

The Kibbitzer

Congregation Beth Shalom

706 Bryan Road, Brandon, FL 33511

Phone (813) 681-6547

www.BethShalom-Brandon.org

June 2019 Volume 30, Issue 1

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FROM THE RABBI - Rabbi Bryan Mann

Where Do We Receive Torah?



Saturday, June 8, and Sunday, June 9, we receive the Torah again. We celebrate Shavuot, the holiday that commemorates G-d giving the Torah to the Jewish people at Mount Sinai. Biblically, Sinai is a loud sensory over loaded experience. There is smoke, fire, loud shofar blasts, lightening, and thunder. If you ask me, this is the least ideal way to obtain information. Some of the classical commentary on Sinai agrees. There are those who say the only part of the Ten Commandments the Jewish people heard was the I of, "I am Adonai, your G-d."

Others say we did not even retain that much. It was only silence, the silent aleph of the Hebrew word anochi meaning I, was all that we heard.

Other commentators argue that each of us heard what we could understand. For some, in that moment, perhaps we could only understand silence.

Torah simply means wisdom. Many of us turn to authority figures for wisdom; parents, teachers, rabbis, cantors, experts in their field. If I want to learn something it is best to ask an expert.

Others rely on personal experience. A good friend of mine suffers from chronic illnesses most medical professionals have not heard of. She has had to learn the torah of her body and teach it to medical professionals who are often amazed by what is medically "normal" for her. Sometimes we need to trust the torah inherent in all of us.

At times, torah comes from popular culture. A book, tv show, or movie that reveals to us an aspect of the world we were otherwise not aware of. A compelling story that makes us reconsider our preconceived notions.

So often, torah comes from relationships. The way we as Jews learn text is in hevrutah. In pairs. Reading out loud. Grappling with the perspective presented. Seeking and sharing insights with our hevrutah informed by our own experiences. In some ways hevrutah encompasses all of the above. It can get loud and at times feel overwhelming. There are often moments of silence when one hevrutah or another asks a profound question. At times "an expert" so to speak; a commentary, a dictionary, another source is consulted for greater understanding. All of this is of course informed by the life experiences each hevrutah brings to the learning.

While hevrutah learning is how many Jews receive Torah, the message of hevrutah learning is that Torah does not happen in isolation. We find Torah through an encounter. An encounter with the natural world, with our inner selves, with another person, with a text, with a piece of media. In short, we can receive Torah almost anywhere the question is, are we looking for it.

FROM THE PRESIDENT - Jon Ellis

First, I want to say thank you to David Friedman for all the work he did while president. With an untimely rabbi resignation much of his presidency revolved around finding a new rabbi. David, thank you for overseeing and handling a job substantially larger than you ever anticipated. I also want to thank Ricki Bauman for the time she spent as president and the work she performed and for her dedication exhibited to Congregation Beth Shalom. And lastly, I want to thank Gerald Pliner. I have always said that vice president is the best officer position in any organization, because a vice president usually has no specific duties or responsibilities until something happens with the president. And for Gerry, when the resignation of the president came, he found himself in the position he didn't actually want, taking over the responsibilities of the president. Gerry, thank you for a job well done!

I know I am always in trouble when, as president, I thank anyone. The trouble usually does not arise from those I thanked but from those who have done tremendous work and who I failed to thank. So, when I started to thank a number of you, individually who have gone above and beyond in your service to CBS, I hit delete. Please know that my article is not large enough to thank everyone for all the work they have performed over the past few years. However, that does not mean I don't know who you are (though there may be a few who I don't know) and it does not mean I don't fully appreciate the work you do. Without our board members, committee chairs, donors, teachers, rabbi and dedicated members, we could not exist. To all of you, THANK YOU.

I am committed to keeping Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon the center of Jewish life in Brandon. Notwithstanding the above, we have gone through substantial transitions over the past few years. Those transitions have caused us to lose members, donors, revenue, etc. The loss of these vital resources impacts our ability to fulfill our mission. The reverse may also be true; our failure to fully perform our mission may have resulted in the loss of members, donors, revenue, etc. It may be a combination of both. In any case, I want to assure you that we will be reviewing what we do and how we do it. If not already announced at time of publication, I will be requesting the board hold a retreat in the coming weeks to focus on who we are, what we do and how do we improve. While this may be a board

retreat, I will be opening it to all current and former members who would like to join us. I would like to use the information from this retreat as a roadmap on how to proceed for the next year or longer.

In the meantime, if anyone of you need something, have suggestions of what we can do better or just want to air complaints of something we did wrong recently or long ago but it still bothers you, please e-mail me at jel-lis@shumaker.com or call me at 813-240-4078. We are your religious institution and family and we want to hear from you and be there for you.

I am looking forward to serving you as your president for this year.



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Congregation Beth Shalom provides a meaningful spiritual home for people of all ages and levels of knowledge, a place to learn and to question, a place to worship and to celebrate, and a place to find a community that cares.

We offer:

- ☆ **Friday worship services at 7:30 p.m.**
- ☆ **Religious school pre-k through 10th grade**
- ☆ **Complete B'nai Mitzvah preparation**
- ☆ **Youth group programming**
- ☆ **Adult Education classes**
- ☆ **Community-wide events, including Mitzvah Day**

Upcoming Dates to Remember

• Saturday, June 22, 6 p.m.:

Cruise information night, followed by wine tasting. More details on page 4.



• Friday, June 7, 7:30 p.m.:

Installation of our new board members.

• **Saturday, June 8, 7 - 10 p.m.:** "All night session" of teaching in celebration of Shavuot. For more information, please see page 6.



• **Sunday, June 9, 6:30 a.m.:** Sunrise service at Apollo Beach Preserve, 6760 Surfside Blvd, Apollo Beach. More information on page 6.

• **Wednesday, June 26, 6:30 p.m.:** Life Long Learning committee meeting. Details on page 6.

• **Saturday, June 29, 10 a.m.:** Taste of Tanach.

• **Monday, July 15, 6 p.m.:** Page Turners. More information can be found on page 10.

• **Sunday, Aug. 4, 9:30 a.m. - noon:** Congregation Open House.



*Religious Education Calendar, page 7;
Full calendar, page 15*

June Oneg Schedule

There can be no joy without food and drink. — Talmud, Mo'ed Katan

THANK YOU! to the following people who will host an oneg Shabbat in June.

• **June 7: Congregation Beth Shalom board** will host the oneg in honor of the outgoing and incoming members of the board.

• **June 14: Carole & Joe Plesur** will host the oneg in honor of their 64th anniversary.

• **June 21: Steve & Anna Feldman** will host the oneg in honor of their grandson, **Rowan Ashby's**, 12th birthday (May 11), and their granddaughter, **Amara Ashby**, who will be celebrating her 11th birthday on July 5

• **June 28: Judith & Gerry Pliner** will host the oneg in honor their grandson, **B.J. Covington**, who is graduating from Kellman Brown Academy, a Jewish day school in New Jersey.

If you have any questions or are interested in hosting an oneg, please contact us (Judith 856-816-2174, Anita 813-990-9498, and Anna 707-628-5399).

*Anna Feldman, Judith Pliner, Sue Reckner,
and Anita Hoffman*

The Kibbitzer

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DINNER WITH THE TRIBE

ROMANO'S
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Dinner With The Tribe will be Thursday, June 20, at 5:30 p.m., at Romano's Macaroni Grill. We will be dining in a private room. Please

R.S.V.P. to Judy Jacobson at judy.d.jacobson@outlook.com.

Congregation Beth Shalom Special Free Event

Come hear about our five night
CBS Cruise for January 2020
Special pricing for members

Details on the cruise and locations
Cruise fashions and accessories

Wine tasting and food will follow for \$10

Saturday 6 PM
June 22, 2019

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Oneg

Anna Feldman, Anita Hoffman, Judith Pliner,
and Sue Reckner

Publicity

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Steve Slavkin

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Social Action*

Debora Rachel Miranda

Religious School*

Sheila Fishman

BESTY—Youth Group*

Advisors—Andrea Chassen and
Steven Birnholz

President —Liz Pelk

** Ex-officio voting board member
(each committee only gets one vote)*

Other Programs

CBS Singles Over 50

Anita Clifford

Chavurah

open

Dinner With the Tribe

Judy Jacobson

Interfaith/Outreach

Jan Golden, Sheila Slavkin

Kibbitzer Editor

Lea Garbett

Kolot Shalom — Choir

Joan Frankel

Library

Ricki Bauman

Men's Club

Michael Barnett

Page Turners

Phyllis Newman

Web Administrator

Jenny Allen

Yarn Mavens

Phyllis Newman

Join with CBS in offering congratulations and recognition to the following members on their accomplishments:



KUDOS

- Kudos to **Gerry Lawrence** for his wine donation for our 2nd night Seder.
- Kudos to **Steve Birnholtz** and **Andrea Chassen** for helping organize and plan all our BESTY events this year.
- Kudos to **Anna Feldman** for purchasing a new garbage disposal and to **“Fuz” Stockelman** for installing it.
- Kudos to **“Fuz” Stockelman** for replacing the Eternal Light over the Bimah.
- Kudos to **Joan Frankel, Jeff Newman, Lauren Fleishman**, and **all who participated** in our annual cabaret event.

*Do you know a CBS member who should be congratulated for a special accomplishment?
If so, email the name and accomplishment to cbs-admin@hotmail.com.*

CBS Annual Meeting D'var Torah, by Rabbi Bryan Mann

Building, Sustaining, and Growing our Sacred Community

Good morning and welcome to the annual meeting! We've come together to do the important work of building and sustaining our sacred community our קהילה קדושה. Much of this work is done day to day, month to month, by our board. Thank you to our 2018 – 2019 board members for all of the work you have done throughout this year.

While, the board does much of this work, when I think about the ancient Israelite community and our Jewish communities today I think about how it is on all of us to step up to build our קהילה קדושה our sacred community. I've mentioned in the past how when the Jewish people came together to build the Mishkan, the portable dwelling place for the Divine, everyone contributed. They contributed materially; with gold, with animal skins, with threads. Everyone contributed some much of their wealth the artisans in charge of the building had to tell them to stop. We have enough stuff. We have enough money. Imagine a community where everyone contributes what they can and all of the community's needs are met. Those who could only afford to contribute thread contributed thread. Those who could afford to contribute precious metals; gold, silver contributed that. There was no shame in the amount people gave. Everyone committed financially to the work and the needs of the community were met.

Outside of material things, outside of wealth and money; they also contributed with skills; those who could weave wove, those who could sculpt sculpted. Those who could build, built, those who could design, designed. Much of the work we do here is done by volunteers who step up and say, "I can teach. I'm going to teach in the religious school. I can help beautify the grounds. I'm going to beautify the grounds of the synagogue. I'm an interior designer. I will look at the art hiding in storage and find the best places to display them. I've organized a library before. I'll organize our li-

brary. I can sing, I will sing in the choir. I might not have the energy to do much, but for this Shabbat, I'm going to clean up after the oneg. I'm going to move this chair, put this table back, help reorganize our space.

From the biggest tasks to the smallest tasks so much of the work we do to build and sustain our קהילה קדושה our sacred community here at Congregation Beth Shalom is done by each and every one of you. Giving what you can when you can. Doing what you can when you can. We're going to hear a lot today about where we are as a community, who is stepping into leadership for this year, and to make decisions about our future. As we do, I invite you to reflect on the material or financial commitments, as well as the volunteer commitments you made last year to build and sustain our sacred community and what commitments you are willing to make this year to continue to build, sustain, and grow our קהילה קדושה. Thank you.

MEMBERSHIP

We are delighted to share with all of you about the newest members of Congregation Beth Shalom – please watch for them at services and temple events.

Bree Phoenix and her two twin sons – **Zion Malachi Phoenix** and **Elias Levi Phoenix**. And we would like to also welcome **Nickie Alexander Meeks**. It's wonderful to see our congregation continue to grow!

Gail and Judith – Membership Co-Chairs

LIFE LONG LEARNING— Janice Perelman



Shavuot Events

Let's Have An All-Nighter!

- **Saturday, June 8, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.**, in celebration of Shavuot and Rabbi Akiva's legacy of learning, Rabbi Bryan Mann will host an "all-night" session of teaching. Both Rabbi

Mann and congregational lay teachers will contribute by teaching from their areas of expertise.

Would you like to share a particular area of history or a skill with other adults? Want to learn something new? To participate as either a teacher or student, please call the temple office at (813) 681-6547.

Sunrise Service

- **Sunday, June 9, at 6:30 a.m.**, join us for a Shavuot sunrise service at [Apollo Beach Preserve](#), 6760 Surfside Blvd, Apollo Beach. Come celebrate the gift of Torah at Sinai with song, prayer, and meditation. Don't forget to bring

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your own chairs. You can get to Apollo Beach preserve by going west on Apollo Beach Blvd. from U.S. 41, at end, turn right, go to the end.

Taste of Tanach

- **Saturday, June 29, at 10 a.m.**, we will have our monthly Taste of Tanach gathering.

Next LLL Committee Meeting

- **Wednesday, June 26, at 6:30 p.m.**, Life Long Learning will hold its next committee meeting. The agenda will include progress we are making towards upcoming learning events, as well as our planned congregational retreat in December. If you are interested in participating or simply want to find out what we are up to, feel free to drop

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EDUCATION— Sheila Fishman

Our religious school year ended Sunday, May 19, with an end of year luncheon. We had an amazing year. Our students are the best!!

I want to thank our teachers, Lucas Oldman, Anna Feldman, Sandy Santucci, Rudina Richter, and Michael Lubin, for their knowledge, dedication and good deeds. Our aides, Allyson Peterson, Davina Feldman and Ella Barnett, were so helpful throughout the year. I also wish to thank our parents for stepping up and helping throughout the year with our special events. Rabbi Bryan has provided insightful worship services and special programming for our students.



Over the summer, I will be meeting with the teachers to update and further enhance our curriculum. I also wish to announce Christine Stockelman will be joining our staff and will be working with our youngest students. Based upon recent meetings I have had with potential new congregation members, I expect we will realize increased school membership. We are so excited!

The Congregation Beth Shalom open house is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 4, from 9:30a.m. until noon. This will be the time to learn about the religious school for 2019-20 session, view our curriculum and textbooks, and meet the teachers. Our religious school classes are designed to meet the educational needs of children kindergarten through confirmation.

We are continuing with a once a week program beginning with Sunday, Aug. 18. For grades 2 through 7, school hours continue to be 9:30a.m. until noon, but our day begins with our worship service at 9:30a.m. The service is followed by a 1- hour Hebrew class and 1- hour Judaica class. For kindergarten and 1st grade, school commences Sunday, Aug. 25, and children will be meeting for 12 sessions during the next school year. A calendar of classes will be available at the open house.

Information regarding the confirmation program will be forthcoming in future publications.



BeSTY members take a break from helping at the congregation 2nd night Seder.

BESTY BEAT

In May, BeSTY members got together for a Monopoly night. The financial transactions flew fast and furious all night, and a lot of fun was had by everyone.



BeSTY is taking a vacation in June and July but will be back in action in August. Watch for 2019-20 registration information in early August.

Stay in contact

Please watch your email, texts, the Group Me app, and the "BESTY & BESTY, Jr. Parents" Facebook page for information on future activities. The Congregation Beth Shalom youth group welcomes all with open arms as we are excited to start new programs and events.

Click here to download our membership form <https://bethshalom-brandon.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/173/2013/10/TYG%20Registration%20Form.pdf> or email besty-board@gmail.com for more information.



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CBS Cookbook Coming Soon!

Congregation Beth Shalom is putting together something special, and which everyone can contribute to. We are going to create a CBS Cookbook.

More than a cookbook, we want to make it special and personal. We are looking for your Jewish recipes or related recipes. But more than a list of ingredients and directions, we want the story behind the recipe. We want this to be a book of memories as well as food.

If you have a favorite recipe that was given to you from a friend or a relative, we would like you to provide a short story on who that person was or how you got the recipe or what memories that recipe brings you.

We want to compile as many of these recipes or stories you have from all our members.

Don't have a recipe? Reach out to friends and relatives and ask them, then write a short intro on which you got this from. Have a great story but don't have the recipe, perhaps we can find it.

This cookbook will be compiled with pictures and be produced professionally; we are projecting a November deadline. Hopefully it will become a treasured book for everyone.

For more information or to email your recipe and story, contact all4suzie@gmail.com.

State of the Congregation. Given by Gerald Pliner, acting president, at the annual meeting on May 19, 2019

(Edited for brevity in *The Kibbitzer*)

About 5 months ago we received a resignation letter from our then president, Ricki Bauman. As a result, I became your Acting President. So first, let me thank all those who placed their confidence in me to take on this responsibility. And thank you very much, Ricki, for heading-up our congregation at what certainly was a very difficult time for both you and us. As you may recall, when Ricki was installed, we had no rabbi and we did not know how much longer it would be before we had the good fortune to find one.

Thankfully, good fortune turned our way and due to the tireless efforts of Sheila Fishman, Sheila Slavkin, Toby Koch, Dave Friedman and so many others, we finally did strike gold. And while we were very busy prospecting, Ricki and others conducted services, led Bible and Bagels and did a myriad of other duties that somehow kept us going. Let me also thank the following people whom I could always rely on for help and advice: My executive committee-- Toby Koch, Dave Friedman, Sheila Fishman, and Allan Weber; Mitch and Susan Baylis, Anna Steve Feldman and our solicitor and next president Jon Ellis.

During this time period, our cantorial soloist, Sandy Santucci continued on the bema while we were seeking a new Rabbi, helping bring a sense of regularity to our ritual services. Sandy, thanks for all you do, and for all you have done! And congratulations again for your so-well-deserved "Woman of Distinction" award! Let me also thank Cantor Moshe Friedler for heading up many of our ritual ceremonies last year, especially our High Holidays services, along with tireless support from Sandy who did a wonderful job assisting him.

We now have a wonderful new Rabbi to lead us into a bright and most promising future. Thank you so very much, Rabbi Bryan, for accepting the position of our senior Rabbi and thank you for all you have done to bring this synagogue back to its position of our beloved second home and spiritual sanctuary.

Let me now focus on a few positives which, for the most part, occurred while I was acting President: The first one on my list is a to express a really big debt of gratitude to Sheila Fishman, who has done so much for our temple during these trying times. In addition to guiding us so successfully in recruiting a new Rabbi, she also picked up the heavy reins of our religious school and saw to it that we had a great cadre of dedicated teachers and assistants, so let me thank each and every member of our religious school staff for all of their tireless efforts on behalf of our precious children! Sheila also serves as our board secretary, helping us in setting our agenda, conducting our meetings and keeping things running smoothly.

Second, thank you so much, Mitch and Suzie Baylis and the members of the fundraising committee for your unselfish and devoted service to our temple. They have conducted so many events, but the first one that comes to mind since I have been president was our "Red Carpet Gala – Salute to our Hero's" which turned out to be a huge success. My thanks go out to them and to the many other people who worked so hard to make our "Salute" event so special. And let's not forget the Murder Mystery Dinner, the Bark Mitzvah, the Vendor Fairs and the other fairs we attended to get our name out in the community. Many thanks to everyone who helped with these important events. Mitch and Suzie also continue to keep our facility well-repaired, maintained, safe and beautiful, with help from our others, of course. Thanks to everyone who assisted in making our temple a place of which we can be proud and at which we can feel safe.

By the way, we have joined the Riverview Chamber of Commerce in the hope that we will have a greater presence in the area. A special word of appreciation also goes out to Alan Weiss and "Fuzz" Stockelman for the repairs they generously made to the building. Of course, safety, especially on many Sunday mornings, does come at an additional cost, and we do have several safety, maintenance and repair issues which will still need to be addressed professionally, especially our leaking roof. More about those matters later.

The Purim Spiel was a real hoot this year thanks to the tireless efforts

of Michael Lubin and the many players, including our Rabbi, and helpers who reminded us about the importance of the holiday and kept us laughing in the isles. Thanks so much to all who participated and, of course, we really appreciate all of those great hamentashen bakers. I'm so pleased that our membership committee, under the leadership of Gail Verlin and Judith Pliner, has also come up with some plans to increase membership which we will be implementing. And thank you, Steve Slavkin, for your continuing efforts as Chair of the Ritual Committee. It's been a difficult time for this group with the loss of Rabbi Betsy, and it was most gracious of Steve and his group to carry the ball under such difficult circumstances. I'm glad we could provide substitute leaders for our many ritual services and that we were also able to adjust our Kashrut policies in a way that hopefully pleases most of our congregants.

It was very gracious of Janice Perelman to chair the Lifelong Learning Committee for the second time. The recent "Celebration of Goodness" event featuring Professor Howard Kerner was well-attended and very interesting and informative. I know Janice has a lot more ideas up her sleeves and we're all looking forward to what she and her committee comes up with for the rest of the year. And thank you, Joan Frankel, for your beautiful piano accompaniments at our services and for all your efforts with our wonderful Kolot Shalom choir, especially "Shabbat Alive" and you're working with Jeff Newman and Lauren Weisman on the annual cabaret.

We have a Men's Club again thanks to the noble efforts of Seth Dugan and Michael Barnet. A big thank you goes out to them and while I'm at it, let me thank Michael again, and Dave Friedman for all of their hard work in making our recent synagogue Passover Seder a tremendous success. Our Seder could not have happened without the help of our BESTY group and their advisors, Steve Birnholz and Andrea Chassen. Steve and Andrea, you've been doing a great job of keeping out BESTY group active with so many activities. And thank you again, rabbi, for conducting such a meaningful Passover Seder. While we're on Passover, let me also thank Phyllis Newman, Sheila Fishman and Julie Enszer for putting on another wonderful Woman's Seder, now called a "Seder from a Woman's Perspective."

A final thanks to all our board members, including our Treasurer Allan Webber, who took on this responsibility at a difficult time, our vice-presidents and members at large, and our other chairpersons: Christine Stockelman for Caring, Anna Feldman, Judith Pliner and Susan Reckner for coordinating our onegs, Judy Jacobson for "Dinner With The Tribe", Jan Golden and Sheila Slavkin for Interfaith/Outreach, Ricki Bauman for Library and Phyllis Newman for Page Turners. Also a special thanks to a wonderful person and a great administrator, Jenny Allen, who has been doing a really terrific job for us in the front office. Also let us not forget our member at Central Park, Anita Hoffman, who appreciates very much those visits from congregants.

Well, that's the good news. Currently there are additional costs we have concerning our leaking roof, safety on Sunday mornings for the children and some professional maintenance and repair work that's needed. Unfortunately, the money we took in from dues, tuition, fees and fundraising was insufficient to cover all of our expenses, which is not unusual. As a result, we will end this year and the next year with a substantial deficit. There are several ways of bringing in additional funding which will be explored in the coming days by the board, but in the meantime, the Rabbi will be calling members to explore the possibility of raising additional funds to cover our projected shortfall. I sincerely hope you will be open to considering an additional commitment to the future of our temple if you can afford it.

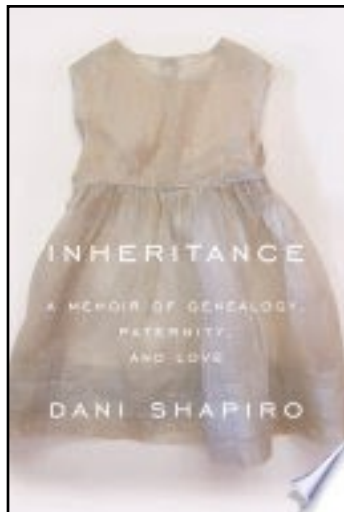
There is not enough space here to list everyone who contributed to the success of our synagogue under my tenure. Therefore, I want to take this opportunity to thank those who served our temple in any capacity, whether it was leading a service or project, setting up or cleaning up before or after an oneg or special event, serving on a committee or attending a ritual service or special event. Whatever you did for our temple, we appreciate very much your dedication. Without you our synagogue would not be the wonderful place it is! Thank you!

PAGE TURNERS

Monday, July 15, at 6 p.m., Page Turners will meet to discuss *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love*, by Dani Shapiro.

In the spring of 2016, through a genealogy website to which she had whimsically submitted her DNA for analysis, Dani Shapiro received the stunning news her father was not her biological father. She woke up one morning and her entire history—the life she had lived—crumbled beneath her.

Inheritance is a book about secrets—secrets within families, kept out of shame or self-protectiveness; secrets we keep from one another in the name of love. It is the story of a woman's urgent quest to unlock the story of her own identity, a story that has been scrupulously hidden from



her for more than 50 years, years she had spent writing brilliantly, and compulsively, on themes of identity and family history. It is a book about the extraordinary moment we live in—a moment in which science and technology have outpaced not only medical ethics but also the capacities of the human heart to contend with the consequences of what we discover.

Dani Shapiro is the author of the memoirs *Hourglass*, *Still Writing*, *Devotion*, and *Slow Motion* and five novels including *Black & White* and *Family History*. Also an essayist and a journalist, Shapiro's short fiction, essays, and journalistic pieces have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *Tin House*, *One Story*, *Elle*, *Vogue*, *O*, *The Oprah Magazine*, *The New York Times Book Review*, the op-ed pages of the *New York Times*, and many other publications. She has taught in the writing programs at Columbia, NYU, the New School, and Wesleyan University; she is cofounder of the Sirenland Writers Conference in Positano, Italy. She lives with her family in Litchfield County, Connecticut.

Sheila Fishman will be providing a light dinner that evening. If you plan to attend, please contact her at 813-833-7843 or gold17@verizon.net.

Congregation Beth Shalom - Donation Form

At times of sorrow & memory, as well as at times of joy, tradition teaches us that we honor others by giving of tzedakah. Please return your completed donation form to the temple office.

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- | |
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"Tzedakah weighs as much as all the other commandments combined" - Talmud
 Congregation Beth Shalom 706 Bryan Rd. Brandon, FL 33511 813-681-6547

KOLOT SHALOM NOTES

Greetings everyone!

I have been released from my captivity. I sang my part for the cabaret and Jeff and Lauren graciously released me. (Hope you read Jeff's previous column to understand this fun turn of events.)

Meanwhile, I would truly like to congratulate Lauren Weisman and Jeff Newman for producing our latest Cabaret, **THE BEAT GOES ON**, a 70's theme. If you didn't attend, you missed a great show. It was a performance based on a variety show format, beginning with the Sonny and Cher Duo. Gosh, they were great!

A big round of applause to the cast: **Jeff Newman, Lauren Fleishman, Sandy Santucci, Cynthia Goldstein, Judy Lubin, Michael Lubin, Steve Feldman, Milt Newman, Jodi Olshina, and Joan Frankel.**

Meanwhile, Kolot Shalom will be on a break for the summer. However, we will be back at work at the end of August to prepare for the High Holy Days. **NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.** If you like to sing and you've performed in school choirs or in street corner quartets, please think about joining us. You'll love the fun and inspiration of this close group.

All the best to everyone for a very happy and healthy summer!

*Shalom,
Joan E. Frankel*

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Congregation Beth Shalom accepts donations for many purposes, with a variety of opportunities for donors to support the good works of the Temple. You may contact the office either by phone or email to make a contribution, or head to our website to make a secure online payment through a PayPal account or by using a credit card.

Funds:

- **General Fund** (unrestricted): An unrestricted gift to the General Fund allows the temple to use those funds wherever they may be needed most. This fund incorporates contributions received from our High Holy Day Appeal, Yahrzeit donations, Bricklets, Adopt-A-Book, Tree of Life (unless otherwise indicated) and other non-restricted gifts.
- **Building Fund:** A fund to ensure the continuing physical growth of our spiritual home. Intended for capital improvements and major building repairs.
- **Endowment Fund:** Gifts to this fund are placed in an investment account and temporarily restricted or can be defined/restricted by the donor. This fund ensures the future of our temple.
- **Religious School Scholarship Fund:** These funds will be made available to Religious School students who are in need of tuition assistance, as determined confidentially by the Treasurer.
- **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:** a fund for assistance to families in need, scholarship assistance, interfaith council, Holocaust museum and other endeavors at the Rabbi's discretion.
- **Youth Group Fund:** a fund that supports the ongoing engagement of post b'nai mitzvah youth, providing meaningful and fun experiences for our teens, and keeping them connected to their Jewish community.

If you wish to designate a gift to a particular purpose, for example, Food Bank, Choir, Oneg, Social Action, etc., you may do so by noting as such on your payment method or with an accompanying note; otherwise, your gift will be used where it is needed most.

Opportunities:

- **Adopt-A-Book:** A dedication label will be placed in one of our prayer books, to commemorate a simcha or in honor or memory of a loved one for just \$54.
- **Bricklets:** For as little as \$9 you can send a Bricklet Card instead of buying a card for birthdays, condolences, etc. A Bricklet Card in your name will be sent to the person you wish stating that a donation has been made in his or her name to Beth Shalom to honor the occasion.
- **Tree of Life:** The Tree of Life is on the back wall of our Sanctuary. An engraved leaf or stone can commemorate many simchas, b'nai mitzvah, wedding, birth, graduations, etc. Leaves are \$180, and stones are \$1800.
- **Yahrzeit Plaque:** To honor the death of a loved one, you may purchase a plaque that will be cared for in perpetuity for \$350. The name of the deceased along with their date of death is included on the plaque.

*Unless otherwise noted by you, your gift will be acknowledged in The Kibbitzer the month following its receipt.
If your donation is incorrectly listed or omitted, please notify the temple office immediately.*

Donations listed below were received between April 16 and May 15.

GENERAL FUND

In Loving Memory of Sylvia Pliner
Judith & Gerry Pliner

In Loving Memory of Marilyn G. Rowen
Judith & Gerry Pliner

In Loving Memory of Helene T. Ponemon
The Ponemon Family

In Loving Memory of Paul Goldstein
Judith & Gerry Pliner

In Loving Memory of Simon Freedman
Dave & Carole Anne Friedman

In Loving Memory of Bernie Friedman
Dave & Carole Anne Friedman

In Loving Memory of Anna Kobler
Stephen & Anna Feldman

BRICKLET

To Jeff Goodman, Get Well Soon!
Sheila and Errol Fishman

YOUTH GROUP FUND

**With thanks for making a lovely Passover Seder
for CBS**
Anita Clifford

BUILDING FUND

In Loving Memory of Samuel Lifschitz
Gabriel Lifschitz

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Donation
Joan Frankel





Birthdays

6/2	Jada Borgen
6/2	Zohar Elazer
6/3	Kim Smoak
6/4	Gail Verlin
6/4	Karen Weber
6/4	Joseph Ellis
6/5	Tiffany Feldman
6/8	Paul Cantrell
6/9	Joseph Smoak
6/10	Caren Magdovitz
6/10	Kenneth Peterson
6/11	Mathew Billor
6/11	Andrew Swedlow
6/12	Sandy Santucci
6/14	Micah Dugan
6/16	Jacob Garbett
6/19	Jared Peterson
6/23	Lee Schwartz
6/23	Stephanie Ferry
6/23	Petie Maguire
6/24	Michael Verlin
6/24	Lisa Cantrell
6/25	Davina Feldman
6/25	Sheryl Finke
6/26	Isabel Ellis

Anniversaries



6/6	Diane & Peter Jacobson
6/11	William & Jackie Kalbas
6/12	Joe & Carole Plesur
6/14	Steve & Sheila Slavkin
6/20	David & Rudina Richter
6/25	Jan & Bill Golden
6/25	Alan & Rita Tiller



Yahrzeits

6/1	Betty	Armus	Mother	of	Sheila	Fishman
6/2	Ralph	Pitchon	Father	of	Scott	Pitchon
6/5	Harry	Goldberg	Father	of	David	Goldberg
6/7	Anita	Bortson	Cousin	of	Carol	Wagner
6/8	Hyman	Strauss	Father	of	J.E.	MacNaughton
6/8	Louis	Silverstein	Husband	of	Blossom	Grimm Silverstein
6/8	Virginia	Bauman	Mother	of	Ricki	Bauman
6/9	Susana	Blake	Friend	of	Kathryn	Kepes
6/9	Jack	Lubin	Father	of	Michael	Lubin
6/10	Clara	Shienbaum	Mother	of	Marvin	Shienbaum
6/12	George	Barron Huber	Father	of	MarDee	Buchman
6/15	Robert	Hirshenson	Father	of	Steve	Billor
6/16	Susan	Surloff	Mother	of	Gayle	Borgen
6/16	Rose	Friedman	Grandmother	of	Dave	Friedman
6/18	David	Edelson	Grandfather	of	Joel	Edelson
6/19	Rose	Edelson	Mother	of	Joel	Edelson
6/23	Oliver	Workman	Father	of	Anna	Feldman
6/24	Debbie	Jacob	Sister	of	Jeffrey	Jacob
6/25	Irwin	Shaw	Cousin	of	Toby	Koch
6/25	Ed	Bang	Friend	of	Bill	Kalbas
6/28	Renee	Epstein	Mother	of	Fred	Epstein
6/29	Rose	Steinberg	Grandmother	of	Joanne	Ronay
6/29	Mary	Finkelstein	Great Aunt	of	Joanne	Ronay
6/29	Moses	Finkelstein	Great Uncle	of	Joanne	Ronay

Simchat Shabbat!

Come celebrate your birthday or anniversary with us! A special Shabbat service is held every month to honor all our joys for that month. For this month it will be:

June 21

The dates listed for the Yahrzeits are adjusted yearly according to the Jewish Calendar and may not necessarily coincide with the common date of death. Names are read for Kaddish at the Shabbat before the actual date. If you would like to have the common date listed, please contact the temple office.

Want to advertise in *The Kibbitzer*?

Ad Size	Monthly Rate	10% Discounted (Annual only)
Bus. Card	\$20	\$216
1/4 page	\$40	\$432
1/2 page	\$50	\$540
Full page	\$75	\$810

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Babysitters

Contact the temple office for a list of available babysitters. Contact information, qualifications and transportation details are available for each sitter. We will not publish information about our younger members online due to privacy concerns.



ATTENTION! We send *The Kibbitzer* out online. This change has been made to help decrease one of our expenses at Beth Shalom.

However, if you prefer receiving your *Kibbitzer* via the US Mail, please call the Temple at (813) 681-6547 or e-mail the Temple (cbs-admin@hotmail.com) to tell us you **do not** want to get your *Kibbitzer* online. Please help Beth Shalom cut its expenses and receive your *Kibbitzer* sooner.



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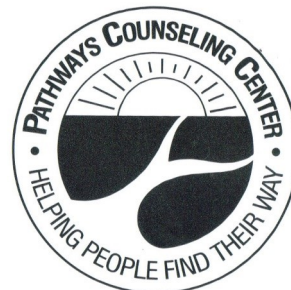
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Rabbi Out	3 Rabbi Out	4 Rabbi Out 6:30 PM Active Shooter Class 7 PM Board Mtg	5 Rabbi Out Fundraising Mtg 6:30	6	7 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service-Installation of New Board Members	8 Erev Shavuot Tikun Leil Shavuot - "All Night" Shavuot Learning session 7 PM - 10 PM
9 Shavuot Sunrise Service @ Apollo Beach 6:30 AM	10 Shavuot	11	12	13	14 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service Kibbitzer Deadline	15
16 Fathers Day	17	18	19	20 5 PM Dinner with the Tribe (Macaroni Grill)	21 7:30 PM Simcha Shabbat Service—led by Sheila Fish- man	22 Cruise Show & Wine Tasting
23	24	25	26 6:30PM Lifelong Learning Meet- ing.	27	28 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service	29 10AM Taste of Tanach
30 3 PM Let's Chat, followed by Din- ner with the Tribe						

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Inside Scoop

<i>Membership</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Life Long Learning</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Youth Group</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Religious School</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Page Turners</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Kolot Shalom</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Calendar</i>	<i>15</i>

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