



## Community Chaplain

Chaplain Larry Batchlear is available for Jewish Life-cycle events and can be reached at 352-7191

## Business Office

Larry Batchlear (806-355-0023) or Bob Blinderman (806-372-9401)

## Looking for articles.

Have you read a good book lately? Or perhaps an inspirational reading or poem? Do you have a recipe you would like to share?

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Temple B'nai Israel newsletter is published monthly. Submissions for the newsletter are due the 21st of the prior month. Send to:

[bnaisraelamarillo@gmail.com](mailto:bnaisraelamarillo@gmail.com),  
Attn. Mary Blinderman

*We welcome your contributions to the newsletter.*

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Know someone interested in becoming a part of our community? New to town? Or looking to find a way to connect with Temple B'nai Israel? Contact any of our board members and we will be glad to assist you.

## June 2020

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## President's Message

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Apricots.....I love apricots! Seeing them in the grocery store in the Spring fills me with joy! Some rare years, our crazy Texas Panhandle weather is even cooperative enough to have a tree full of apricots in my own front yard. I love the taste of apricots; I love the bright color. However, what I most love about apricots is their association. For me, when apricots appear in the Spring, it is a sign of hope that winter is ending, and warmer weather will soon appear. Just seeing apricots in the store renews my spirit.

When our spirit is down, we need to have those kinds of things to cling to....things that renew us and give us hope. We are now in month #3 since our Temple closed its' doors due to the coronavirus pandemic. But even a pandemic cannot kill us!!! We have still managed to have Shabbat every Friday night via Go-To-Meeting. In fact, we have had new service leaders and participants. We have been joined by members from out of town who normally cannot participate in Shabbat with us. Student Rabbi Paige even led a Shabbat service and Adult ed for us....from California! Adult ed has had classes most Sundays, also via Go-To-Meeting. We bid farewell to the Goldsteins with a drive-by parade. The Temple Board of Trustees has met (remotely) every month, as scheduled. Unfortunately, we did have to postpone some Temple business, like the annual meeting and election of officers, until we can again meet in person. Thankfully, Temple administrative duties are performed by generous volunteers, so we did not have to furlough any Temple employees, as many religious organizations were forced to do. Several of our Temple members were stricken with coronavirus, and all have recovered.

Given the circumstances, we have much to be thankful for! I do miss seeing you! If you have not tuned in for Shabbat yet, try it out! (The link is in my Thursday email to you.) It truly warms the heart to see our Temple friends again.

I will think of you, and our beloved Temple, with each apricot I enjoy. I hope I will see you in person again before apricots go out of season!

Stay well! L'hitraot!

Candy

**Adult Education News**

**Adult Education Class Update**

Based on the favorable response to the survey, we will continue to have adult education classes this summer without interruption of our weekly schedule. The classes will be by remote sessions until further notice. Our class schedule (Sunday at 10:30 CDT) has not changed. Our remote class link and password have not changed. For email instructions on how to attend the remote classes contact Bob at [bobbli@arn.net](mailto:bobbli@arn.net)

On May 24, the class finished *The Book Smugglers*. We will miss reading about Vilna and the cast of heroes, books, and organizations who survived the Nazis and the Soviets. Fear not because VIVO lives on in New York and we are exploring their resources with the possibility of our adult ed class having a remote, Jewish, group-learning course with them. Stay tuned for the developments on this project.

It is time for you to obtain your copy of the next book that we will study together. It is *Spies of No Country: Israel's Secret Agents at the Birth of the Mossad* which was written in 2019 by Matti Friedman and is available in print and electronic format from your favorite book seller. Please order your edition today. The book is another of the prize-nominated and prize-winning book by one of our favorite authors. Here is a brief book review from NPR <https://www.npr.org/2019/03/07/700969374/spies-of-no-country-offers-nuanced-understanding-of-israels-complexity>



Out of abundance of caution, services and adult education classes are temporarily being held virtually in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. To receive an invitation, please send an email to [bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com](mailto:bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com)

**Sisterhood**

We are transitioning from Covid-19 Spring into Covid-19 Summer, into the unknown. For most of us, although our state has “opened” up, we will continue striving to maintain distance and protect one another. While missing personal contact, many of us are enjoying virtual Shabbat services and adult education classes. Thank you, Kim Hooker, for serving as administrator of online activities, and to our volunteers for leading online services and to Bob Blinderman for leading adult education classes. Over the summer months, may each of you find ways to enjoy your family and friends, read a good book, enjoy our beautiful outdoor world and most importantly, stay healthy and safe.

*Your Sisterhood Officers*

**Temple Contacts**

<b>Candy Alpar</b> , President .....	341-8741
<b>Janet Meller</b> , Vice President.....	340-8425
<b>Kim Hooker</b> , Secretary .....	505-463-8402
<b>Bob Blinderman</b> , Treasurer .....	372-9401
<b>Carol Bakwin</b> , Choir .....	352-7191
<b>Larry Batchlear</b> , Community Chaplain.....	355-0023

**Sisterhood Contacts**

<b>Joan Altman</b> , Co-President .....	355-4817
<b>Victoria Thompson</b> , Co-President.....	670-5866
<b>Alex Rimmel</b> , Vice-President .....	316-8280
<b>Kim Hooker</b> , Secretary .....	505-463-8402
<b>Mary Blinderman</b> , Treasurer .....	372-9401

## Jewish Trivia for June

*Courtesy of Karen Schroeder*

### Inspiration

#### God Answers and Laughs

by Judy Petsonk

### Faith Makes One Strong

One starry March night, I stood on a bank of frozen earth and threw out a challenge to Heaven: “If you are there, I am going to act as if I believe in You and see what happens. If You are not there, then You can’t laugh at me.”

Early the next morning, as I jogged along the unfinished highway, a monarch butterfly landed fifteen feet in front of me – and then another, and another. Stretching down the road in front of me, living orange lamps lined my morning path. “You’ve answered me,” I said. The monarchs flew away. I added, “and You are also laughing at me.”

Judy Petsonk (born 1945) is the coauthor of *The Intermarriage Handbook* and author of *Taking Judaism Personally: Creating a Meaningful Spiritual Life*, an account of her return to Jewish religious practice through the Jewish Renewal movement.

## The Word is Yiddish

**Schmo** – foolish or silly person

**Schnoz**—a large or prominent nose

**Schtick** – one’s act or routine

## REFUAH SHELEMAH

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

Carrie Delaney

Emilio Barrera Jr.

Jo Ann Holt

Bruce Kriegel

Mabel Knox

David Altman

Henrietta Kohn

Harriette Tallert

Eva and Eliezer Pena

The Archie Hunnicutt family

*Please offer prayers that they all have a full and speedy recovery.*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to all our donors for your continued support! (as of May 25, 2020)

### General Fund

#### In Support of Temple B’nai Israel

*Anonymous*

*Paul Katz*

*Dorrie Carskadon*

### Tree of Life Fund

In Honor of Nick & Linda Goldstein for their dedication to Temple B’nai Israel

1977-2020

*Temple B’nai Israel Sisterhood*

### **Please consider donating to the Temple**

*It is a wonderful way to:*

- Mark a simchah (happy occasion)
- Honor someone’s memory
- Wish someone a speedy recovery
- Express Gratitude

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/4 Robert Holt

6/5 Joel Kaplan

6/16 Susan Adelman Bortnick

6/16 Kel Seliger

6/20 Rachel Elizabeth Shay

6/22 Matthew Bunce

6/23 Bob Blinderman

6/25 Josephine Weir

6/29 Freddy Gens

6/29 Richard Chelf

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

6/23 Eileen and Paul Pan

6/25 Linda and Nick Goldstein

## Weekly Parsha ~ June

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### Naso

June 6, 2020

Completing the headcount of the Children of Israel taken in the Sinai Desert, a total of 8,580 Levite men between the ages of 30 and 50 are counted in a tally of those who will be doing the actual work of transporting the Tabernacle.

G-d communicates to Moses the law of the *sotah*, the wayward wife suspected of unfaithfulness to her husband. Also given is the law of the *nazir*, who forswears wine, lets his or her hair grow long, and is forbidden to become contaminated through contact with a dead body. Aaron and his descendants, the *kohanim*, are instructed on how to bless the people of Israel.

### Behaalotecha

June 13, 2020

A “Second Passover” is instituted in response to the petition, “Why should we be deprived?” by a group of Jews who were unable to bring the Passover offering in its appointed time because they were ritually impure. G-d instructs Moses on the procedures for Israel’s journeys and encampments in the desert, and the people journey in formation from Mount Sinai, where they had been camped for nearly a year.

The people are dissatisfied with their “bread from heaven” (the manna), and demand that Moses supply them with meat. Moses appoints 70 elders to assist him in governing the people. Miriam speaks negatively of Moses and is punished with leprosy; Moses prays for her healing, and the entire community waits seven days for her recovery.

### Shelach

June 20, 2020

Moses sends twelve spies to the land of Canaan. Forty days later they return, carrying a huge cluster of grapes, a pomegranate and a fig, to report on a lush and bountiful land. But ten of the spies warn that the inhabitants of the land are giants and warriors “more powerful than we”; only Caleb and Joshua insist that the land can be conquered, as G-d has commanded.

The people weep that they’d rather return to Egypt. G-d decrees that Israel’s entry into the Land shall be delayed forty years, during which time that entire generation will die out in the desert.

### Korach

June 27, 2020



Korach incites a mutiny challenging Moses’ leadership and the granting of the *kehunah* (priesthood) to Aaron. He is accompanied by Moses’ foes, Dathan and Abiram.

Joining them are 250 distinguished members of the community, who offer the sacrosanct *ketoret* (incense) to prove their worthiness for the priesthood.

The earth opens up and swallows the mutineers, and a fire consumes the *ketoret*- offerers. A subsequent plague is stopped by Aaron’s offering of *ketoret*.

Aaron’s staff miraculously blossoms and brings forth almonds, to prove that his designation as high priest is divinely ordained.

# Yahrzeits for June

## **June**

\*Louis Altman 6/3

Bessie Razor 6/3

\*Sam Herman 6/4

\*Minnie Lee Solnick 6/6

\*Louis Gold 6/7

Rhoda Shapiro 6/7

Tillie Kaplan 6/7

\*Jack Duman 6/8

Heinz D. Jacob 6/8

Sally Chartoff 6/9

\*Sylvia Rudelson 6/9

Mae Moskowitz 6/10

Henry Saxe 6/10

Carolyn Geyer 6/12

\*Mamie Axelrod 6/12

Manuel Ramos 6/14

Frank Blackburn 6/13

Shirley Tessler 6/13

Caroline Haskell 6/14

Sol Metz 6/15

\*Baile Bagelman 6/15

\*Sylvia Seid 6/16

Albert Sidney Chism, Jr. 6/18

Ida Bendalin 6/19

Rose Raizes 6/20

Samuel Stern 6/21

\*Leo Latman 6/22

\*Abe Wolfson 6/25

Lenore Miller 6/25

Faye Reisin 6/25

\*Mary Ann Herring 6/26

\*Chasheh Leah Axelrod 6/27

Ellen Atha 6/29

Marion A. Dresner 6/30

Eloise Wolf

Max Bassman

Sam Replin

Esther Tonkin

Sadie Gelder

Max Aronson

Dr. N.E. Springer

Mary Bender

Hannah Bergelofsky

Sylvia Alpert

*The "\*" indicates individuals whose names are on the Yahrzeit boards in the sanctuary.*

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If any member would like to add a name to the monthly yahrzeit list, please send the name, date of yahrzeit and your relationship to [BnailsraelAmarillo.org](mailto:BnailsraelAmarillo.org), Attn: Mary Blinderman. Thank you.