

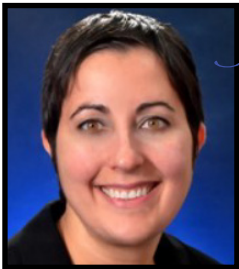
# the SHOEFAR



TEMPLE BET YAM

June 2021

Sivan/Tammuz 5781



*from the desk of*

Rabbi Nadia Siritsky, LCSW, BCC

## *Hatikvah: searching for hope*

I write this article in mid-May, not knowing what will happen to Israel, but fearing that the current unrest there will continue to be happening by the time this article lands in your email. I write this article with the words of Hatikvah (our Israeli national anthem) upon my lips...a mantra of hope and a prayer for peace.

Golda Meir once said: "If the Arabs put down their weapons today, there would be no more violence. If the Jews put down their weapons today, there would be no more Israel". Sadly, this statement continues to feel true for many of us.

It is impossible for most of us to read the news about Israel dispassionately. When we think of Israel, we may think of it as our spiritual homeland...but also our refuge from rising antisemitism that could rear its ugly head at any time, as history has repeatedly taught us. For example, Jews in France that have seen an alarming rise in violent and deadly antisemitic attacks, are escaping to Israel in droves.

For many of us, when we think of Israel, we can't help but see the images of concentration camp survivors, still in their uniforms,

who immediately boarded boats to the not yet formed Israel as soon as they were liberated. We may recall the images of Jews being rescued from countries where they were targeted for their religion, like the Jews of Ethiopia. Or we may remember the boatloads of Jews seeking to escape Nazi Germany that were turned away from America, Canada and elsewhere with the words "None are too many". Or perhaps we think back to Israel's initial declaration of independence with the hope that all Palestinians (those living in British Palestine, Jewish and Arab) would want to join together to create a democracy in an area of the world where that did not exist...only to be met with a declaration of war by all of its neighbors.

And so it is, that Golda Meir's words continue to resonate for so many of us. These images and memories, along with the terrifying rise of global antisemitism, leave most of us feeling very protective of our homeland- the one place we know would welcome us home no matter what.

We therefore watch with terror the Hamas attacks on Israel...thousands of deadly rockets being fired upon its citizens- Arabs and Jews... something that none of us in America

# THE SHOFAR

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Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month which precedes the month of the publication. Late submissions will be held for the following issue.

would tolerate if it were to happen here. We also may be watching with horror the strong and one-sided criticism of Israel. We would expect America to try to defend itself from such acts of war. And yet... once again, we encounter the double-standard that keeps applying to Israel... and most of us can't help but see, in the current critiques of Israel, a form of antisemitism

We therefore hold our breath in prayer, with this broader awareness, along with an understanding that too often antisemitism masquerades as anti-Zionism, and the knowledge that too many Arab countries and Palestinian organizations continue to have the goal of destroying Israel and killing all Jews. And many of us may feel unsafe or betrayed when we read some of the current articles or social media posts that criticize Israel. It is hard to find accurate and balanced reflections on the current situation.

In light of this, I wanted to share this phenomenal article, entitled "The Bad Optics of Fighting for your Life" by Bari Weiss, which can be found here: <https://bariweiss.substack.com/p/the-bad-optics-of-fighting-for-your>. Another great resource, if you are less familiar with the historical context of the current situation, is Noa Tishby's book, "Israel, A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth". It is important that, like with any other prejudice, we feel empowered to speak up and correct misinformation, in order to ensure a more balanced and nuanced understanding of the complexity of the Middle East crisis.

Let us pray for a time of peace and healing... a true peace...one where all parties feel safe. And let us continue to speak up and work toward the day when our hopes can be actualized.



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**Teresa Freedman**  
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**Joe Marx**  
Social Justice



**Barbara Stafford**  
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**Terre Wallach**  
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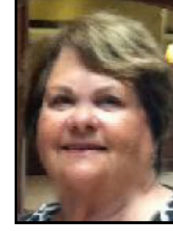
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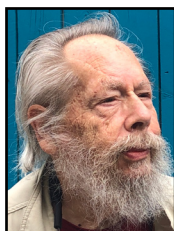
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**Bernie & Carol Levy**  
Ways & Means



## *Meet Our New President Jane Seiden*

**Shofar:** Although many congregants know you, we would like to ask you some questions so that our new members can get to know Temple Bet Yam's new president. Tell us a little bit about your background. How did you come to join the TBY community?

**Jane:** My husband Henry and I moved to Saint Augustine from South Florida at the end of 2013. We attended Temple Bet Yam's Seder in 2014 and immediately joined. I had not belonged to a congregation before in my adult life, but attending the Seder felt like home.

**Shofar:** Prior to being president, what other Board positions or committee positions have you held?

**Jane:** I held the Vice President position for the last two years. Before that I was Financial Trustee for three years. I have served on the following committees: Finance Committee, Ways and Means, and Membership. I have also served on the Security sub-committee.

**Shofar:** What are the goals/objectives you will set for the Board as president for TBY?

**Jane:** Getting back together in the building safely and finding a new spiritual leader.

**Shofar:** What is your leadership/management style?

**Jane:** As a former career sales manager, my job was to find common ground when people come from different points of view. That is most important to me in order to achieve any objectives.

**Shofar:** If there was one thing above all else that you'd like to accomplish during your tenure, what might that be?

**Jane:** To ensure the continued stability and presence of Temple Bet Yam within the Northeastern Florida community.

**Shofar:** Anything else you'd like to say to the congregation?

**Jane:** I have found great fulfillment as a volunteer within this congregation. We are a completely volunteer organization and I encourage anyone who is interested to speak with the various chairs of our committees. They are always looking for new ideas and for members looking to get involved, even if in a small way.

I would also like to thank the congregation for giving me this opportunity to serve you as president and hope I do it well.



## *In Memoriam*

**June 2nd, Anna Cohen**

Aunt of Bruce Simon

**June 2nd, Norman Petziner**

Father of Terre Wallach &  
Barbara Carman

**June 4th, Blanche Levy**

Mother of Don Levy

**June 4th, David Sims**

Father of Scott Sims

**June 5th, Jacob Aronowitz**

Father of Jackie Witte,  
Grandfather of Jennifer Love

**June 5th, Joseph Kaufman**

Father of Toby Weintraub

**June 6th, Albert Duke**

Father of Ellen Mensh

**June 6th, Hyman Kushner**

Father of Phil Kushner

**June 7th, Elaine Demme**

Stepdaughter of Terre Wallach

**June 7th, Leo B. Pilzer**

Father of Shelly Cohen

**June 7th, Morris Cohen**

Grandfather of Marcia Rector

**June 10th, Anna Pollock Bellinhoff**

Grandmother of Barbara Molina

**June 10th, John McLoughlin**

Cousin of Gary Feldman

**June 10th, Richard Jules Rosenthal**

Brother of William Rosenthal

**June 12th, Margaret Colbert**

Mother of Margaret Brown &  
Grandmother of Emily Brown

**June 13th, Sonia Levine**

Mother of Ava Glicksteen

**June 13th, Henrietta Simon**

Mother of Bruce Simon

**June 14th, Jonathan Feinberg**

Brother-in-law of Lisa Diamond

**June 15th, Jenny Petziner**

Great Aunt of Terre Wallach &  
Barbara Carman

**June 16th, Scott Freedman**

Husband of Teresa Freedman,  
father of SaraRose Freedman

**June 17th, Ida Feirman**

Mother of Leon Feirman

**June 17th, Donald Karp**

Brother of Philip Karp

**June 20th, Max Kleinbaum**

Husband of Jo Kleinbaum

**June 20th, Esther Seiden**

Cousin of Henry Seiden

**June 22nd, Melvin Garr**

Brother of Bernice Cruise

**June 22nd, Reuben Goldstein**

Uncle of Rabbi Fred Raskind

**June 23rd, Gloria Leibowitz**

Mother of Andrea Marx

**June 23rd, Marjorie Strickman**

Mother of Molly Grossholz

**June 26th, Stanley Weiss**

Father of Laura Weiss

**June 29th, Temma Keiser**

Grandmother of Maury Keiser

**June 30th, Celia Swickle**

Grandmother of Jane Seiden

**June 30th, Rhoda Markowitz**

Mother of Meryl Goldman

*May their memory be a blessing*

# *Donations Made To Temple Bet Yam*

## **General Fund**

Roberta Feldman, In honor of Kaine Sourcie & Rabbi Nadia for naming service and bris; in memory of Stuart Feldman, son of Roberta and thank you to Rabbi Nadia for Yahrzeit service in his memory

Cathy & David Kasriel, In memory of Francis Joseph Rhodes, father of Cathy and Robert H. Kasriel, father of David

Isabel Sherman, In honor of Jake Dinsmore's 21st birthday; in memory of my mother Edith R. Speigleman

Ellen Mensh, In honor of Adult B'Nai Mitzvah

Ronnie Botnick, In honor of B'Nai Mitzvah class of TBY 2021

Barbara & Art Rogove, In honor of B'Nai Mitzvah class, well done!

Patty & Barry Savage, Mazel Tov to the B'Nai Mitzvah class and wishing a speedy and complete recovery to Henry Seiden

Paul & Phyllis Greenfield, in memory of Tom McNamara, former husband of Dinah McNamara, in memory of Gale Zucker's father, get well and stay well wishes to Henry Seiden

Laura Weiss & Robert Dawkins, full recovery and continued good health for Henry Seiden; in honor of the B'Nai Mitzvah class of 2021

## **Mitzvah Fund**

Rabbi Fred Raskind for Dining with Dignity

Judy Holmes for Dining with Dignity

Renee & Michael Speisman for Dining with Dignity

Ellen Mensh Speedy recovery for Henry Seiden

## **Rabbinic Leadership Fund**

Barbara Carman, In memory of Norman Petziner, father of Barbara Carman and Terre Wallach; in memory of Russ Rice, brother of Rod Rice

Jackie Witte and Jen Love, In memory of Jacob Aronowitz, a special father and grandfather

Shelly & Marty Cohen, In honor of the 2021 B'Nai Mitzvah class; Nancy Sorkin's grandson Mitchell's college graduation, and the birth of Dinah McNamara's twin grandsons. Keeping Dinah McNamara in our thoughts.

Henry & Jane Seiden, In honor of the adult B'Nai Mitzvah class of May 2021: Teresa & SaraRose Freedman, Sharon Rice, Renee Speisman, Cathy Kasriel, Sherry Toy, Merrie Meiselman, Sheila Leiberman, and Brian Crawford.

Nancy Sorkin, In honor of the 2021 Adult B'Nai Mitzvah Class; speedy recovery to Henry Seiden and Barbara Molinari; in memory of Tom McNamara

# *Donations Made To Temple Bet Yam*

## **Rabbinic Leadership Fund continued**

Terre Wallach, In honor of Adult B'Nai Mitzvah class; in memory of Tom McNamara; Gale Zucker's father; Teresa Freedman's mother-in-law; best wishes to Henry Seiden

## **Murray Weiss Fund**

Ronnie Botnick, In honor of B'Nai Mitzvah class of TBY 2021

## **Religious School Fund**

Andrea & Joe Marx, In honor of the adult B'Nai Mitzvah class

## **Prayer Book Fund**

Andrea & Joe Marx, In memory of Tom McNamara

## **JNF Plant a Tree**

Phyllis & Paul Greenfield

Marty & Shelly cohen

Diana Azpiazu

Beth & Les Lamon

# *Let's Celebrate!*

## **June Anniversaries**

**June 5th, Renee & Michael Speisman, 44th anniversary**

**June 9th, Andi & Joe Marx, 53rd anniversary**

**June 14th, Sheila & Lawrence Lieberman, 51st anniversary**

**June 15th, Bonnie & Ray Gibson, 13th anniversary**

**June 20th, Babs & Phil Kushner, 45th anniversary**

**June 22nd, Jacqueline & Dr. James Kaye, 20th anniversary**

**June 28th, Cathy & David Kasriel, 41st anniversary**

**June 28th, Patty & Barry Savage, 46th anniversary**

**June 30th, Elizabeth & Gary Feldman, 25th anniversary**

## **June Birthdays**

**June 1st, Meya Gordon, 15th birthday**

**June 2nd, Barbara Goldberg**

**June 3rd, David Goldberg**

**June 4th, Leah Black, 18th birthday**

**June 6th, Benjamin Soroka**

**June 11th, Steve Gramet**

**June 12th, Bonnie Gibson**

**June 12th, Patty Savage**

**June 13th, Heather Chupella**

**June 20th, Rabbi Dr. Nadia Siritsky**

**June 23rd, Ruth Feldheim**

**June 28th, Art Rogove**

## Donations

The custom of making donations as an expression of prayer traces back to Biblical times and has always been a practice of congregations. The amount given is less important than the deed. At TBY, we have a number of offerings for you to consider when making donations. Here is an explanation of a few of them. Additional funds are listed on our Contribution Form.

**Memorial Board Plaques** – When you purchase a plaque for your loved ones, you memorialize them on our memorial board in the sanctuary, as well as in the Book of Remembrance. All names on the Memorial Board are recognized during the Yizkor Service on Yom Kippur. See the Donation form on our web site, TempleBetYam.org or contact Phyllis Keiser at (904) 797-1508.

**Celebratory Wall** – Celebrate a simcha in your family or honor a TBY member by purchasing a plaque for our commemorative garden wall. For additional information and order forms, please contact Phyllis Keiser at (904) 797-1508.

**Murray Weiss Memorial Fund** – In the spirit of Tzedakah, this fund helps congregants in need. Past gifts have helped pay for dental surgery, medications, enrollment for children in a Jewish summer camp, and past due mortgage payments. Requests are held in the strictest of confidence. For more information, contact Mimi Selig at (904) 461-4316. To make donations, see the Contribution Form on the next page.



## Trees For Israel



We are enjoying huge success with our Trees for Israel. Every tree purchased is not only recognition of some significant event in your life or in the life of someone close to you but is also a mitzvah for Israel and contributes to our Temple fundraising effort. Please use this very important program as a memorial to a friend or loved one or in celebration of a happy occasion for someone dear to you.

Israel's forests are not only a valuable source for water preservation, but are a source for boosting the morale of Israel's citizens by providing a haven in which to put aside the pressures of living in a nation under siege.

JNF will acknowledge every donation with a receipt to the donor and a certificate to the recipient of the honor. Your donation will also benefit Temple Bet Yam with a portion of the donation amount. It is a double Mitzvah.

Trees may be ordered by contacting Toby Weintraub at 904-471-0418. Please provide Toby with your name, address, phone number, the name and address of the person being honored and the name and address of the person you want to receive acknowledgment.

Donations for Trees for Israel are \$18.00 per tree.  
Checks should be made out to Temple Bet Yam.



# CONTRIBUTION FORM

TEMPLE BET YAM

PO BOX 860098

ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32086



DONOR NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY/STATE:

ZIP:

TELEPHONE:

IN HONOR OF:

IN MEMORY OF (OR OTHER DESIGNATION)

DESIGNATION

AMOUNT

GENERAL FUND

MITZVAH FUND

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

PRAYER BOOK FUND

SANCTUARY FUND

TORAH FUND

MURRAY WEISS MEMORIAL FUND

HIGH HOLY DAYS CONTRIBUTION

RABBINIC LEADERSHIP FUND

TOTAL TBY CONTRIBUTION

\*RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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

*PLEASE MAKE PAYABLE TO TEMPLE BET YAM, WITH NAME OF FUND ON THE MEMO LINE. THANK YOU.*

## Upcoming Events for June. Mark your calendar!

Please note all services and functions will be via Zoom until further notice.

Friday, June 4th, 7:30-8:30pm, Shabbat Service and Installation of New Board

Saturday, June 5th, 11:00am-12:00pm, Torah Portion/ Bible Study



Friday, June 18th, 7:30-8:30pm, Shabbat Service

Monday, June 21st, 11:00am-12:30pm, LLL: How Nazi utopianism was applied to Europe, nation by nation

Monday, June 21st, 5:00pm-5:30pm, Dining with Dignity



*Remember when shopping on Amazon a portion of your purchase gets donated to Temple Bet Yam when you select TB Y as your charity.*

## *For Your Information*

**The Sunshine Committee** sends cards or gifts to TB Y members or family members who are ill or have had a death in the family. If you know of such a situation, please notify Laura Weiss at (805) 705-6266 or [l.s.weiss@comacast.net](mailto:l.s.weiss@comacast.net).

**Temple Bet Yam Cemetery** – TB Y has consecrated a portion of the Craig Memorial Park on Old Moultrie Road. All Temple members are eligible to purchase burial plots in this section for themselves, their spouses, partners, children and parents. Following Reform Jewish philosophy, there are no restrictions concerning burial of non-Jewish family members adjacent to their loved ones.

Those interested in purchasing burial plots as part of their preplanning should contact Craig Memorial Park directly at (904) 824-1672. For further information or questions, contact Marty Cohen at [shelmar826@gmail.com](mailto:shelmar826@gmail.com).



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