

# Temple Beth Abraham Bulletin

March 2014 – Vol. 40, No. 06 • telephone: 603-883-8184 • e-mail: [office@tbanashua.org](mailto:office@tbanashua.org) • [www.tbanashua.org](http://www.tbanashua.org)



## **Come Celebrate Together!**

**Saturday, March 15**

**Full Megillah Reading 6:30 PM**

**Sunday, March 16**

**Family Megillah Reading 10:00 AM**

**Followed by Purim Carnival**

# March 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						29 Adar I Shabbat Shekalim / Pekude Havdalah: 6:19
30 Adar I No School Men's Club Children's Breakfast 9:30	1 Adar II	2 Adar II EXEC 6:30	3 Adar II Avodah Shebalev 9:30 Judaism & Fair Trade Presentation following minyan	4 Adar II Torah Study 10:30-noon	5 Adar II CL: 5:23 Family Service 7 PM	6 Adar II Vayikra USY Shabbat Jr. Cong. & Shabbat Shlaymah Kabbalah@TBA 12:30 Boston Jewish Music Festival Concert (Malachei Mambo) 8PM at TBA
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7 Adar II Gimmel Orientation Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Kickoff 9:30	8 Adar II Ritual Committee	9 Adar II Daytime Activity Group 12:30 School Committee	10 Adar II Sisterhood B.O.D.	11 Adar II Torah Study 10:30-noon	12 Adar II CL: 6:32 Hai Class Service 7 PM	13 Adar II Shabbat Zachor / Tzav Havdalah: 7:35 Erev Purim Megillah Reading 6:30
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
14 Adar II Purim Family Megillah Reading 10 AM Purim Carnival Mishloach Manot Delivery	15 Adar II Finance Committee	16 Adar II Avodah Shebalev 9:30 B.O.D. 8 PM	17 Adar II Lifelong Learning Comm	18 Adar II Torah Study 10:30-noon NO SCHOOL	19 Adar II CL: 6:40 Services 8 PM	20 Adar II Shabbat Parah / Shemini Havdalah: 7:43 Shabbat Yachad Jr. Cong. & Shabbat Shlaymah
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
21 Adar II Ritual Fair 9:30-11:00	22 Adar II	23 Adar II Sisterhood/Temple Passover Workshop led by Noam Zion 7 PM	24 Adar II BABKA	25 Adar II Prozdor Presentation 4:00 Opening Night NH Jewish Film Festival at Federation	26 Adar II CL: 6:48 Services 8 PM	27 Adar II Shabbat Hachodesh / Tazria Havdalah: 7:51
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
28 Adar II Men's Club Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School Open House & Orientation 10:00	29 Adar II					
30	31	<b>NH Jewish Film Festival</b> <b>March 27 - April 6</b>				

## Something to Talk About

As many of you know, before I became rabbi here I was a full-time congregant. For eighteen years between college and



Rabbi Spira-Savett

coming to serve Beth Abraham, I sat in the pews from week to week. I know what it is like to listen to the rabbi, thinking about what she or he is teaching, critiquing the sermon and its relevance to my life.

I think this gives me an important perspective, not only as I prepare to teach on Shabbat mornings from the pulpit, but also in planning other adult learning programs.

That said... I am fascinated by a discussion in the Talmud about a bundle of wood. When is it just a bundle of wood, and what exactly has to happen for it to be considered a chair? It comes up in the laws of Shabbat, and opens up into some important broad philosophical questions about the relationship between thoughts and action...

You're about to move on to the next article, right?

There are three things I could do about that. One is, I could work really hard to get you to appreciate the bundle of wood and the chair. I could write a sermon comparing it to certain other contemporary situations, and try to persuade you that the Talmud

has an insight you wouldn't get anywhere else. Some of my sermons will always be like that.

Another thing I could do is to try and figure out on my own what you are interested in. My Shabbat sermons could focus on those, and the same with my adult education classes. I do this too.

What I *really* want to do is not figure out, but *find out from you* what you care about, and bring you the Torah about that.

So let me ask you this: What are you talking about these days with people? What kinds of things, in your own life or out in the world, are getting you talking and thinking?

*(Continued on the following page ...)*

## Have You Read any Good Stories Lately?

I was just re-reading one with a secretive plot. It has many heroes and a few villains, battles and intrigue and of course a love story. A good story has many twists and this one is loaded with them. Even better than reading it yourself is coming to hear it read with creative interpretations. The primary commandment related to Purim is to hear the reading of the book of Esther, commonly known as the *Megillah*, which means scroll.



President  
Lisa Bonneau

Purim this year falls on March 15 and 16. If you have never heard Rabbi Jon read this scroll in costume, or seen the children in our community perform the Purim *shpiel*, this is not to be missed. Just ask those that have been lucky enough to

witness this grand event at Temple Beth Abraham. They have all been working hard – come see the theme of the year and make sure to wear your costume whether you're young or less young. Oh, and don't forget the carnival, games, prizes, crafts and delicious food.

We are also commanded to send out gifts of food or drink and to make gifts for charity. This is referred to as *Mishlo'ah Manot*. The TBA Religious School Committee works very hard with the ordering, stuffing, and delivering of these wonderfully delicious baskets filled with *hamantaschen* and other surprises. You have hopefully already put your order in (if not visit the website or fill out the form in the bulletin) but don't worry; there are usually a few extras on the day of the

carnival. Everyone loves receiving these baskets, but more enjoyable is the actual delivering of the baskets and visiting our neighbors as we do so. Let the office know that you would like to share in this *mitzvah* of delivering.

Your Purim to Do List:

1. Listen to the *Megillah*
2. Give to the needy
3. Send food to friends
4. Eat, drink and be merry



*B'yedidut (In Friendship),*  
Lisa

*Something to Talk About continued ...*

Tell me that, and I can really get to work.

Some of those topics can become Shabbat or High Holy Day sermons. But Torah study is not one-way.

If you've been sitting around your dinner table talking about something, tell me what it is. Then let's get some people together around your table or in your den, and have a Jewish conversation about it. I'll bring some Torah, and we'll all study and probe together.

Maybe you've got a topic that a lot of people care about and that lends itself to a series of study sessions or workshops. Already, people have been talking to me about all kinds of things

relating to being the children of older parents. There's Torah to study and also practical advice and wisdom to share with each other. We've had one program, and more are in the works.

If you have something that you'd just like to study about one-on-one, I would love to do that too.

So as tempted as I am to rerun a bulletin page with fifty ideas of things I could teach about – I'd rather you tell me. I can promise you that there is Torah about everything under the sun. There's no topic you could throw me that I couldn't come back with some Torah on.

So what do you care about these days? Do you want to come hear about it on Shabbat, or go get a cup of coffee over it? Or can you help by offering or finding a place out in the neighborhood and a date on the calendar?

Tell me what you're talking about, and let's make that how we talk Torah.

*L'shalom,*

*Rabbi Jon*



**It's time for  
Temple Beth Abraham's  
ANNUAL  
PURIM CARNIVAL**

**Sunday, March 16, 2014**  
Immediately Following the  
10 am Family Megillah Reading  
And Purim Shpiel

**Play Games • Win Prizes  
Pie Throwing • Come in costume!**

**Hamantashen!**

**Popcorn • Snacks • Cold drinks  
Fun for all ages!**

**603.883.8184 • [www.tbanashua.org](http://www.tbanashua.org)  
4 Raymond Street Nashua**

## Shabbat Yachad שבת יחד

**Saturday  
March 22**

**Temple Beth Abraham's  
Intergenerational Shabbat  
of Prayer, Learning and  
Community**

Services for All Ages  
Learning for Adults and  
Children  
Kiddush Luncheon

- Traditional Service, Adult Learning Service and Meditation begin at 9:30 AM
- Students, Faculty and Community Members conclude services together in the Sanctuary beginning at 11:45 AM
- Kiddush luncheon for everyone following services

Please join us for this special Shabbat!

## Community News

### Condolences to:

- Sam Goldman on the loss of his beloved father, Arthur Goldman  
To all those people in our community who are ill we wish you a complete & speedy recovery.

## March 5 & March 18 9:30 - 10:45 AM Avodah Shebalev – Devotion of the Heart

### Morning Prayer Circle Led by Laura Hegfield

Drawn from the wealth of wisdom and inspiration found in *Birchot Hashachar*, the preliminary morning prayers and *Psukei D'zimra*, the Songs of Praise section of our traditional prayers and psalms that follow through to the *Shema*, the series will be an opportunity to connect as a *kehillah kedosha*, holy community, to learn about our own habits of body, mind, heart and soul, to devote ourselves to *avodah shebalev*, service, or devotion of the heart in relation to *Hashem*, and this miraculous world we live in and tend.

## Ready for Another Congregational Shabbat Dinner?

*April 4* is our next scheduled trip travelling through the Jewish culinary world. Last month's trip to our somewhat modern Egyptian past was amazingly delicious and with a record gathering of over 100 congregants!

Where will this next adventure take us? Italy? India? Latin America? Watch for emails and check the website in the next few weeks for all the details!

## DAYTIME ACTIVITY GROUP

The Daytime Activity Group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at TBA at 12:30 and welcomes all ages. On March 11, the film, "Fill the Void", will be shown. The reviews were favorable for this story of teen-aged Shira, who is looking forward to marry the groom the elders of the Hasidic community have selected for her. When her older sister dies in childbirth, there is a twist in the plans. Rating is PG. Any questions, please call Marilyn Greenspan, 429-1675; or email marlar10@comcast.net.

Mah Jongg News: This new group is open to all levels of players. The 4th Tuesday of each month at 12:30 is when the games begin! For any questions, please call Sandi McCurdy, 881-5856; or email smcurdy1@comcast.net.

BULLETIN PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
ELEVEN TIMES A YEAR  
VOL. 40, NO. 06  
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## Youth-Led Services this Month

On March 8, 2014 our **Teens** will lead services, read Torah, teach and share their *ruach* (spirit)! Support our youth and enjoy a wonderful Shabbat service.

*Kiddush* luncheon for the congregation, sponsored by USY, will follow services.

Our teens will stay in shul for the afternoon for a study session led by Eitan Zeira, will enjoy some Shabbat rest and games, welcome the end of Shabbat with a *Seudat Sh'lishi* and finish the day with *Mincha*, *Ma'ariv* and *Havdallah*.



All teens in grades 7-12 are encouraged to spend the day! The community is invited for *Ma'ariv* and *Havdallah* to end Shabbat.

***Kitah Hai* (Fifth Grade)** will lead services on Friday night, **March 14, 2014 at 7:00 PM**. Under the direction of their teacher, Jonathan Dickens and Rabbi Jon, the students have mastered the *Kabbalat Shabbat* service, will serve as leaders and will share some of their own ideas about the prayers.

*Kitah Hai* families will have dinner before services and an *Oneg Shabbat*, sponsored by the families for the entire congregation, will follow services.

## March Service Schedule

Services are held every Friday evening at 8:00 PM (unless otherwise noted) and every Saturday at 9:30 AM.

### SPECIAL EVENT SERVICES

March 7

Family Service 7 PM

March 8

Jr. Congregation & Shabbat  
Shlaymah – USY Shabbat

March 14

Hai Class Shabbat - 7 PM

March 15

Full Megillah Reading 6:30 PM

March 16

Family Megillah Reading 10 AM

March 22

Shabbat Yachad

Jr. Congregation & Shabbat  
Shlaymah

### Kiddush Sponsors

February 22

Paula & Greg Ellis in honor of  
their baby naming

March 1

Darlene & Charles Drutman in  
honor of their 30th Anniversary

March 8

USY Families

March 15

Marsha & Bob Feder in memory  
of his father, Norman Feder

### Oneg Sponsors

March 7

Sisterhood for Simcha Club

March 14

Parents & School for Hai Class

## Join the Temple Beth Abraham Sisterhood Book Club BABKA Community Read Lunch and Learn Discussion

May 31, 2014

Hope: A Tragedy

By Shalom Auslander

“Stories connect us” (children’s author Kate DiCamillo). Connect with the Temple Beth Abraham community by reading Shalom Auslander’s *Hope: A Tragedy*. Written by the author of *Foreskin’s Lament*, *Hope: a Tragedy* is a funny (darkly funny? absurdly funny? funny in the tradition of Jewish humor? You decide!) novel that has won critical acclaim: A New York Times Notable Book 2012 and the 2013 winner of the British Jewish Quarterly Wingate Prize.

Solomon Kugel longs to shed his past and begin life anew. He escapes to a house in the suburbs, along with his wife, son, and mother. Kugel may long for a new beginning, but forces conspire against him: his mother lives with the trauma of the Holocaust (although she never

experienced it) and the strange noises coming from the attic turn out to be those of an elderly Anne Frank tapping out her memoirs on a typewriter. Kugel strives to understand the nuances of hope and despair, and learns from his psychologist Dr. Jove that “optimism is a delusion, that no chicken ever has a good reason for crossing a road.”

Hardcover copies of *Hope: A Tragedy* are available for purchase at the Sisterhood Gift Shop, for borrowing from the TBA Library, and at many public libraries. The book is also published in electronic and audio formats.



## Simcha Club

Children whose birthdays occur in the month of March will be honored at the Family Service on Friday, March 7th at 7 PM. A special birthday dessert will be served to the children at the Oneg Shabbat. We ask the parents (or grandparents) to send a donation of \$9.00 per child to help defray the cost of refreshments. Please make checks payable to TBA Sisterhood and send or drop them off at the Temple office (mark the envelope “Simcha Club”). Be sure to

include the names and birth dates of your children. Donations are always welcome and will be acknowledged in the next bulletin.

We will be celebrating the birthdays of *William Boyd, Aaron Ebersman, Ethan Ebersman, Hannah Frank, Jonah Sacks & Elsa Vig*. We look forward to seeing our birthday children and families on the 7th.

## Have You Got a Friend? Does Your Friend Have Children?

The rhythm of our synagogue and our school calendar keeps us working in the present and the future at all times. In most cases, our school year, synagogue calendar and our fiscal strategies are laid out and



Director of  
Education &  
Programming  
Heidi N. Lovitz

plans are well under way before the end of May. So, it is no surprise that as I write this in February, I am already concerning myself with projected class sizes, schedules and staffing needs for September.

When we as a staff and a community strategize about increasing membership and enrollment in our school, we look at a variety of different ways to recruit. The most compelling and successful way that we can recruit members and increase the number of students in our school is by our members sharing their enthusiasm and inviting your friends to check out what is going on at and in our school.

Here are a few examples of outstanding things that are happening in our school that you can share when talking about our school:

**Our students are happy and engaged in learning that is relevant for living a Jewish life.**

Our teachers focus on making learning relevant for everyone (children and their families) in an interactive and enjoyable environment.

In *Kitah Dalet* (fourth grade) while the children were learning about the Temple in Jerusalem, in addition to looking at pictures and reading descriptions, they were challenged to create their own structures. Using Lego's they made the pictures and descriptions come to life. This same class will be making snow sculptures based on biblical scenes in the coming weeks.

*Kitah Alef* (first grade) was studying about the book of Noah and the story of the flood and the ark. Again, using the specs and details of what they read, the children built their own ark and marched the animals on two by two!

*Kitah Bet* (second grade) had a very moving experience last week while they were listening to a Purim story. The story focused on the holiday but was also a lesson connected to Jewish Disabilities Awareness month. The main character in the story is a young person who is blind. Meaningful and thoughtful discussion came out of the story. Next week, when the children return to school to make *hamantaschen* for Purim, the students will take turns molding some of the cookies while blindfolded and continue the lesson understanding a little bit the challenges that non-sighted people face. The lesson includes teaching from Jewish text and tradition with views about people with disabilities.

*Gan Katan* (*Pre-kindergarten*), our twice-monthly program for children

prior to kindergarten, had a special Purim class last week. Seemingly pretty routine, they baked *hamantaschen*, sang Purim Songs, heard the Purim story and had snack. These very young students also learned about *mishloach manot* and learned about the importance of sharing. *Gan Katan* baked enough *hamantaschen* to share with the entire Sunday school at the end of the morning and to pack into the *mishloach manot* baskets that they decorated. The baskets were delivered by one of the mom's to the assisted living facility where she works!

Not a day goes by when a student, a *madrich/a* (*teen assistant*) or a teacher doesn't come to find me, imploring me to come to their room right away to see something that the students are really excited about. That is what we want to share when people ask about TBA Religious School. So, if you have friends and they have children, talk about what is going on here! It will be an exciting conversation!

Sunday School Open House and Orientation will take place on Sunday morning, March 30, 2014. Please encourage your friends to attend.

For more information please contact me.

Heidi N. Lovitz  
[director@tbanashua.org](mailto:director@tbanashua.org)  
(603) 883-9844

## Purim פורים -- March 15 and 16

Purim commemorates the story told in the biblical *Megillat Esther*, the scroll of Esther. It is set in the Persian empire in the 5th century B.C.E. The Jews rescue themselves from a plot by Haman, the evil prime minister, who persuades foolish King Ahashverosh into believing the Jews are a threat to his imperial authority. Ahashverosh authorizes Haman's plan for genocide. Through a series of seeming coincidences, a young Jewish woman named Hadassah (Esther in Persian) has become the queen and her cousin Mordechai has foiled an assassination plot against the king. In the end, everything that was upside-down is put right. The king learns everyone's identity, condemns Haman, and allow the Jews to rise up in self-defense. The day of Haman's attack, which would end the Jewish people, is converted by Esther and Mordechai into a Jewish holiday for all time.

We observe Purim by:

*Reading the מגילה Megillah* -- the scroll we read is inspired by the scrolls of proclamation that Esther and Mordechai sent out to Jews across the Persian Empire. Around the reading, or later in the day, there is traditionally a Purim *shpiel* (play), a spoof blending the Purim story and something contemporary.

*Exchanging משלוח מנות Mishlo'ach Manot* -- “sending food portions” to our friends. Jewish law stipulates at least two portions (items), and the custom is to include foods over which three different blessings can be said. We give and deliver our gifts ourselves, or we can appoint the synagogue's program as our agent and strengthen Jewish education in the process. Driving and delivering baskets helps knit our community together.

*Matanot La'evyonim מתנות לאביונים* -- gifts to the poor. Jewish law stipulates that we give in ways that benefit at least two different people in at least two different ways. That spirit can guide us to reach out to individuals and to donate to organizations that fight poverty in different ways.

*Se'udat Purim סעודת פורים* -- a Purim feast. The Book of Esther is filled with parties and feasts, and we celebrate with a carnival and eating in a festive atmosphere. There is a custom of an afternoon feast, with spoof blessings and “Purim Torah”, continuing the Megillah's motif of topsy-turvy.

## Something to Think About

We have been in New Zealand for four weeks. We've been to both familiar and new places. I have taken hundreds of photos. Someday I may even edit them!



Elaine Brody

The most important thing I have been reminded of on this trip so far is how fortunate Buzz and I are to be able to travel... and still enjoy each other's company in close proximity on a daily basis. It takes me back to 1971 when we arrived in NZ with fifteen month old Heather and \$300. I learned to use a wringer washing machine, split wood, and light a decent fire to keep the house warm (And you thought I was just another pretty face). We made wonderful friends, but, when it came to anything important, we were on our own. A telephone call to the USA cost about \$10/ minute in those days. There was no calling our parents

for advice or comfort. It was our time of growing up and growing together.

It was also a time when most New Zealanders had never met a Jewish person. There was one Jewish couple in the first town we lived in, and none in the second. The closest Jewish community was in the city about 15 miles away. There, about fifteen Jewish families came together regularly. They welcomed us warmly, and several of those families are still our dear friends. The most Jewishly educated members of the community led the occasional services, and, once while we were there, a Rabbi came from Wellington (100 miles away) for a Bar Mitzvah. Holidays were large gatherings in homes, and services were held in halls. It was, in a sense, like the Beth Abraham community. There were a few families who had lived in the area for more than one generation. The rest were from somewhere else: Australia, United States, Canada, and England.

Each family brought its own traditions to share with the community. Now, only a few of those families remain in the area. The next generation have moved away... to the big cities or overseas. Their demographic, as ours, is changing.

So, are you a member of a family that has been part of the Beth Abraham community for a few generations, or have you come from somewhere else? What traditions from your former community do you miss? How could you work with Rabbi Jon or Heidi or someone on a committee to blend your traditions with those in place at Beth Abraham? Would it make you feel more at home? Blending new ideas with old ones usually results in an interesting finished product.

You know...it is just something to think about.

*L'hitraot,  
Elaine*

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## Southern NH Jewish Men's Club Happenings

The Southern NH Jewish Men's Club will be double dipping in March with two exciting breakfast events.

On **Sunday, March 2 at 9:30 AM**, the men's club will be holding its annual children's breakfast with a return engagement of the Pumpernickel Puppets. Pumpernickel Puppet shows are presented with a cast of colorful puppet characters, audience participation, live voices and sound effects and fast paced scripts that not only entertain, but stimulate children's imagination and creativity. A demonstration period follows every performance giving the audience some insight into what

happens behind the scenes. So gather up your kids/grandkids and join us for this always popular way to end the winter school vacation week. Cost for members is \$5.00 and \$10 for non-members. As always, kids eat free.

On **Sunday, March 30 at 9:30 AM**, we are pleased to have been able to reschedule our own Michael Rosenblum to share his experiences as a private pilot volunteering time for Angel Flights of New England. Look for more information on this breakfast in the March bulletin.

We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event. For more information on the Southern NH Men's Club or any of these events visit [www.snhjmc.org](http://www.snhjmc.org) or join our group on Facebook.

## **Education and Programming in March**

### **Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Kickoff**

*Sunday, March 9*

9:30 – 10:00 AM Coffee and refreshments

10:00 AM Rabbi Jon's introduction:

"What Does It Really Mean to Live As a Jew?"

11:00 AM Orientation to adult Hebrew language study

*For questions and details, contact Rabbi Jon ahead of time. We will work toward a group Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration in winter/spring 2015.*

### **Our Visit to Guatemala: Judaism and Fair Trade**

Presentation and Photographs from the Greens' and Harris' Recent Trip

*Wednesday, March 5 after evening minyan*

### **Torah Study with Rabbi Jon – The Book of Kings**

Thursdays from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

We are studying the biblical books of Kings and the latter prophets. Join us any week or every week.

### **Kabbalah with Eitan Zeira**

*March 8 after services at Beth Abraham*

### **Ritual Fair**

*Sunday, March 23 9:30-11:00 AM*

Drop in for coffee and danish. Rabbi Jon and members of the Ritual Committee will be on hand at how-to stations around the synagogue, to help you be more comfortable during services and doing Shabbat rituals at home. Come and learn how to...

Have an Aliyah at the Torah \* Make Kiddush on Friday Night \* Bow and Move During Services \* Do Havdalah on Saturday Night \* Lift the Torah \* Use the Etz Hayim Chumash

...let us know your other how-to requests. No question is too simple or obvious!

### **BABKA**

*March 26*

### **Introducing... e-Maggid**

Subscribe with Rabbi Jon to receive a short pre-Shabbat e-mail every week, drawn from the classic spiritual writings of the Chasidim. From now to April, the e-Maggid will focus in depth on Pesach and the themes of Exodus.

### **Rabbi Jon's Tish**

*Every Saturday Morning at 9:00 AM*  
Singing and discussion before services

### **Coming soon... Temple Beth Abraham Reads!**

Beginning in March, our first-ever community read will be the novel *Hope: A Tragedy*, by Shalom Auslander. Stay tuned for more details in the weeks to come and see the article earlier in this issue.

**TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM  
and  
TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM SISTERHOOD  
Present**

**Liberating your Seder: A Guide to  
a Most Participatory Passover**

Interactive Passover Seder Workshop With  
**Author Noam Zion**

TUESDAY, MARCH 25 at 7:00 PM



*Sample Passover Treats Following the Workshop  
Take Home Recipes*

Please let us know you are coming! RSVP by March 18<sup>th</sup> to:  
Carol Mann-Cohen at 603 216 2849 or [carolmanncohen@gmail.com](mailto:carolmanncohen@gmail.com) or  
Carol Kaplan at 603 860 4163 or [cakaplan@hotmail.com](mailto:cakaplan@hotmail.com)

**“A DIFFERENT NIGHT: THE FAMILY PARTICIPATION HAGGADAH”**

- Over 140,000 copies sold
- Family Activities
- History
- Commentaries
- Tips
- Sage Advice
- Art

**Fully customizable for your family**

Copies of *A Different Night* will be available for sale at the event

Every year as we reach the Hebrew month of Nissan it is time to clean our homes of chametz and start planning our Passover seder. Passover is the most widely observed of the Jewish holidays. It is a chance to gather together with family and friends for a festive meal. Using “A Different Night”, the Haggadah written by Noam Zion makes planning and running your own seder easy to keep contemporary, relevant and enjoyable for everyone.

The Seder has proven the most successful and widely practiced Jewish celebration. Yet pulling off a successful evening – especially with one's own not always enthusiastic and cooperative relatives - can be enormously difficult. Noam Zion will dispel five big misconceptions. Come to Temple Beth Abraham and help TBA Sisterhood liberate the Seder to reach its full potential using Noam Zion's two haggadot: *A Night to Remember: The Haggadah of Contemporary Voices* alongside the now classic "THE FAMILY PARTICIPATION HAGGADAH: A DIFFERENT NIGHT" in its compact family-friendly format. Free Seder planners will be available.

*Noam Zion is a Research Fellow and senior faculty member of the pluralist Shalom Hartman Institute of Jerusalem. Mr. Zion has a MA in Philosophy from Columbia University and has studied at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the Teachers Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.*

Temple Beth Abraham • 4 Raymond St., Nashua, NH 03064 • (603) 883-8184



***Don't Miss  
Malachei Mambo***  
(The Angels of Mambo)  
*featuring*  
**Cantor Gaston Bogomolni**

Music of Jewish Latin America  
presented by an all-star band of  
Latin & Jewish musicians from  
Cuba, Argentina, and Brazil  
by the inimitable Argentinian  
***Cantor Gaston Bogomolni.***

**Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 8 p.m.**

Advance tickets: \$20, at the door \$25, Students \$10, Family ticket \$50.

Purchase tickets by visiting [bostonjewishmusicfestival.org](http://bostonjewishmusicfestival.org)



THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE.  
THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

**Temple Beth Abraham Nashua, NH**

For more information contact Heidi Lovitz, Director of Education and Programming  
(603)883-9844 or email [director@tbanashua.org](mailto:director@tbanashua.org)

## FAIR TRADE JUDAICA FROM GUATEMALA

The Harris and Green families participated in an eye-opening fair trade Judaica tour of Guatemala from January 31-February 9. Guatemala is a country with a checkered political and financial history, and is plagued with significant poverty. About 1% of the population is Caucasian; of the rest, half is of mixed European/indigenous descent, and half is indigenous (Mayan). For many of the indigenous people, one of the 22 recognized Mayan dialects is the primary language, and a significant number speak no Spanish at all.

Our Sisterhood gift shop sells some fair trade Judaica items and this tour was organized by two of our suppliers. Before leaving, we knew that the term “fair trade” was a good thing, but not much else. We now understand that many items purchased and enjoyed by American consumers are produced by impoverished workers whose wages and working conditions are intolerable. This includes long hours with unhealthy industrial exposures

and employment of underage workers who then have no opportunity to improve their situation by obtaining an education.

On this trip, we encountered many groups of skilled Mayan artisans working in small villages to create beautiful kippot, tallitot, mezuzot, matzah holders, challah covers, Judaic wall hangings, and many other items. They use a variety of home-made looms (one loom was 90 years old!), brocading, embroidery, and crocheting. Most are women, whose husbands are out working long hours on their small farms, or toiling for large plantations. Many of the items are made from cotton, but some use recycled plastics and other materials. The artisans must meet quality standards and production deadlines. Their income is more than if they had produced items for the Guatemalan tourist markets or for general export, because the non-profit organizations pay the workers a ‘fair’ wage and eliminate the middlemen. Final purchasers pay a reasonable but not a budget price

for the products. The organizations provide scholarships for the artisans’ children to enable them to go to school rather than spend all their time working for their mothers. The people we met were uniformly smiling, gracious, welcoming, and all expressed thanks for the difference in their economic situation that resulted from producing fair trade items. Often they provided us with a home-cooked Mayan lunch as well! Buying directly from the artisans who made the products was an enriching experience, different from the on-line or retail buying that we’ve become accustomed to.

Our trip included attendance at Shabbat services at two of Guatemala City’s four congregations, and study of passages from the Torah, Talmud, and other writings regarding fair treatment of workers and the environment. One thing we encountered was a very strong connection between Guatemala and Israel, which stems from Guatemala’s very early support for the state of Israel. We saw evidence of this all over the country. We will be doing a presentation about our trip after evening *minyan* on *Wednesday March 5*, and there will also be a separate presentation for Religious School students and families over the next month or so. And... look for an increase in the number of fair trade products for sale in the Sisterhood gift shop! We are very grateful to have had the opportunity to make this journey; it was a rich and rewarding experience.

*Alan and Becky Green, and  
Mike and Ruth Harris*



Mike Admiring a Fair Trade Tallit

## **Administrative Assistant Wanted** **Temple Beth Abraham Religious School**

**Administrative Assistant:** We are looking for an experienced administrative assistant for our busy Religious School Office with additional responsibilities in our main synagogue office. Administrative assistant will report to the Director of Education and Programming and the Rabbi.

Our dynamic Religious School in Nashua, NH, meets twice weekly and serves over 100 students and families from over 13 local communities. We are a fast-paced school environment with students from preschool through High School.

This is a part time position, requiring 15-20 hours a week. Specified hours are Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 – 6:30 PM. Other hours are flexible.

### **Job Requirements:**

- Minimum 3 years administrative and/or office management experience. Bachelors degree preferred
- Intermediate to advanced MS Office including Excel, Google (calendar, spreadsheets, docs), desktop publishing, Constant Contact, Synagogue database and relationship management software, Mac OS preferred
- Correspondence, record keeping, some finance, occasional errands/shopping
- Well organized, level headed, solution oriented, efficient, productive
- Congenial, able to attend to need of children and adults

Please send resume to:

Heidi Lovitz, Director of Education and Programming • Temple Beth Abraham • 4 Raymond St. • Nashua, NH 03064  
Email: [director@tbanashua.org](mailto:director@tbanashua.org)

*Qualified applicants will be contacted by phone or email within 2 weeks of submission*

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♦ **Shabbat Youth Services**

### **Temple Beth Abraham Religious School**

**Open House and Orientation**  
**Sunday Morning, March 30, at 10:00 a.m.**



Visit the Classrooms ♦ Meet the Teachers  
Connect with Heidi Lovitz, Director,  
Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett and School parents

*Enjoy Refreshments*

*New and Prospective Sunday School Families*  
*Children entering Kindergarten, Alef and Bet in September 2014*

For more information contact Heidi Lovitz, Director of Education and Programming  
(603)883-9844 or [director@tbanashua.org](mailto:director@tbanashua.org)  
Temple Beth Abraham, 4 Raymond St., Nashua, NH 03064

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ted Synagogue of Conservative Judaism*



*Temple Beth Abraham  
Religious School  
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# The New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival

*March 27th - April 6th 2014*

**Temple Beth Abraham  
The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire And  
The Jewish Book Council  
Present**

**Eric A. Goldman  
Author, *The American Jewish Story through Cinema*  
March 30, 2014**

The New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival is an annual cultural event and signature program created and presented by the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. The 6th Annual Festival will take place in venues throughout the state from March 27th through April 6th 2014. The mission is to continue to build, expand, and grow the NH Jewish Film Festival audience for both the Jewish Community at large and the general public.

Join us for the Sneak Preview on *Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>* at the Jewish Federation building in Manchester, the Gala Opening on *Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>* at the Currier Art Museum in Manchester, and all of the amazing films that will be featured all week long, culminating with a fun-filled Closing Wrap- Up event in Concord on *Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>*. You will be receiving your 2014 NH Jewish Film Festival brochure with the complete listing and program guide in your mailboxes shortly.

The Festival is funded through the generous financial support of its attendees, Friends of the Festival, Corporate and In-Kind Sponsors.

Temple Beth Abraham is excited to partner with the Film Festival and the Jewish Book Council to bring author, Eric Goldman to New Hampshire. Goldman will speak on *Sunday afternoon, March 30<sup>th</sup> at Cinemagic in Merrimack, NH* following the screening of the afternoon film. He will also be available to sign copies of his book!

In his book on Jewish American identity and film, Eric A. Goldman offers his readers a sampling of important films from the course of the twentieth century that reflect the ways Jews generally perceived themselves, and were perceived by others, in American society at the time.



March 27 - April 6, 2014  
6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NEW HAMPSHIRE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY



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## Mishlo'ah Manot



Temple Beth Abraham Religious School continues the “*Mishlo'ah Manot*” tradition, which means “sending gifts.” This Purim custom expresses joy over the victory of Esther, who frustrated Haman’s plot to annihilate the Persian Jewish community in the 5th century. **Send a gift basket** of homemade Hamantashen, sweets, treats and a few new surprises to your friends and family in the **congregation**. *Baskets for non-congregants may be picked up and delivered by the purchaser.*



*Each family will receive one basket, with a card listing all those thoughtful individuals who made a donation on their behalf. It is a mitzvah, and a wonderful way to support the Religious School! With online ordering it is easier than ever!*

### The baskets will be delivered on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

- 1 – 6 Baskets are \$9 each
- 7 – 12 Baskets are \$8 each
- 13+ Baskets are \$7 each

OR

- For \$136 (up to 20 names specified), your name will be listed on the cards to all **congregants** receiving a basket. Any additional names will be charged at \$7 per basket.
- For \$180 (up to 30 names specified), your name will be listed on the cards to all **congregants** receiving a basket.

### ONLINE ORDERS CAN BE COMPLETED AT

[WWW.HAPPYPURIM.COM](http://WWW.HAPPYPURIM.COM)

If you prefer a paper order form, please use the attached form. Checks are payable to Temple Beth Abraham Religious School. Please return the completed form found on the reverse side of this flyer by March 6<sup>th</sup>.

- Otherwise you will be receiving a **LOGIN CODE** in the mail soon so you can order all your baskets on line! For more information, call 883-9844.

- **ALL BASKET ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 6<sup>th</sup>**
- **(We cannot guarantee delivery for late orders)**

ORDER ON-LINE TODAY!

Or send your list and check to the Hebrew School office or Synagogue office

# March Madness

## Membership Month

When you refer new members to TBA during the month of March you are eligible for a discount off your dues next year!

**Bring in:**

**1 New Member get 25% off Dues**

**2 New Members get 50% off Dues**

**3 New Members get 100% off Dues**

At TBA we value our members and want to build relationships in our community with our current members and with others who have not yet discovered us. In appreciation, we offer you this opportunity to help us build new bonds.

Temple Beth Abraham is a congregation serving Jewish families throughout Southern New Hampshire and nearby areas of Massachusetts. Our members come from all over the country and the world, from all kinds of Jewish backgrounds. We welcome interfaith families to our community.

(See Judy or Treasurer for more details)  
**(603) 883-8184**

## Keter Shem Tov Award

‘Crown of a Good Name’

**For that special person that you have noticed working tirelessly around the synagogue. Our annual recognition of members of the community who have devoted time and effort to improve the life of their synagogue and community.**

This prestigious acknowledgement is not given out every year, but every year we ask our congregants who they think is most deserving, which active member really stands out as working tirelessly and devoting time and effort to improve the life of our synagogue and community. This award is only given out once in a members lifetime. The nominee must be an active member in good standing with a long list of accomplishments, and not currently a member of the Board of Directors or an employee of the synagogue.

Please send an email ([office@tbanashua.org](mailto:office@tbanashua.org) with Keter Shem Tov Committee in the subject line) or write a note, Attn: Keter Shem Tov Committee) with the name of your recommendation and a description of your rationale and a list of their accomplishments. Nominations must be submitted to the committee no later than March 11.

This award will be presented at Temple Beth Abraham at services in the spring.  
The awardee will also be honored at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire’s annual meeting in June.

### Nomination Form

**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Letter/Rationale or List of Accomplishments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Parent Education with Heidi Lovitz, Director of Education and Programming



Next Classes Meet on March 9 and March 30

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Tuition: \$125 (first child), \$100 (additional children)

Tuition will be prorated for registration after January 2014



For more information and Registration Form please contact Heidi Lovitz at (603) 883-9844 or [director@tbanashua.org](mailto:director@tbanashua.org)

## Jewish Reader's Corner

Reviews by Merle Carrus

New books for Jewish teen readers have been published recently. These stories are written to appeal to a teen reader about their every day life interacting with other students and friends Jewish and non Jewish. Leaving these books around for your child to pick up might give them a chance to contemplate issues that are on their minds.

First, *My Basmati Bat Mitzvah*, is a fun story about Tara Feinstein, the only child of a Jewish father and a Hindu Indian mother. Her mother has converted to Judaism, so Tara is Jewish. This story, by Paula J. Freedman, takes us through the year leading up to her *bat mitzvah*. Does she really even want to have one? As she interacts with her family and friends she comes to realize that having a *bat mitzvah* doesn't answer all the questions and doesn't have to change who she really is.

As she looks around at her family Tara thinks, "I wandered over to the fireplace and stood watching this strange masala that was my life. I couldn't help smiling. My desi *mishpacha*, I thought - my crazy Indian Jewish family - was a lot

like Gran's souped-up matzah ball soup. Traditional and spicy at the same time. Who else could say that?"

This is a great book for anyone who is preparing for their bat mitzvah, or has had a *bar/bat mitzvah*. Paula J. Freedman works in digital media making websites for a children's publisher, a TV network among others. *My Basmati Bat Mitzvah* is her first book.

For a more mature teen audience, *Lauren Yanofsky Hates the Holocaust*, by Leanne Lieberman, is a wonderful novel. Lauren Yanofsky has left her Jewish day school behind and is attending a public high school. Her father is a Holocaust historian and college professor.

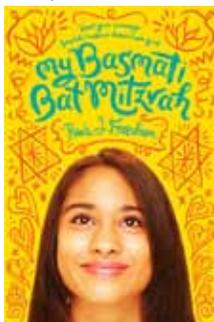
All Lauren wants is to fit in with her friends, some who are Jewish and some who are not, including, the cutest guy in the school. She loves to keep lists, like this one with the reasons she gave her parents for switching to public school: "1. Public school has a better basketball team. 2. Public school kids are nicer, especially my friends Brooke, Chloe and Em. 3. The whole world is not Jewish, and no one should pretend

it is by going to a school that is all Jewish..."

Eleventh grade is off to a terrific start, classes with her best friends and the cutest boy in school is interested in her. Then one night in the park a group of the boys are playing a Nazi war game. What should Lauren do? Tell someone or pretend it never happened? Lauren wonders why the Holocaust always seem to a part of her life. She tells her father, "I'm sick of the Holocaust being the defining element of being Jewish. It's like there's bagel and lox, and there's the Holocaust, and that's it."

The reader sympathizes with Lauren as she works out the dilemma; tell and betray her friends and maybe lose a possible boyfriend or be true to her heritage and her relatives lost in the Holocaust. This is a book that older teens can relate to. Lieberman has written an entertaining, absorbing story while at the same time delivering an important message about being true to yourself and proud of who you are.

Leanne Lieberman is author of two other young adult novels, *Gravity* and *The Book of Trees*. She lives in Kingston, Ontario, with her husband and two sons.



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# הקשר היהודי שלך

## Your Jewish Connection

Brought to you by the Lifelong Learning Committee – By Linda S Trapasso

### Are You OK?

Recently the Israeli government announced kashrut reforms (see [Haaretz article](#)). The reforms center on how kashrut inspectors are employed – currently they are paid by the businesses where they oversee kashrut inspection. The reforms would make the inspectors independent of these businesses.



Kashrut refers to the Jewish dietary laws and kosher refers to the foods that are prepared according to those laws. The Internet is full of resources.

Here are two good overviews of kashrut: [Judaism 101](#) has an extensive introductory page and [My Jewish Learning](#) provides many subtopics, including the dietary laws and how to shop for kosher food.

If you're interested in why keep kosher, check out these articles:

The [Kashrut page](#) from the Rabbinical Assembly.

[Why Keep Kosher – What's the Point?](#) From Jewish Post Opinion.

Kosher certification is important to businesses that want to sell their food products to the Jewish community.

[KVH Kosher](#) is a New England certification group. You can sign up for different newsletters.

[OU Kosher](#) is a well-known USA certification group – click on Consumer Resources at the top of the page.

[OK](#) is another USA certification group. Check out their [Timeline of Kosher](#) which includes its history in the USA.

[KIR](#) represents a kosher certification group in England (in case you're traveling there).

[Kashrut.com](#) is run by a woman in Sharon, MA, who identifies herself as a Food Scientist and Kosher Food Specialist. She has a product update page that is very useful. You also can sign up for email news.

JewishBoston.com has a section on [Kosher Food](#) that lists Boston-area companies providing kosher food and products.

So how do you keep kosher? The United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism has an extensive [section on kashrut](#).



There is a CD you can order called [Kosher: Sanctifying the Ordinary](#).

To set up your household for keeping kosher, contact Rabbi Jon.

Once you're ready to start cooking, check these sites for kosher recipes:

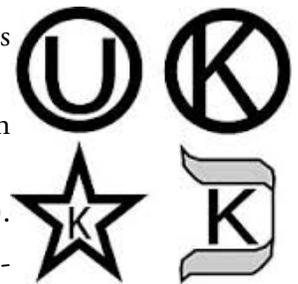
[Joy of Kosher](#) by Jamie Geller.

[Gourmet Kosher Cooking](#) by Elizabeth.

[Kosher Recipes and Cooking](#) at Chabad.org.

It's easy to find more resources. Go to Google and search on kashrut or kosher.

Kashrut provides a link between ancient and modern Jewish history and culture, and food plays a large role in that. Create new traditions for your family and become OK.



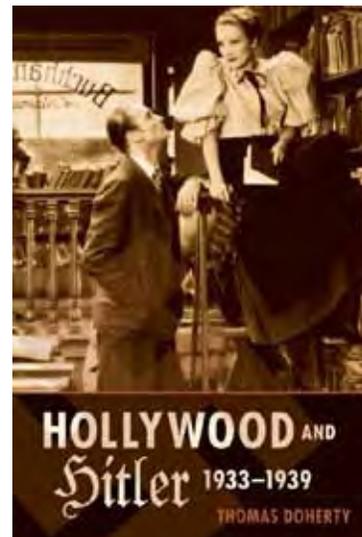
Save the date:  
**Monday, April 28 at 7:00 PM**

## **Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) Observance at Rivier University in Nashua**

**Featured speaker: Thomas Doherty, author of *Hollywood and Hitler: 1933-1939***

Brandeis professor, author and historian Thomas Doherty will discuss the Third Reich's influence on Hollywood and how Jewish and non-Jewish movie moguls responded to the rising threat of Nazism during the 1930s.

Between 1933 and 1939, representations of the Nazis and the full meaning of Nazism came slowly to Hollywood, growing more ominous and distinct only as the decade wore on. Recapturing what ordinary Americans saw on the screen during the emerging Nazi threat, Thomas Doherty reclaims forgotten films, such as *Hitler's Reign of Terror* (1934), a pioneering anti-Nazi docudrama by Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr.; *I Was a Captive of Nazi Germany* (1936), a sensational true tale of "a Hollywood girl in Naziland!"; and *Professor Mamlock* (1938), an anti-Nazi film made by German refugees living in the Soviet Union.



Doherty also recounts how the disproportionately Jewish backgrounds of the executives of the studios and the workers on the payroll shaded reactions to what was never simply a business decision. As Europe hurtled toward war, a proxy battle waged in Hollywood over how to conduct business with the Nazis, how to cover Hitler and his victims in the newsreels, and whether to address or ignore Nazism in Hollywood feature films. Should Hollywood lie low, or stand tall and sound the alarm?

A question-and-answer session and a candle-lighting ceremony memorializing the victims of the Holocaust will follow the presentation. A photography display, "A History of the Holocaust," distributed by the Anti-defamation League of B'nai B'rith, will be on display in the Dion Center Reception Room from 6 p.m. through 9 p.m.

The program is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Sheryl Rich-Kern at [sherylrichkern@myfairpoint.net](mailto:sherylrichkern@myfairpoint.net).

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Logos for JTS, AVODAH, USY, Camp Ramah, UJA/Federation of New York, and American Jewish Society for Service.

**SUNDAY,  
APRIL 6, 2014  
6 NISAN 5774**

**BOSTON  
RED SOX vs.  
MILWAUKEE  
BREWERS**

**Game Time: 1:35 PM  
Fenway Park**

**Cost: \$35.00 -  
Bleachers Seats**

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BY MARCH 17**

**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
CONTACT: Heidi Lovitz:  
[director@tbanashua.org](mailto:director@tbanashua.org)  
or Jonathan Dickens:  
[jdickens7887@yahoo.com](mailto:jdickens7887@yahoo.com)**

**SEND payment to:  
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USY  
4 Raymond Street  
Nashua, NH 03064**

**Prozdor Presentation at  
Temple Beth Abraham!  
Thursday March 27th, at 4:00 PM**

*Prozdor*, located on the campus of Hebrew College in Newton, MA, is a vibrant school that provides Jewish teens the resources, support, and community to embark on their own Jewish journey. On Sunday mornings over 500 Jewish students gather to explore their Judaism and connect with friends from all over Southern New England. Student choice, a spirited and diverse community, and an exceptional teaching staff are the fundamental pillars of the Prozdor experience.

**For more information about Prozdor, please contact Evan Parks,  
Prozdor Recruitment Coordinator at [eparks@hebrewcollege.edu](mailto:eparks@hebrewcollege.edu)  
or 617-559-8815.**

**Temple Beth Abraham *Kitah Zayin* Students and parents will  
attend the presentation.  
Families with students in Grades 8-12 are also invited and  
encouraged to attend.  
Please contact Heidi Lovitz, Director of Education and  
Programming for more information  
(603) 883-9844 or email [director@tbanashua.org](mailto:director@tbanashua.org)**

# We Gratefully Acknowledge Your Contributions

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# Yahrzeits

*During Friday evening and Saturday morning services,  
Memorial prayers will be recited for the following:*

## March 7 & 8

Charles Abramson, father of Jerold Abramson  
Elias Brody, father of Bernard Brody  
Norman Feder, husband of Helen Feder and father  
of Robert Feder  
Douglas Goff, brother of Ally Sharpe  
Ida Lukatsky, mother of Janet Roth  
Benjamin Price, father of Howard Price  
Itzhak Weiner, father of Ruth Harris  
Dorothy Baer                      Ida Liffman

## March 14 & 15

Nathan Cheifetz, father of Gina Vega  
Rebecca Freedman, great-grandmother of Steven Haime  
Samuel Malkin, father-in-law of Donna Malkin  
Lotte Romer, mother of Hyman Romer

## March 21 & 22

Edward Feldmann, father of Robert Feldmann  
Phyllis Ferman, mother of Mark Ferman  
Melvin Intrilligator, father of Ellen Cohen  
Herman Kaplan, father of Elliot Kaplan  
Ray Lillstrang, husband of Colleen Lillstrang  
Rosalyn Lovin, aunt of Mara Friedman  
Herbert Schimmel, step-father of Mike Harris  
Jules Ziffer, grandfather of Barbara Lester Lena London

## March 28 & 29

Allen Jerome Adams, father of Jeffrey Adams  
Abram Ginsburg, grandfather of Jill Himmelstein  
Dora Horowitz, mother of Pearl Haymes  
Rose Kaplan, mother-in-law of Carol Kaplan  
Charles Kovler, father of Wendy Kolopsky  
David Levy, father of Philip Levy  
Irving Lipson, father of Debbie Grass  
Lillian Malkin, mother-in-law of Donna Malkin  
Bernard Rubin, father of Davida Rubin-Baker  
Chanka Schnitzer, grandmother of Liliane Sznycer  
Rosalyn Shapiro, mother of Richard Shapiro  
Miriam "Mickey" Sherman, mother of Stuart Sherman  
Sarah Aspis Tulkoff, grandmother of Shari Zedeck  
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