

# The Kibbitzer

**Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon**

706 Bryan Road, Brandon, FL 33511

Phone (813) 681-6547

[www.BethShalom-Brandon.org](http://www.BethShalom-Brandon.org)

August 2023 Volume 34 Issue 3



Raphael Abecassis Original Lithograph – King David

A masterful work of art, this colorful lithograph is inspired by the legacy of King David, with a large harp in the center decorated with a beautiful representation of the Holy City of Jerusalem and inscribed with words of praise in the center.

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## From the Rabbi's desk...



Tisha B'Av, the ninth day of the month of Av (which this year was July 27<sup>th</sup>), is an annual fast day in Judaism. This day comes after a three-week mourning period in which a number of disasters have occurred to the Jewish people. The major commemoration is of the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem in 586 B.C.E. and 70 C.E., respectively.

There are Five Tragedies that have been said to have occurred on this day:

1. Moses broke the tablets when he saw the Jewish people worshipping the Golden Calf.
2. During the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem, the Jews were forced to cease offering the daily sacrifices due to the lack of sheep.
3. Apostomos burned the holy Torah.
4. An idol was placed in the Holy Temple
5. The walls of Jerusalem were breached by The Romans in 69 C.E. after a lengthy siege.

There are prayers and special Torah readings that we do to commemorate this time. Abstaining from food and drink is the external element of a fast day. On a deeper level, a fast day is an auspicious day, a day when G-d is accessible, waiting for us to repent.

The sages explain: "Every generation for which the Temple is not rebuilt, it is as though the Temple was destroyed for that generation." A fast day is not only a sad day, but an opportune day. It's a day when we are empowered to fix the cause of that destruction, so that our long exile will be ended, and we will find ourselves living in messianic times; may that be very soon.

The Fast of Tisha B'av joy is tempered, and spiritual sensitivity is heightened, as we recall the tragedies of the past.

B' Shalom,  
Rabbi Lefkowitz

[www.myjewishlearning.com](http://www.myjewishlearning.com)

[www.chabad.org](http://www.chabad.org)





# The President's Corner



Steve Billor

Shalom Everybody

We recently had our annual Beth Shalom meeting filled with a variety of things to address. We approved the budget for the upcoming year, as well as voting on and welcoming Neil Spindel to the Board of Directors as our new Secretary. Neil is very excited about getting more involved and helping us move forward. We also presented Sandy Santucci with a plaque and a small token of our appreciation, thanking her for the 30 plus years of service to Congregation Beth Shalom.

In addition, I gave a refresher course in “Active Shooter” or how do we manage a crisis during a religious event. At the end of our meeting, we shmoozed while partaking in ice cream sundaes and other sweets. It was a nice day interacting with everyone.

I think the summer months put a squeeze on our schedules and Beth Shalom attendance will fluctuate, but as always, we all come back refreshed and ready to pray together as the Beth Shalom family. As we get closer and closer to our High Holidays, please prepare and pencil it in on your schedule to join us for the 10 days of Awe. I always ask you to join in on Friday nights and other events to keep your Jewish Spirituality alive and kicking, but the High Holidays are always so very special.

As always, please pass on ideas that you might have to make our Synagogue a better place. We are always looking for ways to improve and make your religious experience more fulfilling.

Todah Rabah (Thank you very much) for being a part of the Beth Shalom Family and your time in reading this article.

Steve Billor



# Candle Lighting Times

<b>Friday, August 4</b>	<b>7:59 PM</b>
<b>Friday, August 11</b>	<b>7:54 PM</b>
<b>Friday, August 18</b>	<b>7:47 PM</b>
<b>Friday, August 25</b>	<b>7:40 PM</b>



## Oneg Schedule

### August Sponsors

*There can be no joy without food and drink.*

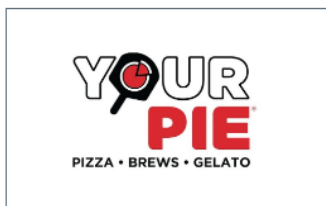
Talmud, Mo'ed Katan

<b>August 4</b>	Susan Rifkin	In Memory of her mother, Eunice Rifkin
<b>August 11</b>	CBS Congregation	Please bring a dish to share
<b>August 18</b>	CBS Congregation	Please bring a dish to share
<b>August 25</b>	CBS Congregation	Please bring a dish to share

**If you'd like to sponsor an oneg, please call  
Judith Pliner at (856)816-2174**

# Restaurant Discounts for AARP Members

These are just a sample of the restaurant discounts available for AARP Members. To get the coupons, sign into your account at [AARP.org](http://AARP.org) and look under member benefits.



Your Pie 0.92 mi  
\$5 off purchase of \$25 or more.



Hungry Howie's Pizza 0.98 mi  
Free large pizza with purchase of same of equal or greater value at regular menu price.



Papa John's® 1.57 mi  
25% off online orders at regular menu price when the order is placed at [www.papajohns.com](http://www.papajohns.com) or through...  
**1 More Offer**



Keith's Oaks Bar & Grill 2.2 mi  
50% off single menu item.  
**1 More Offer**



Marco's Pizza 2.39 mi  
Free pizza with purchase of same of equal or greater value.



Papa John's® 2.4 mi  
20% off regular menu price online orders.  
**1 More Offer**



Hungry Howie's Pizza 2.49 mi  
Free large pizza with purchase of same of equal or greater value at regular menu price.



Pretzelmaker 2.77 mi  
Free order of medium pretzel bites with purchase of same of equal or greater value.  
**2 More Offers**



Tijuana Flats 3.23 mi  
10% off Entree.



Beef 'O' Brady's 3.52 mi  
\$5 off purchase of \$30 or more.  
**1 More Offer**



Acropolis Greek Taverna  
9.9 mi  
15% off the entire check.

# What Happened to the Canaanites?

DNA study links ancient Canaanites to their modern descendants

By Robin Ngo, June 15, 2023 in [BiblicalArcheology.org](https://biblicalarcheology.org)



What happened to the Canaanites? DNA sequencing was conducted on five skeletons from Canaanite Sidon, including this one. The results indicate that there is a "genetic continuity" between the Canaanites at Sidon and the modern Lebanese. Photo: Courtesy of Claude Doumet-Serhal.

What happened to the Canaanites? Researchers conducted DNA sequencing on ancient Canaanite skeletons and have determined where the Canaanites' descendants can be found today.

The Canaanites were a Semitic-speaking cultural group that lived in Canaan (comprising Lebanon, southern Syria, Israel and Transjordan) beginning in the second millennium B.C.E. and wielded influence throughout the Mediterranean.

In the Hebrew Bible, the Canaanites are described as inhabitants of Canaan before the arrival of the Israelites (e.g., Genesis 15:18–21, Exodus 13:11). Little of the Canaanites' textual records remain, perhaps because they used papyrus instead of the more durable clay for writing. Much of the Canaanites' history is reconstructed through the writings of contemporary peoples in addition to archaeological examinations of the material record.

Marc Haber, Claude Doumet-Serhal, Christiana Scheib and a team of 13 other scientists recently published their DNA findings in *The American Journal of Human Genetics* (*AJHG*). The researchers sequenced the genomes of five individuals who were buried in the Canaanite city of Sidon in Lebanon around 1700 B.C.E. as well as the genomes of 99 individuals from Lebanon today.

The results of their study demonstrated a connection: "We show that present-day Lebanese derive most of their ancestry from a Canaanite-related population, which therefore implies substantial genetic continuity in the Levant since at least the Bronze Age," wrote the researchers in *AJHG*.

At the dawn of the second millennium B.C.E., the site was covered by a thick layer of deliberately cleaned sand between 3 and 4.6 feet deep, brought from the nearby seashore. This "purifying" activity must have taken weeks of hard labor. At this point Sidon became a burial site. To date, 142 burials have been found in this sand and in subsequent layers on top of it dating until around 1500 B.C.E. A funerary feasting tradition took place at the time of burial. High-ranking individuals were buried with objects indicating their power, rank and reputation, such as a Minoan cup (1984–1859 B.C.E.) from Phaistos, Crete, which was found inverted, as was the common Aegean practice.

The DNA study conducted on the skeletons from Sidon is part of the researchers' larger effort to understand population histories in the Levant.

"Many of our inferences rely on the limited number of ancient samples available, and we are only just beginning to reconstruct a genetic history of the Levant or the Near East as thoroughly as that of Europeans who, in comparison, have been extensively sampled," the researchers wrote in *AJHG*.





# CBS Business

## Shabbat Services

Meeting ID: 897 3400 8923  
Password: 770549

Our Shabbat services will take place Friday Nights at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary as well as online. Our livestream feed is available on Zoom and Facebook. For outdoor services, the Zoom link will not work, so please sign in to Facebook. Join us in the celebration of Shabbat and you are welcome to like, comment, and share.

We established a new Zoom link. You will be able to login from our weekly eNews. The process has not changed, just the link. For your information here is the new link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89734008923?pwd=WEtGZXN1UVVNMOlCa3BoTzJyZUcoUTo9>

We are glad that you enjoy our shabbat services and hope to see you on the Zoom screen this Friday.

Facebook Information for Shabbat Service:  
<https://www.facebook.com/BethShalomBrandon/>



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To reserve your place in the next issue, e-mail John Zelatis at

[jzelatis@zomesa.com](mailto:jzelatis@zomesa.com) or call the

CBS office at

813-681-6547.

## CBS Office Hours

The administrative office is currently open by appointment only. We can be reached at [cbs-brandon@outlook.com] and 813-681-6547 or you may contact Rabbi Lefkowitz directly at 407-222-6393 or [rlefkowi@bellsouth.net](mailto:rlefkowi@bellsouth.net). Rabbi Lefkowitz will be available for in person meetings on Fridays. Call him at 407-222-6393 to schedule an appointment.



Although our hours are limited, we are always here for you. Do not hesitate to reach out with any needs, concerns or questions.

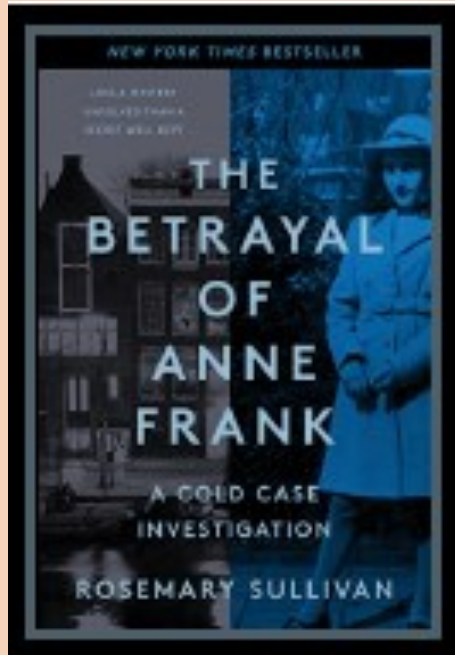
## SHARE A MAZEL TOV!

Do you have a family member, friend, spouse or congregant you would like to wish Mazel Tov to in our Kibbitzer? You can send an email to [thekibbitzer@hotmail.com](mailto:thekibbitzer@hotmail.com) with their name and accomplishment, engagement or birth. It's important during these times to see the good in our community.





# PAGE TURNERS



**AUGUST 21**  
THE LINK WILL BE SENT AT A LATER DATE

# Dinner With The Tribe



Anita Clifford

## The Columbia



Columbia Restaurant  
Don Quixote Room  
2117 E 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33605

**Sunday,  
August 27  
at 7:30 PM**

The Columbia in Ybor City is the oldest restaurant in Florida. It is truly a treasure in every way. The food is consistent and worth every bite. Their famous 1902 salad is a must. The steaks, mussels, and fish dishes are all heavenly. Sangria is made at the table. Everything is fresh. Every dish is special. The service is always excellent. The Don Quixote room is historic and beautiful. The Columbia is a must! Period! Please be sure to let me know if you're coming because the Don Quixote room has a limit of 15 people. Anita at [niewdnarb@yahoo.com](mailto:niewdnarb@yahoo.com)

# Building and Grounds



Gabe Lifschitz

There are several small projects around the temple that require just to purchase the equipment or materials, and could use a couple of hands to complete. With the summer now upon us, if you have a few hours available, or know a friend who is handy and can spend a few hours helping, please send me a note at:

[cbs-building@outlook.com](mailto:cbs-building@outlook.com)

The projects the temple could use help are below:

- \* Replacing exhaust fans in bathrooms.
- \* Replacing an exterior security light on the south wall.
- \* Replace the air conditioning compressor for the large unit.
- \* Repair or replace the gutter on the south wall.
- \* Clearing around the perimeter for invasive plants
- \* Place an ethernet connector on the ceiling in the sanctuary to connect an internet router.

Thank you!

Gabriel Lifschitz



# Building and Grounds

The Building and Grounds committee is responsible for maintaining the temple and property in good condition for those who seek to attend Shabbat services, high holiday services, religious schooling, and Jewish learning. We make the building especially attractive to hold Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, weddings, or other events. The committee has the tasks below:

- Assess the health of the temple.
- List maintenance and repair work.
- Maintain the grounds and prepare for outdoor events as needed.
- Budget for maintenance and repair work for the entire fiscal year.
- Schedule and bring volunteers together to clear the grounds, repair fences, and do minor repairs inside the building that can be managed by members with handy skills.
- Review and recommend contract work for building services and repairs that require skilled expertise such as fire protection, air conditioning, security, surveillance, electrical, water, and waste disposal systems.
- Ensure that skilled work is completed in time and properly at a cost that is competitive and of excellent value to the congregation.
- Report to the Board and congregation the status of items that require immediate attention to fix.
- Plan for long-term replacement of expensive systems such as air conditioning, or painting.

The committee has been effective in avoiding expensive work by researching options to fix long-term problems. One example was to clean the entire ceiling after the new roof was replaced. The entire ceiling was covered in rusted steel and dust. One contractor quoted more than \$11,000 to treat the removal as if it were asbestos.

You may send questions, comments, or make recommendations for improvements to:

**[cbs-building@outlook.com](mailto:cbs-building@outlook.com)**

## The Building and Grounds Committee could use your skills and help.

There are several small projects around the temple that require equipment or materials to complete. A couple of extra hands would be appreciated. With the summer now upon us, if you have a few hours available, or know a friend who is handy and can spend a few hours helping, please send me a note at: [cbs-building@outlook.com](mailto:cbs-building@outlook.com)

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# Rabbi Sacks on 'The Politics of Hope'

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, of blessed memory, (1948-2020) was a religious leader, Life Peer in the United Kingdom's House of Lords, philosopher, theologian, author, and a global voice for faith and morality.



*In this series of six whiteboard animation videos to be published online in 2018, Rabbi Sacks takes a look at some of the key challenges facing our global society today. Each seeks to use some of key ideas contained in much of Rabbi Sacks writings over the past 30 years, but present these ideas in a dynamic and engaging way. Learn more about the series in [Whiteboard Animations](#).*

*In this first video, based on his book called '[The Politics of Hope](#)' published in 1997, Rabbi Sacks analyses the rise in the 'politics of anger' in the West today and explores whether it might be possible to create a different kind of politics: the 'politics of hope'.*

*Future videos will focus on: the dignity of difference, integrated diversity, the relationship between religion and science, understanding and confronting religious violence, and the ethics of responsibility.*

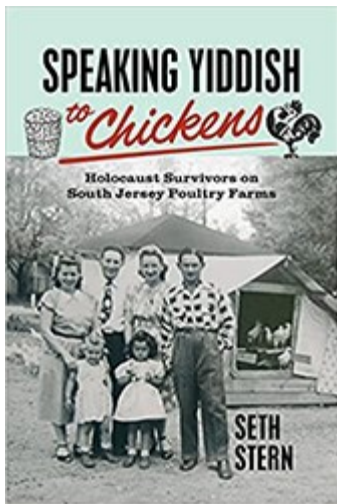
*Please note that this video contains subtitles in: Chinese, English, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish (please click on the 'Settings' button on the video-player to select your preferred language).*

*Rabbi Sacks said:*

*“Too often in recent years, the West has been preoccupied with the idea of power as opposed to the power of ideas. Throughout my life, I have been excited and inspired by ideas, and this is a challenge I have set myself and my team: how can we continue to present ideas – whether they are particular to Jews and Judaism or more universalistic in their appeal – in the most engaging and appealing ways. The whiteboard animation technique is one we have found to be a wonderful way of presenting concepts and ideas, particularly in an age of social media. I hope that this series will highlight some of the ideas I have thought most deeply about over the past 30 years, and present them to a new and younger generation in a dynamic and inspiring way.”*

**To watch the video presentation, copy and paste the following link into your browser.**

**<https://www.rabbisacks.org/videos/the-politics-of-hope/>**



# Speaking Yiddish to Chickens: Holocaust Survivors on South Jersey Poultry Farms

By Seth Stern

Review: Mark Welch—April 2023



Seth Stern has a deeply personal connection to the story he tells about the Jewish refugees, Holocaust survivors, and immigrants who settled in and around Vineland, New Jersey — once called the “Egg Basket of America” because it was there that poultry farming began. His grandmother was one of those immigrants, and Vineland was where his mother grew up.

Stern manages with deft prose and a light touch to link the refugee experience, the (recreation of community, the trans-plantation of traditions into a new context (some of which take root and some of which don’t), loss, and unexpected blessings. He uses individual stories and personal interviews to highlight the rich diversity of experience of what he calls “accidental farmers.” He mines oral histories, his own in person interviews, and impressive research to paint a portrait that is by turns touching and funny, mournful and solemn; it is almost like a Sholem Aleichem story, not least when it involves egg laying champion Meggi O’Day, a four-pound, single-comb leghorn who once laid 354 eggs in 357 days (as a point of interest, her owner, Gus Stern, had her stuffed when she died and put her on a pedestal above his TV). She is now at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia, PA.

But the *grine*—green-horns fresh off the boat — were not the first Jews in Vineland. There was already an established Jewish farming community, formed as early as the 1880s, when they arrived. Vineland had all that a small town needed: three synagogues, a kosher delicatessen run by Isadore Goldstein, kosher butchers (Wolder & Sons and Rosen’s), Kotok Hardware, and Silverman the Tailor. Most of these early arrivals were Russian Jews who had fled the pogroms and dreamed of building a new society. Few, however, welcomed the newcomers, who did not seem to be prepared or have the skills for an agricultural lifestyle.

As a result, the *grine* began to develop their own organizations, including smaller synagogues and, importantly, a *landsmanshaft*, which combined the functions of a mutual aid society, a social club, and a cultural center. They first called it the Vineland Area Poultry Farmers Farband (Yiddish for “association”), and it later became the Jewish Poultry Farmers Association.

Despite its unpromising beginning, the farband grew in strength and influence. It ran social events, such as dances and concerts, almost exclusively in Yiddish. And unlike most other rural Jewish communities, which shrank as their populations migrated to cities, Vineland flourished.

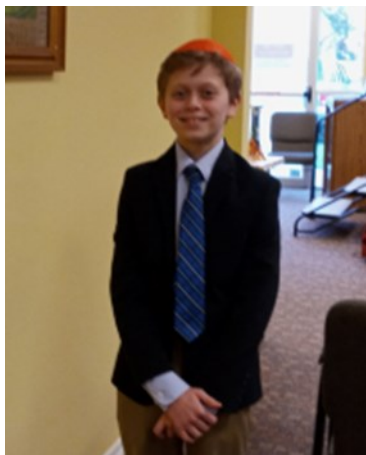
However, by the early 1960s, poultry farming was not so profitable, and the farmers began to drift away. It cannot be known for certain just how many chickens were waved overhead at High Holy Days — there would have been enough to go around — but it is clear that for a period of about fifteen years, the poultry farmers of Vineland created a vibrant Yiddish community, almost by accident. Now there is nearly nothing left.

Seth Stern has created a nuanced, sensitive, and even affectionate account of an important, albeit neglected, out-growth of the Jewish diaspora in North America. It will be of great interest to anyone who has a personal, social, or academic interest in the post-war period, oral history, and/or post-Holocaust immigration.





# Gabe Sernovitz Bar Mitzvah Celebration





**Senior Rabbi**

Robert Lefkowitz

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Steve Billor

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***The Kibbitzer***

Volume 34, Issue 1

Published Monthly by

Congregation Beth Shalom

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Brandon, FL 33511

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For current news and events

see the congregation's website:

<http://www.bethshalom-brandon.org>

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**Congregation Contacts**

813-681-6547 • CBS-brandon@outlook.com

**Office hours:**

By appointment.

Voicemails and emails will be monitored daily.

Office is closed on holidays

**Weekly Email Blast submissions****MEMBERSHIP**

*Becoming a partner in our congregation offers an opportunity for enduring friendships and a personal spiritual journey. A place in our Jewish community.*

*Members also have free access to many of our educational and entertainment events.*

# Our Congregation

## Yahrzeits July



7/4	Mimi	Evans	Aunt	Of	Alan	Weiss
7/5	Esther	Lubonne	Mother	Of	Carole	Plesur
7/6	Marjorie	Spindel	Mother	Of	Neil	Spindel
7/7	Phyllis	Linden	Mother	Of	Ron	Boyer
7/15	Deborah	Glickman	Mother	Of	Betsy	Glickman
7/18	Joseph	Gaba	Grandfather	Of	Leslie	Boyar
7/21	Lia	Lifschitz	Mother	Of	Gabriel	Lifschitz
7/25	Charlotte	Winter	Grandmother	Of	Gary	Ronay
7/29	Harry	Feldman	Father	Of	Myron	Feldman
7/30	Lilyan	Gould	Mother	Of	Sandra	Saviet

## August

7/4	Mimi	Evans	Aunt	Of	Alan	Weiss
7/5	Esther	Lubonne	Mother	Of	Carole	Plesur
8/10	Gerald	Besterman	Father	Of	Leslie	Boyar
8/15	Edith	Fink	Mother	Of	Felicia	Melcer
8/17	Richard	Glaser	Husband	Of	Barbara	Glaser
8/19	Martin	Reisner	Uncle	Of	Gary	Ronay
8/25	Elizabeth	Beckett	Grandmother	Of	Christine	Stockelman
8/27	Elinor	Smith	Mother	Of	Caren	Magdovitz
8/28	Herman	Finke	Father	Of	Mark	Finke
8/29	Isaac	Shienbaum	Father	Of	Marvin	Shienbaum

It is with profound sadness that we share the news of the death of Thelma Silber. Thelma was a member of CBS for a short time, however her extended family has been friends of the congregation for many years. The funeral is at Mount Lebanon Cemetery in Woodbridge NJ.

We offer our deep sympathy to Thelma's family.  
Zikhrohah Livrakha - may Thelma's memory be a blessing

# Our Congregation

## July

### Birthdays

7/8	Marshall	Melcer
7/11	Toby	Koch
7/12	Anita	Clifford
7/20	Lynn	Kaler
7/20	Janice	Sperry
7/23	Hannah	Howard

### Anniversaries

7/4	Paige & Seth Dugan
7/10	Sheryl & Mark Finke



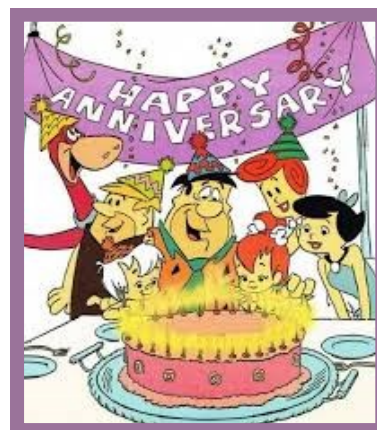
## August

8/9	Randy	Freedman
8/24	Dahlia	Howard

8/12	Marshall & Felicia Melcer
8/25	David & Carol Anne Friedman



Calvin and Hobbes  
By Bill Waterson





## **Committees/Chairpersons**

### **Building/Capital Fund**

Gerry Pliner

### **Finance**

Gerald Pliner

### **Fundraising**

Open

### **Life Long Learning**

Open

### **Strategic Planning**

Steve Feldman

### **Membership**

Judith Pliner

### **Caring Committee**

Judith Pliner

### **Oneg**

Open

### **Publicity**

Toby Koch

### **Ritual**

Toby Koch

### **Facility and Safety**

Gabe Lifschitz

### **Social Action**

Meral Ginsberg

### **Religious School**

Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz

Christine Stockelman

### **Eblast:**

Toby Koch and Carol Anne Friedman

### **Other Programs**

### **CBS Singles Over 50**

Anita Clifford

### **Chavurah**

Open

### **Dinner With the Tribe**

Anita Clifford

### **Kibbitzer Editor**

Lynn Kaler

### **Library**

Sandy Saviet

### **Men's Club**

Myron Feldman

### **Page Turners**

Toby Koch & Anna Feldman

### **Web Administrator**

Toby Koch

## **Got something to sell?**

What's better than a garage sale?

A CLASSIFIED AD IN THE KIBBITZER!

A 5-line add is just \$9 for members  
\$18 for non-members



## **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 7:00 PM
- ✧ Complete B'nai Mitzvah preparation
- ✧ Adult Education classes
- ✧ Community-wide events
- ✧ Community Food Bank

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# Donations

## In Memory:

Paul D. Goldstein  
 Marilyn G. Rowen  
 Judge Herbert Schwartz  
 Kate Verlin  
 Michael Plesur  
 Margi Spindel

Judith & Gerry Pliner  
 Judith & Gerry Pliner  
 Sandy Schwartz  
 Gail Verlin  
 Carole Plesur  
 Neil Spindel

## Donations:

Carol Anne & Dave Friedman  
 Jackie & Bill Kalbas  
 Toby Koch  
 Alan Weiss  
 Carol Roberts  
 Stephen Feldman  
 Anna & Steve Feldman  
 Valrico Spine and Rehab Center  
 Susan Reckner

## Temple Cleaning:

Jennifer & Steve Billor  
 Judy & Gerry Pliner  
 Neil Spindel  
 Lynn & Larry Kaler  
 Anna & Steve Feldman





## ADOPT A CLEANING MONTH



It is nice to come home to a clean house. CBS is our home. The cleaning crew does an excellent job.

They need to be paid monthly: \$400.00. For the 2023-2024 fiscal year we are looking for people who want to adopt a month of cleaning or even a partial donation is welcome. Steve Billor adopted June. Gerry Pliner adopted July and Neil Spindel adopted September. Pick a month and send the check marked cleaning or we can incorporate your donation into your dues commitment. Contact our treasurer Sandy Schwartz; [drsandy18@gmail.com](mailto:drsandy18@gmail.com)



Welcome to the PJ Library

# CARNIVAL!

Sunday, August 27 | 3:00 – 5:00 PM

In partnership with Congregation  
Beth Shalom Brandon

706 Bryan Road, Brandon FL 33511

Games, Prizes, Storytime, and Treats

**FREE EVENT for families!**

(PJ Library Friends • All Ages)

Register at

[PJLibrary.com/carnival](http://PJLibrary.com/carnival)



This event is generously supported by



Find us on Instagram  
at [tampajccf](https://www.instagram.com/tampajccf)



# Donations

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 contribute, 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 Rab-

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.

## 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.

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\$18\_\_\_\_\_ \$36\_\_\_\_\_ \$54\_\_\_\_\_ \$180\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Designated Fund:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund   | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Group Fund                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Endowment Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi's Discretionary Fund        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious School Scholarship Fund |

- ☐ My check is enclosed  
☐ Please bill me

***"Tzedakah weighs as much as all the other commandments combined" - Talmud***

Congregation Beth Shalom 706 Bryan Rd. Brandon, FL 33511 813-681-6547



# Selichot

It is customary during the High Holy Days to visit the graves of loved ones. This custom not only reminds us of the individuals on whose shoulders we now stand and helps us honor their memories, but also prompts us to think about our own lives and the legacies we will leave to others – kind words spoken, comfort offered, love given and received – which take on added meaning as we enter the High Holiday season. Please join Rabbi Lefkowitz on Sunday, September 10, at 10:00 AM, at the Hillsboro Memorial Funeral Home and Memorial Gardens.

For many Jews, the High Holiday season begins with [Rosh HaShanah](#) and the start of the new month of [Tishrei](#). Jewish tradition, however, teaches that the preceding month of [Elul](#) is a time of soul-searching and reflection to prepare oneself for the magnitude of the Days of Awe. It is during this time that we observe [Selichot](#) (also spelled *s'lichot*).

In the broadest definition, *selichot* are penitential prayers said before and during the High Holidays and other fast days throughout the year. But the term first appears as a reference to the biblical verses that were added to the [Yom Kippur](#) liturgy.

Eventually, the holiday prayers were combined with general prayers of repentance. The prayer book of *Rav Amram Gaon*, from the ninth century, for example, includes a collection of these poetic writings and meditations. While these prayers were initially only recited during the days between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur, the custom developed to use them in the days beforehand as well.

In Hebrew, *selichot* translates to “forgiveness,” and indeed there is an emphasis in these prayers on the merciful attributes with which God is said to govern the world.

In many ways, the prayers which make up the *Selichot* service mirror what we find on the Day of Atonement which follows soon after. The language of these qualities should sound familiar to anyone who has recited the liturgy throughout Yom Kippur when we speak about God’s ability to forgive “transgression, iniquity, and sin.”

We begin and end the season of repentance with the same words, calling out to the compassionate God who we hope will accept our prayers. The holiday itself occurs early in the month of Elul in Sephardic tradition, but on the Saturday evening just before Rosh HaShanah in Ashkenazi communities. Either way, prayers are read and meditations considered as individuals are encouraged to reflect on the past year and the changes they wish to make in the upcoming one.

ReformJudaism.org





# Social Action



The focus of the Social Action Committee for the past two years has been our monthly Food Bank. While many synagogues have affiliations with these community organizations, ours may be the only one in this area which runs this service, and with a partnership with our co-located church (Faith Family UCC).

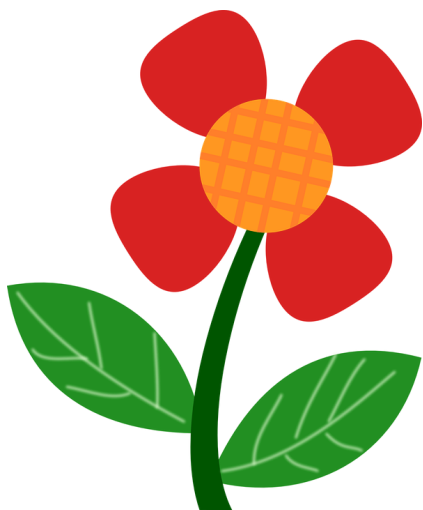
The Food Bank usually springs into action on the third Sunday of every month, currently serving thirty-five to forty families, including members of our synagogue and their friends. While most food banks distribute only food, ours also offers household cleaning products and personal items like soap, toothpaste, and dishwashing liquid. Our synagogue and church members contribute items for the food bank while other donations come from partnering agencies including ECHO and Jewish Family Services.

We regularly collect, sort, date, and store the many items donated. On distribution day our volunteers, including several high-schoolers, pack grocery bags and place them into the vehicles of those who come into our driveway between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. Our high schoolers earn college credit for their efforts.

Thanks to an extremely generous contribution of food from ECHO, for the next several months we are mainly in need of personal items and cleaning products rather than food. However, we could use more tuna and peanut butter.

Thanks so much to everyone who has helped us so generously with this valuable mitzvah, including our generous contributors and other supporters, without whom we could not run a monthly food bank.

Here is a listing and some pictures of our wonderful volunteers, with humble apologies to anyone we left out or whose name is mis-spelled: Julie Sheinbaum, Linda Guincho, Kay Thomas, Jill Glassgow, Anna and Stephen Feldman, Mark Finke, Pastor Edd Kostelnik, Jewel Alfaya, Wesley Weissenburger, Scot Kleinhanzl, Joe Ebbing, Peter Horstman, Sophia Oliveira, Lauren Kuykendall, Adam Blanchard, Erin Blanchard Eileen Schwartz, Sue Reckner



Thank You  
תודה רבה



# Food Bank Volunteers



# High Holiday Calendar

## HIGH HOLY DAYS CALENDAR

**Selichot** Saturday, September 9, 2023 7:00 PM

**Memorial Service** Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:00 AM  
Hillsboro Memorial Cemetery

### Rosh Hashanah

Erev Friday, September 15, 2023 7:00 PM  
Kiddush with apples/honey

RH Day 1 Saturday, September 16, 2023 10:00 AM  
After RH Service Day 1 -

Tashlikh Service Park 11:45 AM  
Lunch with the Tribe 12:30 PM  
Place - TBD

RH Day 2 Sunday, September 17, 2023 10:00 AM

Pancake Brunch After RH Service Day 2 11:45 AM

### Yom Kippur

Kol Nidre Sunday, September 24, 2023 7:00 PM

Yom Kippur Monday, September 25, 2023 10:00 AM

Yizkor Memorial Service 11:00 AM

Childrens' Service 3:30 PM

Yom Kippur Afternoon 4:00 PM

Ne'ilah 4:30 PM

Break the Fast After YK Service To follow

Build the Sukkah!

### Sukkot

Sukkot Service Friday, September 29, 2023 7:00 PM

Sukkot Wine & More Saturday, September 30, 2023 7:00 PM



# High Holiday Calendar pg 2

## Shemini Atzeret &

Friday, October 6, 2023

**NO Shabbat  
Evening  
Service**

## Simchat Torah

Kiddish Luncheon

Saturday, October 7, 2023  
Potluck Luncheon

10:00 AM  
11:45 AM

End of Sukkot

Saturday, October 7, 2023  
Sunday, October 8, 2023

10:00 AM

## Candle Lighting Times

### Rosh Hashanah

Friday, September 15	7:07 PM
Saturday, September 16	7:58 PM
Holiday Ends	
Sunday, September 17	7:57 PM



### Yom Kippur

Sunday, September 24	6:57 PM
Holiday Ends	
Monday, September 25	7:48 PM

### Sukkot

Friday, September 29	6:52 PM
Saturday, September 30	7:43 PM
Holiday Ends	
Sunday, October 1	7:42 PM



## Annual Memorial Service

It is customary during the High Holy Days to visit your loved ones at the cemetery. Please join Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz and your CBS Family on Sunday, September 10, at 10:00 AM at the Hillsboro Memorial Cemetery. There will be a brunch following the service in the main building.

# Time for a Nosh

I found a great idea for a Rosh Hashanah treat.



## Honey Hasselback Baked Apples with Brie

Busyinbrooklyn.com by Chani Apfelbaum

2 apples  
1/2 wheel of Natural & Kosher Cheese brie  
1 tbsp butter, melted  
1 tbsp honey

### Pecan Streusel

2 tbsp chopped pecans  
2 tbsp oats  
1 tbsp flour  
3 tbsp brown sugar  
1/8 tsp cinnamon  
1/8 tsp salt  
1 1/2 tbsp butter, softened

### Method:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Core the apples using an apple corer and cut the apples into 4 equal wedges. Cut slits in the apple wedges, taking care not to cut all the way through.

In a small bowl, mix the honey and melted butter. Stuff thin slices of brie in between the apple slices and brush with honey butter.

Bake, covered, for 15-20 minutes, until apples have softened.

In a bowl, combine the streusel ingredients. Spread the pecan streusel over the apples, stuffing it in between the slices. Return the apples to the oven (uncovered) and bake until the streusel is browned and crispy, 5-10 minutes.

Serve warm, with a drizzle of honey.

**PAREVE OPTION:** To make these pareve, leave out the brie and use margarine or coconut oil instead of the butter.



# August 2023

		1 6:30 PM Executive Board Mtg 7:00 PM Board Mtg	2	3 7:00 PM Learning with Rabbi 	4 7:00 PM Shabbat Service 	5
6	7	8	9	10 7:00 PM Learning with Rabbi 	11 7:00 PM Shabbat Service 	12
13	14	15	16	17 7:00 PM Learning with Rabbi 	18 7:00 PM Shabbat Service 	19
20 1:00 PM Food Bank 	21 6:00 PM Page Turners 	22	23	24 7:00 PM Learning with Rabbi 	25 7:00 PM Shabbat Service 	26
27 PJ Library 3 PM - 5 PM  DWTH Columbia 7:30	28	29	30	31 7:00 PM Learning with Rabbi 		