

# The Kibbitzer

**Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon**

706 Bryan Road, Brandon, FL 33511

Phone (813) 681-6547

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

January 2023 Volume 33 Issue 8



**Four Elements III Water Painting**

By Elena Kotliarker

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## From the Rabbi's desk...



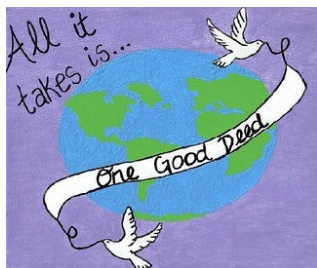
Hebron is one of the oldest cities in the world and the site of the world's oldest Jewish community. Our patriarch, Abraham, bought the cave called Me'arat HaMachpelah there to bury his wife, Sarah. It was the first parcel of land in Israel owned by the Jewish People. King David was announced King David in Hebron and he reigned there for seven years. Jews have lived in Hebron during Roman, Byzantine, Arab, and Ottoman reigns.

For many years, Jews lived side by side with their Arab neighbors in peace. With the third and fourth wave of Jewish immigration to Palestine, the Jewish population increased by more than 100,000. The Jews and Arabs kept their peace in Hebron, however, there was underlying tension in the Arab community with the increasing Jewish population. In August 1929, the tension exploded into violence with a three day rampage of violence and terror. 67 Jews were murdered, and many homes and synagogues were destroyed. British troops came to Hebron following the massacre and evacuated the surviving Jews to Jerusalem.



The appalling, unconscionable massacre started by the Arab community in 1929 and sanctioned by its leadership was one of the most barbaric massacres against the Jews. The cruelty and brutality as well as the debasing and dismembering of the 67 Jewish victims were unparalleled in horror and atrocity.

Several years later, 31 families made an attempt to return to Hebron, reclaim their property and rebuild. Fearing another pogrom, the British authorities expelled the Jewish community. It was not reestablished till 1967, when after the Six Day War, Hebron was taken back from the Jordanian government. Since 1997, Hebron is under both Palestinian Authority and Israeli rule. Over the years, with resolute courage and abiding love for this holy city, it has been rebuilt.



## Goal of the Mitzvah



The goal of the Mitzvah is to instill good character traits and thereby cleanse and purify our souls. Each Mitzvah is designed to have a specific beneficial effect on the soul until the soul is naturally drawn to every good character trait. As our sages taught in The Talmud Bereishit Rabbah 44:1 "The word of the Lord is pure." The mitzvot were given only as a means for purifying man and women.

When a person performs a mitzvah that is rooted in the trait of compassion, such as giving charity or supplying kind help, the act instills within the person's soul a closer attachment to this trait. It is the same with all virtuous deeds: each one makes a lasting impression on a person's soul. Conversely, when a person does a bad deed, the act implants within him a tendency toward bad character traits. It says in our Talmud Yoma 87a when a person commits a sin and then repeats it, they come to regard the act as permissible. The act damages their soul, causing the acquisition of bad tendencies. This can continue to the point where the person develops an active drive to do evil. As King Solomon states in Proverbs 21:10: "The soul of a wicked one desires evil."

Therefore G-d commanded us to do acts of kindness. We should not covet the material blessings of others. Our main concern is to develop our souls. We are to strive to act virtuously so our souls will become elevated. Conversely, when a person habitually behaves with reprehensible acts, their soul becomes imbued with an evil nature.



# The President's Corner



**Steve Billor**

Shalom Everybody

In this January 2023, Kibbitzer article, I want to focus on the expertise of some of our members who constantly work to keep our temple above water. These members include our Executive Board and our Building and Grounds chair, Gabe Lifschitz.

There are so many things that happen in any given month that require timely attention, that everyday members would not realize. For example, we have been working on getting better lighting for the outside perimeter of the temple for quite some time. After a donation of solar lights by Marvin Sheinbaum, a work crew consisting of Gabe Lifschitz, Mark Finke, Dave Friedman, Alan Weiss, Martino Stino, and I organized and installed two solar lights at the rear of the building.

The bathroom tiles in the lady's room needed attention and Dave Friedman was able to devote his time and skill to fixing this issue.

The Executive Board has been working tirelessly on a contract and facility use agreement to have the Family Faith Church rent our facility on Sundays to bring in much-needed revenue. We are also researching the cancellation of our printer machine contract to save at least \$1,000 per year in costs.

I am filled with admiration for the expertise, knowledge, and dedication of our Executive Board members and other members that volunteer to help at a moment's notice.

I have said many times, jump in the pool and lend a hand where you are able. We are a small congregation, hoping to grow back to where we once were, but with everyone pitching in, we all can make our temple run much smoother.

As always, Todah Rabah (Thank you very much) for being a part of the Beth Shalom Family and for your time in reading this article.

Steve Billor

CBS President



# CBS Business

## Shabbat Services

**Meeting ID: 897 3400 8923**  
**Password: 770549**

Our Shabbat services will take place Friday Nights at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary as well as online. Our livestream feed is available on Zoom and Facebook. For outdoor services, the Zoom link will not work, so please sign in to Facebook. Join us in the celebration of Shabbat and you are welcome to like, comment, and share.

We established a new Zoom link. You will be able to login from our weekly eNews. The process has not changed, just the link. For your information here is the new link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89734008923?pwd=WEtGZXN1UVVNM0lCa3BoTzJyZUc0UT09>

We are glad that you enjoy our shabbat services and hope to see you on the Zoom screen this Friday.

**Facebook** Information for Shabbat Service:  
<https://www.facebook.com/BethShalomBrandon/>



### Advertise in

### The Kibbitzer

Business Card—New Ads at \$10/month for the first six months, then \$20/month.

Get a 10% Discount by

Prepaying for one year.

To reserve your place in the next issue, e-mail John Zelatis at

[jjzelatis@zomesa.com](mailto:jjzelatis@zomesa.com) or call the

CBS office at

813-681-6547.

## CBS Office Hours

The administrative office is currently open by appointment only. Someone can be reached at [cbs-brandon@outlook.com] and 813-681-6547 or you may contact Rabbi Lefkowitz directly at 407-222-6393 or [rlefkowi@bellsouth.net](mailto:rlefkowi@bellsouth.net). Rabbi Lefkowitz will be available for in person meetings on Fridays. Call him at 407-222-6393 to schedule an appointment.



Although our hours are limited, we are always here for you. Do not hesitate to reach out with any needs, concerns or questions.



### SHARE A MAZEL TOV!

Do you have a family member, friend, spouse or congregant you would like to wish Mazel Tov to in our Kibbitzer? You can send an email to [the-kibbitzer@hotmail.com](mailto:the-kibbitzer@hotmail.com) with their name and accomplishment, engagement or birth. It's important during these times to see the good in



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Robert Lefkowitz

**Board of Directors****Executive Committee:****President**

Steve Billor

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Gerry Pliner

**1st Vice President**

Gerry Pliner

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Gabe Lifschitz

***The Kibbitzer***

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For current news and events

see the congregation's website:

<http://www.bethshalom-brandon.org>

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**Congregation Contacts**

813-681-6547 • CBS-brandon@outlook.com

**Office hours:**

By appointment.

Voicemails and emails will be monitored daily.

Office is closed on holidays

**Weekly Email Blast submissions****MEMBERSHIP**

*Becoming a partner in our congregation offers an opportunity for enduring friendships and a personal spiritual journey. A place in our Jewish community.*

*Members also have free access to many of our educational and entertainment events.*

# Candle Lighting Times

Friday, January 6	5:31 PM
Friday, January 13	5:37 PM
Friday, January 20	5:42 PM
Friday, January 27	5: 48PM



## Oneg Schedule

### January Sponsors

*There can be no joy without food and drink.*

Talmud, Mo'ed Katan

January 6	<b>Toby Koch &amp; Alan Weiss</b>	In honor of Sandy Santucci - 30 years as our Cantorial Soloist
January 13	<b>Carol Anne &amp; Dave Friedman</b>	In honor of the birthdays of Alex, Mallory, and Rick
January 20	<b>Robert Reisfield</b>	In honor of his birthday
January 27	<b>Ritual Committee</b>	International Holocaust Remembrance Day

**If you'd like to sponsor an oneg, please call  
Judith Pliner at (856)816-2174**



# Building & Grounds



A big Todah Rabbah to Marvin Shienbaum for donating solar lights for our dark parking lot! Our talented CBS crew, under the supervision of Avi Weiss, installed them and they look fantastic! Even better, the lot is lit up at night, so no more worries about a trip in the dark. Thank you to Marvin and our capable, handy, strong





# How to Manage Crucial Conversations and Help CBS

Page 1

This article addresses our conversation practices in CBS. Back in 2020 at the height of the COVID pandemic, I undertook the challenge to share my knowledge in crucial conversations. Those of you who remember how it was then recall the difficult times. Last year's strategic plan cited a need to improve communications and we moved in the right direction. However, there is still room for improvement.

How often do you find yourself at odds when discussing what seems to be a very serious topic to you and one or two people around you in the conversation disagree with you and the conversation gets heated?

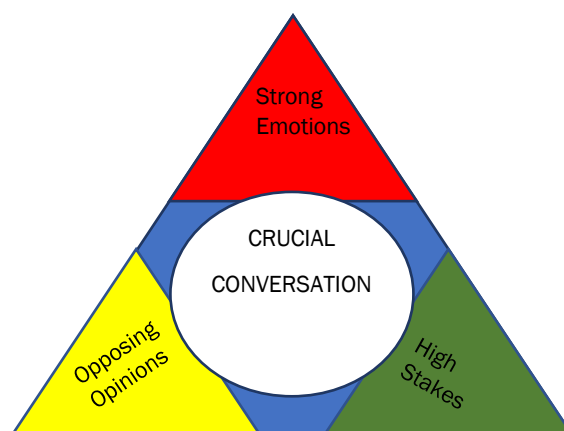
Do you find yourself having to tell someone they are out of line for saying something inappropriate or doing something that comes across as a pattern of bad behavior?

What is your reaction and how do you approach a situation when someone interrupts you?

Emails and text messages have become critical to share information or put a plan into action. Do you ever notice that emails are used to argue, text messages may have poor or hostile writing and discussions go off the rails?

Well, it so happens that a group of experts got together to figure out what happens in a conversation and discovered some key steps that can help people recognize when a conversation is about to go badly and how to correct it for everyone's better outcome.

What is a crucial conversation? It is when two or more people are sharing an experience, working to solve a problem that impacts them or many other people, seek something out of the exchange like money, property, or principles, there are high stakes and a great loss to everyone. The components of a crucial conversation are shown below.



Recognizing a crucial conversation is the first step to deal with a difficult situation. The symptoms are below.

Physical signs – stress and anxiety, sweating, dry throat

Emotional signs – strong emotional response, fear, or anger

Behavioral signs – avoid the conversation, becoming quiet, raising your voice to drive your point, or becoming hostile

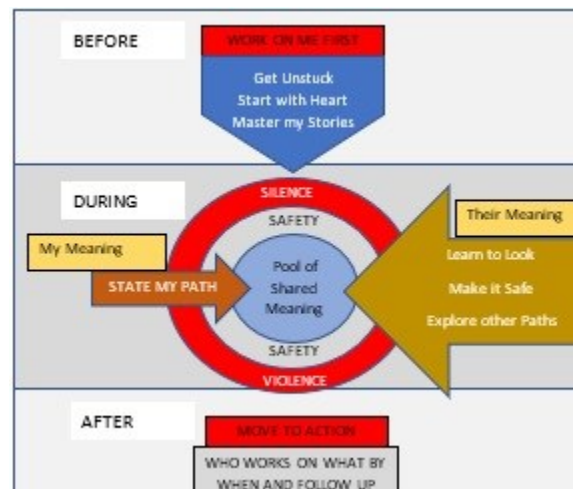
# How to Manage Crucial Conversations and Help CBS

Page 2

The signs above boil down to one not feeling SAFE. Recognizing your own safety and then working on the safety of others in the conversation makes the difference between a conversation moving forward or getting stuck.

Why do communications fail? Simply those involved find out the stakes are high, and that failure means losing trust, doing extra unplanned work, added debt, losing relationships, or losing an entire organization. The communication fails due to no shared meaning and outcome.

The most important factor is to WORK ON ME FIRST and work towards achieving a pool of shared meaning. In a successful conversation you can become silent or violent, you transition to feeling safe as you share information that has the same meaning to you as to others in the conversation, and as you share more information you reach a path to shared meaning. The model below shows the concept



If you have read this far you likely have many questions, doubts as to whether the crucial conversations model works, and why even bother. You might want to read on.

From here, the concept has other steps you apply like:

- Telling yourself a story about the conversation and how the story you tell yourself is different from reality
- Understanding the other person's response and action that has the shared meaning
- Making clear statements as to what you mean and what you do not mean
- Describing the concept of villain, victim, and helplessness
- Putting it all together in the conversation

# How to Manage Crucial Conversations and Help CBS

Page 3

These steps are well beyond what I write. To learn and to apply all the steps requires at least to read the book and then practice applying each step. Preferably you should take a class on crucial conversations. If you happen to work for the Government, you can request to take the two-day course.

Avoid having a crucial conversation by email, Facebook, and text message. An example is to send an email or text about paying dues. These forms of communication lack a lot of content and you do not have the entire story from others and likely you cannot communicate your entire story. Reaching a pool of shared meaning may likely be impossible. As a rule, use the four message steps: 1) send message, 2) receive reply, 3) if not clear send follow up message, 4) if the reply does not complete the communication, then call or meet the person or group. The reverse is the same if you receive the message first, then you reply. Emails, Facebook, and texts work well to send instructions, invitations, announcements, and information that does not become a high-stake issue.

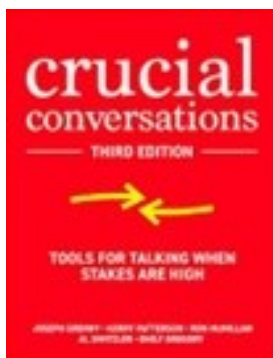
Mastering crucial conversations requires practice and dedication on your part. You will find that reaching a path forward requires a lot of dialogue, very likely much more than you planned for. The results can be very beneficial for you so long as you understand how to work on yourself first, feel safe, then look for a common shared meaning.

Now to how crucial conversations can help CBS. CBS offers the opportunity to meet spiritual needs and Jewish learning. This is only possible when having a Rabbi, a temple, congregation events, and contributions to support all are in place. Having effective crucial conversations creates paths to obtain those things to keep the congregation going.

A crucial conversation costs only the time you spend to find ways to better support the congregation. If you want to know more, feel free to contact me. I can guide you on several sources that offer the course. The book is titled: **“Crucial Conversations: TOOLS FOR TALKING WHEN STAKES ARE HIGH”**, authored by Al Switzler, Kerry Patterson, Ron McMillan, and Joseph Grenny. It is available through Amazon.

Toda,

Gabe Lifschitz





# 700 Years of Vilnius

## A City of Translation



**Wednesday, January 25 | 7:00pm (ET)**

**700 YEARS OF VILNIUS, A CITY OF TRANSLATION**

**Taking place in person and on Zoom.**

**Presentation and Panel** | The history and geography of Vilnius are marked by linguistic pluralism, cultural variations, territorial rearrangements, and human losses that make temporal correspondence and spatial continuity hard to decipher. Since the first written records of the city in 1323, Vilnius was put on the path of translation. The existence of many languages and the sense of discontinuity point to diversity and conflict, but translation unravels the tensions, interactions, rivalries, or convergences among different points of views, knowledge and experiences of the place.

In commemorating 700 years of the founding of Vilnius, **Laimonas Brides** will give a presentation about the city as a form of translation, from poetic imagery and visual records to tangible geography and memory fragments. Brides' presentation will be followed by a discussion moderated by **Jonathan Brent** in which Brides will be joined by **Lamia Hauckite**, **Irena Brudzinski Gross**, and **David Rockies**.

**To join in this session, you must register. The website is:**

**[YIVO Institute for Jewish Research](#)**

## Kyiv Diary 12/26/2022: Light in the Winter Darkness

December 26, 2022

**BY MOMENT**

Kyiv Diary, Latest

*American synagogues are stepping up to the plate to help Ukrainian Jews get crucial supplies during this time of war and winter.*

My American friends have been reaching out with the question of how they can help us in Ukraine, now that explosions in Kyiv have become routine. The situation here continues to be serious: People can hear missiles, and some of my friends have seen drones from their windows or the street. As of now, at least 500,000 apartments in the capital are experiencing power deficiency, and many are also without water. Many households have electric appliances, and this means that cooking is challenging and even heating up the meals is quite problematic. Those with gas stoves host relatives and friends. Others are barbecuing on the balconies, though it's forbidden by law.

We ourselves were without hot water for 10 days, and consequently without heating. And the winter has arrived—the streets and trees are covered with snow, and it's cold! Yesterday I asked a cab driver why the traffic is so heavy, and he said that it was how people (the ones with cars) get warmed up since the car is a mobile power generator. Kyiv mayor Vitaly Klitschko has opened special emergency heating stations. The supermarkets have slim pickings because they can't operate properly when open. It's all very hard to navigate, especially for the elderly, whose children and grandchildren are often scattered across Europe and have no one to take care of them.

So I thought it would be a great idea to get assistance from American synagogues to Ukrainian synagogues, especially considering the holidays. Solar rechargeable gadgets and power banks are completely sold out in Ukraine. Even if some gadgets occasionally appear on the local market, the prices are so high that most families just can't afford them. It would indeed be a great mitzvah if the synagogues could raise funds and provide solar lamps and power banks to Jewish families in Kyiv.

Seeking help to meet these challenges, I reached out to 20+ synagogues. The first one to respond was Paulette Black from Beth El Temple Center in Belmont, Massachusetts, a Reform synagogue. Actually, it was the sisterhood WRJ@BETC, the proud members of Women of Reform Judaism. Other synagogues have expressed eagerness to support Kyiv Jewish families during these horrific times as well, such as Congregation Beth Elohim in Brooklyn, where I'm corresponding with Rabbi Stephanie Kulin. They have organized a special committee and the fundraising has already reached \$17,000. Rabbi Annie Tucker from the Temple Israel Center in White Plains responded right away as well, and I've just recently got a reply from Rabbi Shuli Paso from B'nai Jeshurun in Manhattan.

I strongly believe that Jewish people should stay united in wartime. With all the electricity breakages and the cold winter ahead, the joint efforts in sending gadgets to Kyiv will help many Jewish families get through these challenging times. I hope this unity will last and will grow into a strong friendship in peacetime.

## Kyiv Diary 12/26/2022: Light in the Winter Darkness

Page 2

In addition to the outreach I mention above, I have raised \$3000 through the network of my daughter's friends (she works at The Vilna Shul, Boston's Center for Jewish Culture) and have placed orders (which took me hours and hours of research) for power stations, power banks, solar lamps, heaters, etc. (65 items altogether which are on the way.) The first parcel with portable room heaters purchased by my friend Ruth Wasser arrived on Friday, December 16th, and two power portable generators came on Tuesday, December 20th!

I'm passing these support items to Rabbi Reuven, who I've written about before, and he is going to distribute the goods among members of his congregation, many members of which are in Odesa, a big port city on the Black Sea about as far from Kyiv as Boston is from New York. The damage in Odesa is so severe that residents have been in a full blackout since December 7th, and 50% of residents are cut off from power. Reuven has organized Hanukkah Shabbaton, giur, Shabbat, and Hanukkah celebrations. Hanukkah was celebrated just with Hanukkah candles, no electricity, and people were praying for peace and for the "light not to go out."

The more families the synagogues can help the better. Yet, life under missiles goes on and people do their best to continue with their everyday routines and stay strong in their spirits. As an example, we went to the Opera house to see a ballet last week. There were a lot of people, and the performance was wonderful!

*Editor's Note: If you'd like to get in touch with Helen, please email [editor@momentmag.com](mailto:editor@momentmag.com).*

Moment is publishing regular updates from Helen, a Soviet American Jew living in Kyiv. Read all the diary entries [here](#).





# How to Sponsor an Oneg

## CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM: HELPFUL TIPS FOR HOSTING AN ONEG

Thank you for volunteering to host an Oneg. This guide will help you with what you need to know. **Please plan to arrive no later than 6:30 pm so you can begin setting up the Oneg prior to the 7:00pm service.** The door will be unlocked by a Board member or the Rabbi. If you have any questions, please contact Judith Pliner @ 856-8162174, gp@pliner-inc.com or Anna Feldman @ 707-628-5399, smfeldman01@gmail.com.

### ITEMS YOU WILL NEED (Plan for 20 to 30 people)

- 1 bottle of Kosher wine** (not berry); **1 bottle of WHITE grape juice.** Use opened bottles from the refrigerator before you open the new ones
- 1 challah;** can be ordered from the Publix bakery-call ahead to ensure availability
- 2 two-liter bottles of soda---**regular, & diet/caffeine free
- 1 gallon of water and small bag of ice**-use open bottles first
- A selection of bakery sweets , cheese, crackers, nuts and fruit**
- Paper goods** (cups, plates, napkins, plastic forks, spoons, and knives)

### ITEMS SUPPLIED BY THE TEMPLE

Kiddush cups, tablecloths, Rabbi's Kiddush cup, challah tray and cover.

Kiddush cups are located in the middle island drawer

Tablecloths are located in the cabinet under the back sink, and the challah tray and cover can be found in the labeled drawer in the center island on the window side.

\*\*\*\***Please remember to wash your hands before handling food** and any time you touch something unclean like trash. There are vinyl gloves on the counter near the sink.

### SETTING UP THE ONEG

Place tablecloths on the two tables located in the back of the temple sanctuary.

Pour wine in the Kiddush cups: ½ full for 20 people. Pour grape juice in the Kiddush cups: ½ full for 20 people.

Place the covered challah plate near the center of the two tables. Pour wine in the Rabbi's Kiddush cup: ¼ full and place cup near the challah plate. Put out the Shabbat prayer cards located in island drawer by the refrigerator.

Trays, bowls and serving utensils may be found in the island cabinet drawer near the fridge. Drawers are labeled.

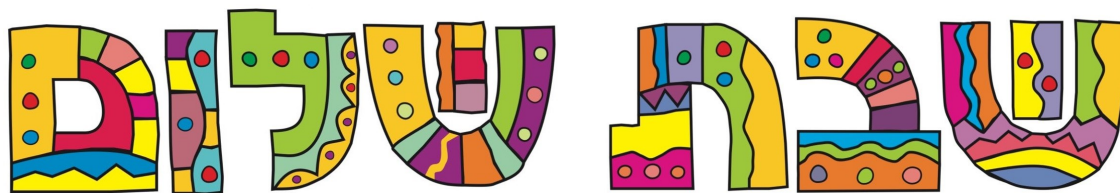
Place all items except ice or items needing refrigeration on the tables. Put out refrigerated items after the blessings are read.

### SHABBAT CANDLES

Shabbat candles are located in the refrigerator; matches are in the island drawer. Put candles in the candlesticks located on the podium in front of the bima. Or use candlesticks located in drawer opposite the refrigerator. Put aluminum foil into the candle well then place the candles into the sticks.

You and your family will have the honor of lighting Shabbat candles the evening of your Oneg. The blessings can be found in the prayer book on pages 2 & 3. Read a selection from page 3 first, light the candles, then say the blessing on page 2 in Hebrew. The Rabbi or other service leader will be available to assist you as needed.

# How to Sponsor an Oneg



## ONEG CLEAN-UP

The Oneg host is required to clean-up after the Oneg with help from those attending Shabbat Service.

Please ensure that you complete the following activities before leaving for the evening:

Clear and wipe all tables Including the small rounds.

Pack all leftover food to take home with you. Please do not leave anything partially used or opened in the fridge except wine, grape juice, and soda.

Please wash and dry all trays, serving utensils, Rabbi's Kiddush cup, challah tray, etc. with paper towels and return to cabinets.

If you wish leave leftover paper goods. Put them in the cabinet to the left of the freezer.

Please wipe any debris from the countertops in the kitchen. Clean around the sink and wipe the sink out.

Empty trash cans and take home the trash. We do not have trash collection. Please include taking home the recyclable items and replacing the container with a clean liner .

Please put new bags in trash cans for the next event. Trash bags are located in the bottom right cabinet next to the window.

Please take tablecloths home to be laundered and return them for the next Oneg unless other arrangements have been made. Please sweep up crumbs around tables & blot up spills from carpet & chairs to avoid setting the stains. If you have a large spill, please let the administrator know.

*Thank You!*

# Library News



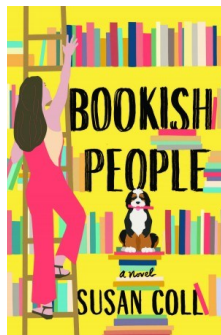
We have a new addition to our library. It is a Book Sale Corner where you may purchase a book from our library for only \$1.00. These are books for which we have multiple copies. Please drop your purchase donation in the tzedakah box near the sanctuary entrance or the Food Bank donation box. Whenever the temple is open you are welcome to visit our library and borrow a book. There is a green sign-out book and a return basket for when you want to bring it back.

Happy Reading



## Books, Books, and Books

**Bookish People**  
By Susan Coll

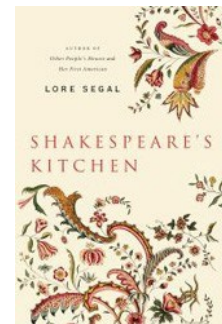


“A perfect storm of comedic proportions erupts in a DC bookstore over the course of one soggy summer week—narrated by two very different women and punctuated by political turmoil, a celestial event, and a perpetually broken vacuum cleaner.”

“A smart, original, laugh-out-loud novel . . . If you sell, buy, or simply love books, *Bookish People* is for you. I wholeheartedly recommend this quirky gem.”  
—**Sarah Pekkanen**, *New York Times* bestselling co-author of *The Golden Couple*

Amazon Review

**When the Angels Left the Old Country**  
By Lore Segal



The thirteen interrelated stories of *Shakespeare's Kitchen* concern the universal longing for friendship, how we achieve new intimacies for ourselves, and how slowly, inexplicably, we lose them. Featuring six never-before-published pieces, Lore Segal's stunning new book evolved from seven short stories that originally appeared in the *New Yorker* (including the O. Henry Prize-winning “The Reverse Bug”).

Amazon Review



# Men's Club



**Myron Feldman**

## Wednesday, January 18th 7:00 PM

The Latin Grill Restaurant offers a friendly, fun, and vibrant atmosphere for the entire family. Featuring an extensive menu filled with authentic Latin dishes and delicious handcrafted tropical drinks. Our commitment has always been to provide you with food that's fresh and delectably delicious. Come dine with us, have fun, and enjoy some of our famous Mojito and Margarita drinks to the beats of Latin music!

### MEN'S CLUB

**Latin Grill**  
**3318 John Moore Road**  
**Brandon, FL 33511**  
**813.654.8000**

### LATIN GRILL

## Food Bank News

Our next food bank is Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Due to our new relationship with Faith Family United Church of Christ, which is now holding weekly church services at our temple on Sunday, they are going to collaborate with us on our food bank! We are extremely excited to have the church working with us. They will be donating items for our distributions and helping sort and dispense the food. We are certainly looking forward to their help and getting to know these very welcome guests to our congregation much better!

When grocery shopping, please consider buying an item for the food bank: canned goods, a non-perishable food item, personal hygiene, or cleaning products. You may bring your purchase to the synagogue for our next distribution. Please put any donated items in the collection box. As always, thank you very much for supporting this mitzvah! If anyone has any questions about the foodbank or would like to donate a gift-card please feel free to contact Meral at 813-690-5713 or send an email at [meralgins@gmail.com](mailto:meralgins@gmail.com). please feel free to contact me anytime.

### Why do we have a food bank?

The following information is from the *Tampa Bay Times* 12/3/2022:

Rising food prices are stoking a hunger crisis. 1 in 5 adults experienced food insecurity this year, a sharp increase from 2021, especially among Black and Hispanic adults. (Many of our food bank recipients are in this group.) 2022 Food prices are up about 10%, inflation being the story of the year. The level of community need remains 50% to 70% higher than pre-pandemic levels. Charities and food banks prepared for increased numbers due to inflation, but the level of need far exceeded their projections. These grim statistics help explain why our temple supports a food bank.

# Dinner with the Tribe



Anita Clifford



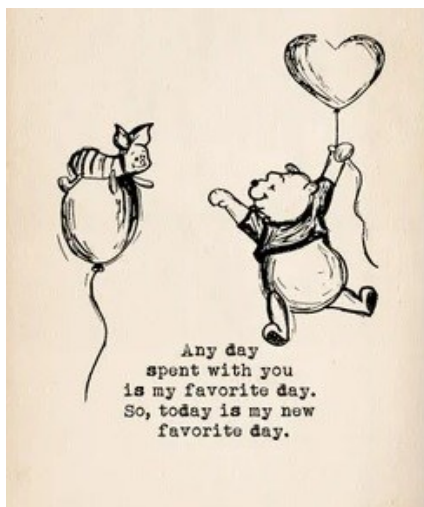
**Stonewood Grill & Tavern**  
**612 E Bloomingdale Ave**  
**Brandon, FL 33511**  
**813/655-9561**

**Saturday,**  
**January 14th**  
**at 6:00 PM**

Join us as we welcome our first dinner of the year 2023.

Our Tribe has reservations at Stonewood Grill and Tavern. They have a wide variety of seafood, meats, chicken, and pasta. Come for good food, good drinks, good friends, and good conversation. Please let Anita know you will be there. [niewdnarb@yahoo.com](mailto:niewdnarb@yahoo.com)

Their dinner menu: <https://www.stonewoodgrill.com/Dinner-10-475541.html?zStoredBusinessLocationId=8>



# Our Congregation

## Yahrzeits



1/16	Marilyn	Stockelman	Mother-in-Law	of Christine	Stockelman
1/16	Myna	Kalbas	Mother	of Bill	Kalbas
1/18	Sally	Bloom	Mother	of Gail	Verlin
1/20	Louis	Verlin	Father-In-Law	of Gail	Verlin
1/21	Bob	Finkel	Cousin	of Steve	Feldman
1/27	Selma	Sperry	Mother	of Bruce	Sperry
1/29	David	Brill	Grandfather	of Myron	Feldman
1/30	Lawrence	Gould	Brother	of Sandy	Saviet
1/31	Meyer	Bloom	Father	of Gail	Verlin

## Birthdays

1/2	Jason	Howard
1/4	Sharon	Aronson
1/20	Christina	Frye
1/24	Stephen	Yavelow

## Anniversaries

1/5	Lee & Sandy Schwartz
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Stephen Feldman

Anna & Stephen Feldman

Sheryl & Mark Finke

Carol Anne & Dave Friedman

Arlene & Steven Grey

Debra & Ben Miller

Marvin Sheinbaum

Thelma Silber



# Thank You!!



## **Todah Rabah!!**

Dave Friedman  
Fixing the tiles in the ladies' room

Julie Shienbaum  
Coordinating a terrific Chanukah Celebration

Marvin Shienbaum  
Donating outside lights

Gabe Lifschitz  
Installing the outside lights

Dave Friedman  
Installing the outside lights

Mark Finke  
Installing the outside lights

Alan Weiss  
Installing the outside lights

Martino Stino  
Installing the outside lights

Steve Billor  
Installing the outside lights



# International Holocaust Remembrance Day 2023

International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which is observed on January 27, 2023, is an International Memorial Day for the victims of the Holocaust. Holocaust is the genocide that resulted in the annihilation of six million European Jews as well as millions of others by the Nazi regime. The day was chosen by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on November 1, 2005.

The Resolution establishing January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day urges every member nation of the U.N. to honor the memory of Holocaust victims and encourages the development of educational programs about Holocaust history to help prevent future acts of genocide. It rejects any denial of the Holocaust as an event and condemns all manifestations of religious intolerance, incitement, harassment or violence against persons or communities based on ethnic origin or religious belief.

January 27 is the date, in 1945, when the largest Nazi death camp (Auschwitz-Birkenau), was liberated by Soviet troops. This camp was a network of Nazi concentration and extermination camps built and operated by the Third Reich in Polish areas annexed by Nazi Germany during World War II. It was the largest of the German concentration camps.

The gas chambers of Birkenau were blown up by the SS in an attempt to hide the German crimes from the advancing Soviet troops. The SS command sent orders on January 17, 1945, calling for the execution of all prisoners remaining in the camp, but in the chaos of the Nazi retreat the order was never carried out. On January 17, 1945, Nazi personnel started to evacuate the facility. (With material from: Wikipedia.)

## Interesting Books:

999: The Extraordinary Young Women of the First Official Jewish Transport to Auschwitz  
The Daughter of Auschwitz

Our Crime Was Being Jewish: Hundreds of Holocaust Survivors Tell Their Stories

Cartoonists Against The Holocaust

Cannibal Holocaust: And The Savage Cinema of Ruggero Deodato



# New York Jewish Film Festival

## January 23, 2023



### Virtual Cinema

Esther Takac's [\*The Narrow Bridge\*](#) and Mordechai Vardi's [\*Barren\*](#) will be available on [FLC Virtual Cinema](#) at noon starting January 23. Virtual tickets are \$10 each. Both films can be purchased together as a [bundle](#) for \$15.

One rental per account. The FLC Virtual Cinema app is available on Apple TV, iPhone, and iPad via the [Apple App Store](#) and on Fire TV Stick via the [Amazon Appstore](#). Learn more [here](#). For ticketing assistance or questions about FLC Virtual Cinema, please email [virtualsupport@filmlinc.org](mailto:virtualsupport@filmlinc.org).

### Barren

In this provocative drama about faith and sexual exploitation, an ultra-Orthodox twenty-something couple in Israel, Feigi and Naftali, unable to conceive children, find their lives upended after a rabbi claims to be a healer of barren women and convinces Feigi to undergo treatment.



### The Narrow Bridge

Four people, Israeli and Palestinian, who have suffered unimaginable grief—the loss of loved ones to violence—manage to use their misfortunes to find a way toward healing and reconciliation in Australian filmmaker and trauma psychologist Esther Takac's sensitively drawn documentary.





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Anita Clifford

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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.

### **We offer:**

- ✧ Friday worship services at 7:00 PM
- ✧ Complete B'nai Mitzvah preparation
- ✧ Adult Education classes
- ✧ Community-wide events
- ✧ Community Food Bank



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# Time for a Nosh



## ISRAELI BREAD DIPPING OIL

This recipe comes from Jamie Geller who has a blog with kosher recipes and holiday tips. The recipe, a dip for challah or any bread, is a combination of salty and spicy, with herbs, olives, and olive oil. If you don't have the za'atar or harissa handy, I've provided substitutions.

### INGREDIENTS:

1/4 bunch fresh parsley  
 1/4 small red onion  
 1/4 cup kalamata olives  
 1/2 Tablespoon \*Za'atar  
 1/2 Tablespoon \*\*Harissa  
 Kosher salt  
 Freshly cracked black pepper  
 1 teaspoon honey  
 1 teaspoon balsamic vinegar  
 Calvatia Extra Virgin Olive Oil  
 Challah



### PREPARATION

1. Finely chop parsley and add to a medium bowl.
2. Finely dice red onion add to bowl.
3. Pit and chop olives add to bowl.
4. Add harissa, za'atar, crush in garlic, add salt, pepper, honey, balsamic, and oil. Mix well and pour into a serving plate.

\* ZA'ATAR: A classic Middle Eastern herb blend that is both tangy and refreshing.

#### **Best substitutes for za'atar:**

For a quick and easy za'atar substitute, just add some **dried thyme, sesame seeds and lemon zest** if you don't have any sumac on hand. Use two tablespoons of sesame seeds, one tablespoon of thyme and two teaspoons of sumac or the zest from one lemon.

\*\* HARISSA: A traditional North African / Moroccan condiment that offers a smokey spicy flavor with a unique combination of chilies and spices.


#### **Best substitutes for harissa powder:**

- **Chili powder** - While chili powder is usually not as spicy as harissa, you can increase the spice level by adding a little cayenne pepper or red chili flakes to the chili powder.
- Smoked paprika** - Smoked paprika can be a good substitute for harissa in a pinch.



# January

## 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>  Happy New Year	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6:30 Executive Board Mtg 7:00 Board Mtg	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7 PM Learning with Rabbi	<b>6</b> 7:00 PM Shabbat Service 	<b>7</b> Parashat Vayechi
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7 PM Learning with Rabbi	<b>13</b> 7:00 PM Shabbat Service <b>Kibbitzer Deadline</b> 	<b>14</b> Tribe Dinner 6 PM Stonewood Cafe Parashat Shemot
<b>15</b> 1–3 PM Food Bank 	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7 PM Men's Club Latin Grill	<b>19</b> 7 PM Learning with Rabbi	<b>20</b> 7:00 PM Shabbat Service 	<b>21</b> Parashat Vaera
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7 PM Learning with Rabbi	<b>27</b> 7:00 PM Shabbat Service 	<b>28</b> Parashat Bo
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				