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Temple Beth Abraham Pre-Chanukkah Party

Thursday, December 19 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.



5780

2019

December

Kislev Tevet



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 3 Kislev	2 4 Kislev	3 5 Kislev	4 6 Kislev	5 7 Kislev	8 Kislev	7 9 Kislev
				Yarncraft Group 9:00 am	CL 3:51	Services 9:30 am
					Shabbat Alive! 6:30 pm	Chanukkah
	Finance Committee	Israeli/Palestinian Conflict	BABKA 8:00 pm	Torah Study 10:30 am		Lunch & Learn 12:30 pm
	6:30 pm	10:00 am Off Site	Plannina Meetina		Services 8:00 pm	Yedidim Havdalah
				Security Committee		5:30 pm
						Vayetzei
8 10 Kislev	9 11 Kislev	10 12 Kislev	11 13 Kislev	12 14 Kislev	13 15 Kislev	14 16 Kislev
		Kid Erjendly & Comminity			CI 3:54	
		Minyan 5:30 pm		Yarncraft Group 9:00 am		Services 9:30 am
	Ritual Committee		Lifelong Learning		Services 8:00 pm	
	8:00 pm	Political Candidates and Israel 6:30 pm	6:30 pm	Torah Study 10:30 am		Shabbalom 9:30 am
		Sisterhood Board				
		6:30 pm				Vavishlach
15 17 Kislev	16 18 Kislev	17 19 Kislev	18 20 Kislev	19 21 Kislev	20 22 Kislev	21 23 Kislev
				Yarncraft Group 9:00 am	CL 3:56	
					Yedidim Build-a-Shabbat	
Men's Club Breakfast		BOD 6:30 pm	Avodah Shebalev	Torah Study 10:30 am	5:30 pm	Services 9:30 am
9:30 am			9:30 am	Pre-Chanukkah Party	Services 8:00 pm	
				6:00 pm	Bar Mitzval	Bar Mitzvah of Anthony Delinsky
						Vayeshev
22 24 Kislev	23 25 Kislev	24 26 Kislev	25 27 Kislev	26 28 Kislev	27 29 Kislev	28 30 Kislev
					CL 4:00	
			OFFICE CLOSED	Yedidim Snow Tubing 5:30 pm	Services 8:00 pm	Services 9:30 am
						Miketz
						Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Chanukkah	Chanukkah	Chanukkah	Chanukkah	Chanukkah	Chanukkah	Chanukkah
29 1 Tevet	30 2 Tevet	31 3 Tevet		Nov.		Jan.
				Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa		Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
				1 2		1 2 3 4
				3 4 5 6 7 8 9		5 6 7 8 9 10 11
				11 12 13 14 15		12 13 14 15 16 17 18
Rosh Chodesh Tevet	Chanthan			18 19 20 21 22		19 20 21 22 23 24 25
Cilanakan	Claricana			24 25 26 27 28 29 30		26 27 28 29 30 31

Temple Beth Abraham

December 2019 Volume 46 No. 03

Kisley / Tevet 5780

Embracing Chanukkah

I love Chanukkah. I love the row of *chanukkiot*, the special menorahs, set up by the window for each member of the family. Just the simplicity of light and then



Rabbi Spira-Savett

a bit more light every day, with a bit of color, and before you know it the difference between one candle for each and eight. Hope, lights kindling more lights, a simple melody for blessings with voices of different ages.

What I have really come to love about Chanukkah is that the story itself is actually about having a holiday when other people are having another holiday. That's not a new thing, an American thing, even a Judaism-and-Christianity thing. It's way back at the beginning. Chanukkah, like Purim (stay tuned in a few months), is *the* festival about us.

The simplest Chanukkah story is about King Antiochus outlawing Judaism and defiling the Temple in Jerusalem, until a band of Jewish priest-warriors said no, fought a battle for four years, drove out the king's forces and purified the Temple. A story of religious freedom instead of tyranny, and self-determination in our land, and miracle.

Around that story is another story, and it's longer. It starts in the 300s B.C.E., with Alexander the Great. He led a military campaign through the Middle East and established an enormous empire from Europe to Persia to Africa, including the Land of Israel. His conquests also brought a culture, the Greek-infused Hellenism that changed the language people spoke as well as art, architecture, athletics and ideas.

Jews, both in and out of Judea, wrestled with what it meant to live in a Hellenistic world. In the

century or so after Alexander the Great, the Jews in Egypt translated the Torah into Greek, a version that is known as the Septuagint. They didn't speak or know very much Hebrew and needed a Torah in their own language.

One of my favorite ancient Jewish stories is a legend about the writing of the Septuagint. *The Letter of Aristeas to Philocrates* is a Jewish text that invents a different origin for the Greek version of the Torah. *The Letter of Aristeas* says that the Hellenistic emperor in Alexandria, Egypt, heard that there was a book he was missing for his great library of all the world's wisdom: the Torah.

In order to complete his library, he would need it translated into Greek. So he sent for a group of seventy scholars to come down for Jerusalem, and he threw them a kosher banquet. This story, written (Continued on the following page ...)

President's Message

Dear Friends:

It is December. We have been in the month of Mar Cheshvan – bitter Cheshvan – as it fol-



President David Sacks

lows the holiday-filled Tishrei and has none of its own. This is an easy time for us to fall off the high of the holidays, and tremendous service offerings that TBA rolled out. So, allow me to encourage you to stay engaged with TBA as we continue to roll out a variety of offerings.

We have the first Shabbat of the month Friday night service known

as Shabbat Alive! This is a musical multigenerational service that is shorter than our traditional service. The melodies, accompanied by instruments, are mostly new and different, and have a very comforting and soothing feel to them. There is nosh, usually light appetizers, that can a light dinner as well. But best of all in my mind, is that the service is at 6:30 p.m. and it is over by 7:15 p.m. As such, it works for all ages and generations but is not a children's service. It is simply family-friendly given the music, timing and food. You can then go home and enjoy Shabbat dinner or hang out with the family. If you have not tried out Shabbat Alive!, then I encourage you to do so.

We have Chanukkah coming up. We are planning a family Chanukkah holiday party in the week prior to the school break so that we can celebrate as a community. This is always a lot of fun. Come sing along with Zimria and enjoy the Chanukkah fare. Keep an eye out for details in the coming weeks.

Looking back on the High Holy Days, I wanted to thank all those who volunteered to be a greeter. In

(Continued on the following page ...)

How to Give continued ...

by a Jew in Greek, even presents the scholars as though they were excellent Greek philosophers!

By the time of Antiochus and the Maccabees, a lot of Jews were wondering whether they needed Hebrew, or even Judaism (much of it's opening chapters are different than our version, another story). There was social pressure to become like other people. Even the Jerusalem priests took on Greek names, like we generally have English ones. There was a fierce debate within the Jews of the time about how much to integrate with others, and how much Hellenism to integrate into Judaism.

Sound familiar?

So while Antiochus was a madman and a tyrant, his rise was also the catalyst for getting all of this into the open. In fact, one of the oldest historical books we have about Chanukkah spends most of its time talking about these debates among Jews, about our relations with others and about how much Greek culture to bring into Jerusalem.

Even the date of the start of Chanukkah is connected to these themes. We celebrate beginning on the 25th of the month of Kislev in the Jewish calendar. The 25th of the final month of the solar year was, in the surrounding cultures, a pagan holiday already. Both Jews and later Christians took that festival of light period from others, and made it a symbol of our own lights. In the very act of claiming that day as our own, we remember that Jews of the time battling for their own culture.

The Hellenistic world that was Alexander the Great's legacy is an analogy for our world, particularly for the Jewish community in America. So it's absolutely right that we end up presenting ourselves to others,

to the majority, at this time of year – explaining things, being ambassadors, talking about what connects us through the winter festivals and what is unique about us.

So embrace that. Be Chanukkah. Get ready when people ask you about Chanukkah and Judaism. Be ready with more than "Chanukkah isn't our Christmas" -- your favorite thing about being Jewish, your favorite mitzvah or custom or story or idea. Your story of why and how you are Jewish in this modern-day version of a Hellenistic world.

Then you'll be the candle that lights another candle. You can be a candle of pride that shines, and a candle that lights more understanding among other people who look at us, as we glow uniquely at this time of year.

Chag Urim Samayach – A Joyous Festival of Lights,

Rabbi Jon

President's Message continued....

reading the survey responses, it seems that the greeters did a wonderful job making people feel welcomed. This aspect is a priority for the board and I am pleased to see that this small change had such an impact. Thanks to all of you who responded to the survey. We have received very constructive feedback that is helpful for the future. I can also say that we have agreed terms to bring Eliana Light back to lead ReNewYear once again next year. I know that many of you enjoyed both traditional and ReNewYear services and this has broadened our high holiday experience in so many ways.

We are hard at work at innovations at TBA. A subcommittee of the Ritual Committee is working on taking a fresh look at our B'nai Mitzvah offering and see if we can provide more options for students and families. Our religious school will continue to provide value for those families seeking a Jewish education for their children. At the same time, should the the B'nai Mitzvah program be a separate offering from the religious school and have standalone offerings? This is what we are trying to figure out. We do know that by doing so, we could expand our circle of reach and open the doors to more families to celebrate a bar or bat mitzvah. In this unique way, TBA can be even more of a Jewish center in the area, than before, and provide more ways for unaffiliated families to connect and "do Jewish

stuff" with us. We plan to have a discussion after shul in the coming weeks to share with you what we are thinking and seek your input. We will of course keep you apprised of our progress.

In conclusion, let's spare a thought for our brethren in Israel who have been under a barrage of rockets again from Gaza. We wish them strength and courage as they continue to face the adversity of existing in one of the most hostile neighborhoods in the world...

Hope you have a wonderful winter holiday season and have a joyous Chanukkah.

> L'shalom David

December Service Schedule

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

SPECIAL EVENT SERVICE

December 6

Shabbat Alive! 6:30 p.m.

Traditional Shabbat Service 8 p.m.

December 7

6:30 p.m. Popup Potluck Havdalah

December 10

Mini-yan at a special time of 7:00 p.m

December 14

Sanctuary Service 9:30 a.m.

Shabbalom 9:15-11:45 a.m.



Community News

Best Wishes to:

- Elaine & Buzz Brody on the birth of great granddaughter, Aliza Pearl Lormeus
- Liz Barron and Michael Stafford family on the B'nai Mitzvah of children Margot & David Barron Stafford
- Leon Goldstein on the marriage of son, Hal to Melissa Carruth
- Barbara & George Lester on the birth of grandson, Julian Thomas Lester
- Amy & Stuart Sherman on Jeremy's marriage to Aryn Tomlinson
- Dan Kassner & Andrea Messer on their recent marriage

Condolences to:

 Bob Goldstein on the loss of his beloved father, Michael Goldstein

Welcome New Members:

• Dan Kassner & Andrea Messer (Nashua)

All those people in our community who are ill we wish you a complete & speedy recovery BULLETIN PUBLISHED MONTHLY
ELEVEN TIMES A YEAR
VOL. 46, NO. 03
BY TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM
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1	

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"All The Leaves Are Gone, And The Sky Is Gray."

As we journey into December, we say good-bye to the fallen leaves and fall holidays. I don't know about you but I am finding the cold weather to be more chilling then ever before.



Director of Education Noreen Leibson

Unless you ski or skate or sled, spending time at home with a good book is how I like to spend my winter free time. But here's the good news – the cold doesn't penetrate into the school. Inside the school, the climate is set to cozy. Our students are enjoying the open classroom concept and being able to learn with more than one teacher and students from different grades.

And just what are they learning? As you can well imagine, we are digging into ancient and ever-relevant Jewish history through the Torah stories. The kids are learning about our patriarchs and matriarchs. Our Zayin (Grade 7)

students are using the Torah to learn about Jewish values. For example, they discussed the value of honesty versus dishonesty through the stories of Adam, Eve and the snake as well as Cain and Abel. We also discussed when it might be okay to tell a small lie, a white lie, to protect the feelings of another.

Our Vav (Grade 6) students are working with Darlene Drutman using the ShalomLearning curriculum, which is based on a monthly value theme. Rina Scharf is working with the Hai (Grade 5) students as they are learning about what makes a person a hero both in the past and in contemporary times. Rina also works with the Dalet (Grade 4) class leading them into the stories of the prophets and some of the works from Ketuvim, The biblical Writings.

All of our students are learning Hebrew grammar and applying these skills to both the Siddur (prayerbook) and Modern Hebrew. Hebrew begins in our Sunday school. Our youngest students are learning the Hebrew let-

ters and then the vowels and how to read. It's exciting to see them catching on to the rules of Hebrew. Of course, the Jewish holidays are central to our program. In fact, we hope every family will join us on Thursday, December 19 for a wonderfully musical celebration of Chanukkah. This will be a perfect way to lead us into the holiday that celebrates the miracles of the small rising up against the mighty in order to regain their freedom. Go Maccabees!

I hope all of you will join us for another rousing Shabalom, a Saturday morning of choices. Come for breakfast, stay for the electives and enjoy an alternative service in the Chapel. I am sure you will have a great time.

Join the faculty as we fight any winter blues and we keep the light burning brightly at Philip Porter Religious School.

Chag Urim Sameach! (An early Chanukkah message of joy!)

Noreen

School and Family Events

Shabbat Alive!

Friday, December 6, 6:30 p.m.

Yedidim Popup Potluck Havdalah

Saturday, December 7, 5:30 p.m. - See the Yedidim page for more information!

Shabbalom! - All are welcome!

Saturday, December 14, 9:30 a.m.

Breakfast, electives, service in the Chapel. New melodies, teaching, and get up close to the Torah!

Pre-Chanukkah Party

Thursday, December 19, 6:00 p.m. - Check out the flyer for more information!

Yedidim Build-a-Shabbat

Friday, December 20, 5:30 p.m.

See the Yedidim page for more information!

Winter Break

Sunday, December 22 through Thursday, January 2

Temple Beth Abraham Pre-Chanukkah Party

Thursday, December 19 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Deli and Latkes Gluten-free & Vegetarian Options Salads & Desserts, Sara's Sufganiyot

Crafts for Children Led by Jessie Mocle

Music by TBA Zimria Choir and Sing-Along With the Raymond Street Klezmer Band

Dreidel Tournament ...and more!

There will not be a menorah lighting as the party is prior to Chanukkah

Adult (13 & older) \$15.00 - Child (4 - 12) \$8.00 - 3 and under free

RESERVATIONS are requested by Thursday, December 12

Please help us out by getting your RSVP in on time so we can order enough food.

Mail to TBA Office at 4 Raymond St. Nashua, NH 03064 or register and pay online at www.tbanashua.org

TBA Pre-Chanukkah Party – Thursday, December 19
Name
Number of Adults Number of Children
Total Enclosed \$
I am available to help with set up and clean up.





DECEMBER EVENTS

Chanukkah Fun in December!



Family Engagement & Yedidim Director Jessie Mocle

Dear friends - Yedidim has really taken off this year. If you have considered joining us, now is the time! You will find a diverse, interesting group of parents; and a bunch of really awesome, kind kids. We do a lot of fun things together, and we're waiting for you! Think about setting a New Year resolution to try one Yedidim activity in early 2020 - guaranteed you'll be back for more! Wishing you an amazing Chanukkah and delightful New Year! With love, Jessie

Tuesday, December 10, 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Our Ongoing Kid "Mini-yan"!

Yedidim and Hebrew School Students are invited to join the community for a very special kid-friendly minyan! A short delicious dinner and dessert, followed by a short mini-yan make for a short and sweet introduction for kids about the mitzvah of joining the weekly minyan. Register here, to let me know if you're coming, and if you have any dietary restrictions: www.tbanashua.org/yedidim.html Stay afterward to attend "Countdown to the Primary: Talking to Candidates about Anti-semitism and Zionism with Carly Pildis."

Yedidim Family Sunday School

Join us for your child's first Hebrew School experience at the Yedidim Family Sunday School (YFSS)! Aimed at kids 2-4 years old and their parents, this innovative monthly program is led by a certified teacher and subject matter expert. This month we are having regular class on **December 8**, and a special **Channukah YFSS CLASS PARTY at Jessie's House on DECEMBER 15**! We'll have breakfast, Chanukkah singing, dancing, and fun! You, and the kids, will love it!

Register NOW at

www.tbanashua.org/yedidim.html

Sunday, December 8, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Religious School Sunday, December 15, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - REGISTER FOR JESSIE'S ADDRESS

TBA Pre-Chanukkah Party!

Join the entire TBA Community in celebration of Chanukkah! No candles lit this year since the actual Chanukkah holiday falls during winter break, but A LOT of food (latkes and soufganiot!!), family and FUN! Complete with the Raymond Street Klezmer Band for rolicking singing and dancing! Don't miss this one!

Register at www.tbanashua.org

Thursday, December 19, Temple Beth Abraham: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Potluck Popup Havdalah

Interested in an easy, family-friendly, low-key way to celebrate the spirit of Shabbat? Then Potluck Popup Havdalah is for you! Whether you attend one, or host a Potluck Popup Havdalah in your home, Yedidim families will bring the kid-friendly dairy or pareve food and dessert, and together we'll experience the gentle fellowship of saying goodbye to Shabbat. Now open to families with children aged 9-13! This month is Chanukkah themed!!

Register at www.tbanashua.org/yedidim.html

Saturday, December 7, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Host Family home - for security reasons, we do not publish the host family's contact information please register NOW for the address!

Special December Program: ____ Mom's Night Out!



The Dads conquered the Escape Room in November, and now it's our turn!

Let's see if we can beat their time!!

We'll be working on the same puzzle the Dads solved, but bragging rights are on the line this time around. We must escape SOONER, and with more style! Check out "The Incident Puzzle Room" here: https://keytoescape.com/ Cost: \$24/hour. Register with Yedidim, and I will forward a special link to pay Key to Escape directly.

Register ASAP at www.tbanashua.org/yedidim.html

Saturday, December 21, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Key to Escape (Optional dinner/drinks afterward!) 3 Bud Way, Unit 21, Nashua, NH 03063

Save the Date:

- January 10: Yedidim and School-Wide Dinner and Service
- January II: Popup Potluck Havdalah
- January 12: SPECIAL YEDIDIM/SISTERHOOD JOINT PROGRAM: MOTHER KNOWS BEST!
- January 14: Kid Mini-Yan
- January 24: NEW PROGRAM: SHABBAT SHIDDUCH!
- March 22: KLEZMER DRUMMING WORKSHOP!

For more information or to volunteer, contact Jessie Mocle: yedidim@tbanashua.org

Coming Events and Programming

Brought to You by the Lifelong Learning Committee

BABKA Book Club, Wednesday, December 4, 8:00 p.m.

2020 Planning Meeting - recommend a book!

Wednesday, Dec. 4 10:30-11:45 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 5 7:45-9:00 p.m.

"Judaism 201": The Jewish Calendar and the Festival of Chanukkah

Judaism 201 is an introduction to Judaism series, geared especially for people who know a lot about all kinds of things and would like to bring their knowledge of Judaism up to that same level! This session is an overview of the Jewish calendar and festivals. What comes from the Torah, what was created later in Jewish history? What are the key themes of each holy day? We will make a deeper dive into Chanukkah, and talk about the specific practices and customs. Participate if you are starting from scratch or if you'd like to brush up or push your understanding another step. You can come to the synagogue, or participate by telephone or video via the web. Phone in to (929) 436-2866, Meeting ID 553 007 5723#, or join by the web at https://zoom.us/j/5530075723

Lunch & Learn, Saturday, December 7, After Services
Historical Perspectives of Chanukkah with Mike Harris

Carly Pildis, Tuesday, December 10, 6:30 p.m.

Tablet contributor. "Talking to Presidential Candidates About Israel"
See article on page 10

Ongoing:

Torah Study with Rabbi Jon and Noreen Leibson

Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to Noon. Come once or many times.

Rabbijon.net and @TBARav

Teachings on the weekly Torah reading and current events through a Jewish lens, podcasts, and music. • Rabbi Jon's high holy day sermons are posted.

https://www.librarycat.org/lib/tbanashua - Search the TBA Library catalog for a book to read

Save the Date!
BABKA, Book Club January 8
Lunch & Learn, January 18

Have Ideas? Want to Help? Join Our Committee?

Contact Jeff Masors at jmasors@gmail.com or Rabbi Jon at rabbi@tbanashua.org.

Contribute to the Elizabeth Fischer Memorial Fund to support TBA's ongoing scholarly and cultural programming.

Considering sponsoring a speaker or event? Contact the office or Rabbi Jon.

Countdown to the Primary: Talking to Candidates About Anti-semitism and Zionism with Carly Pildis December 10, 6:30 p.m.

Carly Pildis has dedicated her career to fighting for justice and equality on a global and national scale. She is an outspoken advocate against rising anti-Semitism. She works for Tikkun Olam, healing a broken world, through advocacy, organizing, and writing. She currently serves as Director of Grassroots Organizing for

Zionists and as a Contributing Editor for Tablet Magazine. She has served at RESULTS,



Obama for America, Jubilee USA

Network, and American Jewish World Services. She has directed two candidate engagement projects, including in New Hampshire, and got her start in politics engaging candidates in Town halls across New Hampshire with American Jewish World Service

"Thank You & December 31 Tax Deadline"

Thank you very much for your continued support of Temple Beth Abraham in 2019. We would like to thank everyone in the community for your support whether it be financial support, volunteering of your time, participating in the daily minyan, celebrating Shabbat with the community, attending events, or being a member of the Beth Abraham community. As we

approach the end of calendar year 2019, there is one final opportunity to make tax deductible donations to Temple Beth Abraham this tax year. Payments may be made against an outstanding balance, an additional voluntary contribution to help us meet our financial obligations, or in support of your favorite restricted fund (see the list on the website at

http://www.tbanashua.org/donation-funds.html). All donations must be received by December 31st to be tax deductible for the 2019 tax year. You may donate online at www.tbanashua.org or by mailing a check to the synagogue office. You may also donate securities like stocks and bonds. If you have any questions, please contact the Treasurer at treasurer@tbanashua.org.

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Chocolate and Coffee: What Could Be Better?

Saturday, February 1, 7:00 p.m.

Come to our Chocolate Cafe for delicious chocolate desserts (dairy) and samplings of coffees and teas all made from fair trade products.



Enjoy an evening listening to our local talent perform.

Program will begin with havdalah and a brief presentation on fair trade.

Presented by TBA Sisterhood.

Charge: \$12 per person (Proceeds will benefit the Chesed fund that provides meals for member families at difficult times)

All are welcome to attend, but the talent show is limited to teenagers and adults.

Please email <u>marshafeder@gmail.com</u> to volunteer your talent for the show.

Beth Abraham Sisterhood Gift Shop

Why shop at the Gift Shop?

Reason #2: To prepare for Chanukkah while supporting Sisterhood & the synagogue community.

December Hours:

Sundays 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon, including "giftshop on wheels" at the school. Thursdays 4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., and during synagogue events.

email Eileen at giftshop.tba@gmail.com for more info

Avia Sagron, Jewish Federation of NH Shlicha, To Speak at Southern NH Jewish Men's Club Breakfast



A Talk by NH Jewish Federation Shlicha Avia Sagron, will take place on Sunday, December 15, at 9:30 a.m. at Temple Beth Abraham, 4 Raymond Street, Nashua.

Avia's discussion will explain the Israeli Path of Life from Childhood to Adult Life through Military Service and beyond. Avia, whose family migrated from Morocco and Tunisia to Israel, was born in 1995 in Kiryat Shmona during the Israeli – Lebanese conflict and grew up in Northern Israel where incoming rockets were a common occurrence during the first 9 years of her life. In spite of living in this complicated reality, Avia grew up having a wonderful childhood in one of the most beautiful places in Israel.

Today, Avia enjoys drawing and painting and is a social activist and

educator. Avia believes in education through interactive experience and loves to combine her love of art with her educational work

Drawing on her own personal experiences as a founder of a local branch of a youth movement for children and young adults with special needs, a computer network manager during her military service in Ogda 36, an educator on several different kibbutzim and as an agricultural worker, Avia will provide a unique look inside her Path of Life from Childhood to adult life in Israel.

Avia's discussion will be followed with an open question and answer period.

The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club is proud to sponsor Avia's presentation which will start off with our monthly Sunday breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Our kitchen crew will be preparing a sumptuous feast of eggs, potatoes, bagels, lox and whitefish salad with veggies, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. The cost for breakfast is \$8 for Men's Club members and \$12 for non-members. For more information, and to RSVP for breakfast (please),

email breakfastrsvp@snhjmc.org.

About The Southern New Hampshire Men's Club

The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club was founded in 1982 and meets monthly for Sunday brunches. The Club's mission is based on building a brotherhood of likeminded men who wish to share their commitment and values to those in the greater NH Jewish community. The SNHJMC has provided quality programming such as a town hall-style political event each fall and our annual children's breakfast, which this year featured a science exhibit designed to both educate and entertain young minds. The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club is a non-profit organization serving all of southern NH's Jewish communities regardless of synagogue membership for over thirty years. If you or someone you know would like to join our Men's Club please contact our President, Don Gorelick, via email: president@ snhjmc.org or visit our website at http://www.snhjmc.org.

Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter Volunteers Needed

Temple Beth Abraham has had a Tuesday morning breakfast crew preparing and serving breakfast for quite some time now.

Personally, I got involved about 18 months ago after I retired. I like to cook and I like to serve! It's been a rewarding experience seeing how appreciative the clients are and it has been great fun working with such a wonderful group of volunteers. I liked it so much, I started going on other mornings to see how they

worked, to share experiences and learn what they do that might be different than our Beth Abraham Tuesdays.

There is a need for more volunteers on all days of the week to fill in for vacationing regulars, sick days, etc. The morning shift can be challenging for some as we start at 6:00 a.m. ending around 8:30 or 9:00, I've become an "early bird". There is also a need for volunteers at the dinner service which is from about 4:00 p.m.

to 7:00 p.m. This does not have to be a regular weekly assignment, one can choose one or more dates during a month. For volunteering at dinner Shane Sullivan, Director of Food Services is the contact at the NSKS, shane@nsks.org or by phone at 603-889-7770. If you would like to be a breakfast volunteer contact me, Ben Freedman at nskbryl@gmail.com

This can be a fun time working and learning with others as we serve people in need. – *Ben*

הקשר היהודי שלך

Your Jewish Connection

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

Let's Celebrate Hanukkah!

Now that we've changed the clocks and the days get dark early, it's wonderful to have the Hanukkah holiday to bring us light! Light in the dark to show us the way forward. Light in the dark to give our hearts hope for the future. Light in the

dark to bring us together in community.

So why do we have light on this holiday? First, the holiday is rooted in our his-



tory when Antiochus outlawed Judaism in 167 BCE. This provoked a revolt by Mattathias, a Jewish priest, and his five sons Jochanan, Simeon, Eleazar, Jonathan, and Judah (history). His son Judah became known as Judah Maccabee ("the Hammer") and within two years led the Jews to drive out the non-Jews. Judah's followers cleansed and restored the Second Temple by rebuilding its altar and lighting its oil menorah of seven branches that were meant to kept burning at all times.

Second, when the Temple was reclaimed, there was only enough consecrated oil for one day. But the oil blazed for eight full days! This provided time to find a fresh, untainted supply of oil. And this inspired the Festival of Lights or Hanukkah and it was proclaimed a

yearly eight-day festival (history2).

Here are some words and phrases for Hanukkah (test your knowledge here): Al Hani-

sim; Dreidel, Gelt, Hanukkah, Hanukkiyah, Latkes, Maccabees,



Menorah, Nes Gadol Hayah Sham, Sevivon, Shamash, and Sufganiyot.

We celebrate Hanukkah at home by lighting the Hanukkiyah for eight nights. We eat food fried or cooked in oil. We give small amounts of Gelt traditionally or other types of presents in our modern day. We sing songs. We play Dreidel. We also do these things as a community by gathering at the synagogue or in each others' homes (customs, meaningful).

Here are some places to find Hanukkah music and songs: <u>Hanukkah</u> Song and Music Guide,

4 Hanukkah Songs, 11 Great, Modern Hanukkah Songs, and YouTube (search on "Hanukkah Songs").

For information on Hanukkah recipes, check out these: Hanukkah Recipes and Menus, Hanukkah Food – Traditional Food, Menus, and Recipes, Recipes for Hanukkah, 8 Foods You Didn't Know Jews Eat During Hanukkah,

Hanukkah Food from the Tablet, Global Fry: 5 Hanukkah Treats from Around the World, and Exotic Hanukkah Foods.

And look over this list for Hanukkah decorating ideas: The Best Hanukkah Craft Ideas on the Internet, 25 Simple DIY Hanukkah Decorations, 17 Hanukkah Crafts and Decorations for Eight Nights of Fun, 19 Hanukkah Crafts for Kids, and Ha-

nukkah Indoor Decorating



During this Festival of Lights, welcome family and friends, celebrate with community, and find your way with the Hanukkah lights! *Chag Sameach*!

FYI...ifyou are interested in a book about Mattathias and his five sons, I just finished reading *The Rise of the Maccabees: A Historical Novel (Lions of Judea Book 1)* and *The Maccabee Rebellion: A Historical Novel (Lions of Judea Book 2)* by Amit Arad. This sets the Hanukkah story in context and describes the situation in terms of geography, politics, ambition, Hellenization, and more.

Something to Think About.

As I write this message, in addi-

tion to preparing for a house full of family on Thanksgiving, Buzz and I are preparing for our sojourn in New Zealand. As we



Elaine Brody

make our plans, we are once again reminded of our good fortune. In addition to being able to travel, we have a wonderful family and a supportive community.

An arctic blast in early November was a swift reminder of the winter season that will soon be upon us. While some of us are lucky enough to be able to get away to warmer climes, and most of us have stable living environments; there are many people in the greater Nashua area who are much less fortunate. They have needs ranging from a bed in a warm, safe place to warm clothing and many other things most of us take for granted.

You can help. Bring that winter coat or those sweaters you haven't worn in several seasons to a winter clothing drive. Check out the Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter website (www.nsks.org), Marguerites Place (www.margueritesplace.org), or another charitable organization to see what their current needs are. Consider giving your children and

grandchildren the gift of a donation to a local charity in addition to the stuff you plan to buy for them at Chanukah.

Before you know it, it will be time for candles and dreidels, latkes and sufganiyot. I hope you will act on my suggestions. Then, as you light those candles and sing sheheheyanu, you will be able to feel you have been a partner in sustaining, keeping alive, and enabling us, and others, to reach this season.

It is, as always, something to think about.

L'hitraot, Elaine

Save the Date

Until Help Arrives

Life-threatening emergencies can happen fast. Emergency responders aren't always nearby. Learn how you might be able to save a life by taking simple actions immediately.

https://www.nashuanh.gov/1170/Until-Help-Arrives

Thursday, January 23, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sponsored by the TBA Security Committee

Sisterhood Is Organizing A Fun Night For All Adults (Open To Men And Women)

Bring your favorite game to share!

Some ideas: Scrabble®, chess, cards etc.

R.S.V.P. to Rozzie Sandler - rozziemae@comcast.net

by January 16

Bringing a card table would be appreciated if possible!

YAHRZEIT DONATIONS

Avis Greenstone for mother, Rebecca Jacobson & father, Harry Jacobson

Sandra Rosenblum for brother, Allen Soifert Lynn Schenker for mother, Bessie Sack & sister, Marilyn McGinty

Terry Watterson for mother, Claire Watterson Fred Oven for father, Moe Oven Carol Rudman for father, Edward Gordon Rudman Stephen Meltzer for father, Jeff Meltzer Alan Green for grandfather, Abraham Green Diane Toth for mother, Rose Kozak Renee Spero for husband, William Spero Sandie Leonard for father, Robert Teague Joseph Freedman for father, Jim Freedman Iris Tubin for parents, Beatrice & Abraham Tubin Ellen Zucker for grandfather, Philip Porter Nancy Keyslay for mother, Adele Alberts Steven Haime for father, Morris Haime Shirley Lelchuk for first husband, Elias Cohen, sister, Ruby Baum & grandfather, Jacob Yezersky Rina Scharf for parents, Louisa & Osias Schwartz and

husband, Jacob Scharf Shelley Goren for father-in-law, Samuel Gorodetsky Marlene Gallant for father, Laurie Keller Marcia Weiss for brother, William Kessler Robert Vega for mother, Frances Vega

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<u>Yahrzeits</u>

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

December 6 & 7

Sarah Malin, mother of Howard Malin Bea Durschlag, sister-in-law of Shirley Lelchuk Richard Leitner, great uncle of Karl Schenker Lawrence Greenspan, husband of Marilyn Greenspan Ann Landau, mother of Esther Rosenzweig Myron Arnow, father of Michael Arnow Ron Golub, brother of Larry Golub Milton Geyer, father of Sanford Geyer Harry Sandler, father of Paul Sandler Betty Feldbin, mother of Rena Perelmuter Shirley Shapero, mother of Laura Thomson Siegmund Blassberg Samuel Shaber Ida B. Chauncy Sarah Krentzel Fannie Partner Abraham Janz Gertrude Sapsowitz Madelyn Cohen Myer Edelstein

December 13 & 14

Abraham B. Slawsby

Margot Barron, mother of Liz Barron
Tillie Rubin, grandmother of David Deifik
Rabbi Abraham I. Feldbin, father of Rena Perelmuter
Hilda S. Steinberg, mother of Carole Shyavitz
Benjamin Shuman, grandfather of Mark Levine
Dora Goldman, grandmother of Barry Sack
Felix Schenker, uncle of Karl Schenker
Jane Grossman, grandmother of Daniel Grossman
Isidore Bogen, father of Samuel Bogen
Ernst Katzenstein, uncle of Karl Schenker
Meyer Soroken
Gussie Schoenbach
Maurice S. Pozanek
Elizabeth Nichols Conley
Nathan Barkan

December 20 & 21

Rudolf Leitner, grandfather of Karl Schenker Ira Wolfe, father of Richard Wolfe Thomas Corrado, father of Diane Lerman Sam Horowitz, father-in-law of Laura Horowitz Edith Shapiro, mother of Arlene Shapiro Harriet Kimmel, mother of Beth Watterson Martin Sack, father of Barry Sack Becky Sobelsohn, grandmother of Alan Green Jack Perelmuter, father of Ernest Perelmuter Egon Keyslay, father of Ralph Keyslay Joseph Trapasso, father of Linda Trapasso, & grandfather of Jessica Stern Francis Thall, mother of Miles Levine Rose Wolper, mother of Mitchell Wolper Sidney Goldstein, father of Hannah Kesslen Irving Gotlieb, grandfather of Rabbi Jonathan Spira-Savett Richard Seligman, brother of Jerome Seligman Margarita Sernik, mother of Enrique Sernik Rose G. Cohen, mother of Myra Krulik Arthur H. Pressman Joseph Harkaway Joseph Dagan Hattie Porter

December 27 & 28

Julius A. Greenstone, father of Harris Greenstone
Harold Israel Hurwitz, father-in-law of Leon Goldstein
David Barron, father of Liz Barron
Jules Lelchuk, husband of Shirley Lelchuk
Irma Speyer, mother of Jane Weber
Peter Marcoux, brother of Nancy Ferman
Randi Thibeault, sister-in-law of Carol Gorelick
Charles Brest, father of Sam Brest
Guillermo Sernik, father of Enrique Sernik
Max Berger
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We Gratefully Acknowledge Your Contributions

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Margot Stafford's Bat Mitzvah

Sophie Levin's Bat Mitzvah

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Yahmuel & Jennifer Marx



Rabbi Liaison Committee

This committee meets three to four times per year to provide a forum for discussions between the rabbi and a representative group of congregants.

If you have an issue relating to the rabbi that you aren't able to resolve directly, you can contact one of the committee members.

> Marsha Feder, chair marshafeder@gmail.com

Jane Goodman janegoodman4@gmail.com

Louis Haskell louishaskell@hotmail.com

Larry Rubin litlrube@gmail.com

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