

THE SHOFAR

October 2020 (Published Monthly)

Congregation B'nai Israel:

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FROM THE DESK OF RABBI PEARL

One of the central symbols of the holiday of Sukkot, which we celebrate at the beginning of this month, is the Succah. This frail, bamboo covered structure, decorated with pictures and fruits depicting harvest, becomes the center of religious activity during this time. We eat there, socialize there and, in some cases, sleep there. The Succah is the memorial of the humble huts that our ancestors dwelt in as they wandered in the desert after leaving Egypt and slavery. We recall their liberation, as we step outside our homes.

I believe in this terrible time of pandemic, there is an additional important message in the Succah we should consider. The Succah reminds us that our lives, despite our illusions and fantasies, are insecure. As the winds blow and rain rattles the roof, we know that we miss the security of our homes, the safety of brick walls and solid roofs.

The pandemic has driven home the lesson that our lives are dominated by insecurity. We think our bank accounts and our sturdy homes ensure our safety. The spread of an invisible virus from an unknown city far away has clearly illustrated that we know nothing about what tomorrow may bring.

Our only security is our faith in G-d. The Jewish people have survived millennia of hatred and persecution, not due to the money or homes we had; we frequently lost those, along with countless lives. What kept us going is the security of faith, that we unwaveringly believe that G-d stays with us, sustains us in the worst of times, and will bring us to a better place and time.

As you sit in the Succah and hear the walls shake and the roof shift, feel that insecurity. Let your faith in G-d be the answer and antidote to that feeling.

Chag Sameach.

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FRIDAY CANDLE LIGHTING

10/02 - 6:18 pm - Tishrei 14

10/09 - 6:07 pm - Tishrei 21

10/16 - 5:56 pm - Tishrei 28

10/23 - 5:46 pm - Cheshvan 5

10/30 - 5:37 pm - Cheshvan 12

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to Betty Jensen on the marriage of her daughter, Sandra to Jeremy Weiss on August 30, 2020.

Congratulations to Neal & Janice Rappaport on the engagement of their daughter, Alison to John Emhoff, via Zoom.

We welcome new members, Irving and Beryl Kestenbaum to our CBI family.

We wish a speedy recovery to Sam Perel and condolences to the Perel family on the passing of Sam's mother.

We extend our condolences as well to the family of Jerry Clifford on the recent passing of his mother.

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF:

Ana Cramer	Mark Cramer
Susan & Richard Finkelstein	Rhoda Modell
Anita & Larry Gordon	Mollie Zaffos
Gary Gordon	Max Gordon
Gladys & Joel Graham	Sala Ziegler
Gloria Hirsch	Anna Preiser
Larry & Naomi Kirsch	Esther Kirsch
Norman Levine	Lenore Hartman
Laurie & David Raps	Irwin Rosenblum
Ira & Francine Sklar	Miriam Sklar
Norman Smith	Beverly B. Smith

HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGES

Peter & Elaine Albert
Aleksey Alekseyev & Anna Alekseyeva
Avraham Ashkenazi
Miron & Flora Berenshteyn
Jacob & Arlene Boyarsky
Kevin & Michelle Brosnick
Esther Cappadora
Jerry Clifford
Al & Sophia Cohen
Vlad & Lilia Cohen
Bernard & Eileen Cooper
Ana Cramer
Michael & Eleanor Dovdavyan
Marty & Rita Eisenberg
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Mel Fox
Friedman Family
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Penny Goldstein
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Gutt Family
Jerry & Rita Hauser
Ivan & Joan Holtzer
Betty Jensen
Arkadiy & Marina Kagan
Barry & Gail Kashubo
Marina Kaufman
Irving & Beryl Kestenbaum
Norman Levine

HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGES (Continued)

Sandra Levy
Ella Ligay
Sheldon Lynn
Yevgeniy & Yelena Oleynik
Joel & Sharon Pekuly
Lillian Phillips
Galina Pikulina
Steven & Sandy Poris
Neal & Janice Rappaport
David & Laurie Raps
Simon J. Rasin & Svetlana Rasina
Janet Rocco
Scott & Bonnie Rosner
Al & Deborah Sall
Eugene & Roberta Sapolsky
Harris & Diane Schwartz
Markus & Alla Shkolnik
Barbara Smith
Abraham & Marlene Spector
Stuart Suss
Doris Wasser

FROM OUR CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As we head into the New Year, 5781, I hope that this finds you and your family well and not adversely affected by the pandemic. I realize that many of us are feeling a bit hemmed in and missing the personal contact that we all have become accustomed to. Many people and businesses are feeling hard-pressed to see the end of this.

Our shul has been there, even when we could not attend live services. Luckily, Rabbi Pearl has been able to provide online services and guidance through the whole period.

We wish to continue to serve you and our community. We need your continued support. We need you to participate in our synagogue's life. As we go back to live services with social distancing and face masks, we need you to join us at services if you can. Please take part in the Sisterhood and Men's Club meetings. Join one of our committees and, please, continue your generous donations. We are so grateful for your support!

From my family to yours, L'Shana Tova. I wish you all a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Marty Eisenberg, Chairman
Board of Trustees

GET! INVOLVED!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Our Synagogue is in need of a House Committee to help with the operation of the building. Please, if you can possibly help out, it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Marty Eisenberg, 718-948-4231



HEBREW SCHOOL STUDENTS

Hebrew School begins on October 18th. Please let your friends and relatives know about our Hebrew school and Invite them to join us.. Have fun while learning Hebrew and find out about Jewish customs and holidays. Take part in Synagogue activities. For additional information, please call Lillian Brosnick at 646-483-5595, Hebrew School Coordinator

ON THE LIGHT SIDE

1 - Moishe built a sukkah on the balcony of his apartment. Just before the holiday began, the landlord noticed it and demanded that it be removed immediately, claiming it was a violation of the terms of his lease. Moishe refused, telling the he had the right to build the sukkah there.

The landlord disagreed and immediately took the case to court.

In court, the landlord argued that the sukkah was unsightly, against the terms of the lease, and was a fire hazard. Moishe argued his religious rights. The judge, who happened to be Jewish, listened patiently and then offered his verdict.

"I agree with the landlord in this case, and I therefore rule that you have eight days to take down your hut."

2 - The Cohen family was very conscientious about re-cycling. They had special bins for paper, glass and organic waste. One day after Sukkot, the Cohen children got all excited as their parents gave them a gift. They fought to tear off the wrapping and couldn't wait to open the box. Soon their new toy was revealed - Mr. Etrog Head.

3 - A man comes to the Rabbi and asks for instructions on how to build a kosher sukkah. The Rabbi directs him to read a page of the Talmudic tractate of Sukkot and follow the instructions. The man follows all the instructions and just as he puts up the last piece of scach* on top of the Sukkah, the whole thing collapses. Thinking he made a mistake, he tracks back and rebuilds the Sukkah with the same result. Very frustrated he goes back to the Rabbi and explains what happened. The rabbi opens to the page of Talmud, studies it for a minute and exclaims "Funny, Rashi asks the same question"! -

Credit: Rabbi Art Gould

*Scach is the name for the material used as a roof for the Sukkot and should be derived from things that have grown from the ground such as palm leaves, bamboo sticks and pine tree branches.



Yahrzeits FOR Oct 2020

Yahrzeits begin on the evening before the given date. If you need to say Kaddish for a Yahrzeit, please call the office two weeks before and we will try to have a Minyan. It would be helpful if you could have a few family members or friends attend the services to make sure there is a Minyan. For additions or corrections to this list, please contact Scott Diamond at 917-674-3317 or slzdiamond@hotmail.com

Oct	Day	Tishrei	Yahrzeit Of	Relationship	Relative
1	Thurs	13	Herbert Greenzweig	Father	Lou Greenzweig
1	Thurs	13	June Grossman	Mother	Karen Saks
1	Thurs	13	Shura Krichman	Mother-In-Law	Miron Berenshteyn
4	Sun	16	Anna Epstein	Mother	Sheila Hyman
5	Mon	17	Anna Tabak	Mother	Jack Tabak
5	Mon	17	Pauline Abramowitz	Mother	Bernie Abramowitz
5	Mon	17	Ida Lowitt	Mother	Lorraine Silver
5	Mon	17	Efram Spierer	Father	Dr. Gary Spierer
6	Tues	18	Regina Spierer	Mother	Dr. Gary Spierer
6	Tues	18	Esther Silver	Mother	Sid Silver
9	Fri	21	Dora Jacobson	Mother	Bernard Jacobson
10	Sat	22	Abraham Schwartz	Father	Harris Schwartz
13	Tues	25	Felix Herzog	Father	Dr. David Herzog
13	Tues	25	Harry Kudler	Father	Charles Kudler
13	Tues	25	Harold Rosenberg	Father	Jeffrey Rosenberg
14	Wed	26	Samuel Goldberg	Father	Joel Goldberg
14	Wed	26	Irving Kroll	Relative	Naomi Kirsch
14	Wed	26	Sol Cohen	Father	Al Cohen
14	Wed	26	Harold Zalstein	Father	Janice Tepper
15	Thurs	27	Joseph Helicher	Father	Bonnie Arciero
16	Fri	28	Roberta Zolotsky	Mother	Traci Frey
16	Fri	28	Manya Miretsky	Mother	Ilya Miretsky
		Cheshvan			
19	Mon	1	Mildred Raps	Mother	David Raps
19	Mon	1	Gertrude Sapolsky	Mother	Gene Sapolsky
20	Tues	2	Maya Reznova	Mother	Rita Timmer
21	Wed	3	Chaim ben Yisroel	Father	Flora Berenshteyn
22	Thurs	4	Alexander Krongauz	Father	Tanya Gutt
23	Fri	5	Philip Tenenzapf	Grandfather	Sandy Levy
23	Fri	5	Murray Weiss	Father	Manny Weiss
23	Fri	5	Tessie Weiss	Mother	Manny Weiss
24	Sat	6	Gerty Benesch	Mother	Steven Epstein
24	Sat	6	Max Besen	Father	Ana Cramer
24	Sat	6	Shirley Dunn	Mother	Arnold Dunn
25	Sun	7	George Wolff	Father	Barbara Kanter
25	Sun	7	Sara Tenenzapf	Grandmother	Sandy Levy
26	Mon	8	Jenny Zuniss	Mother	Judy Rosen
28	Wed	10	Chaim Guterman	Father	Mike Guterman
28	Wed	10	Mildred Kroll	Relative	Naomi Kirsch
28	Wed	10	Isaak Rudshteyn	Father	Yuriy Rudshteyn
28	Wed	10	Gitsina Alta Issakovna	Mother	Yakov Gitsin
29	Thurs	11	Bella Schnall	Mother	Jerry Schnall
30	Fri	12	Lillian Eidlin	Mother	Doris Wasser
31	Sat	13	Galina Khalfin	Mother	Marat Khalfin

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