

MISHPOCHEH

Temple Beth Shalom ☆ Brigantine Jewish Community Center

March 2011 Vol. 19, No. 2

Rabbi Gerald R. Fox

Adar I/Adar II 5771

SERVICES

Every Friday Evening
Throughout the Year,
8-9 p.m.

Light Refreshments

Saturday Services

March 12, 2011 • 10 a.m.

(Followed by Kiddush)

Board Meeting

Sunday, March 13 • 10 a.m.

All are welcome to attend.

RABBI'S COLUMN

When Fear Takes Over

Are you afraid? Do you sit and worry? Have you been told that a medical test you took was not as expected, a sudden car repair may top four figures, or you or a family member have lost a job or have been forced to work part-time or to take a pay cut? Perhaps you awoke this morning to face a milestone such as a birthday or an anniversary and you began to consider that your life is not what you'd expected it to be. These are some of the trials and tribulations that each of us face as we wind our way through our often less-than-straight life path. And yet, despite knowing the contrary, we often assume that only we face such challenges.

I have two truths to share with you: First, there are more of you who face challenges every day than you'd imagine; and, second, having known all of the above simultaneously on more than one occasion, I know how fear can grip you and make you wonder if tomorrow will come.

Unfortunately, it is just such experiences for many people that have understandably soured them, stifling their spiritual growth. For me, my spiritual life, my faith, and my connection with the Jewish people have each been my strength, guiding me through such rocky shoals.

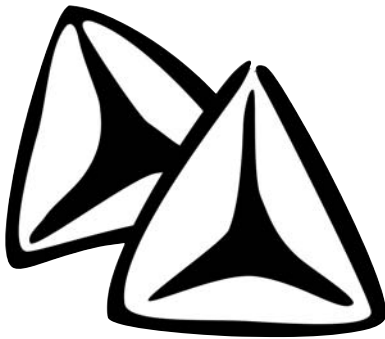
A rich spiritual life can soften and, in some cases, ameliorate the suffering we experience. A well-developed spiritual life cannot fail us (by itself). And that is partly why I encourage you, each of you, my fellow congregants, to engage yourself in spiritual activity. Each day try to consider two activities: Prayer and Gratitude.

Prayer and Gratitude . . . this is at the core of the upcoming holiday of Purim. Grounding ourselves in an existence that is beyond just ourselves, connecting to the Universe of Life is at the heart of prayer. The real hero of the Purim story is not Esther but Mordechai, who settles himself and his mind and acts as Esther's rock and guides her to the same practice. It is this quiet, confident self-knowledge of our special place in the world that allows us to counter the misery of the truly unfortunate, unpleasant, and downright horrible things that befall us.

Gratitude, as expressed in many healthy ways, is also at the core of a rich spiritual life. Consider the lesson of the Purim story: It is gratitude that frames the positive outcome of the narrative. Ancient truths are ours, too: Grateful people do not have resentments, or at least fewer of them. Being grateful means that we are looking to return love and not take it, that we are measuring our lot by what has been given or found and not by what has been taken or lost, and that we are focusing on how we are rich and not on how we could be richer.

No matter how you see the intersection of prayer and gratitude, no matter how you express them in your life, this foundation of a rich spiritual life cannot survive in a vacuum; we must share. That means sharing yourself with fellow congregants, sharing your optimism (NOT pessimism) with others, and even looking to do for others without expectation of reward (perhaps this will be particularly difficult if you expected to be at the center of your life at this

(RABBI continued on page 2)



PURIM DINNER

Every year at Purim have
you dreamed of being
beautiful Queen Esther
or brave Mordechai?

Your dream may come true –

Purim Shabbat Dinner

Friday, March 18

6:30 p.m.

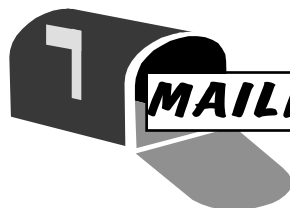
\$10 per person

Cut-off date March 14

Reservations a Must!

No admission at the door.

Call the office now to
reserve your spot



MAILBAG To everyone at Temple Beth Shalom,

I appreciate your thoughts and prayers and cards for my recovery. The plant is beautiful and thriving nicely.

Thank you Rabbi Fox for your phone calls and prayers offered via the phone. It deeply moved me.

Hope to see you again when I am able to once again attend services, etc.

Sincerely,
Jackie Fabel

Persons of the Month

Carl & Beth Apter

Beth is a native of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. but moved to Philadelphia after graduating Penn State with a BSN. She worked at Jefferson Hospital, met Carl, and they married in 1981. Son Matt came in 1985, and Ben in 1992. Beth became a full-time mother and volunteer at Oak Lane Day School, Germantown Academy and Congregation Beth Or. Carl and Beth fell in love with Brigantine, moved in 2008, and were delighted to reconnect with Jack and Roz Lieberman. Beth also has a warm spot in her heart for Temple Beth Shalom and the Book Club!

HELP RAISE MONEY FOR TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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American Jewish Experience Found in Philadelphia

The National Museum of American Jewish History is the only museum anywhere devoted solely to the experiences of American Jews from their 1654 arrival in North America to the present day. Building on the dynamic interaction between the Museum's location on Independence Mall, the history and traditions of the Jewish people, and the broader national experience, the

core exhibition will highlight the diverse backgrounds, expectations and experiences of Jews who came to and made their homes in the United States. Visitors to the exhibition will explore how and when Jews immigrated to America, the choices they faced, the challenges they confronted, and the ways in which they shaped, and were shaped by their American home.

Rabbi (continued from page 1)

stage in your life). Reaching out in love, in compassion, in gratitude is what makes us rich in the only way that, long after we cease walking this Earth, will ultimately matter.

Each year, we are told to be happy at the arrival of the month of Adar, as it heralds the arrival of Purim. So . . . be happy! Be happy not because your life is perfect but so that it will be.

May each of us find joy in our life even in the places where we find pain and may we find the courage to be healthy and happy as we open our hearts, sharing our gratitude with others.

Rabbi Gerald R. Fox

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- Age Spot Removal
- IPL Rejuvenation
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- Restylane
- Glycolic Peels

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Thank You To the Oneg Shabbat & Kiddush Sponsors

For January

Friday, January 7 **Barbara & Albert Dragon** in memory of Barbara's parents, William Meinster and Miriam Meinster-Hyman

Friday, January 14 **Joshua & Elaine Shapiro** in memory of Josh's mother, Mae Shapiro, and Elaine's father, Nathan Nerenberg

Friday, January 21 **Michael & Carol Albert** in memory of Carol's mother, Betty Eisen

Betty Chaikin in memory of her father-in-law, Isador Chaikin

For February

Friday, February 4 **Dr. Howard & Arlene Waronker** in memory of Arlene's mother, Edith Rosenthal

Friday, February 11 **Lillian & Ronald Shender** in memory of Lill's father, Jule Harrison

Saturday, February 12 **Linda Hahn** in memory of her husband, Rabbi Sanford H. Hahn

Friday, February 18 **Sidney & Shirley Morgan** in memory of Sid's mother, Laura Morgan, and Sid's aunt, Anne Morgan

Bernie Cohen in memory of his mother, Rose Cohen

Friday, February 25 **Betty Chaikin** in memory of her father, Harry Schindler

Dr. Joseph & Lillian Hassman in memory of Lill's uncle, Robert Magalnick

General Donations

Dr. Harry & Sarah Chaikin in honor of their mom, **Betty Chaikin**, being awarded a Hadassah Leadership Award.

Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to **Dr. Frank Kern** for donating the funds to cover the expenses for the 2011 season's Children's Bingo! We are very grateful for his generosity as it allows us the opportunity to host this very popular seasonal event again this summer. THANK YOU, Frank!

Year-End Appeal Donations

Jonathan & Jody Caplan
Albert & Barbara Dragon
John & Lena Elzufon
Joseph & Anna Weinstein
Anonymous Donor

Get Well

Bernie Cohen, Jackie Fabel, Ida Levin, Marvin Siegel, Burt Stolove, Ira Waller, Toby Waller, Norma Wexler, Sandra Wray (sister of Lill Shender)

Yahrzeit Donations

Nancy & Saul Grossman in memory of Nancy's mother, Sarah Silverwood

Brenda Sacks in memory of her husband, Alfred Sacks, and her father, Jack Altshuler

Irene & Marvin Siegel in memory of Irene's father, Max Perlstein

Gale Hoffman in memory of her uncle, Louis Goisman

Judith & Stanley Levick in memory of Judith's mother, Claire Goldman

Linda Oram in memory of her father, David Masket
Cary & Trudy Durant in memory of their mothers, Janet Durant and Bernice Deutsch

Joshua & Elaine Shapiro in memory of Josh's mother, Mae Shapiro, and Elaine's father, Nathan Nerenberg

Martha Cohen in memory of her brother-in-law, Henry Cohen; and her mother-in-law, Rose Cohen

Solomon & Vera Getz in memory of Sol's parents, Virginia & Nathan Getz

David & Estelle Silver in memory of David's father, Nathan Silver

Laurence & Debra Berger in memory of Debra's grandfather, Michael Hoffman

Harvey & Diane Steiner in memory of Harvey's mother, Hilda Steiner

Gail Coplein in memory of her parents, Dr. Leonard & Constance Coplein

Dana & Brett Weinstein in memory of Dana's father, Sandy Skuzinski

Sheila & Saul Feder in memory of Sheila's father, Sholem Werbin

Norman Kaye in memory of his mother, Dora Kaye; and his mother-in-law, Lena Rosendorf

Dr. Howard & Arlene Waronker in memory of Arlene's mother, Edith Rosenthal

Allan & Andrea Abramowitz in memory of Allan's father, Bernard Abramowitz

Selma Sofsky in memory of her brother, Jacob Moskowitz

Norma & Seymour Trachtman in memory of Norma's sister, Joan Weiss

Jack & Rosalie Lieberman in memory of their son-in-law, Jonathan Friedman

Anita Erman in memory of her husband, Dr. Jerome J. Erman

Barbara Pearlman in memory of her brother, Herbert Salus

Natalie & Howard Solomon in memory of Natalie's mother, Muriel Samuelson Schenker



Len Coplein Library

We have several new additions in our library. You are invited to browse through the library in the office during the week between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Anything you want to know about Jewish religion, customs, humor, travel, etc. is available. Take advantage of our FREE library!

March Yahrzeits

- 3/1 Howard & Natalie Solomon *in memory of* Natalie's mother, Muriel Samuelson Schenker
Seymour & Norma Trachtman *in memory of* Norma's sister, Joan Weiss
- 3/2 Betty Chaikin *in memory of* her father, Harry Schindler
- 3/3 Steven & Carol Dranoff *in memory of* Carol's father, Max Epstein
- 3/4 Eugene Blum & Judith Blum-Crawford *in memory of* Gene's mother, & Judy's grandmother, Lillian Blum
Stephen & Eileen Engber *in memory of* Stephen's mother, Anna Engber
- 3/5 Drs. Robert & Roberta Ball *in memory of* Bob's mother, Anna Ball
- 3/8 Howard & Carol Serotta *in memory of* Howard's father, Paul Serotta
- 3/11 Howard & Myrna Levin *in memory of* Myrna's father, Max Cylinder
- 3/14 Joan Rosenfeld *in memory of* her father, William Hirsch
- 3/16 Milton & Phyllis Berkes *in memory of* Milton's brother, George Berkes
Betty Chaikin *in memory of* her sister, Helen Lipkin
Gerald & Barbara Pepper *in memory of* Gerald's father, George Pepper
- 3/21 Milton & Phyllis Berkes *in memory of* Milton's mother, Rose Berkes
Michael & Cheryl Guterman *in memory of* Cheryl's mother, Lillian Brownstein
- 3/24 Harry Labkow
- 3/27 Solomon & Vera Getz *in memory of* Solomon's father, Nathan Getz
Barbara Pearlman *in memory of* her brother, Herbert Salus
- 3/30 Barry Bornstein & Fran Dratch *in memory of* Barry's grandmother, Fanny Denbow

AIPAC'S BIWEEKLY ON
AMERICAN MIDDLE EAST POLICY

House Leaders to Obama: Pledge to Use Veto in U.N.

Six senior members of the House of Representatives sent a letter to President Obama last month, asking him to pledge to veto any anti-Israel resolutions in the U.N. Security Council. The letter comes as the Palestinian Authority (PA) is working to introduce a Security Council resolution condemning Israel for housing construction in the West Bank and in some neighborhoods of Jerusalem.

The House leaders reaffirm the longstanding U.S. position that final-status issues such as settlements and Jerusalem should be negotiated between Israel and the PA and not be decided through U.N. decree. The letter also criticizes the PA for its ongoing efforts to avoid direct talks with Israel.

The signatories were Reps. Eric Cantor (R-VA), Majority Leader; Steny Hoyer (D-MD), Democratic Whip; Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs; Howard Berman (D-CA), ranking member on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Steve Chabot (R-OH), chair-designate on the Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia; and Gary Ackerman (D-NY), ranking member-designate on the Sub-committee on the Middle East and South Asia.

Congresswoman who was shot was first Jewish congresswoman. She wrote this in 2006:

Arizona Jewish Post — GABRIELLE GIFFORDS 10.27.06

My grandfather, Akiba Hornstein, was the son of a Lithuanian rabbi. My grandfather changed his name to Giff Giffords for reasons of anti-Semitism and moved to Southern Arizona from New York more than a half century ago. In the 1940s, he founded my family's tire and automotive business, El Campo Tire, which grew into a successful and thriving business for 50 years, which I ran for several years before serving in the Arizona Legislature.

Growing up, my family's Jewish roots and tradition played an important role in shaping my values. The women in my family served as strong role models for me as a girl. In my family, if you want to get something done, you take it to the women relatives! Like my grandmother, I am a lifetime member of Hadassah and now a member of Congregation Chaverim.

When I served in the State Senate in Arizona, I had the opportunity to visit Jerusalem. It was one of the most memorable experiences of my life. I had the opportunity to meet with the then-mayor of Jerusalem, Ehud Olmert, and I got to see firsthand the sacrifices that Israelis make in the name of security because of the dangerous state of affairs there.

I will always be a strong supporter of Israel. As the only functioning democracy in the Middle East, Israel is a vital strategic ally of the United States. I believe the United States must do everything possible to secure Israel's long-term security and achieve a lasting peace in the region. The failure of the current administration to continue the peace process has been a loss to America and Israel. That is why we need a new direction in Washington.

Peace between Israel and her neighbors can only be achieved by direct talks between the parties. Until the Palestinian leadership and other hostile regimes are willing to accept Israel's right to exist, it will be impossible to achieve peace. I believe that the United States can help by providing a mediator who can be trusted by both sides, like former President Bill Clinton. It's an approach that worked in achieving a peaceful settlement to the violence in Northern Ireland. People in the Middle East need to know that the U.S. is serious about the peace process.

As a woman and as a Jew, I will always work to insure that the United States stands with Israel to jointly ensure our mutual safety, security, and prosperity.

(*New York Mayor Bloomberg is sending aides to gun shows for sting operations in many states to make easy and illegal purchases.)

Simply Shirley . . .

Greetings to all my readers!

The Tu B'Shevat Seder and Shabbat dinner was held on Friday, January 21 and what a wonderful time was had by all. There were approximately 24 who came and took part in the wonderful Seder. What a surprise when Sarah, Matan and Doron arrived completing this most joyous occasion. The Rabbi did a wonderful job in providing the booklets which explained the Seder to everyone. Lill and Ron truly made this Seder and meal very special by preparing all of the wonderful goodies needed to complete the evening.

Unlike the Passover Seder which we are familiar with, this Seder was totally new to me and therefore it was very interesting. This Seder embodies a variety of rituals that represent the physical, the creative, the intellectual, and the ethereal. It opened up a meaningful historical Jewish interpretation. My memories of Tu B'Shevat have always been the National Arbor Day associated with the planting of trees and this Seder explained many different meanings of the holiday. Thank you Rabbi Fox.

For all of the hard work and thought that went into making this a special Tu B'Shevat I thank you for all of us who attended and truly enjoyed this special time together. It's times like this that make our temple so very special.

I end this edition of *Simply Shirley* with our book review which was held on Monday, Feb. 14 and yes, we actually held it on Valentine's Day, and all of my sweetheart bookies came to discuss "The Art of Racing in the Rain." Our wonderful hostess was Betty Chaikin who served a delicious array of goodies. The book discussion was very interesting with many views on a multitude of topics, plus philosophical interpretations speaking through this interesting novel.

Our next book review will be on Monday, March 14 at 1:30 and will be hosted by Maryanne Miller who lives at The Cloisters, #3304. You will receive an email with the information. The book we will be reviewing is: "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet," by Jamie Ford.

Before I sign off I would like to say that spring will soon be upon us and, along with the Piping Plovers, some of our members will also be flying back to join us. To you all I say stay well and happy.

*Til I write again,
Simply Shirley*

New York Mayor LaGuardia

had a Jewish mother, a Jewish merchant's daughter from Trieste. He made campaign speeches in Yiddish as Mayor from 1934-1945. When the Nazi delegation arrived in New York for the 1939 World's Fair, he provided them with an all-Jewish police escort.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 2..... | Rosalyn Weinstein |
| 9..... | Sandy Cogan |
| 10..... | Michael B. Albert, Toby P. Waller |
| 11..... | Norma Gittelman |
| 12..... | Stanton L. Levin, Dr. Eli W. Zucker |
| 13..... | Marvin A. Waxman |
| 17..... | Faye Kahn |
| 19..... | Jerald Cohen |
| 20..... | Dr Barry L. Glaser |
| 23..... | Howard Serotta |
| 24..... | Sheila Feder |
| 25..... | Frances Goldstein, Selma Sofsky |
| 28..... | William Boutin |
| 30..... | Sarah Fox |

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|---------|---------------------|
| 22..... | John & Lena Elzufon |
| 26..... | Solomon & Vera Getz |

BOOK CLUB



**"Hotel on the
Corner of
Bitter and
Sweet"
by Jamie
Ford
Monday,
March 14
1:30 p.m.**

**Hostess Maryanne Miller
Cloisters #3304**

**For more information contact Shirley at
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MISHPOCHEH NEWS

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Immediate Past President: **Lillian H. Shender**

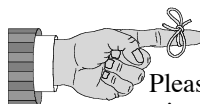
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2nd Vice-President: **Karen Sederholm**

Treasurer: **Lillian H. Shender**

Corresponding Secretary: **Mina Kramer**

Recording Secretary: **Jack Lieberman**



A Reminder

to all Temple Beth Shalom members
 Please notify the office of any births, engagements,
 marriages, illnesses or deaths. This way the Rabbi,
 Board and Temple membership can be notified. The answering
 machine is on 7 days and 24 hours a day.

**Help Our Temple
 through your donations**

Your donations in memory of loved ones, simchas, our
 Rabbi's Library Fund or Rabbi's Discretionary Fund not only
 help the Temple, but also are a way to remember various happy
 and sad events in your life. Unsolicited general donations are
 needed to help the Temple meet its annual operating expenses.
 Keep in mind, less than 50% of our operating expenses are
 covered by membership dues. Listed below are the various
 items to which you can contribute.

- Bronze Memorial Plaque*\$300
- Leaf on the Tree of Life*\$50
- Oneg Shabbat Sponsor*\$25
- Kiddush Sponsor*\$100
- Message Card*\$5 each
- Yizkor Memorial*Minimum \$10
- Building Fund*Whatever you desire
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*Whatever you desire
- Library Fund*Whatever you desire
- Kiddush Fund*Whatever you desire