

AZOY

"Is that so?"

2017 ELUL
SEPTEMBER
5777/5778



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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HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE AT TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL

Please join us as Rabbi Alana Wasserman leads us in prayer and Daniel Sternlicht adds his beautiful voice to these Days of Awe. High Holiday services will take place on the following dates and times:

Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 20	Erev Rosh Hashanah	7:00 pm
Thursday, September 21	Rosh Hashanah Morning Service	10:00 am
	Tashlich Service at St Andrew Marina	1:30 pm
	<i>followed immediately by lunch at local eatery</i>	

Yom Kippur

Friday, September 29	Kol Nidre	7:00 pm
Saturday, September 30	Yom Kippur Morning Service	10:00 am
	Children's Yom Kippur Service	3:00 pm
	Yizkor & Neilah Service	4:00 pm
	Havdalah	5:15 pm
	Break-the-Fast meal to follow services – hosted by TBI Sisterhood	



A suggested donation from non-members of \$90 (5 x Chai) per holiday is appreciated, but not required. **All are welcome!**

Help us Break-the-Fast together!

With the help of our Sisterhood, we are once again planning to have a covered dish Break-the-Fast after Yom Kippur services (and Havdalah) have concluded. If you are planning to attend the High Holidays at TBI and would like to participate in our annual community Break-the-Fast, please see page 5 for additional information.

This month, we will observe the holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. As we prepare for these holy days, we are obligated to reflect on our actions of the past year, make amends with those whom we have wronged, and plan to do better in the New Year.

This past year has reminded me of how important our voices are. Elie Wiesel once said, "I swore never to be silent whenever and wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented." "What hurts the victim the most is not the cruelty of the oppressor, but the silence of the bystander."

This year, the world witnessed many injustices. Most recently in Charlottesville, VA, and Barcelona, Spain. Hatred caused these atrocities. And while many people have spoken up and used their voices, we still need more voices. We need to be louder! We need to do what we can to make the world a better place. If we do nothing, if we remain silent, hatred will win. Let's not allow that to happen.

This year, let our voices be heard. And hopefully, one day, our voices will all join in songs of peace and love! *Shanah tovah u'metukah!* Wishing all of you a Happy and Sweet New Year!

L'shalom -

Rabbi Alana Wasserman



ISJL Education Fellow Carly Abramson's 1st visit to Temple B'nai Israel, August 26, 2017

Message from Temple President Mike Starkman

As we approach the new year, your Officers and Board wish you *ketivah v'chatima tovah* – a good inscription and sealing [in the Book of Life]. In the new year, we will be conducting a survey to determine what you want from your Temple. We really want your input. Would you like more services, or would you like more social events, or would you like more religious discussions? Whatever it is, the Board is committed to making our congregation more vibrant. If you have an interest in helping us move forward, we have openings in several committees. We also need lay leaders to conduct Shabbat services. Please sign up or contact me.

This time of year is traditionally a time of *tzedakah* and we ask that you include the Temple as one of your charities. This is also a time of repentance, which includes forgiveness. Please open your heart and find it possible to forgive and move forward. Also, at this time, if I've hurt or offended you, I am truly sorry and ask for your forgiveness. I look forward to seeing you during the holy day season. With this I will close by saying...

L'shanah tovah tikatevu v'ticharem – may you be written and sealed for a good year!

- Mike

We are saddened to report that long-time TBI member Sarah Feldstein passed away August 25, 2017. Services were held the afternoon of August 28 at Southerland Family Funeral Home, followed by interment at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, next to her beloved husband, Ron Wolfe Feldstein, who predeceased her 10 months ago. Sonny Glass officiated at the funeral. Deepest sympathies are extended to her children, grandchildren and family.

SEPTEMBER JOYS & REMEMBRANCES

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

09/02	LOUIS FARKAS - FATHER OF SARAH FARKAS
09/05	LOUIS SILVER - FATHER OF ANITA SKOULA
09/09	STEPHEN THEBERGE - FATHER OF STEPHEN THEBERGE JR
09/09	RITA WHEELER - MOTHER OF MARE WHEELER
09/11	AARON HORWITZ - NEPHEW OF SARAH FARKAS AND JUDITH SCOTT
09/14	YETTA LEVY SICKERMAN - GRANDMOTHER OF STEPHEN SICKERMAN
09/20	NORMA LIST - MOTHER OF JUDITH SCOTT
27 ELUL	FAJELE WAJSFELNER - GRANDMOTHER OF MICHAEL STARKMAN



BIRTHDAYS

09/03	AVIVA MALLARY	09/11	PHORNSUDA (AMANDA) NANTVIKOM
09/04	STEPHEN SICKERMAN	09/13	AVIVA MALLARY
09/05	JOAN PROWS	09/28	LINETTE STERNLICHT
09/07	KAY STRIPLING		

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



September Shabbat Candle-Lighting Times

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

09/01 6:47 pm	09/15 6:30 pm	09/22 6:21 pm
09/08 6:38 pm	09/20 6:23 pm <i>Erev Rosh Hashanah</i>	09/29 6:12 pm <i>Erev Yom Kippur</i>

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵנוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ
לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל שַׁבָּת.

Temple Sisterhood Update by Judith Scott, President

We held our first meeting since the election of new officers. Officers for the 2017-18 fiscal year are: Judith Scott, President; Sharon Yordon, Vice President; Joanne Goetz, Treasurer; and Linette Sternlicht and Tammy Marinuzzi sharing Secretarial duties. We also took time to celebrate the huge contributions of Lisa Rahn as our outgoing president. Lisa was one of the six founding mothers of the TBI Sisterhood. She served more than four years as our president. Her organizational and networking skills helped us become the dynamic group we are today; see photo below. Thank you Lisa!

We are currently preparing for another gigantic Break-the-Fast to

end Yom Kippur fasting on Saturday September 30th. For this we need everyone's participation in donating food items. A listing of items we still need is located on the next page. Please call Judith Scott at (507) 779-9804 with your choice(s).

Sisterhood will continue to work on all of the projects previously committed to. We will also add increased involvement in our Religious School. Some of our members will teach and the Sisterhood will provide funding for snacks for the children during the school year.

There are 2 Rummage Sale fundraisers coming up as well. The first is on October 7 and sponsored by Sisterhood member Gayle Paynter. This sale features jewelry of all kinds, costume and fine. If you have

a donation of jewelry, please contact Judith by October 5th.

The second sale is sponsored by Unity Spiritual Center, scheduled for October 14. This sale will feature furniture, appliances and such in good usable condition. If you have large furniture please call Judith prior to the 13th to arrange for pick up. Your contributions are appreciated. On October 13, items can be delivered directly to the Unity Spiritual Center, located at 1764 Lisenby Avenue, Panama City.

The Sisterhood continues to maintain the Judaica Shop in the shul; see page 9. Please check out the shop as new items are added regularly. Sales benefit Sisterhood directly and that in turn benefits the shul. We thank Cynthia Gingold for her recent contribution of a lovely Seder Plate and the donation of books to the shul library. We also thank Scott and Marie Sewell for the donation of key chains in Israeli colors of blue and white.

Let me be the first to wish you and your family a *shana tova*, a healthy, happy and prosperous new year.



Israel: The Month of Tishrei

The holidays celebrated in the Hebrew month of Tishrei are among the most important of the entire Jewish year. These Festival 2017 stamps, designed by Diana Shimon, present 3 of the special customs associated with this festive period, emphasizing customs that are carried out in the dark: Second Hakafot during Simchat Torah, Building a Sukkah for Sukkot and Selichot Prayers during the Days of Awe.

For more information see: <http://israelphilately.org.il/en/catalog/articles/2162/Festivals%202017%20-The%20Month%20of%20Tishrei%201292017>

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

WED	9/6	6:30 pm	Sisterhood Meeting
WED	9/13	6:30 pm	Monthly Temple Board of Directors Meeting
SUN	9/17	9:30 am	Sunday Shul – a new religious school year begins!
WED	9/20	7:00 pm	Erev Rosh Hashanah Service with Rabbi Wasserman
THUR	9/21	10:00 am 1:30 pm	Rosh Hashanah Morning Service (Shacharit) with Rabbi Wasserman Tashlich at St Andrew Marina – located at 3151 West 10th Street, Panama City followed immediately by lunch at a local eatery
SUN	9/24	9:30 am	Sunday Shul
FRI	9/29	7:00 pm	Kol Nidre Service with Rabbi Wasserman
SAT	9/30	10:00 am 3:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:15 pm	Yom Kippur Morning Service with Rabbi Wasserman Children's Service Yizkor (Memorial) and Neilah (Concluding) Services Havdalah – followed by Break-the-Fast – hosted by the Temple Sisterhood

HELP US BREAK-THE-FAST TOGETHER

The High Holidays are once again fast approaching. In preparation for our annual Break-the-Fast, we're asking everyone to pitch in.

So here's what we need:

We need eggs, tuna, fruit salad and miscellaneous salads. We need sliced onions, baked kugels, desserts, and anything else you want to bring.

Remember that this is a dairy meal – so please, no meat, no pork, no shellfish.

Please let me know what you would like to bring. If you don't know what to bring, we will be happy to give you an assignment!

Please contact me ASAP so that planning can proceed as smoothly as possible.

Please bring your dishes table-ready. Our kitchen is small and services will be going on. This way you can bring it in the door and directly to the table without a fuss, and we can keep the noise to a minimum.

Thank you all in advance for your assistance with our Break-the-Fast. We really appreciate your help and look forward to seeing everyone during the High Holidays.

Thank you very much!

Judith Scott, Sisterhood President
507-779-9804 | farcott@gmail.com



Not Yet a Member of B'nai Israel?

by Robert Goetz, Chair, Membership Committee / Webmaster

Over the years, when traveling, if time allowed, I would try to understand the local history of a city and would often search out the synagogues in a community. When inquiring further I recall at times hearing “this is where the synagogue used to be. The building is now used by (always some other group).” Okay, I get it. Sometimes it is economic and sociological trends that result in Jews leaving communities and living elsewhere. But at other times it is a result of Jews remaining in their community and failing to engage with their synagogue(s).

We only have one Reform synagogue here in Bay County. Many members of Temple B'nai Israel travel well over one hour each way to participate in services. This is not New York, Chicago, or Miami where there remain sizeable Jewish communities. The relatively small number of Jewish households across Bay County and its adjacent counties is quite small. Maintaining an active, vibrant synagogue is not an easy task. Yet, by reading this piece you have some common interest in preserving B'nai Israel's presence across the Florida Panhandle.

Not yet a Member of B'nai Israel? There's an easy fix.

We have an app for that! Go to www.bnaiisraelpc.org and click on the “Membership” tab near the top of the homepage. Take note, that while many synagogues have family membership dues well over \$1200 per year; the B'nai Israel board of directors has worked hard to hold family membership unchanged at the same \$880 for many years now. Financial hardship? No one will be turned away due to financial reasons. So please, whatever your past reason for not joining, why not begin the New Year as a member? Please understand that we want and need your participation and that you will be helping to ensure that we have a synagogue for future years.

Got questions regarding membership? Contact me or any board member, contact info is listed on page 8 and we would love chat with you regarding TBI membership.

Already a member of B'nai Israel? Thank you for your past support. Please help us to build a strong and vibrant synagogue by emailing me the contact info for any Jewish household you are aware of that are not current members and I will politely reach out with a warm welcome. See you in Shul!

Mosley student earns scholarship



Bay County Farm Bureau president Larry White presents Mosley High School senior Max Nagler with a scholarship for the 2017-18 school year.

Congratulations to Max Nagler, 2017 graduate of Mosley High School, now attending Troy University!

from Panama City News Herald, August 13, 2017

1st Notice for this year's Yizkor Book

Once again we will be preparing a **Yizkor Book**, which will be read by Rabbi Wasserman during the Memorial Service on Yom Kippur.

If you would like to have the names of your deceased loved ones placed in the 2017 Yizkor Book, please contact Stephen Sickerman at sickerman@comcast.net no later than the evening of September 20.

Please indicate the names of your loved ones. The requested donation amount remains the same as last year: \$18 for 1-3 names and \$36 for 4-8 names.

For more information, call Stephen at (850) 814-2610.

Please mail your donation directly to:

Treasurer Lisa Rahn
Temple B'nai Israel
PO Box 16556
Panama City, FL 32406-6556.

Mary Starkman would like to remind AZOY readers that members of the Ritual Committee have been calling and asking people to take honors for the High Holidays. If you are contacted, please accept and say “Yes!” if at all possible.

TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL HIGH HOLY DAYS FOOD DRIVE

We will be holding our annual food drive for the hungry this year during our High Holy Days.

Tzedakah, commonly translated as charity, is the obligation to see to the needs of fellow human beings who are unable to meet their own needs.

In that spirit, please bring non-perishable foods – such as canned goods, spaghetti, cereals, dried beans, and soups – to any of our *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* Services. Your donations, including those dropped off

at any other time, will go directly to the Family Services Agency of Panama City.

Family Service Agency of Bay County is a non-profit charity located at 114 East 9th Street in Panama City. All donations are tax-deductible and can be delivered to their office only during office hours of Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. They are closed on Fridays. For more information please call (850) 785-1721. Family Service Agency is a partner in affiliation with United Way of Northwest Florida.





Foods to Give



The items your food bank needs most

Canned Goods	Packaged Foods	Drinks/Beverages	Condiments
 <p>Protein (chicken, tuna, salmon)</p> <p>Soups, Chiles, Stews (low-sodium is best)</p> <p>Fruits and Vegetables (low-sodium is best)</p>	 <p>Peanut Butter</p> <p>Cereal (low-sugar, whole grain)</p> <p>Whole Grains (pasta, rice, quinoa)</p> <p>Dried Beans</p> <p>Snacks (crackers, granola bars)</p>	 <p>Shelf-stable milk</p> <p>100% juice</p> <p>Baby Formula</p> <p>Coffee</p>	 <p>Tomato-based Sauces</p> <p>Soy Sauce (low-sodium is best)</p> <p>Ketchup/Mustard</p> <p>Salad Dressing</p> <p>Cooking Oils (olive, canola)</p>



A Jewish Response To Hunger



From: Lisa Rahn

Subject: Urgent Tzedakah Request

Date: August 17, 2017

To: All recipients

The Family Service Agency is the Sisterhood's chosen tzedakah project. They help many of the most needy members of our community and are in desperate need of assistance in restocking their food pantry (see list below). Would you please consider bringing a donation to the synagogue this month? A Sisterhood member will deliver it to the Family Service Agency.

FOOD PANTRY: Our shelves are nearly bare and we are in dire need to be able to make more food boxes for individuals and families in crisis that have a home and the ability to cook. Specific needs are canned pork & beans, baked beans, mixed vegetables/veg-all, greens (all types), sweet peas, sloppy joe mix, hash, chili, stew, chicken & dumplings, fruit (15oz), tomatoes (15oz), and tomato sauce/paste. Additional items needed are: coffee (instant, ground, plastic jars if possible), juice (46oz), juice boxes, and gravy mix packets.

Havdalah led by Rabbi Wasserman at the home of Robert and Joanne Goetz, August 19, 2017.



CONTACT US

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Lisa Rahn
Linette Sternlicht
Robert Goetz
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Stephen Theberge
Daniel Sternlicht
Judith Scott
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Judaica shop: Ready for the High Holidays?

For the coming High Holidays we are featuring Honey Bowls. Each comes with a cute little spoon with which to dip the honey. Jars of Tupelo honey, in which to dip your apples, will also

be available for purchase. It's time to refresh your kippahs for this year's holidays. We have a selection from Israel. And we have Mogen David jewelry for both women and men.

Please check out the "store" for these and other specials! Remember – we're the only shop in town that caters to your religious and cultural desires! *L'shana tovah!*

A Superman of Action by Stephen Sickerman



You probably already know that Superman, America's first costumed superhero, was created by writer Jerome "Jerry" Siegel and artist Joseph "Joe" Shuster, two Jewish high school students living in Cleveland, Ohio. They sold Superman to National Comics (the future DC Comics) in 1938. The rest, as they say, is history. A couple of years ago a near-perfect copy of Action Comics #1, in which Superman first appeared, sold for over \$3 million! Not a bad return on a purchase made for one thin dime during the Great Depression. Look it up on the Internet if you don't believe me.

Aside from a multitude of comic book series, there have been Superman newspaper strips, radios and TV shows and, of course, numerous movies over the years. He may be fictional, but he's definitely an American icon.

Superman is commonly referred to by such epithets as the Man of Steel, the Man of Tomorrow, and the Last Son of Krypton. He's also been called the Big Blue Boy Scout because of his stolid demeanor and unflagging desire for truth and justice and yes, frankly, because he wears blue underwear. How strange that an alien from a distant world – a stranger in a strange land you might say – so firmly embraced core American values such as patriotism and fair play!

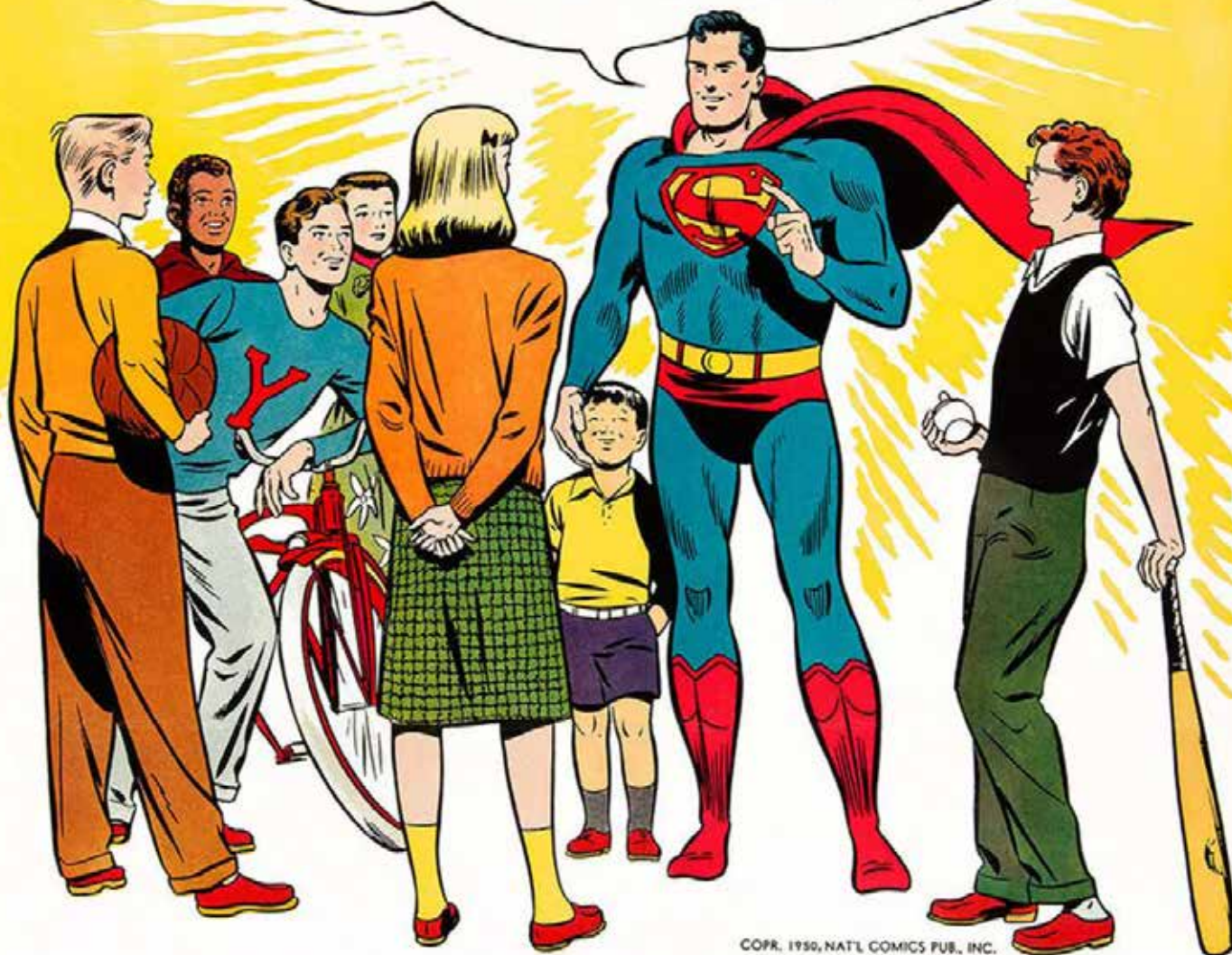
Those core American values have been called into question in recent months.

Perhaps that's why earlier this year, "DC Comics digitally restored a widely-circulated 1950s-era color poster of Superman advising school kids on the importance of respecting diversity. The author of the poster remains mysterious but the publisher reports that the revamped art is believed to be created by Superman artist Wayne Boring." The poster appears on the following page.

"In 1949, DC produced this same image and text in a limited run originally for a 12" x 18" brown paper schoolbook cover which was distributed to schools by the Institute for American Democracy, an offshoot of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). This was the same the year that DC worked with the National Social Welfare Assembly to publish a long-running series of public service messages using its characters in the pages of its comic books. It was part of DC's corporate social responsibility, which would undoubtedly resonate in these modern times once again."

Quoted source: "DC Restores Classic Superman PSA for New Poster" by Renaldo Matadeen. <http://www.cbr.com/dc-comics-restores-classic-superman-psa-poster/>

...AND REMEMBER, BOYS
AND GIRLS, YOUR SCHOOL—LIKE OUR
COUNTRY—IS MADE UP OF AMERICANS OF
MANY DIFFERENT RACES, RELIGIONS
AND NATIONAL ORIGINS. SO...



COPR. 1950, NAT'L COMICS PUB. INC.

... if YOU hear anybody talk against a
schoolmate or anyone else because of his
religion, race or national origin—don't wait:
tell him THAT KIND OF TALK IS UN-AMERICAN.

HELP KEEP YOUR SCHOOL ALL AMERICAN!