



JOIN BSBI FOR OUR
PURIM SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022
6:00 P.M.



**Fun for all ages! Come in costume.
Service and engaging Megillah reading**

TEMPLE TOPICS

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BETH SHOLOM B'NAI ISRAEL
400 Middle Turnpike East, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 643-9563 www.myshul.org

Clergy

Rabbi: Randall J. Konigsburg
Rabbi Emeritus: Richard J. Plavin

Staff

Office Manager: Judy Sawtelle
Marketing Coordinator: Allison Sawtelle
Bookkeeper: Shari Haley
Education Director: Rabbi Alan Lefkowitz
Maintenance Specialist: Dave Pastula

BSBI Board of Directors

Co-Presidents: Dawn & Jack Steigelfest
Executive Vice President: Russ Benblatt
Co-Vice Presidents of Finance: Alan & Hope Igdalsky
Co-Vice Presidents of Membership: Sally Ivaldi Z"L & Merle Cohen
Vice President of Ritual: Steve Cohen
Co-Vice Presidents of Education: Rebecca Rumbo/Bea Brodie
Vice President of Fundraising: Ken Wichman
Vice President of Administration: Ron Abrahams
Vice President of Buildings & Grounds: Ed Reilly
Vice President of Cemeteries: Liza Mandel
Recording Secretary: Steven Wollins
Immediate Past President: Phil Margolis
Sisterhood Representative: Brina Abrahams
Brotherhood Representative: Dave Alter
Board of Trustees Representative: Gordon Brodie
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Member At Large: Jay Bigman
Member At Large: Spin Zucker
Co-Chairs, Personnel: Gayle Block & Mike Turk
Chair, Social Action: Carol Hatch
Chair, Youth Activities: Ilene O'Neil
Chair, Adult Programming: Debbie Benblatt
Legal Counsel: Bruce Beck

Services

Monday through Thursday: 7:00 PM

Friday: 6:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM

All service times are as listed above unless otherwise noted in the calendar. The entire community is welcome to attend any of our services. Services Monday-Thursday are virtual. Friday and Saturday services are hybrid. Zoom information will be included in emails.

You may contact us via email at:

Rabbi Konigsburg: rabbenu@myshul.org

Judy Sawtelle: admin@myshul.org

Allison Sawtelle: programming@myshul.org

Shari Haley: accounting@myshul.org

Rabbi Alan Lefkowitz: RLWRSDirector@myshul.org
AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF
CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

Call the Rabbi!

Rabbi Konigsburg visits the local hospitals on a regular basis. An important part of his duties is to bring comfort and healing to those who are sick. Due to privacy laws, the hospitals can't tell him if one of our members has been admitted. He could be just down the hall, but if he doesn't know someone is there, he will not know to make a visit.

Please call the Rabbi if you or someone you know is in the hospital so a timely visit can be made: **860-643-9563**



<https://www.facebook.com/myshul/>



Upcoming Events!



Please visit www.myshul.org for all updates.

Tuesday, March 1

12:30pm Lunch & Learn

7:30pm BSBI Academy

Friday, March 4

6:00pm Shabbat Across America

Saturday, March 5

7:00pm Sisterhood Film Night

Sunday, March 6

9:30am Brotherhood Breakfast and
Speaker

Tuesday, March 8

12:30pm Lunch & Learn

1:30pm Knit and Kvetch

7:30pm BSBI Academy

Sunday, March 13

10:00am RLWRS Purim Program

Monday, March 14

7:30pm Sisterhood/Hadassah
Book Club

Wednesday, March 16

6:00pm Purim Service & Program

Saturday, March 26

10:00am Junior Congregation

Sunday, March 27

10:00am Sisterhood Adventure Walk

Thursday, March 31

6:00pm Sandals Lecture

Condolences to:

Susan Rubin, Brian Wice, Steven Wice and the entire family on the loss of their father, Marshall Wice.

Loren & Sharon Reichlin and Alan Reichlin and their entire family on the loss of their mother, Hedda Reichlin

Words from the Co-Presidents

Each May, our congregation holds an annual meeting. The annual meeting is a gathering of the congregation as a whole. In addition to exchanging information about the state of our community and plans for the future, the most common activity at annual meetings is the biennial election of officers and other members of the Board of Directors. We have an election this year, and a nominating committee is working hard to provide a slate for the congregation's consideration.

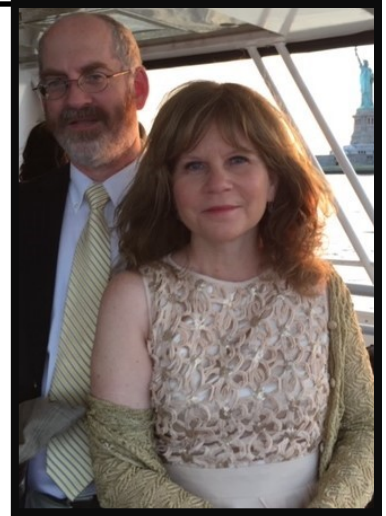
Biennial elections are not the only voting that can take place at a meeting of the congregation. BSBI's Bylaws provide that the Bylaws themselves can be amended only at a meeting of the congregation as a whole, whether that be an annual meeting or a special meeting convened for purposes of considering an amendment. At the suggestion of some members of the Board, we appointed a Bylaws Revision Committee a few months back. That Committee has now come forward with some recommendations, which will be considered by the Board next month.

Chief among those recommended amendments is one addressing a fundamental issue affecting our community: Who can be a member of Beth Sholom B'nai Israel? Currently, our Bylaws match what had been the past policy of the Conservative Movement, as mandated by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Under the existing Bylaws, only Jews can be members of BSBI. But in 2017, the USCJ modified that position to allow individual congregations to decide whether or not to recognize non-Jews as members. At the time, various arguments were made back and forth about the wisdom of this change. Ultimately, the change was adopted by USCJ by a vote of 94-8.

Our Bylaws Revision Committee is recommending that BSBI amend our Bylaws to take advantage of this change in USCJ policy and to permit non-Jewish spouses of Jewish members to be considered members of BSBI in their own right, and to continue in membership, if they choose, after death of or divorce from a Jewish spouse. Membership entails the right to vote at annual meetings and to hold positions of lay leadership in the congregation. Membership does not affect religious rules and practices, such as participation in services or burial in Jewish-only sections of our cemeteries.

In our view, the reasons for making this change far outweigh any concerns about it. BSBI promotes itself as a place of belonging and community, providing a sense of home where we find many opportunities to socialize with other congregants through a wide array of programs and activities. We cannot fully embrace this sense of home while excluding non-Jewish spouses as members. Whether we like it or not, intermarriage is a fact we cannot prevent or ignore. We should be welcoming these blended families; if we treat them as half-citizens, they are much more likely to be entirely lost to our faith. It was perhaps stated best by a congregation in Pennsylvania, which adopted the position that "An interfaith couple who makes the decision to join a synagogue is making a statement of commitment to the Jewish people. In affording synagogue membership to non-Jews, we are acknowledging this commitment and are recognizing their support of the Jewish partner and of the Jewish people."

Our Torah states, in Leviticus 19:34, that "The strangers who reside with you shall be to you as your citizens; you shall love each one as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God." The proposed change in our Bylaws to recognize non-Jewish members is consistent with the teachings of our faith. Yet it is a change to which some may have a strong initial reaction. Our members should have a voice in whether and how changes of this magnitude are approached. We encourage everyone to look up information about this change in the Conservative Movement and welcome all of those with an interest in the BSBI community to share their thoughts with us, or with other members of the BSBI Board of Directors, on this important issue. We can be reached at jgs@hksflaw.com or steiglfest@sbcglobal.net or by contacting the office.



Dawn & Jack Steigelfest
Co-Presidents, Beth Sholom B'nai Israel

Faith, Hope, Prayer

The oldest form of hate is anti-Semitism. It is first recorded in the Bible at the very beginning of Exodus where Pharaoh enslaves the Israelites because, without evidence, he fears they will join his enemies against the state. (The first claim that “Jews will not replace us.”) From that moment on, just because we have this stubborn habit of wanting to practice our own religion, we have been arrested, enslaved, tortured, maimed, and killed.

Should we be surprised in our day and age that anti-Semitism has again reared its ugly head? There are claims that the past 70 years, when Jewish hate was almost gone, was the result of the pain the world felt after the Holocaust. Now that this event is 70 years in the past, the world feels it is time to go back to the anti-Jewish sentiment that existed before World War II.

With our celebration of Purim this month, we can rejoice that one Jew hater, who tried to kill off the Jews of the Persian empire, was defeated. But while one enemy was destroyed, the idea of hating Jews goes on. Today we find anti-Semitism on both the left and the right sides of politics. The nationalists on the Right hate us because they believe that we are taking over their country (their country??) and on the Left, the liberals believe that we are suppressing and discriminating against the “poor Palestinians,” and this is why they feel they have the right to kill Israelis in Israel and Jews everywhere else in the world. The Left stands up for oppressed minorities, but somehow Judaism is not a minority that needs to be supported.

But we know all of this. What are we supposed to do about it? Being proud of who we are is one way we can fight back. Another is for us to join ranks with other oppressed minorities. We need allies in our fight against hate. The reality is that once one group faces discrimination, it will not be long until the others will face it too. I know that even in the ranks of other minorities there are those who hate Jews, but we have to ignore this minority within a minority. Once we become reliable allies, we will close the ranks against those who hate, and no longer allow the bigots to drive us apart. Together with those who experience discrimination because of race, gender, sexual orientation, and religious beliefs, we can stand fast against hate and bring more peace and equality to this world for everyone.

We can't fight hate with hate. We will have to join hands with our allies and give peace a chance.

Rabbi Randall J. Konigsburg



This Date in Jewish History

28 Adar I – 28 Adar II

1 Adar II – The British Commander-in-Chief of Palestine, in 1921, ended military proceedings against Vladimir Jabotinsky and 19 others for defending themselves against an Arab riot in Jerusalem.

17 Adar II – Legal status for the Jews of Spain was granted on this date in 1965 for the first time since 1492.

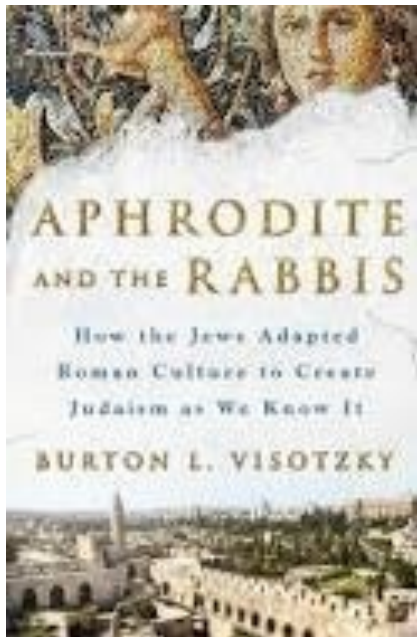
20 Adar II- Yahrzeit of Commodore Uriah Phillips Levy, who abolished corporal punishment in the US Navy, died in 1862.

27 Adar II – 26 Jews were wounded in Salzburg, Austria in 1951 in the first serious outbreak of anti-Semitism since World War II ended.

Rabbi Richard Plavin Library

David Alter, Librarian

Book of the Month:



Judaism has been adaptable through the ages and able to bend and change in response to externally changing conditions.

Judaism-in-the-Bible and modern Judaism are pretty different. *Aphrodite and the Rabbis* explores the transition from Biblical to Rabbinic Judaism.

Rabbi Burton Visotzky presents Judaism as a distinctly Roman religion. Full of fascinating detail from the daily life and culture of Jewish communities across the Hellenistic world, *Aphrodite and the Rabbis* will appeal to anyone interested in the development of Judaism, religion, history, art, and architecture.

The Greco-Roman culture in which rabbinic Judaism grew in the first five centuries of the Common Era nurtured the development of Judaism as we still know and celebrate it today.

David Alter
Librarian

Important: Update Your Contact Information!

- * Have a new cell number or gave up your landline?
- * Want to be added to our email list to get our bi-weekly announcements, sad news notifications and other important information related to the congregation?
- * Think you signed up to get emails but haven't received any?
- * Planning on moving or getting a new email address?
- * Have a child who has gone off to college and would like to keep up to date with life at BSBI?

Please contact the office directly regarding **ANY** changes or issues by or by sending an email to admin@myshul.org.

REMEMBER: We cannot reach you if our records are not up to date!

Social Action Committee

Spring is almost here. In a few months we will be restarting Jessie's Garden and hope to have other Spring projects in which you can participate. Watch for further information in the weekly announcements.

Periodically, we receive information from organizations that are looking for volunteers or help with members of our communities. CIRC (The Connecticut Immigrant & Refugee Coalition) is a Hartford-based organization that is currently engaged in resettling Afghan refugees in the Greater Hartford area. They are looking for donations (money, clothes, furniture, toys, bicycles, and even old cars) to help with resettlement. They are also in need of volunteers to teach English, and to provide transportation to appointments, school or food shopping. Furthermore, they are looking for employment opportunities and housing opportunities for families (if you know of any rental units available locally). Our committee will be exploring ways that we can help as a congregation, but if any of you are interested in getting involved, you can contact 860-727-5731.

Carol Hatch
Chair, Social Action

Did you know?

Purim was one of last of the Jewish holidays to enter the Jewish calendar.

The Torah has no holidays during the winter, so the rabbis added two holidays to that part of the calendar: Chanukah and Purim. They are both “exile” holidays. Chanukah celebrates the end of Greek occupation of the Temple, while Purim, which is older than Chanukah, was instituted to celebrate the end of the Persian exile and the victory over Haman. Chanukah celebrates delivery from the spiritual threat of assimilation, while Purim celebrates standing up against physical danger.

The Book of Esther in the Bible is read on Purim from a special scroll known as the Megillah. The story found in the Megillah begins with a party. The Persian king, Ahashveros, held a party to celebrate the anniversary of the Babylonian military victory over the Jews and the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. When his queen, Vashti, refused his command to join the party, he decided to find a new wife. All of the beautiful young women of Persia were paraded in front of Ahashveros, and he selected Esther to be his new queen.



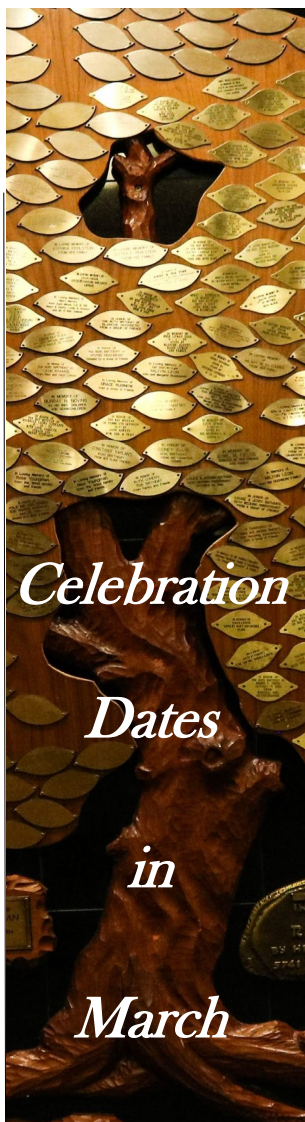
As we know, the prime minister Haman hated Mordecai, Esther’s cousin. Being a Jew, Mordecai would not bow down to Haman. Haman took revenge by threatening the Jews of Persia with annihilation. Haman’s edict was rescinded because of Esther’s willingness to confront his wicked threat. As a result, the Jews were blessed with “light, happiness, joy, and honor.”

Purim reminds us that we are never totally immune from the threat of evil. Yet it also demonstrates that we can make a difference in the world. Esther became a hero because she moved beyond the familiarity and safety of court life to support a moral cause; she did not remain simply the winner of a beauty pageant. Let us be like Esther by having the vision to do what is right and the courage to stand up to evil. By helping others, we can fulfill our role in the world.

School Announcements:

- Our Religious school will celebrate Purim on Sunday March 13 with the Megillah reading at 9:00 a.m. followed by skits, songs, and a costume parade.
- Members of our religious school have begun leading parts of the Shabbat morning service on dates when the Junior Congregation meets.
- We’re delighted to be back in our classrooms. Todah rabah (thanks) to the folks who planned and installed the new ventilation system for the school wing!

Rabbi Alan Lefkowitz
RLWRS Education Director



Birthdays

Elijah Miller 3/1	Michael Gross 3/17
Merle Cohen 3/2	Susan Stoppelman 3/18
Jeffrey Wasser 3/3	Elliot Lerman 3/19
Alec Zimmerman 3/4	Kenneth Wichman 3/19
Eveleen Zimmerman 3/4	Richard Abrahams 3/19
Brenda Bula 3/5	Ethan Luxemburg 3/20
Philip Klein 3/5	Simon Luxemburg 3/20
Alexander Feinstein 3/10	Harvey Weiner 3/21
Donna Feir 3/10	Joel Milzoff 3/23
Stephen Donnell 3/10	Rachel Singer 3/23
Harrison Blum 3/10	Robert Blum 3/25
Marjorie Partney 3/11	Elizabeth Goldberg 3/25
Hannah Partney 3/11	William Delaney 3/26
Diane Keyser 3/11	Jeffrey Pitler 3/27
Madeline Turk 3/13	Norman Fisher 3/28
Paula Finkelstein 3/14	Marilyn Lassow 3/28
Steven Leshin 3/17	Emily Buch 3/29

Anniversaries



3/22 David Stern & Rebecca Rumbo
3/24 Alan & Andrea Zitomer





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Have a *simcha* you want to share with the congregation?
Make sure to notify Allison at programming@myshul.org so
she can include it in the bulletin!

***If we have overlooked a special date please contact us at: 860-643-9563 ext. 100
so that we may celebrate it in the future.***



Sisterhood Speaks

Mimi Kalman, Editor



What's Ahead for Sisterhood?

Saturday, March 5

7:00 pm Sisterhood Film Night

Sunday, March 6

2:00 pm on Zoom Special Torah Fund Program

Tuesday, March 8

1:30 pm Knit & Kvetch

Monday, March 14

7:30 pm Hadassah - Sisterhood Book Group

Tuesday, March 22

7:30 pm Sisterhood Zoom Board meeting

Sunday, March 20

9:00 am - 4:00 pm "Spring into Action,"
Women's League Virtual Conference

Sunday, March 27

11:30 am Sisterhood Adventure Walk
(socially distanced)

Thursday, March 31

7:30 pm on Zoom Annual George and Lillian
Sandals Lecture

Our Annual Pesach Project

The Pesach Project will launch at the beginning of March 2022 and go until the beginning of April. Last year with your generous support we were able to collect over \$12,000 while we greeted one another with sweet Pesach wishes! We will be asking you to continue this tradition and will solicit your participation online and via mail. Once again all the details will be provided to make this a meaningful way to help those in need and send Pesach wishes to our Synagogue family.

Your donation continues to be hugely important, as the pandemic has had devastating effects on so many people economically. Last year on your behalf, we were able to fulfill the mitzvah of the feeding the hungry with 1/3 of the contributions going to Mazon, a national advocacy organization working to end hunger here in the United States, and another 1/3 to Leket, the National Food Bank in Israel. The remaining third went to our Sisterhood to further the good work we do for our congregation.

We hope that if you have participated in the past, you will continue that wonderful tradition and perhaps add a few more names to your list. If you have not yet participated, please consider joining this very worthwhile initiative. Look for the email with information and for the forms in the mail!

Sincerely,
Becky Murray
Pesach Project Chairperson

Sisterhood Gift Shop, Your Source for all Your Simchot

We have many wonderful items to select from, so please stop by and see us! Please don't hesitate to call Harriet Beede or Brenda Lerner and they'll arrange to meet you at the Gift Shop! If you don't find what you want, we can always do special orders from our catalogs. We look forward to seeing you then.

Call us, we will be happy to help you!

Harriet Beede,
hmbeede@gmail.com, 860-305-8711
Brenda Lerner,
brenler@cox.net, 860-643-9700

Sisterhood Film Night Saturday, March 5 at 7:00 pm

Join us for Film Night to watch *Above and Beyond*, the inspiring story of the Machai "volunteers from abroad," a group of Jewish American pilots who volunteered and helped in the Israeli War of Independence. They smuggled planes out of America and trained secretly in Czechoslovakia. This ragtag band of brothers turned the tide of the war in Israel's favor.

This will be an in-person event.



You are invited to a special Torah Fund program

North Atlantic Region of WLCJ is holding a special program on Sunday, March 6 at 2 p.m. on Zoom. The program is titled, "Women Rabbinical Students: Then and Now." It features Rabbi Debra, a Cantor (then) and current Rabbinical Student Rishe Groner (now). What has--or hasn't--changed since Jewish Theological Seminary began admitting women as Rabbinical Students?

The program is open to anyone who has donated at least \$18 to Torah Fund during the 2021-2022 B'Yachad campaign year. Watch your email for information on how to register.

The program is open to all who are interested.

Our chapter's Torah Fund Chair is Mimi Kalman. You can mail your check to her, made out to Torah Fund, at 163 Scott Drive, Manchester, CT 06042.

Share an Oneg

Email me if you would like to enhance your Simcha with pulpit flowers.

Mimi Kalman
Pulpit Flower Chair
mimrk524@gmail.com
860-649-3890

Sisterhood Speaks Continued

Adventure Walk

Hi Walkers, we'll be walking again on Sunday, March 27, at 11:30 am. For the winter months we will be giving extra time for the world to warm up, so note the change of time. Come with us, wear a mask, we'll keep our distance and get some exercise. If it's chilly, walking will definitely warm us up. We will see lovely scenery and enjoy being out in the fresh air! And as always, our walks are weather permitting.

Family members and spouses are welcome to join, socially distanced from those not in the family bubble.

So meet us in BSBI's parking lot by 11:30 am. We will decide where we are going and off we will go!

Margie Partney



Torah Fund Cards

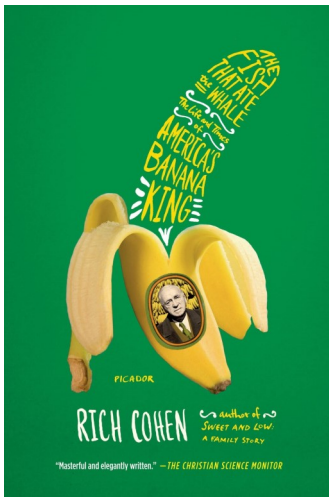
Get well to Jay Stoppelman from Cal and Elaine Vinick.

Condolences to the Levine-Ketai family in memory of Laura's mother, Carol Levine, and Get well to Jay Stoppelman from Mimi Kalman.

Get well wishes to Charlie Berger from Lynn and Jack Cohen.

To order cards for all occasions contact our Torah Fund Card Chairperson:
Lynn Cohen at (860-298-0457) or cohenlynn334@gmail.com

Sisterhood-Hadassah Book Group



Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 14th, at 7:30 pm on our own Zoom link.

The Mary Cheney Research librarian will be ordering two books for us. For our March meeting she will be ordering *The Fish that Ate the Whale* by Rich Cohen.

For our April meeting on April 4, she will be ordering *Something Wild* by Hannah Halperin.

Per usual, Mary Cheney Library's reference desk will be holding copies of the books for the BSBI Book Group. The zoom link will be posted closer to the meeting date.

Future meeting dates are April 4, May 9, and June 13.



Maxine Lerman and Becky Murray

Knit & Kvetch

If you love to knit or crochet, come do a Mitzvah and put your talents to use. Join Knit and Kvetch! We meet the second Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the Temple. This month our meeting date is Tuesday, March 8. We also work on our projects at home.

This year we are in need of hats, mittens, scarves and afghans.

If you are rusty in knitting or crocheting, we can help you with a refresher course.

We can always use 100 % acrylic yarns or monetary donations.

If you have any questions, you can email me at Iranefink@gmail.com or call me at 860-649-6551.

Anne Fink

Sisterhood Speaks Continued

Annual George and Lillian Sandals Lecture, on Zoom Thursday, March 31, 7:30 pm

This year our Annual George and Lillian Sandals Lecture will be on Zoom on Thursday, March 31 at 7:30 pm with guest speaker Rabbi Elena Zalman. She is the author of the book, *The Forever Letter*. *The Forever Letter* was inspired by the medieval tradition of an ethical will where parents would write to their children to pass on their values. They wrote with a sense of urgency, on the off chance that this was their last opportunity. In Hebrew, these ethical wills were originally known as tze-vah-oat, commandments, and some were even written in a commanding tone.

Elana Zaiman is the first woman rabbi from a family spanning six generations of rabbis. She began her rabbinic career at Manhattan's Park Avenue Synagogue and currently serves as a chaplain in Seattle's elder community.

Rabbi Zaiman travels throughout the US and Canada as a scholar-in-residence, speaker, and workshop facilitator. She has received rave reviews for her keynotes and workshops in synagogues, churches, interfaith gatherings, social service agencies, geriatric residences, law firms, women's organizations, private salons, and elder-law and financial and estate-planning conferences.

Rabbi Zaiman is a writer. Her essays, nonfiction, and fiction have been published in The Gettysburg Review, The Sun, Post Road, The Beloit Fiction Journal, The Dalhousie Review, Hotel Amerika, Clackamas Literary Review, American Letters & Commentary, and other venues. In addition, she is the Ethics and Spirituality columnist for the magazine Liv Fun.

Rabbi Zaiman lives in Seattle, WA with her husband and son.



Autumn Azure

“Spring into Action” Southern & North Atlantic Regions Virtual Conference Sunday, March 20, 2022

Our upcoming virtual Women's League Spring conference, “Spring Forward,” will be on March 20, 2022, from 9 to 4. The morning session, from 9 to 2:30, will be held jointly with the Southern Region, as we did last year. The afternoon session, from 2:45 to 4, will be only for our North Atlantic Region, or NAR. We will feature our Sisterhood Milestones and our Woman of Distinction, or WOD, awards.

Our chapter's Woman of Distinction this year is Lieba Bernstein. Lieba and her husband, Victor, joined BSBI in 2005 to be with extended family, after their oldest son, Steven, married Rabbi Plavin's daughter, Ilana. BSBI's diverse, down-to-earth, active, and engaging community became a place for the family to enjoy religious and social events via the congregation, their chavurah, Brotherhood, and Sisterhood. For a brief time, they served on the BSBI Board as co-membership chairs. They have made lifelong friends here.

Lieba had a wonderful Sisterhood role model, Sally Abbey, while attending Congregation Beth Ahm in Windsor CT, so joining BSBI's Sisterhood was inevitable. Here she found a caring, creative, dedicated, knowledgeable group of women whom she respects and enjoys.

As a member of our Board, she volunteered for various events, leading two special ones in 2008. In 2012, Lieba chose to become treasurer, a position she very recently resigned from, because she wanted to make a meaningful contribution to Sisterhood. This position increased her respect for Sisterhood's role as a doer for the congregation and the community.

Do plan on attending so that we can support our WOD special candidate.

The conference is offering a very worthwhile speaker, Rachel Shankman, a daughter of Holocaust survivors and former senior director of the Memphis office of Facing History and Ourselves; a chair Yoga session with Paula Coplon; and a fun project, Mosaic with Mia, with an American-Israeli mosaic muralist, Mia Schon.

The registration form is on the enclosed flyer. Please send the form and your \$18 registration fee by or before March 15 to Barbara Feivou, as in the instructions.

Brotherhood Corner

Brotherhood's March Speaker

March 6: Max Dolcelli - Professional Comic

Max Dolcelli will share anecdotes of his experiences growing up as an Italian immigrant and highlights of his career.

Dolcelli has toured & opened for Wayne Newton, Redd Foxx, Tim Allen, and many more. He also has the Dry Bar comedy special on TV, headlined countless comedy clubs in the US & Canada, and has entertained on cruise ships for 29 years.



Golf Tournament Proceeds

The golf tournament had another successful year. We raised \$12,500 for the Connecticut Children's Medical Center's Pediatric Oncology Unit and \$7,832 for Brotherhood.

BSBI Brotherhood member Spin Zucker holds up a check for \$ 7,832 from some of the proceeds of last year's golf tournament in Hebron on September 1, 2021.



Photo Credit - Harold Bernstein

World Wide Wrap



The BSBI Brotherhood had their annual World Wide Wrap on February 13, 2022.

This event brings thousands of Jewish kids, men, and women from all over the country to come together and learn about the mitzvah of tefillin.

Photo Credit - Harold Bernstein

Brotherhood's February Speaker

The BSBI Brotherhood had their February speaker, Connecticut Author Steve Leshin, also a Brotherhood member, on February 13.

Steven Leshin, a history major and a avid reader, became interested in historical fiction thrillers.

"Steve Leshin welcomes mystery crime enthusiasts back to the early 20th century. It's the Roaring Twenties, and hard-drinking private investigator Joshua Oates returns with a new case in *A Darker Shade of Greed*."



Photo Credit - Harold Bernstein

A Special Thank You

A special thank you to all who helped make Brotherhood Shabbat a success, especially Maury Luxemburg.

Leave a Jewish Legacy



IRA Assets and Qualified Charitable Distributions

BSBI would like to encourage charitable donations, to help our congregants optimize their charitable giving and to reach their charitable goals. On behalf of the Endowment Board of Trustees I would like to review some of the benefits of gifting Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) to the Endowment. The QCDs may also be used to pay Synagogue dues as well as contribute to the Hineni Society.

Donation of "Qualified Charitable Distributions" (QCD)

In legislation at year end 2016, Congress made permanent qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from individual retirement accounts.

What are QCDs?

A QCD permits direct transfers to a qualified charity (or charities) totaling up to \$100,000 annually of tax-deferred IRA savings. QCDs offer advantages over taking a taxable IRA distribution and then contributing the proceeds of that distribution to a charity. That's because taxable IRA distributions must be included in adjusted gross income. Importantly, QCDs automatically satisfy required minimum distributions (RMDs) for the year when the QCD is made. That's a real advantage for a charitably minded IRA owner who doesn't depend on some or all of the RMD for living expenses.

What are important things to know about QCDs?

Only individuals who've attained age 70 ½ or older on the date of distribution may make QCDs. The charitable organization must be an organization that qualifies for a charitable income tax deduction of an individual. The Beth Sholom B'nai Israel Synagogue and the BSBI Endowment qualify as such organizations. The BSBI Endowment and Synagogue will be required to provide the same contribution acknowledgement to the owner of the IRA required claiming a charitable tax deduction. Failure to obtain the acknowledgement will quash the QCD. QCDs may be made from any IRA or individual retirement annuity, but not from a simplified employee pension, a simple retirement account, or an inherited IRA. Among other benefits, the use of QCDs for charity may reduce taxable income, reduce state and federal tax, reduce taxation of social security, reduce supplemental IRMMA payments to Medicare parts B and D. Individuals and couples with low as well as high incomes may benefit by contributing QCDs to charity.

Examples of using QCDs for charitable giving

There are several attractive options for the use of QCDs for charitable giving. For example one can use the QCD to pay Synagogue dues and contribute to Hineni. Another example of optimizing the use of QCD is to establish a **perpetual endowment** fund. By making a QCD donation to the Endowment of BSBI, the donor may create a \$25,000 endowment for BSBI. This endowment may be given over the course of a number of years to reach the level necessary to provide perpetual support of a \$1000 to **Hineni**. By adding to the donation annually the donor could reach a \$45,000 over a number of years. This amount would support a **perpetual Hineni donation at the \$1800** per year level. Details of further possibilities and arrangements for payment can be obtained from the Endowment members or via email noted below. Since the use of QCDs for charitable giving can have specific tax advantages the donor should consult their tax advisor prior to making a QCD contribution. Some plans require significant lead time to process the paper work, so advanced planning may be necessary.

For further information, contact a member of the Endowment Committee. You may reach out to the BSBI Endowment at BSBIEndowment@myshul.org or directly to Roy Filkoff or Jeff Wasser. Remember to discuss this and all other tax matters with your tax advisor before taking any action.

Sincerely,
Jeff Wasser, MD
President of the BSBI Endowment

Will this be the year to leave YOUR Jewish legacy?



*Do you have a will?
Have you considered a bequest to BSBI?*

Join those members of our Jewish community who have come together to build endowments and legacies to secure a bright Jewish future for BSBI.



For more information, please email:
BSBIEndowment@myshul.org

Endowment Foundation

Scholarships	Rabbi Leon Wind Religious School	Adult Education	Community	General Endowment Fund	The Time is Now, The Need is Great! Endowments are an opportunity for each of us to provide for our synagogue on a continuous basis by creating a permanent tribute to our values and principles. Our synagogue is here for you as you experience life's greatest joys and greatest challenges. <i>The Endowment Foundation</i> *These funds can also be used in Rabbi Leon Wind Religious School
Gloria Byk Fund	Bayer/Davison Fund	Sylvia A. Cheikin Fund	Berkman Family Fund	Israel and Lillian Abramovitz Fund	
Ann and Emanuel Hirth Fund	David Sherman Foster Fund	Clare-Kramer Fund	Klemens-Wiener Fund	Sheldon and Doris Adler Fund	
Maxine & Efrem Jaffe Fund	Hochberg Family Fund	Ruth and Sidney Cohen Fund	Gordon Barshay Lassow and Jay Joshua Lassow Fund	Louis and Sadye Apter Family Fund	
Seymour B. Kaplan Fund	Jacobs Family Fund	Jack Goldberg Fund*	Esther Margulies Lessner and George C. Lessner Fund	Clare and Herbert Bernstein Fund	
Sonia and Max Karp and Anita Karp Treston Fund	Rose Jaffe Fund	F. Ruth and S. I. Kummer Fund	Jerome and Louise Nathan Fund	Raymond Bernstein Fund	
Joseph Kopman Fund	Katz-Robbins Fund	Fay and Benjamin Levy and Max Mandel Fund*	Ella and Herman Plavin Fund	Nathan Chesler Fund	
Anne and Leon Kramer Fund	Ruth Podrove Melton Fund	Aida S. Nesselroth Educational Enhancement Fund*	Plepler Family Fund	A. Elmer Diskan Fund	
Max Lundy Fund	Barney, Jean, Rachel, and Sarah Moses Education Fund	Saul and Carol Nesselroth Fund for Israel Advocacy	Jay E. Rubinow Fund	Ruben Fialkoff Fund	
Laurie Margolis Fund	Gertrude and Abraham Podrove Fund	George and Lillian Sandals Fund	Rita and David Schmerler Fund	Morris and Ann Firestone Fund	
Cantor Israel and Irene Tabatsky Fund	Podrove - Resnick Fund	Ruth and Jack Sandals Fund	Leonard Seader Fund	Rhoda Goldstein Fund	
Marsha and Samuel Yules Fund	Martin L. Rubin Fund	Rabbi Jeshaja and Hilde Schnitzer Fund	Shapiro Family Fund	Edith Gottlieb Fund	
Pauline and Isadore Zackin Fund	Nat N. and Gertrude Sturm Schwedel Fund	Saul and Rebecca Silverstein Fund	Eileen & Fred Stern Family Fund	Leo and Shirley Juran Fund	
Diane and Jeffrey Wasser Ramah Scholarship Fund	Berdine Spector Stoltz Fund	Weil-Braunsberg Fund*	Blanche and Robert Stone Fund	Kahaner Family Fund	
		Elliott and Eveleen Zimmerman Library Fund	Continuity Fund	Ethel and Nathan Kasowitz Fund	
			Program Enhancement	Marcus Family and Bula Family Fund	
			Beth Sholom B'nai Israel Operating Fund	Irving and Ethel Mehlman Rose Fund	
Religious	Youth	Maintenance/Capital Improvements	Memorial Park		
Max and Sally Glaiber and Joseph and Gertrude Snider Fund	Anna Brita Chilberg Fund	Bayer-Marlow Fund	Temple Beth Sholom Memorial Park Fund	Irma and Merwin Meridy Fund	
Howard Gold Fund	Nellie Katz Cohen Fund	Elaine and Leo Charendoff Fund	Congregation B'nai Israel Memorial Park Fund	Rita Oshinsky Fund	
Bernard and May Kahn and Eli and Rose Lerman Fund	Murray H. and Celia D. Novins Fund	David S. and Norma C. Garber Fund		Phair Family Fund	
Rubinow-Schwolsky Fund		Miriam Barshay Lassow and Herman Lassow Fund		Reichlin Family Fund	
Rebecca Ann and Herman Seidman Fund		Capital Improvement Fund		Pauline and Nathan Rubin Fund	
Irene and Henry Springer Fund				Israel and Shirley Snyder Family Fund	
Diane and Barry Weinbaum Fund				Gloria and Robert Weiss Fund	
Rabbi Leon Wind Fund				Edythe and Abraham Zubrow Fund	
Irene and Abraham Zimmerman Fund				Max Zucker Fund	

For information about establishing an Endowment Fund or leaving a bequest, contact Dr. Jeffrey Wasser BSBIEndowment@myshul.org or Rabbi Konigsburg 860-643-9563 x101.

Contributions from Thoughtful People

Thank you to those who support BSBI by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones with generous contributions.

Donations appearing in the newsletter may not reflect all donations received prior to publication. Listings are as current as the newsletter deadline allows.

ANNE & LEON KRAMER FUND

In memory of Anne Kramer, beloved mother and grandmother, from Carol & Paul Leiman and Family

BERDINE SPECTOR STOLTZ FUND

In loving memory of Saul Wyman on the occasion of his *yahrzeit* from Myrna Spector

F. RUTH & S. I. KUMMER FUND

In memory of Sandra Lavitt from Mara A. Lavitt

GENERAL FUND

For everyone to be healthy & strong from Arlene Bonilla

Get well to Jay Stoppelman from Elly and Steve Cohen

Get well to Dave Sawtelle from Ronald & Brina Abrahams

In memory of Mildred Malkin from Adam & Robin Lazinsk

In memory of Marilyn Weil from Anne and Ira Fink

In memory of Milly Malkin from Arnold & Ruth Zackin

In memory of Mildred Malkin, she was a wonderful, kind and overall “gem” of a lady who will be in our hearts forever, from Claire Sullivan

In memory of Marilyn Weil from Dr. Kenneth Wichman

In memory of Mildred Malkin, my dear friend. Dr. Malkin and Mildred became incredibly special people in our lives. Her death left a big hole in our heart, from Frank & Gloria Day

In memory of Marilyn Weil from Hanna Marcus

In memory of Marilyn Weil from Harold & Judy Meyer

In memory of Milly Malkin, a dear friend, from Irna Menschell

In memory of Marilyn Weil from Judith and Fredric Fox

In memory of Marilyn Weil from Merle Lassow

In memory of Leona Sandler, sister of Marna Kaye; in memory of Marilyn Weil from Mimi Kalman

In memory of Milly Malkin from Mrs. Audrey Davis

In memory of Milly Malkin from Neil & Sandi Brooks

In memory of Mildred Malkin from Raymond & Catherine Lefurge

In memory of Marilyn Weil from Sandi Phair

In memory of Celia Sholovitz on the occasion of her *yahrzeit* from William Gamzon

Yahrzeit of my grandmother, Rebecca Kahanofsky Novgard from Alan & Andrea Zitomer

Yahrzeit of Eugene Borgida from Charles & Joyce Borgida

Yahrzeit of Barney Wichman from David Wichman

Yahrzeit of Ellen Eliasoff Kloehn from Edward Kloehn

Yahrzeit of Martin Fayman from Judy Fayman

Yahrzeit of Elinor Friedman from Matthew & Randi Friedman

Yahrzeit of Hannah Handler from Michael Handler

Yahrzeit of Samuel Harry Keyser from Mr. David Keyser

GORDON BARSHAY LASSOW & JAY JOSHUA LASSOW FUND

Yahrzeit of Esther Frankel, I miss you Mom, from Marilyn Lassow

Yahrzeit of Jay Joshua Lassow from Mr. & Mrs. John E. Slattery

JOSEPH KOPMAN FUND

Yahrzeit of Helen Kopman from Judy Kopman-Fried

KAHN -LERMAN TRUST FUND

In memory of Carol Levine; in memory of Marilyn Weil; *yahrzeit* of Rose Lerman from Manuel & Maxine Lerman

LEONARD SEADER FUND

Get well Andrew Plepler; Happy anniversary David & Barbara Miller Schwartz; Happy birthday to Michelle Konigsburg; Happy birthday to

Maxine & Manny Lerman; Happy birthday to Jessica Zille; Happy birthday to Lisa Plavin; Happy birthday to Neil Ellis; *yahrzeit* of beloved sister, Dorothy Zundell; *yahrzeit* of Aunt Etta Buckman from Sissy Seader

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of Marilyn Weil from Arnold & Diane Keyser

NATHAN CHESLER FUND

In memory of my grandfather, Abraham Chesler, from Holly Gwyn Zabitz

In memory of Marilyn Weil; *yahrzeit* of Abraham Chesler from Mrs. Sharon Chesler

NELLIE KATZ COHEN FUND

Yahrzeit of beloved sister, Dorothy Zundell; *yahrzeit* of Aunt Etta Buckman from Sissy Seader

NICHUM AVAYLIM FUND

In honor of Cantor Wayne Krieger's special birthday; in memory of Marilyn Weil; in memory of Carol Levine; *yahrzeit* of Peter's father Herbert Buch from Drs. Peter & Emily Buch

In memory of Carol Levine from Dr. Richard Ketai & Dr. Laura Levine

RABBI LEON WIND FUND

In memory of Marilyn Weil from Jane Zimmerman

Yahrzeit of beloved mother, Natalie Zimmerman, from Jane Zimmerman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of Rabbi Konigsburg's thoughtfulness, from Joyce & Ed Epstein

In memory of Marilyn Weil. May she rest in peace, from Beverly Zetoff

In memory of Marilyn Weil. The world lost a kind and generous soul. My deepest condolences. May she rest in peace, from Renee Zetoff
Yahrzeit of my grandfather Kasil Fialkoff; *yahrzeit* of my grandfather Nejemia Levin from Pola Fialkoff

REICHLIN FAMILY FUND

In memory of Hedda Reichlin from Jay and Susan Stoppelman

In memory of Hedda Reichlin from Manuel & Maxine Lerman

In memory of Hedda Lillian Reichlin from Steven H. Hirth, Nino Zaridze, Reno and Marco

RITA & DAVID SCHMERLER FUND

In memory of Marilyn Weil, condolences to her son Jacob and the entire family from Lea and Alan Schmerler

SHABBAT LUNCHEON FUND

Get well Alan Feir from Elly and Steve Cohen

In memory of Marilyn Weil; *yahrzeit* of Joe Brandes from Philip & Susan Margolis

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Get well wishes to Jay Stoppelman, from Lea and Alan Schmerler
Yahrzeit of my beloved parents, May Seltzer Ross & Henry Ross, from Elaine Vinick

WEIL/BRAUNSBURG FUND

In loving memory of our good friend who will be sorely missed, Marilyn Weil, from Lynn and Jack Cohen

In loving memory of Marilyn Weil from Anonymous

March 2022 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 (28 Adar I) 12:30pm Lunch & Learn 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv 7:30pm BSBI Academy	2 (29 Adar I) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	3 (30 Adar I) Rosh Chodesh Adar II 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	4 (1 Adar II) Rosh Chodesh Adar II 5:26pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Shabbat Across America Sunset: 5:44pm	5 (2 Adar II) 10:00am Shabbat Services 6:30pm Havdalah 7:00pm Sisterhood Film Night Sunset: 5:45pm
6 (3 Adar II) 9:00am Hebrew school K-7 9:00am Morning Minyan 9:30am Brotherhood Breakfast & Speaker	7 (4 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	8 (5 Adar II) 12:30pm Lunch & Learn 1:30pm Knit & Kvetch 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv 7:30pm BSBI Academy	9 (6 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	10 (7 Adar II) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	11 (8 Adar II) 5:34pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Friday Services Sunset: 5:52pm	12 (9 Adar II) Parshat Zachor 10:00am Shabbat Services 6:38pm Havdalah Sunset: 5:53pm
13 (10 Adar II) 9:00am Hebrew school K-7 10:00am RLWRS Purim Program	14 (11 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv 7:30pm Sisterhood/Hadassah Book Club	15 (12 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	16 (13 Adar II) Taanit Esther Erev Purim 6:00pm Purim Service & Program	17 (14 Adar II) Purim 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	18 (15 Adar II) Shushan Purim 6:00pm Friday Services 6:42pm Candle Lighting Sunset: 7:00pm	19 (16 Adar II) 10:00am Shabbat Services 7:46pm Havdalah Sunset: 7:01pm
20 (17 Adar II) 9:00am Hebrew school K-7	21 (18 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	22 (19 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv 7:30pm Sisterhood Board Meeting (Zoom)	23 (20 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv 7:30pm BOD Board Meeting	24 (21 Adar II) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	25 (22 Adar II) 6:00pm Friday Services 6:50pm Candle Lighting Sunset: 7:08pm	26 (23 Adar II) Shabbat Mevarchim Parshat Parah 10:00am Shabbat Services 10:00am Junior Congregation 7:54pm Havdalah Sunset: 7:09pm
27 (24 Adar II) 9:00am Hebrew school K-7 10:00am Sisterhood Adventure Walk	28 (25 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	29 (26 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	30 (27 Adar II) 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv	31 (28 Adar II) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm Mincha/Maariv 7:30pm Sandals Lecture (Zoom)		

Please note that the *Chai Lights* calendar dates are as of the date of publishing. Any schedule changes after this time will be posted on the online calendar at myshul.org and included in the weekly announcements. These sources will have the most up to date information on events.



BSBI has been given the opportunity to accept donations of vehicles through a partnership with Vehicles For Charity to process donated

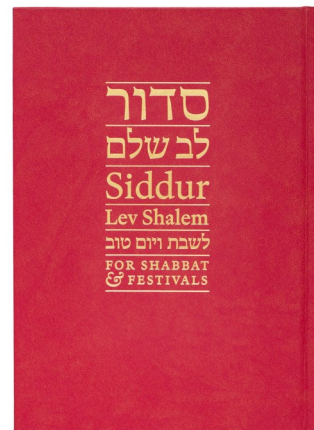
vehicles. Consider donating your unwanted vehicle in support of BSBI. It is easier and faster than selling it on your own, and you may qualify for a tax deduction! Donors say it is a satisfying way to make a larger donation than they normally could.

Vehicles accepted by this program include: unwanted car, truck, boat, motorcycle, RV or recreational vehicles.

For more information go to:

<https://www.vehiclesforcharity.org>

We have now made the switch to the new *Siddur Lev Shalem*! Similar to the *Machzor Lev Shalem* we use on Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, *Siddur Lev Shalem* includes informational side notes and extra readings on each page to help everyone get more out of Shabbat *te-phillot* (prayer). We are now offering opportunities to dedicate these siddurim in honor of people or events in our lives or in memory of loved ones. A siddur can be dedicated for just \$50 a book. If you would like to see a copy of the new siddur, they are available for inspection at the synagogue.



Beth Olam Cemetery

The lock at Beth Olam has been replaced and now no key is required. The combination is 1818.

There is a reminder near the lock in case you have forgotten the combination.



Please follow the directions below to use the new lock:

- The lock is located under the black weatherproof cover
- Pull the lock over the black weatherproof cover
- Turn the number to 1818-line them up with the red line
- Lock will pull apart
- When done, reattach the cable to lock it
- Turn at least one number to secure lock
- Replace the lock under the black weatherproof cover

Don't Forget to Check Out MyShul.org!

Our website has all the latest information on upcoming events, class and event registration, secure online donations, and shopping opportunities that support BSBI!

If you would like to send in any pictures, videos, or upcoming event information, please email programming@myshul.org.



Beth Sholom B'nai Israel

Support BSBI with AmazonSmile!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support BSBI every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as at Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price. For detailed instructions for how to sign up, visit our website at:

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Haaretz, Maariv, and the
Jerusalem Post.

For news of
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there's only the
Journal Inquirer

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Please Do Not Delay

THE MARCH *CHAI LIGHTS* DEADLINE IS **MARCH 14TH**
PLEASE SEND ALL ARTICLES TO **PROGRAMMING@MYSHUL.ORG**

BSBI Community Seder 5782

The second night of Passover, Saturday, April 16, 2022
400 Middle Turnpike East, Manchester, CT

Gourmet Kosher Meal:
Beef Brisket, Chicken,
or Vegetarian



Seder begins at 7:15 pm
Dinner around 8:30 pm
Passover wine included!

Join us as we celebrate the second night of Passover together as a community!
Traditional rituals, songs, and contemporary discussion led by Rabbi Konigsburg.

See flyer for additional information

BSBI Community Seder 5782

The second night of Passover, Saturday, April 16, 2022
400 Middle Turnpike East, Manchester, CT

Gourmet Kosher Meal:
Beef Brisket, Chicken,
or Vegetarian



Seder begins at 7:15 pm
Dinner around 8:30 pm
Passover wine included!

Join us as we celebrate the second night of Passover together as a community!
Traditional rituals, songs, and contemporary discussion led by Rabbi Konigsburg.

COVID Precautions in Effect: Masks will be worn unless actively eating!
We need your input! Distinct registering parties will be seated at a social distance
unless you tell us who you have arranged to sit with at the same table.

Adults: \$45
Teens 13-19: \$18
Kids under 13: \$10

Adults who register and **pay by March 24th** will get the early bird price of \$36 per person.
ALL reservations close on March 31, 2022.

To register, pay online at myshul.org

Questions? Contact Dawn Steigelfest at steiglfest@sbcglobal.net or call the office at
860-643-9563.

If cost is an obstacle, contact Rabbi Konigsburg 860-643-9563 x101 or
rabbenu@myshul.org

Donations to offset the cost of someone who needs financial assistance are welcome!

Need help registering? Call the office.

North Atlantic Region WLCJ Spring Conference 2022

Sunday, March 20

9:00-4:00

“Spring Forward”

RSVP by MARCH 15th

Complete and send this registration form, with your \$18 check made out to NAR WLCJ

To: Barbara Feivou

26 Robin Brook Drive, Newington, CT 06111

Please also email Barbara Feivou at b.feivou@sbcglobal.net when you mail your registration form so she can count you in and confirm your email address.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Sisterhood affiliation or Individual Member: _____

We will be having lunch in breakout rooms to discuss programming ideas informally. Please pick your first and second choices of topic:

____ Social Action
____ Torah Fund

____ Tikkun Olam
____ Ways and Means

In the spirit of our Conference theme “Spring Forward”, and to support WLCJ's Project Stock the Shelves, we are encouraging all attendees to make a donation to a local food bank.

The Zoom link will be emailed to you prior to the conference.

Registration questions? Contact Barbara Feivou at b.feivou@sbcglobal.net, 860-665-0572.

If you have any questions about Conference, please contact the Conference Chairs:
Vicki Isman vicki.isman@gmail.com, 617-290-7992
or Judy Meyer jgm06074@yahoo.com 860-644-9271



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