.

The World Zionist Congress is made up of 757 delegates representing world Jewry: 232 delegates from Zionist organizations like Hadassah, B'nai B'rith, WIZO and the World Union for Progressive Judaism, and the remaining 525 delegates representing Israelis and the Diaspora communities of the world.

The United States has 145 seats, and the occupiers of those seats are determined by the election of American Jews I am urging you to vote for now.

# From the Rabbi "If not now, when?"

The composition of the American delegation is critically important to Reform Jews in the United States and Israel, because the American



delegation of 145 delegates is the largest delegation from a single country outside of Israel and comprises nearly one third of the Congress. The decisions of the Congress influence hundreds of millions of dollars in funding, over \$4 million of which is currently allocated to the Reform movement each year. In addition, the Congress will help determine the leadership of the major global Jewish organizations, budgetary decisions and policy in Israel and worldwide.

Currently, ARZA has 56 of the United States' 145 seats representing 39% of the delegates. The campaign's goal is to increase the number of seats to 50% of the United States' delegation, the maximum number that ARZA is permitted under the rules of the election.

So why am I asking you to vote specifically for ARZA? A successful election in which ARZA, on behalf of the Reform movement, receives a significant percentage of votes and therefore delegates to the WZC, is the single most effective way for the Reform movement to influence policy and shape the society of Israel. The election determines the Reform movement's influence within Israel institutions, government bodies and provides the Reform movement with the ability to influence important policy appointments.

In addition, the election impacts the amount of funding that the Reform movement receives in Israel and the Diaspora. The Reform movement seeks a democratic Israel which respects and supports all expressions of Judaism, which respects and guarantees women's rights, and which strives to obtain a peaceful solution to the Palestinian issue. A successful election is our best means to assure the realization of the Reform movement's goals. Therefore, your vote is critical to the success of the overall election.

How do you vote? I have actually recorded a video on how to vote: you can find that instructional video at **http://tinyurl.com/BHSSWZO**. Or you can go directly to the voting site at www.reformjews4israel.org.

If you care about a strong, Jewish, and democratic Israel, now is the time to act; the polls close on April 30. Vote ARZA in the World Zionist Organization elections.

-Rabbi Joel Mosbacher

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#### Candlelighting times:

March 6 – 5:34 pm *Ki Tissa* March 13 – 6:42 pm *Vayachel/P'kudei* March 20 – 6:50 pm *Vayikra* March 27 – 6:57 pm *Tzav*  April 3 – 7:04 pm *Pesach I* April 10 – 7:12 pm *Pesach VIII* April 17 – 7:19 pm *Sh'mini* April 24 – 7:26 pm *Tazria/M'tzora* 



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## From the Assistant Rabbi

Liberty! Independence! Freedom! As we prepare to celebrate Passover, we take time to reflect on our gratitude for each of these essential aspects of our lives. And at the same time, we have the opportunity to consider what freedom really means to each of us and, perhaps more importantly, what it means for us as a community.

There's a classic comparison between "freedom from" vs. "freedom to." A "freedom from" perspective holds that each of us is inherently an individual, and our ideal state is one in which we can do anything we want to. "Freedom," then, means protection against others' demands on our time, energy, and resources. A "freedom to" perspective, on the other hand, teaches that we inherently are social beings, and our ideal state is one in which we are in relationship with other people. "Freedom" from this vantage point means ability to live in community with others, seeing communal norms and shared behaviors as a value rather than a burden.

Today's American society has a very healthy appreciation of "freedom from." But what about the important aspects of "freedom to," the freedom we have to share our lives with others in such a way that those around us enjoy the fruits of God's world as much as we hope to ourselves? Where can we turn for inspiration about how to live our lives in accordance with this other kind of freedom?

We need look no further than the Passover seder, for (unsurprisingly) Jewish tradition has a healthy appreciation of "freedom to"! Shortly before starting the Passover meal, we read: God brought us from slavery to freedom, from sorrow to joy, from mourning to festivity, from darkness to great light, and from bondage to Redemption! And then, in the very next passage, we immediately read: Halleluyah! Praise God, O servants of the Eternal!

Servants of the Eternal? (Or, literally, "God's slaves.") Didn't we just read that we are free? Yes: Free to lead the lives that God wants us to lead in just and righteous community. After all, when Moses first demanded our freedom from Pharaoh, he said on behalf of God, "Let My people go that they may worship Me in the wilderness" (Ex. 5:1). It turns out that it's not so bad to be a slave; it's only bad to be a slave to another human being! Being a slave to



God, though, is what Redemption is all about.

As servants of the Eternal, what are we free to do? As Micah says: *To do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God* (6:8). As Isaiah says: *To observe justice and to do righteousness* (56:1). As Amos says: *To seek God and live* (5:4).

The freedom of the Jewish people is a freedom to build our lives around holy obligations. Yes, this requires limiting our "freedom from." But by sacrificing a bit of our autonomy for the sake of our family—and our extended family, the entire Jewish people—we help bring God's presence ever closer to our lives and the world.

The question remains (and feel <u>free</u> to ask it at your seder): What holy obligations will you commit to when you embrace your freedom this Passover?

- Rabbi Daniel Kirzane



Greetings from the Garden Committee. It's time to think about the earth beneath the snow. Please join us on Thursday, March 19 at 7 pm to discuss our plans for this season. Our first official work day will be Sunday, May 3 at 9 am.

We are so grateful for everyone who participated last season: for the Lipson family and friends for enlarging the garden through an Eagle Scout project, and for all of the temple members who joined us in tilling the land. In spite of a critter(s) who found their way into the garden, we successfully grew and donated 275 pounds of produce to our local community. We would like to thank all committees in advance, as we will be assigning weekends to assure that we have coverage during the growing season. We look forward to working with everyone again this spring.



# Cantor's Corner

**Shabbat Shirah** -- Thank you so much to all who were in attendance for our Shabbat Shirah celebration on Friday, January 30. Both the Junior Choir and Adult Choir did a phenomenal job, and the sanctuary was alive with song. "Do you love me?" Now I know the answer!

**Purim Disney Style** -- Wednesday, March 4, 7 pm. BE THERE! Come dressed up as your favorite Disney character, and win a prize in our annual Purim Costume Contest. As in years past, most of the music written for the spiel this year has been done by some of our creative members. The Purim band will be in full swing, as well as OTHER SURPRISES TOO!

**Shabbat with Composer in Residence, Cantor Jordan Franzel** -- Friday, April 10, 7:30 pm. Following our Lifelong Learning theme this year, "Born in the USA," Cantor Franzel, an American Jewish music composer, will speak about his music and his composing process, and he and Cantor Perper will sing and play his music. It promises to be a beautiful, musical service.





Madeline Abramson lack Adler Jack Alpert Sophie Baum Eli Behar Zachary Bibi Reagan Elizabeth Bloom Elizabeth Chernick Samuel Chuck Daniel Cohen Iason Cohen Alexa Denburg Jessica Diamond Sophie Dweck Jack Edelson Spencer Edelson Samuel Eichner Ilana Reese Gilbert Michael Glucoft Drew Grossman Luke Hollander Rachel Klein Victoria Laddy Zoe Lynn **Brody** Miller Jakob Mitnick Max Nierenberg Daniel Ovadia Samantha Ovadia Ryan Richard Polansky Gabriel Reinstein Michael Savino Warren Schindler **Jack Schwartz** Carly Sipper Parker Slivka Remi Slivka Sydney Vandersnow Lawson Vogel

# March Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9 am School FS & 6 12 pm Hebrew 201 2 pm Shpiel Reh.	4 pm School K-3 4 pm PreK 5 pm Group Prayer Class 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Prayer Class 7 pm Mah Jongg	7:00 pm Purim Shpiel		6 PM Tefilot 7 PM Dinner by RSVP	KI TISA 8:15 Torah Study 10 am Madeline Abramson & Joshua Simon
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9 am School FS & 6 11:30 AM Mini Shpiel 11:45 AM Purim Carnival 12 PM Hebrew 201	4 pm School K-3 5 pm Group Prayer Class 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Prayer Class 7:30 pm - Exec Comm Mtg 7:30 pm - MMG Mtg	7:00 pm Junior Choir LLL Meeting 8 pm Adult Choir		6:15 PM 6th Grade dinner 7:30 PM Tefilot Family Service 6th Grade Svce Camp Shabbat	VAYACHEL/ P'KUDEI 8:15 Torah Study 9:30 Tot Shabbat 10 am Jake Ravett
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9 am School FS & 6 12 pm Talent Show Auditions 3 pm movie: "Orchestra of Exiles"	4 pm School K-3 5 pm Group Prayer Class 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Prayer Class 7:30 pm Board Meeting	8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 PM Tefilot Sisterhood Shabbat	VAYIKRA 8:15 Torah Study 10 am Logan Buchalter Andrea Mitchell 6 pm LLL Game Night
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
7:30-9 am YG Pancake Bkfst 9 am School FS & 6 1 pm Mah Jongg	4 pm School K-3 4 pm PreK 5 pm Group Prayer Class 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Prayer Class 7:30 pm Music Comm Meeting	8 pm Adult Choir	5:00 PM Sisterhood Miriam Seder BY RSVP	7:30 PM Tefilot Social Action Shabbat	TZAV 8:15 Torah Study 10 am Skyler Murphy Owen Schwartz
29	30	31				
9 am School FS & 6 12 pm Hebrew 201 12 pm Talent Show Auditions 7 pm Ritual Comm Mtg	4 pm School K-3 5 pm Group Prayer Class 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Prayer Class				



# April Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Th	ursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2		3	4
			8 pm Adult Choir			NO SERVICES AT BHSS FIRST SEDER	PESACH 1 8:15 Torah Study 10 am Festival Shabbat Service 5:30 pm Second Seder
5	6	7	8	9		10	11
NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL 7 pm Mah Jongg	8 pm Adult Choir Offsite			OFFICE CLOSED 10 am Festival Yizkor Service 7:30 pm Family Service Composer in Residence	PESACH VIII 8:15 Torah Study 10 am Shabbat Morning Svce
12	13	14	15	16		17	18
9 am School FS & 6	4 pm School K-3 5 pm Group Prayer Class 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Prayer Class 7:30 pm - Exec Comm Mtg 7:30 pm - MMG Mtg	7 pm Yom HaShoah Commemoration			7:30 PM Tefilot Scholar in Residence	SH'MINI 8:15 Torah Study 9:30 Tot Shabbat 10 am Sophie Dweck 7 pm Scholar in Residence
19	20	21	22	23		24	25
9 am School FS & 6 10 am Scholar in Residence 12 pm YG Event 12 pm Talent Show Rehearsal	4 pm School K-3 4 pm PreK 5 pm Group Prayer Class 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Prayer Class 7:30 pm Board Meeting	7 pm Yom HaZikaron Yom HaAtzmaut at Temple Emanuel			7:30 PM Tefilot	TAZRIA/MTZORAH 8:15 Torah Study 10 am Shabbat Morning Service 7 pm Sisterhood Progressive Dinner
26	27	28	29	30			
9 am School FS & 6 12 pm Hebrew 101 12 pm Mah Jongg 2 pm BHSS Got Talent	4 pm School K-3 5 pm Group Prayer Class 6:45 pm Kadimah	4 pm School 4/5 6:30 pm Group Prayer Class 7:30 pm Music Comm. Meeting 7:30 pm Library Outreach Event	8 pm Adult Choir			es your famil Bat Mitzvah	·
		<u> </u>	<u></u>		In order issue of "bio" For a If you ne	to be included in Temple Topics, y and photo are du May or June dat ed a form, or hav call or email to th	the appropriate our child's brief ue as follows: e, by April 1 e any questions,

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



Madeline Abramson - March 7, 2015

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Gayle, Father, Robert, Brother, David, 8 ..... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ...... Her interests include acting, singing, dancing, and tennis. "I hope to become a neurologist. For my community

service I am collecting clothing housewares, toys, and pet supplies to be donated to the Center for Hope & Safety, whose mission is to help victims of domestic violence and their children reach safety and have a new beginning. I am very excited to share this milestone with family and friends.."



#### Joshua Simon - March 7, 2015

Lives in Montebello, New York. Mother, Julie, Father, Jordan, Brother, Jared, 15 and Sister, Jayda, 2 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School......His interests include tennis, basketball, karate, video games, drawing, and reading. "I would like to be an architect or a

mechanical engineer. For my community service I collected, organized, and delivered donations for the Children's Aid and Family Services, a leader in adoption and foster care. I also wrote tribute notes for the Pediatric Cancer Foundation. I am very excited to become a Bar Mitzvah and to share this special occasion with my family and friends."



Logan Buchalter - March 21, 2015 Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Cindy, Father, Gary, Brother, Adam, 8 .....is a 7th grader at Ramapo Ridge Middle School...... His interests include rock climbing, guitar, soccer, and video games. "I'd like to be an architect or engineer. For my community service project I am volunteering at Christ Episcopal Church up kitchen to help local hungry families. I am

soup kitchen to help local hungry families. I am excited to become a Bar Mitzvah but nervous about the upcoming event."



#### Andrea Mitchell - March 21, 2015



#### Jake Ravett - March 14, 2015

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Gwen Abeles-Ravett, Father, Eric, Sister, Arielle, 11 ...... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ........... His interests include tennis. "I would like to be a professional tennis player. For my community service I worked at

Meals on Wheels and packaged and delivered food to the needy. I feel great because now I am a Jewish man."



#### Skyler Murphy - March 28, 2015

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Randi Morein, Father, Chris, Brothers, John, 27, and Trent, 14 ..... is a 7th grader at Ramapo Ridge Middle School......Her interests include equestrian, reading, volleyball, lacrosse, and animals. "I would like to become a veterinarian. For my community service I will

be helping animals. I'm excited about this special occasion."

## 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.

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





#### Owen Schwartz - March 28, 2015

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Linda, Father, David, Sister, Betsy, 11.....is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School. ..... His interests include ultimate frisbee, tennis, and reading books! "For my community service I have been

volunteering in a kindergarten class to help out and brighten the day for the kids. I feel that my Bar Mitzvah is the beginning of a new chapter in the book of life."

#### Sophie Dweck - April 18, 2015

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Carrie, Father, Jan, Brother, Tanner, 9, Sister, Kate, 8 ...... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ...... Her interests include singing, acting, and fashion designing. "I would like to become a famous singer. For my community service I am helping to clean

up the world from garbage with 'Keep Rockland Beautiful.' I feel like this is the most special day I will ever have; it will be more than amazing."

# TALENT SHOW!!! BBASS GOOT TALENT Do you SING? Do you DANCE? Drama? Magic? Comedy? Do you play an instrument? Auditions: Sunday, March 15, 12-1:30 pm Sunday, March 29, 12-1:30 pm (Note: Auditions will be on a first come, first served basis) Rehearsal: Sunday, April 19, 12 - 2:30 pm Performance: Sunday, April 26, 2 pm Limited slots so audition early! (Appearances at the sole discretion of Cantor Perper)

For more information, contact Cantor Perper at cantorperper@earthlink.net

# Ritual Committee

My son Ethan has long hair. If you know me or my family, this is not exactly breaking news. It was longish in his pre-teen years and then got super long when he decided to grow it so he could donate it before becoming bar mitzvah. After a year or so of the Justin Bieber look, he started letting it grow again and then decided to once again let it get long enough to donate. At present it is past the required 10" needed, and yet there is no haircut appointment in sight. Ethan's hair has become such a part of his identity that his college application essay was about ... you guessed it ... his hair. I personally have a love/hate relationship with his long locks. From a purely aesthetic perspective, his hair is actually quite nice, but like long hair on anyone (including myself), it gets messy and frizzy and seems to always be in his face. Balancing this is the incredible pride I feel for his willingness to stand out from the crowd, and not let anyone (including and especially his mom) make these types of decisions for him. And how can I not love that the ultimate goal is to give the hair away to someone who needs it?

He's almost 18, about to graduate from high school, and it's time for me to, quite literally, get out of his hair. My baby is grown up, and the one experiencing the most growing pains this year has been not him, but me. I decided I needed help, and so in keeping with my love of ritual, I searched for a Jewish ritual for letting him go. Gotta love Google. I found an interesting blessing recited by the father of a son becoming bar mitzvah. The transliterated version reads: "Baruch sheptarani mei'ansho shel zeh," which basically translates as "Blessed is the One who has now freed me from the responsibility of this child." It is from the Midrash, and I kind of love it. It is not about not providing for our children or not disciplining them or not teaching them or not loving them. It is about recognizing that the choices my children make (the ones we love and the ones we don't) are their own and are not always a reflection of Ian and me as parents. Easier said than believed. After all, every college acceptance letter Ethan's received so far has been celebrated on Facebook so everyone can kvell (and so I can bask in his reflected glory).

So what's the moral of my ritual article? Maybe it's just about finding rituals that work for you, whether it's welcoming Shabbat by blessing your children, saying the Shema at bedtime, celebrating your birthday by coming to the monthly family service, having friends over for Havdalah, bringing mac and cheese boxes to act as groggers for Purim, always inviting someone new to your Passover seder, or yes, allowing your children to become independent, responsible adults. There are rituals for everything in Judaism, from the sacred to the mundane, and I urge you to look for new ones that will have meaning for you and your loved ones. In the meantime, I'll keep you posted about Ethan's hair ...

L'Shalom, Stacey Coyne

### Coming soon to BHSS

#### PURIM

Wednesday, March 4, 6:15 pm pizza, 7 pm Megillah according to Disney

#### PASSOVER

Friday, April 3,
First Seder, No Erev Shabbat services at BHSS
Saturday, April 4,
10 am Shabbat and Festival morning service
Saturday, April 4,
5:30 pm Congregational Second Seder, RSVP required,
please see flyer in Temple Topics

# Social Action

Friday evening, March 27 will be a very exciting new development at BHSS: the first (of many we hope) Social Action Service. Together we will celebrate Shabbat and the extraordinary culture of social action at BHSS.

Please remember that as we celebrate Purim, we also support our partner, Center for Food Action. Come hear the "Megillah According to Disney" on Wednesday night, March 4 at 7 pm, and join in the fun at the Purim carnival on Sunday, March 8, beginning with a mini-spiel at 11:30 am. Please bring bags of food to any of the wonderful Purim celebrations -- the CFA's van will be here!

# Sisterhood News

The snow is still flying as this article is written, but even as we shiver and shovel, Sisterhood has been busy celebrating through winter and planning for the spring.

Sisterhood is proud that 2014-15 has seen record-setting membership. We are at nearly 100 members -- a goal we'd love to reach this year. If you're not already a part of the team, come out and meet your BHSS sisters!

We held our Second Annual Goods & Services auction. The social hall was full, and everyone had an amazing evening, bidding on everything from clothing and jewelry to parties and field trips. We snacked on delicious food and sipped wine, while our awesome Masters of Ceremony, Ranan Wichler and Harvey Weinberg, kept us laughing and bidding all evening long. Special thanks, too, to Samantha Spencer, Samantha and Jessica Lamster, Ethan Coyne and Ari Mosbacher, the "runners" who brought the winners their items and were super helpful!

We hope everyone who turned out had fun and loves what they won! The support of the congregation (and friends!) made it a hugely successful night for Sisterhood, and we are in the process of reviewing the BHSS "wish list" to determine the ways we can help.

The following weekend saw our Chanukah cocktail party at the home of Sheryl Thailer. She was a lovely hostess, and everyone had a stupendous time!

In January, Sisterhood partnered with Lifelong Learning to host Bob Mankoff, cartoon editor for *The New Yorker*, who shared stories from his book "How About Never?" his life in cartooning. We were honored to host him at BHSS and were proud of his contributions in the aftermath of the "Charlie Hebdo" shootings.

Our plans for the upcoming months include our annual Sisterhood Shabbat Service, followed by the annual celebration of women in Jewish history and culture at our Miriam Seder on Thursday, March 26. The cost will be \$25. Watch the weekly e-blasts for further information and be sure to RSVP early for this popular event! We will also be continuing our participation at the soup kitchen on Easter Sunday, April 5. Join Lisa Glick and her troupe of volunteers in preparing food and doing "tikkun olam" in a most meaningful way.

Plans are underway for our Dine-Around (progressive) dinner on Saturday, April 25. If you've been to one of these before, you know what a great time it is. If you haven't, the Dine-Around is a great way to get to know your fellow BHSS-ers in a whole new way, as well as enjoying a terrific evening of gourmet fare! Watch the weekly e-mails for more information.

Our annual Installation dinner will be later in the spring. It's your chance to come out and meet the new officers and directors and to become an active part of Sisterhood, and the Women of Reform Judaism.

Sisterhood thrives because of all of us -- be a part of it!



Passover begins this year with the first seder on Friday night, April 3. (Remember that there will be no Shabbat service at BHSS that night.)
Many families will also celebrate a second seder on Saturday night, April 4. Join your friends at BHSS for a congregational second seder!
Information is located in this issue of Temple Topics. RSVP is a must!

#### The Four Questions

(or, 1 question and 4 answers!)

## מַה נִּשִׁתַּנָּה הַלַּיִלָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל הַלֵּילוֹת?

Mah nish'tana halailah hazeh mikol haleilot? Why is this night different from all other nights?

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אֲנוּ אוֹכְלִין חָמֵץ וּמַצָּה. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלּוֹ מַצָּה:

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.

## שָּׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין שְׁאָר יְרָקוֹת. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מְרוֹר:

*Sheb 'chol haleilot anu och 'lin sh'ar y 'rakot halailah hazeh maror:* On all other nights we eat all vegetables. On this night bitter herbs.

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אֵין אֶנוּ מַטְבִּילִין אֲפִילוּ פַּעַם אֶחָת. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְעָמִים:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu mat'beeleen afilu pa-am echat. Halailah hazeh sh'tei f'amim: On all other nights, we don't dip our food even once. On this night we dip twice.

## ּשֶׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִיז בֵּיז יוֹשְׁבִיז וּבֵיז מְסָבִּיז. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלְּנוּ מְסָבִּיז:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu och'lin bein yosh'vin uvein m'subin. Halailah hazeh culanu m'subin. On all other nights we eat sitting or reclining. On this night we all recline.



# Lifelong Learning

Lifelong Learning had a jam-packed winter and appreciates the wonderful turnout for all of our events. We started the New Year with the hilarious musings of New Yorker cartoon editor Bob Mankoff, along with a fabulous brunch sponsored by Sisterhood. We followed with a wonderful regional Jewish American-food themed oneg led by Nancy Levene and supported by our fabulous congregational bakers Debbie Falkow, Sheryl Ives, Deborah Klein, Elyssa Mosbacher, and Ruth Turner. Rabbi Kirzane continues our learning by teaching us the mysticism of Kabbalah and the start of the Modern Israeli Hebrew classes.

There is still time this year to learn with us, explore, and have some fun along the way!

## Lifelong Learning Spring Calendar

**Modern Hebrew 201:** Join Rabbi Kirzane as he resumes teaching last year's Modern Israeli Hebrew class taught by Rabbinic Intern Adena Kemper on Sundays from 12:00-1:00 pm. If you have the basics of conversational Hebrew and want to join the class, please contact Rabbi Kirzane. Dates are February 22 and March 1, 8, 22 and 29.

Jewish Game Night - A night of fun and games with friends and family! Come Play Jewish Jeopardy and Pictionary! Make a team or come on your own and we'll make one for you. Prizes and refreshments! Saturday March 21, beginning with Havdalah services at 6:45 pm, then let the games begin! RVSP by March 12 with your team or name to Lifelonglearning.BHSS@gmail.com.

**Scholar-in-Residence Dr. Gary Zola:** Join Lifelong Learning for the capstone event for this year's theme as we host Dr. Gary Zola, executive director of the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives and professor of the American Jewish Experience at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, during the weekend of April 17-19 to further explore this year's theme of being Jewish in America.

Jewish Harlem Walking Tour – Join Lifelong Learning and explore the "Silver Threads Among the Gold." Encounter Fanny Brice, Milton Berle, Rogers & Hammerstein and more as we "remember" a time when Harlem was Jewish. Led by renowned guide Justin Ferante in honor of Rabbi Kirzane's installation. Bus leaves BHSS at noon on Sunday May 3. Walking tour from 1-5 pm. Cost \$25 per person. Payment required for reservation. RSVP to temple by Friday, April 24. Trip has a maximum of 30 people so RSVP early!

**Mah Jongg Mania** – The mania continues to grow with a group meeting monthly on Sunday and Tuesday. Beginners are welcome! See Lifelong Learning page on the BHSS website for dates & details.

## Yom HaShoah Commemoration Program Monday, April 15 at 7 p.m.

#### with BHSS and Ramapo Chorale Choirs and a featured speaker, Luna Kaufman

Ms. Kaufman is a Polish survivor of the Shoah, and chair emeritus of Seton Hall University's Sister Rose Thering Fund for Jewish-Christian and Holocaust Studies. Long active in the performing arts in New Jersey, she recently published her memoirs, Luna's Life.



# **Contributions**

Educator's Discretionary Fund

#### Rabbi Mosbacher's Discretionary Fund

with thanks and appreciation for all that you do - Jane & Jan Simon	to the Theodore family, in honor of Lauren becoming vice president of Steinriech Communications, with lots of mazel <i>- Dana, Jeff, &amp; Ethan Berkowitz</i>
with thanks and appreciation - Ann & Mark Weber	thank you for all you do for us - the Sisterhood of BHSS
with thanks and appreciation, in honor of Gayle and Michael's wedding - Renee & Gary Garbus	thank you! - the Theodore family
to Deborah Falkow, in memory of her father, Howard	Life Fund
Kaplan - Sheryl Thailer	to Daryl Spencer and family, in memory of his
with thanks for a ceremony done so beautifully <i>- the Kassover and Marks families</i>	brother Todd Spencer - Joanna Sudol & Greg Tamagnini - Irene & Vince Guarino - Sheri & Allan Schott
with thanks for everything you do! - the Gampel family	to Kathy Liebmann and family, in memory of
in memory of Jodi Lyons - Arlene & Rich Mandel	her father Alfred Baum - Gail & Ranan Wichler - Dana, Jeff, & Ethan Berkowitz
with thanks and appreciation - the Sheppard family	
with thanks for your love and support during a difficult time - <i>Kathy Liebmann and family</i>	to Andrew Schechter and family, in memory of his mother Selma Schechter - Gail & Ranan Wichler - Marci & Harvey Weinberg
with thanks and appreciation - Shari & Andrew Schechter	- Carol & Rob Shulman
Cantor's Discretionary Fund	to Paul and Claire Lipson, mazel tov on Michael earning his Eagle Scout rank - Lisa & David Barrack
thank you for all you do for us - the Sisterhood of BHSS	Eugle Scout fullie - Eisu O Dubiu Burruck
	to Jane Koch and family, in memory of her
with thanks and appreciation, in memory of Selma Schechter - Shari & Andrew Schechter	father Leonard London - Lisa & David Barrack - Sheri & Allan Schott
in memory of Jodi Lyons - Ethel Rosen & Stuart Kirshner - the Liebmann family - Lynn & Michael Zall	to Sue Meyers, in memory of her husband Jay Meyers <i>- Ruth &amp; Stu Turner</i>
in honor of Gayle and Michael's wedding, with thanks - Renee & Gary Garbus	to the Lyons family, in memory of Jodi Lyons - Ruth & Stu Turner - the BHSS Library Committee
thank you for all that you do! - Jane & Jan Simon - Ann & Mark Weber	in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Joel Sankel <i>- Sheryl &amp; Joel Ives</i>
to Deborah Falkow, in memory of her father, Howard Kaplan - Sheryl Thailer	in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Paul Jeanette - Sandy & Robert Jeanette
your magnificent music touches us and inspires us deeply! - Deb ぐ Cantor Stan Kronberg	to Dr. Stacey Lyons and Dr. Amy Zodikoff, in memory of Jodi Lyons - Nikki Davidson
with thanks and appreciation - the Sheppard family	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Beth Haverim Shir Shalom Temple Topics

# Contributions

in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Esther Goodman - Carole Goodman in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Laurie Daniel's mother, Claire Novak - Laurie & Marc Daniel to Chad Mineo, Sheldon and Linda Lyons, in memory of Jodi Lyons - Cheryl & Gene Sloane to Shelley Jaffe and family, in memory of her father Ernest Bolson - Lisa & David Barrack in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Donna Barrack - Lisa & David Barrack in memory of Jodi Lyons - Alan Marder in honor of Amanda Scholl - Hal Scholl to Sheldon and Linda Lyons, in memory of Jodi Lyons - Loretta Bogarsky - Susan & Phil Ben-Zvi - Alan Marder - Vivienne West - Beth & Michael Pagsnick - Andrea & Michael Dubroff in memory of Paula's parents - Paula & Mel Tenenbaum in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Celia Meyers - Pearl & Bob Meyers to the Kalman family, in memory of Jodi Lyons - Patricia & Evan Bleicher in loving memory of Jodi Lyons - Lori & Gary Becker - Melanie Hay - Caryn & Jon Glicksman in memory of Jodi Beth Lyons - Barbara Lyons with thanks for your synagogue's hospitality

- Judie & Ari Biderman

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to Stacy Lyons, in memory of Jodi Lyons - the Collins family

in memory of Ely Gordon

- Sheri & Allan Schott

in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Alice Levy - Randy Shill

#### Brick Fund

to Daryl Spencer and family, in memory of his brother Todd Spencer - Jane & Jan Simon - Sheryl Thailer

to Jane Koch and family, in memory of her father Leonard London - Jane & Jan Simon - Sheryl Thailer

to Jerry Kirshman and family, in memory of his mother and father - Sheryl Thailer

to Kathy Liebmann and family, in memory of her father Alfred Baum - Sheryl Thailer - Barbara & Charles Burghardt

to Hermine Aronson, in memory of her brother Gerald Levy - Sheryl Thailer

### High Holy Day Appeal

Sid & Hermine Aronson Stephen & Joyce Eisenberg Fred & Diane Fleischmann Claire Klein Missy Kossar Barbara Lacher Sherry Levitt Bob & Pearl Meyers Sheryl Thailer

### Yizkor Appeal

Bob & Pearl Meyers Mark & Ann Weber Eisenberg/Siegel Family, in honor of the Gunsberg family Bernard Schwartz, in memory of Joseph and Mollie Chertoff; Jack and Rose Schwartz

# Contributions

### Michelle Mitzvah Group

in memory of Jodi Lyons

- Ilyse & Floyd Smith

to Kathy Liebmann and family, in memory of her father Alfred Baum - Ilyse & Floyd Smith

#### Center for Food Action

donated by families in honor of the following simchas

Bar Mitzvah of Jake Ravett Bar Mitzvah of Logan Buchalter

### Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge

donated by their families in honor of the following simchas

Bat Mitzvah of Jordan Stone Bat Mitzvah of Dylan Kelman Bat Mitzvah of Skyler Murphy

#### Jewish Family Services of Rockland

donated by his family in honor of

Bar Mitzvah of Joseph Hittman

Eternal Lights

On November 13, 2014, over forty people gathered together at The River Palm Terrace in Mahwah to celebrate the sixteenth annual Eternal Lights dinner. This major fundraiser was initiated in 1999 when over 20 couples donated \$1,000 each and enjoyed cocktails and dinner together, creating the foundation for this wonderful evening.

More than a decade later we are pleased that many of these same families still gather for this event, and are even more pleased that several new members have joined this dedicated group. This year we are grateful to our hosts, Rabbi Joel & Elyssa Mosbacher and Rabbi Daniel & Jessica Kirzane. Everyone had a lovely time, and again the dinner was a financial success.

Eternal Lights is a celebration of a community, our leaders, and those who work hard every day to make Beth Haverim Shir Shalom such a terrific place for everyone. We list below, and gratefully thank, all those who supported our fundraiser this year. If you are able, please join us next year for the seventeenth annual Eternal Lights dinner.

Maxine & Howard Abner Alison & Norman Axelrod Joe Berman Robin & Barry Cassell Terri & Jesse Coffel Jen Cole Dorie & Seth Cohen Abby Cohen & Lee De Santis Laurie & Marc Daniel Renee & Gary Garbus

Steve Hittman Sandy & Robert Jeanette Sue-Ellen & Ron Johnson Candy & Michael Kassover Deborah & Jeff Klein Arlene & Rich Mandel Barbara & Phil Moss Sandy & Newt Parks Kim & Bill Pressman Robby & Eddie Saiff Leslie Sapienza Janet & Andrew Schlissel Julie & Jonathan Selman Carol & Rob Shulman Michelle & Ben Siegel Ilyse & Floyd Smith Ruth & Stu Turner Marci & Harvey Weinberg Gail & Ranan Wichler Lori & Ritch Yanowitz Beverly & Harlan York

# From the Sifriyah & Outreach

Join the Sifriyah and Outreach Committees as we welcome author Jane Larkin, who will speak on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:30 pm.

Larkin, a young mother with many interests, including caring for an active 4-year-old, gardening, and hitting the tennis courts, lives in Dallas, Texas. But most importantly for us, she is an author, blogger, speaker, and the Jewish half of an interfaith couple. She writes prolifically about her experiences in navigating the interfaith world, and for her, creating a Jewish home. Jane's story has led to her strong involvement with and passion for Outreach. Most recently, she wrote From Generation to Generation: A Story of Intermarriage and Jewish Continuity.

In her true, inspirational story, Larkin tells of her unexpected entry into an interfaith marriage and its unintended consequences. For one, her marriage brought her closer to her roots than she had ever imagined. For another, she now understands her ancient religion in the face of modern times. Her book has received positive reviews. "Whether or not books on interfaith relationships take a... stance 'for' or 'against,' they bring... important conversations out into the public sphere.... <u>From Generation to Generation</u> is a welcome contribution to the discussion." (Rabbi Anne Perry, Author Reading Blog)

Of particular interest to Jane and to us at BHSS is a 2013 poll conducted in the United States by the Pew Research Center's Religion and Public Life Project. It found the intermarriage rate to be 58% among all Jews and 71% among non-Orthodox Jews. Based on this study as well as others, the subject of the interfaith family is one of relevance and complexity. Given Jane Larkin's own journey, her interfaith family background, knowledge, reputation, and experiences, as well as the personal recommendation of a temple member, we have invited her to address our congregation. Her discussion will center on "The Oys and Joys of Being the Parent or Grandparent of a Child in an Interfaith Relationship." As Larkin noted recently, "Interdating and intermarriage can make even the most open-minded Jewish parents and grandparents anxious. It's one thing to welcome intermarried couples into the general community, but it is another when the mixed-faith couple involves your own child or grandchild."

We encourage all congregants to attend this very important discussion. Please mark your calendars. Looking forward to seeing you all on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:30 pm.

Beth Haverim Shir Shalom's Library and Outreach Committees invite you to join and welcome...



JANE LARKIN speaking about

"The Oys and Joys of Being the Parent or Grandparent of a Child in an Interfaith Relationship"

Tuesday, April 28, 2015 7:30 – 9:00 pm

at Beth Haverim Shir Shalom 280 Ramapo Valley Rd Mahwah, NJ 07430 201-512-1983

Light refreshments will be served! For more information, please contact Ruth Turner at 845-351-5732

# Notes from Music

The Shabbat Shirah service, when we honor the dedication of our Adult and Junior Choirs, proved to be a truly wonderful event. It was at times lively, inspiring and culminated in a wonderful parody of "Do You Love Me?" sung with deep appreciation to and from Choirs and Cantor. Thank you all for your dedication and your ongoing efforts.

Movie Night in benefit of the Center for Food Action had a small turnout this year. The brave souls who came out in the bad weather enjoyed snacks and "Hello Dolly!", always a favorite.

On **Sunday, March 15, 2015 at 3:15 pm**, we will be showing another music-inspired movie, "**Orchestra of Exiles.**" It is a FREE event and refreshments will be served. Our own Carole Goodman will be giving us an introduction to the story of Bronislaw Huberman. "Orchestra of Exiles" explores this great man's four-year odyssey, which culminates in the founding of the orchestra that would become the Israel Philharmonic.

BHSS Got Talent is returning! I know it's been greatly missed. So, if you sing, play an instrument, dance, do magic, stand-up... Now is your chance. There are 2 dates for auditions, on a first come, first served basis: Sunday, March 15, 12:00-1:30 pm, and Sunday, March 29, 12:00-1:30 pm. There will be one rehearsal on Sunday, April 19, 12:00-2:30

pm. **Performance date is Sunday, April 26 at 2:00 pm.** Everyone is welcome and this is a FREE event! Bring friends and family.

As you heard in cantor's emotional appeal on *Shabbat Shirah*, if you enjoy singing, consider joining our Adult Choir. We are always welcoming new voices. It's never too late. Please contact Cantor Perper.

As always, our Junior Choir is also always ready to welcome new members. Children must be in third grade or older to participate. The kids get a great start learning for their b'nai mitzvah while having fun and developing a great rapport with Cantor Perper. Lisa Lamster is our contact person for those interested in more information. Please get in touch with her at lisalams@optonline.net.

This year will be filled with interesting programming, lots of planning and lots of fun. Singing is not a requirement for membership in the committee! There is always a free chair at the table for you, my reader, so come join us. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the synagogue. Contact me any time at niberger@aol.com, and let's chat!

Musically yours, Nora Berger

## BHSSTY PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL... PURIM CARNIVAL Sunday, March 8

Sunday, March 8 11:30 - 11:45: Purim Mini Spiel 11:45 - 2pm: Carnival and CFA Food Drive



\$1 for 3 tickets, \$5 for 20 tickets
1 full shopping bag of food for CFA = 50 tickets
2 full shopping bags of food for CFA = 100 tickets
(For each full shopping bag of food donated to CFA, you will be entered to win your choice of a \$50 Starbucks or Dunkin Donuts Gift Card)
For any 9th-12th graders who want to help please contact:
Sam Spencer: 551-427-3663, spencergirl97@aol.com,
Rachel Teichman: 551-579-1522, themystery558@aim.com,
Sammi Lamster: 201-995-7142, sammylammy@optonline.net, or
Stacey Butler: 845-629-8069, Stacey a butler@yahoo.com

# Michelle Mitzvah Group

## SAVE THE DATE! March 27

The Michelle Mitzvah Group was founded almost three decades ago because a father wanted to honor a daughter's memory by "giving back." Since that time the social action mission of this committee has greatly expanded... just as the idea of "*gemilut chasadim*" (acts of loving kindness) has become a pillar upon which BHSS has been built.

So it is a great honor for Michelle Mitzvah to have been asked to participate, along with our sister and brother groups and committees, in the first ever **Sabbath service devoted to Social Action.** 

Please plan on attending this milestone evening... Friday, March 27! I can be sure that our rabbis and cantor will make this a service we shall all remember and cherish.

### On to other matters!

This is shaping up as a banner year for contributions to the Center for Food Action. We kicked off the year during the High Holidays by filling the white **CFA truck with over 400 bags (approximately 6,000 pounds) of food**. Our special thanks to our school, which has enthusiastically gotten behind this worthy cause, and to our Youth Groups, whose annual **Purim Carnival** will take place on **March 8**. Two years ago they came to us and asked if they could have the CFA truck at their carnival and proceeded to plan and promote a day that resulted in 80 bags of food. Last year, they collected 130 bags, and this year has set a goal at 200 bags! Don't bet against their achieving this target, and please help them do so by attending.

One final plea. Our committee has, as we have said, expanded over the years. The needs for help in our community have grown as well. For us, and we are sure for other committees at BHSS as well, this means we need volunteers to help us. We fully understand that belonging to a committee is not everyone's "cup of tea." That does not mean, however, that you can't help. Our congregants represent a huge pool of skills that organizations serving our community desperately need. Maybe a day a week, or a day a month. For example, we work with Oasis, a Paterson organization that provides educational training to help women obtain meaningful employment, plus meals and clothing for those in need. The Hackensack Costco reached out to Oasis and offered to donate food on a daily basis if Oasis could arrange for an early morning pick-up. A few hours once a week to pick up food in Hackensack and deliver to Paterson can impact many, many lives. We need volunteers to carry on this mitzvah. Anyone who can help can contact: Ilyse Smith at mmgbhss@gmail.com.



## MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING ברכה לברכה אברונם לברונם לברונם לברונם לברונם לברונם לברונם לברונם אברונם אברונם אברונם אברו

## March Yahrzeits

MORRIS ABNER LEIZER ALPERSTEIN BERTHA ALTER ABRAHAM APPELBAUM Roslyn Baum LORETTA BECKER Arleen Beech Gloria Bell Anna Berkowitz BARNET BERNSTEIN Donald Bloom FLORENCE BRAUNSTEIN HAROLD BROTMAN Martin Brown ISRAEL CHARNE MARTIN CHERNICK Bennet Cohen Frieda Cohen Jetty Dentz CHARLOTTE DORFMAN GREG DUCHARME Samuel Eichner Sheila Levitt Estrin Paul Fisher BEATRICE FRIEDMAN YOLA GEWELB HENRY GLUCK Alan S. Greene JACOB GROSKIN ALFRED HERTZ PETER HOWARD

Benjamin Iskowitz NATHAN KAHN Stanley Kamel JOSEPH KASSEL SALLY KAY Frank Kestenbaum Abraham Kirshner HELEN KLAPPER MILTON KLEIN Dora Kohn Laura Krane Pearl Lacher NOEL LAMSTER Bernard Lecker Lonnie Lehrer Bess Levene FRANCES LEVENE Frank Levene IRVING LEVINE Adeline Levinson Horowitz **BEATRICE LEVITT** Sol Lirtzman AL LOEW Juan Hans Lowenstein **EVELYN MARCUS** SHIRLEY MARKS George Meisner ISIDORE MOSER **BEATRICE LERNER MOSS** RITA OVADIA Seymour Oventhal

SALLY J. PARIS **GEORGE PERRY** JOY POLLACK PHYLLIS POLLACK HARRIET POPOWITZ MARTIN POPOWITZ Shlomo Pousty BERT ROSENBERG Rose Rubin JOSEPH RUDELL DANIEL L. SCHACHER **GERRY SCHOLL** BETTY SCHOTT HAROLD SENZEL MAX SHILSTAT **ALEX SILVERMAN** Anne Singer SYDNEY STOLLER Rose Surkes Fanny Trepper MARTIN TREPPER Flora Vogel-Lirtzman NORMA WACHTEL WERNER WANDELMAIER MIRIAM WEINBERG THELMA WEINGAST ELYSE WEISSER **ROBERT WOLFF** SARAH WUNSCH DAVID YORK

The Caring Committee is continuing to do the best it can to assist our members in times of need. We are grateful to the Brotherhood who has teamed up with us to better serve our members. Brotherhood, under the direction of Jonathan Theodore, has stepped up to provide rides to doctors and various other destinations. We sincerely thank all those drivers who have volunteered their time. Additionally, we have continued to provide meals, shiva assistance, pastoral visits and other much needed services to members. Rabbi Mosbacher is always there to help us by providing guidance and insight when dealing with challenging issues. We are always available to listen and/or visit, and everything is confidential.

To request services or to become a volunteer, please contact Candy Kassover at candy1951@optonline.net or Laura Miller at mlctsmiller@verizon.net.



## MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING ברנם לברכה אברונם אברונם לברכה אברונם לברכה אברונם לברכה אברונם לברכה אברונם לברונם אברונם לברונם לברונם לברונם לברונם אברונם אברונם אברונם אברו

## April Yahrzeits

DOROTHY ADLMAN George Adlman NATALIE ADLMAN Ibn Art LEON AUERBACH IRVING BECKER SHERWOOD BOFFORD DENISE BROWN KERRY BUTLER HARRY CHINITZ **ESTHER COHEN** PHYLLIS COHEN Eileen Feldman Edward Fink Benjamin Finn Elsie Freeman **RUTH FRISHBERG MORTON FUCHS** IRVING GLICK Norman Green DOROTHY GROSS LARRY GROSS EDITH GROSSMAN

Roslyn Hartman Erwin Hittman Norma Hittman JACOB HOLTZMAN Yona Holtzman ZIPORA HOLTZMAN JACK HOMNICK Lena Israel Evelyn Katz Gertrude Klein Helen Kunego Benjamin Levitt ESTHER LEVY LESTER LEVY Sylvia Levy HENRY LICHTER MITCHELL LICHTMAN ERIC LIEBMANN JUDY MAY SCOTT MILDWURF MARY NEWHOUSE JOSEPH OPPENHEIM RICHARD PAVLOVEC IRVING PESIN

HARRY PIEKARSKY Leza Pincus HARRY RUDNICK LIBBY SCHLOSSER ANNE SCHUMAN JOSEPH SCHWARTZ **IRENE SHOOBS RICHARD SITOMER** Sandra Slavin ESTHER SLUCKER JOSEPH SLUCKER Hyman Smith MELVIN SPITALNY Abraham Spitzer Sylvia Stein ALFRED STEWART PHILIP STRAUS Ilene Tanenbaum **IRWIN THAILER** MORRIS WEINGAST **JULIUS WEISSER** HELLA WEXLER Ronald Zarnet

#### Wish List Donation: Thank You for the Electronic Lobby Screen

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Sheldon and Linda Lyons, Chad Mineo, and the many other extended family and friends of our dear friend Jodi Lyons who graciously gave to make this wish list item a reality.

We hope everyone has had has the opportunity to view our beautiful new electronic screen located in the temple lobby.

This screen gives us a new advanced way to communicate information to our members and prospective members, and we are very excited and grateful for this gift.

Please join us in the spring when we dedicate the screen in Jodi's memory.

Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey's **Good Deeds Day** is March 15. An international day of caring and sharing, Good Deeds Day in northern New Jersey combines a telethon (9 am-1:30 pm) with a food drive to help fill up local food pantries. Both are community-wide. Share in the spirit of the day! Don't forget to answer the call in the morning and bring your food (no glass, please or perishables) to Federation's offices, 50 Eisenhower Drive in Paramus, in the afternoon by 1 pm. Remember: no good deed goes unnoticed!

# Good & Welfare

## Mazal Tov

To Michael Lipson, son of Paul and Clare Lipson, on his earning of the Eagle Scout Rank

## Condolences

To **Jay Levy**, on the death of his father, Marvin Levy To **Janet Moskowitz**, on the death of her mother, Ruth Whitman To **Deborah Berman**, on the death of her father, Marvin D. Suer To **Daryl Spencer**, on the death of his brother, Todd Spencer To **Susan Meyers**, on the death of her husband, Jay Meyers To **Timothy Crouch**, on the death of his aunt, Irene Wilder To **Andrew Schechter**, on the death of his mother, Selma Schechter To **Jerry Kirshman**, on the death of his father, Paul Kirshman To **Shelley Jaffe**, on the death of her father, Ernest Bolson

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

Nita Klaskow Barbara Sternberg Marilyn Taylor Michael Wiesner

To **Alison Axelrod**, on the death of her mother, Janice Kaplan To **Jane Koch**, BHSS Religious School Teacher, on the death of her father, Leonard London

## Thank You

Once again this year, BHSS teens had the opportunity to travel to a *L'Taken* weekend at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism in Washington, DC. The 16 teens who attended this year had an intense, meaningful and fun four days. Thanks to the BHSS Endowment for helping make the experience possible for so many of our young leaders!





Clarke Osborn CHIEF OF POLICE Suffern Police Department 61 Washington Ave Suffern, New York 10901 "A Century of Service"



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#### 01/21/2015

Dear Temple Beth Haverim,

On behalf of the Suffern Police Department, I would like to thank you for your generous donation to the "Suffern PBA/DARE 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Toy Drive".

This year was one of our most trying years due to the fact that the amount of families requesting assistance doubled from years past.

Thanks to your generosity we were able to fulfill all of our goals and assist our communities most needy residents. If I can be of any assistance please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Clarke Osborn Chief of Police

## MONTHLY TOT SHABBAT

Tot Shabbat is back, and better than ever! Families with children from **birth to 2nd grade** are invited to join

Miss llene and Rabbi Mosbacher or Rabbi Kirzane for a story, singing, a craft and a snack, from **9:30-10:15 am** on the following Shabbat mornings:

#### March 14, April 18, May 16, and June 13.

Please RSVP to the synagogue office at 201-512-1983 if you plan to come, so we will have enough supplies for everyone!

## Always wanted to know how to read Hebrew but just didn't get to it?

Join Rabbi Mosbacher's Hebrew 101 class on the following Sundays from noon to 1 p.m.:

> April 26 ~ May 10 ~ May 17 May 31 ~ June 7 ~ June 14

Tuition is only \$25! RSVP to the office today by calling 201-512-1983 or writing to bethhaverim@optonline.net

#### Conne in costume costume **The Measure The Measure According to Disney Aft According to Disne**

# Community Second Night Seder

## PASSOVER 2015



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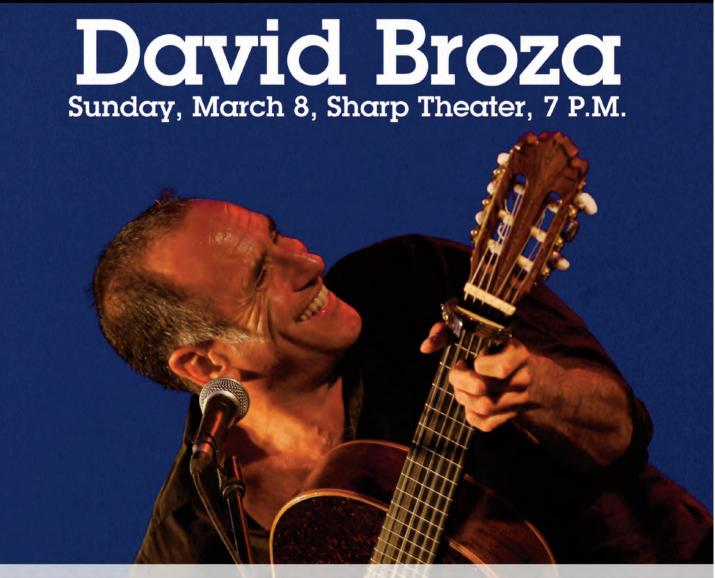
Community Second Night Seder

April 4, 2015

# 5:30 pm

Participate in retelling the Passover Story, enjoy a festive meal and sing your favorite songs. Children will search for the Afikomen and prizes will be awarded! Adults: \$40. Children (under 13 years old): \$18. Please RSVP by March 20, 2015 Beth Haverim Shir Shalom at 201-512-1983. Your payment will reserve your place.

# The Angelica and Russ Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts PRESENTS



Israeli superstar David Broza has been considered one of the most dynamic and vibrant performers in the singer/songwriter world. David's charismatic and energetic performances have brought to worldwide audiences a fusion of the three different countries in which he was raised: Israel, Spain and England, filling concert halls with his famous guitar playing, ranging from flamenco flavored rhythmic and percussion techniques to whirlwind finger picking, to a signature rock and roll sound. He unites the three worlds by utilizing his ability to take on the troubadour tradition, featuring lyrics of the world's greatest poets.

## Tickets: \$48/45/42; Children under 17: \$30

Tickets available at the Box Office: 201-684-7844 or Online @ www.ramapo.edu/berriecenter



For disability-related accommodations, or to request alternative formats, please contact the Box Office 2 weeks in advance of the performance at 201.684.7844.



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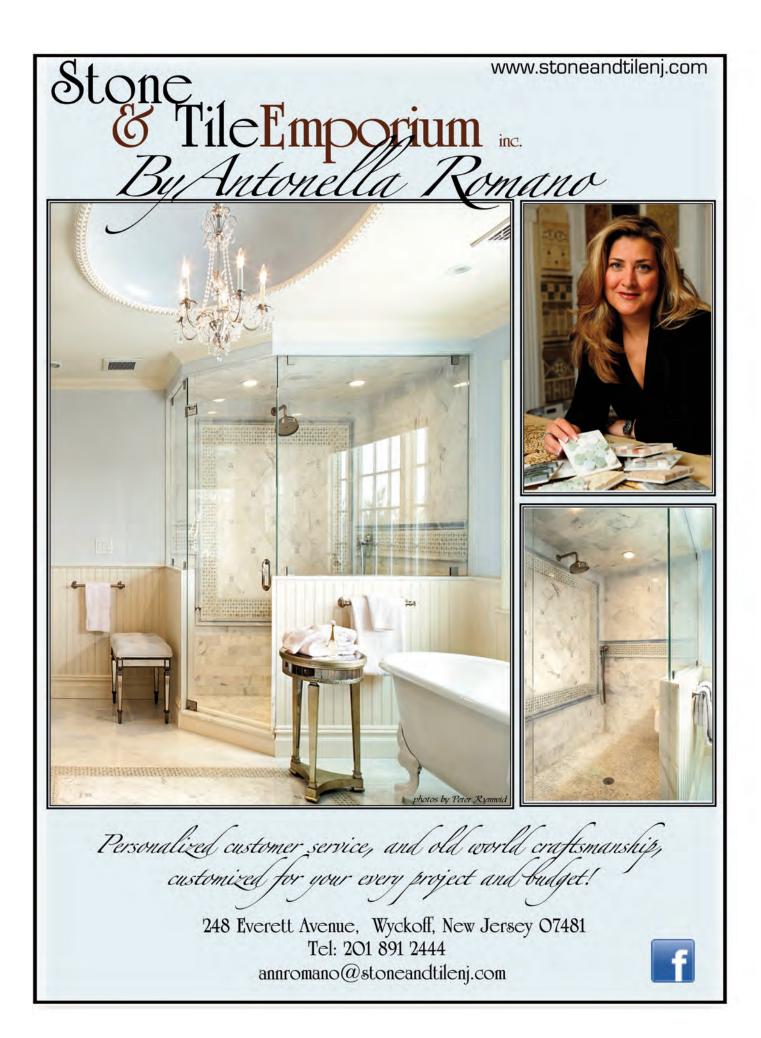
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# The Angelica and Russ Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts PRESENTS



## Mack Brandon's Gospel Explosion

Saturday, March 7, 2015 Sharp Theater, 8 P.M. Tickets: \$30/27/24; Children Under 17: \$18

A Band Called Honalee Tribute to the music of Peter, Paul & Mary Sunday, March 22, 2015 Sharp Theater, 7 P.M. Tickets: \$35/32/27; Children Under 17: \$20





### **Dorothy Leeds** Good Lessons from Bad Women

Good Lessons from Bad Wom Saturday, March 28, 2015 Adler Theater, 8 P.M. Tickets: \$30

Tickets available at the Box Office: 201-684-7844 or Online @ www.ramapo.edu/berriecenter



For disability-related accommodations, or to request alternative formats, please contact the Box Office 2 weeks in advance of the performance at 201.684.7844.







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Rabbi Joel Mosbacher Cantor David Perper Assistant Rabbi Daniel Kirzane Rebecca McVeigh, Educator

Please note: There will be NO Friday evening services, and no First Friday dinner, on Friday, April 3, 2015 (the first night of Passover). Enjoy your seder!

Office Closes at 3 PM:	No School:
Friday, April 3	Sunday, April ½
Office Closed:	Monday, April
Friday, April 10	Tuesday, April

5, 6, and

# To do in March and April:

Play Mah Jongg! at BHSS on Tuesday, March 3 and Tuesday, April 7 beginning at 7 p.m., Sunday, March 22 at 1 p.m. and Sunday, April 26 at 12 p.m. (note special time)

Laugh and sing along with BHSS's Purim According to Disney on Wednesday, March 4 beginning at 6:15 p.m. with Pizza! Shpiel to follow at 7 p.m.

Enjoy **dinner** with your friends at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 6 (RSVP by March 2); services begin at 6 p.m. Come to the mini Purim Shpiel on Sunday, March 8 at 11:30 a.m. Then, PLAY at the Purim Carnival at 11:45 a.m.! Torah Study - Saturdays beginning at 8:15 AM - March 7, 14, 21, 28, and April 4, 11, 18, and 25 Come with your 6th grader and family to 6th Grade Shabbat Dinner before services (RSVP) Friday, March 13 at 6:15 p.m. Wear your camp gear and learn more about our URJ camps at Camp Shabbat on Friday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. Bring your tots to **Tot Shabbat** at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 14 and Saturday, April 11 Show your stuff at the **BHSS Got Talent AUDITIONS** on Sundays, March 15 and 29 beginning at 12 p.m. Experience the moving film "Orchestra of Exiles" on Sunday, March 15 beginning at 3 p.m. Welcome Shabbat with the BHSS Sisterhood at Sisterhood Shabbat on Friday, March 20 beginning at 7:30 p.m. Have lots of Family Fun and a bit of competition at Lifelong Learning's Game Night on Saturday, March 21 at 6:45 p.m. Start your day at the Youth Group's Pancake Breakfast (proceeds going to Gift of Life) - Sunday, March 22, 7:30 - 9 a.m. Find out how to do some Tikkun Olam, healing of the world, at the Social Action Shabbat on Friday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m. Share a wonderful Second Seder with your BHSS friends and family on Saturday, April 4 at 5:30 p.m. (RSVP required) Meet American Jewish composer Cantor Jordan Franzel as he is the Composer in Residence on Friday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. Commemorate Yom HaShoah at BHSS on on Wednesday, April 15 beginning at 7 p.m. Help Lifelong Learning welcome our Scholar in Residence, Dr. Gary Zola of the American Jewish Archives with programs

Friday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, April 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Commemorate Yom HaZikaron (Israel's Memorial Day) and Celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut (Israel's Independence Day) with a concert at Temple Emanuel of the Pascack Valley in Woodcliff Lake, NJ on Wednesday, April 22 beginning at 7 p.m. See what our members can do! at BHSS Got Talent! on Sunday, April 26 beginning at 2 p.m.

Learn Hebrew with Rabbi Mosbacher in his Hebrew 101 class on Sundays from 1 to 2 p.m. -

April 26, May 10, May 17, May 31, June 7, and June 14

Hear from the author of "The Oys and Joys of Being a Parent or Grandparent of a Child in an Interfaith Relationship" in a program sponsored by the Library and Outreach committees on Tuesday, April 28 beginning at 7:30 p.m.