

# MISHPOCHEH

Temple Beth Shalom ☆ Brigantine Jewish Community Center

November 2011 Vol. 19, No. 11

Rabbi Gerald R. Fox

Heshvan/Kislev 5772



## SERVICES

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

Light Refreshments

**Saturday Service**  
November 12 • 10 a.m.

**Board Meeting**  
Sunday, Nov. 13 • 10 a.m.



**Interfaith Service**  
Tuesday, Nov. 22 • 7 p.m.  
St. Thomas Catholic Church  
331 8th St. S.  
Brigantine

## RABBI'S COLUMN

### *In the Beginning . . . Then What?*

So, here we are again, having begun at the beginning . . . again. Each year, we start reading the Torah at the beginning of a new year cycle. Each year we have the opportunity to see the stories and laws found in our holiest text in a new light, through the lens of our experiences over the last year.

And so it is with ourselves: We leave behind the High Holy Days and the Autumn holidays that follow them feeling a little out of sorts. We are suddenly cut loose, seemingly without a blueprint of how to spend our days. No holiday meals, no gathering of family, no obligation to services, and no special buildings or special foods. We cannot help but silently wonder what the coming year will bring to us and to those we love.

The good news, however, is that we are not cut loose, that we are not without a blueprint, and that we needn't abandon the hallmarks and joys of this season: special meals and foods, gathering with other Jews, keeping family close, certainly the cultivation of a good attitude. In fact, if we have been lucky enough to maintain our focus over the last many weeks, we have slowly developed a plan for the coming year, perhaps without even realizing it!

Each year, we make vows . . . in services, to our loved ones, and certainly out loud and silently to ourselves. The details and weightiness and timing may differ from person to person, but the theme is likely the same: Each of us longs to become more of a *mensch*, more *hesedike*, more focused on the truly important things in life. The key, of course, is with all of the holidays and the excitement that comes with them behind us, how do we remember and then how do we have the courage to follow through with the many pledges that we made for the coming year?

The short answer is that, most likely, we cannot. We are human beings and our memories (if not our intentions) are imperfect. To be fair to ourselves, few if any

*(RABBI continued on page 4)*



## Coming Events

**Tuesday, Nov. 22**  
**Interfaith Service**  
7 pm

**Saturday, Dec. 24**  
5 p.m.  
**Chinese Chanukah Party**

## TRIP TO ISRAEL

There are a few seats left on NE PA Federation's Mission to Israel.

This is an extraordinary opportunity to engage in an amazing Israeli experience at an affordable price. The trip will be leaving December 3rd from Newark International and returns on December 15th.

The cost for this 13 day/10 night trip is only \$3,285 per person. That includes round-trip airfare, 10 nights in Israel, 8 dinners, breakfast each and every day, and most importantly, 8 days of superb touring with headsets to hear everything your top notch tour guide has to share about our homeland.

For more information call Barry at 570-650-0874.



## MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE!

*Are you celebrating a special day, honoring someone or remembering a loved one?*

A good way to do this is to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat on a Friday night or a Saturday Kiddush. It will make you feel good and will help your synagogue carry on this time-honored tradition.

For only \$25 for a Friday night or \$100 for a Saturday Kiddush, this has got to be the biggest bargain on the planet! Call Diane at 266-0403 and make your intentions known.

## Happiness

If you want happiness for an hour – take a nap.

If you want happiness for a day – go fishing.

If you want happiness for a month – get married.

If you want happiness for a year – inherit a fortune.

If you want happiness for a lifetime – help someone else.

## New Prayer Book Dedication



We are offering you a chance to purchase a memorial/honorarium plaque to be placed in our new prayer books (inside front cover) for only \$36.

We only have 50 books available for dedication, so call the office at 609-266-0403 and make your wishes known.

## What is the Jewish definition of sin?

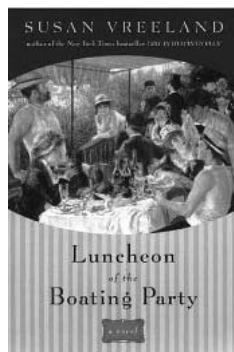
In Judaism, the word “sin” has different connotations than it does in our wider culture. “Sin” in Judaism is generally not something for which a person will be punished in the afterlife, but is rather an improper act for which one can ask forgiveness – not just of God, but of other human beings as well.



## 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!

## BOOK CLUB



“Luncheon of the Boating Party” by Susan Vreeland

Monday, Dec. 5 1 p.m.

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## *Congratulations*

To **Sidney & Shirley Morgan** on the recent engagement of their granddaughter, Stephanie Newman, to Eric Frost. Stephanie is a teacher and her fiancé is an attorney. Best wishes to the happy couple! Mazel Tov!

To **Dr. Harry & Sarah Chaikin** on the wedding of their daughter, Hannah. Hannah Chaikin and Tony Rizzo were married on October 1. Hannah is also the granddaughter of **Betty Chaikin**. Best wishes for a lifetime of happiness to the newlyweds! Mazel Tov!

## *Condolences*

Deepest sympathy to **Judith Blum-Crawford, Max Crawford and family** on the passing of Judy's father, Gene Blum.

## *General Donation*

**Judie Bramnick** in memory of Donald Wasserman.

## *New Prayerbook Dedications*

Prayer Book dedications have been purchased by:

**Carl & Beth Apter** – In honor of **Matan & Doron's** first birthdays – joys to our Congregation; In appreciation of **Rabbi & Sarah Fox** – blessings to our Congregation; In honor of **Roz & Jack Lieberman** – first Brigantine friends.

## *Kudos to Temple Beth Shalom*

From **Judy & Ed Rubin** –

We are so grateful to have found your warm and welcoming shul. We could not think of a better place or way to welcome the New Year. Thank you for the beautiful service and the abundant hospitality. Shana Tova to all.

## *Thank You*

Sincere gratitude to **Bernie Cohen** for his extremely generous donation in memory of his dear wife, Morray B. Cohen, for the upkeep of the shul and maintenance of the gardens which Morray so graciously designed and planted. They are a living memorial to her.

To **Aimee & Stanley Levin** for providing a supply of light bulbs for our Yahrzeit Memorial Tablets.

**Rabbi Fox and the Religious Committee** wish to thank everyone for making this year's holidays such a wonderful experience for all!

## *Welcome*

## *New & Returning Members*

**Bret Bergman** of Brigantine, NJ

**Deborah Cimini** of Medford & Brigantine, NJ

**Jerald & Sheila Cohen** of Absecon, NJ

**Harvey Fern** of Galloway, NJ

**Jeffrey & Rhoda Rosen** of Wynnewood, Pa. & Ventnor, NJ

## *Message Cards*

**Sidney & Shirley Morgan:** Get well wishes to Barry Cogan

**Mitchell & Mina Kramer:** First birthday wishes to Matan & Doron Fox; Get well wishes for Edith Krimstock; Get well wishes for Barry Cogan.

**Ron & Lill Shender:** Condolences to Judy Blum-Crawford and family

## *Yahrzeit Donations*

**Bernie Cohen** in memory of his brother, Frank Cohen; and his father, Albert Cohen.

**Selma Sofsky** in memory of her husband, Sol Sofsky.

**Betty Chaikin** in memory of her sister, Ruth Bocour.

**Dr. Barry & Barbara Glaser** in memory of Barry's sister, Flora Furman.

**Leon & Harriet Ackovitz** in memory of Leon's father, Julius Ackovitz; and their uncle, Albert Orner.

**Jo-Ann & Ronald Massanova** in memory of Jo-Ann's mother, Rose Aufiero.

**Albert & Barbara Dragon** in memory of Al's mother, Betty (Becky) Dragon.

**Martha Cohen** in memory of her husband, Frank Cohen.

**Rose Zeltser** in memory of her husband, Ronald Zeltser.

**Jacqueline Fabel** in memory of Jackie's father, Emanuel Bilk.

**David & Estelle Silver** in memory of Estelle's mother, Lilian Waltzer.

**Laurence & Debra Berger** in memory of Debra's father, Simon Nager.

**Arnie & Lory Schuster** in memory of Arnie's mother, Margot Schuster.

**Carol & Howard Serotta** in memory of Carol's father, William Hecht.

**Ida Levin** in memory of her mother, Sima Lotstein; and her sister, Sara Rutberg.

**Dr. Howard & Arlene Waronker** in memory of Howard's father, Isadore Waronker.

**Norman & Pearl Reiff** in memory of their daughter, Jill Reiff.

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## *Thank You To the Oneg Shabbat & Kiddush Sponsors*

### *For October*

Friday, October 21 – **Bernie Cohen** in memory of his brother, Frank Cohen

**Albert & Barbara Dragon** in memory of Al's mother, Betty (Becky) Dragon.

Friday, October 28 – **Shirley Morgan** in honor of her husband Sid's birthday

**Ronald & Lillian Shender** in memory of Ron's mother, Leah Shender

**Bernard & Norma Gittelman** in memory of Bernie's parents, Major & Henrietta Gittelman

## *Get Well*

**Barry Cogan, Bernie Cohen, Steve Dranoff, Bernie Gittelman, Edith Krimstock, Ida Levin, Norma Wexler, Sandra Wray** (sister of Lill Shender)

## Rabbi *(continued from page 1)*

of us can endlessly sustain the intensity of the holidays and all our dreams for ourselves expressed during them. What we can do is focus on the goal: To be a better, a more kind, a more spiritual, a more human individual. Regardless of how good we are, we needn't rest on our successes or wallow in our failures. We must remain open to finding and being our best selves.

It is up to us, the High Holy Days liturgy reminds us, to bring God's presence into this world. And, it is as simple as reaching for our best selves – at any age and in any mood – that will help us do just that. The unexpected benefit of such an achievement is that doing so will help us travel contentedly through the coming year and arrive safely, a little better, a little more refined, a little more "Jewish" as we stand together to welcome another year next Rosh HaShanah. That reminds me of something . . . "Don't sweat the small stuff," is a phrase that we hear all the time. It directs us to focus on what is really important in Life: those agreed-upon blessings that we so easily degrade with bad thoughts, speech, or behavior. I put to you that we might remember that phrase another way as we enter the next year: "Don't be small, sweat big!" Let us not worry so much about the minutiae of our plans for the coming year, about how we will be better for the next time we stand before God to ask for forgiveness; instead, let us lift our spirits and our futures higher by intending to be better and then finding ways – planned and spontaneous – to make that intention a reality.

May all of our best intentions come to fruition with the love and kindness and blessings that have the unique power to transform our world.

### *Rabbi Gerald R. Fox*

We want to extend our appreciation to all who helped to make our new family feel so welcome in the congregation and especially during services throughout this holiday season.

**Rabbi and Sarah Fox**

*Our congregation mourns the loss of  
lifetime member*

**Eugene Blum.**

As many who knew him know, he was a blessing to this congregation, as was his partner-in-everything, his wife Sheila, who predeceased him.

His efforts made toward the life of Temple Beth Shalom, including this newsletter, will not be forgotten.

## *November Yahrzeits*

- 11/1 Annieta Mann *in memory of* her father, Leon Shanack  
11/3 Ida Levin *in memory of* her mother-in-law, Fannie Levin  
Ronald & Lillian Shender *in memory of* Ron's mother,  
Leah Shender  
11/4 Aaron & Joan Grossman *in memory of* Joan's mother,  
Esther Broder  
Anna Leibowitz  
11/5 Jacqueline & Fred Fabel *in memory of* Fred's father,  
Lewis Fabel  
Jack Segal  
11/6 Michael & Cheryl Guterman *in memory of* Michael's father,  
Hyman Guterman  
11/8 Mark & Pearl Erdman *in memory of* Mark's father,  
Nathaniel Erdman  
Mitchell & Mina Kramer *in memory of* Mitch's father,  
Harry Kramer  
Ida Levin *in memory of* her sister, Sara Rutberg  
11/9 Toby Waller *in memory of* her brother-in-law, Shep Waller  
11/10 Bernie Cohen *in memory of* his father, Albert Cohen  
Martha Cohen *in memory of* her father-in-law, Albert Cohen  
Dr. Martin & Linda Millison *in memory of* Martin's brother,  
Carl Millison  
Norman & Pearl Reiff *in memory of* their daughter, Jill Reiff  
11/13 Barry & Sandy Cogan *in memory of* Sandy's father,  
Morris Rubinstein  
11/14 Dr. Howard & Arlene Waronker *in memory of* Howard's  
father, Isadore Waronker  
11/15 Fred & Marlene Paul *in memory of* Marlene's father,  
Leon Lindenberg  
11/16 Ronald & Shelley Miller *in memory of* Shelley's father,  
David Gitomer  
Michael Axler *in memory of* his mother-in-law, Ruth Myers  
11/18 Amy Hammel *in memory of* her husband, William Hammel  
Beverly Rosendorf *in memory of* her aunt, Pearl Kaye  
11/19 Mark & Pearl Erdman *in memory of* Pearl's mother,  
Clara Blady  
11/20 Mark & Dr. Linda Baum *in memory of* Linda's father,  
Jacob Bornstein  
11/24 Michael & Carol Albert *in memory of* Michael's father,  
Maxwell B. Albert  
Michael & Cheryl Guterman *in memory of* Cheryl's aunt,  
Rose Gilden Talbin  
11/25 Dr. Joseph & Lillian Hassman *in memory of* Lillian's father,  
Morris Davis  
Nancy Clancy *in memory of* her mother, Sarah Levine  
11/28 Lilyan Cralle *in memory of* her mother-in-law,  
Sue Marie Cralle  
Ida Levin *in memory of* her mother, Sima Lotstein  
11/29 Dr. Henry & Gloria Jacoby *in memory of* Gloria's mother,  
Rose Yablonsky  
11/30 Debbie & Gail Coplein *in memory of* their mother,  
Constance Coplein, and their great grandfather,  
Eli Erlichman  
Jerald & Sheila Cohen *in memory of* Sheila's father, David Weil

# Simply Shirley . . .

To All of My Loyal Readers

*L'shanah Tovah Tikatavu.* My sincere hope for a wonderful new year complete with good health for you and your loved ones.

Although I know this is the November edition, I would be remiss if I didn't mention how wonderful the High Holiday services were this year with our Rabbi Fox as well as Rabbi LaPayover. The chanting was truly superb, especially with the Fox twins Matan and Doron joining in. And once again going to the beach for the Tashlich Service and finding just how many Jewish seagulls we have in Brigantine all waiting for the feast to begin. Each year Sid and I realize how wonderful it is to live in Brigantine and to be part of the family at Temple Beth Shalom.

Now, onto the Sukkot dinner which we all knew would be wonderful. I am very happy to report this was indeed the case. Although the weather did not allow for dining outside in the Sukkah, we had a most wonderful dinner in our beautifully decorated synagogue. Hats off to Lill and Ron Shender for a dinner which was just delicious and truly enjoyed by all who attended.

The Sukkot dinner was even more special this year as we celebrated the first birthdays of Matan and Doron! It is truly wonderful being part of this extended family and being able to watch our twins grow.

Hope to see you all at the 7 p.m. Interfaith Service on November 22nd at St. Thomas Catholic Church, which is truly a most wonderful way to come together with our community and give thanks for what we have.

*Til I write again,  
Simply Shirley*

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# Simchas

Nov.

*Birthdays & Anniversaries*

### BIRTHDAYS - November

1 .....Jamie Chaikin,	13 .....Gale Donohue,
John A. Elzufon	Howard Solomon
3 .....Joseph Weinstein	14 .....Trudy Durant
5 .....Eric Goldstein	15 .....Steven Donohue
12 .....Phyllis Hoffrichter	26 .....Lisa Yuen

### ANNIVERSARIES - November

5 .....Dr. Stephen & Rosalyn Weinstein
23 .....Cary & Trudy Durant, Saul & Nancy Grossman
27 .....Mitchell & Mina Kramer




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**MISHPOCHEH NEWS**

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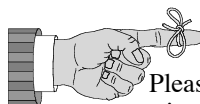
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**A Reminder**

to all Temple Beth Shalom members  
 Please notify the office of any births, engagements,  
 marriages, illnesses or deaths. This way the Rabbi,  
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- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund* .....Whatever you desire
- Library Fund* .....Whatever you desire
- Kiddush Fund* .....Whatever you desire