

# AZOY

*"Is that so?"*

2017  
OCTOBER  
5778



**UNION for  
REFORM JUDAISM**  
האיחוד ליהדות רפורמית

SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

*The Monthly Newsletter of Temple B'nai Israel*  
The Reform Jewish Congregation of Bay County  
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## Sukkot and Pizza in the Hut

Once again TBI will celebrate the Festival of the Booths – Sukkot – by serving and enjoying Pizza in the Hut. Immediately after Sunday Shul on October 8th, our very creative kids along with their teachers will decorate the Sukkah. Then President Mike Starkman will lead the children and the rest of us in special prayers for Sukkot, shaking the lulav and etrog and celebrating this awesome holiday!

Our TBI “booth” – Sukkah – will be erected by Nate Mewhinney and his able crew of volunteers, and it will be ready for the kids’ decorations by late morning. At 11:30 am Jewish Standard Time, the meaning of the holiday and prayers will follow inside the Sukkah. And then we will enjoy (cheese) Pizza in the Hut. Mark your calendars and please join us Sunday, October 8!

### Simchat Torah

The last day of Sukkot, Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> is Simchat Torah. On this day we celebrate our guide for living and believing: the Torah. We read the conclusion of the fifth book of Moses in Deuteronomy, and start the beginning of the first book, Genesis. This represents

the complete cycle of the Torah, from the beginning to the end and back again. Simchat Torah is a very happy holiday where we dance around the shul with the Torah, circling seven times, singing all the while. Join us in the celebration!





**L'shanah tovah!** I hope everyone had a good and sweet New Year! I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make our High Holy Days a meaningful experience.

First, I would like to thank our president, Mike Starkman, for his leadership. I would also like to thank Mary Starkman. As head of the Ritual Committee, it is her job to give members honors in the service. I use the word “honors” instead of “parts” because it is an honor to do them. Thank you, Mary, for taking care of this awesome responsibility. Also, thank you for chanting the Haftarah for us on Rosh HaShanah. You did a wonderful job!

It is important for us to give out honors to members of the congregation because this is not just my service. It is our High Holy Day observance. In taking an honor, you are taking ownership of the service, and making it a communal experience. To all of you who were given an honor, thank you. In particular, I would like to thank Daniel Sternlicht for being our cantorial soloist and lending his beautiful voice to our service, Sonny Glass for being our Gabbai, Barbara Shykoff for chanting Torah on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning, and Nathan Miller for chanting Haftarah on Yom Kippur morning. These honors re-

quire an immense amount of study and preparation. I would also like to thank Robert Goetz for reaching out to the local news outlets, and letting them know what we are up to.

This month, we will observe the holiday of Sukkot. Sukkot is a joyous time of year. As the fall harvest begins, children and adults adorn the sukkah with various decorations. We share our meals in this temporary structure, and some even go so far as to sleep in it for the entirety of the holiday. At the end of eight days, we take down the sukkah, and return to our permanent dwellings. However, at the end of Sukkot this year, some people will not be able to return to their houses. After this recent string of hurricanes, there are people who will continue to dwell in “sukkot,” temporary housing, for who knows how long.

Here's a brief list of ways we can help:

1. Visit [www.nechama.org](http://www.nechama.org) to learn how to volunteer your time or donate. NECHAMA is a voluntary organization that provides natural disaster preparedness, response, and recovery services nationwide.
2. Visit [www.houstonjewish.org](http://www.houstonjewish.org) to learn how to help victims of Hurricane Harvey.



3. Visit [www.jewishpalmbeach.org/fund/irma\\_relief/](http://www.jewishpalmbeach.org/fund/irma_relief/) to learn how to help victims of Hurricane Irma.
4. Visit [www.jewishfederations.org/hurricane-irma-relief-fund](http://www.jewishfederations.org/hurricane-irma-relief-fund) to learn how to help victims of Hurricane Irma.
5. Visit [www.jccpr.org/](http://www.jccpr.org/) to learn how to help victims of Hurricane Maria.

If you know of any other ways to help, please share that information with our congregation.

I look forward to seeing all of you the weekend of October 13 to celebrate Simchat Torah!

*L'shalom,* **Rabbi Alana Wasserman**

**Retirement is “An American Tail (1986)” by Georgie Hartzog**

Even before I retired, I found myself watching Turner Classic Movies, but only occasionally. Now that I am “fully retired,” I not only watch it, but I record movies... even some silent ones. Recently I happened to watch a film entitled “A Majority of One.” This delightful story involves a Jewish widow and a Japanese business man. Lessons of tolerance, compassion, kindness and devotion....well, watch the film to see if they lead to love. The most recent showing on TCM was September 24.

Surprisingly, The July/August 2017 issue of “moment”

magazine, which was co-founded by Elie Wiesel, arrived in my mailbox. It was the Summer Film Issue! Articles included Favorite Jewish Movies, Best Movie Rabbis, Favorite Jewish Movie Scenes, Jewish Movies to Watch on a Rainy Day (Young Frankenstein is a must) and Jewish Roles Played by Non-Jews.

So, if you are old enough to watch TV, I highly recommend Turner Classic Movies. If you are Jewish, you should already subscribe to “moment.” Let me know if you see a great Jewish movie!

**Message from Temple President Mike Starkman**

The High Holy Days are now over and we begin a new religious year. I would like to take a moment to recap my Erev Rosh Hashanah speech for those that didn't attend that service. There were and are many people to thank for their hard work in making our Temple operate. Our holiday services were enriched by the wonderful Torah reads by Barbara Shykoff and the haftarah readings by Mary Starkman and Nathan Miller. The Rabbi will be with us every month of this year instead of 10 months, as in the past. She will also lead us in our observance of Passover this year. Our annual Congregational Seder will be on the second night of Passover. Of course I made a plea for support for our Temple. We need volunteers. We need to create a strong fund raising committee. I am asking anyone that has had experience in this area or a desire to help in this area to please contact our

Past President, Sarah Farkas. We need to create an ongoing annual fundraiser. Our budgeted income only covers about 60% of our budgeted expenses. Without a strong fund raiser we will not be able to continue as we are now and we can expect to either reduce our expenditures or increase our dues. In closing, I asked the congregation to advise us as to what they would like us to provide that we currently are not and what more or less they would like to be doing of the items we are currently providing. Please contact myself or any board member with your concerns or desires.

Mary and I wish you all a sweet new year and may you have been inscribed for a good year.  
Mike



**Judaica Shop**  
**Chanukah is Just Around the Corner**

The Sisterhood's shop has the Jewish-y stuff you're looking for. Want to surprise your loved ones with Judaica jewelry? A new menorah? A Shalom Y'All TBI T-shirt? Come look at the variety of gifts available – for those you love and for you!



**Tashlich, September 21, 2017: Tossing bread to waters of St Andrew Bay Marina**



OCTOBER JOYS & REMEMBRANCES

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

- 10/05 HERMAN MILLER - FATHER OF NATHAN MILLER
- 10/07 NICOLE STEWART - DAUGHTER OF NATHAN AND ANNE MILLER
- 10/18 HARVEY JAY GLASS - SON OF SONNY & ALMA GLASS
- 10/29 RONALD GORDON - HUSBAND OF YVONNE GORDON



BIRTHDAYS

- 10/13 HELAINE NORMAN
- 10/23 MARGARET EUZENT

ANNIVERSARIES

- 10/21 PETER & PAMELA SOSTHEIM
- 10/25 LOIS & JOHN OSWALD

If your Joy or Remembrance is missing or incorrect please e-mail The AZOY Editors at [theazoy@gmail.com](mailto:theazoy@gmail.com)

OCTOBER CALENDAR

SUN	10/1		No Sunday Shul
SUN	10/8	9:30 am	Sunday Shul - <i>decorate the sukkah</i>
		11:30 am	Sukkot Service - <i>followed by Pizza in the Hut</i>
WED	10/11	6:30 pm	Monthly Temple Board of Directors Meeting
FRI	10/13	7:00 pm	Simchat Torah Shabbat Service with Rabbi Wasserman
SAT	10/14	9:30 am	Jewish-Muslim Women's Group Meeting - <i>details on following page</i>
		12:00 pm	Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Wasserman
SUN	10/15	9:30 am	Sunday Shul
		12:00 pm	Lunch with Rabbi Wasserman
WED	10/18	7:00 pm	Sisterhood Meeting
SUN	10/22	9:30 am	Sunday Shul
FRI	10/27	7:00 pm	Lay-Led Shabbat Service International Shabbat Observance Project
SAT	10/28	10:00 am	Quad-L: Lay-Led Lunch & Learn - <i>Lech-L'cha</i> – Genesis 14:1 – 15:21 & Haftora Isaiah 40:27 – 41:16
SUN	10/29	9:30 am	Sunday Shul

October Shabbat (and Sukkot) Candle-Lighting Times

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

10/04 | 6:06 pm *Sukkot* 10/06 | 6:04 pm 10/13 | 5:56 pm 10/20 | 5:48 pm 10/27 | 5:41 pm

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו, וצונו  
להדליק נר של שבת.

Dude, Where's My Jeep? TBI's New Vehicle Donation Program Launches

by Robert Goetz, Board Member, Membership Chair, Webmaster

Did you know that you can donate your used, unwanted car, truck, or boat to Temple B'nai Israel and help the synagogue with its fund raising effort? The synagogue gets money, you save on taxes, and you do your part to recycle! All it takes is a phone call or email and TBI will arrange for your vehicle to be picked up and hauled away.

That's exactly what Stephen and Carolynn Sickerman did. They had a 2000 Jeep parked in their driveway that they no longer used or wanted. The TBI Vehicle Donation Program arranged for the vehicle to be picked up and hauled away last week. According to Stephen "The Jeep needed some repairs, but ultimately we purchased another car for Carolynn and no longer needed the old Jeep. When we learned about TBI's Vehicle Donation Program we were thrilled to donate. All we had to do was arrange a convenient time for pick up and it was done."



Temple B'nai Israel is an IRS designated 501(c)3 not-for-profit religious organization enabling you to claim a tax deduction for the full value of your donation. You'll receive a thank you letter documenting your donation. The actual hauling away and recycling is handled by Coastal Metals, owned by members Nathan and Ann Miller. Net proceeds are forwarded

to B'nai Israel. Additionally, the Millers have offered to match the net proceeds, in effect, doubling the dollar value of your donation!

Thank you Stephen and Carolynn, Coastal Metals, and Nathan and Ann Miller.

The Jewish-Muslim Women's Group will meet Saturday morning  
October 14th from 9:30 - 11:00 am  
in the Owners Lounge at Treasure Island Condos  
5004 Thomas Drive, PCB 32408  
For more information, please call Lisa Rahn at (503) 338-0449

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## How does hunger impact children?



“I feel bad when my mom tries to buy me some food and I say, ‘Mom if you’re not getting yourself something then I’m not getting anything.’ It makes me feel sad that my parents sometimes feed us kids and not themselves. There was a period, before we got food stamps, when I was so hungry that it hurt a little bit in my stomach and kind of made me out of breath. If I am hungry in school, I can’t focus a lot and I don’t understand the lesson.”

*This Sukkot, help MAZON ensure that everyone has access to the bounty of our nation’s harvest. Learn more and take action at [mazon.org](https://mazon.org)*

**MAZON** | A Jewish Response  
To Hunger

## What is the emotional toll of hunger?



“I could not have perceived in a million years that I would ever be unemployed and kicked out of my apartment. Then, the recession hit. I did everything to find work and applied for countless jobs. But as a 59-year-old former journalist and business owner, I was either over-qualified or rejected because of my age. After nine months, my savings ran out. I can’t afford fresh food. When my food stamps run out, it’s kinda scary not knowing if I’m gonna have any money to eat tomorrow. I’m worrying all the time.”

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**MAZON** | A Jewish Response  
To Hunger

## What are some of the impossible choices food-insecure seniors must make?



“I had a stroke nine years ago, at 62. I wasn’t ready to retire, but the stroke kept me from working. Now, life’s a struggle. I live in low-income senior housing and get Medicare but after the monthly bills, I can’t cover everything else I need. I can only really afford to go to one doctor appointment a month, but that just ain’t enough. I try to have more money to spend on the doctor by putting more blankets on the bed at night instead of using the heat. I’m supposed to be on a special diabetes diet, but I just can’t afford to buy that food. It makes me feel terrible that I can’t afford to take care of my health. I never imagined I’d get to this age and this would be my life.”

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**MAZON**

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