

# THE SHOFAR

## BULLETIN

of TEMPLE BET YAM



2055 Wildwood Drive  
P.O. Box 860098  
St. Augustine, FL 32086  
904-819-1875

May 2018 Iyar / Sivan 5776

### *From the Desk of the Rabbi...*

On May 3rd, LAG B'OMER appears on our calendar, a minor observance, even in traditional Judaism. But we teach it, because it's part of our religion and history.

What is the "OMER"? Between Passover and Shavuot there are seven weeks. During that time is the "OMER", or season of counting the barley harvest. How did the people in ancient Israel live? What did they do to earn a living? Their work was agriculture; they grew their food. For seven weeks they watched and prayed for rain for crops--no parties, or holidays. Probably everyone was too busy watering and weeding the grain, so there would be enough food for the year. Even today, traditional Jews do not get married between Passover and Shavuot.

How about LAG? Lag is really not a word—it's a number. Hebrew letters are also numbers: *Aleph* =1; *Bet* = 2; and *Gimel* =3; *Lamed* = 30; so, 3 + 30= 33. LAG is the 33<sup>rd</sup> day of the counting, and it became a little break in the 49 days.

How did LAG B'OMER start? Rabbi Akiva, the great and famous rabbi from the 1<sup>st</sup> century CE, had hundreds of students. Unfortunately, a terrible plague broke out, and many of them died. On the 33<sup>rd</sup> day of the Omer the plague stopped, and the Rabbi and the rest of the students were saved so Judaism had future rabbis and teachers. This was one reason to celebrate LAG B'OMER.

Rabbi Simeon ben Yochai, was a great leader who lived a generation after Rabbi Akiva. The Romans passed a law forbidding Jews to teach Torah, but Rabbi Simeon met secretly with students in the fields and then hid and lived in a cave with his son for 13 years. To the Romans, Rabbi Simeon was a criminal, but to Jews he was a hero. The children went out each year into the fields on a picnic to honor him, and it always took place on LAG B'OMER.

How is LAG B'OMER celebrated today? There are no special prayers or Bible and Torah readings for this minor holiday. Nothing is done at home, and only a little in Israel, but Reform Jews still like to know about it.

1. In Israel and among traditional Jews, many weddings take place, since this is the only time in seven weeks that weddings and big parties can occur.

2. LAG B'OMER is often a time of picnics to remember Rabbi Simeon.

3. In ancient Israel the children dressed as hunters and took bows and arrows to fool the Romans into thinking they were going hunting, not studying with Rabbi Simeon. That's why you'll see a bow and arrow as part of LAG B'OMER. We remember the courage of Jewish soldiers who fought the Romans under *Bar Kochba* at *Masada*. They still light bonfires to recall military victories over Romans.

4. LAG B'OMER, remembering two 2 great rabbis of long ago, has become YOM MOREH, Teacher Appreciation Day, when we say thanks to Hebrew and religious school teachers for their hard work.

Its message is to honor our scholars, remember our history, appreciate harvest rains and a good crop, and take time to celebrate God's world and nature during the lovely spring with a picnic.

Fred M. Raskind, Rabbi

### UPCOMING EVENTS - SAVE THE DATES!

#### SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 18, at 7:30 p.m., Shavuot

Friday, June 1, at 7:30 p.m.

New Board Installation

Friday & Saturday, June 8 & 9

Bar Mitzvah of Miles Carter

#### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Wednesday May 16, at 6:00 p.m.

#### MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH-MAY 13TH

The TBV Men's club will host a Mother's Day brunch at Temple Bet Yam on Sunday May 13, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. All Temple members are invited.

THE KLEZMER CONCERT GROUP is coming back!  
Saturday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m., Tickets \$25.

**SISTERHOOD CLOSING MEETING**  
**Monday, May 7, 12:30-2:00 p.m.**

**PIZZA & BINGO!**  
**Saturday, June 23, at 6:00 p.m., Tickets \$15.**



## May and early June Dates to Remember

**Friday, May 4**

7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service

**Saturday, May 5**

7:00 p.m. Klezmer Concert.

Tickets \$25. Contact Carol or Bernie Levy  
 (954) 895-7332 or [bernie.levy@att.net](mailto:bernie.levy@att.net)

**Sunday, May 6**

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Religious School  
 Awards Ceremony

**Monday, May 7**

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. Sisterhood Closing Meeting  
 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Choir Practice

**Sunday, May 13**

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 Men's Club Mother's Day Brunch

**Monday, May 14**

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Choir Practice

**Wednesday, May 16**

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Congregational Meeting

**Friday, May 18**

7:30 p.m. Shabbat Shavuot Service

**Monday, May 21**

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Choir Practice

**Monday, May 28**

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Possible Choir Practice  
 (Memorial Day)

**Friday, June 1**

7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service  
 New Board Installation

**Friday, June 8**

7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service  
 Bar Mitzvah of Miles Carter

**Saturday, June 9**

10:00 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Miles Carter

**CONTRIBUTION FORM**

**TEMPLE BET YAM**  
**P.O. BOX 860098**  
**ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32086**

**DONOR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY/STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TEL. NO.:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**IN HONOR OF:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**IN MEMORY OF, OR OTHER DESIGNATION:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME & ADDRESS OF HONOREE OR FAMILY MEMBER  
 IF NOT A MEMBER OF TEMPLE BET YAM:**

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

<b><u>DESIGNATION</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT (\$)</u></b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$</b> _____
<b>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND</b>	<b>\$</b> _____
<b>PRAYER BOOK FUND</b>	<b>\$</b> _____
<b>SANCTUARY FUND</b>	<b>\$</b> _____
<b>MURRAY-WEISS MEM. FUND</b>	<b>\$</b> _____
<b>HIGH HOLY DAYS CONTRIBUTION</b>	<b>\$</b> _____

**\* RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL CONTRIBUTION:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*PLEASE MAKE PAYABLE TO TBY, WITH NAME OF FUND ON MEMO LINE. THANK YOU*

*\* NOTE: A SEPARATE CHECK IS REQUIRED FOR THE RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND. .*

# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

EIGHT-TIME RECIPIENT OF THE PRESTIGIOUS  
**GOVERNOR'S GOLD SEAL AWARD**  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN LONG-TERM CARE



AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION  
**A 5-STAR RATED COMMUNITY**  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE and MEDICAID SERVICES



## REHABILITATION

PERSONALIZED CARE WITH EXCEPTIONAL RESULTS



904-886-8454 • [rivergarden.org/rehab](http://rivergarden.org/rehab)

## ADULT DAY CARE

PEACE OF MIND IN A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT



904-288-7858 • [rivergarden.org/adultday](http://rivergarden.org/adultday)

## HOME HEALTH CARE

ENABLING CLIENTS TO REMAIN IN THEIR HOMES



904-288-7851 • [rivergarden.org/homehealth](http://rivergarden.org/homehealth)

## INDEPENDENT LIVING

ELEGANT RETIREMENT LIVING FOR ACTIVE SENIORS



904-292-2683 • [rivergarden.org/coves](http://rivergarden.org/coves)

*YOU HAVE QUESTIONS. WE HAVE ANSWERS.*

 **RIVERGARDEN | SENIOR SERVICES**

REHABILITATION | ADULT DAY CARE | HOME HEALTH CARE | LONG-TERM CARE | MEMORY CARE | INDEPENDENT LIVING

Jewish Dietary Laws Observed. River Garden is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Jacksonville



# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



1475 OLD DIXIE HIGHWAY • ST. AUGUSTINE  
(904) 824-1672  
WWW.CRAIGFUNERALHOME.COM



**A & J Associates**

Consultants, training, & repair  
WINDOWS & MAC  
iPhone & iPad

(904)-254-9524

[jmarx46@comcast.net](mailto:jmarx46@comcast.net)

**Joseph Marx**  
President

773 Captains Dr.  
St. Augustine, FL 32080

**Foreign & Domestic**

**FELDMAN**  
**AUTO REPAIR**

Gary Feldman, Master Technician

3816 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd.  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084

**(904) 217-0865**

Consultants for Change, LLC

Karen Selig/Jack Merwin

6501 Nassau St. St. Augustine, FL 32080

904-814-6044

[kgselig@gmail.com](mailto:kgselig@gmail.com)

*Stuart A. Soroka, M.D.*



**G.I. Associates**  
*of St. Augustine*

*Consultants in Digestive Disorders*

216 Southpark Circle East  
St. Augustine, FL 32086

Tel 904-824-6108  
Fax 904-823-9613

[www.GI-Associates.com](http://www.GI-Associates.com)

**Feeding The Body**



**Feeding The Soul**

**Feeding The Body**  
**Feeding The Soul**

Nancy Cohen RDN LDN  
Nutritionist/ Usui Reiki Master  
IET Master Teacher/Intuitive  
Universal Rays Healer/Teacher

St Augustine FL  
904-687-0720

[www.feedingthebodyfeedingthesoul.com](http://www.feedingthebodyfeedingthesoul.com)  
[info@feedingthebodyfeedingthesoul.com](mailto:info@feedingthebodyfeedingthesoul.com)

**WITHOUT FEAR COMPUTER SOLUTIONS**



REPAIRS UPGRADES TRAINING FORMS  
HARDWARE & SOFTWARE INSTALLATIONS  
HOME AND OFFICE NETWORKING WIRELESS  
VIRUS & SPYWARE REMOVAL

Dinah McNamara  
[Dmack32080@gmail.com](mailto:Dmack32080@gmail.com)

**Cell 904.806.6466**

# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



**Jan Felixson, L.C.S.W.**  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Individual, Family, Couples Therapist  
2200 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd, Ste 3  
St. Augustine, FL 32084

T: 904-824-1152  
C: 904-501-8103  
SW2848  
MT584

**Ammar**  
**Beauty Supply Co.**

PROFESSIONAL HAIR & NAIL SUPPLIES • SKINCARE •  
WIGS • HAIR EXTENSIONS • COSMETICS • ACCESSORIES •  
BARBER SUPPLIES • SALON EQUIPMENT • THEATRICAL MAKE-UP

223 W. King Street  
St. Augustine, FL 32084

904/829-6544  
Fax 904/829-3032

**BRUCE R. WITTEN, M.D., P.A.**

OTOLARYNGOLOGY  
FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY  
SLEEP APNEA  
SNORING  
**(904) 829-6441**

301 Health Park Blvd., Suite 323, St. Augustine, Florida



Clarity, Experience & Innovation



**Balog + Tamburri LLC.**  
CPAs, Consultants & Advisors

**Rob Tamburri, CPA/PFS**

Managing Partner

rob@flgacpa.com  
www.flgacpa.com

t: 904.671.7098  
c: 770.853.0074

111 Nature Walk Parkway, Ste 102, St. Augustine, FL 32092  
Administrative Office: 4221 Clearwater Lane, Suite 200, Jacksonville FL 32223

**CPR**



**Computers** "We put life into your computer!"

**Ralph Upton**

Wireless Networks 📶 Hi Speed Internet 📶 Tutoring 📶 Installation & Upgrades  
Sluggish Computer? Just not running like it used to? No Problem - We Do Windows!

**904-501-1399**

Ralph.Upton@CPRComputersOnline.com

**Paws, Claws, Wings & Things**

Pet sitting & walking

**Barb H.**

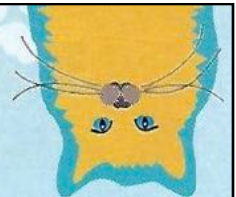
It's the leash I could do!



Reasonable Rates  
Call and leave a message:

904-679-5043

Bjoyful728@optonline.net  
Email



## Ad Rates

Size	Cost
Full Page (9x7.5)	\$430/year
Half Page (7.5x5 or 9x3.5)	\$220/yr
1/4 Page (5x3.5 or 7.5x2)	\$115/yr
1/8 Page (3.5x2)	\$60/year