# KOL B'NAI AVIV

#### THE VOICE OF B'NAI AVIV

# קול בני אביב



# From the desk of... Rabbi Adam Watstein

We are days away from Pesach, and I thought I would offer some insight and resources as to how to enrich your holiday experience.

To start with the most obvious, the Rabbinical Assembly annually publishes a guide to Pesach observance, which you can access easily by clicking <a href="here">here</a>. It's a lengthy document, but it covers all the basics: how to prepare a house for Pesach and what foods to buy (and what not to buy), even how to deal with important side-issues like baby food, pet food, and medication during Pesach. There are lots of places to find information about Pesach observance on the Internet, but the RA guide is the obvious place to start. There is also a lot of helpful and useful information in the chapter by Rabbi Alan B. Lucas on the Jewish lifestyle in *The* 

Observant Life. (If you don't own a copy of TOL, you can purchase one either online by clicking here)

Moving along, many congregants routinely ask me about the whole question of *kitniyot*. The term *kitniyot* applies loosely to the subcategory of vegetables called legumes, and references specifically foodstuffs that cannot become the kind of leavened product forbidden on the holiday yet which have traditionally been avoided by Ashkenazic Jews on Pesach. There is plenty to say on the matter. Most of the published materials that have emanated from our Conservative authorities are vigorously opposed to maintaining these traditions. To see a very strongly worded position paper by Rabbi David Golinkin discouraging holding onto the prohibition of *kitniyot*, for example, click <a href="here">here</a>. For another, this one by Rabbi Amy Levin and Rabbi Avram I. Reisner, formally permitting Ashkenazic Jews to eat *kitniyot* on Pesach, click <a href="here">here</a>. These are clever statements rooted in serious scholarship. I understand what they're trying to do, but we will maintain the traditional prohibition at B'nai Aviv this year, as we always have: it's one thing to respect the logic

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ap	oril 20	17				1 Bar Mitzvah of Max Levinson Shabbat Services 9:15 am
Religious School 9:00 am Mitzvah Meals 9:30 am Chalutzim 11:30 am	3	4 Religious School 4:30 pm Kadima 6:45 pm	5 Torah Talk 12:00 pm USY 7:00 pm Youth Commission Meeting 7:00 pm	6 ECEC Model Seder 10:00 am Hebrew High 6:30 pm	7 Shabbat Eve Services 6:30 pm	8 Bat Mitzvah of Dani Shapiro Shabbat Services 9:15 am
9 NO Religious School	10 Erev Pesach No ECEC Office Closed	11 Pesach First Day NO Religious School No ECEC Office Closed	12 Pesach Second Day NO Torah Talk No ECEC Office Closed	13 Chol Hammoed Pesach No ECEC No Hebrew High Office Closed Men's Club Passover at Marlins Park 3:30 pm	14 Chol Hammoed Pesach No ECEC Office Closed	15 Shabbat Services 9:15 am Chol Hammoed Pesach
16 NO Religious School Chol Hammoed Pesach Office Closed	17 Pesach Seventh Day No ECEC Office Closed	18 Pesach Eighth Day NO Religious School No ECEC Office Closed	19 NO Torah Talk USY 7:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm	20 Hebrew High 6:30 pm	21 USY Regional Convention-AWAY Shabbat Eve Services 6:30 pm Guess Who's Coming to Shabbat? Dinner	USY Regional Convention - AWAY Shabbat Services 9:15 am Elle Ginsburg and Noah Benson B'nai Mitzvah
23 USY Regional Convention-AWAY Religious School 9:00 am Sisterhood Torah Fund luncheon 9:00 am Community Yom HaShoah Program at Dor Dorim 5:00 pm	24 Yom HaShoah	25 Religious School 4:30 pm Kadima 6:45 pm Demographic Study Presentation 7:00 pm	26 Business Network Meeting 9:15 am  Torah Talk 12:00 pm  USY Board Meeting 6:30 pm  Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm	27 Hebrew High 6:30 pm	28 Shabbat Eve Services 6:30 pm Religious School Shabbat Dinner 7:30 pm Birthday/Anniversary Shabbat	29 Bat Mitzvah of Juliette Shenassa Shabbat Services 9:15 am
30 Religious School 9:00 am Chalutzim 11:30 am						

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of learned peers...and, at least for me, another thing to imagine my own grandparents taking a good look around and declaring themselves unwilling to eat in our shul at Pesach. To abandon a tradition we've maintained for well over a millennium just because the custom can't be justified logically or rationally is a complicated decision. So read the papers referenced above, then decide if you *really* want to ask me what to do.

And what about the *sedarim* themselves? First, let's talk about Haggadot. There are a *lot* of choices out there! Buying enough copies of any one of them to use at a *seder* featuring a couple of dozen participants is obviously a serious investment! But even without buying enough for all...it's worth investing in some interesting editions of the Haggadah and books to consult as a way of preparing to make the *seder* interesting and innovative. Here are some choices compiled by my mentor, Rabbi Martin Cohen, mostly available online, or for inspection in my office, as I own many of them as well:

- The Haggadah I recommend for families looking for an attractive volume with a translation that's easy to follow, and a full set of explanatory directions is *The Feast of Freedom*, edited by Rachel Anne Rabinowicz and available through the Rabbinical Assembly by clicking here.
- I can also warmly recommend the Haggadah published by my friend Noam Zion of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem with David Dishon. Called *A Different Night: The Family Participation Haggadah*, it first came out about twenty years ago and is concise, interesting, filled with new directions to take your table talk, and focused on issues that should matter to all contemporary Jews
- Three Hundred Ways to Ask the Four Questions. (Click <a href="here">here</a> to buy a copy.) You'll find the Four Questions in hundreds of languages, including expected ones like Yiddish and Ladino, and very unexpected ones like Zulu, Maori, Mayan, Mongolian, and Navajo. But you'll also find the Four Questions in Klingon, Twitter, Lawyerese, Ubbi-Dubbi, and Hebrew Pig Latin. The whole book is very funny and very engaging, and I recommend it to you all.
- An interesting on-line Haggadah to consult and/or to download and print out is the one by Rabbi Rachel Barenblat, which you can see by clicking <a href="here">here</a> for the body of the text and <a href="here">here</a> for the cover. It's a bit new-age for me in parts, but also clever and interesting, plus she has a lot of very good ideas for families eager to address young children's limited attention spans.
- For families eager to maintain a traditional feel to the *seder* but also to incorporate present-day issues, the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance has an on-line pamphlet (click <a href="here">here</a>) featuring lots of ideas for special activities and discussions that will make the *seder* more contemporary and more lively. There's also a particularly good section of games for children who have had enough...and that's worth a lot.
- A supplement for the Haggadah published by Uri L'tzedek, an Orthodox social justice group headed by Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz, is available online by clicking <a href="here">here</a>. The supplement features a broad range of texts and seder suggestions relating specifically to social justice issues, and also has an ongoing rubric entitled "Act!" which suggests specific steps to take to address the issue under discussion in a fruitful and positive way. You can download the supplement for free, either with or without signing up for their newsletter.
- Finally, Behrman House has brought out two editions of the Haggadah specifically for families with young children in the last couple of years. One, the *Family (and Frog) Haggadah* (click here), is filled with colorful images and sidebars designed to hold children's interest throughout the *seder*. The other, Rebecca Redner's *Gateways Haggadah* (click here), is specifically intended for families with special-needs children grappling with speech, learning, or language difficulties. It's quite a good effort, and will surely appeal to families trying to involve non-readers or pre-readers in the *seder*. Both are priced reasonably for a family to purchase multiple copies.

I'd also like to recommend the on-line essay by Edmon J. Rodman entitled "The 5 (Or So) Habits of Successful Seder Leaders, which you can access by clicking <a href="here">here</a> and which I found thought-provoking and worth reading.

Leading a seder is not easy. I myself find it complicated when I'm sitting at a table with people who have been to two sedarim a season for their entire lives and others who haven't ever been to one, not to mention my children who range in age from 20 months to nearly 7 years-old. The whole point of the seder is to relate the story of the Exodus in a way that all present can understand...But the key, at least for me, is coming prepared, knowing what issues I want to highlight, having questions prepared in advance that I hope will stimulate vigorous responses on the part of the participants, and—this is key—having a sense in advance of how long I want the seder, particularly the pre-meal part, to last and

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how long I am going to devote to each specific section of the Haggadah.

I'd also like to address a particularly painful aspect of Pesach observance that most of us prefer to ignore: the heartache involved in facing Pesach for those in mourning for loved ones. Rabbi Stephanie Dickstein, a colleague who is also a licensed social worker, has prepared a remarkable document entitled "Coping with the Empty Chair at the Seder: A Personal Journey for Memory and Contemplation," which you can see on the website of the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services by clicking <a href="here">here</a>. You'll find Rabbi Dickstein's suggestions intelligent and thoughtful...and I believe that those among us who are already dreading the sight of that empty chair will find much of worth in her words.

My final piece of advice is not to let the *seder* overwhelm the *chag*. There is something intensely gratifying about searching those last crumbs on *chametz* on the night before the first *seder*, whether by candlelight or flashlight. It is a wonderful experience for children and is best explained <u>here</u>. Coming to *shul* on the morning of Erev Pesach to participate in the *siyyum*, even if you *aren't* a firstborn, can also be a very satisfying experience. Selling your *chametz* in advance of the holiday too can also be a moving, emotionally satisfying experience. If you have not yet done so, an explanation for why we sell our chametz can be found <u>here</u>, and it is as easy as stopping by the shul for 2 minutes!

I hope some of the above assists you in having a terrific holiday. I wish a *chag kasheir v'sameiach* to you all, and am completely available to all who wish to talk through any aspect of Pesach observance or who have any specific questions about preparing a Jewish home for Pesach. (Let me save myself some time up front by telling you all that, yes, we eat quinoa on Pesach.) Of course, I will be available throughout the week before Pesach to assist you in the sale of your *chametz*. And to talk about your *seder* plans too, and particularly to explain any of the more obscure passages in the Haggadah...

*B'shalom*, Rabbi Adam Watstein

The deadline for the May Bulletin is April 21, 2017
By 5:00 pm
Please submit articles and flyers to lynne@bnaiaviv.org

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Be a Kiddush Sponsor

We invite you to Sponsor our Weekly Shabbat Kiddush Birthday? Anniversary? Upcoming Wedding?

Celebrate by being a co-sponsor of our weekly Kiddush on Shabbat morning after services. Please call the office for more information or to reserve your date.

954-384-8265

**Important Notice!** 

If you are NOT receiving the WEEKLY ENUZ from B'nai Aviv, please contact the Synagogue office. 954-384-8265 or melissa@bnaiaviv.org

# 5777 PESACH SCHEDULE



MONDAY, APRIL 10TH
SIYUM (FAST OF THE FIRST BORN)7:30AM
(AT B'NAI AVIV WESTON)
TUESDAY, APRIL 11TH
SHABBAT (PESACH 1 ST DAY)9:15AM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12TH
PESACH 2 <sup>ND</sup> DAY
CHOL HAMMOED
B'NAI AVIV WESTON (THURSDAY & FRIDAY)7:30AM
(SUNDAY)9:15 AM
POSNACK JCC (WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY NIGHT)7:30PM
(SUNDAY)8:30AM
MONDAY, APRIL 17TH
PESACH 7TH DAY9:15AM
TUESDAY, APRIL 18TH
PESACH 8TH DAY (YIZKOR)9:15AM

PLEASE NOTE: THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED SUNDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>.





On behalf of the

# Bill of Sale

# B'nai Aviv 1410 Indian Trace ~ Weston, Florida 954-384-8265 ~ melissa@bnaiaviv.org

I, the undersigned, acting on the express instructions of the people whose names and addresses are attached to this bill of sale (and added to it prior to April, 10, 2017 corresponding to the 14th of Nisan 5777, at 10AM), do hereby sell all the leavened products forbidden to Jewish people on the Passover holiday still in the possession of those people to Glen Gillingham for the price of \$1,000,000,000.00, which sale is to be deemed immediately effective upon the down payment of no less than \$1.00. Should the balance not be paid in its entirely by Tuesday evening, April 18, 2017, at 8:28 PM, the entire sale is to be declared invalid, whereupon the aforementioned leavened products will revert to the ownership of their original owners.

In accordance with Jewish law, I have transferred the goods referred to above to the purchaser by means of the commercial device current within Jewish circles called kinyan sudar, whereby the purchaser signals his acceptance of the terms of the agreement and takes possession of the goods in question by tugging on a handkerchief in the presence of witnesses.

Furthermore, this sale includes leavened products known to the sellers at the time of the sale, but also all leavened products present on their property or in their homes, places of business, or vehicles not specifically known to them. There are no exceptions to this: all leavened property is included.

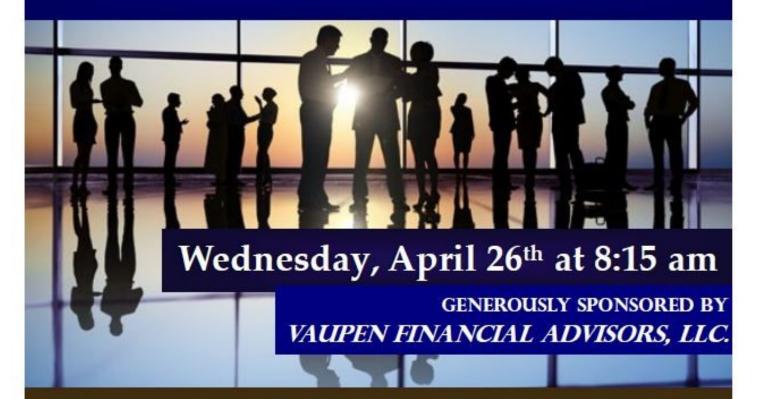
Sellers:	 
Purchaser:	

April 10, 2017---14th Nisan 5777

# B'NAI AVIV BUSINESS NETWORK



# B'NAI AVIV BUSINESS NETWORK



# TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE OUR COMMUNITY STRONGER AND BETTER CONNECTED!

Join us for another successful opportunity to promote your business and expand your network.

You Belong Here.

Meeting and light breakfast will be served in the ballroom.

Bring your business cards.

Connect with us on LinkedIn in

Please RSVP to sabrinak@bnaiaviv.org or 954-384 -8265.



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# In our B'nai Aviv Family

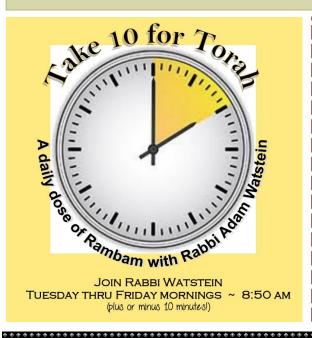
# A Speedy Recovery To ...

Barry Berman, Sarah Bayla, Dorothy Eiglarsch, Dion Foley, Stacy Garon, Shaynee Golin, Esther Kay, Wayne Morris, Frayda Sara, Phyllis Yaffa, Gilad Zilberman

#### Sincere Condolences To ...

Lisa Melenkovic on the passing of her beloved mother, Ruth Ventry, z'l. Cherie Lipsky on the passing of her beloved father, Alvin Fisher, z'l. Deborah Gellman on the passing of her beloved father, Les Ray, z'l. Lisa Zalis on the passing of her beloved mother, Barbara Harris, z'l.

"May the families be comforted among the mourners in Zion and Jerusalem."



# TORAH TALK

a soul-filling lunch

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To stream Torah Talk live please visit torahtalk.us





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# From the desk of ...



Mah Nishtanah? Why is this Passover different from other Passovers?

Creating meaningful Jewish rituals at school is not only part of the ECEC Judaic curriculum but also part of the daily life at school. From every day brachot, blessing over the food, to making their own challah on Fridays, children experience the joy of Judaica through hands on activities. These experiences are the bricks needed for building a strong foundation of Jewish identity.

And having Pesach around the corner, my question is ...Is it enough to shape this identity with what we are providing at school? More than any other holiday, Passover is for the children! It affords us, parents and educators to connect with the kids in the most magical way - no matter what level of observance we all attend a Seder. Seders are coming in all shapes, sizes and choreographies. Sometimes too long, sometimes too boring....

Guess what! It doesn't have to be that way. This year, make the difference.

This year, put your fatigue aside ....Focus on the kids...and make it their night - one they will remember. Hear their questions and ask them others. Tell them "The Story", because Passover celebrates the most inspiring events in Jewish history - the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery. For generations our ancestors understood that the bond created on Passover is an investment that is unique and priceless. So this Passover, make it meaningful to the fullest!

Happy Passover, Chag Sameach!

## Sabrina









# From the desk of Eliot Tillinger...



# Religious School Director

The B'nai Aviv Religious school 6th and 7th graders were fortunate to visit the Holocaust Memorial in Miami. The experience for our students and their parents was an extremely rich one.

We were most fortunate to hear from and speak directly to two survivors with very different histories. One of whom will be visiting us here at B'nai Aviv in the near future.

B' Shalom, Eliot Tillinger









# B'nai Aviv Kadima Havin' A Blast











USY'er of the month March 2017, Diana Rosenbluth.

#### FROM THE DESK OF...

#### LANEE FRIEDEL, SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT



Please make note of this upcoming Sisterhood event:

Sunday, May 7th - 12:00 noon

<u>Mother's Day Event</u>

Chaired by Corinna Black Kushner

Thank you to Andi Eisler, Debbie Green, Bonnie Salmon and all of the ladies who worked so hard to make our Purim fundraiser a success last month! Next year, we will change a few things with regard to pick up of

the hamantaschen. We used this year as a trial run and see that we can make some improvements. Thanks to all who supported the project and hope you enjoyed the delicious Purim goodies and greetings from your friends and fellow B'nai Aviv members!

I would like to use space in my article this month, to explain the "Torah Fund Campaign" of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism. This campaign is world-wide, and supports the Jewish Theological Seminary in NY and other institutes of Jewish studies training Rabbis, Cantors and Jewish Educators in Los Angeles, Jerusalem, Buenos Aires and Potsdam.

The Torah Fund Campaign began in 1942 and provides scholarships to all the schools. Our very own Rabbi Watstein was a recipient of a Torah Fund scholarship as a Rabbinical student!

Sisterhoods and individuals support the Torah Fund by making donations to buy a beautiful and unique pin (a \$180 donation to Torah Fund) and buy greeting cards (package of 6 cards for \$18, for sale by contacting me). Our Sisterhood has a goal of raising \$2000 for the Torah Fund this year, and we are nearly at our goal. Please contact me if you are interested in becoming a Torah Fund donor (the \$180 can be paid in installments) or if you would like to buy greeting cards (all types) from me. I will have samples of the greeting cards put on display in the Sisterhood showcase in the lobby.

B'nai Aviv is the host site for this year's Regional Torah Fund one day conference. It is being held on Sunday, April 23rd. It will be a day of Jewish education for women, as well as a Torah Fund luncheon. The cost to attend the day is \$36 (or, you can choose to just attend the luncheon if you want to). The day will run from 9:30 - 3:00 and you are welcome to attend all, or part of it. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.

Don't forget about our next exciting Sisterhood event....the WOW Luncheon (Women of Worth) on May 7th! Get your tables together and send in your RSVP's. Don't forget that sponsorships are available, and that we are also looking for raffle prizes. There will be a great boutique to shop for mother's day gifts and end of the year teachers' gifts too! The deadline of April 26th for RSVP's is firm, so don't delay in getting yours in.

And one final item....Mathilde's Mentionables. We are collecting new underwear to go to needy women. There is a box in the temple office for collections. I will also bring the box to our next event.

Sisterhood President

Lanee Friedel,



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# Mathilde's Mentionables

In partnership with the Women's League for Conservative Judaism the Sisterhood of B'nai Aviv will be participating in a

very special Chesed Project named for the WLCJ founder Mathilde Schechter.

Mathilde's Mentionables collects new undergarments to be distributed to women in local homeless and battered women's shelters.

Please bring new under-garments to donate to this project, and drop them in the collection box we will have in the B'nai Aviv office. You may also bring items for donation to any Sisterhood event! Thank you for participating.

> Lanee Friedel, Sisterhood President





THURSDAY, APRIL 13th | 7:10PM







# \$30 per person includes

Pre-Game Concert Featuring 8th Day

Festivities begin at 3:30 PM

Commemorative
Passover at the Park T-shirt

Game Ticket

Section 20, rows 15-20 (above the dugout)

#### Please RSVP to

sabrinak@bnaiaviv.org by April 5<sup>th</sup>
Cash or check made out to B'nai Aviv only.
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Kosher for Passover Menu Available for Purchase Pregame under the supervision of the Chabad of South Florida



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Cantor Bill on his 20th anniversary at B'nai Aviv.

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(Continued from page 21)

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#### B'NAI AVIV



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Scott Daub, Personnel V.P.

Rich Cohen, Membership V.P.

Rosalyn Sanders, Youth V.P.

Jonathan Andron, Communications/Technology V.P.

Lanee Friedel, Auxiliaries V.P.

Adam Cohen, Treasurer

Howard Samson, Secretary

Jay Martus, Immediate Past President



Synagogue Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm



#### **B'nai Aviv Mission Statement:**

B'nai Aviv is dedicated to serving and nurturing the spiritual, educational, cultural and social needs of its members in an egalitarian environment framed by Conservative Judaism.

Our synagogue is committed to providing these services in an atmosphere of warmth and mutual caring within a congregational family who share a deep-felt desire to promote and ensure the continuity of Jewish life, to perform tzedakah, and to support the State of Israel and the United States of America.