A famous Talmudic aphorism says: Mishe-nichnas Adar, marbim b'simcha When Adar enters, our joy increases (Ta'anit 29a)



We celebrate Purim in the Jewish month of Adar. Our sages teach us that no matter how much sadness and unhappiness we experience, we need to laugh and enjoy the celebration of Purim.

As we know, the story of Purim is told in the Biblical book of Esther. The heroes of the story are Esther, a beautiful young Jewish woman living in Persia, and her uncle Mordecai, who raised her as if she were his daughter. Esther was taken to the house of Ahasuerus, King of Persia, to become part of his harem. He loved Esther more than his other women and made Esther queen. However he did not know that Esther was a Jew because Mordecai told her not to reveal her identity.

The villain of the story is Haman, an arrogant, egotistical advisor to the king. Haman hated Mordecai because Mordecai refused to bow down to him, so he plotted to destroy the Jewish people.

It is very interesting to see where the world stands today. Persia is Iran today. Unfortunately, its leaders today had neglected the Holocaust and want to erase the State of Israel. Unfortunately, their leaders had some participation in the bombing of the Jewish community in Buenos Aires in 1994. Unfortunately, I do believe they are not showing signs of being trustworthy.

Mordecai persuaded Esther to speak to the king on behalf of the Jewish people because at first Esther was hesitant to speak with the King. In the Book of Esther 4:13 we read:

"Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews."

This verse is very important. Mordecai reminded her who she was. We may agree or disagree with certain politics, but I hope we always remember that we are Jewish people and that the State of Israel is crucial to our survival no matter in which country we choose to live.

Let's come together to celebrate Purim. Let's enjoy happiness this month and let us pray for peace and understanding in the world!

(hag sameach, Happy Purim!

Rabbi Claudio J. Kogan, MD, MBE, MEd

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THE SHOFAR

Temple Bet Yam 2055 Wildwood Drive, PO Box 860098 St. Augustine, FL 32086-1146 Phone: (904) 819-1875

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The Shofar is published monthly. It is distributed free of charge to members and advertising sponsors. Advertising inquiries should be addressed to Sue Kinkela at (412) 600-9553 or at abbeyrd45@comcast.net.

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



March Anniversaries

March 27th,
Donna & Elliott Palevsky
40th anniversary

March 31st,
Denise Mensh & Richard Zicht
16th anniversary



March Birthdays

March 1st, Samuel Zucker March 2nd, Colleen Banat

March 5th, Stan Weintraub

March 8th, Aaron Beasley

March 8th, Denise Mensh

March 8th, Madison Toro, 7th birthday

March 9th, Joe Marx

March 9th. Ellen Mensh

March 9th, Ellie Sussman

March 13th, Cathy Kasriel

March 13th, Sherry Toy

March 16th, Barbara Carman

March 16th, Teresa Freedman

March 20th, Terre Wallach

March 21st, Bob Feldheim

March 27th, Harvey Hoffman



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(In (Memoriam

March 1st, Susan Boone Sister of Marty Cohen

March 1st, Max Heilweil Father of Art Heilweil

March 2nd, Lily Kaufman Great aunt of Dinah McNamara

March 3rd, Nathan Carr Father of Bud Carr

March 3rd, Florence Rubin Mother of Dinah McNamara

March 4th, George Goldberg Husband of Eileen Goldberg

March 5th, Joanne Palm Sister of Carol Gladstone

March 6th, Harvey Goldman Friend of Harvey Hoffman

March 9th, Blanche DeCastro Mother of Norma Tinkoff

March 10th, Ben Broudy Father of Martin Broudy

March 10th, Sandy Jacobson Sister of Frank Kinkela

March 10th, Bernard D. Levine Father of Ava Glicksteen

March 10th. Rose Satz Mother of Phyllis Greenfield

March 11th, Harry Hurdy Uncle of Barbara Kushner

March 13th, Isadore Berman Father-in-law of Sara Berman

March 14th, Paul Zucker Father of Samuel Zucker

March 15th, Cheryl Ann Feldman-Hill Daughter of Roberta Feldman

March 15th, Joseph Gardi Father of Dorit Cohen

March 15th, Della Strock Hershon Aunt of Rabbi Fred Raskind

March 15th, Rebecca Levine Mother of Arnie Levine

March 15th, Maurice A. Spiegleman March 27th, Ben Rubner Father of Isabel Sherman & Grandfather of Dave Sherman

March 16th. John Davis **Husband of Noreen Davis**

March 16th, Nettie Kushner Mother of Phil Kushner

March 17th, Warren Harris Brother of Roberta Feldman

March 18th, John Colbert Uncle of Emily Brown & Brother of Margaret Brown

March 18th, Isidore Swickle Grandfather of Jane Seiden

March 18th. Lillian Weintraub Mother of Stan Weintraub

March 20th, Sadie Botnick Mother-in-law of Rhona Botnick

March 21st, Sidney Sirkin Father of Arthur Sirkin

March 21st, Jules Swickle Uncle of Jane Seiden

March 21st, Bernard Weintraub Father of Stan Weintraub

March 22nd, Jacob Tinkoff Grandson of Norma Tinkoff

March 23rd, Allene E Leger Mother of Patricia LaPolt

March 23rd, John Perretti Father of Jen Sherman

March 25th, Samuel Mensh Father of Myron Mensh

March 25th, Edward Raskind Father of Rabbi Fred Raskind

March 26th, Asher Pressman Husband of Gig Pressman

Grandfather of Jaime Combs

March 28th, Inge Banat Grandmother of Ron Banat

March 28th, Louis Marx Grandfather of Joe Marx

March 30th, Yvette Cohen Grandmother of Meryl Goldman

March 30th, Sonia Comisar Grandmother of Ileine Hoffman

March 30th, Perry Satz Brother of Phyllis Greenfield

March 31st. Jan Kovacs Friend of Ileine & Harvey Hoffman





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Donations Made To Temple Bet Yam

General Fund

Nancy Sorkin with hugs and gratitude to my TBY family for your prayers, rides, and tremendous support

Frank & Sara-Sue Kinkela - In memory of Frank Kinkela, Sr, father of Frank Kinkela Laura Weiss & Robert Dawkins - In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Ezekiel Kogan Eleanor Sussman - In memory of my mother Sayde Salinger

Religious School Fund

Rhona Botnick - In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Ezekiel Kogan Frank & Sara-Sue Kinkela - In honor of Ezekiel Kogan's Bar Mitzvah David & Cathy Kasriel - In memory of Mary Rhodes, Mary Catherine Rhodes, and J.T. Rhodes.

Rabbinic Leadership Fund

Shelly & Marty Cohen - In honor of the B'Nai Mitzvah of Alex & Zach Black; healing thoughts to Phyllis Feirman, Phyllis Keiser, Ellen Miller, & Nancy Sorkin Nancy Sorkin - get well soon, Dinah McNamara, Marty Cohen, & Phyllis Feirman Frank & Sara-Sue Kinkela - In memory of Myron Mensh Paul & Phyllis Greenfield - In honor of Ezekiel Kogan's Bar Mitzvah. Mazel Tov to all.

Mitzvah Fund

David & Cathy Casriel - In memory of Emory Robinson & John M. Robinson Renee & Michael Speisman - for Dining with Dignity



Vpcoming Events for March. Mark your calendar!

Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 1st, 7:00 – 8:00pm

Shabbat Service: Alex & Zach Black

B'Nai Mitzvah

Friday, March 4th, 7:30 – 9:30pm

Alex & Zach Black Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, March 5th, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Religious School

Sunday, March 6th, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Sisterhood - Joan G - Ayla's presentation Wednesday, March 9th, 11:00am – 12:00pm

Sisterhood Book Club: The Orphan Collector: A Heroic Novel of Survival During the 1918 Influenza Pandemic by Ellen Marie Wiseman Wednesday, March 23rd, 1:00 – 2:00pm

Shabbat Service (ILO RS)

Friday, March 18th, 7:30 – 9:30pm

Religious School

Sunday, March 27th, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 29th, 5:30 – 6:30pm

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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.

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