

AZOY

"Is that so?"

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AUGUST
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The Monthly Newsletter of Temple B'nai Israel
The Reform Jewish Congregation of Bay County
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INVESTING IN SOUTHERN JEWISH LEARNING

by Georgie Hartzog

As I reflect over my recent visit to the annual Education Conference of the Institute of Southern Learning (ISJL), I cannot do so without first thanking Temple B'nai Israel for sponsoring me in this endeavor. Each day was filled with tracks of study, as well as beautiful worship services.

Following registration on Sunday, June 26, the Conference was kicked off by Macy Hart, ISJL President; Rachael Stern, ISJL Director of Education; and Rabbi Matt Dreffin, ISJL Associate Director of Education.... pretty impressive folks. The keynote address, which set the tone for the following days, was "Faith Development and Jewish Education."

My choice from the variety of Tracks offered was "Tachlis Teaching Tips." This session was chocked full of strategies to keep teaching fresh and fruitful. We brainstormed, role played and came out inspired for a new year. From the "Wildcard" choices I attended Rabbi Esther Lederman's group on "Top 10 TEXTS." Choosing 10 quotes from various sources, the Rabbi offered her insight into their deeper meaning. Of course, she chose well and I plan to utilize them in upcoming lessons in Sunday Shul.

Day II began with an exciting worship service and a keynote address on "Spiritual Work as a Form of Jewish Education." Then it was off to Study Hall and "Making the Most of the ISJL Curriculum." Tips on using the ISJL material across age groups was extremely helpful. I plan to use the materials for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade by targeting topics that span the gamut of our Temple students, reaching down to the youngest and up to the oldest. An added bonus was a session on "Beyond Curriculum: Utilizing the Whole Education Department.

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I plan to “utilize” many guest speakers from our Temple for various lessons – after all, YOU are our educational Department.

Back to “Tachlis Teaching Tips” and the shopping (yes, it was on the conference schedule). Most of my purchases will add to my personal resources, but are aimed at the coming year.

Day III and my final small session was “Elevator (Aliyot).” As participants, we were on the move....exercising,

climbing stairs and walking hallways. This was great fun and will be the basis for an upcoming lesson on “Prayer.”

During the closing address, “Commonplaces of Education,” full participation in our children’s lives was stressed. It was also then, that The ISJL turned, for me and I hope for you, from the INSTITUTE OF Southern Learning to INVESTING IN Southern Learning.

I promise to make your investment in this conference pay off in 2016-2017.



AUGUST CALENDAR

MON	8/8	12:00 pm	Lunch with our new ISJL Fellow - Leah Wittenberg - and friends with TBI Education Co-Directors and Committee
WED	8/10	6:00 pm	Monthly Temple Board of Directors Meeting
FRI	8/12	6:00 pm	Shabbat Dinner - <i>entrée by Marsha Kraselsky please bring sides, salads, desserts</i>
		7:00 pm	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Alana Wasserman
SAT	8/13	12:00 pm	Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Wasserman: "How does Judaism view violence?" <i>Please bring a bag lunch - beverages will be provided</i>
		7:30 pm	Havdalah on the Beach at Richard Seltzer Park - <i>followed by dinner at local eatery</i>
SUN	8/14	10:30 am	Tishah B'Av Brunch with the Rabbi - <i>as you try to stump her with questions</i>
WED	8/17	6:30 pm	Sisterhood Meeting
FRI	8/26	7:00 pm	Lay-led Shabbat Service with Mary & Mike Starkman



Tishah B'Av

The ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av is literally *Tishah B'Av*. It is a date in our history when both Temples in Jerusalem were destroyed: first in 435 BCE and again in 70 CE. It's a solemn date that in modern

times recalls all of the hardships that have befallen the Jewish people throughout history. *Tishah B'av* is the "Darkest of All Days" in which Jews mourn and read the Book of Lamentations. Traditionally, Jews

fast on *Tishah B'Av*. In addition, Jews do not participate in celebratory events like weddings and other mitzvot, and do not cut their hair on this date as a symbol of Jewish suffering and loss.

❧ The President's Message ❧

It's August already! How did that happen? It means the Jewish High Holidays are right around the corner in the first week of October. Members of our Ritual Committee are already planning for them. Don't be surprised to get a phone call or email asking you to accept a holiday honor with an aliyah or leading the congregation in prayer (in English or Hebrew...and please accept the request).

This month is also the one in which our Education Co-Directors and their team of enthusiastic aides get ready for the Jewish school year which will begin in early September. Rabbi Wasserman and our new ISJL Fellow, Leah Wittenberg, will add their considerable knowledge and support to our children's Jewish education.

And as a reminder to all of you, TBI has a host of committees that may tickle your fancy. And we sure could use your help and ideas. Think about helping on the Caring, Ritual, Education, Programming, Fundraising, Outreach, Building or PR Committee. And don't forget our small but mighty Sisterhood which has been active in local tzedakah projects and community improvement. If you want to talk with anyone on any committee, please call and I'll be happy to direct you to the right person.

L'shalom!

- Sarah

TBI COMMITTEE REPORTS

Caring Committee

The Caring Committee is available to all Jews in our area. If you or a family member or friend is in need of support, a caring phone call, a friendly visit, a prayer or just a chat with another Jew, please call us at 850-522-3685. A member of the Caring Committee will return your call.

Members of the TBI Caring Committee are Nate Mewhinney, Judith Scott and Heather Mewhinney. They are ready to hear from you about how to respond to your specific needs and the needs of the Jewish Community.

“The warm hand of a friend can carry us through the hardest of times.”

Ritual Committee

Members of the Ritual Committee – Mary Starkman, Ed Nagler and Sarah Farkas – are busy working on assigning High Holiday honors. It’s right around the corner in very early October this year. With Rabbi Wasserman’s help, each holiday service will be reviewed to assure that each member of the congregation participates in the service by leading a prayer in Hebrew and/or English, receives an aliyah, chants a Haftorah or takes an integral part in a service. Participating in this way is an honor as well as a model for our young people.

A member of the Ritual Committee will be contacting

you soon. If there is a particular portion of a service that you would prefer to do, please let one of the committee members know.

Mary and Mike Starkman recently returned from Had’rachah training at Camp Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. There, they learned to lead funeral prayers, shiva, baby namings and other Jewish Rituals, as well as Shabbat services. They are ready to help anyone learn to lead his/her own lay service.

Education Committee

Under the leadership of co-directors Daniel Sternlicht and Georgie Hartzog, members of the Education Committee met last month to organize, schedule and plan the coming year for our Religious School students. Georgie, fresh from this year’s ISJL Conference, will share the many tools she learned. Daniel and Georgie will teach the children about Jewish life, history, traditions, holidays and Hebrew prayers and songs. Each Sunday, the kids will engage in a pertinent project to take home. Teacher’s Aides for the coming school year are Heather Mewhinney, Linette Sternlicht and Judith Scott.

Rabbi Wasserman will take on a teaching role on weekends when she is here. Anyone, especially parents of the students, are invited to attend class.

Sunday School starts on September 11, 2016 at 9:30 am.

A Reminder from the Temple Sisterhood

Please help the Temple Sisterhood support the nonprofit Family Service Agency (FSA) of Bay County.

This week FSA needs school supplies, as the children of Bay County go back to school on Thursday, August 18. FSA lists their current needs on a weekly basis in each Sunday’s edition of the *News Herald*. They also have these needs listed on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/familyserviceagencypc/?fref=nf>.

Please pick up backpacks, notebooks, notebook paper, composition books, pens, pencils, sharpeners, and/or erasers the next time you go shopping and bring them to Shabbat services at the Temple -- or you can drop them off at FSA, which is located at 114 East 9th Street in Panama City. For office hours or more information, please contact FSA at 785-1721.



Shabbat Candle-Lighting Times for August 2016

Take a break from the hectic work week and mark the Day of Rest with lighting of the candles.

8/5 | 7:15 pm

8/12 | 7:08 pm

8/19 | 7:01 pm

8/26 | 6:54 pm

AUGUST JOYS & REMEMBRANCES

Y A H R Z E I T S - THEIR MEMORIES ARE FOR US A BLESSING

- 08/04 E. MARY RIGANO – MOTHER OF MARY STARKMAN
- 08/05 MAX NAGLER – GRANDFATHER OF ED NAGLER
- 08/06 HERBERT NASH – STEPFATHER OF LOIS OSWALD
- 08/13 HY WAKSTEIN – CHARTER MEMBER OF CONGREGATION
- 08/15 JOHN STONE – FATHER OF MIKE STONE
- 08/19 RENA KLATZY – MOTHER OF LIZ BERMAN
- 08/22 ERNEST OSWALD, JR – BROTHER-IN-LAW OF LOIS OSWALD
- 08/28 FANNYE FELDSTEIN – MOTHER OF RON FELDSTEIN
- 08/28 MARVIN SUTTON – FATHER OF PAM SUTTON



BIRTHDAYS

- 08/02 JOHN MALLARY
- 08/02 JOHN OSWALD
- 08/06 DON NATIONS
- 08/09 STEPHEN THEBERGE
- 08/19 MARE WHEELER
- 08/20 DIANNA NAGLER
- 08/30 MARSHA KRASELSKY

ANNIVERSARIES

- 08/13 PAUL & LORI ZIPES
- 08/15 MARILYN & DON NATIONS
- 08/24 DANIEL & LINETTE STERNLICHT

If your Joy or Remembrance is missing or incorrect please e-mail The AZOY Editors at theazoy@gmail.com

ATTENTION TEMPLE MEMBERS!

As you may know, we were unable to meet a quorum at our Annual Congregational Meeting on June 12, 2016, and therefore no official business could be conducted. Although we discussed the new slate of Officers and Trustees, the new fiscal budget and proposed changes to our By-Laws, no vote could be taken to approve these matters.

In order to proceed, we are conducting the vote via e-mail. TBI members in good standing during FY 15-16 were e-mailed a ballot on July 28. If you did not receive your ballot and accompanying documents – or had trouble opening them – please contact Stephen Sickerman at sickerman@comcast.net immediately. Please act quickly. Ballots must be received no later than August 10.

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Incident at Vichy | a play by Arthur Miller | directed by Pamela Dru Sutton

In 1942, Hitler’s “final solution” to the “Jewish problem” shifted into high gear. France’s own government was increasingly controlled by the Nazis. Jews were being rounded up – as quietly as possible – and deported to death camps. Arthur Miller’s gripping drama, *Incident at Vichy*, focuses on a moment in that time to confront how this could have happened, how it could be happening again. . . .

The Martin Ensemble Theatre is proud to present Arthur Miller’s powerful Holocaust drama ***Incident at Vichy*** as its 2016 Summer Sidedoor production.

4 performances only:

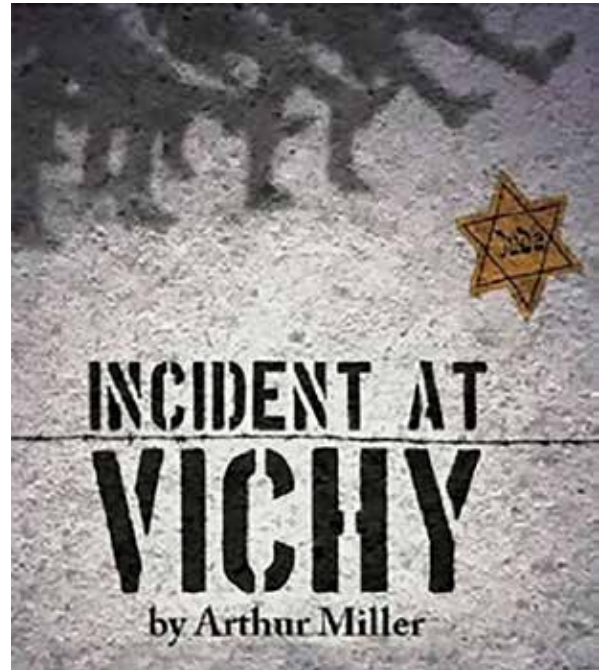
Thursday, Friday and Saturday, August 4, 5, and 6 @ 7:30 pm
Sunday, August 7 @ 2:00 pm

Tickets: \$12.50 adult, \$7.50 student & senior

More information: Call Martin Theatre. 763-8080

Directed by Pamela Dru Sutton

Produced by Diney Radcliff



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A personal note from Pam Sutton:

Dear Folks –

Please spread the word for people to come to the Martin Theatre production of Arthur Miller’s holocaust play, *Incident At Vichy*, this coming Thursday through Sunday.

There was an article and picture about the show in last Friday’s *Entertainer* in the *Panama City News Herald*; see <http://www.newsherald.com/entertainment/20160729/incident-at-vichy-to-be-performed-at-martin-theatre>

The play runs a tense, dramatic 90 minutes with no intermission.

I think it is important for us to show support when our local theatres deal with our history.

Some of our best local actors are in it.

The cast has been so committed to learning about Jewish culture to understand their characters and understand what happened.

It has been the most profound and validating experience I’ve ever had with a theatre production.

I hope you can come. You will find it exciting and thought-provoking. Every view on the holocaust is presented and is undercut by another character. There are no answers. But the questions are profound.

Above is the formal announcement for the play. Thank you.

Best, Pam