

BHBIRochester.org
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Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel

BULLETIN

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President: Harris Honickman
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Recording Secretary: Nina Klionsky

Second Vice-President: Leon Metlay

July President's Message

Friends,

Some of us are enamored with technology. We think that all the world really needs is another handheld electronic device and a new application to run on it. And so we have things like iPads, iPhones and Zoom. We ask who needs a physical meeting. Why transport multiple specimens of 150 pounds of protoplasm to the same location, only to see familiar faces and hear familiar voices? Think of all the fossil fuel we save by using the internet instead of speaking face-to-face.

Well, enough with self-effacement. We have been using Zoom to hold Sunday morning services for 2 months. We get the satisfaction of attending a daily minyan, reciting the Shemoneh Esrei, and the Kaddish when we have 10 people. The audio is scratchy and our chanting is not synchronized. However, we have a sense of overcoming a difficult situation - perhaps not as severe as what our ancestors endured during the Spanish Inquisition or during the Roman era in the 1st Century, when prayer was held in secret at the risk of life.

We are discussing options for resuming services with relaxed restrictions that are sanctioned by the authorities as we proceed through Phase 2, 3 and 4 of the "reopening". We have to be careful, as there are indications of the virus resurging in areas that don't use masks or practice social distancing.

There are catastrophes that envelop individuals and a whole people. George Floyd lost his life because a callous officer crushed his neck after subduing him and rendering him immobile. We must wrestle with the causes for Floyd's death. At the end of this month we observe Tisha B'Av, marking the destruction of the Temple by the Babylonians in the 6th century BCE and again by the Romans in 70 CE. The early rabbis taught that the Second Temple was destroyed for our sin of Lashon Hara (Causeless Hatred). What will the Divine consequence to our country for the repeated acts of Causeless Hatred against the descendants of enslaved Africans? We will hold a Zoom Tisha B'Av study session on the evening of Wednesday, July 29, at 7:30 PM, followed by a service at 8:30 PM. A link will be sent to the Congregation.

Be safe,
Harris Honickman

EREV TISHA B'AV, WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

Study Session at 7:30 PM, Service at 8:30 PM

Join us for a study session and service, live streamed on Zoom.
Visit our website www.BHBIRochester.org for the link to connect.

BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – JULY 2020

Friday	July 3		Erev Shabbat (light candles 8:35 PM)
Saturday	July 4		Shabbat Morning, Torah: Chukat/Balak
Sunday	July 5	9:00 AM	Service live streamed, visit www.BHBIRochester.org for the Zoom link
Friday	July 10		Erev Shabbat (light candles 8:32 PM)
Saturday	July 11		Shabbat Morning, Torah: Pinchas
Sunday	July 12	9:00 AM	Service live streamed, visit www.BHBIRochester.org for the Zoom link
Monday	July 13	7:30 PM	BHBI Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday	July 15	7:30 PM	Small Shul Collaborative Torah Study via Zoom visit www.BHBIRochester.org for the Zoom link
Friday	July 17		Erev Shabbat (light candles 8:28 PM)
Saturday	July 18		Shabbat Morning and Blessing for the New Month, Torah: Matot/Massei
Sunday	July 19	9:00 AM	Service live streamed, visit www.BHBIRochester.org for the Zoom link
Friday	July 24		Erev Shabbat (light candles 8:22 PM)
Saturday	July 25		Shabbat Morning, Torah: Devarim
Sunday	July 26	9:00 AM	Service live streamed, visit www.BHBIRochester.org for the Zoom link
Wednesday	July 29	7:30 PM 8:30 PM	Erev Tisha B'Av study session, live streamed Erev Tisha B'Av service, live streamed visit www.BHBIRochester.org for the Zoom link (fast begins 8:30 PM)
Thursday	July 30		Tisha B'Av
Friday	July 31		Erev Shabbat (light candles 8:14 PM)

CONRONAVIRUS COVID-19 ALERT

Due to the ongoing coronavirus COVID-19 health emergency, all services and activities at BHBI, and all joint Friday Services at Temple Beth Am, are suspended until further notice. Sunday morning services will be live streamed via Zoom. Visit our website www.BHBIRochester.org for the link.

SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

Our Torah study session in May will be held on Wednesday, July 15th, at 7:30 pm via Zoom. New participants are welcome at any time! No prior experience required! Visit our website www.BHBIRochester.org for the Zoom link.

TOPS CARDS

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 Ira Cohen at 943-1040 or by e-mail at gouldron@aol.com

COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Information from the Federation on the COVID-19 crisis can be found at:
<https://www.jewishrochester.org/novelcoronavirusoutbreak-covid-19>

Information from the Federation about community resources, updated weekly, can be found at:
<https://www.jewishrochester.org/communityresources->

DONATIONS THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

In memory of Robert Baker and Maurice Baker
Sue Baker

In memory of Theresa Mayer Block
Cathy Block

In memory of Maxine Gold
Lynn Adams

In memory of Zus Kaminick
Nelly Vishnagorsky

MAKE YOUR PURCHASES AT AMAZON and GOODSHOP 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 and Goodshop and support BHBI financially at the same time. To support BHBI by making purchases with Amazon or Goodshop, go to the BHBI web page at www.BHBIRochester.org, go to the Donate page and click on the Amazon or Goodshop link. Each time you make a purchase after linking to them from our web page, BHBI gets a percentage of the purchase price. The more you buy in this way, the more BHBI makes! You can also support BHBI by making purchases directly with Amazon Smile. To do so, go to Smile.Amazon.com, sign in as you normally would on Amazon, and select Congregation Beth Hamedresh-Beth Israel as the non-profit organization that you wish to support. Thereafter, every time you make an Amazon purchase at Smile.Amazon.com, BHBI will receive a portion of the cost of your purchase.

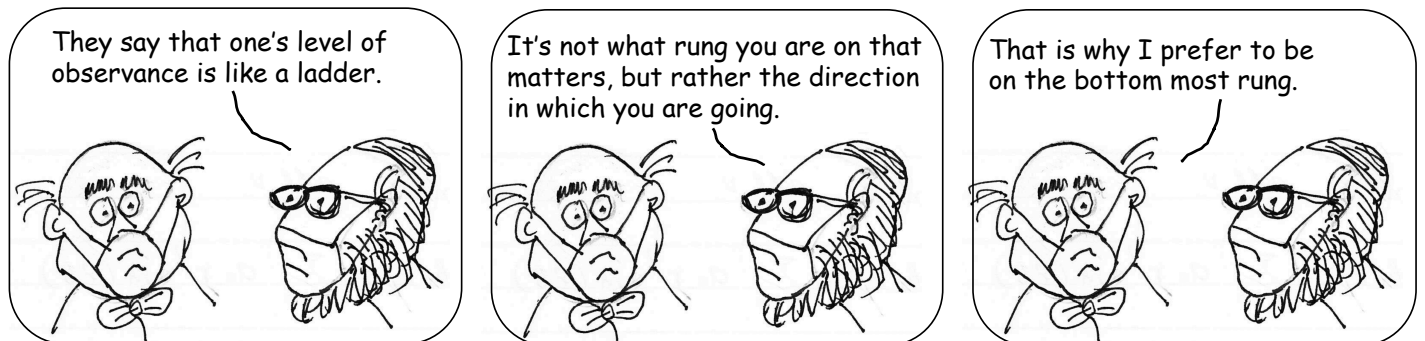
GOODSEARCH.ORG

Goodsearch.org is an on-line internet search program that pays non-profit organizations like BHBI a fee every time someone uses their search service. Go to www.Goodsearch.org, log-in (after signing up and designating BHBI as your preferred non-profit), enter the search term that you want and every time that you do a search from that site BHBI will get a small fee. BHBI will benefit from each search you make! You can also reach the Goodshop internet marketplace site from Goodsearch.org, but remember to sign in before purchasing anything so that BHBI benefits.

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, please have them contact the congregation at BHBIRochester@gmail.com

Life in our Times



WE WISH YOU A VERY HAPPY JULY 4th INDEPENDENCE DAY!

SOME THINGS TO DO WHILE SOCIAL DISTANCING

1) JCC Ames Amzalak Rochester Jewish Film Festival – MiniFest at Home, July 5 – 15

6 films to watch at home, post-film talks on zoom, drive-in movie for kids.

Sunday, July 5, 4pm - Tuesday, July 7, 4pm – Picture of his Life

World renowned wildlife photographer Amos Nachoum has one final photographic dream remaining - to photograph a Polar Bear underwater, while swimming alongside it.

Monday, July 6, 4pm - Wednesday, July 8, 4pm - Incitement

This psychological thriller dramatizes the political and personal motivations behind Prime Minister Yitzchak Rabin's assassination in 1995 by Jewish extremist Yigal Amir.

Tuesday, July 7, 4pm - Thursday, July 9, 4pm – The Crossing

Led by ten-year-old Gerda, four Norwegian children, including her brother Otto and their Jewish friends Sarah and Daniel, must escape to neutral Sweden on their own.

Wednesday, July 8, 4pm - Saturday, July 11, 4pm – Fiddler: Miracle of Miracles

Intimate interviews with the show's creators prove how much more there is to the Fiddler story, from the complexity and relevance of its themes (feminism, racism, refugees) to the struggle to get it produced, to the unexpected worldwide popularity of this “most Jewish” of shows.

Sunday, July 12, 4pm - Tuesday, July 14, 4pm – Shared Legacies: The African-American Jewish Civil Rights Alliance

Through interviews, archival footage, and dramatic narration, this film examines the bond between Jewish-Americans and African-Americans to fight for civil rights for all, from the founding of NAACP in 1909, through the turbulent 1960s, to the challenges of today.

Monday, July 13, 4pm - Wednesday, July 15, 4pm – Douze Points

What do you get when a proud, gay Muslim singer fulfilling his dream to represent France in Europe's biggest song contest being held this year in Tel Aviv collides with ISIS nogoodniks hellbent on tanking the competition and crack Mossad agents intent on foiling the plot? A hilarious Israeli comedy-thriller that just may leave you singing.

Details about the movies, buying tickets, and other information are available at <https://www.rjff.org>

2) Book Festival in your Living Room:

Thursday, July 9, 8:00 PM, Barry Sonnenfeld, one of Hollywood's biggest film and television directors, discusses his outrageous and hilarious memoir, *Call Your Mother: Memoirs of a Neurotic Filmmaker*, free.

Wednesday, July 15, 8:00 PM, Daniel Silva, New York Times best selling author will discuss his latest thriller, *The Order*, featuring the continuing adventures of the legendary art restorer and spy, Gabriel Allon. \$36 includes a signed copy of the book.

For details of both events, and to register, go to <http://www.rjbf.org>

3) Jewish Film Institute: A huge archive of Jewish themed movies available online, on demand.

Films available to rent or buy. For details, go to <https://jfi.org/watch-online/jfi-on-demand>

4) BHBI Website: what better way to spend a pandemic than to look at 4 years worth of newly uploaded photos from BHBI picnics, parties, and events? Go to the website and click on the "Pics" link in the left hand navigation sidebar.

5) Why are Yiddish Songs So Popular Now? Join Rukhl Schaechter, editor of the Forverts, as she explores the growing interest in Yiddish music, with singers Lorin Sklamberg, Daniel Kahn, Sarah Gordon, Michael Alpert and folksong maven Itzik Gottesman – and hear them sing the songs that audiences love to hear.

On YouTube at, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pjDT9ZWcfo>

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 Harris Honickman at 271-5145. 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 Steve Teitel 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 Steve Teitel at: BHBIRochester@gmail.com

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