



Beth Israel Bulletin

Tamuz - Av 5780 / July 2020

Issue 5780 - 11

TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL JULY EVENTS

ON-LINE SHABBAT
SERVICES AT 7:00 PM

The Interfaith Food Shelf
has seen increased need
and would welcome an
extra donation at this
time.

(P.O. Box 1317,
Plattsburgh, NY 12901).



Inside this issue:

<i>Donations</i>	4
<i>President's Desk</i>	4
<i>Rabbi's Message</i>	1
<i>Service Schedule</i>	3
<i>Yahrzeit Dates</i>	3
<i>Yenta</i>	5

FROM THE RABBI

.July is now upon us. The strangeness which has been 2020 continues. And as we hit July, I'm realizing that time has lost meaning.

Many people are saying time has lost meaning in the sense that they no longer can keep track of the day of the week, date or even month. That's not what I'm saying here (though, I do, from time to time, have trouble with that also). Rather, I mean that July does not mean this year what it normally does.

Over the course of our lives we have endowed "July" with various meanings far more complex than simply "the seventh month of the year." July means different things to each of us, but some common associations would include "swimming pools", "4th of July Celebrations", "vacations", "corn-on-the-cob", and many others. We have built these connotations summer by summer, experience by experience.

This summer, July lacks many of those meanings. This year we are doing things differently. This gives us an opportunity to stop and consciously think about the meanings we assign to things. We can choose to identify what is central to us about the experience of "July". We may not be able to engage in those experiences, but by identifying them, we can at least mourn them properly rather than simply feeling vaguely uneasy without knowing why.

We don't have to limit this process to July. We can ask what are the associations we've built up around Wednesday, or Friday, or say, Shabbat (you knew this had to get Jewish at some point). Again, each of our associations will be unique to ourselves, though we may have many in common (e.g., challah and candles).

Why look deeply at associations? For starters, it is a useful mindfulness practice. It helps us to bring a greater degree of intentionality to our experience of those times or holidays. This intentionality can bring sanctity or spirituality to the experience of time or holidays.

Secondly, it allows us to choose what meanings we endow these periods with. We can choose to make July mean something different going forward from what it has meant in the past by how we observe it this year. By consciously adding a new element to our Shabbat practice, we can change what Shabbat means to us. But this starts by noticing what we mean by "Shabbat".

So, as we begin "July", I invite you to ask yourself what this means for you.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy month,

David

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Schedule of Shabbat Services

July 3, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat Service on-line (Zoom)
Chukat-Balak (Num. 19:1 - 25:9)

July 10, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat Service on-line (Zoom)
Pinchas (Num. 25:10 - 30:1)

July 17, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat Service on-line (Zoom)
Matot-Masei (Num. 30:2 - 36:13)

July 24, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat Service on-line (Zoom)
Devarim (Deut. 1:1 - 3:22)

July 31, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat Service on-line (Zoom)
Vaetchanan (Deut. 3:23 - 7:11)



YAHREZITS

July 3, 2020

Myer Levine
Robert L. Berger
Israel Cohen
Harry Kleinberg
Jeannette Nizel
Saul H. Rubin
James Bergman
Clara Achouche
Katherine Wood
Jennie Rovins
Helen Evans Wolfe
Mollie Cohen
David Sterns
Aaron Watermeier
Kate Wolfe

July 10, 2020

Jerome Levine
Harold Weisburgh
Dorothea Ann Merkel
Milton Rubin
Violet Rovins Caplan
Dr. Israel Winkler
Celia Bookman
Ruth Smith
Louis Kalofsky
Harry Lippert
Blanche Mendelsohn
Ruth Ship

July 17, 2020

Harry Skloff
Ben Spielberg
Hector Escudero
Delores Escudero
Harvey E. Duchin
Barney A. Kobel
Louise Treistman
Barbara Gordon Nolland
Noel Merrihew
Aldrich M. Benson
Melvin Cohen
Rose Furman

July 24, 2020

Ollie McNulty Paul
Charles E. Slatkin
Samuel Cohen
Yetta Juskowitz
Sally D. Hirsch
Samuel Gordon
Irene Hartoch Marx
Harold Rome
Mary Hurwitz
Morris M. Shubert

July 31, 2020

Doris Bornstein Edelman
Hannah Bornstein
Betty Goldner Lipshultz
Gertrude Kriff
Lillian Shubert



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Annual Congregational Meeting on June 25, 2020 via Zoom. That was a first! It was a wonderful gathering that was proof of our commitment to TBI. We had participation from just shy of 30 families! Thank you to Rabbi for technical support.

Welcome to our officers and board of trustees for the 2020-2021 year! New to the board will be Lenny Zelkowitz and Cheryl Kabeli, each for 3 year terms and Lucy Burrell Taylor as Secretary. With great appreciation for the hard work and dedication to the board we say so-long to Sandra Ghelman Sanders, Marcia Wolosz, Jerry Davis, and Diane Fine who are officially stepping off the board. Thank you for all your support!

We embark on the new fiscal year with Rabbi Kominsky, a strong financial plan, a wonderful board, and a new logo! We will continue to worship, study, and meet on-line indefinitely. The Ritual Committee is developing High Holy Day services to be conducted on-line. Another first! We will overcome!

Community Commitment letters have gone out in the mail. Be sure to get your completed informational forms back to the TBI office. Remember board meetings are open so if you are interested in attending let us know and we'll send you the Zoom link. Our next Board Meeting is August 6, 2020 at 6:30PM.

Keep watching your email for the weekly updates. Thank you again for all you do! The TBI community is the best! Stay well!

Debra



WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GIFTS TO THE VARIOUS TEMPLE TRUST FUNDS

May 16 - June 15, 2020

JOYCE COHEN BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND

Steve & Linda Leighton:

- Thank you friends for your kind words and expressions of sympathy on the loss of my mother, Elsie Leighton.

MARTIN M. GOLDMAN AND FAMILY FUND:

Howard & Susan Meyerson:

- In memory of Irving Goldman from Sue, Howard, Jacob and Daniel Meyerson.

FANNY S. SCHIFF TRUST FUND FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Mark & Frances Schlesinger:

- In memory of Leonard & Caroline Schlesinger.

HARVEY DUCHIN JEWISH CULTURAL FUND

Jeanot & Carole Cao-Ba:

- In memory of Selma Hausthor and Elsie Leighton.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Eleanor Garrell Berger:
- To wish a speedy recovery to Zahava Harrison & Bill Bujold.

Yahrzeit Fund

Hal & Mary Beth Rubin:

- in remembrance of Lyllyan J. Rubin.

*Thank
you*

YENTA



Bunny and Bob Adler have sold their home! Their plans are to move to the Villages in Florida. Bunny states, "it is very hard to leave a community we have loved for 46 years. The time is right for us to move to a very active community while we are still able to enjoy the activities. Come on down and visit us!"

Sarah Brown shares that Rodney retired at the end of May.

Bette Brohelone busy lady!! Cello lessons twice a week; lectures from the "Senior Scholar" program; a music series featuring artists from different parts of the work and attends a series of lectures sponsored by Clute Wealth Management.

She also has projects that are waiting for her free time. Waytago Bet!

Debra & Doug Chaves had the opportunity to rendezvous in Centennial Park Maryland with Justin on his birthday and to see Melissa and their beautiful daughter Noa who is now 16 months and running circles!

Janet & Jerry Davis traveled to Minneapolis, Minnesota visiting family. Those of us on Torah Study Thursday mornings got to see Henry and how he is growing. They also welcome new grandson, Albert!

Diane Fine is leaving the TBI Board of Trustees having served nine (9) years. "It was a great experience and it really made me understand what it takes to keep our beloved TBI vibrant and running smoothly. I was awed by the amount of work my fellow Board members took on and glad to learn about all the non – Board members also taking care of our building and community. Happy to make room for someone else on the Board and to continue to contribute in other ways".

Barbara Rothstein "I would like to say thank you to Rabbi David and Eva

for the zoom connection for services and study. It has been a lifeline to me in FL. Love to visit with the congregants during these times. A few minutes with Rabbi David and I am calm and welcoming Shabbat. Susan Rech! "Yes! Kyle Sarnow turned 18 today (6/14/2020). Kyle is graduating from Beekmantown High School this year and he is headed to UVM in the fall.

Nathaniel Sarnow turned 16 on 5/12/2020 and he will be learning to drive soon.

Lily has had lots of time on her bike while doing 1st grade online. She mastered riding without training wheels and then fell, breaking her right clavicle. She hopes to be on her bike soon!

Marc and Sue celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary Feb 5th. Wow, we are well and working hard."

Linda & Steve Leighton (proud Nonna & Zayda) share that Eliza Belle is moving up from her pre-K program at TBI to kindergarten at 'the Kings Highway School' and her brother Hogan Albert is moving up to the second grade. Arielle is thrilled because it is a one drop off early in the morning.

Sarah & Harvey Hurwitz will celebrate TWO High School Graduations with granddaughters Hallie Hurwitz and Chelsea Kaden! Celebrating with be virtual for families. Hallie in Beekmantown and Chelsea in Randolph, NJ. Both winning awards at graduation. You can read about Hallie in the SUN newspaper and the Press

Republication. "We are home and blessed with great family, friends, & neighbors who are helping us navigate these trying times. Bless Instacart! Our bellies are full. Time to support the Interfaith Food Shelf." Richard & Micki Smith were happy to hear that son Kevin had defended his master's thesis at Rice University. George and Carol Staves celebrate the high school graduations of their niece Hannah. In the spring Hannah had not one but two surgeries on her knee due to Soccer injuries in the spring and summer of 2019. In October 2019 Hannah suffered a stroke just a month before her 17th birthday. 6 weeks in Burlington, Hannah has made a full recovery and was told to "go and live your life" by her doctors. Hannah sings the national anthem at most of her basketball games and lastly standing on a table outside her school just recently. How blessed my family is to have both our niece and my brother in recovery from CVA's. Prayers for a complete and full recovery to Tom Dufore who is at UVM Burlington following a motorcycle accident. June 6th, 2020 Thousands took to Trinity Park to participate in the "Black Lives Matter" march. Seen there were Rabbi David, Eva, PJ Miller, and Beth Brumfield. I too attended. Let us always have hope that these marches, the awareness of age-old social problems become a thing of the past and let this truly become. "ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL"

Share with Yenta, and she will share with others. Continue to stay safe, be well and drop Yenta a line at cjstaves@gmail.com

Your Donation Makes a Difference!

*Simply fill out the form below, write a check payable to Temple Beth Israel and mail it to
1 Bowman Street, Plattsburgh, NY 12901, Attention: Treasurer*

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General Fund: Everyday Temple operations.

Yahrzeit Fund: Traditionally made for the yahrzeit observance of a loved one. This is part of the General Fund.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund: This fund is used by the Rabbi as needed to assist needy individuals, contribute to tzedakah and support other activities that further the mission of TBI. These funds are not used for the personal benefit of the Rabbi.

The Joyce Cohen Building Fund: The interest from this fund is used to make any capital improvement on both the Temple and Rabbinate. Contributions to this fund will continue to insure our ability to keep up on repairs and maintenance of our congregation's properties.

21st Century Fund: Ensures that funds are available to retain a Rabbi.

Woolman Rabbinical Trust Fund: Supports a Rabbi as spiritual leader for our community.

Education Funds

Rabin Religious School Trust Fund: Supports the Religious School.

Merkel-London Library Fund: Supports the purchase of books, periodicals and films that support the needs of the congregation and Religious School.

Fanny S. Schiff Trust Fund for Youth Activities: Supports youth programs and activities.

Judge Robert J. Feinberg Memorial Educational Fund: For acquiring books, periodicals, audio-visual equipment, software and the like to aid in the education of the members of the congregation.

Rachel Harrison Camp Fund: Provides scholarship money for children and teens to attend Jewish camps.

The Israel Student Scholarship Fund: Provides supplemental funding for current and former students of RRS to travel to Israel.

Cultural Funds

The Charles E. and Regina L. Slatkin Lecture Fund: Supports programs with Jewish content in the areas of art, literature or music.

Mensch Fund: To be used for programs and purchases that might not be accommodated within the regular Temple budget.

Martin M. Goldman and Family Fund: To provide for the enhancement of Jewish life and worship in Plattsburgh.

Harvey Duchin Jewish Cultural Fund: Cultural programs and/or activities, including music, art, lectures etc., for the benefit of the congregation.

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