



September 2021

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!

Deja vu....that sums it up! Just as we thought the COVID beast was tamed, and we could finally open our windows and doors again....round #2. This has been a true test of strength and resilience. I have huge gratitude for our Temple Board and committee members, who have continued to serve, despite all the hurdles we have jumped over the past 18 months. Every board and committee member has met these challenges with creativity and utmost concern for the well-being of our Temple community, and I cannot give enough thanks to these amazing people who I am fortunate enough to call my friends. Toda raba!!!

Despite the odds, we are plowing forward with plans for High Holy Day services, in-person, commencing with Rabbi Michael Lotker leading Erev Rosh Hashanah on Monday, September 6 at 8 pm. We then continue with Rosh Hashanah day on September 7. We will have Shabbat, in-person, on September 10. Then we flow into Kol Nidre on September 15 and Yom Kippur Day on September 16, in-person and led by Rabbi Lotker.

I am excited to announce that we are nearing completion of implementing our live-streaming option for those members who cannot attend in-person!

Then we look forward to participating in Lucy and David Schneider's Bar and Bat Mitzvahs in October. Thank you to the Schneiders for hosting this wonderful event in our Temple and for sponsoring Rabbi Joshua Taub to officiate.

We are in the planning phase for our Community Thanksgiving celebration on Sunday November 14. We have on-going discussions with Rabbi Holly Cohn, from Dallas, to lead Shabbat services that weekend, as well as hosting our Thanksgiving celebration.

Student Rabbi Paige Lincenberg has committed to return April 15 and to lead our Temple Passover Seder.

We have formed a Fundraising committee. Please support this committee by participating in the fundraising projects this year. The money raised will contribute to additional rabbinical visits, and other fun events that exceed the annual budgetary allowances.

I have told the Board to PRAY FOR THE BEST WHILE PREPARING FOR THE WORST. Please be patient with your Temple leadership as we continue to navigate the dynamics of this pandemic. Stay well!

I look forward to seeing you soon!

With love and gratitude,

Candy



T E M P L E
B'NAI ISRAEL

COVID POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

We have a shared responsibility for the health and wellbeing of all who come to B'nai Israel for worship and study.

Until further notice, masks are required for entry to the building.

- * Everyone must remain masked.
- * Members and visitors (including maintenance staff and contractors) are required to wear a mask before entering the building.
- * Mask & hand sanitizing station is provided at the entry lobby. Additional hand sanitizing is provided in rest rooms. A Remote viewing room is provided if you are unable to remain masked during any congregation event (including worship or education/study).
- * Anyone who enters the building and is not able to comply with the above requirements, will have the option to participate in the remote viewing room or leave the building.



Adult Education Classes

The Temple adult education group will begin a new book, America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today by Pamela Nadell. We continue to meet via GoToMeeting on Sunday mornings, at 10:30 CDT. If you would like to join the class, let Bob know at bobbli@arn.net and he will send you a link.



Shabbat Services and High Holiday Services

Please check your email for service announcements and links to the services.

Sisterhood

Temple B'nai Israel Sisterhood extends you a warm welcome and invites you to join our community of women this year. Our 2021-22 membership campaign is underway, and we have 12 renewals. Thank you for your support. Our goal is 30 members this year. Note that you do not need to be a member of Temple B'nai Israel to join the Sisterhood. Even though we will not be meeting in person at the beginning of the year, we will continue our service to Temple B'nai Israel in whatever form the current pandemic allows. We wish everyone a Sweet and Healthy New Year.

Sisterhood Dues – 2021-2022

_____ 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.

For IRS tax purposes, the Sisterhood is a 501c (3) subdivision of Temple B'nai Israel.

Temple Contacts

Candy Alpar, President 341-8741
Janet Meller, Vice President 340-8425
Kim Hooker, Secretary 505-463-8402
Bob Blinderman, Treasurer 372-9401
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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to all our donors for your continued support! (as of August 25, 2021)

General Fund

In Support of Temple B'nai Israel

Anonymous

Anonymous

Dorrie Carskadon

In Memory of Dr. John Alpar

Stuart and Carolyn Dowlen

For equipment expenses for Remote Services and Meetings

Alex Rimmel Toombs

Larry Batchlear

For new paint for the shed

Neal Scott

High Holiday Donations

Fran McLean

Please consider donating to the Temple

It is a wonderful way to:

- Mark a simchah
- Honor someone's memory
- Wish someone a speedy recovery
- Express Gratitude

September Birthdays

9/7 Ian Marion Shields

9/7 Tere Ashley Baum

9/9 Carla Wilkenfeld

9/9 Michael Rappaport

9/14 Jacob Wollschlager

9/26 Aliyah Pena

9/29 Vivian Joan Weir

September Anniversaries:

9/27 Bob and Mary Blinderman

Note:

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



Temple Rummage Sale Planned for October

The Fund-Raising Committee announces a garage sale to be held at the Temple October 21 and October 22. Now is a good time to clean out your closets and storage sheds and donate these items to the sale. Drop off your donations the weekend of October 16. Check your email for times and further information. If you would like to help with the sale, please contact the Temple at 352-7191 or email at bnaisraelamarillo@gmail.com

A poster for an event titled 'Stamp Out Stigma'. The main title is in large, bold, white letters on a black background. Below the title, it says 'An event focusing on community connection & mental wellness'. The poster is divided into three sections: a red box for the 'Survivors of Suicide Loss Conference' at the Southwest Branch of Amarillo Public Library (8:30-10:30 am), a red box for an 'SOS walk around John Stiff Park (\$20 fee)' (11-12pm), and a red box for a 'Community Fair' with resources, activities, shopping, food trucks, and live music (12-3pm). To the right of these boxes is a red illustration of a hand holding a snake. At the bottom, it says 'SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH' and 'Hosted by the Texas Panhandle Suicide Prevention Coalition'. A QR code is in the bottom right corner.

Come see us at our booth at Stamp Out Stigma. Join our Temple community as we participate in this worthy cause. Details to follow. The Community Fair starts at noon. Our booth will feature hamsa decorating.



Karen Schroeder

New Feature “Getting To Know You”

To facilitate our re-connecting with each other, each month a Temple member will be featured. This month we feature Karen Schroeder who has been a member since 2002.

1. What are your first memories of the Temple?

I first came to the Temple at the invitation of my friend, Sue Cohen, who was a member then. Rabbi Martin Levy was visiting from Houston, and she thought I'd enjoy hearing him.

I remember stepping over the threshold and having an instant feeling of peace. It was unlike any feeling I ever had in any of the houses of worship I'd ever been in (and I've been to the Vatican!). I was greeted very warmly by Louise Adelman and welcomed in. I didn't feel like a stranger. I felt like I belonged there.

Because the whole experience was new to me, I was visually taking in everything I saw, including the Rabbi! And he was completely NOT what I thought rabbis looked like! Rabbi Levy is tall, sandy haired and with freckles, as I remember. Beyond that, he had the most unusual aura of serenity that emanated from him.

I don't remember what he talked about that Sunday morning, but I was completely smitten and have rarely missed another Sunday at adult education for 25 years, now!

2. What is the main thing you like about the Temple?

The genuine welcoming of its members even though I'm not Jewish by birth, and have not gone through conversion. I've always felt like one of the gang (if not of the “tribe”). Then, a funny twist – I had my DNA tested by Ancestry and found out that genetically I'm 50% Ashkenazi! Thinking that there might be a mistake somewhere, I got another test through 23 and Me. Same result! Oy vay! I really am Jewish!

I also like the whole concept of openness of thought. Having my own opinion about anything, including God and religion, is absolutely allowed. I love that freedom.

3. What is a Yiddish word that has special meaning for you?

That's easy. I love the word “pupic” which means belly button! I got this from my friend, Fritzi Berk, may her memory be for blessing. I like words and some sound funny to me.

Pupic is one of those words! When I'd call Fritzie, I'd ask, “How's your pupic?” and we'd both laugh! So, how's yours?

4. What's your favorite Jewish themed movie?

Yentl! Hands down. I love the story, the star (Barbra Streisand), the music, the cinematography, and the character of the title. I love spunky, driven women!

Would you like to share your voice? For more information, contact Mary Blinderman at bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com to answer a few questions, and we will get to know you better.

Jackie Mason, the last of the Borscht Belt comedians, dies at 93



Jackie Mason in his prime Getty Images

Jackie Mason, the last of the Borscht Belt comedians, died last month in New York, at 93. Renowned for his trademark rasping New York accent and his penchant for saying the unsayable, Mason's comedy sprang, he always said, from his first career — as Rabbi Yacov Moshe Maza, following in the footsteps of his great-grandfather, grandfather, father and three older brothers.

But Mason, who held an Orthodox rabbinical semicha and, indeed, was rabbi to several American congregations, was unhappy and restless in that position. As he said himself, his sermons became more and more full of jokes and less related to Jewish theology.

Eventually, three years after his father died, Mason jumped ship and tried to make it on his own as a comedian, writing his own material and doing whatever jobs he could. It was the early 1960s and Mason's brand of observational material — often pointing out the comedic differences between Jews and gentiles, and exaggerated for effect — had a mixed response. Some audiences loved it; elsewhere he was fired by managements who did not understand the material.

Mason got his break into television and became one of the highest earners on the entertainment circuit. And in the 1980s a series of one-man shows, "Jackie Mason's The World According to Me" earned him a Tony and an Emmy award.

In one of his best-known segments from his Broadway shows, Mason attempted to demonstrate the difference between Jews and non-Jews. He would tell his audience: "The truth is that in this country, Jews don't fight, they don't. They almost fight, they almost fight. Every Jew I know almost killed somebody. They'll always tell you, 'If he said one more word!' — [pronounced "woid"] — "he would have been dead today. I was ready. I was waiting. One more word! What's that word? Nobody knows."

Mason was also the voice of The Simpsons' Rabbi Hyman Krustofsky.

Famous quotes by Jackie Mason:

"My grandfather always said, Don't watch your money, watch your health. So one day while I was watching my health, someone stole my money. It was my grandfather."

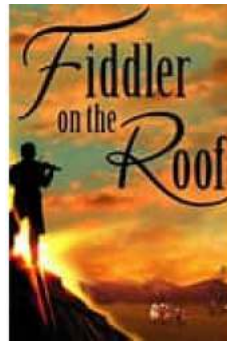
"It's no longer a question of staying healthy. It's a question of finding a sickness you like."

"I have enough money to last me the rest of my life, unless I buy something."

"I was so self-conscious, every time football players went into a huddle, I thought they were talking about me."

From the Jewish Chronicle

FIDLER FILM at 50 – MAZEL TOV!



This year marks the 50th anniversary of the film version of *Fiddler on the Roof*, based on the stories of Sholom Aleichem. *Fiddler on the Roof* may take place in a Russian shtetl, but the show is an American classic.

The story of Tevye the dairyman trying to cling to tradition in the face of headstrong daughters, anti-Semitism and the inevitability of the future has been delighting theatre-goers for generations.

What are your memories of this film and its soundtrack?

REFUAH SHELEMAH

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

Joan Altman	Bruce Kriegel
Andrew Alpar	Mabel Knox
Alan Alpar	David Altman
Mike Hibbs	Neal Scott
Joel Kaplan	Stuart Dowlen
Larry Katz	Rev. Nell Newton
Carrie Delaney (Yael bat Avraham Avinu)	

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

Yahrzeits for September

Sedwin Schachter 9/2

Anna Cohen 9/4

Melvin Block 9/4

Rosemary Kumpan 9/4

Sam Aleskin 9/5

Oliver Schaer 9/5

*Herman Axelrod 9/5

*Dora Blinderman 9/5

*Rae Willer Braunig 9/5

*George Pomeroy 9/6

Marie Bach 9/6

*Baruch Pelz 9/8

*Hyman Fair 9/8

Philip Ellis 9/9

*Saul Shapiro 9/11

*Henry Lieberman 9/12

Ida Rabinowitz 9/13

Charles Blank 9/15

Madge Caplis 9/15

*Ester Goldberg 9/17

Louis Steinberg 9/17

*Morris Bagelman 9/18

Kane O'Laughlin 9/20

*Louise Sepkowitz 9/20

*Zelda Duman 9/21

*Dorothy Jean Groner 9/21

*Charles Shapiro 9/23

*David Hickman 9/25

*Jeanette Solomon 9/25

Anne Novick 9/25

*Ettya Bella Silverman 9/27

Kenneth F. Neeser 9/27

*Denby Batchlear 9/27

Irving Feinblatt 9/28

*Dr. Ralph Citron 9/29

Elenor Kamen 9/29

Moses Block

Alfred Lampert

Frieda Ruback

Rudolph Israel

Jennie Raub

Sadie Schiff

Samuel Moskowitz

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.