



October 2020

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?

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

Attn. Mary Blinderman

We welcome your contributions to the newsletter.

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.

President's Message

Shalom chaverim!

I hope everyone had a blessed Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. I hope all of you ate a ton of honey cake, to assure a sweet year!

If the Chinese calendar can have a Year of the Dog, Pig, etc., we should have our own version.

The year 5780 shall henceforth be known as the "Year of the TSURIS!" For those not versed in Yiddish, tsuris is defined as "aggravating trouble."

Despite a year of tsuris, I am amazed at how busy the Temple has been! My Gmail account that is dedicated to Temple correspondence has new emails daily. The Temple Board had met at least once a month, as we have done prior to the pandemic. At the time of writing this, I am looking forward to sharing the High Holy Days with Rabbi Goldmann and our new friends to the south, Congregation Shaareth Israel. Despite the difficulties of social distancing and masking, we will have had an in-person Tashlich service at Medi Park lake.

Additionally, we have formed a Bylaws committee, which met to go over our current bylaws, with a fine-toothed comb (or a lawyer's eye!). Many changes have been suggested, mostly to allow us to better function in the event of another disaster. These bylaw changes will be submitted to the members, for approval, at our delayed Temple Annual Meeting, hopefully in the next month or so. The Bylaws committee will meet at least annually to discuss any needed updates to our current bylaws.

Sisterhood has been active. They had a meeting, elected officers, and hosted a drive-by shower to honor the Schaefer's upcoming baby! Ladies: Sisterhood needs you to become a member! You do not have to be Jewish or a member of the Temple to join. See any Sisterhood officer for more details.

The FEMA grant committee has continued to jump through all the required government hoops, and the security upgrades are now beginning. The first project is a renovation of the windows with a film coating, to increase their safety against a projectile, bullet, or bomb. More security upgrades will follow. Many thanks to the FEMA grant committee for all their hard work to secure this government grant for the Temple.



We have added another new member! Welcome DeLana Honaker! And several other friends of the Temple have inquired about membership, too. Our friend “Zee” finally realized her dream of conversion! We celebrate with “Zee,” who took such good care of us by providing security during our Shabbat services and also singing in our choir.

As much as I would love to see you in the sanctuary or the reception hall, sadly, as the Year of the Tsuris continues, it would look like this (enjoy a laugh!):

<https://giphy.com/gifs/RobertEBlackmon-reactions-cough-you-cant-sit-here-kd3jbH5XjMYl4Y5TBw>

<https://giphy.com/gifs/RobertEBlackmon-bible-virus-plastic-bag-fXEboWfiGwwTJQ3fqk>

<https://giphy.com/gifs/RobertEBlackmon-pew-church-muva-reserved-dw8ooUxuR6eJPB1ZSQ>

With Love and gratitude,

Candy

Shabbat Services

Because we take Covid-19 seriously, Shabbat services and Adult Ed continue to be held virtually. This will be our “temporary normal” until further notice. We hope you will join us using modern technology to stay connected. Volunteers lead services via “Go To Meeting.” The services begin at 7 p.m. After services, we visit and catch up with our Temple family. In addition, we are invited to attend “Zoom” Shabbat services at CSI in Lubbock Texas. **Please watch for communications regarding the October Shabbat service schedule.**

To receive an invitation to all services, please send an email to: bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com

Adult Education

We are reading the book Not in God's Name by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks in our Temple Adult Education class. Class meets every Sunday morning at 10:30 CDT in our virtual classroom. We continue to gain coreligionists and friends who enjoy coming to class and engaging in lively discussions. If you wish to join the class, please call Bob at 372.9401 for an invitation to join. Try it, you'll like it!

-Bob

Sisterhood News

Sisterhood held its first virtual meeting on September 2nd via “Go To Meeting.” Nine members were present. Officers were elected to serve for the next two years. Your officers are Kim Hooker and Victoria Thompson, Co-Presidents; Lisa Hunnicutt, Vice-President; Karen Schroeder, Secretary; and, Mary Blinderman, Treasurer. Sisterhood voted to provide funds for a concrete pad and sidewalk at the rose garden. The project includes installation of a post for the Little Free Library that Temple volunteers built last February.

Kim Hooker donated a beautiful bench for the garden.



Sisterhood held a “Drive-by Baby Shower” for Christine Schaer on September 13th. The annual membership drive began in September. Dues from 12 members have been received. Last year, we had 32 members on the books. Any women who is committed to the goals and objectives of the Sisterhood, its Congregation and the Jewish community is eligible for membership and may become a member upon payment of dues. This year our only planned income is dues, so please renew or consider joining our Sisterhood. We are a small group, but we can achieve memorable goals for the enrichment of the Temple.

-Your Sisterhood officers

Temple Contacts

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

Sisterhood Contacts

Kim Hooker , Co-President	505-463-8402
Victoria Thompson , Co-President.....	670-5866
Lisa Hunnicutt , Vice-President	670-7137
Karen Schroeder , Secretary	681-5196
Mary Blinderman , Treasurer.....	372-9401

NEWS AROUND THE CONGREGATION

Temple B'nai Israel Sisterhood Dues – 2020-2021

_____ I would like to join the Temple Sisterhood at the Royal “Chai” level and I am enclosing a check for \$72.00.

_____ I would like to join the Temple Sisterhood at the Double Chai level and I am enclosing a check for \$36.00

_____ I would like to join the Temple Sisterhood at the Chai level and I am enclosing a check for \$18.00

Please make your check payable to: **Temple B'nai Israel Sisterhood**

And send it to: Temple B'nai Israel, 4316 Albert, Amarillo, Texas 79106, Attention: Mary Blinderman.

Your donation is tax deductible.

Biblical Jewish Holiday -Sukkot

Sukkot, commonly called the Feast of Tabernacles or in some translations the Festival of Shelter

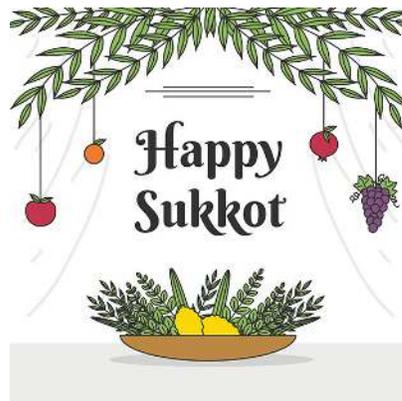
2020 date: Sunset, 2 Oct -- nightfall, 9 October

Observances: Dwelling in sukkah, taking the Four Species, hakafot and Hallel in Synagogue

Begins: 15th day of Tishrei

Ends: 21st day of Tishrei (22nd in the Diaspora, overlapping with Shemini Atzeret)

Significance: One of the three pilgrimage festivals



COMMUNITY NEWS

Fitness Opportunities during Covid-19

If you need to stretch and strengthen, try these classes:

Amarillo Botanical Gardens, 1400 Streit Drive, Amarillo Classes held Outside:

On Mon and Wed at 8:30 AM - Yoga in the gardens—not as strenuous as mat yoga but effective

On Mon at 5:45 PM. - Zumba

For more information, contact Mary Blinderman at marybli@outlook.com

Zoom fitness class – led by our own Sisterhood member, Kimmie Noland – contact Kimmie at selingerk@yahoo.com

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

General Fund

In Support of Temple B'nai Israel

Anonymous

Anonymous

Dorrie Carskadon

Kim and Larry Batchlear

In Memory of Daniel and Myrna Raffkind

Heidi van Zanten and family

In Memory of Max and Minnie Cohen

Cheryl Cohen

In Memory of my mother, Dorothy J. Shapiro

Neal Scott

In Memory of my mother, Margaret Dunivan

Karen Schroeder

In Support of the Sisterhood

Neal Scott

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/4 Allan Adelman

10/5 Dr. Michael Kohn

10/9 Jeff Yarvis

10/10 Joseph Kohn

10/11 Henrietta Kohn

10/11 Steven Kaplan

10/11 Nancy Seliger

10/13 Joan Altman

10/16 David Weir

10/24 Anna Rose Kaplan

10/26 Judy Reese

10/28 Jason Herring

10/28 Elisheva Hunnicutt

10/31 David Schneider

10/31 Lucy Schneider

Note:

If you would like to be included in the birthdays and anniversaries, please send an email to bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com Attn: Newsletter Editor

Meet Your New Member

We are pleased to welcome DeLana Honaker to our congregational family.



DeLana (Lana) Honaker PhD, OTR, CLT, FAOTA was born and raised in Amarillo, TX but has lived in the South and Northeast until a few years ago. She graduated with a B.S. (1994), M.A. (1999), Ph.D. (2001) in occupational therapy from Texas Woman's University. Lana is Board Certified in Pediatrics and a Certified Lymphedema Therapist and has worked as an occupational therapist for 26 years. She has also worked as a professor for several universities in Texas and Pennsylvania and she's authored or edited several textbooks and apps. In her personal time, she is an avid thriller and historical fiction reader, novice painter and layered glass artist, 3D print jewelry designer, and graphic designer, and enjoys traveling and quote collecting (yes, it's really a thing).

JEWISH TRIVIA



From Mesopotamia and Carthage to modernity, the open hand is a mighty symbol of protection against the evil eye.

Contributed by Harriette Tallert

REFUAH SHELEMAH

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

Joel Kaplan	Bruce Kriegel
Larry Katz	Mabel Knox
Kel Seliger	Carolyn Dowlen
Carrie Delaney (Yael bat Sarah Imani)	David Altman
DeLana Honaker	Henrietta Kohn
	Harriette Tallert

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

Book Maven

Contributed by Linda Goldstein

Here All Along, Finding Meaning, Spirituality and a Deeper Connection to Life in Judaism by Sarah Hurwitz

“At a time when all Jews are Jews by choice, we have to believe that Judaism is worth choosing.”

One of the first things I did after moving to Birmingham and having access to my computer, was check the websites of the synagogues here. I was fortunate to find that one was about to start a Zoom book group that I could join. Not only did I meet some very welcoming and intelligent people, I read and discussed a thought provoking and meaningful book.

The author, Sarah Hurwitz, served as a White House speechwriter, first for President Barack Obama and then as the chief speechwriter for First Lady Michelle Obama. She worked with Mrs. Obama on a number of widely acclaimed addresses, including her 2012 and 2016 Democratic National Convention speeches and Mrs. Obama's political speeches during the 2016 campaign cycle.

Hurwitz describes her journey from practicing her Judaism minimally to making Judaism a major part of her life. Her quest began after she visited several Jewish museums and Holocaust memorial sites. Those experiences led her to develop her own style of a “Jewishly committed life”. She became passionate about studying Jewish texts, history, and traditions. Her journey was a serious one, but it is expressed in a clear and understandable way. Her conversational style makes her book very readable and relatable.

Hurwitz includes an extensive bibliography with a variety of works that are readily available and would be helpful for anyone interested in starting or continuing to define his or her own committed Jewish life.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Role Model was Molly Goldberg

by Aviva Kempner



Years ago, when I was working on a documentary on sitcom television pioneer Gertrude Berg, aka Molly Goldberg, I attended a reception at the French ambassador's residence in Washington, DC. I spotted Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg by the desserts and

decided to make a bold casting move. (Note: Molly Goldberg was the matriarch of "The Goldbergs," a radio program turned early TV sitcom.)

I went up to Justice Ginsburg, whose opinions I so admired, and on a whim asked her if she had listened to "The Goldbergs" in her youth. She answered in the affirmative, and then I requested if she would be willing to be interviewed for "Yoo-Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg." Without missing a beat, she said enthusiastically yes.

We filmed her interview at the Supreme Court, for which she wore a beaded collar that she proudly explained had been given to her by women in South Africa.

Turns out that Gertrude Berg, who wrote, produced, and starred in "The Goldbergs" on radio and television, was clearly a role model for Justice Ginsburg in her youth.

She explained how in her Flatbush Brooklyn home her whole family listened to the show. "When I was growing up there were not many what we today call role models. There were very few women out there doing things because the prevailing view was that if a woman worked, that was a reflection on her husband, that he wasn't able to be the family breadwinner. But there were occasional people who didn't fit that mold and Gertrude Berg, was surely one of them."

Justice Ginsburg credits the Molly Goldberg character Berg created as being "no shrinking violet. She was an assertive woman, and for girls growing up at my time, Molly Goldberg had that quality. She cared about her children, she wanted them to have opportunities that she didn't have and that was the way of thinking in the Jewish community. Parents wanted their children to have opportunities that they didn't have themselves."

Ginsburg also delighted in telling the story of arguing a case before the Supreme Court where her last name converged with Molly. She recalled "as an advocate for the equal rights and responsibilities of men and women I recall vividly my second argument at the court. Justice Marshall, who could be a pretty tough questioner, looked at me and said, 'Now, Mrs. Goldberg...' I hesitated. Should I correct him? I said, well, it's a compliment in a way, that he picked Mrs. Goldberg as a Jewish woman who was, if I may use the expression, was a mensch."

Justice Ginsburg concluded, "When Justice Marshall called me Mrs. Goldberg, he probably had in mind that Mrs. Goldberg was the Jewish woman who came into homes all over America, whether Christian or Jewish, everyone knew and loved Molly Goldberg."

Her answer to the shoot's last question about how she was, like Molly, a role model today, clarified her philosophy in life. Justice Ginsburg observed "the similarities between me and Molly Goldberg is a little like a question I'm often asked, how are you like Justice Sandra Day O'Connor? And my answer is, well in appearance we're very different. She's tall and I'm small, Molly Goldberg was large and I'm on the petite side, but in our readiness to speak our minds on questions that we think are important, our refusal to be put down by others, our use of every put-down as an occasion not to become angry, not to become resentful, but to say, he's a person who doesn't understand, and I have an opportunity to educate that person. You can do that only by having a sense of humor, by remaining calm, and never reacting in anger."

Filming Justice Ginsburg at the Supreme Court was an extra bonus for me since I was a law school graduate. But after I had flunked the bar twice, after being deficient at answering multiple-choice questions. I turned to filmmaking.

The night after filming I emailed everyone I knew from law school telling them I had filmed Justice Ginsburg that day and fulfilled a dream of making it to the Supreme Court but "just doing it my way."

Aviva Kempner is a writer and documentary filmmaker whose features include 1998's award-winning "The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg," about the first Jewish baseball star in the major leagues; 2015's "Rosenwald," about Jewish-American philanthropist Julius Rosenwald; and "The Spy Behind Home Plate" about OSS spy and pro baseball catcher Moe Berg. She is now working on a film about screenwriter Ben Hecht.

Yahrzeits for October

October

Linda Saxe 10/1	*Kivah Axelrod 10/16	Norma Loewenstern 10/30
*Erwin Kohn 10/1	*Hansi Baruch 10/18	*Peter Unger 10/31
*Ben Abrahamson 10/2	Albert Plotnik 10/18	Michelle Kohn 10/31
Roy Miers 10/3	Ruth Schaer 10/18	Ann Viner
Israel Eli Berkman 10/4	Cindy Fletcher 10/20	Hilda Bloch
*Donald Goldberg 10/4	*Sam Anisman 10/19	Jose S. Garcia
*Lillian G. Schwartz 10/4	*Dr. David Geffen 10/21	Yitzak Cohen
Maxine Bakwin 10/5	Israel G. Adelman 10/21	Morris Tonkin
Elwyn Kroger 10/5	Rose Goldstein 10/22	Irving Weston
Pearl Wiseblood 10/7	*Datie Levy 10/24	Moshe Hormstein
Sam Stern 10/8	Henry W. Metz 10/24	Hyman Ruback
*Sarah Mogelson 10/8	Anna Berta Tankus 10/25	Lucille Leiberman
*Lube Herring 10/8	*Minnie Kessler 10/26	Gilford Welch
Alice J. Brown 10/9	Sue Simpson Stokes 10/26	Sol Feingold
*Joseph L. Myers 10/10	John Kramer 10/26	Judge Robert M. Carp
*Dora K. Altman 10/10	Lucy Wheeler 10/26	Ruth Savlov
*Rebecca Latman 10/10	Isaac Newman	Harry Cizon
*Nathan Solomon 10/11	*George Rudelson 10/27	Ida Abrahamson
*Sydney Ralph Gilbert 10/13	Sarah Thompson 10/27	
Steve E. Goodman 10/13	Esther Stein 10/27	
*Julia Melinger 10/13	Max Arnold 10/28	
*Sarah Bergman 10/14	*Savannah Bentley 10/28	
*Frank Fisherman (Tishre 26) October 14, 2020	Ernest Baruch (Heshvan 12) October 30, 2020	
*A.D. Guggenheim 10/15	*Zachary B. Weir 10/30	
	*Hattie G. Eberstadt 10/30	

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

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, Attn: Mary Blinderman. Thank you.