

The Shofar



Temple Beth El Israel

551 SW Bethany Drive
Port St Lucie, FL 34986
phone 772-336-2424

May 2021
IYAR / SIVAN 5781

Please Note:

We have re-opened for Friday night services with a limited amount of 45 with strict CDC guidelines in place.

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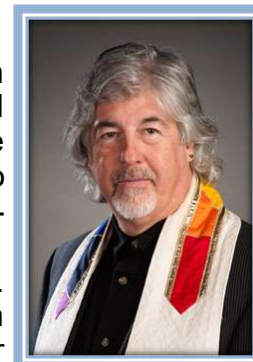
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**HAPPY
MOTHER'S DAY!**

From the Desk of Rabbi Bruce Benson



This year spring has had a different effect on our lives than at almost any other time in our history. At the time we read the Holiness code in Leviticus, we were only limitedly able to interact with our friends, family and neighbors. It's hard to behave according to God's vision when we are partially sequestered in our homes.

On the other hand, it has been a time of great reflection. Defining what means exactly how much to us has driven our thoughts. New mechanisms to connect with each other through screens, seeing each other in little boxes on a screen.

But - this is spring. The time of rebirth. The spring holidays are upon us, Lag B'omer and, very soon, Shavuot which will take us into summer. Our societal rebirth is also upon us. Soon it will be safe to meet in the temple, albeit with slightly new norms. But with that will also come the rebirth of TBEI. We are imagining new programs, expanding what we offer, sharing who we are with the broader community to grow our membership.

I ask you all to consider, at this moment of potential change and growth, while spring is leading us into a new year of summer growth and new life, pick ONE thing you can help the temple with this year. Small or large, let's all become "gardeners" and help us build as we come out of this dark winter.

I just got a button to wear that challenges silly things Americans believe about Jews, well, at least Marjorie Taylor-Greene, the congresswoman who believes the Jews control behavior through a space laser..... While it seems silly, the bottom of the button has 2 words which have strengthened me in the last couple of weeks as I imagine how to come out of Corona stronger. The bottom of the button tells me everything I need to know:

MAZEL TOUGH..

There - I said it. We are - and will continue to be - MAZEL TOUGH. Offer the community 1 thing, small or large, bring us together as we walk back into the light.

May this be God's will - and ours.

בשלו

Rabbi Bruce

The President's Communication Corner

ביחד

Being back in our Temple has given us a renewed sense of belonging and a feeling of connection after a long year of YouTube and Zooming. It is really great to be able to be together, to see each other and to participate in our services "live".

As we resume our Temple life and get back to activities and events, we need to do some planning...we need to put our committees in place. I heard a quote recently that hit home with me: "Nobody can do everything, but everybody can do something". So, in that vein, we need to volunteer to head a committee, to be on a committee, volunteer to step up and make suggestions, create and build on your ideas for fund-raisers and find out where our talents and knowledge can be beneficial and useful here at TBEI.

Our semi-annual Congregation Meeting will take place on May 16th at 11 a.m. and will be on Zoom. It is the safest way to conduct this meeting at the present time. We will still need a quorum to conduct the meeting, so please make every effort to attend. The link will be sent out before the 16th.

This month we will celebrate the Bar Mitzvah of two of our students, see the info in this issue and if you can, come celebrate with them.

Hope to see you soon.....

Faith

Rabbi Benson's Cell Phone Number is: 561-601-8294

Our officer's phone numbers:

Faith Krumenacker ~ President	343-7639
Ellis Bromberg ~ First Vice President	414-218-2535
Bill Weber ~ Second Vice President	344-0965
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Lydia Bauman ~ Corresponding Secretary	807-9978
Evelyn Poulter & Eve Epstein ~ Sisterhood Co-Presidents	812-1124/ 807-4713
Len Epstein ~ Brotherhood President	807-4713

Help support the Temple.....

*Until we return to
normal programming*

**For more information about
what's happening
in the Temple
go to our Website at:**

TBEI.org

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Dear Sisterhood Ladies,

The Women's Seder was a huge success. Congratulations to Sue Schlein, Ferne Barishman, Lydia Bauman and Karol Levine, for putting together a beautiful Haggadah for the Sisterhood's first Women's Seder and thank you to everyone that helped to set up and clean up after the Seder. It was a wonderful way to get back to being together. A special thank you to Faith Krumenacker for crocheting all the yarmulkas.

We're looking forward to returning to more of our events including a card party in the near future.

In the meantime, if you have had both vaccinations, join us on Friday nights at our services.

Evelyn Poulter & Eve Epstein ~ Sisterhood Co-Presidents



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 STILL SHARE YOUR HAPPY NEWS.

SIMCHAS & GREETINGS TO SHARE:

MAZEL TOV TO MY GRANDSON
BEN BEAUCHAMP
ON HIS GRADUATION FROM UF

EVELYN POULTER



MAZEL TOV TO
ABRAM BLECKER
KATHY & RAY ISENBURG'S
GRANDSON
ON HIS BAR MITZVAH



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ON HIS GRADUATION
JACKIE WARD



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MY SON BEN BEAUCHAMP
ON YOUR GRADUATION
FROM UF
LILLY BEAUCHAMP



BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Yes, things are getting better - with Friday night services in full swing and a Saturday service on the first Saturday in May with a Bar Mitzvah, followed by another Bar Mitzvah on May 15.

The Brotherhood wishes all ladies a Happy Mothers Day and although no brunch will take place this year, we hope to resume this TBEI traditional day of honoring all the mothers in the Temple next year.

The Yom HaShoah candle fund raiser is under way, if you have not returned your pledge its never too late. If you did not receive a candle please call me or the Temple.

Please check your E-Mail for the new slate of officers. We still have openings for at large positions on our board of directors; if interested call for more information.

Remember to wear your masks and keep safe.

Leonard Epstein
Brotherhood President

Remember . . .

Our Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting at 11 a.m. on May 16th
The Zoom link will be sent out shortly

Join us for
Shabbat.



For more information about
what's happening in the Temple
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Lately we have all been ordering
from Amazon -
particularly now that we are
trying to stay safe
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This past month:

Pesach Sheini - Women's Seder

Sue Schlein and her crew put together our first Sisterhood event in over a year.



TEMPLE BETH EL ISRAEL'S FIRST WOMEN'S SEDER

Wonder of wonders..miracle of miracles, we finally did it!! On April 27th our Sisterhood had it's first Women's Seder. It was wonderful and fun. We read our new Haggadah, sang some songs, danced with our timbrels and had a light lunch. Thanks to Ferne Barishman, Karol Levine and Lydia Bauman for helping me put together OUR Haggadah that is based on the women in the Passover story. A special thank you to these ladies: Ferne Barishman who made the chopped liver, Karol Levine, Maryann Polk, Doris Haendel, Linda Chazin, Eve Epstein, and Faith Krumenacker who crocheted all the kippahs for the ladies, Evelyn Poulter, and Fran Tama. They were at the Temple early to set up the Social Hall, plate all the food, put together the seder plates and do clean up. These are the ladies who are always there to work on our Sisterhood fundraisers and who I know that I can count on. I work with some of the best ladies that any Temple can have. Thanks to everyone who brought their favorite Passover dessert...yummy. I can't forget our accompanist on the guitar, Mad-die Prince. She made our seder extra special with her beautiful singing voice. I hope that you all will join us next year for this event. Now it's on to our Summer Card Party. More information will be forthcoming.

Susan Schlein



May Birthdays

- 2 Jeremy Levine
- 6 Mary Bromberg
- 6 Stephanie Nathanson
- 7 Jillian Argenziano
- 9 Beverly Elster
- 10 Karol E. Levine
- 11 Jacqueline Birch Farragut
- 14 Jakob Israel Dobrin
- 14 Ralph Giordano
- 14 Linda Greshes
- 17 Aaron H. Birch Farragut
- 18 Lauretta Silverberg
- 19 Owen Schultz
- 24 Ethel Rolnick
- 28 Arnold Silverberg



CONGRATULATIONS

חג שמח

May Anniversaries

- 5 Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Yatkowitz
- 18 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Holmes
- 24 Mr. & Mrs. Mario Steisel
- 24 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Stuart
- 25 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Nathanson
- 27 Mr. & Mrs. Harold Holtsberg
- 28 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Cohen
- 28 Mr. & Mrs. Peter de Graaff
- 30 Mr. & Mrs. Joel Rosenberg



מזל טוב

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.



Justin Reese Glickman



...will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday May 1, 2021.

Justin is a bright, athletic, hard-working, and caring young man who always strives to do his best and be the best. Although Justin is only in the 8th grade at this time, he is presently taking two high school classes, Geometry I Honors and Spanish 2. In addition to his studies as an 8th grader at Westgate K-8, Justin has been juggling his time preparing for his Bar Mitzvah and playing travel baseball. Despite the craziness of Covid-19 with virtual school and transitioning to in-person school, Justin has obtained Principal's Honor Roll by achieving straight A's every quarter this year. In fact, Justin has spoiled his parents by consistently making Honor Roll since third grade.

As a result, his parents expect a lot from him academically and Justin never disappoints. One of Justin's best attributes is his athletic ability as a left-handed pitcher. He is well-known for his "change-up" pitch which troubles even the most talented batters.



Justin's kindness and concern for others is evident by his Mitzvah project. For his Mitzvah project, Justin collected new and used baseball equipment including gloves, bats, clothes, catcher's gear, etc. that he donated to an organization in the Dominican Republic called Noble Hearts. The donations that Justin has collected have and will continue to provide underprivileged children with the opportunity to play baseball. Justin is so excited to share his passion for baseball and hopes the donations from his Mitzvah project provide other less fortunate children with the opportunity to develop a similar passion.



In his "free" time, Justin enjoys spending time with his friends playing baseball, playing sport video games, watching sports on television and going on cruises. He especially loves going on vacation every summer with his cousins.

Justin is very fortunate to have all four of his grandparents sharing in his Bar Mitzvah. Justin cherishes his grandparents and he means the world to all of them. Justin's parents, grandparents and extended family are so proud of his multiple accomplishments academically and athletically. We are all so excited to witness Justin become a Bar Mitzvah on May 1, 2021. He has worked hard preparing for this day and there is no doubt, his Bar Mitzvah will be another accomplishment to add to his resume. We hope you all join us as Justin reads from the Torah and chants his Haftorah on this most special day in Justin's life. .

THOUGHTS TO PONDER:

- ♦ ONCE ALL VILLAGERS DECIDED TO PRAY FOR RAIN. ON THE DAY OF THE PRAYER, THEY ALL GATHERED, BUT ONLY ONE BOY CAME WITH AN UMBRELLA. THAT IS FAITH.
- ♦ WHEN YOU THROW BABIES IN THE AIR, THEY LAUGH BECAUSE THEY KNOW YOU WILL CATCH THEM. THAT IS TRUST.
- ♦ EVERY NIGHT WE GO TO BED WITHOUT ANY ASSURANCE OF BEING ALIVE IN THE MORNING, BUT WE STILL SET ALARMS TO WAKE UP. THAT IS HOPE.
- ♦ WE PLAN BIG THINGS FOR TOMORROW IN SPITE OF NOT KNOWING WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS. THAT IS CONFIDENCE.
- ♦ WE SEE THE WORLD SUFFERING, BUT STILL, WE GET MARRIED AND HAVE CHILDREN. THAT IS LOVE.
- ♦ AN OLD MAN'S SHIRT SAID: "I AM NOT 80 YEARS OLD; I AM SWEET 16 WITH 64 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE". THAT IS ATTITUDE.



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FOR OUR 2021-2022
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Jakob Israel Dobrin will be a Bar Mitzvah on his 13th birthday, May 14 (and May 15). He is currently a 7th grader at St. Andrews on the beautiful Indian River in Ft. Pierce, where he is consistently on the Head of Schools Honor Roll (all A's). Additionally, Jakob has been in the Elementary National Honor Society and now is in the Junior National Honor Society.

Until the pandemic prevented the handling of instruments at school, he was studying violin, but now has transitioned to piano. He is gravitating to blues style of music, while also trying his hand at the harmonica.

He is very active in Boy Scouts, in which he currently holds the position of Assistant Patrol Leader, and is getting back into earning ranks after the pandemic shutdown. He will be a Second Class very soon. He has nine merit badges and expects to earn many more at summer camp. With the Boy Scouts, he engages in various community service projects as well as learning outdoorsmanship, good citizenship, and a strong religious/moral foundation. He proudly wears his Religious Emblem earned with the direction of the religious school at TBEI.

His passion, though, is expressing his engineering creativity through Lego. If he can think it, he can build it! Jakob's grandparents will be hosting an Oneg after Friday night services, and a lunch Kiddush after services Saturday. He has been studying hard with Rabbi Benson, and will do a great job with the services, Torah, and Haftorah!



THE STAMP CORNER by Ellis Bromberg

Beginning this month, the Shofar will share, from my worldwide postage stamp collection, an appropriate stamp to mark an upcoming Jewish holiday or event.

On May 16 at sunset, we will celebrate Shavuot, known as the Feast of Weeks because it marks seven weeks after the second Passover seder, corresponding to the seven weeks it took Moses and the Israelites to trek through the desert to reach Mount Sinai.

Although the holiday began as an ancient grain harvest festival, it has been identified since biblical times with the revelation of the Torah on Mount Sinai to the Jewish people.

The stamp featured here, issued by Israel in 1971, was designed in the form of an illuminated Hebrew manuscript, and bears the Hebrew phrase related to this aspect of Shavuot. The English translation is found in the tab at the bottom of the stamp: "...and God wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant" (Exodus 34:28).

Chag Sameach!

Life Cycle Events ~ Get Well Wishes to:

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Rates are as follows per year:

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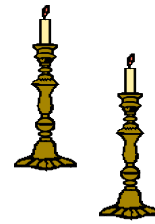
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May :

7	7:37 pm
14	7:41 pm
21	7:45 pm
28	7:48 pm

Lighting the Shabbat Candles:

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אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו
להדליק נר של שבת: (אמן)

Baruch ata Adonay, Eloheynu melech ha-olam, asher kid-shanu b'mitz-votuv, v'tzivanu l'hadlik nayr shel Shabbat.

Praised are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has taught us the way of holiness through the Mitzvot, and enjoined upon us the kindling of the Shabbat lights.



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NOTE:

Above donations were received in March

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Some of you may have noticed that I did not review a Passover cookbook in my April article. That's because I made a mistake. (Yes I do make mistakes!) I realized too late that Passover, this year, started in March, not April. So all of you "foodies" missed some Passover recipes in 2021. I really should have checked the calendar first and not assumed it took place in just April. So, I learned a lesson - don't take things for granted! Instead of getting upset with myself, I realized this was a wonderful opportunity to acquaint you with another holiday - the holiday of Shavuot which has its own variety of culinary delights. On the calendar, its two days are May 17th and 18th - just enough time to look over some new delicious recipes for it.

The culinary concoctions for Shavuot involve dairy products. Why is that? There are various explanations given, depending upon where you look.

1. Dairy foods (and honey) should be eaten on the day the Torah was received on Mt. Sinai due to the words in the Song of Songs; "honey and milk under thy lip" (4:11) which imply that "milk products and honey, the words of the Torah are pleasant and good for our spirits."

2. The basis for the custom of eating dairy is also found in Exodus 23:19 - "The choicest first fruits" (refers to the harvest festival of Shavuot) "shalt thou bring to the House of the Lord. Thou shalt not seethe(cook) a kid in its mother's milk" - meaning there should be a meat dish first, followed later by a dairy one, during Shavuot.

3. A legend maintained that when the Israelites reached their homes after receiving the Torah at Mt. Sinai, they did not have enough time to slaughter an animal for a meat meal, but quickly prepared a dairy meal instead.

4. At this time of year (late May or early June), churning and cheese-making are common features of spring harvest festivals over much of the world. When goats, sheep, and cows begin to graze more, they produce more milk.

5. In Psalm 68:16-17, Mt. Sinai is called by six different names - One of them being *bar gavnunim* or 'mountain of peaks'. *gavnunim* has the same root as *gevinah*, Hebrew for cheese.

6. Another explanation for eating cheese is that by the time the Israelites received the Ten Commandments and returned to their camp, too much time had passed and their milk had turned sour - the first step in making cheese.

7. Tradition points out that after receiving the Torah and the laws of Kashrut, the Jews would not eat the meat meals they prepared beforehand or use any of the cooking utensils now unkosher. Thus it was necessary to eat dairy products on the first Shavuot. Enough reasons for eating dairy? Let's move on.

I think of kugel when I think of Shavuot. It can be made with so many ingredients, and as you know, can be dairy or non-dairy. But because we are looking at Shavuot recipes, the one I am including is dairy. It appears in our library's loose-leaf binder and is titled Kugel. It was put together by our beloved Richard Schnabolk. This particular recipe uses not one or two, but three different cheeses. If you are making a holiday dish, why not make it as decadent as you can! (Just a note - there are also low fat kugel recipes to be found in Richard's collection). But this memorable one is called "Ann's Kugel".

Ingredients:

1 (8 Oz) package large egg noodles
3/4 of a package cream cheese (6oz), softened
6 Tbs butter, sliced
4 Tbs sour cream
6 eggs, separated
1 (16 oz) package of cottage cheese, creamed
1/2 cup of white sugar & a pinch of salt

Topping:

4 Tbs butter, melted
1/4 cup white sugar
1/3 graham cracker crumbs

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
 2. Grease a 9 x 13 inch glass baking dish.
 3. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add noodles and cook for 8 to 10 minutes or until al dente; drain and stir in 6 Tbs sliced butter.
 4. In a medium bowl beat egg yolks with sugar and cream cheese; Stir into noodles.
 5. Add sour cream, cottage cheese and salt.
 6. In a separate bowl, beat egg whites until stiff - fold the beaten egg whites into the noodle mixture.
 7. Transfer mixture to prepared baking dish.
 8. In still another small bowl, combine melted butter, 1/4 cup sugar, and graham cracker crumbs.
 9. Sprinkle over the top of the noodle mixture in.
 10. Bake in preheated oven for 60 minutes.
- Note: If you want to add raisins, do so after soaking them in very hot water for 15 minutes.

You will now eat the best kugel you have ever tasted!

Continued on next page ~ ~



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Continued from previous page...

Other recipes in this collection include kugels that are made with thin egg noodles rather than the wide ones, recipes with fewer cheese ingredients, a recipe using four cheeses, and recipes with added ingredients such as mandarin oranges and also pineapple.

However, no one says you have to make kugel for your Shavuot dairy dish. In our library's cookbook, Jewish Holiday Kitchen by the well-known Joan Nathan, a choice to use is the "Lox Brunch Spread". It's really easy to make. Here it is:

Ingredients

1/2 cup finely minced onion

1/2 pound lox (smoked salmon), shredded

3 tsp chopped dill

4 tsp prepared horseradish

1/4 cup sour cream

Directions

Mix all ingredients well, adjusting to taste. Let stand, covered, a few hours for tastes to blend. Serve on thick slices of pumpernickel or bagels

Nathan has a collection of Shavuot recipes. Other ideas are soups such as "Cherry Soup" and "Palestinian Fruit Soup". Of course, you can always rely on your old stand-bys : borscht with sour cream and what about blintzes? However, in this book you will also find recipes such as fish with sour cream and the original blintzes served at Grossinger's.

It's always enjoyable to find meaning in our holidays with the foods we prepare. Shavuot is just one of them. I know you have your own recipes, but why not try a new one? Enjoy your culinary experiences!

To check this book out of our library, please let me know. My email is skorinow@gmail.com or call me at 772-871-0030.

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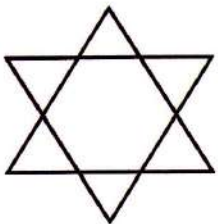
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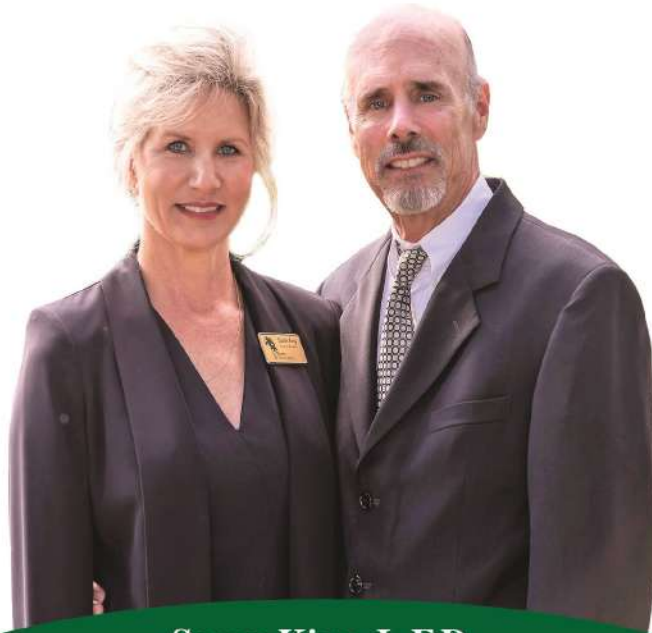
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