

TEMPLE



TOPICS

ELUL 5784/TISHREI 5785

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2024

Rabbi Ilana's Message

Sharing Our Burdens

This is one of the reasons *kvetching* or complaining is such a big part of Jewish conversation! When we share our feelings, we are no longer holding them by ourselves. There are also many Jews who do not, indeed, believe in God. While Judaism is deeply related to the Divine, individual Jews need not be. For them, community can become even that much more a part of what it means to be Jewish.
full article on page 3

President's Message

Voting is a Jewish Value

Regardless of whatever thoughts you might have about our government today or what it might be tomorrow, as Jewish people, we know that democracy is the single most important foundation for our freedoms, and it can only exist when everyone shows up for elections.
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Director of Education

My Dad

I think he probably liked the animals a tiny bit more than their owners sometimes, but he approached helping a dog have puppies and helping a beloved pet have an easy transition onto the rainbow bridge with equal humanity....As the years went on, he gained some famous clients; pet-owning authors who summered or lived on the Cape dedicated their books to him or included him in a chapter or two, but probably the most famous was President John F Kennedy.
full article on page 5



B'NAI MITZVAH

September 7	Adam Knott
September 14	Hannah Cohen
September 21	Aidan Defrino
September 28	Emma Somberg
October 19	Caleb Levine
October 26	Sydney Weiner

THINGS TO DO:

more info on back cover and throughout

- Shabbat Family Services
- Book Talk with author Myra Sack at JCC Rockland
- Tot Shabbat
- Sisterhood Bunco & Bellinis
- Golf Outing
- Selichot Service at Beth Rishon
- Rosh Hashanah Services
- October 7 Commemorations
- Yom Kippur Services
- Sukkot Festival Service
- Sisterhood theater outing: Menopause 2 The Musical
- Simchat Torah Festival Service
- Simchat Torah Yizkor Service



President's Message

Linda Ellman Schwartz

Voting is a Jewish Value

As I write this, it is early August and we are preparing for our September issue of *Temple Topics*. Who wants to think about the fall when we are in the midst of summer? This particular summer, though, the fall has uniquely been on many of our minds; how could it not be? We are surrounded everywhere by the discussion of November elections.

I have always thought of voting as a civic responsibility – something that we are required to do by virtue of being citizens in this country. It is the primary way that people participate in our democracy. Voting is something that we, as “ordinary” citizens, are really required to affirmatively participate in to be sure our government functions as it was designed 248 years ago.

I remember as a child going to vote with my parents and feeling the excitement of being in the room with other voters. I couldn't wait until I was old enough to vote. When I look back, I realize I took my right to vote for granted. As a child all I ever knew was that my parents both voted and it was just assumed that I would one day, too. I didn't realize then how very complicated the right to vote has been.

This summer I had the chance to see “Suffs”, the musical by Shana Taub about the women's suffrage movement. It was incredibly inspiring. I continue listening to the music often. If you don't have the chance to see the show, I highly recommend just listening to the music online. The story line is clear from the songs and the lyrics are powerful.

The show follows the historical chronology of Alice Paul, a young activist who gathered a few friends and started a fierce grass roots effort that ultimately changed the course of women's rights in the United States. There were people who had been trying for years to pressure the government to make the change before them, but there was little success. This new generation of activists came in with new approaches to the same idea, a little less patience and found a way to effectuate change. It was years in the making and it is a beautiful story. It is clear from watching “Suffs” that the right to vote is something to be coveted, not taken for granted as many of us have had the ability to do for much of our lives.

Why am I talking about this in *Temple Topics*? (Maybe because my family has heard this enough!?). In all seriousness, I am sharing this because I will admit that I never realized just how

committed Reform Judaism is to the principles of democracy and the critical importance of voting in order to preserve democracy. I have learned through my own recent reading and discussions with Rabbi Ilana that voting is actually just as important to us as a religious responsibility as it is a civic duty. There is indeed deep recognition by the Reform Movement that democracy works best when everyone who can vote participates. (rac.org/about-religious-action-center-reform-judaism)

Don't be scared by the word “participate!” You don't need to campaign, or make any huge commitments. Just find the time to do some homework about which candidate(s) you like best, and make certain that you are registered and know how and when you will vote. Maybe even check in with your family and friends to make certain they are doing the same.

Regardless of whatever thoughts you might have about our government today or what it might be tomorrow, as Jewish people, we know that democracy is the single most important foundation for our freedoms, and it can only exist when everyone votes.

Currently, there is a terrific non-partisan effort through the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism (the RAC) that is taking place: the Every Voice, Every Vote Campaign. As described on the RAC website, this campaign:

“is a **nonpartisan** effort, grounded in our Jewish values and commitment to racial justice, to strengthen our democracy by encouraging and protecting voter participation.” (rac.org/issues/civil-rights-voting-rights)

In this campaign people can participate in post card writing, phone banking and other efforts to make sure that people are both registered and actually vote. I would encourage you to stay tuned to messaging from our Social Action Committee about opportunities to participate in this tremendous effort.

BHSS has never stood by without action when there are important things happening in the world around us. I have no doubt that we will not sit by when it comes to this and hope to spend time with lots of you making phone calls and writing postcards.

In these precarious days, showing up in many different ways is so important, whether it's voting or gathering to show our strength as Jews. I hope that you will be joining us during the approaching High Holidays so we can celebrate, pray, mourn



I am constantly checking Google Images and Pinterest for well-packaged Jewish quotes and sentiments for some future use in a service or presentation. My Pinterest account includes boards entitled “Mishnah,” “Jew-y Things I Like,” and “Jewish Values.” Quite some time ago, I found a pin: “God gives burdens also shoulders.” It’s attributed as a “Jewish Proverb.” While I initially liked this pin, the attribution gave me pause. First of all, there is a section of the Tannah that is called *Proverbs*--this saying does not come from *Proverbs*. Also, in order for something to be a proverb, by definition, it needs to be something that is often said and repeated. This was not a phrase I had heard before. Now, I am not so well-versed to think that I am aware of every Jewish proverb, but upon asking a Friday night crowd whether they were familiar with the phrase, it didn’t ring the faintest bell for any of them.

Apparently, this is not a Jewish proverb. I began to really think about the saying, because while, initially, it struck me as pithy--I think it stayed with me because it is wrong. Yes, we have burdens. Yes, historically, Jews have attributed those burdens to God. Yes, we have shoulders. But that is not where we carry our burdens. Instead, I think there are two other places where we hold our burdens.

The first is with God. Not so long ago, a woman came to me to say that after October 7, she lost her faith in God. This would not be the first time someone felt that the burden of the Jews was too great. It also struck me as inaccurate. Many things might convince someone that there is no God, but the conclusion is not usually reached when a person is feeling intense emotion. Usually, atheism is born of study and logic. I have found over and over again that people say they don’t believe in God when they mean they are angry with God. They don’t know what to do with that anger and have been taught that they can’t hold a grudge against God. Rather, I find, these people very much believe in God. It is my habit to teach them that God has broad shoulders. What I mean is that for those who have faith in the Divine, God can handle our anger. Whether that anger is about the death of a loved one, the Holocaust, or the brutality of October 7--God can hold all our emotions. Perhaps, then, instead of “God gives burdens also shoulders,” we might say, “We have burdens, but God has shoulders.”

I mentioned that I think there are two places we hold burdens. One is with God. The other is with community. Like any heavy load, if we distribute it, it becomes lighter for us. This is one of the reasons *kvetching* or complaining is such a big part of Jewish conversation! When we share our feelings, we are no longer holding them by ourselves. There are also many Jews who do not, indeed, believe in God. While Judaism is deeply related to the Divine, individual Jews need not be. For them, community can become even that

much more a part of what it means to be Jewish. In these cases, in place of “God gives burdens also shoulders,” we could say, “We have burdens, but our community has shoulders.”

All this is to say, every year has joys--even the worst year. This year has also been filled with challenges and burdens. I hope, whatever your burdens--personal loss, fear for the world, concern for the Jews, or something else entirely--that you are able to alleviate them to some degree through the traditions our ancestors have passed down to us. Your shoulders may be strong--God’s and the community’s are stronger. You don’t have to hold it all yourself.

At the High Holidays, we see more BHSS members than at any other time of year. It is a reminder of how strong we can be together. There will be many burdens present with us, but there will also be many shoulders.

Door is open...Come on in!

tuesdays with
Ilana

A little talk, listening
and a whole bunch of
caring

8:45-10:30 am

TLC with Rabbi Ilana
Tuesday mornings at BHSS

BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM 2024-2025

CLERGY

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman 201-512-1983 rabbischwartzman@gmail.com

MUSIC

Brian Gelfand, Music Leader 201-512-1983 brian.g.gelfand@gmail.com

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Trustee, Dana Weeks 718-344-7957 danaweeks33@gmail.com

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Sisterhood, Linda Vogel 845-642-0033 lsv0407@aol.com

Michelle Mitzvah Group, Sean Levin 781-879-4023 seanrichardlevin@verizon.net

Birthdays



September

Ilana Aibinder

Sarah Aibinder

Leni Berkowicz

Julian Brown

Brayden Burshteyn

*Alexander Mason
Diamond*

Grace Gordon

Liam Ikin

Leah Joho

Jordyn Kaufman

Jadyn Kohen

Madeleine Kruter

Caleb Levine

Max Mittelman

Nia Moros

Stacie Schuetz

Hudson Verbel

Maya Verbel



My dad started life in an Orthodox Jewish household in Bensonhurst Brooklyn in 1925. His brother Israel was born after that, but that but passed away from Rheumatic Fever at age 5. Later, his sister Judi came along. My grandfather Barney drove a truck delivering New York papers and our grandmother Esther was a milliner.

Dad went to yeshiva for grammar school before transferring one of the New York public high schools. He eventually attended college at New York University, and then went on to attend Middlesex Medical University for veterinary school, which was part of what would eventually become Brandeis University. He did a stint in the US Army during the Korean War where he worked with dogs at an army research and training facility.

He met our mom in Philadelphia, where he was visiting a friend, and they hit it off right away. Her parents liked him, because really, what's not to like? A doctor for their daughter!

They married on January 10, 1954 and moved to Duxbury Massachusetts where they set up house while Dad worked for another vet in Kingston. In the meantime, I was born and mom and dad used to reminisce about the rats which would migrate to their house from a nearby sawmill – but I have home movies that prove it was a wonderful existence with a swing set and a kiddie pool, and both of my parents taking charge of baby bathing, feeding, and dressing responsibilities.

In the late '50s they moved to Cape Cod, to the two-story house on Route 28 in West Yarmouth that still stands today, across the street from what is now Pirates Cove Mini Golf. There they welcomed Michael in 1959, and Jon two years later. Dad would have office hours at his animal hospital located immediately behind the house, then at the stroke of 5 pm walk back to the house to have dinner with us, then back over to the animal hospital again for his evening hours.

In addition to dogs and cats back then, he took care of every animal you can think of, from horses at the Rough Riders rodeo events to de-skunking skunks in a set-up he built behind the hospital, safely away from all our noses. His practice grew and in 1965 we moved to our first custom-built house in South Yarmouth. He loved helping mom with planting, and he got his first riding mower, which he liked to drive sideways on the hill behind the house to scare us that he would fall over. I think he did – once. In the winter he built us a sledding ramp that went from the driveway down the hill to the frozen pond, building in bumps along the way to make it more “exciting.”

Dad became well-known as THE vet to come to as he was always professional, kind, and compassionate. I think he probably liked the animals a tiny bit more than their owners sometimes, but he approached helping a dog have puppies and helping a beloved pet have an easy transition onto the rainbow bridge with equal humanity.

As the years went on, he gained some famous clients; pet-owning authors who summered or lived on the Cape dedicated their books to him or included him in a chapter or two, but probably the most famous was President John F Kennedy. Dad would tell us stories about how Jackie, in her breathy voice would call and Mom would answer and Jackie would ask for Dad and then say “I’ll put Jack on.” When Dad’s mother was dying of cancer in Brooklyn in the dead of winter, the Kennedys flew him on their plane to New York. I’m told that one day a secret service agent drove me to Hebrew school. But we never heard these stories until much later, because he didn’t boast about it.

And then there was the Cape Cod Synagogue. Dad would sit up on the bimah on Friday nights as president, and we sat right up front to see him. He took part in rabbi searches, was an enthusiastic presence at Torah study, and along with other families that became like family to us, he helped grow this place. My brothers and I became b’nai mitzvah here; this was OUR community in an area where Jews were not so plentiful. Dad helped nurture this congregation, and they nurtured him in return. Although he may not have been here a lot lately, there is no other place more fitting to celebrate his life.

Even though Rod and I live 5 hours away, and dad had stopped doing the long drive years ago, we stayed in touch and he was always interested in the comings and goings of his grandchildren – the new babies, the new jobs, all of it. He did not have a lot of time with Quinn and Rose, his great-granddaughters, but he relished their spirited dancing, singing and laughter when we visited. He proudly took on the Pop-Pop role and chanted the motzi at Andrew, Alex, and Ari’s bar mitzvahs and at Andrew and Jackie’s wedding. And since Ari’s bar mitzvah was in dad’s 83rd year, he received a special blessing on his Torah Aliyah, symbolizing his own 2nd bar mitzvah. He adored Andrew’s wife Jackie, and sometimes I think even more than his own relatives!

Dad was very close with Michael and Mary-Alyce’s kids, physically as well. Once he moved to Yarmouthport from the



...will be called to the Torah...



Adam Knott – September 7, 2024

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Erica Fields, Father, Simon, Grandmother, Lynne Feldman, Sisters, Rebecca, 28, and Rachel, 32.....
.....is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School His interests include Lego, Dungeons & Dragons, art, axolotls, and chess. “I would like to be a game developer. I am proud of what I have accomplished so far by learning Hebrew and my Torah portion, but I am also nervous for the big day! I built a multi-roomed bird mansion that will sit on the front lawn of BHSS. I built the entire thing from scratch with a little help from my dad. This house will provide safety for small and endangered birds. This is important for ecological reasons, which is a theme of my Torah portion.”



Aidan DeFrino – September 21, 2024

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Jana, Father, Steven, Brother, Mason, 10
is an 8th grader at Cavallini Middle School His interests include hockey, art, and tennis. “I would like to be an architect and engineer. I am looking forward to sharing this special day with my family and friends! I am working with Oasis: A Haven for Women and Children, collecting art supplies for their educational program.”



Emma Somberg – September 28, 2024

Lives in Montvale, New Jersey. Mother, Jaymee, Father, Max, Brother, Alex, 10 is an 8th grader at Fieldstone Middle School Her interests include volleyball, sewing, and gymnastics. “I would like a career working with animals, like a veterinarian. I am looking forward to sharing with everyone what I have learned and been practicing for my Bat Mitzvah. For my community service project I am sewing decorative pillows and making bracelets for children in the hospital. I hope they will brighten their days through the hard times.”



Hannah Cohen – September 14, 2024

Lives in Oakland, New Jersey. Mother, Tiffany Father, Jonathan, Brother, Samuel, 11is an 8th grader at Valley Middle School
Her interests include cheering, softball, and surfing. “I am passionate about keeping the oceans clean and sea animals safe. I feel proud of all my hard work and dedication in learning all the prayers and Torah portion for my Bat Mitzvah. I’m helping to create a communal contribution space for social and mental health awareness. Clients (children and teens) will contribute to the garden by painting rocks with inspirational messages that not only help them but others in their mental health journey.”



...will be called to the Torah...



Caleb Levine – October 19, 2024

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Carly, Father, Randy, Brother, Cody, 9..... is an 8th grader at Woodcliff Lake Middle School His interests include baseball, cooking, and tennis. “I’d like to own a bakery. I feel that this is a large milestone in my life and something I’ve been looking forward to and working on for a while. I am going to be selling cookies, brownies, and dog treats and donating all proceeds to the Sochi Dog organization where our family rescued our dog.”



Sydney Weiner – October 26, 2024

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Vida, Father, Eric, Brothers, Gary, 22, and Owen, 8 is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School Her interests include horseback riding, softball, volleyball, and traveling. “I’d like to be breeding/training horses or an interior designer. I feel very lucky to get to have such an amazing experience with my family and friends. I love horses. So, I wanted to support the Pony Power Therapies in Mahwah NJ, which has been established to provide children and adults with disabilities the opportunity to ride and take care of horses. Horses help to build self-esteem, confidence, and muscle tone, and provide therapy to the adults and children who ride and take care of them.”

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
September	8	9	10	11
2024	15	16	17	18
	22	23	24	25
	29	30		
October			1 no school	2 no school
2024	6 no school	7 no school	8	9
	13 no school	14 no school	15 no school	16 no school
	20	21	22	23 no school
	27	28	29	30



Candlelighting Times:



September 6 - *Shoftim* 7:01 pm
 September 13 - *Ki Teitzei* 6:49 pm
 September 20 - *Ki Tavo* 6:37 pm
 September 27 - *N'tzavim- Vayeilech* 6:25 pm

October 4 - *Ha'azinu* 6:14 pm
 October 11 - *Yom Kippur* 6:03 pm
 October 18 - *Sukkot III* 5:52 pm
 October 25 - *B'reisheet* 5:42 pm



September Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Office Closed				6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Shoftim 10 am Adam Knott
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 5:45 pm 7th	4 pm group class 4:20 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Exec Comm 7:30 pm MMG	4 pm Remote 6th 7:30 pm Kadimah-ccino		5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 7 pm Tefilot	Ki Teitzei 10 am Hannah Cohen
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 5:45 pm 7th	4 pm group class 4:20 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	4 pm Remote 6th		7 pm Tefilot	Ki Tavo 10 am Aidan DeFrino
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 5:45 pm 7th	4 pm group class 4:20 pm grades 4 & 5	4 pm Remote 6th		7 pm Tefilot	N'tzavim/Vayeilech 10 am Emma Somberg 7 pm Selichot @ Beth Rishon
29	30					
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 5:45 pm 7th					

October Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		No School	No School 3 pm Office Closes 5:30 pm Erev Rosh Hashanah	Office Closed Rosh Hashanah	Rosh Hashanah Day Two Office Closed 6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Ha'azinu
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
No School 7 pm October 7 Commemoration Service @ BHSS	No School 7 pm 10/7 Commemoration at JCC	4 pm group class 4:20 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Exec Comm 7:30 pm MMG	4 pm Remote 6th 7:30 pm Kadimah-ccino		3 pm Office Closes 7:30 pm Kol Nidre	Yom Kippur
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
No School	No School	No School 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	No School 5:30 pm Pizza in the Hut 7 pm Erev Sukkot Service	Office Closed 10 am Sukkot Service	5:15 pm Tot Shabbat 7 pm Tefilot	Sukkot III 10 am Caleb Levine
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 5:45 pm 7th	4 pm group class 4:20 pm grades 4 & 5	No School 7 pm Simchat Torah Service	Office Closed 10 am Simchat Torah Yizkor	7 pm Tefilot	B'reisheet 10 am Sydney Weiner
27	28	29	30	31		
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 5:45 pm 7th	4 pm group class 4:20 pm grades 4 & 5	4 pm Remote 6th			



SELICHOT

Saturday, September 28 Service of Forgiveness held at Beth Rishon time TBD

ROSH HASHANAH

Wednesday, October 2 Erev Rosh Hashanah 5:30 pm

Thursday, October 3 **Rosh Hashanah Day 1**
 Shacharit, Early Morning Service 8:15-10:45 am **
 Shacharit, Mid-Morning Service 11:45-1:30 pm **
 Family Service outdoors (weather permitting) 2:45 pm
 Tashlich at Darlington Park, Mahwah 3:45 pm

Friday, October 4 **Rosh Hashanah Day 2** 9:15 am

YOM KIPPUR

Friday, October 11 **Kol Nidre** 7:30pm

Saturday, October 12 **Yom Kippur**
 Shacharit, Early Morning Service 8:15-10:45 am**
 Shacharit, Mid-Morning Service 11:45-1:45 pm**
 Healing Service - Led by lay leadership 2:30 pm
 Family Service outdoors (weather permitting) 2:30 pm
 Yizkor 3:45 pm
 Mincha (afternoon service) 4:30 pm
 Neilah (closing service) 6:15 pm

Study sessions to run from 2:00 – 3:30 PM

SUKKOT

Wednesday, October 16 Sukkot Festival Service Monday 7:00 pm
 Thursday, October 17 Sukkot Morning Service 10:00 am

SIMCHAT TORAH

Wednesday, October 23 Simchat Torah/Consecration Service 7:00 pm
 Thursday October 24 Simchat Torah Yizkor Service 10:00 am

**Early Morning - White

**Mid-Morning - Green



BHSS GARDEN

Thanks to our incredibly dedicated volunteers and some cooperating weather, the BHSS community garden has flourished. This year we grew kale, swiss chard, celery, zucchini, tomatoes, radishes, beans, cucumbers, carrots, peppers and sweet potatoes, all of which was donated to the Center for Food Action, the Sloatsburg Food Pantry, the Suffern Soup Kitchen, and the People to People Food Pantry.

Most of our volunteers, whose gardening experience ranges from novice to expert to everything in between, “adopted” one or more garden beds, planting, tending, harvesting and donating whatever grew in their assigned beds. Other volunteers helped by laying garden soil, weeding, and harvesting. The growing season isn’t over yet, and we’ll plant cooler weather crops like kale and swiss chard this fall, so there’s still plenty of opportunity to get involved.



Interested in building or applying your gardening skills while helping to provide healthy, nourishing food to those in need? Reach out to Kathy Zukof or anyone on the Social Action Committee to volunteer.

Good & Welfare

from and for the congregation

Condolences to:

Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh on the death of her father,
Dr. Arthur Bernstein

Lois Schwartz on the death of her
daughter, Rachel Beth Sirota

Mitchell Edelman on the death of his sister,
Janis Edelman Koven

Graham Klein on the death of his father, Robert Klein

Jeffrey Lipkin on the death of his father,
William "Bill" Lipkin

Jennifer Altman on the death of her father, Robert Byalick

Lois Schwartz on the death of her mother, Muriel Brenner

Laura Lindsay on the death of mother, and to **Rachael
Goldstein** on the death of her grandmother, Rita Newman

R'fuah Sh'leimah
(For a full and speedy recovery)

Joel Goldfarb

Mazel Tov to:

Jill and Bill Pearlman on the birth of
their grandson, Bradley Tyler

Mona and Jeff Lefkowitz on the birth
of their grandson, Jonah

Arlene and Rich Mandel on the birth of
their granddaughter, Mabel Sage

Danny Hyman for his appointment as Chief
of the Ramapo Police Department

Welcome New Members

Jeffrey and Kari Binder and family, River Vale, NJ

Marc and Angela Ross and family, Upper Saddle River, NJ

Edrea Schlesinger, Fair Lawn, NJ

William & Alisa Knapp and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Brett & Blair Moldoff and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Phillip & Susan Brussel, Park Ridge, NJ

Michael & Stacey Dee and family, Upper Saddle River, NJ

Steven & Karen Begleiter and family,
Upper Saddle River, NJ

Brian & Cara Joho and family, Mahwah NJ

Adam & Lisa Streicher and family, Mahwah, NJ

Lawrence & Michelle Frankel and family,
Upper Saddle River, NJ

Brian & Lauren Rosenberg and family,
Upper Saddle River, NJ

Matthew & Jennifer Goodman and family, Montvale, NJ

Howard & Sima Peckler, Airmont, NY

Andrew & Ilyssa Weiss and family, Hillsdale, NJ

Kenneth & Jennifer Stroger and family,
Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Richard & Gail Fried and family, Mahwah, NJ

Michael & Julie Stengel and family, Tuxedo, NY

Todd & Jaime Palatnek and family, Montvale, NJ

Tim & Hayley Norton and family, Mahwah, NJ

Gerson & Viktoriya Gluck and family, Montvale, NJ

Aaron & Julie Jacobs and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Jason & Kelly Geisler and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Evan & Jaclyn Smith and family, Montvale, NJ

Joshua & Robyn Kohen and family, Montvale, NJ

Johanna Klein and family, Tuxedo Park, NY

Gil & Julia Ozir and family, Upper Saddle River, NJ

Jodi Hink and family, Sloatsburg, NY

Osterville home that he and mom designed, (and my brother Michael built), he had grandchild-roommates! Both Hannah and Ethan made sure he was safe and there is not enough gratitude that can be expressed to both Michael and Mary-Alyce who have been there for dad for so many years, who kept us all updated on his health, and who were his eyes and ears at the kennel and its business once he could no longer be there himself. Mary-Alyce, you were his caretaker for years after he moved, and for that we will always be thankful. He was so proud of Owen starting his own catering business, and Isaac for following his brother away from home and making a new life for himself.

Jon and Debbie came to the Cape every weekend to spend time with dad, taking him to dinner and supplying him with taste treats that were probably not entirely healthy, but he enjoyed good food so much that it was hard to deprive him! Aaron and Emily were frequent visitors as well. I know he would have wanted to be at Emily's impending wedding.

For the past year, Nicole Newell has been a part of dad's life, helping him to actually HAVE a life with her care, her insistence on him getting up at a decent hour, and taking him out for drives to watch the sunset over the beach or grab a sandwich to eat in the car. He loved a Jersey Mike's Italian. Nicole, we cannot thank you enough for your time, your professionalism, your kindness, and God knows, your patience.

There were people who never quite got his sense of humor, women who were probably insulted (but charmed) by something he said, and innumerable times his humor and lack of a "filter" got the better of his manners. One day when he took us to a restaurant that had souvenir chowder mugs, the waitress refused to give a grandchild one because we had ordered the wrong size of chowder. He called her a word that rhymes with "witch," and I am not sure to this day if he meant it to be under his breath and unheard – or not. My kids, who were old enough by then to understand what was happening, were shocked and very impressed.

I asked him once if he missed the things that he did when he was growing up Orthodox and ended up in an area with few Jews and a Reform community, and he said "no" – this was good enough for him.

A number of years ago, Dad needed to undergo heart valve replacement surgery. Just before he was going to be wheeled into the operating room, Mom asked him if he was at peace with the idea that he might not live through the surgery. He said that he thought he had lived his life in a way that God would have wanted, and that he was okay with it. Daddy, you raised us to be good people, you lived nearly 99 years and we could have used more, but I know you were ready. And I will miss you.

**OCTOBER 7 COMMEMORATIONS:
MARKING ONE YEAR in Two Nights**
Sunday, October 6 – 7:00pm – at BHSS

On this solemn anniversary, we need to tend to our personal and congregational needs. Please join Rabbi Ilana for an intimate service to remember, reflect, mourn and feel together.



Monday, October 7 – 7:00pm – Location TBD
Join together with the larger Jewish Community

OCTOBER 7
ONE COMMUNITY. ONE COMMEMORATION. ONE YEAR.
עם ישראל חי! 7:00 PM
We stand with Israel!
A community gathering to mark this tragic day in our history.
JFNNJ.ORG/OCTOBER7

Sponsored by:
IAC, JCC on the Palmettos, RCHC ועד הרבנים, Jewish Federation

Voting - Continued from page 2

and atone together. We all know how good it feels to be surrounded by the warmth and strength of our BHSS community.

As a final word on this, here is a simple link that you can follow to register to vote, or check your own registration status. Please make sure that any members of your family that need absentee or vote from home ballots take the steps to get them now! (rac.org/take-action/every-voice-every-vote/are-you-registered-vote)

Shana Tova!



**September 6
and October 4
at 6:30 pm**

Join Rabbi Ilana and Brian Gelfand
for our Shabbat Family Services

We hope you join us for these
fun, music-filled services for the whole family
to participate in and enjoy!

Join us for Oneg Shabbat
right after the services

Everyone Welcome!

Tot Shabbat!

**Fridays, September 13
and October 18
at 5:15 p.m.**

*For children ages birth-kindergarten
and their families.*

*Do a craft, hear a story, sing songs...
everything you love about Tot
Shabbat, and PIZZA, too!*

*Rabbi Ilana and Director of Education
Rebecca McVeigh look forward to celebrating
Shabbat with you and your tots!*



BHSS Choir



Participating in adult choir is a great way to connect with fellow congregants as well as your own spirituality. You don't need to have any musical background, just a will to learn... and sing!

We are always looking for new voices to join choir. Our rehearsals are Wednesdays.

If interested, please contact Michelle (former choir member!) at the temple office.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Cappuccino, Frappuccino, Kadimah-ccino. For my kids it's hard for them to believe that a world existed without a Starbucks on every corner. Almost as ridiculous is that I remember when a cappuccino was something you tried when you visited Italy or if you had very old school neighbors whose Nona moved in with them and you got to attend their Feast of the Seven Fishes every year. Either way, I thought they were both interesting examples of how things change over time. How radically new and different become part of the landscape when the next new thing or re-interpretation of an old thing gets introduced.

Why do we send our children to religious school? The most general answer is to learn. The great thing about that answer is it allows for so many options. When the K-1's are doing a coloring sheet with apples and honey, they're learning. When they get to the 2nd grade classroom and start the Hebrew Alef Bet, or 3rd grade's concentration on Torah stories, they are the building blocks towards 4th grade concentration on general Judaism, 5th grade prayers and customs and being a mensch, into 6th grade's Jewish lifecycle. Before you know it, 7th grade comes along and they're ready to become Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Their module topics vary from Holocaust and antisemitism, Israel, and Thought For Food which includes demonstrations and eating, naturally. Discussions for our 8th-12th graders, meeting Rabbi Ilana monthly for learning and a "-ccino" can be on a range of topics that could include any of the following and more: the holidays, how to be a mensch,

as well as hearing from speakers discussing how their Judaism impacts their professional lives.

Living life is a learning experience and being Jewish adds a whole additional layer of interesting information to explore. One of the many great things about learning is you can do it anywhere and in a variety of ways. One of the many great things about BHSS, Rabbi Ilana, Director of Education Rebecca McVeigh and our leadership team is they are open to that idea.

I am and have always been a huge Kadimah fan, even if I always forget the "h" on the end. I immediately fell in love with a school based program that took time out from the scheduled programming to give the kids the opportunity to mix it up with all of the attendees. It's great to meet the kids in your class, but when my 8th grader came home and said he hung out with 'the Seniors' at pizza that smile lit up the house. And I want to make sure I mentioned they served pizza. Truly what's not to love? I'm super excited for this year's students to experience the newest interpretation of this fabulous program: kadimah-ccino. They've replaced the pizza with a beverage, but anything with double pump of vanilla syrup will work for me.

Wishing you and yours a sweet New Year.

Ronni

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Hello everyone,

The Music Committee would like to wish the entire BHSS family a happy and healthy 5785!

In keeping with our tradition of having music at the heart of services, we are starting the 2024-2025 season with a bang! We are happy to welcome to our bima again for Simchat Torah service, **Metropolitan Klezmer**. Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, October 23**. Look for more details in the temple emails. You won't want to miss this!

Other events are in the works! If you would like to help, please email me at niberger@aol.com. I am always available to chat if you have an idea about programming or a question about what we do. Our committee meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month via Zoom at 7:30 pm.

Our choir is rehearsing in person with Jane Koch! Here is your chance to join in the fun. They are always looking for new members. Previous singing experience or knowledge of Hebrew are not requirements. Contact Michelle at the synagogue office for details.

Musically yours,
Nora Berger

Birthdays



October

Harper Bedrin

Aria Bell

Emma Edrich

Jordan Erde

Isabelle Fooks

Jack Goldman

Maya Goldman

Joey Goldstein

Griffin Heit

Alexa Jacobs

Noa Katan

Tal Katan

Ryder Krieg

Brinkley Marder

Nathan Math

Noah Math

Jacob McNulty

Liam McNulty

Mave Molovinsky

Fiona Morris

Benjamin Root

Alayna Rose

Harper Rozenblat

Violet Rozenblat

Max Strasser

Jordan Weiner

Owen Weiner

Sydney Weiner

Mackenzie

Steinberg-Rodriguez

A good read for Summer that will touch your heart...

Fifty-seven Fridays: Losing Our Daughter, Finding Our Way

Here's what they are saying:

A wondrous, hopeful, heart-breaking witness to one of the darkest journeys imaginable... This will be one of those rare books that people re-read, think about, and encourage others to read.

—Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D, author, with Oprah Winfrey, of *What Happened to You*

"I love this book. I absolutely could not put it down. It is beautifully written and cuts to the very heart of life and love: The story of Havi's short, beautiful life and early death from Tay-Sachs is harrowing, heartbreaking, uplifting, profound and sometimes funny. Havi will charm the socks off you."

—Anne Lamott

Required reading for any parent. The book—beautiful, propulsive, wrenching, and true— reveals the essential truth that there is no love without loss, and that we learn how to love through and within our grief."

—Emily Rapp Black, New York Times best-selling author of *The Still Point of the Turning World*

"Myra Sack's memoir is a deeply personal look at her family's resilience in the face of the unimaginable. Fifty-seven Fridays will help so many others find strength."

—Sheryl Sandberg, former COO, Facebook

"This book is both a balm and a manual for anyone who has grieved—which is to say, each and every one of us. I have never read anything like it."

—Lauren Markham, author of *The Far Away Brothers*

"Myra Sack does not just shine a light on the inextricable bond between grief and gratitude, anguish and joy, but also provides guidance on how to navigate the impossible."

—Beck Dorey-Stein, New York Times best-selling author of *From the Corner of the Oval*



Life is unfolding as planned for Myra Sack and her husband Matt until their beautiful year-old daughter Havi is diagnosed with Tay-Sachs, a fatal neurodegenerative disease, and given only a year to live. Myra and Matt decide to celebrate Havi's short life and vow to show her as much of the world as they can, surrounded by friends and family who relocate to be in Havi's orbit. Tapping their Judaism, they transform Friday night Shabbats into birthday parties —"Shabbirthdays" —to replace the birthdays Havi will never have.

BHSS is proud to be co-sponsoring Myra Sack when she visits the JCC Rockland on the evening of Thursday September 12.

You can purchase Myra's book at all major booksellers, or borrow it from the BHSS library.