

# The Kibbitzer

*Congregation Beth Shalom*

706 Bryan Road, Brandon, FL 33511

Phone (813) 681-6547

[www.BethShalom-Brandon.org](http://www.BethShalom-Brandon.org)

**March 2020**  
**Volume 30, Issue 10**

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## **FROM THE RABBI - Rabbi Bryan Mann**

### **Increasing Joy Throughout Adar**

Rav Yehuda, the son of Rav Shmuel bar Sheilat said in the name of Rav, "מי שנכנס אדר מרבין בשימחה" *Mi she'nichnas adar marabin b'simcha* "One who enters the Hebrew month of Adar increases in joy." For many of us this line is epitomized by the holiday of Purim which celebrate this year Monday, March 9 and 10. Much of Adar is spent anticipating Purim. Getting excited about planning one's costume. Coming up with silly Jewish humor to share with friends and family. For some finding joy in preparing for a Purim shpiel.

On Purim itself we dress in those costumes, participate in or watch a Purim shpiel, some get drunk, it is a holiday filled with revelry. Then the 15th of Adar comes. We return to our regular lives and yet we still have half a month left of this season of joy and *מי שנכנס אדר מרבין בשימחה*. One who enters Adar increases joy.

Some might say, we don't actually have to DO anything to increase joy during Adar. Right after this quote from Rav Yehuda the Talmud goes on to say; "Rav Papa said, "Therefore if you have a court case avoid it in the month of Av when fortune is bad and make yourself available in the month of Adar when fortune is good."

For Rav Papa, the month of Adar is a lucky month. It's a month when the cosmic or spiritual energy is all about joy and good fortune. And yet, I imagine then just as now there were moments in Adar in Talmudic times that decreased joy. That showed good fortune does not always fall in Adar.

Just because it is Adar, that does not mean we or a loved one will not get sick. It does not mean our financial struggles magically disappear. It does not mean whatever hardships we've been dealing with are immediately resolved. Just because it is Adar that does not mean new hardships will not come about.

So how do we increase joy, how do we feel the spiritual energy of a fortuitous month while dealing with our own hardships. For me, I find inspiration in two of the other mizvot of Purim; *משלוח מנות* *mishloach manot* and *מאתנות לאביונים* *matanot levayonim*.

Toward the end of Megilat Esther, the Book of Esther we read, "the same days on which the Jews enjoyed relief from their foes and the same month which had been transformed for them from one of grief and mourning to one of festive joy, they are to observe them as days of feasting and merry-making, and as an occasion for sending gifts to one another, (*מאתנות לאביונים* and presents to the poor.)"

These last two observances gifts to one another *משלוח מנות* and presents to the poor *מאתנות לאביונים* are ways we can actively increase joy not only on Purim but throughout all of Adar. Sending a gift is a material way of expressing gratitude for someone who cares about us. While, our friends and family appreciate material gifts sometimes a phone call, a hug, simply saying, "Hey I'm really glad you are in my life." This is a way to increase joy not only in Adar but all year round. Who doesn't love being on the receiving end of a gift.

*מאתנות לאביונים* can literally change someone's life. Helping someone in need financially, even just buying a meal, covering gas, or otherwise helping them can both help them survive is a way to increase joy in their lives. Just with *משלוח מנות* we can and should find regular times throughout the month and year to increase joy through gifts to the poor.

Adar is an opportunity for us to increase joy in our own lives and in the world. Some of us might agree with Rav Papa. There's something in the air that makes this time more joyful. Others might need an infusion of joy due to the hardships we face. *מי שנכנס אדר מרבין בשימחה* *Mi she'nichnas adar marabin b'simcha*. May all of us find ways to increase joy for each other during the rest of Adar.



<sup>1</sup> Talmud Bavli Taanit 29a

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Ester 9:22

## FROM THE PRESIDENT - Jon Ellis

First, I would like to thank all involved for the work done on this year's fundraiser as well as our partner, the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. The Roaring 20's Charity Gala was a solid event. As of the date of writing this column, I do not have the final numbers relates to the event. Notwithstanding, Isabel and I enjoyed ourselves. A number of women had great 1920's outfits and even a few of the men.

As for membership, the good news is that we lost no members this month. However, we are not getting back our lost members or bringing in new or younger members. We are now down to 88 family units, substantially lower than we were a number of years ago. To put this in prospective, in 2008 we had 149 family units. This means over the past 11 years membership has dropped by 41%. And we see this in everything we do. The religious school is down substantially, forcing us to consolidate classes. The number of B'nai Mitzvahs each year has dropped substantially. This year, I believe, we only had one. This can be compared to as more than 10 in years passed. As we lose members, we lose the talent pool from which we can draw for board and committee positions. We lose revenue from dues and donations. The loss of revenue had forced us to use our reserves and endowment, which is not sustainable. And most importantly, we lose a level of vibrancy. The only good news from this is that the members we do have appear to be committed.

From a review of the loses, for which no one can be fully certain, they fall into a few groups. We lose a number to life circumstances, such as moving out of the area or death. This is something beyond our control. Many younger families leave after their children become bar or bat mitzvah or the children graduate from youth group. We need to focus our attention on retention of this group, or at least the few families we have in this group. Notwithstanding, this is a chronic problem for all synagogues, not just Beth Shalom. I believe we lost a number of members when Rabbi Torop left and the subsequent rabbinical transition. And while Rabbi Mann has reached out, rabbinical transitions always create problems with membership. Some leave because they no longer identify with the congregation or the membership. Others leave as a result of slights or insensitive actions of the leadership. In the last two areas, we have lost long

standing members and must do a better job.

But most importantly, even though we are losing congregants, the worst news is that we are failing to add new members at the same rate as years past. This is not only a Congregation Beth Shalom issue, it is a national issue. However, we seem to be suffering with this issue more than most communities and unlike a number of areas of the country, we are in a growth area. The growth, however, is not translating into membership growth and it should be. We see this particularly with the young families and our religious school. What we are doing and how we are doing it no longer works. We need to accept this and begin to review and embrace transformative change. Without it, we will not survive.

The board will be addressing this issue in the next few days and there will be a membership meeting shortly afterward.



**Congregation Beth Shalom provides a meaningful spiritual home for people of all ages and levels of knowledge, a place to learn and to question, a place to worship and to celebrate, and a place to find a community that cares.**

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## Upcoming Dates To Remember

- **Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m.:** We're Not Getting Any Younger series. Details on page 6.
- **Friday, March 6, 7 p.m.:** "A Celebration of Education" special Shabbat service. More details on page 7.
- **Saturday, March 7, at 10 a.m.,** Taste of Tanach will discuss (Parshat T'tzaveh): Judaism and Divination. More information on page 6.
- **Sunday, March 8, 9:30 a.m.:** Religious school Purim celebration. Details on page 7.
- **Monday, March 9, 7 p.m.:** Interactive Purim Spiel. More information on page 4.
- **Tuesday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.:** Ladies Night Out. River's Edge Bar & Grill, 6626 Ohio Avenue, Gibsonton. More information on page 9.
- **Friday, March 13 & Saturday, March 14:** Rabbi candidate visit. Please see a full schedule of events on page 4.
- **Sunday, March 15, at 3 p.m.,** Let's Chat will focus on Jews and Alcohol on Purim. More information on page 6.
- **Monday, March 16, at 6 p.m.:** Page Turners. Details on page 9.
- **Saturday, March 21, 6:30 p.m.:** Dinner With The Tribe. Details on page 10.
- **Sunday, March 22, 7 p.m.:** We're Not Getting Any Younger series. Details on page 6.
- **Saturday, April 4, at 10 a.m.,** Taste of Tanach will discuss (Parshat Tzav/ Shabbat haGadol): Evolution of Rituals. Details on page 6.
- **Thursday, April 9, 6 p.m.:** Congregation Second Night Seder. More information on page 8.
- **Sunday, April 19, at 3 p.m.,** Let's Chat will be a Yom HaShoah Study – Experiences of Anti-Semitism and How to Respond. Details on page 6.



*Religious Education Calendar, page 7;  
Full calendar, page 15*

## March 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 March.

▪ **March 6: Sheila & Errol Fishman** will host the oneg as a tribute to our **religious school students, aides, and teachers**. Students will be assisting Rabbi Bryan in the Shabbat service. A big HOORAH to the Fishmans and our wonderful religious school students!

▪ **March 13: Myron & Jackie Feldman** will be celebrating their 21st anniversary, and they will co-host the oneg with **Anna & Steve Feldman** who will be also celebrating their anniversary. Mazel tov to all the Feldmans!

▪ **March 20: Dave & Carole Anne Friedman** will host the oneg in honor of Dave's birthday. Yeah, Dave!

▪ **March 27: Toby Koch & Alan Weiss** will host the oneg in honor of their anniversary!

On behalf of the oneg committee, I want to express a big "THANKS" to our March oneg hosts!

*Anna Feldman & Judith Pliner*

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\*\*\*\*\*

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### Office hours:

subject to change without notice, please refer to eBlast  
Tues., Wed., and Friday: 9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.  
Voicemails and emails will be monitored daily.  
Office is closed on holidays

### Weekly Email Blast submissions

[bethshalominfo@gmail.com](mailto:bethshalominfo@gmail.com)  
eBlast deadline is Wednesday at 4 p.m.

## RABBI SEARCH COMMITTEE

Dear Congregants,

The search committee is pleased to let you know that we have confirmed an interview weekend with a rabbinic candidate. This rabbi has an extensive Jewish education and was ordained in 2014. He is currently serving as rabbi at a reform congregation in Florida.

The spiritual journey of this rabbi has taken him on many paths. Throughout the years, he has immersed himself in Jewish education and created, led and participated in numerous Jewish and interfaith programs. Prior to serving as a pulpit rabbi, he was the rabbi of a local Chavurah group in South Florida, taught Sunday school music, served as a song leader, and has led weekly Shabbat services and healing circles at various locations including assisted living facilities.

Here is our schedule of events:

### **Friday, March 13:**

- At **5 p.m.**, the rabbi will join board members, the search committee members, and their spouses for a Shabbat dinner.

- At **7 p.m.**, Shabbat services will begin for all congregants and guests. Please join us as the rabbi leads us in prayer, entertains us with his musical skills, and shares his D'Var Torah.

### **Saturday, March 14:**

- At **9 a.m.**, we will start with a meeting of rabbi and the search committee.

- This will be followed by a Taste of Tanakh with a short Torah reading by the rabbi at **10 a.m.** The Taste of Tanakh is open to all congregants of Congregation Beth Shalom.

- The day will continue with additional meetings.

- At **7 p.m.**, we will be closing our visit with a musical Havdalah service open to all congregants and guests. The service will end with desserts, cheeses, wine and "schmoozing."

We look forward to talking with this rabbi about the future of Congregation Beth Shalom and hope that you can join us for as many of the events as possible.

## **Interactive Purim Spiel and Karaoke**

The rabbi has been SO OVERWHELMED this year that he has not had time to even review the story of Purim!

There is so much on his plate this month and so little time before Purim that there's no way he's going to remember everything that happened. He's going to need your help to tell the story!

Who was Vashti? How did Esther become queen? What's up with that Haman (booo) guy?

Join us **Monday, March 9, at 7 p.m.**, to help remind the rabbi of the story of Purim during our interactive Purim spiel. As a part of our interactive Purim spiel we will be doing Purim spiel karaoke utilizing the songs from Shushan Rhapsody that our very own Andrea Chassen envisioned.

If you are interested in learning one of these songs prior to Purim Spiel Karaoke please email [rabbibryanmann@gmail.com](mailto:rabbibryanmann@gmail.com).



## Committees/Chairpersons

### **Building/Capital Fund**

Peter Jacobson

### **Caring**

Christine Stockelman

### **Finance\***

Allan Weber

### **Fundraising\***

Mitch & Suzie Baylis

### **Life Long Learning\***

Janice Perelman

### **Strategic Planning\***

Open

### **Membership\***

Gail Verlin, Judith Pliner

### **Oneg**

Anna Feldman, Judith Pliner, and  
Sue Reckner

### **Publicity**

Andrea Chassen

### **Ritual\***

Steve Slavkin

### **Facility and Safety**

Mitch & Suzie Baylis

### **Social Action\***

open

### **Religious School\***

Sheila Fishman

### **BESTY—Youth Group\***

Advisor — Steven Birnholz

President — Kelsey Birnholz

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

## Other Programs

### **CBS Singles Over 50**

Anita Clifford

### **Chavurah**

Sheila Fishman

### **Dinner With the Tribe**

Anita Clifford

### **Interfaith/Outreach**

Sheila Slavkin

### **Kibbitzer Editor**

Lea Garbett

### **Kolot Shalom — Choir**

open

### **Library**

Sandy Saviet  
David Richter

### **Men's Club**

Seth Dugan

### **Page Turners**

Sheila Fishman

### **Web Administrator**

Jenny Allen



## Kudos & Mazels

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

### MAZELS

- Mazel Tov to **Ari Cantrell** for being accepted into Florida Polytechnic University.
- Mazel Tov to **Bree Phoenix** on her conversion to Judaism.



### KUDOS

- Kudos to the **fundraising committee** for a successful Roaring 20s Gala. And kudos to all who attended and helped make this a successful event.

*Do you know a CBS member who should be congratulated for a special accomplishment?  
If so, email the name and accomplishment to [cbs-admin@hotmail.com](mailto:cbs-admin@hotmail.com).*

## MEMBERSHIP

The membership and fundraising committees are jointly planning an event for May 2020 to celebrate Congregation Beth Shalom's 30th anniversary. Invitations for the reunion will be sent to community leaders and current and former members. We are hopeful that the publicity generated from this event will help us grow membership.

Happy Passover.

– *Judith Pliner and Gail Verlin,*  
*"The Membership Ladies"*



**BEN FERNANDES & KEITH BALOT**  
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## CBS FINANCIALS

In an effort to be transparent to all of our congregants, Congregation Beth Shalom will be publishing its monthly financials for all to see, and can be found in the link below.

With this transparency, we welcome all to note areas of need, and we welcome any suggestions or contributions to keep CBS on firm financial footing.

<https://bethshalom-brandon.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/173/2020/02/CBS-20.01.31-PL-vs-Budget.pdf>



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## CBS ON FACEBOOK

- Congregation Beth Shalom
- Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon Religious School Parent Association
- BESTY & BESTY Jr. Parents
- Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon



## LIFELONG LEARNING — Janice Perelman



• **Saturday, March 7, at 10 a.m.**, Taste of Tanach will discuss (Parshat T'tzaveh): Judaism and Divination. Parshat T'tzaveh outlines the priestly garments including the Urim and Tumim, tools of divination used by the High Priest. We will use this a jumping-off point to look at some of the mystical aspects of Jewish

tradition including other forms/rituals of Jewish divination.

• **Sunday, March 15, at 3 p.m.**, Let's Chat will focus on Jews and Alcohol on Purim. The most recent Jewish holidays "command" us to get drunk. Wine, a symbol of holiness and joy, is drunk at almost every Jewish holiday and life cycle event. What about Jews who suffer from addiction or abstain from alcohol for other reasons? Let's chat about our own relationships to drinking and how we feel

about alcohol at these sacred occasions.

• **Saturday, April 4, at 10 a.m.**, Taste of Tanach will discuss (Parshat Tzav/Shabbat haGadol): Evolution of Rituals. On Shabbat haGadol, the Shabbat immediately before Passover it is customary to spend time studying the laws of Passover and the Passover seder. We will look at what the Torah and Talmud say about the Passover seder and compare that to our modern practices of Passover as a case study for how Jewish rituals evolve and change. Time permitting, we will talk about ritual innovations we would like to see in Jewish life.

• **Sunday, April 19, at 3 p.m.**, Let's Chat will be a Yom HaShoah Study – Experiences of Anti-Semitism and How to Respond. In preparation for Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day and with the resurgence of white supremacy and Neo-Nazism today, we will share experiences of anti-Semitism and explore productive ways and resources to respond to anti-Semitism today.

### "We're Not Getting Any Younger" Series

This is a five-part series about aging issues, presented by Life-Long Learning. You do not have to have attended previous sessions to take part in upcoming sessions.

Series Events Include:

• **Part 4: Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m.:** "Managing Living Arrangements as We Change." A representative from the **Hillsborough County Senior Connection Center** will address a variety of living arrangements which may be available to us as our needs change because of changes in health, including how we can access financial aid such as Medicaid.

• **Part 5: Sunday, March 22, 7 p.m.:** "Remains of the Day - End of life Decisions." Planning can be so helpful when addressing end-of-life events. **Charles Segal, director of Segal Funeral Home** will help to inform us about what options are available to us, when we should make such decisions, and how they can be arranged. We will also address the role services such as Hospice can play.

Registration may be made by calling the synagogue office at (813) 681-6547. If you have not attended previous sessions, members will be charged a reduced fee of \$15 per person. The charge for non-members will be \$20 per person.

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**Heidi DiSalvo, D.O.**

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## EDUCATION— Sheila Fishman

We are well into our year and are looking forward to some special programming.

Sunday, March 1, students in grades 2 through 7 will be meeting at our regular time of 9:30 a.m. Our day will begin with worship services led by Rabbi Bryan. Our students will be provided with classes in Judaica and Hebrew at 10 a.m. There will also be an opportunity on this Sunday to visit the CBS Library to return and borrow books.

Sunday, March 8, school begins at 9:30 a.m., and all students are in attendance. Students will be participating in classroom activities from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. From 10:30 - noon, we will be celebrating Purim at the religious school. During this session, we will be learning about Purim, telling stories, completing an age appropriate arts and craft projects, playing holiday-themed games, and tasting traditional foods. We are inviting all congregants with young children not enrolled in our religious school as well as Jewish families in the surrounding communities to attend. Please R.S.V.P. Sheila Fishman at [gold17@verizon.net](mailto:gold17@verizon.net) if you plan on attending so we may ensure that we are properly prepared.

As we follow the Hillsborough County school calendar, there will be no religious school on Sunday, March 15, and 22. Classes reconvene for class Sunday, March 29, for all students.

### BESTY BEAT

In February, BESTY, our congregation youth group met for lunch and ice cream.



Look for more information about the group and find information on upcoming events at <https://bethshalom-brandon.org/community/youth/> or by emailing [besty-board@gmail.com](mailto:besty-board@gmail.com).

### **A Celebration of Education**

Friday, March 6, the religious school and Rabbi Bryan will present a Shabbat service entitled "A Celebration of Education." This Shabbat will begin at 7 p.m. rather than our usual start time.



During this evening, we will be celebrating our children and their amazing teachers.

- For those students who are just beginning their Jewish education, we want to celebrate their journey with a consecration ceremony and Hebrew naming if they do not already have a Hebrew name. If your child does not already have a Hebrew name, please schedule a meeting with Rabbi Bryan by Sunday, March 1. You can do this by emailing him at [rabbibryanmann@gmail.com](mailto:rabbibryanmann@gmail.com) or contacting the temple office at (813) 681-6547.

- As is our tradition, the parents of our 5<sup>th</sup>-, 6<sup>th</sup>-, and 7<sup>th</sup>-grade students are currently creating a special book cover and dedication for the inside cover of the Mishkan T'Filah being given to these students by the religious school. Then, with the March 6th Shabbat Worship Service, Rabbi Bryan will afford these parents an opportunity to present their students with the dedicated copy of the Mishkan T'Filah. Rabbi Bryan will provide these students with a special blessing as they continue the road to Jewish adulthood.

- With this worship service, our religious school teachers and assistant teacher will be honored for all the time and knowledge they have provided to our students. They have donated their time and energies to provide our students receive the best education possible.

The evening will end with an oneg sponsored by the Sheila Fishman. Please mark this special evening on your calendar.

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Our Annual Second Night Seder will be  
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\$36 per adult (age 13 and over) / \$18 for children

Free for children under age 5 (*no meal provided*)

Advance reservations required as seating is limited.

RSVP to [cbs-admin@hotmail.com](mailto:cbs-admin@hotmail.com) by 4/1/2020

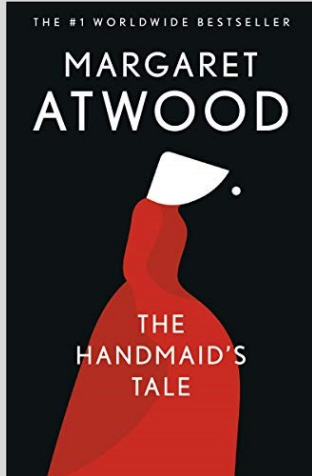
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## PAGE TURNERS

Monday, March 16, at 6 p.m., Page Turners will meet to discuss *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood.



*The Handmaid's Tale* is the story of Offred, a Handmaid in the Republic of Gilead, a totalitarian and theocratic state that has replaced the United States of America. Because of dangerously low reproduction rates, Handmaids are assigned to bear children for elite couples that have trouble conceiving. Offred serves the Commander and his wife, Serena Joy, a former gospel singer and advocate for "traditional values." Offred is not the narrator's real name—Handmaid names

consist of the word "of" followed by the name of the Handmaid's Commander. Offred's freedom, like the freedom of all women, is completely restricted. She can leave the house only on shopping trips, the door to her room cannot be completely shut, and the Eyes, Gilead's secret police force, watch her every public move.

Margaret Atwood, whose work has been published in more than 40 countries, is the author of more than 50 books of fiction, poetry, and critical essays. Her novels include *Cat's Eye*, shortlisted for the Booker Prize; *Alias Grace*, which won the Giller Prize in Canada and the Premio Mondello in Italy; *The Blind Assassin*, winner of the 2000 Booker Prize; *Oryx and Crake*, shortlisted for the 2003 Booker Prize; *The Penelopiad*; *The Heart Goes Last*; *Hag-seed*; and *The Testaments*, a sequel to *The Handmaid's Tale*, published in September, 2019. She lives in Toronto part-time.

# Ladies Night Out

2nd Tuesday of each month  
6:30pm

Enjoy a night out with the ladies of CBS!

We will dine at local restaurants, attend cooking demos, get creative with art/craft classes, play bunco, enjoy pot luck dinners, and more!

March 10



6226 Ohio Avenue  
Gibsonton 33534

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094ba5a62aa64-ladies>

RSVP by the Sunday prior:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094BA5A62AA64-ladies>

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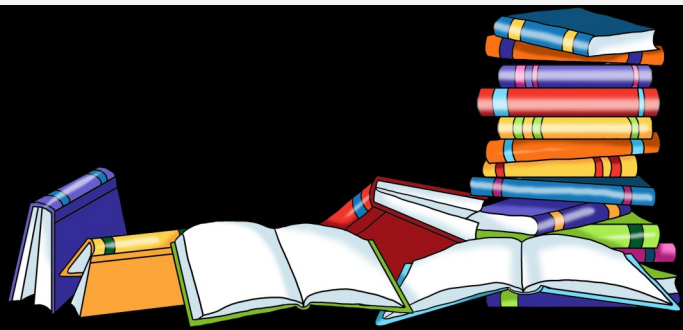
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## THE LIBRARY CORNER — Sandy Saviet & David Richter

Once a month, our religious school students visit the library and learn about the various books we have available (based on their interests) for them to take home and read. Cooking, music and the Holocaust are very popular subjects. Did you know that we have in our library a children's Chanukah counting book that is printed in English, Hebrew & Yiddish?

If you are doing some spring cleaning, we welcome donations of books. Just place them in the donation bin in the library.



## DINNER WITH THE TRIBE — Anita Clifford

Let's have something exotic at our next Dinner With the Tribe.

**Saturday, March 21,  
6:30 p.m.**

**Taste of India  
902 East Brandon Blvd.,  
Brandon**



It can be very mild or it can be spicy: you choose. This is great for vegetarians, vegans, gluten free, or just regular folks who like meat dishes. Have a mango lassi, freshly baked nan, a lamb, chicken, or even a goat dish. Vegetarians will have plenty to choose from. <https://www.toibrandon.com/>

To save your seat, please RSVP your email Anita, [niewdnarb@yahoo.com](mailto:niewdnarb@yahoo.com).

## Congregation Beth Shalom - Donation Form

At times of sorrow & memory, as well as at times of joy, tradition teaches us that we honor others by giving of tzedakah. Please return your completed donation form to the temple office.

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\$18\_\_\_\_\_ \$36\_\_\_\_\_ \$54\_\_\_\_\_ \$180\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Designated Fund:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund   | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Group Fund                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Endowment Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi's Discretionary Fund        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious School Scholarship Fund |

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> My check is enclosed<br><input type="checkbox"/> Please bill me |
|--|

***"Tzedakah weighs as much as all the other commandments combined" - Talmud***

Congregation Beth Shalom 706 Bryan Rd. Brandon, FL 33511 813-681-6547

## THANK YOU TO OUR HIGH HOLY DAYS BRIDGE BUILDERS 5780

### **BONIM BRIDGE ☆ \$3,600—\$7,500**

Isabel & Jonathan Ellis	Judith & Gerald Pliner
Diane & Peter Jacobson	Julie & Marvin Shienbaum

### **SHOMRIM BRIDGE ☆ \$1,800 - \$3,599**

Stephen & Anna Feldman	Errol & Sheila Fishman
Steve & Sheila Slavkin	Anonymous (2)

### **MITZVAH BRIDGE ☆ \$360 - \$1,799**

Suzie & Mitchell Baylis	Randy & Danita Freedman
Janice & Bruce Sperry	Joan & Aaron Koplin
Steven Billor	Robert Miller
Anita Clifford	Rudina & David Richter
Carol Anne & David Friedman	Carol Roberts
Sheryl & Mark Finke	Denise & Allan Weber
	Stephen Zweibach

### **CHAI BRIDGE ☆ \$180 - 359**

Andrea Chassen	Sara & Jeff Goodman
Joan Frankel	Deborah & Mark Grenberg
Monica & Drew Frost	Lisa & James Smith
Irving (Gerry) Lawrence	Fruma & Nathan Tanzer
Lea & Michael Garbett	Gail & Michael Verlin

### **CHAVERIM BRIDGE ☆ \$36 - 179**

Lois Erenberg	Phyllis & Milton Newman
Betsy Glickman	Carole & Joseph Plesur
Ruth Goldberg	Susan Reckner
Renate Greenfield	Arleen & Irving Sanders
Barbara Hart	Ruth & Jordan Spiegel
Irving Kadet	Sharon & Mervin Taub
Dale & Margaret Khan	Cheryl & Kevin Walkover
Toby Koch & Alan Weiss	

### **DONOR ☆ \$18 - \$35**

Howard & Sandy Saviet  
Kristan & Steven Birnholz  
Kelsey Birnholz

*The High Holy Day Appeal for 5780 is open through the end of January 2020. 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.*

## SALUTE TO HEROES 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 Salute To Heroes Gala.*

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Cottonwood Equestrian - Jodi Olshina  
David & Carol Anne Friedman  
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Judith & Gerry Pliner  
Kids R Kids - Keith Balot  
Michael & Gail Verlin  
Michael & Martie Spaier  
Mitchell & Suzie Baylis  
Pathways Counseling Center –  
Dr. David & Rudina Richter  
RGB Realty Florida - Renate B. Greenfield  
SLK Law Firm - Jonathan & Isabel Ellis  
Segal Funeral Home  
Sperry Law Firm – Bruce & Jan Sperry  
Toby Koch & Alan Weiss  
Zomesa  
Zweibach & Champion MD's PA –  
Dr. Stephen Zweibach

### **IN-KIND SPONSORS**

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## DONATIONS

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 \$350. 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 January 16 and February 15.**

<p><b>GENERAL FUND</b> <b>Donation</b> Judith &amp; Gerald Pliner</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Sally &amp; Meyer Bloom</b> Gail &amp; Michael Verlin</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of Louis Verlin</b> Gail &amp; Michael Verlin</p> <p><b>In Honor of Julie Enszer's</b> <b>Birthday</b> Anna &amp; Stephen Feldman</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Michael Price</b> Anna &amp; Stephen Feldman</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Marshall Goldberg</b> Ruth Goldberg</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of Blossom</b> <b>Grimm Silverstein</b> Anna &amp; Stephen Feldman</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Phillip Friedman</b> Dave &amp; Carol Anne Friedman</p>	<p><b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Anita Hoffman</b> Anna &amp; Stephen Feldman Linda &amp; Brian Sterling Thelma Silber Sandra &amp; Howard Saviet</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of Anne Lange</b> Sheila &amp; Steve Slavkin</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of Leon Pliner</b> Judith &amp; Gerry Pliner</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of Daniel</b> <b>Workman</b> Anna &amp; Stephen Feldman</p> <p><b>In Honor of Diane &amp; Peter</b> <b>Jacobson's new grandchild,</b> <b>Brea Jane Reilly</b> Anna &amp; Stephen Feldman</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Berne Lubonne</b> Joseph &amp; Carole Plesur</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Florence Plesur</b> Joseph &amp; Carole Plesur</p>	<p><b>RABBI'S</b> <b>DISCRETIONARY FUND</b> <b>In Honor of Baby Naming of their</b> <b>Granddaughter, Brea Jane Reilly -</b> <b>Chava Brielle</b> Diane &amp; Peter Jacobson</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Florence Workman</b> Anna &amp; Stephen Feldman</p> <p><b>BRICKLET</b> <b>In Loving Memory of Anne Lange</b> Judith &amp; Gerry Pliner</p> <p><b>To Toby Koch &amp; Allan Weiss, with</b> <b>Deepest Sympathy on the passing</b> <b>of your cousin, Parvin Zisman</b> Judith &amp; Gerry Pliner</p> <p><b>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</b> <b>SCHOLARSHIP FUND</b> <b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Anita Hoffman</b> Howard &amp; Sandy Saviet</p> <p><b>In Loving Memory of</b> <b>Parvin Zisman</b> Sheila &amp; Errol Fishman</p>
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## Anniversaries

3/17	Shirley & Ira Ratner
3/27	Jackie & Myron Feldman
3/27	Toby Koch & Alan Weiss
3/28	Anna & Stephen Feldman



## Yahrzeits

3/1	Reuben	Armus	Father	of	Sheila	Fishman
3/1	Louis	Kay	Grandfather	of	Iylene	Miller
3/3	Louis	Glickman	Father	of	Betsy	Glickman
3/3	Joe	Scheiner	Father	of	Susan	Ruiz
3/6	Charles "Russ"	Yokely	Step Father	of	Sheryl	Finke
3/7	Herbert	Sapolsky	Father	of	Susan	Burkett
3/7	Anna	Fleischman	Grandmother	of	Lauren	Weisman
3/7	Deborah	Brill	Mother	of	Scott	Savitt
3/9	Meyer	Feldman	Father	of	Stephen	Feldman
3/9	Frederick	Frankel	Husband	of	Joan	Frankel
3/9	Abraham Isaac	Siegel	Grandfather	of	Eric	Miller
3/11	Victor	Vernick	Friend & Brother	of	David	Richter
3/11	Irwin	Zazulia	Uncle	of	Iylene	Miller
3/11	Leo	Bond	Grandfather	of	Joanne	Ronay
3/12	Terry	Magdovitz	Husband	of	Caren	Magdovitz
3/12	Lena	Kaplan	Mother	of	Janice	Perelman
3/13	Syliva	Levine	Mother	of	Marcia	Weiner
3/13	Sharon	Ellis	Mother	of	Jonathan	Ellis
3/14	Sophie	Goldman	Mother	of	Sharon	Aronson
3/16	Marlene	Kimball	Aunt	of	Michael	Barnett
3/16	Patsy Ann	Zolner	Mother	of	Carolyn	Miller
3/16	Harry	Vogel	Grandfather	of	Bonne	Jacob
3/16	Edith	Richter	Aunt	of	David	Richter
3/16	Donald	Ballou	Father	of	Christine	Stockelman
3/17	Max	Greenfield	Father	of	Lawrence	Greenfield
3/18	JoAnn	VanDeventer	Mother	of	Christina	Frye
3/18	Jules	Honig	Uncle	of	Rudina	Richter
3/18	Robert Neil	Kennedy	Father	of	Karen	Weber
3/20	Lillina Bellavance	Santucci	Mother in Law	of	Sandy	Santucci
3/21	Mary	Freedman	Grandmother	of	David	Friedman
3/23	Benny	Skop	Grandfather	of	Nancy	Landfish
3/23	Cheryl	Feinstein	Daughter	of	Ethel	Feinstein
3/24	Charlie	Reisner	Uncle	of	Gary	Ronay
3/24	Arthur R.	Ratner	Father	of	Ira	Ratner
3/24	Vera	Hindin	Mother	of	Steven	Hindin
3/25	Helen	Weinstein	Mother	of	Dan	Weinstein
3/25	Morris	Slater	Father	of	Brian	Slater
3/26	Harry	Chaiken	Great Uncle	of	Joanne	Ronay
3/26	Laurel	Cramer	Mother	of	Toby	Rhine
3/28	Jack	Ber	Father	of	Jill	Oppolo
3/28	Ruth	Enszer	Mother	of	Julie	Enszer
3/29	Joseph	Koch	Father	of	Toby	Koch
3/29	Ely	Sandberg	Father	of	Sandy	Santucci
3/31	Jeffrey S.	Zazulia	Brother	of	Iylene	Miller
3/31	Hyman	Aberbach	Father	of	Martie	Spaier
3/31	Pascuala	Roldan	Mother	of	Julie	Shienbaum
3/31	Dorothy	Zander	Mother	of	Diane	Jacobson



## Birthdays

3/2	Scott Ellis
3/3	Megan Birnholz
3/3	Jerilyn Dimant
3/3	Meral Ginsberg
3/6	Adam Watson
3/6	Robert Northrup
3/8	Judy Jacobson
3/9	David Richter
3/9	Anna Feldman
3/11	Carol Roberts
3/11	Allan Weber
3/11	Nancy Gordon
3/11	Carole Plesur
3/12	Sandy Schwartz
3/12	Deborah Miller
3/14	Tara Schwartz
3/15	Neil Taliesin Web
3/18	David Friedman
3/18	Tovah Cantrell
3/20	Mike Hebert
3/23	Virginia Barnett
3/30	Kyra Frye
3/31	Ruth Goldberg

## Simchat Shabbat!

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

**March 20**

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.

## Want to advertise in *The Kibbitzer*?

Ad Size	Monthly Rate	10% Discounted (Annual only)
Bus. Card	\$20	\$216
1/4 page	\$40	\$432
1/2 page	\$50	\$540
Full page	\$75	\$810

Special rate for CBS Members — 10% off MONTHLY rate with 6-month commitment.

To reserve your place in the next issue, e-mail the temple office at [cbs-admin@hotmail.com](mailto:cbs-admin@hotmail.com) or call 813-681-6547.

## Babysitters

Contact the temple office for a list of available babysitters. Contact information, qualifications and transportation details are 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](mailto: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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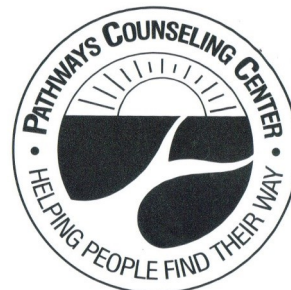
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Congregation Beth Shalom is now participating in Amazon Smile — it's an easy way for CBS members, family and friends to support the temple. Simply use the following link:

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**Congregation Beth Shalom**  
of Brandon

# March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 AM Religious School	2 Strawberry Festival Day— HCPS closed	3 7 PM Board Mtg	4 6:30 Adult Hebrew School 7 PM We're Not Getting Any Younger	5 JCC Prof. Society Event	6 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service	7 10AM Taste of Tanach
8 9:30 AM Religious School	9 Erev Purim 6:00 PM Purim Spiel	10 Purim	11 6:30 PM Adult Hebrew School	12	13 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service  Kibbitzer Deadline	14
15 No Religious School 3 PM Let's Chat	16 6PM Page Turners  Spring Break	17  Spring Break	18 6:30 PM Fundraising Mtg 7:30 PM Membership Mtg Spring Break	19  Spring Break	20 7:30 PM Simcha Shabbat Service Spring Break	21 6:30 PM Dinner w/the Tribe
22 No Religious School 7 PM We're Not Get- ting Any Younger	23	24	25 6:30PM Lifelong Learning Meeting. 7:30PM Ritual Mtg	26	27 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service	28
29 9:30 AM Religious School	30	31				

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***Inside Scoop***

<b><i>Membership</i></b>	<b><i>5</i></b>
<b><i>Life Long Learning</i></b>	<b><i>6</i></b>
<b><i>Religious School</i></b>	<b><i>7</i></b>
<b><i>Page Turners</i></b>	<b><i>8</i></b>
<b><i>Ladies Night Out</i></b>	<b><i>9</i></b>
<b><i>Dinner With The Tribe</i></b>	<b><i>10</i></b>
<b><i>Calendar</i></b>	<b><i>15</i></b>

**Welcome the Stranger...**  
**Stranger No More.**