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CHALINE

“The Bulletin of Beth David Synagogue”

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FROM THE RABBI

Walking home after services this past Shabbat, we and those strolling with us along Riverside Drive were engrossed in an enjoyable conversation. Suddenly, we hear a shrill scream of “*expletive* you” emanating from a car traveling in the opposite direction. Realizing that it was directed towards us and was an anti-Semitic taunt, and the vehicle was long past us, we laughed it off as an action of some deranged and hateful person. We could not identify the source of the curse, but we knew that it happened. We knew that we as a community and as a nation must protect ourselves against the ever growing and occurring threats and actions of anti-Semitism.

This incident made me think about the Torah reading that was read earlier in the day. We read the portion of Balak in which the hateful sorcerer, Bil’am, was hired to curse the Jewish people. Despite his protests that he can only accomplish that goal if God willed it, Bil’am accepted the challenge to use his voice to taunt the Jewish people. Ignoring the signs of God’s dissatisfaction with him that were even recognized by his talking donkey, he continues to use his voice to express his hatred and anti-Semitism while Balak who hired him prepares for a violent attack against the Jewish people.

The Jewish people seemed to be oblivious to what was occurring around them. They had no idea that Balak was preparing for a war of destruction and had no idea of the verbal assaults that were being said about them. But God was definitely aware, and He prevented Bilam’s curses to have the intended effect. As the Torah later testifies, God turned the curses into blessings.

We do know what is happening around us, here in the United States where statements of hatred and anti-Semitism are publicized in the media almost daily and flood the internet in the vilest of ways. Where acts of anti-Semitism occur and people are physically attacked in so many communities large and small, the perpetrators are often just given a slap on the hand. For that reason, we as well as many other Jewish institutions have a police presence during services and other events in our buildings.

The anti-Semitic actions and statements that occur in the international community, the threats to destroy Israel and kill all the Jews wherever they may be found, continue to proliferate. There is no way that we and Israel alone have the power to counteract these threats and attempts.

What yesterday’s Torah reading teaches us is that no matter whether we are aware of the verbal attacks against us, even if we are oblivious to the physical attacks being planned, the Almighty God is aware of them and will act to defend us and defeat our enemies. Perhaps this is the reason that this Torah portion is read during this season, so close to the observance of Tish’a B’Av.

Tish’a B’Av commemorates the destruction of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and the loss of Jewish sovereignty in Israel for the last 2,000 years. Please join us on Tish’a B’Av as we thank God that our nation still survived and continues to grow and thrive, and pray that He continue to protect us, individually and nationally, from the hatred that is permeating our world today.

Rabbi Zev Silber

TISH'A B'AV AND SHABBAT SCHEDULE

PLEASE NOTE: AT THE PRESENT TIME, BETH DAVID ONLY HAS MINYAN ON SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY MORNINGS, AS NOTED BELOW. A MINYAN AT OTHER TIMES MAY POSSIBLY BE ARRANGED, UPON REQUEST. PLEASE CONTACT THE RABBI.

Friday, July 7	candle lighting	8:23 pm	Shabbat, August 5	Shacharit Shabbat ends	9:30 am 9:00 pm
Shabbat, July 8	Shacharit Shabbat ends	9:30 am 9:24 pm	Friday, August 11	candle lighting	7:52 pm
Friday, July 14	candle lighting	8:20 pm	Shabbat, August 12	Shacharit Shabbat ends	9:30 am 8:51 pm
Shabbat, July 15	Shacharit Shabbat ends	9:30 am 9:20 pm	Friday, August 18	candle lighting	7:41 pm
Friday, July 21	candle lighting	8:15 pm	Shabbat, August 19	Shacharit Shabbat ends	9:30 am 8:40 pm
Shabbat, July 22	Shacharit Shabbat ends	9:30 am 9:15 pm	Friday, August 25	candle lighting	7:31 pm
Wednesday, July 26	Fast Begins Maariv	8:29 pm 9:10 pm	Shabbat, August 26	Shacharit Shabbat ends	9:30 am 8:29 pm
Thursday, July 27	Shacharit Mincha Fast ends	7:00 am 8:00 pm 9:10 pm	Friday, September 1	candle lighting	7:19 pm
Friday, July 28	candle lighting	8:09 pm	Shabbat, September 5	Shacharit Shabbat ends	9:30 am 8:18 pm
Shabbat, July 29	Shacharit Shabbat ends	9:30 am 9:08 pm	Friday, September 8	candle lighting	7:07 pm
Friday, August 4	candle lighting	8:01 pm	Shabbat, September 9	Shacharit Shabbat ends Selichot	9:30 am 8:06 pm 10:00 pm

Tish'a B'Av Schedule

Wednesday, July 26	Fast begins	8:29 pm
	Ma'ariv and Eicha (at Shul)	9:10 pm
Thursday, July 27	Shacharit and kinot(at shul)	7:00 am
	Mincha/Ma'ariv (at shul)	8:00 pm
	Fast ends	9:10 pm

Give Double Chai to the ChaiLine

You can be a sponsor for a minimum donation of \$36.00 Write *ChaiLine* on the memo line and include your message. Some reasons to sponsor include graduations, births, bar/bat mitzvahs, birthdays, anniversaries, a new job, commemorating a yahrtzeit, or just to be a sponsor. A thank you message can be printed for a donation of \$18.00. Our \$180.00 Special Sponsors get special recognition for their generous contribution.

-Gina Santiago
Chai Line Coordinator

Customs and Practices for the "Three Weeks", the "Nine Days" and Tish'a B'Av

Background: The three-week period from 17 Tammuz through 9 Av was a time of tragedy for the Jewish people. Many calamities happened on these specific days and during the time between. The catastrophic events surrounding the Holy Temple in Jerusalem that occurred on those specific days resulted in the long exile, which is still ongoing. On the 17th of Tammuz the walls of Jerusalem were breached during the period of the second Temple, and the 9th of Av marks the day on which both the first and second Temples were destroyed. For that reason it was ordained that this period of 3 weeks should be observed as days of mourning by the entire nation. Some mourning practices begin on 17 Tammuz and they increase in severity as we approach the 9th of Av.

Since the next ChaiLine may first appear after this period begins, we will mention only the customs observed until Rosh Chodesh Av. Those that first apply after that date will be described in the summer edition.

When: The 3 weeks begin on 17 Tammuz, which occurs on Thursday, July 6, and continue through 9 Av, which occurs on Thursday, July 27.

The fast of 17 Tammuz: This day is observed as a fast day, with the fast beginning in the morning at 3:42 am and ending at nightfall, at 9:24 pm.

Mourning practices: During the entire 3-week period we do not conduct weddings, we refrain from haircuts, and we avoid listening to live music.

The Month of Elul

The month of Elul: A month before Rosh Hashanah, this year Friday, August 18 we begin preparing for the Day of Judgment. We blow the *shofar* each weekday morning, with the exception of Erev Rosh Hashanah, and add Psalm 27 into our prayers each morning and evening, in order to begin awakening within us feelings of repentance.

Selichot: Penitential prayers are recited each weekday morning until Yom Kippur. We begin reciting these prayers at a special service on Saturday night, September 9.

We invite you to a Kiddush in memory of Ruth and Howard Buschman Z"l

August 12th
at Beth David Synagogue

Kiddush luncheon following
Shabbat morning services



Suzy Buschman-Erez Steven and Terri Buschman
Grandchildren Tal, Yoni, Dan, Jordan and Sara and their families
Alan Buschman Z"l Grandson Devin Z"l

SISTERHOOD

If you were unable to attend Sisterhood's June closing meeting, you missed a wonderful program. George Cummings, dressed as an 18th century gentleman spoke about Betsy Ross and the American flag, and demonstrated a variety of 18th century kitchen and household items.

We also voted in the new board members for the 2023-2024 season. The complete list is at the end of this article. **Please contact me if you or anyone you know might be interested in filling any of the vacancies which are highlighted in red.**

A mezuzah was presented to Susan and Kerry Wright (who will soon be leaving the community) as a token of our appreciation for their service to Sisterhood respectively as Program chairman and Treasurer.

Toby Kohn still sends **mitzva cards which cost \$3**, and **Stacey Silber is accepting donations of new and used items which can be sold to raise funds for Sisterhood.**

We continue to deliver welcome bags to new Jewish families who might join Beth David, and have revived the custom of contacting people affiliated with Beth David who are ill, to see if they need anything, or to just say "How are you doing?" **Please notify us if you are aware of anyone we should contact.**

We are grateful to everyone who helped with the Shabbos and holiday kiddushes during the past year. **Although no official kiddushes are held during the summer, if you are in schul and willing, there is always enough food in the kitchen for an impromptu kiddush.**

We also thank everyone who contributed in any way to making Sisterhood successful during the past year. We especially thank Gavriel and Marcy Yonaty who once again sponsored and prepared the Shavuos Sisterhood luncheon in memory of Marcy's brother Laurence Slutzger who was killed during World War 11.

In an attempt to include ideas from everyone, a planning meeting open to all will be scheduled mid-summer. Please watch for e-mail notices. If you are not on the Sisterhood mailing list or do not receive Rabbi Silber's weekly update, please contact Marlene Serkin, Rabbi Silber, or the Beth David office to be put on one of these lists.

In the meantime, I hope you have a wonderful summer.
Cathy Velenchik, President Beth David Sisterhood

Summer Kiddushes

I will continue setting up Shabbat morning Kiddishes throughout the summer – unless I am out of town. Everyone who wishes to may drop off a snack. Help in setting up & cleaning up is always appreciated.

Thank you!

Toby Kohn, Shabbat Kiddush Chair

Beth David Sisterhood Board and Committees 2023-24

PresidentCathy Velenchik

Fund Raising VP Marlene Serkin

Programming VP (outgoing) Susan Wright

(incoming) Gina Santiago

Service VP (outgoing) Cathy Velenchik

.....(incoming) TBD

Secretary..... Susan Hubal

Treasurer(outgoing) Kerry Wright

(In coming) Deborah Mindick Sliom

Assistant treasurerTBD

Fund Raising -- Marlene Serkin

Mitzvah Cards Toby Kohn

Donor..... TBD

Special sales project Stacey Silber

Programming – Susan Wright/ Gina Santiago

Program Chair (Outgoing) Susan Wright.

(incoming) Gina Santiago

Program Committee Member TBD

Publicity TBD

Photos at Meetings..... Gina Santiago

Back up photographerTBD

Photo Liaison..... Rhonda Levine

Paid-Up Dinner or Lunch..... TBD

Inter-Sisterhood..... (outgoing) Dora Polachek

(Incoming) Gina Santiago

(incoming g) Eileen Miller

Meeting Hospitality..... Judy Silber

Helper Lori Tuberman

Helper TBD

Shavuot Luncheon Marcy Yonaty

Helper..... TBD

Helper..... TBD

Closing Dinner or Desert..... TBD

Service – Cathy Velenchik (Outgoing)

Historian..... Stacey Silber

Holiday Kiddushes.....Cathy Velenchik

Kiddush and kitchen supplies..... ..Cathy Velenchik

Kiddush Volunteers Coordinator Toby Kohn

Kiddush Phone Caller..... Marilyn Bell

Kitchen Scheduling..... Valerie Preston

Library.....Valerie & Leonard Preston

Visiting / Calling the sick Dora Polachek

Membership/ Welcome gift bags to new families / new babiesTBD

Meal of Consolation..... Marilyn Bell

Helper Cathy Velenchik

Helper Lori Tuberman

Helper Toby Kohn

Helper Susan Hubal

Purim Hamentashen.....Lori Tuberman



Mitzvah Fund

Tova Kohn, 754-4297 or tova.kohn844@gmail.com

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazal Tov to:

Susan & Gerry Hubal on their grandson, Joshua's receiving his College Experience Certificate from College of St. Rose.

Eileen & Dan Miller on their daughter, Cara's graduation from Vestal High School.

Steve Feuer on the graduation of his granddaughter, Rina, from Rutgers University with a BA in Political Science.

Harold & Meryl Sasnowitz on the graduation of their grandson, Meir Sommer from Bergen CCC Nursing School with the distinction of being the class Salutatorian, son of Rochie & Marc Sommer.

Harold & Meryl Sasnowitz on the graduation of their granddaughter, Tehilla Tuchman, with a BA in psychology from the College of St. Vincent, daughter of Leslie & Michael Tuchman.

Harold & Meryl Sasnowitz on the birth of their new great grandson, Dovid Ezra

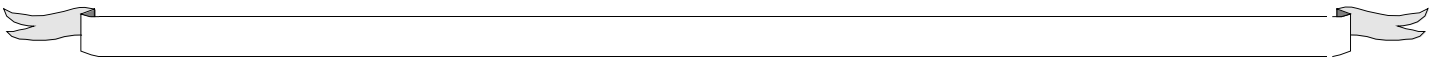
Rabbi Zev & Mrs. Judy Silber on their grandson, Netanel, Schacter's completion of his IDF Service with the distinction of being an Outstanding Soldier.

Rabbi Zev & Mrs. Judy Silber on their granddaughter, Arielle Feder's graduation from Yeshivat Noam Middle School.

Rabbi Zev & Mrs. Judy Silber on the graduation of their granddaughter, Leba Weissman, from Central High School (YU).

Rabbi Zev & Mrs. Judy Silber on their daughter, Yoetzel Avital Weissman receiving the Guests of Honor Award from the Mikveh Association of Long Island, along with her husband, Rabbi Ellie Weissman.

Bob & Maria Kutz on their 50th wedding anniversary.



How to Contact Your Rabbi

Rabbi Silber's office hours will be: Tuesdays, 10:00 am -12:00 noon.

Please feel free to stop by at these times, even without an appointment. If you need to consult with the rabbi and these times are not convenient for you, please call Rabbi Silber and you can work out a mutually acceptable time.

Occasionally these hours need to change, and changes are listed in the weekly announcement sheet distributed each Shabbat at services.

If you need to contact the rabbi, there are several ways that this can be done:

- Call the shul office (722-1793) and leave a message

If it is not urgent, you can e-mail the rabbi at rabbisilber@stny.rr.com

In case of emergency, you can call or text the rabbi's cell phone: Rabbi Silber can be reached at 607-761-7098.

Beth David Family

Toby and Harold Kohn were delighted by the Shavuot visit of their grandson Isacc, who happened to bring his parents Ana and Dan Kohn along from their Brooklyn home. A beautiful hag was experienced by everyone at our shul.

Harold and I are kvelling over the newest addition to our family tree, a great-grandson. David Ezra was welcomed by his parents Chavi and Zecharya Runge of Queens, and by his first-time grandparents Rochie and Marc Sommer of Passaic.

Noam Yehuda was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah in Modiim, Israel. He's the son of Tova and Yair Yehuda, the grandson of Paul Serkin of Jerusalem, and the great-grandson of Marlene Serkin. Just a few weeks later, Marlene was feted at her home for her 92nd birthday. Joining the celebration were David Serkin of Vestal, Molly and Stuart Serkin of Monsey, Paul Serkin of Israel, and granddaughter Devorah of NJ.

Ella Kellman, daughter of Benny and Rivka Kellman, is celebrating her Bat Mitzvah in Israel this summer with her family. For her Bat Mitzvah project, Ella is swimming the Kinneret to support *Sadna*, a program for inclusion for women and girls with special needs. To learn more about this project, go to <https://gush-etzion.org.il/project/the-sadna-communal-village/> To contribute to Ella's project, go to <https://www.jgive.com/new/en/usd/donation-targets/97674/about>

A recent article in *The Jerusalem Post* featured Eli Groner's journey from Binghamton teen to Israeli public official and entrepreneur. Eli's parents Debbie and Raphael Groner and his siblings lived in Binghamton during Raphael's tenure as our Beth David Rabbi. Eli and his wife Tamar live in Elazar in Gush Etzion with their family. Enjoy the article through the following link: <https://www.jpost.com/aliyah/article-746463>

Inessa and Mark Yonaty were presented the A.M. Pierson Memorial Award at the recent Hillel Academy gala. The two Hillel alumni are active members of the Binghamton Community and forward thinkers concerning the revitalization of the area. Rochel Chein and Eileen Miller received the N. Theodore Sommer Community Service Award for their years of volunteerism fostering the educational goals of Hillel. Yasher Koah to Inessa, Mark, Rochel, and Eileen. Mazal Tov is extended to the families: Marcy and Gavi Yonaty, Dan Miller, and Shneur Chein.

A group of former and current Binghamtonians gathered in Monticello for their annual Beaver Lake reunion. Joining in were Anne and Jeff Rothenberg of Jerusalem, Helen and Les Loew of W. Hartford, Susan and Michael Wright, Roz and Harry Wiesel of Beaver Lake, and Harold and me. In addition to remembering our BD days, we marked the 50th wedding anniversary of the Wiesels.

It was a delight to open my door one Shabbat afternoon and welcome Sima Morell Kelner of Efrat inside for a visit. Sima was in town with her children to help get her sons off to Camp Moshava. They stayed with Marion Morell, who lives only a few blocks away. Sima popped in on Sunday to surprise my girls: Rochie Sommer, Leslie Tuchman, and Abigail Lazarus, who brought their families here for a barbeque. The childhood friends had a great time reminiscing. Dad Russell joined the family in NJ a few days later. Sima shared the news that Doron, the son of Sima and Russel Kelner, will celebrate his becoming a Bar Mitzvah at camp.

Let me know what's happening in your world so I can share it with our Beth David Family. I'm at 607-760-5207 and msasnowitz@gmail.com

Wishing you all a healthy summer and a meaningful remembrance of our forefathers' struggles as we move through the Nine Days.

Meryl Sasnowitz

Donations

David and Virginia Eisenberg Foundation- **Security Income-donation**

Laurie Goldman- **Donation-in memory of Melvin Rozen**
Brian Rozen- **Donation-in memory of Father, Melvin**

Robert & Helene Philips- **Donation in honor of Dora Polachek**

Mark & Terry Wallace - **Kiddush Luncheon**

Polachek, Drs. Sol and Dora - **Purchase of siddurs:**

In Memory of parents: Toni & Nathan Eisenberg | Blanche & Harry Polachek

In celebration of: Gila & Nathaniel Polachek and sons Aharon, Eitan, and Elan

BETH DAVID SYNAGOGUE TO OFFER STIPEND

Thanks to a generous donor, families or individuals who move to the Binghamton area could receive a monthly subsidy of up to \$500 per month per year. This \$500 could be applied to a rent or mortgage payment. The subsidy may be provided for a maximum of three years. In return, the family or individual must become an active member of the Beth David Synagogue community. To be an active member, a male member, who is above bar mitzvah age and halachically Jewish, would be expected to attend Shabbat services two or more times a month. Female members should become involved in Beth David Sisterhood.

Beth David Synagogue is a warm , friendly, active modern Orthodox shul.

Those wishing to obtain further information should contact Beth David Synagogue by sending a letter to the synagogue at 39 Riverside Dr, Binghamton, NY 13905, e-mailing bethdavid@stny.rr.com or calling 607-722-1793. www.bethdavid.org