

BHBIRochester.org
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Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel

BULLETIN

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July President's Message

Friends,

As I wrote in my message last month, this past year we have invested significantly in repairs to our building: the roof, the kitchen, plumbing, etc. Clearly we need a functioning building if we are to hold services and continue as a congregation in our present location. But there is not just the physical building to worry about, there is also our spiritual foundation. And the basis of our spirituality as Jews is in our Torah scrolls.

Last fall, when reading from one of our several Torah scrolls on Simchat Torah, we discovered that the scroll had several damaged letters, rendering the scroll unfit for ritual use. It is therefore incumbent upon us to repair the Torah scroll so that it can once again be put to the noble use for which it was intended. Unfortunately, such repairs are not cheap! But with every challenge comes an opportunity. Many of you might not know it, but the last of the 613 mitzvot that we are traditionally bound to obey is that, during one's lifetime, everyone should write his own Sefer Torah. Now we all recognize that not everyone, indeed only a very few, has sufficient technical training to accomplish this mitzvah directly. Fortunately, our sages have provided means by which we can all fulfill this mitzvah without having to personally take quill to parchment. According to Halachipedia (yes, there is such a thing) the Rambam asserts that one can fulfill the mitzvah of writing one's own Torah by writing or fixing just one letter in a scroll. And one can do that by providing funding for a trained scribe to act on one's behalf. Therefore, to give everyone the opportunity to complete this particular mitzvah, we are setting up a special fund raising drive to finance the repair of our damaged Torah. Please consider a generous donation to this effort!

Would that there was another, 614th commandment, that everyone was obliged to build his own freezer (or other major kitchen appliance). Alas, the freezer in our kitchen has failed and is beyond repair. We thus need to purchase a new freezer, and the cost for that is only slightly less than repairing our Torah scroll. As you see, we have many financial needs, often unexpected, and we depend on the generosity of our members to make ends meet. But the best way to contribute to our congregation, and to ensure its future, is to come to services and to bring a friend!

With July upon us I hope you are enjoying the weather and getting outdoors and relaxing. And if the weather is not always nice, you can take refuge inside at the many films coming up during the Rochester Jewish Film Festival. See rjff.org for the schedule.

Shabbat Shalom,

Steve Teitel

Erev Tisha b'Av is on Saturday evening, July 21st and BHBI will be hosting our friends from Temple Beth Am, Temple Beth David and Temple Emanu-El that evening. We will be having Mincha at 7:30 pm followed by a light meal before Tisha b'Av begins. After sunset, we will read Eicha (the Book of Lamentations) and have a study session. Please join us!



BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – JULY 2018

Sunday	July 1	9:00 AM	Service and Discussion
Saturday	July 7	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Blessing of the New Month Torah: Pinchas
Sunday	July 8	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Monday	July 9	7:30 PM	BHBI Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday	July 13	7:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am (TBK Room 103)
Saturday	July 14	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Torah: Matot-Massei
Sunday	July 15	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Wednesday	July 18	7:30 PM	Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study at BHBI
Saturday	July 21	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Devarim
		7:30 PM	Joint BHBI - Beth Am - Beth David - Emanu-El Tisha b'Av Commemoration at BHBI
Sunday	July 22	9:00 AM	Service and Discussion
Saturday	July 28	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Va'etchanan
Sunday	July 29	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion

SHABBAT CANDLELIGHTING TIMES

Friday, July 6 – 8:34 PM
 Friday, July 13 – 8:31 PM
 Friday, July 20 – 8:26 PM
 Friday, July 27 – 8:19 PM

SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

Our next Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study session will be scheduled on Wednesday, July 18th at 7:30 p.m. at BHBI.

MAKE YOUR PURCHASES AT AMAZON.COM AND SUPPORT BHBI AT THE SAME TIME!

Why not contribute to BHBI while making on-line purchases? It's easy to make purchases on-line at Amazon.com and support BHBI financially at the same time. Just go to the BHBI web page at www.BHBIRochester.org and click on the Amazon.com link. Each time you make a purchase after linking to Amazon.com from our web page, BHBI gets a percentage of the purchase price. The more you buy in this way, the more BHBI makes!

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CEMETERY PLOTS

Did you know that BHBI has designated sections at Stone Road, Britten Road and Mt. Hope Cemeteries and that we sell cemetery plots? If you would like more information, contact Steve Teitel.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Aviva Schaffer who recently graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law.

DONATIONS THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Zus Kaminnik

Nelly Vishnagorsky

In memory of Sidney Gold

Lyn and Norm Adams

In memory of David Titof

Katie Metlay

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

June 2	The Congregation
June 9	The Congregation
June 16	Leon Metlay in honor of Nina's birthday
June 23	Tamara Strubel in memory of her husband, Gad Strubel Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky in memory of Nina's mother, Esther Walder Klionsky

AD SPONSORS

We are always looking for additional businesses that are interested in placing an ad in the BHBI Bulletin. If you know of someone whose business or company may be interested, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

A TALE OF 2 FASTS: THE 17TH OF TAMMUZ AND TISHA B'AV

The 17th of Tammuz

The fast of the 17th of the Hebrew month of Tammuz, known as Shivah Asar B'Tammuz, is the start of a three-week mourning period for the destruction of Jerusalem and the two Temples.

The fast actually commemorates five tragic events that occurred on this date:

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 CE after a lengthy siege. (Three weeks later, after the Jews put up a valiant struggle, the Romans destroyed the second Temple on the 9th of Av.)

The Jerusalem Talmud maintains that this is also the date when the Babylonians breached the walls of Jerusalem on their way to destroying the first Temple.

Since we are not allowed to fast on Shabbat, this year we commemorate the fast of the 17th of Tammuz on the following day which corresponds to Sunday, July 1st.

Tisha b'Av (the 9th of Av)

The Tisha b'Av fast marks the date that the first and second temples in Jerusalem were destroyed. A number of other terrible things have happened to the Jewish people on Tisha b'Av including the defeat of the Bar Kochba rebellion against the Romans, the expulsion of Britain's Jews in 1290, the banishment of the Jews from Spain as part of the Inquisition in 1492, and the beginning of World War I which would subsequently lead to the rise of Nazi Germany. On Tisha b'Av we observe mourning rituals including not bathing or applying creams or lotions and not shaving. We sit on low stools and we recite the Book of Lamentations (Eicha) at Erev Tisha b'Av services.

Adapted from Chabad.org

Yahrzeits

At the following Shabbat Services, we will read the names of our late loved ones whose Yahrzeits will occur on that Shabbat or during the following week.

July 6-7	Tammuz -Av	July 13-14	Av	July 20-21	Av	July 27-28	Av
Nelli Ahuva Metlay*	24	Benjamin Bobb	2	William Aaron Bernstein*	9	Abraham Heyman*	17
Ira Edward Potter*	24	Joseph Greenbaum*	2	David Titof	9	Phillip Boyarsky*	18
Thelma Ring Smith*	25	Moses Berkowitz*	3	Janet Grable	11	Jennie Braime*	20
Irwin Bertman*	26	Kathy Shur	5	Haim Menachem Levy	12	Abraham I. Spector*	20
Oscar Hart	27	Julian Sugarman	7	Hyman Silverman*	12	Maurice Ohl*	21
Mark Rose	27	Anna Berman*	8	Frank Carper*	13	Sarah Applebaum Gastel*	22
Abraham Schriba*	27	George Cohen*	8	Sarah R. Spector*	13	Israel Osband*	22
Hyman Tanenbaum*	28			Morris Shimberg*	15		
Celia Silverstein*	29						
Sidney Gold	1						
Louis Schiff*	1						

We pray that our mourners will be comforted among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem and that the memory of the deceased continues to be a blessing to all who knew them.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

You can also memorialize a friend or loved one on a BHBI memorial plaque. Our memorial plaques are very reasonably priced. For more information, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

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So far our *TOPS* Gift Card fundraiser has been quite successful. Remember, *TOPS* Gift Cards are now available through BHBI in \$50 denominations. To purchase *TOPS* Gift Cards, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

BHBI WEBSITE

Have you checked out the BHBI web site lately? If you haven't there is a lot that you're missing. The web site at www.BHBIRochester.org provides information about many aspects of our congregation, lists the BHBI calendar, has electronic versions of this and previous bulletins going back several years, has an extensive history of our congregation along with historic photos, includes photos from several BHBI dinners, picnics and other special events, and has the unique Adon Olam Songbook with information on over 100 melodies for Adon Olam.

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!



Events at this Year's JCC Ames Amzalak Rochester Jewish Film Festival (See rjff.org for film details)

Film	Date	Time	Place
The Twinning Reaction	Sun. 7/8	1 pm	Dryden Theater
Shorts Program	Sun. 7/8	3:30 pm	Dryden Theater
Sammy Davis, Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me	Sun. 7/8	7:30 pm	Dryden Theater
The Last Resort	Mon. 7/9	11 am	JCC
The Testament	Mon. 7/9	1:30 pm	JCC
The Essential Link: The Story of Wilfred Israel	Mon. 7/9	6 pm	Dryden Theater
An Act of Defiance	Mon. 7/9	8:45 pm	Dryden Theater
Shalom Sesame: Let's Do a Mitzvah	Tue. 7/10	9:30 am	JCC – for Wolk Center families only
The Invisibles	Tue. 7/10	11 am	JCC
Shalom Bollywood	Tue. 7/10	1:30 pm	JCC
Futures Past	Tue. 7/10	6 pm	Dryden Theater
Bye Bye Germany	Tue. 7/10	9 pm	Dryden Theater
My Mother's Lost Children	Wed. 7/11	11 am	JCC
Humor Me	Wed. 7/11	1:30 pm	JCC
Good Thoughts, Good Words, Good Deeds	Wed. 7/11	5:30 pm	Dryden Theater
The Exception	Wed. 7/11	6 pm	Dryden Theater
Shelter	Thur. 7/12	11 am	JCC
A Bag of Marbles	Thur. 7/12	1:30 pm	JCC
Prince of Egypt (Dive-in Movie)	Thur. 7/12	5:30 pm	JCC Pool – free for JCC members
The Last Suit	Thur. 7/12	6 pm	Dryden Theater
Itzhak	Thur. 7/12	8:30 pm	Dryden Theater
Budapest Noir	Sat. 7/14	7:30 pm	Dryden Theater
Love, Gilda	Sat. 7/14	10 pm	Dryden Theater
The Museum	Sun. 7/15	3 pm	Dryden Theater
Keep the Change	Sun. 7/15	6 pm	Dryden Theater
The Cakemaker	Sun. 7/15	9 pm	Dryden Theater
Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel	Mon. 7/16	7 pm	Dryden Theater

Tickets can be purchased by phone by calling 461-2000, on-line at www.rjff.org (a convenience fee will apply) or by mail by writing to the JCC, 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618.

All festival passes are \$220, \$180 for JCC members. KeyBank JCC matinee passes are \$65, \$45 for JCC members.



OFFICE: The synagogue office is checked regularly for mail and messages. The synagogue phone is 244-2060. For urgent issues, call Steve Teitel at 473-5741 or Stan Schaffer at 473-8072. You can also e-mail us at BHBIRochester@gmail.com

WANT TO REMEMBER OR HONOR SOMEONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION? *Consider sponsoring a kiddush or making a donation to any one of our funds* (General Fund, Kiddush Fund, Harry Rogachefsky BHBI Building Fund, Torah Fund, Rabbi Aaron Solomon Scholarship Fund, Special Events Fund or the Sam Malina Memorial Fund). Please indicate which fund you would like your donation to go to and we will send out an acknowledgement card as you indicate and print an announcement in this bulletin. A standard sponsored kiddush at BHBI costs just \$40 while a larger enhanced kiddush is just \$50.

BULLETIN CONTENT What do you enjoy reading in the BHBI Bulletin? Is there something that you would like added (or taken out)? If so, please let Stan Schaffer know. We always appreciate feedback.

DID YOU MISPLACE YOUR BULLETIN? Don't worry. BHBI Bulletins going back several years can now be found on our web page: www.BHBIRochester.org

WANT TO GET YOUR BULLETIN HOT-OFF-THE-PRESS? Consider having us e-mail it to you! Contact Stan Schaffer at: stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

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