# The Kibbitzer

# Congregation Beth Shalom

706 Bryan Road, Brandon, FL 33511 Phone (813) 681-6547, Fax (813) 681-7517 www.BethShalom-Brandon.org

# January 2019 Volume 29, Issue 8

## Rabbi Bryan Mann 681-6547 Administrative Director Jenny Allen 681-6547 **Cantorial Soloist** Sandy Santucci 681-6547 **Executive Board:** President **Richie Bauman** 841-1555 1st VP: Beit K'Nesset **House of Meeting Gerry Pliner** 436-0080 2nd VP: Beit Am **House of People** Toby Koch 654-0877 3rd VP: Beit Kehillat **House of Community** David Friedman 417-3088 Treasurer Allan Weber 867-885-4806 Secretary Sheila Fishman 833-7843 Members at Large Mitch Baylis 808-561-8130 Michael Barnett 545-6800 David Richter 690-4367 Steve Slavkin 323-0541

# FROM THE RABBI - Rabbi Bryan Mann

# But the New Year Was So Two Months Ago

Around this time of the year a Jewish friend of mine will usually exclaim, "The new year, but we did that already!" or "New Year? That was so two months ago." These jokes highlight the differences between Jewish New Year and the secular new year, but perhaps the new year has not yet happened.



Mishna Rosh Hashanah teaches:

The four new years are: On the first of Nisan, the new year for the kings and for the festivals; On the first of Elul, the new year for the tithing of animals; Rabbi Eliezer and Rabbi Shimon say, on the first of Tishrei. On the first of Tishrei, the new year for years, for the Sabbatical years and for the Jubilee years and for the planting and for the vegetables. On the first of Shevat, the new year for the trees according to the words of the House of Shammai; The House of Hillel says, on the fifteenth thereof.

The new year that happened so two months ago? That was the first of Tishrei, the "new year for years," when we spent our time in deep reflection around our hopes and dreams for this new year. Perhaps some of us are doing a similar process now.

Nisan is the month we have Passover, the first holiday the ancient Israelites were told about as they fled slavery in Egypt. This is a new year for festivals and for kings. This could be a time we reflect both on our own holiday observances and on our leadership. What do we hope to see from our leadership? How are our holiday observances going? What, if anything, would we like to change?

Elul is the month immediately preceding Tishrei when we begin our teshuva process. In this Mishna, however, we are told is it the new year for tithing animals. While few of us are making animal offerings these days, perhaps in our modern world Elul is a time to refocus on the other creatures that inhabit this world with us. How are we taking care of them? How are we treating them? Can we do better?

Shevat begins in the middle of this secular month, the middle of January. As in most Hillel and Shammai debates, Hillel wins, and we observe the new year for the trees on Tu B'shvat. Many celebrate Tu B'shvat as we will in the religious school with a Tu B'shvat seder similar to a Passover seder. It is a time we spend focusing on trees and by extension the natural world. How are we as individuals, a community, a nation, a world protecting trees and the natural world? What can we do better to ensure a habitable world for future generations?

In some ways, yes, the new year was so two months ago, as my Jewish friends like to joke. In other ways, we as Jews are invited throughout the year to refocus on various parts of our inner and outer worlds; leadership, holidays observances, animals, trees.

With this in mind, it feels fitting to say, "Sure a new year was so two months ago, but why shouldn't we spend time reflecting on hopes, dreams, and changes we want to make during the secular new year as well?

# FROM THE PRESIDENT - Richie Bauman

# Looking forward

CBS - we did it, we did it!

In spite of all odds, what did we do? We hired a rabbi, we re-created a religious school, and we held two communitywide Chanukah events.

The first was a public book reading by Rabbi Bryan Mann at Barnes & Noble (who knew that Rabbi Bryan was such a great book reader and knew goblin voices!), and the second was our public Chanukah candle-lighting at Park Square in FishHawk. As an attendee, I had a great time at both, and they were both landmark events.

There is a common thread that runs through all of these: the Rabbi Search Team, the Rabbi Transition Team, the Religious School and the Ritual Committee - and many thanks to all of the individuals who pitched in and helped.



But, at the end of the day, the common thread is one singular person: Sheila Fishman. Sheila has been central to the rabbi search, transition and education, and Congregation Beth Shalom would not be where we are today without her at the helm in those three positions. She truly is the proverbial Woman of Valor - worth her weight in gold.



When we hired Rabbi Bryan, the Rabbi Search Team was dismissed with thanks, and as rabbi has been integrated into the CBS Kehillah (community), I also dismiss the Transition Team with great thanks for all of the hard work done since August. Let us look forward to the secular year 2019 with optimism, with caring and with love. Yasher koach, CBS!

Cein y'hi Ratzon. - Be this God's will.



# **Upcoming Dates to Remember**

• Sunday, Jan. 6, 9:30 a.m.: Religious school resumes.

• Sunday, Jan. 6, 2 p.m.: BESTY & BESTY Jr. meet up at Dave & Busters. More information on page 7.

• Saturday, Jan. 12, 6:30 p.m. CBS Got Talent. Free admission. N information on page 9.

• Monday, Jan. 14: Kolot Shal begin.

• Saturday, Jan.19, 10 a.m.: Bibles and Bagels.

• Monday, Jan. 21, at 6 p.m.: Page Turners. More information on page 6.

• **Sunday, Jan. 27, 3 p.m.:** Life Long Learning - Simcha. More information on page 6.



• Sunday, Jan. 27: Dinner With The Tribe.

• Saturday, Feb. 2, 5:30 p.m.: "Hollywood Salute to Our Heroes" gala. More information on page 9.

• Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m.: Purim Spiel. Details on page 9.



# January Oneg Schedule

There can be no joy without food and drink. — Talmud, Mo'ed Katan

**THANK YOU!** to the following people who will host an oneg Shabbat in January.

• Jan. 4: Janice Perelman will host the oneg as a temple mitzvah.

• Jan. 11: Isabel & Jon Ellis will host the oneg in honor of their 27th anniversary.

• Jan. 18: Denise & Allan Weber will host the oneg in honor of Denise's December birthday.

• Jan. 25: Sheila & Errol will host the oneg in honor of their birthdays.

On behalf of the oneg committee, I want to express our appreciation and thanks to our January oneg hosts!

If you have any questions or are interested in hosting an oneg, please contact us (Judith 856-816-2174, Anita 813-990-9498, and Anna 707-628-5399).

Anna Feldman, Judith Pliner, and Anita Hoffman

The Kibbitzer

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Email and articles for publication: TheKibbitzer@hotmail.com For current news and events see the congregation's website: http://www.bethshalom-brandon.org

Jenny Allen, Administrative Director 813-681-6547 • <u>cbs-admin@hotmail.com</u>

#### Office hours:

subject to change without notice, please refer to eBlast Tues.-Fri: 9 a.m.—2 p.m. Office is closed on holidays

Weekly Email Blast submissions

<u>bethshalominfo@gmail.com</u> eBlast deadline is Wednesday at 4 p.m.



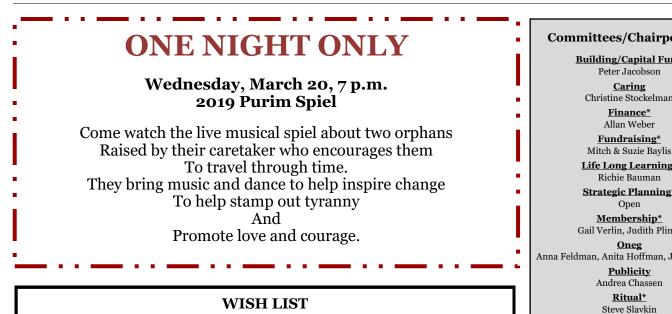
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Financially supporting the synagogue is the responsibility of the entire Jewish community so that it can continue to exist and grow for everyone, both now and in the future. Items are often "wished" for to add to our spiritual home. Below are a few of our most frequently requested items that, while not deemed necessary, would certainly enhance our environment:

While monetary donations are welcomed, encouraged, and needed and can be used where the temple needs it most, we know sometimes people prefer concrete gifts and look for opportunities to provide in other ways. We hope this list is helpful. Before making an in-kind contribution, due to limited storage space, please contact the temple first to be sure the item is still on the list.



**Interior Wish List:** Plain paper fax machine for the CBS office

Large Print Copies of Mishkan HaNefesh Commercial oven for kitchen 8-New floor length round tablecloths in white

6 - new black tablecloths

New laptop or pc for Education Office

#### **Exterior Wish List:**

Planters, soil and vines for pergola Awnings for glass door and office entries Bags of red mulch Pavers to make a path to fire-pit

ARE YOU SUPPORTING OUR

# **COMMERCIAL ADVERTISERS?**

Since revenue from our commercial advertisers helps to defray the cost of printing and distributing The Kibbitzer,

we urge all of our readers to patronize our commercial advertisers and, when you see them, to thank them.

Without them, Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon would not be ? able to publish The Kibbitzer in print and online.

#### **Committees/Chairpersons**

**Building/Capital Fund** Peter Jacobson

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Allan Weber Fundraising\*

Life Long Learning\* **Richie Bauman** 

Strategic Planning\*

Gail Verlin, Judith Pliner

Anna Feldman, Anita Hoffman, Judith Pliner

Andrea Chassen

**Facility and Safety** Mitch & Suzie Bavlis

Social Action\* Open

**Religious School\*** Open

**BESTY-Youth Group\*** Advisor-Andrea Chassen and Kristan Birnholz President -Liz Pelk

\* Ex-officio voting board member (each committee only gets one vote)

#### Other Programs

**CBS Singles Over 50** Anita Clifford **Chavurah** open **Dinner With the Tribe** Judy Jacobson Interfaith/Outreach Jan Golden, Sheila Slavkin Kibbitzer Editor Lea Garbett Kolot Shalom - Choir Joan Frankel Library

**Richie Bauman** Men's Club Michael Barnett

???

Page Turners Phyllis Newman

Web Administrator Jenny Allen

> Yarn Mavens Phyllis Newman

# Join with CBS in offering congratulations and recognition to the following members on their accomplishments:

#### **KUDOS**

• Kudos to **Sheila Fishman** and the **transition team** all their work planning our many community-wide Chanukah events.

• Kudos to **Joan Frankel** and the **Kolot Shalom members** for their Chanuhkah celebration performance.

Do you know a CBS member who should be congratulated for a special accomplishment? If so, email the name and accomplishment to <u>cbs-admin@hotmail.com</u>.





# MEMBERSHIP

The membership committee would like to wish everyone at Congregation Beth Shalom a healthy and happy new year! We look forward to seeing you at CBS events this year.



Judith Pliner and Gail Verlin Membership Co-Chairmen

# Peter A. Jacobson, M.D.

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# LIFE LONG LEARNING-Richie Bauman



Life Long Learning is back! Bible and Bagels is now a monthly event, continuing on the third Shabbat (Saturday) morning of the month at 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Bryan, we will engage the Torah portion, Tanach or other text while enjoying our nosh and the world famous Chivas KidOur next adventure is Simcha (Joy) based on the book by Arthur Green, Simcha - Judaism's Ten Best Ideas. This course is ideal for people new to Judaism, a refresher for those not new to Judaism as well as those that are not vet part of the tribe but would love to learn what we are all about. Simcha will start on Sunday, Jan. 27, from 3 p.m. -4:30 p.m., and will be directly followed by Dinner with the Tribe. A great way to spend a Sunday afternoon and evening.

dush. Our next session is on Saturday. Jan. 19.

#### PAGE TURNERS

Monday, Jan. 21, at 6 p.m., Page Turners will meet for a light dinner and to discuss the novel *Beneath* a Scarlet Sky by Mark Sullivan.

Based on the true story of a forgotten hero, this is the triumphant epic tale of one young man's incredible courage and resilience during one of history's darkest hours. Pino Lella wants nothing to do with the war or the Nazis. However, when his family home in Milan is destroyed by Allied

bombs, Pino is thrust into a life that takes him to unexpected places and involves great personal risk helping Jews escape the Nazis.

We hope you can join us in the library for this lively and engaging event.

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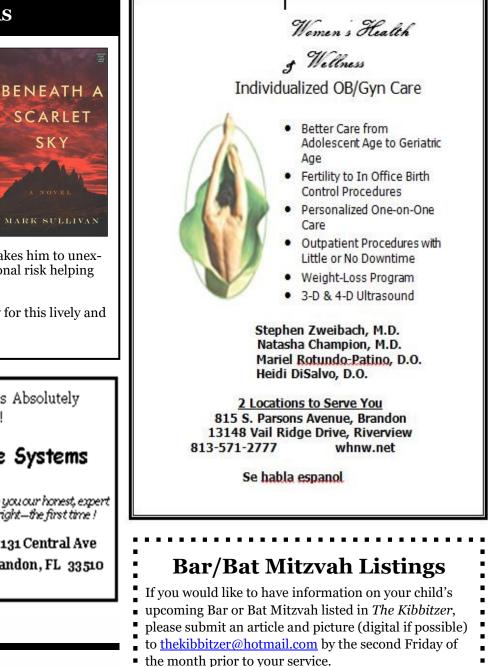
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SKY





# EDUCATION— Sheila Fishman

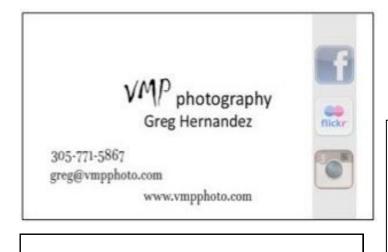
Over the final weeks of 2018, the religious school has been working diligently on enhancements to the curriculum to ensure that our students receive the finest education possible.

When we re-convene on Jan. 6, Rabbi Bryan will be visiting with our 2<sup>nd</sup>- and 3<sup>rd</sup>-graders for some special time to address Jewish values. This program will be offered from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. On this date, worship services for all students will be offered at 11:30 a.m. As usual, our day will end at noon.

Sunday, Jan. 13, religious school commences at 9:30 a.m., and children will join their teachers in their classrooms for Hebrew and Judaica classes. At 10:30, all students will meet in the sanctuary for a Tu B'Shevat celebration and Seder. Parents and congregants are invited to join us for this special celebration.

Tu B'shevat gets its name from the date on which the holiday occurs, the 15th of the month of Shevat, a Jewish holiday often referred to as the new year of the trees. Over time, Tu B'shevat has developed into an ecological holiday that reminds Jews of our connection to the earth and to our role as caretakers of the environment. Some modern practices include donating money to plant trees in Israel and planting trees locally. The kabbalistic Tu B'shevat seder has been renewed. As part of the Tu B'shevat seder it is customary to eat from seven species of foods, including wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates.

Religious school is closed on Sunday, Jan. 20, but we meet again on Sunday, Jan. 27, for classes. On the last date of the month, our worship service will be provided by Rabbi



We encourage you to review our birthday, anniversary and yahrzeit anniversaries each month, and notify the office of any errors.

# **BESTY BEAT**

## CALLING ALL 6TH $- 12^{TH}$ -GRADERS AND THEIR PARENTS

BESTY and BESTY Jr is kicking off the new year at Dave & Buster's! Parents, please join your kids as we kick off the new year. Come meet the new advisors as your kids hang out with other youth group members.



Date: Sunday, Jan.6th, 2pm Location: Dave & Buster's, 10209 Estuary Lakes Drive R.S.V.P.: <u>wannabemybesty@gmail.com</u> so we know how many to expect

We can't wait to see you there!

#### **CBS ON FACEBOOK**



Our congregation has a few places to find us on Facebook! All three of the following groups require approval to join:

✓ Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon

 Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon Religious School Parent Association
Youth Group Then there is our page:
Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon that anyone can follow.

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# **JEWISH COOKING**



#### Tu Bishvat Fruit & Nut Cups

Tu Bishvat or the "New Year of the Trees" is Jewish Arbor Day. This dish pays homage to the Seven Species which we eat on Tu Bishvat.

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

1/3 cup walnuts

1/3 cup almonds

1/3 cup pecans

1 cup dates

1 cup apricots (or your choice of dried fruit, such as apples, cranberries, etc.)

1 cup raisins

1/3 cup sugar

2 extra large eggs

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

1. In a food processor, chop the nuts, dates and apricots with quick on/off pulses until the fruits and nuts are coarsely chopped.

2. Place the chopped fruit and nuts in a bowl and blend in the sugar and raisins.

3. Beat the eggs and add to the fruits and nuts. Mix well.

4. Thoroughly grease a mini-cupcake tin.

5. Fill the muffin tins level with the pan. Do not overfill or the fruit may burn.

6. Bake in a 350°F oven for approximately 20 minutes.

Let cool and remove the fruit and nut cups. You will need to loosen them by running a sharp knife around the edges.

NOTES: Cook time: 30 min. Makes 24 servings. This recipe will fill two mini-cupcake tins, to yield 24 fruit and nut cups.

From <u>www.reformjudiasm.org</u>



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# THE FUN STUFF

#### Annual Gala Tickets On Sale Now! "Hollywood Salute to Our Heroes"

Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon will hold its annual fundraiser Saturday, Feb. 2, at 5:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge of Brandon, 800 Centennial Lodge Drive.

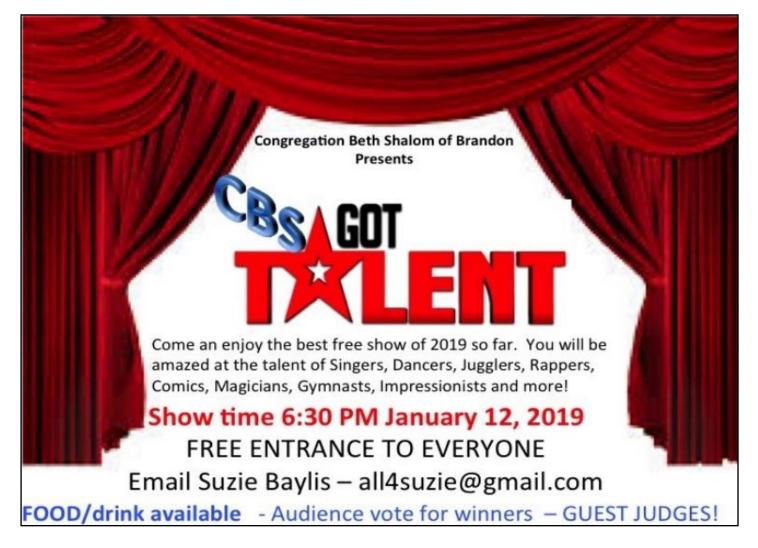
Congregation Beth Shalom is honored to partner with the Special Operations Warrior Foundation (SOWF). Poceeds of the evening will be shared with SOWF to ensure full college funding to every surviving child of a special operator who loses their life in the line of duty. SOWF also provides immediate financial assistance to hospitalized wounded, ill, and injured service members so their families can be at their bedside.

This year's event, a red carpet gala, "Hollywood

Salute to Our Heroes" features a cinema-themed tribute to our military. The evening will be emcee'd by a special guest star and feature movie trivia games, door prizes, free red carpet photos with Daniel Craig (James Bond), dancing, a delicious buffet dinner, and silent auction.

The highlight of the evening will be a live art auction that will feature museum/gallery quality art as well as military and movie memorabilia.

Tickets cost \$40 for adults, but just \$35 for CBS members, and \$10 for children ages 7 -13, free for children 6 and under. Tickets may be purchased by phone at (813) 681-6547 or online, at www.bethshalom-brandon.org.





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#### **DONOR** \$\$18 - \$35 Howard & Sandra Saviet Karen Weber

The High Holy Day Appeal for 5779 is open through the end of January 2018. To make a contribution, please contact the office. This does not include donations made through the Book of Remembrance or Adopt-a-Book Campaigns, nor does it include non-members. If there are any errors or omissions to this listing, please notify the office as well.

# MARDI GRAS GALA SPONSORS

When it's time to pick a vendor or hire a professional for services, keep in mind these generous businesses that support CBS. Thank you to the following businesses and friends for their participation in our Mardi Gras Gala.

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Congregation Beth Shalom accepts donations for many purposes, with a variety of opportunities for donors to support the good works of the Temple. You may contact the office either by phone or email to make a contribution, or head to our website to make a secure online payment through a PayPal account or by using a credit card.

#### Funds:

- General Fund (unrestricted): An unrestricted gift to the General Fund allows the temple to use those funds wherever they may be needed most. This fund incorporates contributions received from our High Holy Day Appeal, Yahrzeit donations, Bricklets, Adopt-A-Book, Tree of Life (unless otherwise indicated) and other non-restricted gifts.
- **Building Fund**: A fund to ensure the continuing physical growth of our spiritual home. Intended for capital improvements and major building repairs.
- Endowment Fund: Gifts to this fund are placed in an investment account and temporarily restricted or can be defined/ restricted by the donor. This fund ensures the future of our temple.
- **Religious School Scholarship Fund:** These funds will be made available to Religious School students who are in need of tuition assistance, as determined confidentially by the Treasurer.
- **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**: a fund for assistance to families in need, scholarship assistance, interfaith council, Holocaust museum and other endeavors at the Rabbi's discretion.
- Youth Group Fund: a fund that supports the ongoing engagement of post b'nai mitzvah youth, providing meaningful and fun experiences for our teens, and keeping them connected to their Jewish community.

If you wish to designate a gift to a particular purpose, for example, Food Bank, Choir, Oneg, Social Action, etc., you may do so by noting as such on your payment method or with an accompanying note; otherwise, your gift will be used where it is needed most.

#### **Opportunities:**

- Adopt-A-Book: A dedication label will be placed in one of our prayer books, to commemorate a simcha or in honor or memory of a loved one for just \$54.
- Bricklets: For as little as \$9 you can send a Bricklet Card instead of buying a card for birthdays, condolences, etc. A Bricklet Card in your name will be sent to the person you wish stating that a donation has been made in his or her name to Beth Shalom to honor the occasion.
- **Tree of Life**: The Tree of Life is on the back wall of our Sanctuary. An engraved leaf or stone can commemorate many simchas, b'nai mitzvah, wedding, birth, graduations, etc. Leaves are \$180, and stones are \$1800.
- **Yahrzeit Plaque**: To honor the death of a loved one, you may purchase a plaque that will be cared for in perpetuity for \$250. The name of the deceased along with their date of death is included on the plaque.

Unless otherwise noted by you, your gift will be acknowledged in The Kibbitzer the month following its receipt. If your donation is incorrectly listed or omitted, please notify the temple office immediately.

Donations listed below were received between November 16 and December 15.

#### GENERAL FUND In Loving Memory of Diane Slavkin Steve & Sheila Slavkin

For the CBS Food Pantry Rob Northrup

In Loving Memory of Lara Enszer Julie Enszer

In Honor of Chanukah for Allan & Denise Weber Loretta Weber & Mel

> In Loving Memory of Dale Kahn Anna & Steve Feldman

**In Loving Memory of Irving Balot** Keith Balot

In Loving Memory of Seymour Ponemon Arthur Ponemon

In Loving Memory of Arthur & Dorothy Ratner, Joan Ratner, Sarah Mull, Leslie & Olive Isbell Ira & Shirley Ratner

In Loving Memory of David Sanders, step-father of Sheila Slavkin Steve & Sheila Slavkin

#### BRICKLET

In Honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Orlando Covington III "BJ" , Mazel Tov Gail & Michael Verlin Toby Koch & Alan Weiss

#### **FUNDRAISING**

**Donation** Gerry & Judith Pliner

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In Honor of Sandy Santucci, Woman of Distinction

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#### **RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In Loving Memory of Berne Lubonne Carole Plesur

In Loving Memory of Joel Zazulia Iylene & Jeff Miller

> In Honor of Joan Sherer Carole Roberts

# **OUR CONGREGATION**



# Anniversaries

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# Yahrzeits

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1/12	Carol	Wagner
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1/19	Danita	Freedman
1/20	Gayle	Borgen
1/20	Christina	Frye
1/23	Clara	Barnett
1/24	Steven	Yavelow
1/24	Garrett	Borgen
1/25	Cynthia	Goldstein
1/30	Errol	Fishman

# Simchat Shabbat!

Come celebrate vour birthday or anniversary with us! A special Shabbat service is held every month to honor all our jovs for that month. For this month it will be:

**January 18** 

The dates listed for the Yahrzeits are adjusted yearly according to the Jewish Calendar and may not necessarily coincide with the common date of death. Names are read for Kaddish at the Shabbat before the actual date. If you would like to have the common date listed, please contact the temple office.

Mother

Grandfather

of

of

Dave

Lynn

# Want to advertise in The Kibbitzer?

Ad Size	Monthly Rate	10% Discounted (Annual only)
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1/4 page	\$40	\$432
1/2 page	\$50	\$540
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# Babysitters

Contact the temple office for a list of available babysitters. Contact information, qualifications and transportation details available for each sitter. We will not publish information about our younger members online due to privacy concerns.



ATTENTION! We send The Kibbitzer out online. This change has been made to help decrease one of our expenses at Beth Shalom.

However, if you prefer receiving your Kibbitzer via the US Mail, please call the Temple at (813) 681-6547 or e-mail the Temple (cbs-admin@hotmail.com) to tell us you **do not** want to get your Kibbitzer online. Please help Beth Shalom cut its expenses and receive your Kibbitzer sooner.



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Congregation Beth Shalom

JANUARY 2019

		1 New Years Day	2 Fundraising Mtg 6:30pm	ę	4 7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Ser- vice	ы
6 Religious School 9:30 am, Conf. Class 11am Purim Rehearsal 12:30 pm, BESTY event 2pm	7	8 7pm Board Meeting	0	10	11 7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Ser- vice	12 CBS Got Talent (tentative)
13 9:30am Religious School	14 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	Ŀ	16	17	18 7:00 pm Simcha Shabbat Service	19 Bible & Bagels 10 am
5	21 Page Turners 6 pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm	8	23 LILL Mtg 6:30 pm Ritual Mtg 7:30 pm	24 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	25 7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Ser- vice	50
27 9:30am Religious School	28 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	29	90	31 Choir Rehearsal 7pm		



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Inside Scoo	op
Membership	5
Mazels & Kudos	5
Youth Group	7
Religious School	7
Kolot Shalom	10
Calendar	15

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