

Temple Beth El Israel 551 SW Bethany Drive

Port St Lucie, FL 34986 phone 772-336-2424

March 2021 ADAR / NISAN 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

This month we acknowledge the first anniversary of 2 things: the beginning of a change in the trajectory of our lives and my mother's 1st yahrzeit. I bring them up together as they are inextricably linked and will remain so for my life-time.

I have been able to measure the multiple feelings of loss as the months have ticked away and often reflect as to how they are interconnected.



As a rabbi and Cantor, I have spent a career marking yahrzeits, counting the number of names on the week's list to be

read, and imagining it's growing impact on the time it takes to read through them all. I am now far more deeply connected to the meaning of hearing a name spoken to the light again, brought forward from the sadness and darkness of memory.

On one hand, it feels like yesterday and on the other, it feels "forever ago". A conundrum of challenge to construct as one remembers and adapts to the realization that remembrance is the remaining connector to how things used to be and longing for them to be back again while acknowledging that can never be.

Then, there's the realization that the Covid-19 attack on our lives, and our way of life and the changes required to meet the test have run concurrent.

It has been a year of filming services and putting them on video, requiring different visioning of what a service needs to do and what it needs to accomplish that.

We've done the best we can. It looks like, on some level, we can begin to imagine light at the end of a dark tunnel. But we must share vigilance with hope and a prayer that, in the nearer future, we can get back to some sense of how it used to be. Choices will have to be made in the near future, a vision for a longer future devised.

To that end, Michael Zeff has been spearheading a VISION BOARD, tasked with imagining a 5 year vision including a detailed action plan to take us deep into a secured future.

Continued on page 5.....

The President's Communication Corner

Our Special Congregation meeting unanimous decision has given us the ability to move forward with our plan to sell the school part of the building. We are negotiating the sale and hope to have updates soon. Thank you to everyone for your support.

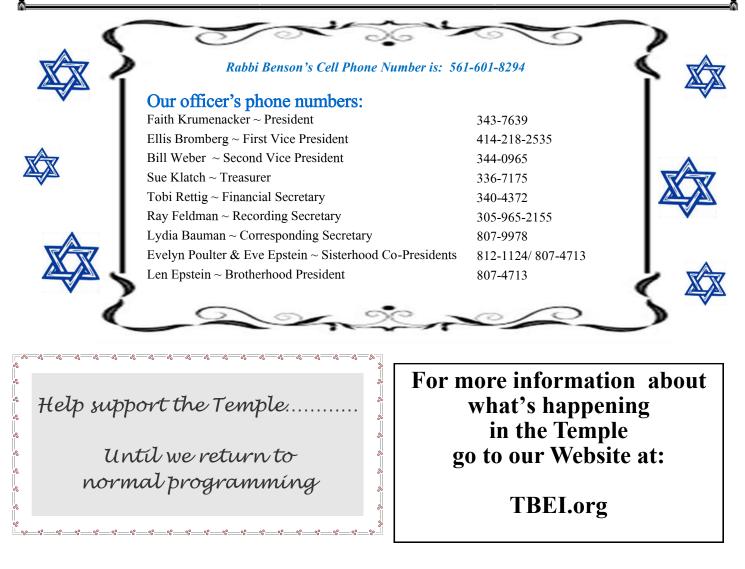
ביחד

Rabbi Benson read the "whole Megillah" at our Purim celebration to a very impressive number of our members at the recent outdoor service.

We are planning to have another outdoor service - weather permitting - this Friday, March 5th at 7:30 p.m.

We are very aware of the requests for returning to the Temple for services but every time we try to go forward with a plan another CDC announcement says how this virus is rearing its ugly head and we need to be vigilant. Since so many of our congregation has already been vaccinated, we are considering opening and requiring anyone that comes in to bring their "Corona virus card" showing that they have had both of their shots. It would give us more comfort, but we will still require masks, distancing and limit attendance to only the sanctuary with no socializing inside of the Temple, no Onegs and/or Kiddush lunches for now.

Faith



2

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Dear Sisterhood Ladies,

Hope you are all doing well and getting your vaccinations.

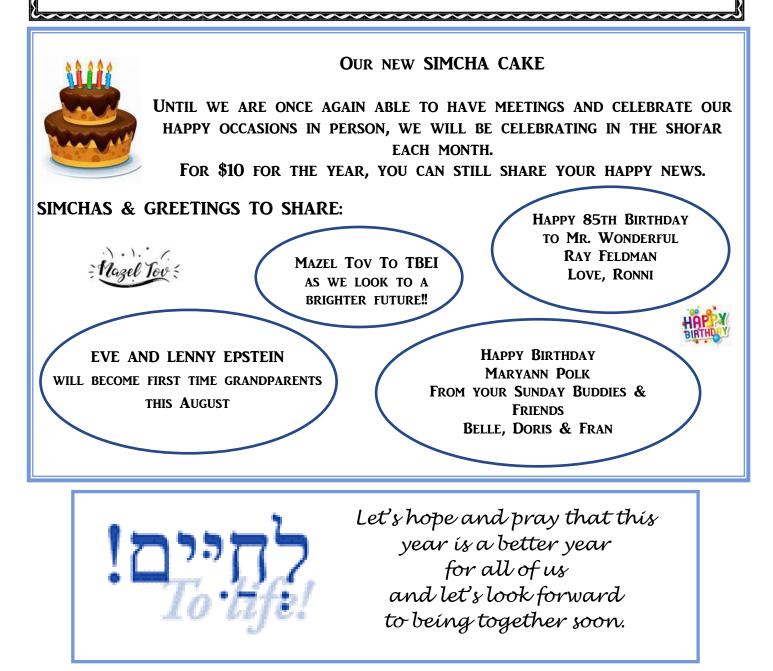
Another month has gone by and we are hopeful the pandemic will end soon. We are looking forward to the day we can all be back inside the synagogue together.

Our Purim celebration was held in the parking lot at the temple and it was another successful outdoor event. The Rabbi was wonderful!

While we aren't physically inside the building, we remain committed to being actively involved with TBEI. Don't forget for \$10.00 dollars a year you can put your "naches" every month in the shofar for everyone to share.

Wishing you a safe and healthy month,

Eve and Evelyn



BROTHERHOOD NEWS :

I am glad to say things are looking up. Most people that I have spoken with have indicated they have already had one or both vaccinations.

If you didn't attend the Purim service you missed a good time. The Rabbi is now a man of many hats and he kept us all amused, while he was reading the "whole Megillah".

Brotherhood and adult education will be hosting "Postmarks of Faith" Look for more information towards the end of March. Please stay safe and wear your masks.

Leonard Epstein, Brotherhood President





Continued from page 1....

While going backward might, in the short term, feel warm and fuzzy, I suggest we raise our hands high, point our fingers forward and suggest to all who will listen (including ourselves) that according to Albert Einstein, " the future is not a gift - it is an achievement".

March begins with Purim, a story of self-visioning and will end somewhere around Passover, a story of self determination.

We stand at a wonderful precipice of using the stories of our past to help decipher a road to the future - our future - a road of growth, self-visioning where we share our vision with others who want and need to not just "belong" but to be driven to belong because that's what happens when you remember...

Every Shabbat, we light 2 candles and repeat (from the L'cha Dodi) Shamor and Zachor... *Shamor- to guard, Zachor-to remember.*

So it will be with TBEI: as we Remember so will we guard and if we guard it, we (and future generations) will remember.

Keyn yehi ratzon: May this be Gods will and our goal.

Raise your hand and help - B'YACHAD - together - we can build a sustained and wonderful Jewish road for those who will follow.

Thanks mom for giving me so much to remember and be thankful for. By the way - you have *NO IDEA* how much you've missed this last year...

I am proud to be part of this Jewish vision and journey.

בשלום

Rabbi Bruce



Linda 871-1205 Faith 343-7639

What is Pesach Sheni?

Pesach Sheni, the Jewish holiday of the second chance, reminds us of this message: If you cannot celebrate Pesach properly this month, do it next month. And God specifies the rules for the second Pesach as wellone *must have the same ritual foods (the matzah,* the lamb, the bitter herbs), but need not abstain from chametz (unleavened bread) for the full seven days afterwards.





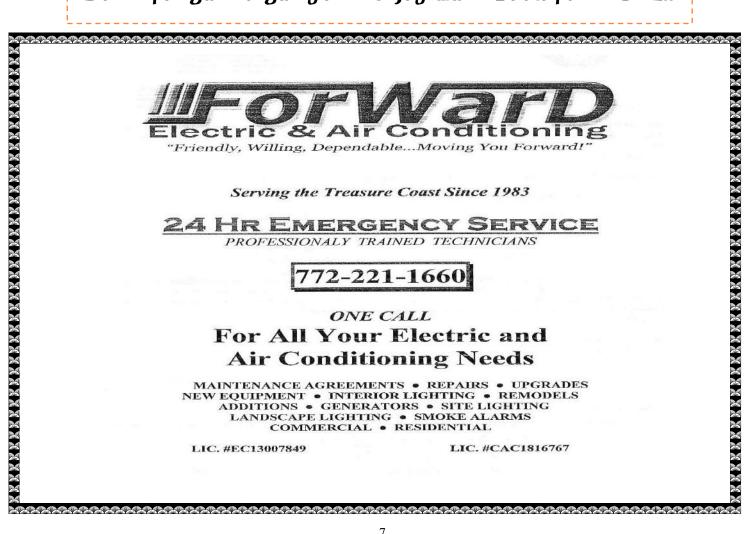
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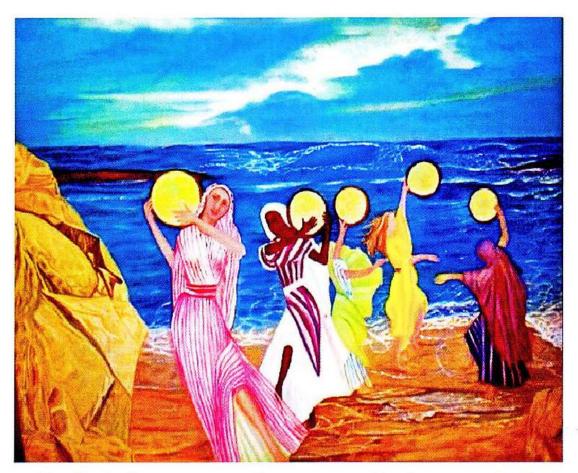


Our Judaica Shop has a large selection of Items that are great for gifts and many items are at very discounted prices!! Don't forget to get your Enjoyment Book for 2021!!



Temple Beth El Israel Sisterhood Women's Pesach Sheni Seder Tuesday, April 27th, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. Only 40 tickets will be sold Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the Temple office by April 20th

Please bring your favorite Passover Dessert to share



"And the women dancing with their timbrels

followed Miriam as she sang her song."

We will be following all CDC guidelines: Masks must be worn, social distancing We are considering beginning a slow roll out of live indoor services and to keep you all apprised of the decisions we have made, I'd like to share the following:

- Everyone entering the building must comply with the masking guidelines and keep their mask over their face at all times while in the building. Non-compliance will result in you being asked to leave the building immediately.
- Temperatures will be taken at the door. Upon signing in, we will ask for name, phone number and email address, in case of contact tracing needs, and we must insist on 100% compliance with this. Once there is no tracing need for that information (usually several weeks), the list will be destroyed. It will NOT be used for any other purpose nor will it be shared with anyone. Thank you for your cooperation with this.
- Any live service will have a maximum of 40 defined seats in the sanctuary. They cannot be moved or shifted. They are measured at socially appropriate distances and will remain in those marked places. There will be a number of single seats and a number of 2 seats together for couples who live in the same house. They are placed according to CDC spacing guidelines and may not be moved.
- Once the maximum number of seats have been taken, the service doors will be closed to further entry.

Your mask <u>must</u> stay in place during the service, especially during singing.

- There will be no kiddush or oneg, or after service socializing until such time as it is safe to do so, If you want to see your friends outside in the parking lot, please do so responsibly. (masks, distancing, etc.)
- There will be no Aliyot at this time and the Rabbi will be the only one on the Bimah.
- The schedule of services will be sent out via email and will be listed in the Shofar. Phone calls will be made to our members that do not have access to email.

For now, live services are only being considered for Friday nights. There will be no online (YouTube) service when we have a service in our building. Shabbat morning services will be determined shortly as we see how Shabbat evening services work.

We are hopeful that everyone will work together to create a successful experience at this challenging time and look forward to seeing you all soon.

B'shalom,

Rabbi Bruce

This past month:









Rabbi Benson - a man of many hats as he read the "whole Megillah" at our Purim in the parking lot at TBEI.

We had a great turnout for our third outdoor service and look forward to Friday, March 5th - weather permitting to do it again.





Here's another opportunity to support the temple while honoring or remembering a family member at the same time.

As the pandemic has dragged on, Rabbi Benson has been recording services to be watched online. In order to do it at the quality level we have all gotten used to, it comes at a small price to have someone there to "produce the recording". Here's where you can help create a win-win; for you, your family and the Temple. This request must be received 2 weeks prior to the date of the service you want to sponsor to guarantee insertion.

For \$100.00, you can create, at both the beginning and the end of either a Friday or Shabbat morning service, any of the following:

In honor of:
In memory of:
To remember the yahrzeit of: or anything else you'd like to say, honor or memorialize.
If you can, for \$150.00 you can have the same screens run at both services for that weekend
To secure your service or weekend, please email to: TBEI34986@gmail.com
I/We would like to support our online services at TBEI. Please accept our donation of:
\$100. For a Friday/Saturday am service. Date:
\$150. For the weekend of:
In honor of/memory of: Remembered by:

This donation may be made by either check, cash or Credit card to: TBEI or sent into the temple office. Many thanks for your support.

Wishing all a Happy Passover from your Sisterhood friends at TBEI

Ferne & Bill Barishman Lilly Beauchamp Debbie Brateman Miriam & Arno Cassel Linda & Bernie Chazin Cynthia & Martin Cohen Fran Cooper & Harvey Levy Eve & Len Epstein Hermas Grayless Linda Greshes Doris Haendel Pam & Richard Holmes Kathy & Ray Isenburg Carol & Marty Kahn Eileen Katzman Sue Klatch Faith Krumenacker Linda Levin Karol & Richard Levine Cecile & Sam Levy





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PASSOVER OR PESACH is a major Jewish spring festival holiday, commemorating the Exodus from Egypt over 3,000 years ago. The ritual observance of this holiday centers around a special service called the Seder (meaning "order") and a festive meal; the prohibition of *chametz* (leaven); and the eating of *matzah* (an unleavened bread). On the fifteenth day of Nisan in the Hebrew calendar, Jews traditionally gather with family and friends in the evening to read from a book called the *Haggadah*, meaning "telling," which contains the order of prayers, rituals, readings, and songs for the Passover Seder. Today, the holiday is a celebration of freedom and family.

Adult Education Classes

While we have been away from the temple building due to the Coronavirus, we have been studying online. We have been running 2 classes during the week as well as Torah study on Shabbat morning.

We are getting ready to finish our 2 "winter" classes and are locking in the dates for our Spring sessions. Below are our 2 upcoming classes.

Every class begins with a brief opening to the topic, and then we watch a 30-minute lecture delivered through the auspices of "The Great Courses."

We then delve deeper into that session's topic.

Synagogues across the country are beginning to use this method to expand not only the offerings presented, but it becomes a way for the synagogue to become more accessible during these trying times.

As a member you are invited to join these free classes and join in the chavruta (friendship) as well as the learning to be found in these classes.

Rabbi Bruce

Class Schedule:

<u>The Old Testament</u> Professor Amy-Jill Levine Monday evenings 7:00-8:30 ~ Thursday mornings 10:00-12:00 *This class begins <u>THURSDAY morning, January 28</u>. Please sign on (directions below) by 9:45 a.m. And Mondays beginning February 1. Please sign on by 6:45 p.m.

Class Schedule:

Between Cross and Crescent Jewish Civilization from Mohammed to Spinoza Professor David B. Ruderman Tuesday mornings 10:00-12:00 ** PLEASE NOTE: This class begins <u>Tuesday morning, February 9</u> @ 10:00.



How to sign on:

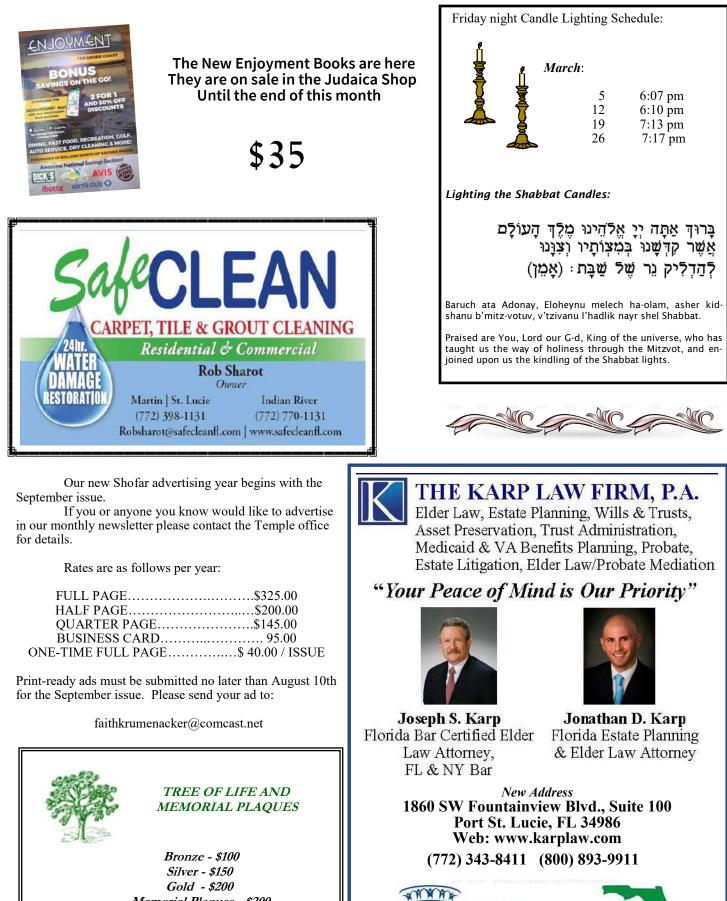
Type this web address into your Google browser so it looks like the link below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89499008743

This will take you to our "waiting room" where you will be "let in."

ALL Adult Ed Classes & Saturday Torah Study/services use this same address.





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NOTE: Above donations were received in January

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Above donations were received in January

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.



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

"THE KEEPER"

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TREASURE COAST JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 2020/2021



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	THE KEEPER	PICTURE OF HIS LIFE
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	TEMPLE BETH SHALOM	TEMPLE BEIT HAYAM
	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.
		ne, fruit, vegetables, coffee and desserts at 2:00 PM.
WE A	BUT WAS CANCELLEI HUMOR ME ON MAY 2, 2021	are recognized in each film program. ING WEBSITE AT tcjff.com S SCHEDULED FOR LAST SEASON
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Life Cycle Events ~ Get Well Wishes to:

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What does being Jewish mean to you? I'm sure all of us have thought about that question - some more than others, but it is an important one to ponder. There are so many answers to it, and the book I am reviewing, <u>Hear my Story</u> by Michael Jaffe Garbutt,

lets you see how others have answered this. The cover of this book describes how the author deals with this topic. It says: "The ingredients: one Jewish interviewer with a Sony cassette recorder and a passion for hearing the stories of people tell about their lives, four hundred and twenty Jews and two questions: What does being Jewish mean to you? Can you tell me a story about it that includes the words 'I', 'Jewish', and 'recently'? "The resulting dish is a spicy potpourri of personal reflections, intimate confessions, humorous anecdotes, pulpit oratory, and political commentary that introduce an endless fascinating array of Jewish voices."

The author traveled to places in North America, Europe, and Australia in order to record conversations with Jews from all walks of life. They include individuals who are, as the book describes -"philosophers, accountants, management consultants, unemployed, bums, kosher butchers, Torah scholars, homemakers, rabbis, doctors, students, Klezmer musicians, school kids, retirees, grandmothers, gays, lesbians, Ashkenazis, Sephardis, Mizrachis, Israelis, Zionists, anti-Zionists, rightwing, left-wing, centrist, liberal, reactionary, Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist, unaffiliated, still looking, atheists, Buddhist...." In other words, you will be hearing from an interesting assortment of Jews that vary greatly in their emotions of what Judaism means to them, including the positive and the negative.

I'll give you a few examples from this book so that you can gain insight into what it holds. In the book, you will meet individuals such as the following:

- Walter R., 82 years old who lives in a town in Connecticut. He remembers the times when "No Jews and Dogs" appeared, but he also remembered later that schools closed on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. He belonged to a temple of 600 people. But he no longer was a member after his son's Bar Mitzvah. When his company folded he had a choice - stay with the temple or give up his boat. He quit the temple

- Francis Z. was a 29 year old living in Denver as a financial consultant. To him, being Jewish means guilt and anxiety. Feeling you have to give money, or do a certain ritual is just that. He doesn't want to marry a non-Jewish woman, and wants to raise his children Jewish. There's pressure to pass on our tradition. He doesn't subscribe to the ritual or beliefs, yet he feels "there's something to be perpetuated."

- Louise A. is an attorney who specializes in cases representing the victims of human rights abuses. She belongs to an Upper West Side Conservative congregation. To Louise, her religious beliefs and practices have led to irritation with her Orthodox friends. When her daughter had a Bat Mitzvah, these friends were invited. But the husband would not attend, believing a woman should not read from the Torah. His wife, after hearing the girl read, said: "I have never seen a girl read from the Torah before, and I can really see why it's so distracting: because it's so beautiful." Francis was very offended that this woman's husband did not come to the ceremony. It was the beginning of a dropoff of their friendship. She feels their concept of Judaism is about the Law and hers is about the Prophets.- "that we need to help God - whatever that is...that there is something in the Prophets about ethical living: 'You were strangers in the land of Egypt, and you owe it to other strangers...', so that's the basis of my life. That's how I got into law."

- Shelley M. is a 32 year old bookseller. She feels she is a "cultural Jew." who likes to read about Jewish history and culture. She doesn't observe Judaism, but she "feels Jewish." She loves the Jewish Film Festival, and feels she learns a lot about Judaism from those films. As she tells us: "That's how I learned about the Falashas and about Dominican Jews, and all the different kinds of people who are Jewish: It's history, it's community, it's memory, it's, it's ...it's everything. It's like a secular form of synagogue! "

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D - For non-members.	\$2050.	\$700.	
Add \$50. filing fee per sale not per grave site & \$150. for Perpetual Care/\$50. for cremains site			

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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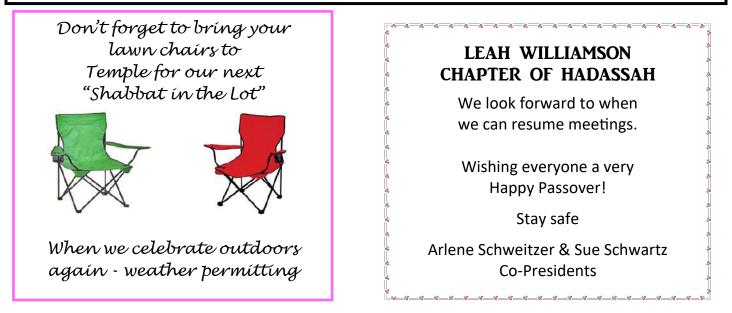
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The author, also film director and psychiatric discourse analyst, had quite a variety of people he interviewed, and did a great job considering it was only over a period of two years. For him it was an adventure. In all, there were 420 interviews recorded, most around two hours in length. Some were planned and some were chance meetings as on planes and in restaurants. There were similar stories and feelings in different parts of the globe, even if they were thousands of miles apart.

What was involved in the answers? Was it ethnicity, religion, culture, history, the connection between God and the Jews, a sense of belonging to a people, "of being a link in a historical chain of sharing certain values of memories and responsibilities?' Of course, there were individuals who gave answers to push something personally important, , or just wanted to promote their institution or "personal ambitions". If you want to better understand what Garbutt did and why he did certain things, I recommend reading his Introduction to the book.

What does being Jewish mean to you? It's not an easy question to answer. It may vary according to time, and that means the experiences you have had all feed into your ideas. <u>Hear My Story</u> may help you think a little more!

If you would like to check out this book from the library, let me know at <u>skorinow@gmail.com</u> or 772 871 0030. We'll make arrangements to meet.



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MARCH YAHRZEITS

2/27-3/5

Celia Barishman Henrietta Bergman Harry Mayer Chazin Meyer Deutsch Abraham Falik Anna Fivel Rachel Goldstein Charles Goldwater Meyer Charles Heller Lucile Herz Joseph Kampf Alma Kestenbaum Max Laderman Jerome Sylvan Lang Fannie Linke Edith Mendelson **Evelyn Oppenheimer Betty Passy-Davis Bertha Putchat** David Rosman Lenore Ryshpan William Schwartz Norma Sidel Max Sidelman Ida Silverman Alfred Simon Simon Singer Albert Skolnick **Dorothy Skolnick** Anna Stein Sara Stern **Charles Weiss**

3/6-3/12

Anna Baslow Bette Berkman William Berman David A. Block Lillian Brandon Murray Bromberg Louis Brosilow Ettv Cohen Lila Friedman Louise Gedal Doris Glick Rita Goldberg Henry Goldstein Stuart Hirsch Theodore Hoch Benedict Kahan Clara Kaplan Freida Korinow Gertrude Kupfer Jacob Lazier Minnie Levin Morris Levy Joseph Lisansky Esther Lynn Maitland George Mathis Irving Jacob Matlin Jacqueline McFall Mollie Pinkowitz Ida Pollack Marianne Potter Sidney Ribakoff Florence Rice Herman Joseph Rose Steven Schnipper Honey Sidorsky Ron Solon Nathan Tornansky Maurice Weisbort Philip Yudlowitz



3/13-3/19

Rose Belmont

Sam Bensman

Hyman Bloom

Gertrude Datz

June Egelman

Lillian Gottlieb

Max Gurvitz

Arthur Haendel

Sol Hartogsohn

Fannie Kanarek

Irving G. Kanarek

Florence Kastner

Diana Levy

Loraine Levy

Ben Malovany

Anita Marcuse

Cecelia Pinkowitz

S. Gilbert Rose

Alexander Simon

Herbert Rubin

Milton Stern

David Wild

Jacob Morin

Jules Lustig

Evelyn Drimmer

Bernard Frankel

Martin Greenberg

3/20-3/26

Harry Baliff Aaron Beauchamp Aaron Berman Harry Cohen Elizabeth Drizin Abe Dworkin Frieda Dworkin Ethel Freedman Fred Friedman Sue Friedman Naomi R. Goodman Sophie Helfand Jacob Heller Marion Hoffman Abraham Hochman Sidney King Bertha Klein Edythe Kugel Irving Kupfer Judi Levy **Ruth Margoshes** Leonard T. Meyers Morris Motel Joseph Muegge Rudolf Muegge Henica Perl Frederick Robinson Ida Plonsky Edward Pritzert Sidney Putchat Sidney Sol Sanders Julius Schiffman Wilma B. Sidelman Florence Schwartz Janet Simon Rae Sosnick Charles H. Swerling Minerva K. Sykes William H. Sykes Herbert Tenzer Jeanette Weinberg Jessie Winfield Joseph Wolkowsky Debra Weinrib Zahorsky

Rebecca Zeichner



3/27-4/2

May Corn Berg Irving Berson Harry Dessler Abraham Dorfman Selma Fogelman Max Gabel Lisa Goldstein David Granat **Tess Greenstein** Etta Herman Helen Isaac Allen Kellner Seymour Klepner Florence Kohn Harry Lebowitz Alfred Levin Claire Levin Max Lewis Gene Mandel Martin Marks Estelle Meyerowitz Roslvn Oxman Lillian Potell Mae Rashbaum Bertha Schwartz Abraham Seitel Morris Silverberg May Goldie Stillman Sara Teitelbaum Florence Tenzer Joseph Tucker Harry Zolno

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.

MARTIN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY

Family owned and operated serving the families of Port St. Lucie, Fort Pierce, Jensen Beach, Palm City, Stuart and Hobe Sound



Susan King, L.F.D. W. Lee King Jr., L.F.D. Owners and Funeral Directors

We are attentive to the needs of the bereaved and to the strong traditions of the Jewish People.



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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.

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\$	Capital Improvement Fund (for major improvements)		
\$	Flower Fund (for flowers on the Bima for Shabbat & Holidays)		
\$	General Fund (for general operations)		
\$	Hevra Fund (provides meals of consolation for families in mourning)		
\$	Kiddush Fund (provides refreshments after Shabbat morning services)		
\$	Leaf on the Tree of Life:		
	Bronze \$100 Silver \$150 Gold \$200		
	In remembrance of a special person or event		
	Forms are available in the Temple office		
\$	Library Fund (for the purchase and upkeep of library books and equipment)		
\$	Memorial Plaques - \$200 - in memory of a loved one		
	Forms are available in the Temple office		
\$	Religious School Scholarship Fund		
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\$	Yahrzeit Fund (commemorates the anniversary of the death of a loved one)		
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Payable to Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:			
\$	For the use of the Rabbi for educational/charitable projects		

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- \$ _____ Ida Rubin Book of Life (to send cards for any occasion (birthday, get well, etc)
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