

Temple Beth Abraham Bulletin

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Pesach /Passover

Friday April 3

Siyyum for First Born 8:00 AM
First Seder - No Evening Services

Saturday, April 4

Shabbat Pesach 9:30 AM

Sunday, April 5

Pesach Services 9:30 AM

Friday, April 10

Pesach Services 9:30 AM at Temple Israel (Manchester)

8:00 PM at Beth Abraham

Saturday, April 11

9:30 AM (service includes Yizkor)



April 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 (12 Nisan) | 2 (13 Nisan) | 3 (14 Nisan) | 4 (15 Nisan) |
| | | | | | Erev Pesach CL: 6:56 First Seder | Pesach Havdalah: 7:59 |
| | | | | | Siyyum for First Born 8:00AM Office Closes at 2:00PM NO Fri. Night Service | Shabbat / Pesach Morning Services 9:30am |
| 5 (16 Nisan) | 6 (17 Nisan) | 7 (18 Nisan) | 8 (19 Nisan) | 9 (20 Nisan) | 10 (21 Nisan) | 11 (22 Nisan) |
| Pesach 1st Day Omer | Chol Hamoed Pesach 2nd Day Omer | Chol Hamoed Pesach 3rd Day Omer | Chol Hamoed Pesach 4th Day Omer | Chol Hamoed Pesach CL: 7:03 5th Day Omer | Pesach / 6th Day Omer CL: 7:04 | Havdalah: 8:07 Pesach / 7th Day Omer |
| Pesach Services 9:30am No School | Exec Board Meeting 6:30pm | Avodah Shebalev 9:30am Sisterhood B.O.D. 8:00pm Cemetery Committee 8:00pm | Torah Study 10:30am No School Services 7:30pm | Pesach Services 9:30am at Temple Israel (Manchester) & 8:00 PM at TBA Office Closed | Shabbat /Pesach Morning Services 9:30am Service includes Yizkor | |
| 12 (23 Nisan) | 13 (24 Nisan) | 14 (25 Nisan) | 15 (26 Nisan) | 16 (27 Nisan) | 17 (28 Nisan) | 18 (29 Nisan) |
| 8th Day Omer | 9th Day Omer | 10th Day Omer | 11th Day Omer | Yom HaShoah 12th Day Omer | 13th Day Omer CL: 7:12 | 14th Day Omer Havdalah: 8:15 Shemini Shabbat Morning Services 9:30am Jr. Cong. & Shabbat Shlaymah 10:00am |
| Sisterhood Program w/ Frann Addison 9:45am | Ritual Committee 8:00pm | School Committee 8:00pm | Lifelong Learning 8:00pm | Torah Study 10:30am Yom HaShoah Observance at Rivier University w/ Rolf Schutte 7:00pm | Gimel/ Dalet Shabbat 7:00pm | |
| 19 (30 Nisan) | 20 (1 Iyyar) | 21 (2 Iyyar) | 22 (3 Iyyar) | 23 (4 Iyyar) | 24 (5 Iyyar) | 25 (6 Iyyar) |
| 15th Day Omer | 16th Day Omer | 17th Day Omer | Yom Hazikaron 18th Day Omer | Yom Ha'Atzmaut 19th Day Omer | 20th Day Omer CL: 7:20 | 21st Day Omer Havdalah: 8:23 Tazria-Metzora |
| Gan Katan 10:00am Knitting/Crocheting Session 10:00AM | Finance Committee 6:30pm | Full Board Meeting 6:30pm | Avodah Shebalev 9:30am | Torah Study 10:30am | Shabbat Morning Services 9:30am Lunch & Learn | |
| 26 (7 Iyyar) | 27 (8 Iyyar) | 28 (9 Iyyar) | 29 (10 Iyyar) | 30 (11 Iyyar) | | |
| 22nd Day Omer | 23rd Day Omer | 24th Day Omer | 25th Day Omer | 26th Day Omer | | |
| No School Men's Club Breakfast 9:30am | No School | No School | No School | No School | | |

Pesach and Who We Are

Why do we care about what's in the past? Why do beginnings interest us, whether it's the origins of the universe or the first lines of a book?



Rabbi Spira-Savett

We look to the beginning to give us the essence of the whole. Origin stories are about identity and values. *Yetziat Mitzrayim*, the Exodus from Egypt, is the story of the origin of the Jewish nation. And it doesn't disappoint.

We talk about being in Egypt more than 3000 years ago – because who we are, are people who know how important a home is, and that you don't take that for granted. We talk about having been slaves – because we are defined by our identification with people who are oppressed and not free.

We talk about God fighting on our behalf against Pharaoh – because we were the lowest on the ladder, worth nothing, yet we were designated to carry a message of hope and possibility into the world.

When the world looks at the Jewish people, it looks in the mirror. Our story reveals that there is Pharaoh in the world, and there is God. Our origin is testament to an idea that the Mishnah teaches about the story of Pesach. *Mat'chil big'nut um'sayaym bish'vach* – start with shame and end with glory. On the road from Egypt to Mt. Sinai, through the desert toward Israel, we taught the world that no people and no person is too broken to be a vessel for divine wisdom and compassion.

That's all right there, at the start of Jewish history. Almost everything else is commentary. The stories we tell on Pesach are the seed, the Big Bang, the constitutional convention for the Jewish people and Judaism itself.

At our Seders, we talk about this and act it out. For the rest of the week of Pesach, we ingest it and digest it.

For a lot of people, the Seder is the big highlight and then there is a slog. Eight days of matzah in various forms – crunched, spread on, microwaved with sauce and cheese, crumbled into kugel...

This year, think different. First of all, think about difference itself. *Why is this week different from all other weeks?* We're sitting at work eating different (making crumbs) things

(Continued on the following page ...)

RECIPROCITY VS. UNILATERALLY

A good friendship is a relationship of trust and mutual sharing. Good friends share deeply with each other on a wide range of important and not-so-important topics. Forging a friendship requires risk-taking and effort; it does not happen automatically when two people first meet. Reciprocity is the give and take of a relationship. A relationship can exist only if a communication effort made by one person is acknowledged and returned by the other.



President
Lisa Bonneau

Someone extraordinary recently gave me "something to think about." You can probably guess who this

is. She shared an article with me about supporting your rabbi. It did not imply reciprocity, the position was about the obligation to make someone your rabbi is on us, not them. If we want our rabbis to teach and lead us, we must support them and empower them. We talk about becoming a healthy strong Jewish community. To do this we can all support Rabbi Jon and, with this support and encouragement from us, he can be more effective. How lucky we are to have Rabbi Jon, who is passionate about this community, willing to take risks, not afraid to get involved and try new things.

Take a minute and read the article - Leadership & Followership: Support Your Local Rabbi... by Nigel Savage. <http://hazon.org/leadership-followership-support-local-rabbi/>

The next time you have a few moments talking to Rabbi Jon, ask him, "is there something I could do in the community that would help you in some way?"

B'yedidut (In Friendship),

Lisa



Pesach and Who We Are continued...

from other people. Give an answer when they ask: *Why are you doing that?* It's because of what happened to me when I and my people went out of Egypt. It takes us a week to meditate on that, and we're using our bodies and not just our mouths and minds to sort out the meaning of it.

Second, don't get hung up on what a friend of mind calls the "Passover-industrial complex." Ditch the boxes of cake mix and dissolving noodles, and eat simple.

Matzah itself a simple food, while *chametz* (leavened food) represents human complexity and arrogance. Did you know that according to the Torah, Pharaoh built his tyranny as a system of food production and distribution? Eating fresh produce and simple dairy products cleanses our bodies, humbles our souls, and collapses the distance between us and God, the Source of sustenance.

Once again, the American Jewish World Service and Equal Exchange are partnering on Fair Trade chocolate, which you can find in our Sis-

terhood Gift Shop. And don't forget tomatoes, which many American rabbis have adopted as our anti-slavery project. Trader's Joe's, Whole Foods, and even Walmart have signed legally binding Fair Food Agreements regarding tomatoes from Florida, or look in other stores for tomatoes from other regions.

And don't forget, as we say at the Seder, "let all who are hungry come and eat." If you have a place at your Seder even now for someone who doesn't have one, let me know and I'll make the match. And while we focus on our own food, please remember to give to organizations like the Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter especially at this time of year.

Pesach connects with us high and low – in stories and how we reflect on them, in food and how our bodies process them. There is a lot to chew on, in all senses!

Chag kasher v'samayach – Wishing you a joyful and kosher holy day,

Rabbi Jon

2015 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN IS UNDERWAY

Most of you have probably received a letter announcing our 2015 Fundraising Campaign. We work hard to create a lean budget that includes an affordable dues structure. Nevertheless, the budget includes about \$40,000 in income from fundraising. We thought that the simplest thing for this year would be a direct appeal to our congregants.

We have already raised more than \$14000.00! A donation of any amount will be very much appreciated. All donors will be recognized in the bulletin. Those making a contribution of \$5,000 or more will be listed in the Leadership Circle, and those donating \$1,000-\$4,999 will be listed in the Sustainer's Circle. You can send a check or make a donation on line through the TBA website.

Thank you for contributing! Temple Beth Abraham is our Jewish community's home. Please help keep it vibrant and bright.

*Alan Green and Anita Hazard
For the TBA Fundraising Committee*

Community News

Best Wishes to:

- Jan and Perry Silver on the birth of grandson Oliver Mark Silver

Condolences to:

- Robert Kaiser on the loss of his beloved father, George Kaiser
 - Marc Gilman on the loss of his beloved mother, Helen Gilman
 - Debbie Rothberg and family on the loss of her beloved mother Harriet Skorton
 - Ed McDuffee on the loss of his beloved wife and long time temple member, Phyllis McDuffee
- To all those people in our community who are ill we wish you a complete & speedy recovery.

Simcha Club

Children whose birthdays occur in the months of April and May will be honored at the Family Service on Friday, May 1 at 7 PM. There will not be a Family Service in April as the first Friday is April 3rd which is the first night of Pesach. Congregants will be attending seders with their friends and family.



March Service Schedule

Services are held every Friday evening at 8:00 PM (unless otherwise noted), Saturday at 9:30 AM and Monday – Thursday at 7:30 PM.

SPECIAL EVENT SERVICES Passover Service Schedule

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First Seder - No Evening Services

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Shabbat Pesach 9:30 AM

Sunday, April 5

Pesach Services 9:30 AM

Friday, April 10

Pesach Services 9:30 AM at Temple Israel (Manchester)
8:00 PM at Beth Abraham

Saturday, April 11

9:30 AM (service includes Yizkor)

Friday, April 17

Gimel/Dalet Class Shabbat
Services begin at 7:00PM

Saturday, April 18

Junior Congregation &
Shabbat Shlaymah

DAYTIME ACTIVITY GROUP

The Daytime Activity Group enjoyed trying Whist, and plan to play in the future. After being snowed out the three previous months, it was especially festive to be at Beth Abraham, where Richard's colorful indoor garden brought Spring to mind.

For April, we plan to have lunch out on Tuesday, the 21st. Please call Marilyn Greenspan, 429-1675, marlar10@comcast.net.

Sandi McCurdy can tell you about the monthly MahJongg game held at a member's home in Nashua, 881-5856, smccurdy1@comcast.net.

Junior Congregation

Junior Congregation, our Saturday morning Shabbat supplement to the education that children receive in the TBA Religious School, will meet this month on **April 18, 2015**



Junior Congregation offers fun and interesting service experiences, for students in 3rd^h through 6th grade. We sing, examine parts of the Saturday morning service, and learn a bit of Torah before concluding our service with the congregation in the sanctuary.

Looking ahead to next month, Junior Congregation will meet on **May 16, 2015**.

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The Families, Students and Faculty Of Temple Beth Abraham Religious School Invite you to join us for our Class Shabbatot

**Kitah Gimel and Kitah Dalet (3rd & 4th grade) – Friday
Evening, April 17**

Kitah Hai (5th grade) – Friday Evening, May 8

All Class Shabbat Services will begin at 7:00 PM

**Students will participate in leading services as well as
teaching something special that they have learned this year.**

**We hope you will help us celebrate Shabbat and join us
for Oneg following services.**

Mechirat Chametz מְכִירַת חָמֵץ Selling of Chametz

According to the Torah, chametz (leavened items) shall be neither eaten nor found in Jewish homes. Ideally, chametz should be thrown away, or if unopened it should be donated to a food pantry. When this is impractical because of significant financial loss, it is permitted to sell chametz and transfer the part of the premises on which it is located to a non-Jew, in order to fulfill the letter of the commandment. Rabbi Jon will effect a legal sale of all the community's chametz before Pesach on the basis of the authority granted herein. Chametz areas should be blocked off during Pesach.

I/we, _____, fully appoint, empower and permit Rabbi Jonathan Spira-Savett to act as my agent to sell on or before the 14th of Nissan 5775 all chametz that I/we and any members of my/our family possess knowingly or unknowingly, as defined in Torah and rabbinic law, and to lease out all places where the aforementioned chametz is found, at the locations listed below or in places unknown.

Signature(s) _____

List addresses/locations:

מְעוֹת חָטִין Ma'ot Chittin Fund

Since earliest times the Jewish community has been charged with making sure that everyone can afford the required foods of Pesach. Rabbi Jon collects contributions which help people in our community as well as in other places.

This is a special kind of *tzedakah* (giving for justice), in honor of a festival rooted in the fight against suffering and injustice.

If you need any assistance so that you can have *matzah* and other Kosher for Passover food, you can approach Rabbi Jon confidentially. To make a contribution to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund for this purpose, indicate *Ma'ot Chittin* in the memo.

Community Seder Match

This year, the synagogue is not organizing a communal Seder because the second night of Pesach does not begin until dark at the end of Shabbat, which would be very late.

Not everyone is able to host their own Seder – because of the degree of preparation involved or because you've never done it before, or for a variety of reasons. We are taking on the commitment, as in years past, that everyone in our community should be able to participate in a Seder.

Contact the office if:

You have space for one or more people at a Seder at your home on either the first or second night.

You are looking for a Seder to participate in either night.

We will match people according to their needs – how you observe the Pesach food restrictions, other dietary needs, young children, etc.



Exploring Place, Community and Identity Israel 2015

For last year's edition of the April Bulletin, I presented an article about building Jewish family life and shared the milestone anniversary that my husband and I were celebrating. Once again, as



Director of
Education &
Programming
Heidi N. Lovitz

I write my article, I am preparing to celebrate yet another anniversary. This anniversary will be celebrated in Israel. Although my husband and I both travel to Israel for work, it is not often that we are there at the same time. We have actually only been in Israel at the same time (and with our children) twice! This time we will be crossing paths as he is returning and I will be arriving but we will celebrate with a dinner in Tel Aviv before we he hops on the plane and I head to my conference.

I am in Israel this year as part of the Goodman Camp Initiative. My journey this year will begin at Har Herzl, also called Har Hazikaron, the mountain of memory. When deciding to call it by this name, the obvious question becomes what do we choose to remember on this mountain? This visit will probe the development and role of collective memory, and reflect how the role of space and foundational narratives deepen a sense of community and identity. This has been a central theme for many of the discussions that have taken place in a class I am taking on the history of Zionism and the development of the state of Israel. When did Israel become a nation? What is needed to be more than a group of people living on a land to truly develop into Am Yisrael and create a nation? People who have

also read books on early Zionism this year, including Ari Shavit's *My Promised Land*, have had to explore the idea of the foundational narrative and what we do when the new narrative shakes our belief in what we thought to be true.

"Everyone has a city called Jerusalem." Against the background of a number of sites in the city, our group will hear about and talk about the tensions, the debates, the numbers, the real estate and the politics that are of concern to Hitorerut Yerushalayim, "A Jerusalem Awakening". This is a grass-roots political party established by young people passionate about the city. We will learn of their vision for the capital of Israel as the capital of the Jewish world. Hanan Rubin, one of the leaders and founders of "Hitorerut", who at the age of 31 is a member of the Jerusalem Municipal Council, will lead this experience.

For the next few days, I will be joining hundreds of young Israeli Sh'lichim (Ambassadors) as they participate in their training for their Jewish Summer Camp experience. I will meet and help to train many of the Israelis that will be at summer camps throughout New England.

After the seminar we head to Caesarea. Caesarea invokes ancient Talmudic debates that relate to identity and community. This topic is quite relevant to us as we continue to work on our Long Range Planning process and bring our school and community into the future. That evening will be followed by a cultural performance with master Israel educator and musician, Udi Krauss, encountering Israel through the

stories and music of Arik Einstein.

On our last day we will visit Yemin Orde and Atlit. Yemin Orde is community that provides education, care and a home to immigrant and at-risk youth. I am no stranger to Yemin Orde as I have visited there many times as a group leader with teens and have spent time there with my family following my daughter's Bat Mitzvah. Atlit is a detention camp established by the British mandate at the end of the 1930's. We will consider how space is used to sustain memory and tell our story.

The Lifelong Learning Committee has taken on the theme of Israel this year and has brought our community a number of opportunities to connect with the land, the people and the nation. As we begin our planning for the next year, we have committed ourselves to keeping Israel a priority. I hope that my trip will connect me with many more opportunities to bring Israel to our school and our community. I look forward to sharing my stories when I return.

Heidi N. Lovitz

director@tbanashua.org

(603) 883-9844

Have you ever wondered?

Why do we use candlesticks and wine goblets on Shabbat?
What is the significance of the menorahs we use on
Hanukkah?

The origin of ceremonial objects used in our home mirrors the
long and rich history of Judaism.

Join us on Sunday April 12

at 9:45 AM

Frann Addison, an artist and designer, has compiled a
fascinating presentation and slide show to share with us.

- We will explore the origin and development of Jewish ceremonial pieces that we use in our home.
- We will learn about ritual, superstition, and religious requirements, as well as the artistic and Christian influence on the style and function of each object.
- We will view exciting pieces that Frann has created and that will be available for purchase.

RSVP by April 7th to:

Carol Kaplan cakaplan@hotmail.com, (603) 860 4163, or
Carol Mann Cohen carolmanncohen@gmail.com (603) 216 2849

This program is sponsored by Sisterhood in cooperation with the
Life Long Learning Committee.

Keter Shem Tov Award

'Crown of a Good Name'

It's that time of year again. Let's hear from you!

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 with Keter Shem Tov Committee in the subject line) or write a note (Temple Beth Abraham, 4 Raymond Street, Nashua, NH 03064-2317, Attn: Keter Shem Tov Committee) with the name of your recommendation and a description of your rationale and a list of their accomplishments.

To be considered nominations should be submitted to the committee no later than April 1.

This award will be presented at Temple Beth Abraham at services on May 30.

The awardee will also be honored at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire's annual meeting in June.

The form below may be used to submit your nomination along with a brief description of your rationale for the nomination.

Nomination Form

Person making the nomination: _____ **Phone number:** _____

Nominee: _____

Letter/Rationale: _____

List of Assorted involvement at TBA _____

List of involvement in the community _____

Yom HaShoah Observance at Rivier University in Nashua

Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 PM
Dion Center Reception Room on Clement Street

Featured speaker:
**Rolf E. Schütte, Consul General of Germany
to the New England States**



- The Holocaust's role in the identity of today's Germans
 - Relations between Germans and Jews
 - Relations between Germany and Israel

Rolf E. Schütte has been the German Consul General for the New England States in Boston since August 2012. Former diplomatic assignments abroad took him to Moscow, Tel Aviv, and the United Nations in New York, Rome, and San Francisco. Previously, he held several positions in the German Foreign Office in Bonn and Berlin, including an assignment as Deputy Director for Middle East Affairs.

During a sabbatical, Mr. Schütte spent a few months as a visiting scholar at the American Jewish Committee headquarters in New York working on a publication about German-Jewish relations, a subject which is very personal to him, and one in which he gives many talks. Mr Schütte spoke at the 2012 Yom Ha'Shoah observance at Faneuil Hall in Boston.

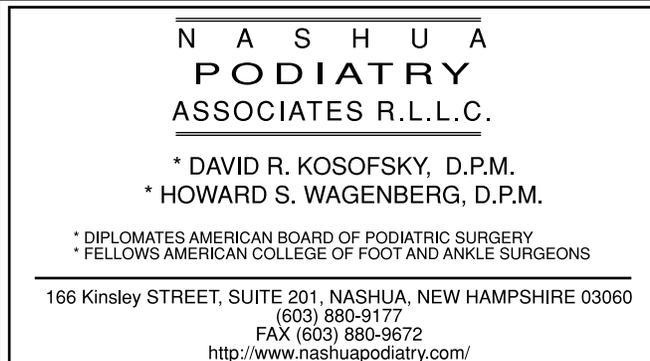
A question-and-answer session and a candle-lighting ceremony memorializing the victims of the Holocaust will follow the presentation.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Sheryl Rich-Kern at 603-881-7264, or email at sherylrichkern@mac.com.



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Terry and Abby Watterson distribute Mishloach Manot to be delivered to the congregation



Jonah Savage plays Simba (King Achashverosh) in the Purim Shpeil



Rabbi Jon shares the Megillah with our youngest members



The Sunday cast of the Purim Shpeil.

PURIM 5775 / 2015

Knitting/Crocheting Session

Keep your calendars clear for a morning of knitting/crocheting! On Sunday, April 19th from 10:00 a.m. to noon, we will gather together to make hats for IDF soldiers. You will need to provide your own yarn, needles, and copies of the pattern you have chosen. As part of Temple Beth Abraham's participation in the Package from Home program, we will be including in our packages hand knitted or crocheted hats.

Beginners with no prior experience knitting are invited too. Bring yarn and needles of your choice and an experienced knitter will show you the basics. (Once you've mastered the basics, you'll have the skills to knit an IDF hat.)

IDF Hat Patterns

The knitted hat is a simple rib pattern. To make this hat, you will need to be able to test gauge, cast on, knit and purl, decrease, cast

off, and block. The crocheted hat is made flat, and you will need to be able to test gauge and make a single crochet chain.

Use one of the patterns on the Package from Home website. (<http://www.apackagefromhome.org/>) (These are the only patterns allowed.) These patterns are:

1. a hat knit on circular and double-pointed needles,
2. a hat knitted on two straight needles, and
3. a crocheted hat.

Yarn

You must use machine washable plain black worsted weight yarn - this is in order to comply with both the soldiers' requests and army regulations. Look for a yarn that is soft, warm and non-felting. Superwash wool is best, acrylic or a wool/acrylic mix is okay. You'll probably need about 220 yds. / 200 m. (from the Package from Home website)

Recommended yarns:

- Rowan Pure Wool Worsted Superwash. Available at Twill in downtown Nashua. \$11 per skein, 219 yds/skein
 - Cascade Yarns 220 Superwash wool. Available at Yarn and Fiber in Derry. \$11 per skein, 220 yds/skein
 - Cascade Yarns Sateen Worsted (acrylic). Available at Twill in downtown Nashua. \$7.00 per skein, 300.7 yds/skein
- Questions? Contact Ellie Schwartz at ellie.schwartz@my-fairpoint.net or 603.880.1422.



Support Our Soldiers Serving in the Israel Defense Forces

Summer package donations from the Beth Abraham community will include travel size bottles of shampoo and lip balm.

Each package also contains letters of appreciation sent by children and adults from all over the world.

We will have a letter writing station set up at the Yom Yerushalayim Festival to write letters to soldiers.

A donation box will be set up in the coatroom to collect shampoo and lip balm. These items will be delivered to A Package from Home this spring.!

For more information please contact Heidi Lovitz, Director of Education and Programming at (603)883-9844 or by email director@tbanashua.org

A Package from Home sends packages to Chayelim Bodedim (Combat soldiers without families in Israel) and severely injured soldiers needing long term care.

The son of our own congregants Stewart and Claudine Cohen is serving IDF. We can help to strengthen the spirit and resolve of each Israeli soldier and show our appreciation for the sacrifices that he or she is making in securing the safety and survival of Israel

Make a Donation



Something to Think About

When you read this, I will be home thinking about getting ready for Pesach. I am writing, however, from Jerusalem. Buzz and I are spending two weeks with our daughter, Kate, and her family.



Elaine Brody

The whole experience of being here is special from the applause when the plane lands to walking through the city. A word must be said about Purim in Jerusalem where there isn't an Esther or Mordechai to be found but many Spidermen, Super Heroes, Bumble bees and more. The best part, of course, is being with family and friends. On Sunday evening, we met Ruth and Mike Harris and their granddaughter, Shizuko and Yosef and Hadassah Btzur (formerly Bezerra) for dinner. The company was wonderful, the food plentiful, and the evening too short. We adults caught up and reminisced while the children enjoyed meeting new friends.

For those of you who were not here then, the Btzur family moved to Nashua (via Brazil and Florida) in the 1990s. It was a stop on the way to aliyah for Yosef, Hadassah, Levi, Shmuel, and Ruti who found they were of Jewish ancestry and embraced their Jewishness totally. It didn't take long for them to become an integral part of the Beth Abraham community. They introduced us to Brazilian Barbecue and their lovely singing voices (you can find their CD in the gift shop) and we helped them settle in. They stayed longer than anticipated as their ties to our community became stronger. In 2003 the boys made aliyah followed by Ruti, and in 2005 Yosef and Hadassah were on their way. They have not always had an easy time as they moved from one culture to another, but they are industrious and always involved in Jewish life. Today they are well and truly established in Jerusalem. They are the proprietors of a family day care program, and Yosef does Web design. And, they are effusive in expressing their love for our community.

While our conversation over dinner covered every topic from who's doing what in Nashua to the impending visit of Prime Minister Netanyahu, to the vagaries of the weather, we kept returning to the wonderful sense of community all of us found when we arrived at Beth Abraham. Each of our families came to Nashua from "away", as the locals would put it, and the members of Beth Abraham made us welcome.

Congregational life is changing. We are in the midst of working on a strategic plan to enhance every synagogue experience from praying to playing. At the base of this plan must be the ongoing sense of a welcoming community that has made Beth Abraham a special place whether as a stop on a journey or a permanent home. If you see someone you don't know, introduce yourself. It could lead to a lifelong friendship. At the very least you will have made someone feel welcome and part of the fellowship of our congregation.

It is, as always just something to think about. From our home to yours, sincere best wishes for a zis-sen Pesach..

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Elaine*

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Adult Education and Programming

Come for any session or many! No previous background necessary.

Questions About Pesach (Passover)?

Contact Rabbi Jon anytime for questions about food, the meaning of the holy days, and anything in between.

Torah Study with Rabbi Jon

Thursdays from 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

We are studying the *Kohelet* (Ecclesiastes), one of the “wisdom” books in the last section of the *Tanach* (Bible).

Kabbalah with Eitan Zeira

Saturday, April 18 at 12:30 PM at Betenu

Study concepts from the *Zohar*, the “Book of Splendor” that is the major source for Jewish mysticism.

Avodah She-balev: Service in the Heart Meditation with Laura Hegfield

Wednesdays, April 8 & 22, 9:30 – 10:30 AM

Explore the wealth of wisdom and inspiration of the traditional Siddur (prayerbook) from the perspective of an attentive, devotional heart. There is generally a personal teaching, chanting, mindfulness meditation with instructions as needed, and twenty minutes of silent meditation.

Lunch and Learn: Ari Shavit, My Promised Land, Continued

Saturday, April 25 after Kiddush

Whether you have been at previous discussions, come and talk about this important recent book about Zionism and Israel’s history. We will be focusing on the controversial sections surrounding Israel’s War of Independence.

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- Podcasts and writings on Torah, ethics and Jewish topics of contemporary interest – also at iTunes (look up Rabbi Jon)
- Up-to-date analysis about Israel – also on Twitter (@TBARav)



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הקשר היהודי שלך

Your Jewish Connection

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Written by Linda S Trapasso

Cantors Sing Out Loud



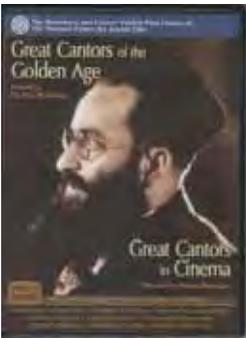
I hope you were at our Kabbalat Shabbat on Friday, March 13, when Cantor Rosalie Gerut joined us for services as part of our participation in the Boston Jewish Music Festival. Everyone was singing, folks were dancing, and the sanctuary was filled with our community members and *ruach*. What a combination! I felt G-d's *shechinah* and I'm still feeling it several days later. Last year, as part of our participation in the Boston Jewish Music Festival, TBA welcomed [Cantor Gastón Bogomolni](#) and his associates, who provided us with Latin American-influenced Jewish music.

So what does it mean to be a cantor or *hazzan*? The cantor is “the person who leads the congregation in prayer along with the rabbi. The position of cantor is significant because music plays a major role in Jewish prayer services” (from [What IS a Cantor?](#)). My Jewish Learning provides a short [video on the definition of a cantor](#), as well as a [longer description](#).

Jewish Magazine has a short article on the [history of the cantor](#). The [Yivo Encyclopedia](#) provides a more detailed history of the development of the role of the cantor and of cantorial styles. Infoplease discusses [Jewish Liturgical Music](#) and includes descriptions of instruments that might have been used when the liturgy was first developed. For samples of the different melodies and their variations, go to [Sung Nusach](#) and [Virtual Cantor](#).



If you want to train to become a Conservative cantor, check out the [Jewish Theological Seminary](#) and its [Miller Cantorial School and College of Jewish Music](#). Locally, we have [Hebrew College](#) and its new [cantorial program](#) which will provide a pluralistic, multid denominational approach (be sure to click on the Boston Globe article about the new program).



The [Cantors Assembly](#), established in 1947, which offers a yearly conference, resources, and more to members, is the Conservative organization for cantors. Another organization, the [Jewish Ministers Cantors Association of America & Canada](#), was founded in 1897 and remains active. More organizations can be found at the [Jewish Music Web Center](#).

To learn the names of famous cantors and to hear cantors and their music, you can travel to these web sites:

- [The Greatest Cantorial Voices of All Time](#)
- [Judaica Sound Archives](#)
- [Chazzanut Online](#)

One of the more recent developments is the acceptance of women in the role of cantor, as discussed by Cantor Barbara G. Margulis in her [Note From the Cantor](#) and by Cantor Janis Guralnick in [The History of Cantorial Development](#). According to an [article at Haaretz](#), the first female cantor to lead High Holiday services did so in 1884 and her name was Julie Rosewald.

When Cantor Rosalie Gerut joined us in March, she was one in a time-honored series of female cantors who have been singing with congregations since 1884.



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Yahrzeits

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

April 3 & 4

Minnie Rosen, mother of Marilyn Rosen
Ruth Paris, mother of Rochelle Goren
Sam Gorelick, father of Donald Gorelick
Waldemar Schaffer, father of Paula Ellis
Rachel Freedman, sister-in-law of Henrietta Freedman
Florence Greenspan, mother-in-law of Marilyn Greenspan
Joan Treitel, sister of Debbie Noiseux, Robert Treitel,
and Nancy Moore
Ruth Pelovitz, aunt of Robert M. Pelovitz
Lena Taub, grandmother of Abner Taub
Harold Cantor, father-in-law of Nancy Cantor
Bess Gotlieb, grandmother of Jonathan Spira-Savett
Morton Steinberg, father of Barry Steinberg
Sidney Rosenblum, father of Michael Rosenblum
Sidney Brother, father of Carol Gelman
Pat Berkowitz, aunt of Howard Berke
Daniel Sherman, uncle of Steven Haime
Grace Goodman, mother of Debbie Waldman
Hyman Rubenstein, Meyer Slome
Marion Aronson Abraham Schuster
Patricia Weinberg Robert Lipkind

April 10 & 11

Keith J. Alexander, former husband of Jennifer Alexander
Shirley Green, mother of Alan Green
Josiah Aronson, father of Robert Aronson
Rachael Ann Karlsberg, daughter of Ronni Karlsberg
Bessie Issokson, mother of Carol Levy
Celia Spivak, mother of Jerry Spivak
William W. Kadushin, father of Helen Feder
Joel Rovick, brother of Phyllis Adams
Ruth Price, mother of Howard P. Price
Saul Goodman, father of Debbie Waldman
William Harris, father of Michael Harris
Leizor Schnitzer, great uncle of Liliane Sznycer
Lise Bornstein, great aunt of Liliane Sznycer
Mat Ram, grandfather of Andrew Droutman
Gussie Moskowitz Goldstein, mother of Leon Goldstein
Ira Green, father of Alan Green
Anne Gelber Harry Davis
Blanche Gross Dorothy Gold
Joseph Osofsky Ida Cohen
Shirley Lea Weisman

April 17 & 18

Bernard Toth, husband of Diane Toth
Ben Gotlieb, great-grandfather of Jonathan Spira-Savett
Lena Weisman, sister of Robert Weisman
Harry Sack, grandfather of Barry Sack
Joel Deifik, brother of David Deifik
Lillian Lappe, grandmother of Tal Dagan
Louis Ellenson, father of Sandra McCurdy
Maida Sproul, mother of Nancy Cantor
Tobias Schnitzer, grandfather of Liliane Sznycer
Alton McCormick, father of Sharon Spivak
Ann Sunstein, friend of Sandee Goldberg and Diane Toth
George Hayden, father of Claretta Malin
Murray B. Alter, father of Fred Alter
Ida Kosofsky, mother of David R. Kosofsky
Ruth Rickless, sister of Minette Klein
Leah Goodman Gertrude A. Sandberg
Louis Folsom Maria Shpirt
Edward Blumenthal Dr. Abbott Winograd

April 24 & 25

Frances Banner, mother of Stanley Banner
David Arthur Goldberg, father of Sandee Goldberg
Judith Gorelick, first wife of Donald Gorelick
Howard Katz, brother-in-law of Judy Goldstein
Richard Dorner, father of Bruce Dorner
Jackson Pastor, father of Jeffrey L. Pastor
Russell Sproul, father of Nancy Cantor
Frances Brody, mother of David Brody
Irvin Harry Nichols, father of Suzanne Maine
Louis Rudnick, grandfather of Janis Silver
Israel Smith, grandfather of Noreen I. Leibson
Lisa Pollack, daughter of Stanley H. Pollack
Louis Brownfield, grandfather of Larry Golub
Pinhas Solomon, uncle of Zahava Salomon
Joseph Freedman, husband of Henrietta Freedman
and father of Benjamin Freedman
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Harold Silverstein Morris Weisberg
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 Lew Snapper for father, Max Snapper
 George Kessler for mother, Jessie Kessler
 Helen Feder for husband, Norman Feder
 Sandee Goldberg for mother, Dorothy Goldberg
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 Ida Stanger for mother, Edith Stanger
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 Leonard Waldman for father, Harry Waldman
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Temple Beth Abraham Sisterhood Spring Rummage Sale



Schedule:

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| DROP-OFF and SET-UP: | TUESDAY, May 5, 9am – 4pm |
| If the Synagogue doors are not yet open, please drop-off donations at the rear of the social hall. | |
| SALE SCHEDULE: | WEDNESDAY, May 6, 9am – 3pm |
| CLEAN UP TIME: | WEDNESDAY, May 6, 3 - 5pm |

What to Donate:

Spring/Summer Clothing
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