

Temple Beth El Israel 551 SW Bethany Drive Port St Lucie, FL 34986 phone 772-336-2424

January 2021 TEVET / SHEVAT 5781

Rabbi

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Please Note: All of our future indoor activities, events and meetings hinge on whether we are able to hold them due to the Coronavirus pandemic

From the Desk of Rabbi Bruce Benson

As Grandma used to say "Goodbye and good riddance". 2020 was a year that deserved to be relegated to the past tense in a very omnipresent way. So many challenges in so many directions. So much to discern as we look to the future.

Among the many roads to be taken is the road that combines our past with our future. Do we move forward with energy to protect what we hold dear or does Enthusiasthma take us by the hand down a dark road?

As we enter into the book of Exodus this month, we are challenged by God and circumstance to choose our road: do we follow Moshe rabbeynu out of Egypt and the demeaning emotional slavery that accompanied our almost 5 centuries there or do we choose to stay where it is most safe avoiding anything that requires us to reimagine what is , and has always been, what is most dear, most defining.

Not all our ancestors chose to leave with Moses on his journey to a new and unknown land taking an unknown road with its many turns and twists. Many chose to take the easy way hoping things would get better if they just kept out of the way.

With a little math, we see that Moses was just around 80 when the journey began-when he stood at the mountain top and looked over the Promised land, he was 120. Even then, he spoke to his people of securing a future for generations to follow. He was not destined to cross over the river and enter the land.

He was, however, the great leader by speaking of a future with challenges and eventual success and security.

Over the next few months, each of us will be called to lead the way for future generations to cleave too, to cling to a faith community we have believed in and joined with all our lives. What will it be?

Continued on page 5.....



The President's Communication Corner

A Happy & Healthy New Year to everyone in our Temple family.

As I have repeatedly said, we are all anxious to get back to a normal existence and that includes our Temple life.

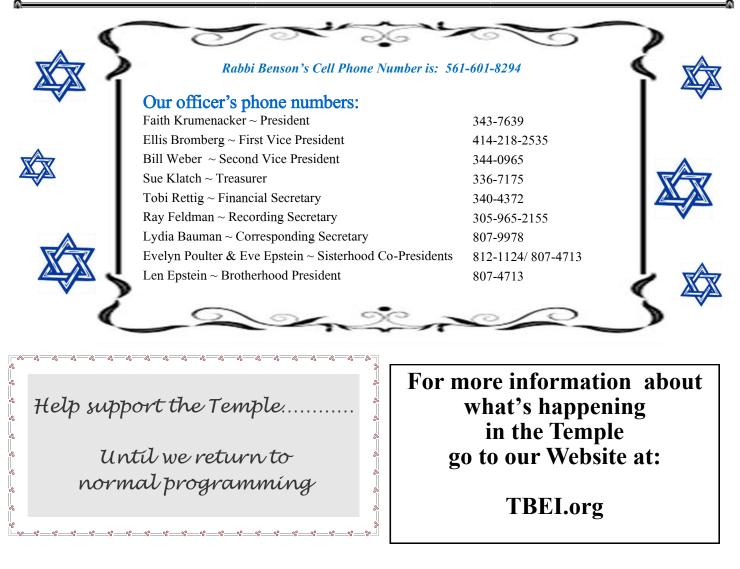
We are so close to seeing a solution to this pandemic and to being able to be vaccinated that we all just have to be patient and understand and recognize our vulnerability and that we will be together, sooner rather than later. Our patience will pay off in the end because we will all be together again.

We are planning another outdoor service (weather permitting) on Friday night, January 15^{th} at 7 p.m. Let's all try to support our efforts to be together and encourage our non-member friends to attend and see just what we have to offer.

Putting together an outdoor service is not an easy job and I want to applaud Les Schwartz, Richard Levine and Rabbi Benson for setting up and breaking down all the equipment involved. Thank you for all you do....

We're in this together, let's stay healthy and safe together.

Faith



SISTERHOOD NEWS Dear Sisterhood Ladies, We hope you all have a healthy and better New Year. Sisterhood is sponsoring a new fun-raiser. Because we can not have any fundraising at this time we would like to establish a new form of celebrating with our simcha cake . For \$10.00 for the year you can celebrate any simcha and your message will be part of our monthly Shofar message. Please send your check to Sisterhood @ TBEI and earmark it Simcha cake. At the same time e-mail Evelyn at evelinap_11@yahoo.com with your message. If you did not attend the outdoor Chanukah service you missed a wonderful service. Our condolences are extended to the family of long time member Dorothy Janin. Please remember to pay your dues, if you have not already done so. Hope to see you all soon. Evelyn and Eve **OUR NEW SIMCHA CAKE** UNTIL WE ARE ONCE AGAIN ABLE TO HAVE MEETINGS AND CELEBRATE OUR HAPPY OCCASIONS IN PERSON, WE WILL BE CELEBRATING IN THE SHOFAR EACH MONTH. FOR \$10 FOR THE YEAR, YOU CAN SHARE YOUR HAPPY NEWS. SIMCHAS & GREETINGS TO SHARE: HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO **EVE & LEN EPSTEIN** TO A BETTER, HEALTHIER **EVE EPSTEIN** AND HAPPIER NEW YEAR **EVELYN POULTER** HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM LILLY BEAUCHAMP HONORING THE YEAR 2021! MAY IT BRING HOPE AND HAPPY TO SEE FREEDOM TO ALL OF US! THE END OF 2020! HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR! FERN BARISHMAN LINDA CHAZIN **CONGRATULATIONS** TO BREANNE KRUMENACKER ON HER GRADUATION FROM THE HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO HAPPY BIRTHDAY **UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA EVE & LEN EPSTEIN** TO MY HUSBAND JIM AND HAPPY 21ST BIRTHDAY TO **DIANE GOLDBERG** JACKIE WARD JORDAN KRUMENACKER FAITH KRUMENACKER

BROTHERHOOD NEWS :

It is good news, finally there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Vaccinations will be starting shortly in this area for all who want one when they become available.

If you did not attend our outdoor Friday night Chanukah service, you missed a special treat. Rabbi Benson, assisted by Richard Levine and Les Schwartz made it a night to be enjoyed by all. All who came were able to see fellow temple members and exchange best wishes in this holiday season.

On behalf of the Brotherhood we wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Leonard Epstein, Brotherhood President







For more information about what's happening in the Temple go to TBEI.org



	January Birthdays	00000		60
2 3 5 6	Leonard Epstein Nicholas Giordano Samuel C. Levy Carol Seigel			January Anniversaries
7 7 8 8 12	Benjamin Rosichan-Nader Jacob Rosichan-Nader Janet Soloshatz Eve Epstein Sandra Wishnia Leslie Giordano		CONGR	 15 Clair & Jeff Kreiss 18 Brenda & William Weber 31 Carol & Lewis Honig
12 14 14 14 14	Carol Honig J. Alan Bornstein Martin Cohen Howard Derector Lory Dobrin		A T U L A	מזל טוב
17 20 21 23 23 24 27 28 30	Sherry Posner Dr. Sandra Jaffe Colvett Stanley Stein Richard Goldsmith Arnold Stillman Julia Marie Argenziano Richard Weissel Raymond Feldman Joel Rosenberg	חג שמח	T I O N S	If you don't see your birthday or anniversary listed in the Shofar contact the Temple office and ask to have your special day included on our list.
30 31	Evan James Schultz Doris Haendel			

Continued from page 1.....

Did we believe it was true and good for me, or shared with pride for all to see - I am a Jew-through it all, my pride will not hide, I will continue the walk to the promised land, I will be part of securing a future of strength and promise for the Jewish community of Port St. Lucie. Belief sometimes is challenging - Faith even more so. Don't just rest in the past. Be part of the future. Help us ensure that the road will still be travelled by sojourners determined to stay the course. Moses walked from 80 to 120 to stay the course. Will generations to come see that we did the same?

It has been the oddest of years- but from challenge, raises strength. Let us be strong $- \neg \neg$ B'yachad! Together we are strong. Let us head into the New year resolute, strong and sure. I look forward to the journey. I hope you'll join me as well.

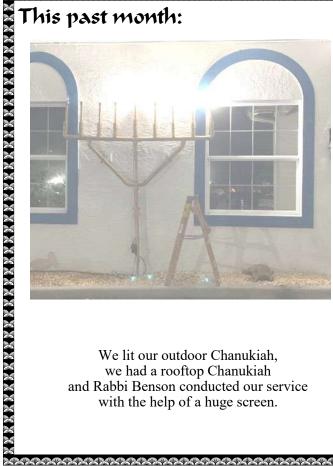
With hopes for a wonderful New Year filled with the answers to so many prayers we have, for ourselves and for the Jewish community of Port St. Lucie.

Rabbi Bruce

PLEASE.....

Notify the Temple office or call the Rabbi if you are aware a fellow congregant is ill, or if a family member is ill, or has had an accident, or is in need of the Rabbi's services. The Rabbi can only help if he is informed that he is needed.

This past month:



We lit our outdoor Chanukiah, we had a rooftop Chanukiah and Rabbi Benson conducted our service with the help of a huge screen.



FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to everyone that donated to our recent Food Drive at our outdoor service





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> Linda 871-1205 Faith 343-7639

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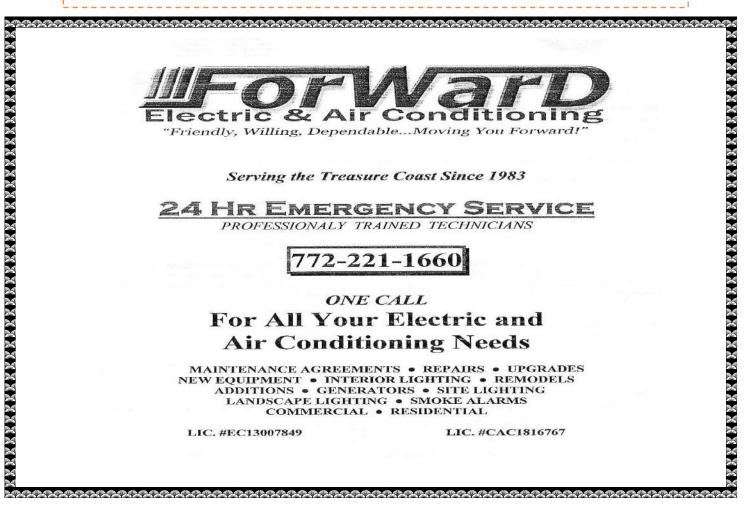
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Our Judaica Shop has a large selection of Items that are great for gifts and many items are at <u>very</u> discounted prices!! Don't forget to get your Enjoyment Book for 2021!!



This past month:



If you take pictures at any of our functions, please send them to me so we can all share your photos. Send them to: faithkrumenacker@comcast.net

We sat in our cars, outside of our cars and we were socially distanced and were happy to be together and participate in a service after all these months.



LEAH WILLIAMSON **CHAPTER OF HADASSAH**

We wish everyone A Happy New Year and look forward to when we can resume meetings

Send your payment for the new 2021 Mah Jongg cards to Janet Soloschatz

Arlene Schweitzer & Sue Schwartz **Co-Presidents**

Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs to temple on Fríday níght January 15th



We'll celebrate outdoors Again - weather permitting

Life Cycle Events ~ Get Well Wishes to:

Lydia Bauman Mimi Gluck Saul Infeld Harvey Levy

Albert Berman Linda Greshes Harry Jackson Ethel Rolnick Arnold Stillman Ronni Winer

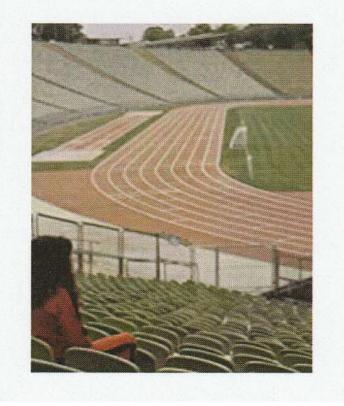
Len Epstein Helen Heller Cecile Levy Michael Seigel

TREASURE COAST JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

"AFTER MUNICH"

STREAMING JANUARY 8th - 10th DISCUSSION VIA ZOOM WITH OUR RABBIS JANUARY 10TH AT 4:30 P.M.

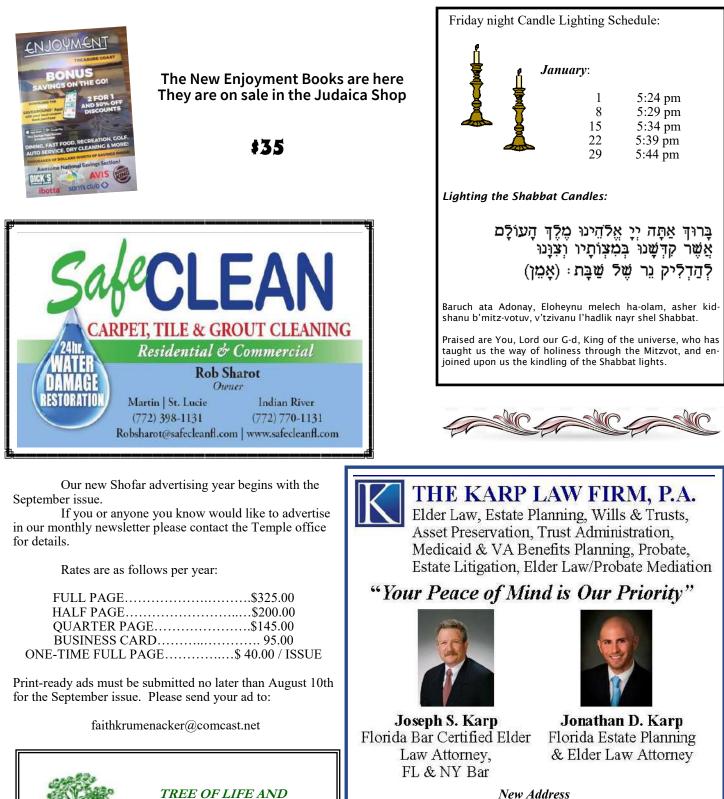
CONTACT LEONARD@THEBERKMANS.COM FOR INFORMATION & REGISTRATION



THE WORLD WATCHED LIVE AS THE PALESTINIAN GROUP "BLACK SEPTEMBER" STORMED THE ISRAELI ATHLETE'S QUARTERS AT THE 1972 MUNICH OLYMPICS. THEY TOOK 11 HOSTAGES THAT THEY WOULD LATER KILL. THIS FILM IS ABOUT THE AFTERMATH AND HOW THE LIVES OF FOUR WOMEN WOULD FOREVER BE CHANGED AS A RESULT.







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THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS:

Donations to the General Fund: Amazon Smile payments

Leonard & Eve Epstein

A/C & Building Fund Donations:

Susan & Lester Schwartz

NOTE:

Above donations were received in November

Wishing our entire Jewish community a very Healthy, Safe and Happy New Year 2021

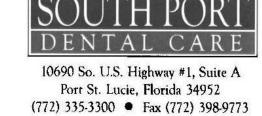
זיים!

Let's hope and pray that this year is a better year for all of us and let's look forward to being together soon.









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Michael Cook, DMD

John Harllee, DDS

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In Memory Of:

From:

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NOTE:

Above donations were received in November

David Belsky







Join Rabbi Benson & Dr. Larry Giltman on Saturday mornings at 10 AM for interesting Torah Study discussions and a brief Saturday morning service all on Zoom. We can all learn more about Judaism. No reservations necessary!!



TREASURE COAST JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 2020/2021

		AFTER MUNICH			
join Us!!		JANUARY 10, 2021			
		TEMPLE BEIT HAYAM		FOR INFORMATION & REGISTRATION	
		THE WORLD WATCHED THE OLYMPIC MASSACRE IN 1972.		CONTACT Len Berkman at:	
		THIS FILM IS ABOUT E AFTERMATH AND HOW FOUR WOMEN'S LIVES HAVE BEEN CHANGED FOREVER.	Ľ	EONARD@THEBERKMANS.C	
CRESCENDO		THE KEEPER		PICTURE OF HIS LIFE	
FEBRUARY 14, 202	1	MARCH 14, 2021		APRIL11, 2021	
TEMPLE BETH EL ISRA	AEL	TEMPLE BETH SHALON	Λ	TEMPLE BEIT HAYAM	
A CONDUCTOR CREATE AN ISRAELI-PALESTINIA ORCHESTRA. HE MUST OVERCOME DISCORD AND CREATE HARMONY, LEADING TO A TENSE & EMOTION FINALE.	.N E	THE TRUE STORY OF TRAUTMAN, A GERMAN SOLDIER & PRISONER OF WAR, AS WELL AS A SOCCER GOALKEEPER, AGAINST A BACKDROP OF BRITISH POST-WAR AND PREJUDICE		WORLD RENOWNED WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER AMOS NACHOUM HAS ONE FINAL PHOTOGRAPHIC DREAM REMAINING - TO PHOTOGRAPH A POLAR BEAR WHILE SWIMMING ALONGSIDE OF IT.	
Charges are	\$6.00 pc	PM preceded by wine, fruit, vegeta er film (payable at door) or \$25.00 0 for the series and are recognized	per pei	rson for the series.	
PLEA	SE VIS	SIT OUR AMAZING WEBSI	TE AT	F tejff.com	
E	UT WA	FILM THAT WAS SCHEDUL AS CANCELLED DUE TO TH MAY 2, 2021 AT TEMPLE CUT HERE AND RETURN	IE VI	RUS:	
Make checks payable to: TREA	SURE C	OAST JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL			
Name[s]	P	honeemail			
Address		City		StateZip	
No. Series @ \$25	Total		MANU	TO: Vision Bodimen	
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Our Monthly TBEI Library Book Review.....by Sheilah Korinow



How many of you remember a specific sermon delivered by one of your rabbis during your lifetime? Probably many of you, myself included. Why is that? Is it because that sermon did one or more of the following:

- It provided you with a tremendous amount of information on a topic you enjoyed.
- It made you feel good about yourself.
- It made you feel good about humanity.
- It made you feel good about God.
- It made you feel uncomfortable.
- It made you feel a "call to action", to make yourself better or to repair the world?

- It gave you better insights which helped you continue to think about things on a deeper level? I know there are more reasons why we remember sermons - that is a sermon in and of itself! But in this book which I am reviewing, <u>Loving What Is Close</u> by Rabbi Herbert M. Baumgard, you will find a number of different sermons and talks delivered in various surroundings such as synagogues, churches, and public assemblies. Rabbi Baumgard was the founding and senior rabbi of Temple Beth Am in South Miami, and a graduate of Hebrew Union College.

The book is set up into five sections, each one containing between 4-7 talks. The date of the book is 1980, but they are spread out back into the 1960's. Many ideas in them are still relevant, and as twentieth century Jews, we can add our own ideas, based on the passage of time.

Now let's look at what gems this book holds.

The first section deals with "Morals for Our Time." Some things you'll find in this section are sermons which include:

- a discussion about the creation of the atomic bomb and Dr. J Robert Oppenheimer. "Are human beings going to be lost in the struggle for bigger bombs? Has the manufacture of the bigger bomb made the individual citizens of the world happier, or have they become even more afraid, even more melancholy, more desperate?" Will we, after seeking more power, destroy ourselves? In this sermon is the topic of overreaching. There is a discussion of the lure of affluence, which encourages us to reach farther than we should. The story of the Tower of Babel is used in this talk.

-The attitude of Jews towards violence. We see in the Talmudic teaching: "He who takes one human life is as if he has destroyed the whole world." Rabbi Baumgard discusses the "turning of the cheek" attitude we had during parts of the sixth, seventh, and eighth centuries. He denounces the militarism of modern Israel; He mentions vengeance in our history and our absorption into the current violent culture as much as non-Jews.

Another sermon in this section, "Marriage, American Style" has topics that run the gamut from one telling about Woody Allen being a tragic symbol of our times, the stampede towards the divorce courts, finally questioning whether or not marriage can succeed. Other talks include:

-a discussion about Albert Einstein

-a choice of lifestyles. The sermon states: "America is desperately in need of help from its people, but the people are preoccupied with asking for more for themselves. Rabbi Baumgard talks about the differences between the older and younger generations and offers a Biblical story to do so. Also included is a discussion of learning and what we teach our children - we teach them to receive and to take, not how to give and share. To the author, this leads to a problem with marriage (if we are taught only to receive).

"The Rabbi in The Community" is the second section of the book. It contains the following

-black-Jewish relations

-a visit to a Black church

-a challenge to a cross on one of the courthouses in Miami, and a discussion about what religious freedom is

-what we can learn from the battle at Kent State

-anti-Semitism, using the Jews as a scapegoat

-Vietnam - Does the end justify the means?

Continued on next page

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Note: For the purpose of this pricing, a member is one who has been a paid up member of the Temple for a period of more than one year.

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Continued from previous page...

Section Three is called "On the Bible And Modern Times". In it, we read about:

- the tradition that even the ruler of the nation, the President, must abide by the laws governing all other citizens. Doesn't this make a timely read? This sermon was delivered in 1974!

-What is the purpose of certain stories in the Bible? Includes why was the world created, why was Eve taken from Adam's rib, and why is there a book such as *Song of Songs* in the Bible?

-Is flight the answer? A discussion about Jonah

-Giving old events present meaning. This sermon shares with us stories from the Bible, the Midrash, the Talmud, and Hasidic tales.

The fourth section is called "On Jews And Judaism". It concerns the following:

-Entebbe, followed by a discussion about other miracles. What constitutes a miracle? Finding God in a philosophic or mystic way.

-the mystical requirements for being a Jew. The emotional side of our religion.

- Why does God sometimes seem so far away? Is He far enough away to be challenging, yet near enough to be watchful?

- learning the art of prayer - the difficulties expressing ourselves to God, the need to search for God and to work with Him, and to be able to verbalize what we feel.

Finally, we arrive at the last section. "New Vistas". This contains ideas about:

-What is a "good" Jew?

-What is ahead for the Jewish People?

-"The enemy within" - assimilation. Also, you are the enemy within due to "your ignorance and your lukewarm attachment to the Jewish People." Do you have the courage to face the enemy? (If your answer is yes, then no eternal enemy can defeat us).

-What will be the religion of the future?

-Should Jews be missionaries?

Obviously, these sermons need to be read to enjoy the specifics of what I have touched upon. I can only give you an overview of what to expect, and to point you in the right direction. I have supplied you with a few specifics. But time and space does not allow me to provide you with anymore. Otherwise, why would you want to check out this book? Please know that after reading <u>Loving What Is Close</u>, you will be impressed with the amount of worthwhile thinking you have accomplished!

As with other books I have reviewed since April, I will be glad to meet you outside of the temple or deliver them to you. Just email me at skorinow@gmail.com.

Yates Funeral Home & Cremation Services

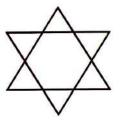
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At a recent adult ed class, Ellis Bromberg gave a very interesting presentation about stamp collecting – the theme was Chanukah stamps – Ellis showed us stamps from his collection from around the world, and stamps from countries that you would never have expected to honor Chanukah with a stamp, were displayed. This is an article that Ellis published about stamps displaying synagogues around the world:

Ellis Bromberg, Glendale, WI

This article will be continued in the February Shofar

Post-Communist Stamps Featuring Synagogues



Bosnia no. 422



Czechoslovakia no. 1478



Bulgaria no. 3671



GDR no. 2846



Croatia no. 629



Georgia no. 274

BACKGROUND

Following the horrors of the Holocaust, the Jews who survived and decided to stay in eastern Europe hoped to rebuild their communities and institutions devastated by the war. But they would soon find that life for Jews living behind the Iron Curtain would be harsh. Ruth E. Gruber, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's longtime senior European correspondent, has written, "Under Communism, Jewish life was stifled, anti-Semitism was often state policy and study or discussion of Jewish topics was taboo. Most Communist states broke relations with Israel after the Six-Day War in 1967."

In the Soviet Union itself, during the years of the Cold War, Soviet Jews were suspected of being traitors, Western sympathizers, and security liabilities. The Communist leadership closed down Jewish organizations and declared Zionism an ideological enemy. Synagogues were often placed under police surveillance, both openly and through the use of informers. These hardships sparked the movement in America, beginning in the 1960s, to free Soviet Jewry.

CONDITION CHANGES

Although circumstances vary from country to country, official government treatment of Jewish communities in many former Iron Curtain nations has improved since the fall of Communism. While acknowledging that some activities have been "examples of lip service, cynicism, and exploitative image-polishing," Gruber nevertheless reports: "The new post-Communist governments quickly moved to re-establish diplomatic relations with Israel, encourage Jewish study and open discussion of the Holocaust, including an examination of local involvement. In all these countries, much of this activity has represented a sincere attempt to make amends and come to terms with the past."

One manifestation of these new policies can be seen in the postage stamps issued by these former Soviet and Sovietcontrolled states. Many of these nations, for example, have acknowledged the Holocaust on stamps; some have partnered with Israel on joint issues.

SYNAGOGUE ISSUES

As a collector of synagogues on stamps, I've noted a trend, in particular, in the number of synagogues that have been depicted on the stamps of these countries since 1989, the year the Berlin Wall fell. Before then, only two Soviet bloc countries, Czechoslovakia and Poland, had ever devoted a full stamp to a synagogue: Prague's Altneuschul was shown on a 1967 Czech stamp, and the Tykocin Synagogue on a 1984 Polish stamp. But since 1989, no fewer than 10 other former Soviet states and allies have issued such stamps.

JANUARY YAHRZEITS



Laving Memory

1/9 –1/15

Arthur Block

1/2-1/8

Albert Adler Earl J. Alwood Armin Baker Elias Bergman Rebecca Brener Gilbert Brodkin Rose Cagan **Beverly Flax** Fannie Friedman Frances Friedman Morris Jacobs Sandu Kroitor Morris Leinkram Ruth Miskin Rene' Perlraizen Helen Popper Dr. Victor Robinson Dr. William Robinson Phillip Walter Dorothy Weinstein Pauline Weiss Ruth Kaplan Wolf William Wolf

Harry Bruntil Abraham Caplin Irene Derman Dorothy Epstein Arnold Gabel Sally Goldberg Thelma Goldfinger Samuel Gottlieb **Evelyn Greenwald** Gertrude M. Heffrow Louis Katz Solomon Katz Marian Kirman Lillian Klein Dan "Pop Pop" Lake Helen Lerman Samuel Mastroff Reuben Meadow Melvin Mildwurf Herb Silverstein Eva Spitolnick Bertha Tannenbaum Irving Teitelbaum Rebecca Weinstein Edice Wheeler Harry Wiener Bernard Wilker Leah Williamson Dr. Melvin Wolkowsky William Zahler

1/16—1/22

Robert Abramson Ida M. Baum **Estelle Bernstein** Robert Bloom **Bernice Cohen** Rose Goldberg Barbara Graulich Harry Kent Sarah Kezner Elliot L. Klein Bella Mandery Samuel Meyers Marilyn Morgenstern Joan Portnoy Steven Redman Claire Rosichan Joseph Rotenberg Harvey Rubin Isaac Schneider Rose Simon Lewis Weinberg Scott Winnick Sam Woskobojnik

1/23-1/29

Louis Baloff **Richard Belmont** Louis Bernheim Sophie L. Cohen Arnold Friedman Jack Goldberg Meyer Goodman Dr. Max Harrison Ruth Kaplan Moshe Keyzerman Samuel Klatch Martin Kugel Rabbi Charles Lesser Martin Morrison Ben Puchaski Sam Rofskv Ellen Rosenberg Marion Rosenzweig Ethel Rothenberg William Rothenberg Arthur Rubin Malcolm Schwartz Irving Shatkin Phillip Solomon Marcos Steisel **Dorothy Tenbrink** May VanDernoot Stuart Weinman Sophie Weiss Molly Wistreich Sarah Wortman Harry Wynters Nathan Zarovsky Murray Zimmerman

1/30-2/5

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YAHRZEIT

Observance is an annual reminder of the date of death of a loved one and a tribute to the influence they made on our lives.



A grateful thank you to everyone that has been helping at our Bingo game. Our game has been slowly growing and we could use help whenever you are able to give some time any Monday between the hours of 6:30 and 9:15.

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Port St. Lucie Chapel 714 SE St. Lucie Blvd. Port St. Lucie, FL 34984 (772) 873-3733 Fax (772) 873-1429 Located on the SE Corner of Port St. Lucie Blvd. and Floresta Blvd. Stuart Chapel 961 S Kanner Hwy Stuart, FL 34994 (772) 223-5550 Fax (772) 223-5101 Located on the SE Corner of Kanner Highway and US Highway 1



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\$	Hevra Fund (provides meals of consolation for families in mourning)					
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\$	Leaf on the Tree of Life:					
	Bronze \$100 Silver \$150 Gold \$200					
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