

Volume 5784.6

BSBI'S CHAI LIGHTS

February 2024



LET'S WELCOME OUR FIRST RABBI CANDIDATE: RABBI STEFANIE GEDAN



Rabbi Gedan will lead services on Friday night and Saturday morning, conduct a lesson on Saturday afternoon, and meet with school parents on Sunday morning.

FEBRUARY 23RD - 25TH

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

Clergy

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rabbenu@myshul.org

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BSBI Board of Directors

President: Russ Benblatt

Co-Vice Presidents of Finance: Alan & Hope Igdalsky

Co-Vice Presidents of Membership: Judy Meyer / Ilene O'Neil

Co-Vice Presidents of Ritual: Maury Luxemburg / Paul Rubin

Co-Vice Presidents of Education: Rebecca Rumbo / Bea Brodie

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Vice President of Buildings & Grounds: Ed Reilly

Recording Secretary: Steven Wollins

Immediate Past Co-Presidents: Dawn & Jack Steigelfest

Sisterhood Representative: Brina Abrahams

Brotherhood Representative: Dave Alter

Board of Trustees Representative: Liza Mandel

Member At Large: Jay Bigman

Member At Large: Spin Zucker

Chair, Personnel: Mike Turk

Co-Chairs, Social Action: Deb Carlson / Susan Mendelsohn

Chair, Adult Programming: Gayle Block

Legal Counsel: Bruce Beck

Services

Monday - 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 our services.

**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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 4 • 25 Shevat

9:00AM Rabbi Konigsburg at Unitarian
Universalist Church East

Monday, February 5 • 26 Shevat

7:30PM Wisdom in Winter

Wednesday, February 7 • 28 Shevat

7:40 PM Sisterhood/Hadassah Book Club

**Shabbat, February 10 • 1 Adar I Rosh
Chodesh Adar I**

12:30PM Brotherhood Shabbat Lunch

Sunday, February 11 • 2 Adar I

9:00AM World Wide Wrap
9:30AM Brotherhood Breakfast & Speaker

Tuesday, February 13 • 4 Adar I

1:30PM Knit & Kvetch

Thursday, February 15 • 6 Adar I

5:00PM Bulletin Submission Deadline

Wednesday, February 21 • 12 Adar I

7:30PM Board Meeting

Friday, February 23 • 14 Adar I

Purim Katan

7:30PM Friday Night Services with Rabbi
Gedan

8:30PM Oneg with Rabbi Gedan

Shabbat, February 24 • 15 Adar I

10:00AM Shabbat Services with Rabbi Gedan

11:00AM Junior Congregation

12:30PM Shabbat Lunch with Rabbi Gedan,
with lesson to follow

Sunday, February 25 • 16 Adar I

10:00AM Sisterhood Adventure Walk

Tuesday, February 27 • 18 Adar I

7:30PM Sisterhood Board Meeting

Condolences to:

Billy (Jeanne) Lipton, Donald Lipton, Judi
(Ed) Goldberg, and Jeff (Joanne) Lipton on
the loss of their mother, Eleanor Lipton



Find us on
Facebook

facebook.com/myshul

Update from the Rabbi Search Committee

We are delighted to announce that our first candidate, Rabbi Stefanie Gedan, will visit BSBI during the weekend of February 23-25. She will lead services on Friday night and Saturday morning, conduct a lesson on Saturday afternoon, and meet with school parents on Sunday morning. We encourage all members to attend one or more events during Rabbi Gedan's visit.

Rabbi Gedan has extensive training and service that provide a solid foundation for a career as a congregational rabbi. Her resume is impressive, and we welcome the opportunity for our members to get to know her in person.

After the visit, we will, as in past searches, distribute a survey to solicit input from all our members. Please mark this weekend on your calendar, and plan to join us in meeting Rabbi Gedan.



Biography:

Rabbi Stefanie Gedan is a chaplain resident at New York Presbyterian in Brooklyn. She received her rabbinic ordination in May 2023 from the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) and graduated with a Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters and a certificate in pastoral care. While at JTS, Rabbi Gedan was the rabbinic intern at the Glen Rock Jewish Center, in Glen Rock, NJ, the student rabbi at the Fitzgerald Hebrew Congregation in Fitzgerald, GA, and the rabbinic intern at Adath Jeshurun Congregation in Minnetonka, MN.

Rabbi Gedan was commissioned as an officer in the United States Navy Chaplain Candidate Program, and trained as a chaplain at White Plains Hospital, in White Plains, NY and the New Jewish Home in Manhattan. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2017 with a Bachelor of Arts in Jewish Studies, with an emphasis in modern Hebrew. Between college and rabbinical school, she spent a year at Yeshivat Hadar studying Jewish texts. In her spare time, Rabbi Gedan enjoys board games with friends and spending time with her three nephews in Westchester County.

Don't forget to register for these events!

Friday Night Services & Oneg

Friday, February 23rd at 7:30pm (note change of time)

Join us as Rabbi Gedan leads Friday night services beginning at 7:30pm followed by an Oneg.

[Register for the Oneg](#)

Shabbat Morning Services & Lunch

Saturday, February 24th at 10:00am

Join us for Shabbat Morning Services, a Luncheon, and a Saturday Afternoon Lesson.

[Register for Shabbat Lunch](#)

The Rabbi Search Committee

Faith, Hope, and Prayer

What is a Conservative/Masorti Jew supposed to do? We volunteer (or are volunteered) to do a D'var Torah. We look up the parashah for the week and then ...?

Clearly the best place to find material for a D'var Torah is online. Unless we have a library of rabbinic sources, most of what we need we can find on the internet. The question is, however, where do we look on the internet?

For all too many of us, the first site we examine is a site designed for Orthodox Jews. For some reason this is the first place our search takes us. These sites certainly have a great deal of material, and besides, where else would we go to find information on the parashah?

Well, it turns out there are many places to go to get a modern and meaningful interpretation of the parashah and to find interesting teachings about Jewish holidays. The first place to look for all things Jewish is Exploring Judaism <https://www.exploringjudaism.org/>. This is the official place to look up anything Jewish from a non-Orthodox point of view; it is sponsored by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) and has a wealth of information that is easy to read and full of helpful topics. It even has ideas on how to write a better D'var Torah.



The Jewish Theological Seminary is the flagship of learning for our movement. It too has many resources for creating a D'var Torah. At the JTS Torah Online site, <https://www.jtsa.edu/jts-torah-online/> one can find an archive of teachings by many great scholars and from some rabbinical students. It does not take a long time to see which scholars have the best approach to the parashah for you.

Our movement in Israel also has great resources. The Schechter Institute, our seminary in Jerusalem, has its own archive of parashah material <https://schechter.edu/articles/> with some of the best scholarship our movement has to offer. The Conservative Yeshiva has an archive of Divrei Torah, the weekly email they send on the parashah Torah Sparks. If you wish, you can subscribe and get a take on the parashah each week.

I also recommend the sermons and postings of several Conservative rabbis who have archives of what they have written about the parashah: Rabbi Sharon Brous of IKAR in Los Angeles <https://ikar.org/sermons/>; Rabbi Aaron Alexander of Adas Israel in Washington, DC has an archive of source sheets that can help you frame a D'var Torah <https://www.adasrael.org/sourcesheets>; Rabbi Eliot Cosgrove of the Park Avenue Synagogue <https://pasyn.org/resources/sermons>; and Rabbi Jeremy Kalmanofsky of Anshe Chesed of New York <https://www.anshecheded.org/blog/>

Orthodox Judaism may have much to teach us, but we first must look to our own resources for information and inspiration. There is a lot of material out there on the internet. Let us first turn to our own Movement before we move on to others.

Rabbi Randall J. Konigsburg



As I write this column, it is now the 100th day since the terrorist attack in Israel, and the 100th day that 132 hostages still remain in captivity. 100 days too long. I'm sure that this is something that you all already know, so you must be wondering why I'm writing to tell you about this when by the time you read it, that milestone will be a few weeks in the past.

On October 7th and for the few weeks afterwards, the war was ever-present for all of us. Whether we were experiencing the war through the news, social media, or conversations with friends & colleagues, it was right there in front of us and hard to avoid. Which was fine since we're all Jews, and as it has happened many times throughout history, someone was rising up to try and destroy us and we were fighting back. We wanted it to be at the forefront of our daily lives, because whether or not we lost friends or family on that Shabbat morning... we all felt as if it were happening to us.

But as time has a way of doing, it continued to move forward. The demands of our work and family lives slowly crept back in, and day by day it reclaimed some of our focus. The war in Israel, half a world away, for most of us was no longer at the center of our daily lives. I'm not saying that we forgot what was happening, it just wasn't occupying most of our waking hours.

Not all of us were that fortunate. Some of us have family in Israel, and whether they're serving in the military or displaced & living in temporary shelters, it keeps the war closer. Some of us lost family and haven't yet coped fully, so our grief keeps us connected to the war. And some of us have jobs that are directly tied to the war and the relief efforts, so whether or not we want it to be, it's there every day.

But for most of us, the war isn't front and center anymore, it's just one of the things that make up our lives. And this scares me.

As Jews we **MUST** keep this front and center, we **MUST** counter the misinformation that our children are reading online...and as the world points at Israel and demands a cease-fire, we **MUST** remind them that there **WAS** a cease-fire on October 6th, and Hamas broke it by slaughtering more than 1200 innocent civilians, our brothers and sisters.

We can't let people forget why and how this war started. We can't let people forget the atrocities committed that morning, most too brutal and disturbing to mention. We can't let people forget that this is not the first time that Israel's neighbors in that part of the world have tried to annihilate us.

We can't let people forget that Never Again, is Now.

I apologize if my column this month is a bit unsettling to any of you, but I'm one of the people that is still living this war every day because it's my job. And I'm troubled that while this war continues, every day I encounter people who "haven't thought about the war" for a day or two.

BRING OUR HOSTAGES HOME

Am Yisrael Chai
Russ Benblatt
President, BSBI

Community

Save the Date: Sharing Shabbat

March 29th

Join us after Friday night services for a dinner catered by the Crown. The dinner choices are roasted chicken, toasted potatoes, green beans OR eggplant casserole (vegetarian). The kids' meal is chicken nuggets & French fries. All plates will include challah and be followed by dessert baked in the synagogue.

\$22 per person for adults

\$6 children

Registration will open soon and updates will be posted to the Bulletin, website and weekly emails.
See you there!

- The Programming Committee

Help Wanted

From Monday through Thursday, we gather a minyan for prayer in our chapel. But we can't gather a minyan without you. Many people have signed up for Jewry Duty and some have signed up for multiple days. Both our regulars and our volunteers are a vital part of helping to make a minyan.

We need more participants; there are many days when we do not have enough volunteers signed up. Sometimes a regular cannot make it. All too often we are left far short of the ten adult Jews we need. When we don't have enough attendees, those who are saying Kaddish and those who are observing a Yahrzeit are unable to recite the Kaddish at all. There are many prayers that we cannot say without a minyan, and we need your help to get us over the line.

While it is an emotional hardship for those observing a Yahrzeit to come to minyan and find that there are not enough people there, I am going to turn the tables here and note that if we each expect to have a minyan when we need one, we must also do what we can to help others when they are in need by being there for them. For now, Mondays and Thursdays are our most difficult days; we need your help.

Be there for others so they will be there for you. Support our Minyan on the days you don't need it, so that it will be there for you for your memorial observances.

Your help is wanted and needed. Can you give us one day a month? Or one day a week? Help keep our minyan alive by adding your name to the list.

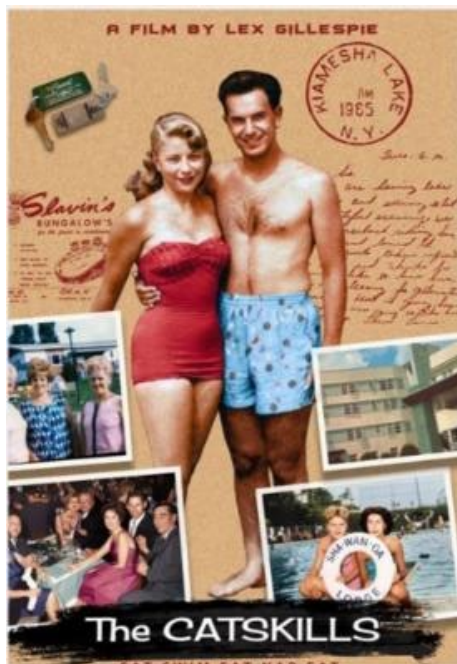
JCC Film East of the River Documentary Film: *The Catskills*

The Parkade of Manchester

Thursday, March 28 at 7:00pm

Join the Phyllis Hoffman Hartford Jewish Film Festival at the Parkade Cinema in Manchester for a screening of *The Catskills*.

The Catskills is a humorous and nostalgic tribute to what became affectionately known as the Borscht Belt. Stand-up comedians share their best shtick while former waiters, entertainers, and dance instructors recount tales of the family-run resorts and bungalows that inspired films like *Dirty Dancing*. Featuring home movies, publicity photos, postcards, and menus, this time capsule provides an overview of Jewish immigration to New York going back to the early twentieth century.



[Click here to buy tickets](#)

[Learn more about JCC's Film Festival](#)

Rabbi Leon Wind Religious School Update

A Teaching Moment with Rabbi Alan

This month of February would have been my father's 98th birthday. Here is a story to memorialize his many blessings and as well the blessings of all fathers.

A Story: Dad's Blessings

A young man was getting ready to graduate from college. For many months he had admired a beautiful sports car in a dealer's showroom. Knowing that his father could easily afford it, he told him that was all he wanted.

As Graduation Day approached, the young man awaited signs that his father had purchased the car. Finally, on the morning of his graduation, his father called him into his private study. His father told him how proud he was to have such a fine son and told him how much he loved him. He handed his son a beautifully wrapped gift box. Curious, but somewhat disappointed, the young man opened the box and found a lovely, leather-bound Bible, with the young man's name embossed in gold. Angry, he raised his voice to his father and said, "With all your money, you only gave me a Bible?" and stormed out of the house, leaving the Bible.

Many years passed, and the young man was very successful in business. He had a beautiful home and wonderful family, but realizing that his father was very old, he thought perhaps he should go to visit him. He had not seen him since that graduation day. Before he could make arrangements, however, he received a telegram telling him his father had died and had willed all his possessions to his son. He needed to come home immediately and take care of things.

When he arrived at his father's house, sadness and regret filled his heart. He began to search through his father's important papers and saw the still-new Bible, just as he had left it years ago. With tears, he opened the Bible and began to turn the pages. As he did so, a car key dropped from the back of the Bible. It had a tag with the dealer's name—the same dealer who had shown the sports car he had desired. On the tag was the date of his graduation, and the words "PAID IN FULL." In his youthful haste and anger, he had failed to see that his father had given him exactly what he had hoped for.

How many times do we miss blessings and answers to our prayers because they do not arrive exactly as we expect them? There are many people who miss these signs and wonders, even though they call themselves spiritual.

I remember preparing to become a Bar Mitzvah. My Dad had me practicing the service and my Torah reading while we traveled from Albany to Brooklyn, a good three hours each way. The day of my celebration was a glorious simcha, one I will never forget, especially my Dad helping me with the preparation. It was the beginning of a lifelong gift.

Today's thought: "Today I look beyond the obvious and allow miracles to be created in my life, remembering that miracles happen through me, not for me!"

Rabbi Alan

School News

In late January, our students celebrated Tu B'Shvat (the New Year of the Trees) with the students from Temple Beth Hillel in South Windsor. Each child was encouraged to bring a fruit whose name begins with either their first or last initial to share at the Tu B'Shvat seder. The highlight of the program was a livestream with someone in Israel to see the many types of fruit trees that grow there, and to learn how the holiday is celebrated in Eretz Yisrael. The seder also provided a wonderful opportunity for children East of the River to socialize. We are delighted that Rabbi Alan is in a position to plan these occasional joint programs, which help to unify the larger Jewish community.

One Saturday each month, Rabbi Alan conducts a Junior Congregation service; congregants are welcome to attend all or part of the service. Those who attend not only learn more about the Shabbat service, but also enjoy watching our students practice leading the prayers. In February, Junior Congregation will meet at 11 a.m. on Saturday, 2/24. (There will also be a congregational Shabbat luncheon on this date.) We hope to see you there!





Celebration Dates

Happy Birthday to:

Debra Carlson 2/1	Neil Ellis 2/10	Thomas Mastronarde 2/18
Rennette Resnick 2/2	Wendy Videll 2/12	Anne Herman 2/20
Alan Feir 2/3	Andrea Tardif 2/13	Kristen Hauer 2/21
Herbert Koenig 2/3	Lisa Plavin 2/16	Barbara Bayer 2/22
Manuel Lerman 2/5	Joel Lang 2/17	Michelle Konigsburg 2/23
Jay Bigman 2/6	Ira Fink 2/17	Trudy Singer 2/24
Miriam Schwartz 2/7	Donna Caplin 2/17	Elijah Blumenstein 2/25
Edward Reilly 2/9	David Riedel 2/17	Robert Caplin 2/26
Maxine Lerman 2/9	Susan Mendelsohn 2/17	

Happy Anniversary to:

Harvey & Elaine Kahaner 2/2
 Mrs. Cara Taback and Mr. Alexander Feinstein 2/8
 Drs. Peter & Emily Buch 2/17
 Lorin Pasternak & Scott Brennan 2/17

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 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!



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.

What's Ahead for Sisterhood

Wednesday, February 7

7:40 pm (note change of day and time)
Sisterhood/Hadassah Book Group on
Zoom

Tuesday, February 13

1:30 pm Knit and Kvetch at BSBI

Sunday, February 25

10:00 am Sisterhood Adventure Walk

Tuesday, February 27

7:30 pm Sisterhood Board Meeting on
Zoom

Saturday, March 9

Sisterhood Movie Night

SAVE THE DATE!! Sisterhood Movie Night

Saturday, March 9, 7:00 pm
We haven't chosen the movie yet,
but you know it will be a good one!

Share an Oneg

Call or email me if you would like to enhance
your simcha with pulpit flowers.

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

Torah Fund Cards

Condolences to the Margolis family in memory
of Phil's mother, Brenda from Sue and Ron
Scherick.

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

Sisterhood Gift Shop:

Your Source for all Your Smachot

The Gift Shop is being set up for Shabbat. Please
stop by to see all that is new! For each Shabbat
item purchased you will receive a raffle ticket.
The winner will awarded a homemade challah
to be given out before Shabbat. The raffle will be
held in mid-March.

If you don't see what you want, please give either
Harriet Beede (860-305-8711) or Brenda Lerner
(860-643-9700) a call and we'll be happy to meet
with you or order something special.

Harriet Beede, hmbeede@gmail.com
Brenda Lerner, brenler@cox.net

Adventure Walk

We will be walking as a group on February 25. We will meet at the BSBI
parking at 10:00 am, decide where we will go and then we're off. And as
always, our walk is weather permitting.

We will need a substitute leader for March. If you are able to do it, please let
me know.

Margie Partney



Knit & Kvetch

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 13th at 1:30 pm in the BSBI
library. Have you found yourself with extra time on your hands lately? Come
join us, we'll be happy to teach you how to knit or crochet. We knit or crochet
hats, scarves, and afghans to give away to people who really need those items.

Besides helpers, we can always use donations. Look in your closets; see any
yarn (acrylic only) that we can use? We'll take it. We can also use checks to
help us buy more yarn. Just make out the check to BSBI Sisterhood, write
Knit and Kvetch on the memo line, and you can either mail it to BSBI or leave
it in the BSBI office and ask for it to be put in the Sisterhood box.

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

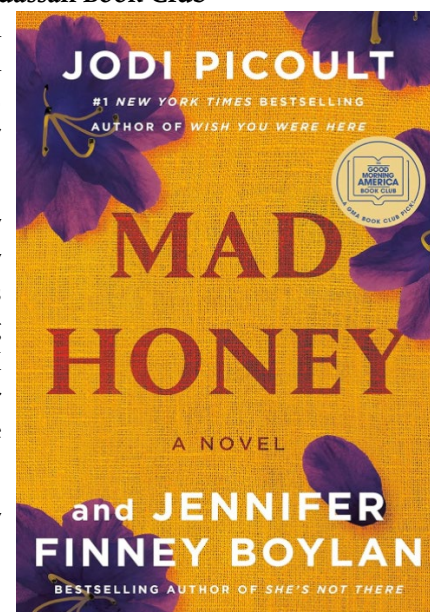
Anne Fink

Sisterhood/Hadassah Book Club

Our next meeting will be on
Wednesday, February 7 at 7:40 pm on
Zoom. **Please note change of day.**
If you want to catch up with other
members you can log on at 7:30 pm.

We are reading *Mad Honey* by Jody
Picoult for discussion. The Mary
Cheney Research librarian has
ordered books and will be holding
copies of the book for the BSBI
Book Group. The zoom link for our
meetings will be posted closer to the
meeting date.

Maxine Lerman and Becky Murray



Brotherhood Corner

A Word From Our Brotherhood President

Hello BSBI!

Sadly, we had to postpone our first Brotherhood meeting of 2024 ... but a little snow can't stop us! We rescheduled for January 14, and were still able to welcome our very own Emma Luxemburg!

Coming up in February we've got some exciting events!

Brotherhood Shabbat & Kiddush Luncheon– February 10

The members of the BSBI Brotherhood will lead us through services and Torah readings. We all look forward to this event because it allows us to give a little something back to the shul, and show off some of the great programming we've had over the last year. We hope you'll stay after services and join us for our Kiddush Luncheon. Special thanks to Maury Luxemburg & Manny Lerman who have once again taken the lead in planning for this fun Shabbat!

World Wide Wrap – February 11 – OPEN TO ALL

Please join us for this annual event where we come together with synagogues around the country and celebrate the Mitzvah of wrapping tefillin. Don't have tefillin ... no problem ... we've got lots of extra pairs. Aren't sure how to wrap tefillin ... NO PROBLEM ... we have plenty of people to show you how. And if you're already a pro, and want to help others learn how, please contact either Maury Luxemburg or me, Glenn Hauer.

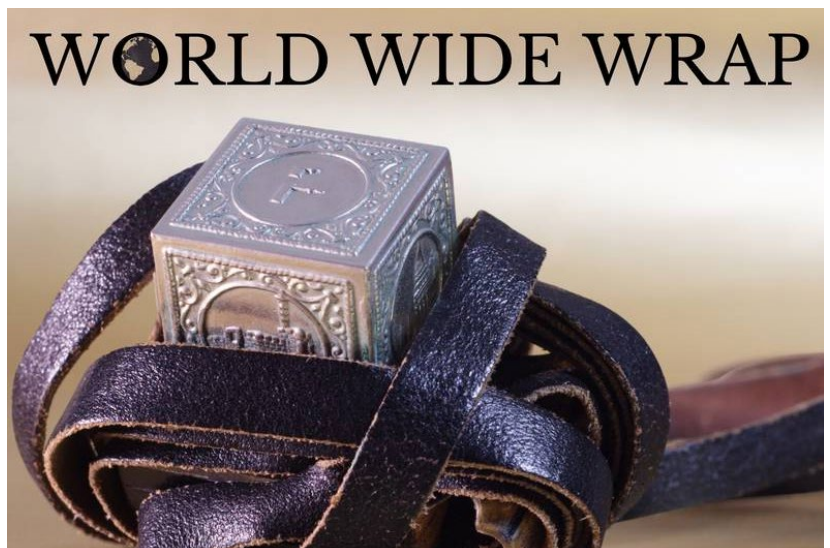
Everyone who joins us for the World Wide Wrap will all be treated to a special breakfast afterwards, even our Hebrew School kids!

If you would like to volunteer to help set up for the Shabbat Luncheon or the World Wide Wrap, please contact me, let me know what you would like to do, and we will add you to our list of helpers.

We look forward to seeing you all weekend for Brotherhood Shabbat and World Wide Wrap.



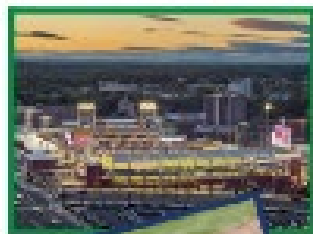
In brotherhood,
Glenn Hauer
Brotherhood President





Hartford Yard Goats

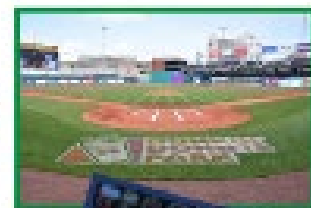
**BSBI Brotherhood Presents
Jewish Heritage Day at
Dunkin' Park**



SUNDAY, JULY 28TH 2024

GAME TIME: 1:10pm GATES OPEN: 11:30am

**HARRISBURG SENATORS (WASHINGTON NATIONALS)
VS.
THE HARTFORD YARD GOATS (COLORADO ROCKIES)**



*Featuring:
Reserved Seating
Kosher Food Options Available
Pre-Game Klezmer Band Performance
Post-Game Kids-Run-the-Bases Activity
Special Jewish Community Leadership Ceremony*



BSBI Brotherhood has reserved seats for the upper field box section 104 at a group rate of \$17 each. Each ticket includes a complimentary \$2 value for food, drink, or merchandise. Please reserve your tickets early. Your order with payment must be received no later than July 5th to allow adequate time for us to complete the order and arrange for delivery to you by email.

Make checks for tickets payable **ONLY** to "BSBI Brotherhood," and mail with your completed order form to:
BSBI-Yard Goats, c/o Steven D. Cohen, 29 Leela Way, Telard, CT 06084
Your tickets will be reserved once your payment is received.
Please email questions to Steve at ctctxdoc@gmail.com



cut here to mail form with payment



**BSBI BROTHERHOOD PRESENTS
JEWISH HERITAGE DAY AT DUNKIN' PARK**

SUNDAY, JULY 28TH 2024

GAME TIME: 1:10pm GATES OPEN: 11:30am

Children 3 and under are free if sitting on a parent's lap during the game.
Please note any handicapped tickets needed.



NAME: _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS: _____ \$17 each

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Space is limited: **ORDER AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 5TH**
Your tickets will arrive by e-mail.

YardGoatsBaseball.com



860-246-GOAT (4628)

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	<p style="text-align: center;">The Time is Now, The Need is Great!</p> <p>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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Endowment Foundation</i></p> <p><small>*These funds can also be used in Rabbi Leon Wind Religious School</small></p>
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 Playin 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

DAVID SHERMAN FOSTER MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Dorothy Foster from Samuel & Janet Foster

DIANE AND JEFFREY WASSER RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Diane Wasser, a remarkable wife, mother, and grandmother from Mimi Kalman

GENERAL FUND

In honor of Molly Abrahams's conversion from Harold & Judy Meyer

In memory of Steven Ross from Blanche Ross

In memory of the yahrzeit of our daughter, Carole Feir Littman from Alan & Donna Feir

In memory of Sally Ivaldi's Birthday from Benjamin & Debra Carlson

In memory of Brenda Margolis; In memory of Paul Norman; In memory of Blanche Stone from Dr. Kenneth Wichman

In memory of Brenda Margolis from Harold & Judy Meyer

In memory of Diane Wasser from Jane and Larry Torff

In memory of Roslyn Grier from Jeffrey Wasser

In memory of Brenda Margolis; In memory of Florence Cole's brother, Jerome Squire from Manuel & Maxine Lerman

In memory of Raymond Johnson from Mimi Kalman

In memory of Millie Malkin from Neil Malkin

In memory of Jean Moses, Yahrzeit of Mother & Father from Sidney & Miriam Schwartz

Yahrzeit of Rebecca Novgrad from Alan & Andrea Zitomer

Yahrzeit of Stan Rimler from Barry & Merle Rimler

Yahrzeit of Ramona Dorbat, mother of Mia Mandell from Carl & Cruz Mandell

Yahrzeit of Misza Neuhaus from Drs. David & Ellen Neuhaus

Yahrzeit of Evelyn Bigman from Jay & Alison Bigman

Yahrzeit of Yetta Osher from Joan Cushman

Yahrzeit of Martin Fayman from Judy Fayman

Yahrzeit of Mollie Mittelman from Mrs. Corinne Fisher

Yahrzeit of Diane Marmer from Mrs. Ellen Marmer

Yahrzeit of Milton Leon from Mrs. Marcia McGee

Yahrzeit of Pepi Scheer from Renay Leitman

Yahrzeit of Miriam Rabinowitz from Stuart & Jenny Rabinowitz

GLAIBER AND SNIDER FAMILY FUND

Yahrzeit of my father, Henry Snider from Mrs. Rebecca Snider Miller

GLORIA AND HERB BYK FUND

Yahrzeit of Paula Greenblatt from Mrs. Beverly Russo Byk

GORDON BARSHAY LASSOW & JAY JOSHUA LASSOW FUND

In memory of our loved ones from Michael B. Lassow

HOCHBERG FAMILY FUND

Yahrzeit of Milton Leon, in loving memory from Mary Leon

LAURIE MARGOLIS FUND

In memory of Brenda Margolis from Eveleen Zimmerman

LIBRARY FUND

Mazel tov to Barbara Pershan on the birth of her great-granddaughter; Mazel tov to Elly and Steve Cohen on the birth of their great-granddaughter Charlotte Paige Bouton from Herb and Ellie Flink

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of Rabbi & Michelle Konigsburg for the opportunity to join them and the congregation for Friday night services from Toby Klein

In memory of my parents, Ann & Michael Greenberg; how lovely it was to have such wonderful parents from Stanley & Susanne Pearlson

SHABBAT LUNCHEON FUND

Ben Zigun, wishing you best of health and quick recovery from Alan and Lea Schmerler

Mazel tov to Steve and Elly Cohen on the birth of their great-granddaughter from Susan and Ron Scherick

Thank you for attending our Shiva in memory of our mother Brenda Margolis; In honor of Michelle Konigsburg, mazal tov on your doctorate from JTS from Susan Margolis

In honor of Loren Reichlin's birthday; In honor of Judy Meyer's birthday from Harold & Judy Meyer

In honor of the birth of Steve and Elly Cohen's great-granddaughter; In honor of the Buchs' new granddaughter, Devorah from Manuel & Maxine Lerman
In memory of Brenda Margolis from David & Carol Alter
In memory of Bernard Krutt; In memory of Sandra Judith Levy from Mimi Kalman

Mazel tov to Steve & Elly Cohen on becoming great-grandparents from Joan Baron

Yahrzeit of family members from Richard & Leslie Abrahams

February 2024 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 (22 Shevat) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u>	2 (23 Shevat) 4:49pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Friday Night Services Sunset:5:07pm	3 (24 Shevat) Shabbat Mevarchim 10:00am Shabbat Services 5:53pm Havdalah Sunset: 5:08pm
4 (25 Shevat) 9:00am Rabbi Konigsburg at Unitarian Universalist Church East 9:00am Hebrew school K-7	5 (26 Shevat) 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u> 7:30pm Wisdom in Winter	6 (27 Shevat) 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u> 7:30pm BSBI Academy	7 (28 Shevat) 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u> 7:30pm Sisterhood/Hadassah Book Club	8 (29 Shevat) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u>	9 (30 Shevat) Rosh Chodesh Adar I 4:57pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Friday Night Services Sunset:5:15pm	10 (1 Adar I) Rosh Chodesh Adar I 10:00am Shabbat Services 12:30pm Brotherhood Shabbat Lunch 6:02pm Havdalah Sunset: 5:17pm
11 (2 Adar I) 9:00am <u>World Wide Wrap</u> 9:00am Hebrew school K-7 9:00am Morning Minyan 9:30am Brotherhood Meeting	12 (3 Adar I) 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u> 7:30pm Wisdom in Winter	13 (4 Adar I) 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 1:30pm Knit & Kvetch 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u> 7:30pm BSBI Academy	14 (5 Adar I) 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u>	15 (6 Adar I) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 5:00pm Bulletin Submission Deadline 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u>	16 (7 Adar I) 5:06pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Friday Night Services Sunset:5:24pm	17 (8 Adar I) 10:00am Shabbat Services 6:11pm Havdalah Sunset: 5:26pm
18 (9 Adar I)	19 (10 Adar I) Presidents' Day 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u>	20 (11 Adar I) 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u> 7:30pm BSBI Academy	21 (12 Adar I) 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u> 7:30pm Board Meeting	22 (13 Adar I) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u>	23 (14 Adar I) Purim Katan 5:15pm Candle Lighting 7:30pm Friday Night Services with Rabbi <u>Gedan</u> 8:30pm Oneg with Rabbi <u>Gedan</u> Sunset:5:33pm	24 (15 Adar I) 10:00am Shabbat Services with Rabbi <u>Gedan</u> 11:00am Junior Congregation 12:30pm Shabbat Lunch with Rabbi <u>Gedan</u> 6:19pm Havdalah Sunset: 5:34pm
25 (16 Adar I) 9:00am Hebrew school K-7 10:00am Adventure Walk	26 (17 Adar I) 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u>	27 (18 Adar I) 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u> 7:30pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	28 (19 Adar I) 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u>	29 (20 Adar I) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm <u>Mincha/Maariv</u>		

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.

Evening Minyan Schedule

Please Note: Services will begin at 7:00 PM except where noted.

** Special credit to our twice a month (or more) Jewry Duty members*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<u>First Monday</u> Maxine Jaffe* Michelle Konigsburg* Brenda Lerner* Stacey Poutre* Susan Scherick Ron Scherick Susan Scoppelman	<u>First Tuesday</u> Rick Berkman* Arnold Keyser* Manny Lerman Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre* Jane Zimmerman*	<u>First Wednesday</u> Beina Abrahams* Ron Abrahams* Linda Grad Carol Hatch Marilyn Lassow* Irene Milzoff Joel Milzoff Becky Murray	<u>First Thursday</u> Michelle Konigsburg* Brenda Lerner* Judy Meyer Harold Meyer Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre* Calvin Vinick
<u>Second Monday</u> Bruce Beck Hope Igelsky Alan Igelsky Maxine Jaffe* Michelle Konigsburg* Brenda Lerner* Rabbi Richard Plavin* Lisa Plavin* Stacey Poutre*	<u>Second Tuesday</u> Aaron Beyer Laurie Beyer Rick Berkman* Ellie Flink* Herb Flink* Arnold Keyser* Diane Keyser* Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre* Steve Wollins*	<u>Second Wednesday</u> Beina Abrahams* Ron Abrahams* Bea Bowdie Gordon Bowdie Debra Carlson Marilyn Lassow*	<u>Second Thursday</u> Paula Finkelstein Michelle Konigsburg* Brenda Lerner* Steve Leshin Barbara Leshin Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre* Barry Resnick Renny Resnick Ted Zupnik* Barbara Zupnik*
<u>Third Monday</u> Michelle Konigsburg* Brenda Lerner* Abe Linner Iris Linner Stacey Poutre*	<u>Third Tuesday</u> Rick Berkman* Arnold Keyser* Diane Keyser* Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre* Leslie Abrahams Richard Abrahams	<u>Third Wednesday</u> Ron Abrahams* Beina Abrahams* Steve Cohen* Elly Cohen* Maury Luxembourg Marilyn Lassow* Jeff Lassow Lisa Mandel Stacey Poutre* Jack Steigelfest Dawn Steigelfest	<u>Third Thursday</u> Michelle Konigsburg* Neil Kovensky* Brenda Lerner* Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre* Jane Zimmerman*
<u>Fourth Monday</u> Michelle Konigsburg* Brenda Lerner* Phil Margolis Sue Margolis Rabbi Richard Plavin* Lisa Plavin* Stacey Poutre*	<u>Fourth Tuesday</u> Rick Berkman* Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre* Steve Wollins*	<u>Fourth Wednesday</u> Ron Abrahams* Beina Abrahams* Marilyn Lassow* Stacey Poutre* Mike Turk Maddy Turk	<u>Fourth Thursday</u> Sruat Rabinowitz Jenny Rabinowitz Michelle Konigsburg* Brenda Lerner* Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre*
<u>Fifth Monday</u> Michelle Konigsburg* Neil Kovensky* Brenda Lerner* Stacey Poutre*	<u>Fifth Tuesday</u> Rick Berkman* Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre* Ellie Flink* Herb Flink*	<u>Fifth Wednesday</u> Ron Abrahams* Beina Abrahams* Steve Cohen* Elly Cohen* Marilyn Lassow* Stacey Poutre*	<u>Fifth Thursday</u> Michelle Konigsburg* Brenda Lerner* Sarah Poutre* Stacey Poutre* Steve Wollins* Ted Zupnik* Barbara Zupnik*



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Next Month's *Chai Lights* Deadline is Thursday, February 15th
Please send all articles to : Programming@myshul.org

Save the Date for:
Community Seder
Tuesday, April 23
5:45pm

