



The Shofar

April, 2018 Congregation House of Israel 16 Nisan - 15 Iyar, 5778

In keeping with our CHI tradition of "give us a holiday and we will have a party with food and fun," on February 25 we had our **CHI Purim Party**. Millie Baron brought balloons and party decorations to brighten up Burgauer Hall. There was face painting by Cheryl Cohen on behalf of Village Nutrition. The Megillah reading was a group effort with the Rabbi starting us off on the story of Purim. The rest of the readers included Ira Kleinman, Ross Sedler, Patti Fleischner (who added a female voice to the story) and Glenda Kirsch (who added southern accent to the female voice). Needless to say the crowd enjoyed the whole Megillah. The grogger/graggers (both spellings appear on Amazon) accompaniment to the reading of the Megillah were enthusiastic and used correctly at the mention of Hamen's name with some boo's thrown in for good measure. Following this joyous segment of the party we moved on to the food. Thanks to the Reaglers who cooked our hamburgers and hot dogs over coals on the grill they brought on a trailer from home. I think I can speak for everyone when I say that both were enjoyed by the group as they were all eaten. Millie brought coleslaw and there was salad and chips to round out our meal. The grand finale was hamentashen made that morning by the Religious School in the pizza ovens at Big J's Pizza, with an assist from Millie of Ambrosia Bakery.



Betty Kleinman



Cheryl Cohen



Sue Koppel, Mary Klompus



Ross Sedler



Millie Baron

We would like to thank all our sponsors who helped to make this party possible:

- Village Nutrition 4656 N. Hwy 7 Suite F, Hot Springs
- Village 4656 N. Hwy 7 Suite F, Hot Springs
- Big J's Pizza Shack, 2550 Airport Road Suite M, Hot Springs
- Ambrosia Bakery 307 Broadway, Hot Springs
- Temperance Hill Security Storage, Hot Springs
- Arkansas Records Management 156 Stange Dr.
- Baim Reagler & Naramore Eastate Planning Attorneys 307 B Carpenter Dam, Hot Springs
- Falk Plumbing Supplies 223 3rd Street, Hot Springs
- Lauray's, 402 Central Ave, Hot Springs
- CHI Sisterhood for sponsoring the food



Patti and Mark Fleischner

And finally we would like most of all to thank James and Marie Woodfork for cleaning up all the mess the party goers left behind.

If anyone who helped was left off, the writer of this article sincerely apologizes and thanks you for helping.

Thank You

We would like to thank the following donors for their contributions (as of February 20, 2018)

General Fund

Sherrill Nicolosi, and children Ian and Sally
In beloved memory of Sally Friedlander Boley

Carol And Shelly Kleinman
In beloved memory of Carol's father, Max Prushansky

Sisterhood Fund

Jerry Rephan
In beloved memory of his father, Bernard Rephan

The Shofar

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WASHINGTON – In response to the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, which left at least 17 people

dead and many more injured, Reform Jewish leaders issued the following statements:

Rabbi Rick Jacobs, President of the Union for Reform Judaism:

“How do people of faith respond when the unthinkable happens again? When what should be unimaginable no longer is? What is our response to the question of how a good God could let this happen to anyone? To some of our very dearest. To young people and their families. No one can speak for the Holy One but I find it impossible to hold God responsible for this callous slaughter. “Rather, I can imagine the Holy One sobbing along with us, distraught over the senseless bloodshed we’ve collectively allowed to happen. Human care for one another, perhaps Divinely inspired, is what is desperately needed right now.

“What’s also needed is action. While every person of conscience must be shocked and outraged by the frequency of these horrific mass shootings, no person of intelligence can be surprised.

“There was no reason to expect this shooting at this time and in this place, but there was every reason to believe that violence like this would be unleashed again. And again and again until we take meaningful action.”

Zachary Herrmann, President of NFTY – the Reform Jewish Youth Movement

“Yesterday’s shooting in Florida has caused shockwaves throughout our Movement. We have always turned to help those in need in the wake of such horrific events, but now we find ourselves needing to support our own community.

“Many of the teens affected by the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School were known closely by our participants and alumni. Our hearts go out to each and every person who is grieving today. We are angry and devastated that we have to mourn our peers, who went to school yesterday on an ordinary day, like many NFTY teens, but didn’t come home.

“Gun violence prevention is a long-standing priority of the Reform Jewish Youth Movement, and in light of this tragic event, we call on not only our Jewish peers but all teens to strengthen their commitment to this effort.”

Davar - A matter for discussion



Pesach, our great Spring holiday, comes once again. And once again we are reminded of the great themes of our religion: remembering our Exodus from Egypt and freedom from the house of bondage. Remembrance is our Jewish vocation. That usually is associated with saying Kaddish

at the end of our prayer services, but it applies to every aspect of religious observance. Remember where you came from; remember where you are; remember where you are going. Hopefully, all our remembrances lead us in positive directions. Yet some remain painful, and sadly, unresolved.

Passover is a wonderful antidote to our personal woes. We are reminded that there was and is a Jewish mission in life that supersedes our own needs. That we gain strength via communal remembrance, and that strength can serve us both in good and difficult times. I always enjoy the Seder service and enjoy my congregants' participation in these ancient rites as well.

Let's pray for all peoples who find themselves oppressed in these days and in these times. May we continue to provide a helping hand to those who have lost their way in the world.

MOADIM L'SIMCHA

CHAGIM UZMANIM L'SASSON

May this be for you and all your loved ones a Season of Joy and a Festival of Gladness.

Affectionately,

Jeanne and Richard Chapin

Sisterhood



The women of Sisterhood have been planning a fun Girl's Night Out for our April meeting. It will be an evening event with dinner and LCR on Monday, April 9th at 6:00. But at our last meeting we decided to become more politically correct and to invite men to join in on the fun too.

Actually, we decided that we could invite any guest we wanted to, male or female. And if you don't get an official invitation from another member of Sisterhood, you may also just simply request a dinner reservation and you may come too! Dinner will be \$8 and you need to bring TEN one dollar bills to play LCR. If you have never played before, you can learn the game in a guaranteed 14 seconds and could possibly win lots of money! And though we cannot guarantee that you will win, we can guarantee that you will have a lot of fun!

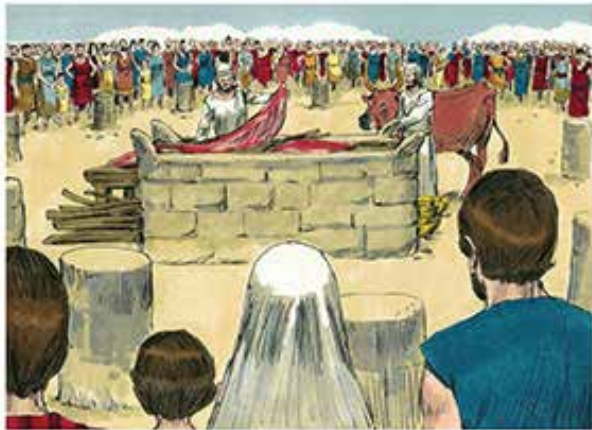
So please plan to join us on Monday, April 9th at 6:00.

Please make your dinner reservations to Millie at Millie487@hotmail.com



Oops I Did It Again ...

By Rabbi Josh Weinberg



We all make mistakes. To err is a natural part of life, and as a result we must ask not whether we will make mistakes, sin or transgress, but how we shall react when we do. This question is even more poignant when it comes to our leaders. They are human and err as well, but their position in society makes it imperative that they recognize their mistakes and take greater measures to repent and correct their path.

We see this need for self-reflective and responsible leadership in this week's parsha. VaYikra explains which sacrifices must be brought to atone for different sins and missteps. The language is carefully crafted as instructions for when someone makes a mistake, not if one transgresses. This same recognition of human fallibility applies also to the Nassi, the chieftain, the leader, or the President in modern Hebrew:

“In case it is a chieftain who incurs guilt by doing unwittingly any of the things which by the commandment of the LORD his God ought not to be done, and he realizes his guilt—or the sin of which he is guilty is brought to his knowledge—he shall bring as his offering a male goat without blemish (VaYikra 4:22-23).”

Although the text demonstrates a deep

understanding of human nature by recognizing the universality of error and transgression, it goes one step too far by assuming a leader will realize his or her guilt. Leaders around the world today seem unwilling to take this courageous step, to say *Al Chet, mea culpa*, I have done something wrong.

Today in Israel we see one such obstinate leader in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who refuses to go through any process of penance or admit any guilt. What would our text say about his constant refrain of – “There won't be anything because there isn't anything,” in reference to the myriad of cases against him? The police investigations and recommended indictment have certainly brought the sin to his knowledge. In the past we have seen leaders rise and fall over lesser charges. PM Yitzhak Rabin resigned in 1977 after it was discovered that his wife Leah maintained an American bank account after his service as Ambassador to the U.S. (which had a balance of about \$10,000, but which was against the law nonetheless). And now former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert is in jail for corruption charges.

Despite the multiple and continual charges of corruption against Israeli politicians, Israel was recently ranked the 11th happiest country in the world in the 2018 Happiness Report. What accounts for this brightness, this optimism, this joy? I suggest we find an explanation in Rashi's commentary on the opening word of the above verse:

“The word *asher* is connected in meaning with ‘happy.’ Happy is the generation whose prince (king) takes care to bring an atonement sacrifice even for an inadvertent act of his; how much the more certain is it that he will do penance for his willful sins.”

No, Israel's leaders are not perfect, but it is a democratic state with a strong legal system. Whether its leaders do penance for their sins willingly or with pressure from the police and the courts, Israel has a history of handling these difficult situations. Though it faces constant threats, Israel's democracy is robust and even successful.

For that we can be happy.

Josh

Rabbi Josh Weinberg is the President of ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America. He was ordained from the HUC-JIR Israeli Rabbinic Program in Jerusalem, and currently lives in New York.

CHI Cleanup

Sunday, March 11, Mary Klompus, Cynthia Rephan, Jerry Rephan, Sharon and Michael Waxler met, armed with gloves, rakes, clippers and sheer determination, and spent 2 hours cleaning the grounds of Congregation House of Israel.

Many curious items were discovered: sleeping bags, blankets, beer cans, and lattice. Thank you to Mary for encouraging people to come out and clean the area that greets members and guests and thanks to the volunteers who spent the morning, and even their birthday (Michael), to help make our temple a prettier place!

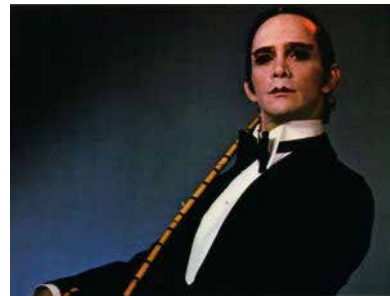


Photo: (L-R) Mary, Sharon, Mike, Cynthia, Jerry



Joel Grey Will Direct the First Yiddish Production of 'Fiddler On the Roof'

By Jenny Singer



As the brilliant Shalom Aleichem wrote in "Tevye The Dairyman," the book of stories upon which the musical "Fiddler On The Roof" is based, "You see how it is, my dear friends. There's no pleasing

everyone. It's hopeless to even try, and the more you play the peacemaker, the less peaceful things become."

But is it possible that the announcement that legendary "Cabaret" actor Joel Grey will direct the first Yiddish-language production of "Fiddler On The Roof" in the United States really will please everyone?

The New York City-based company National Yiddish Theatre Folkesbiene will produce the watershed production this summer at the theater at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Manhattan. The Yiddish translation of the musical's libretto was done by Israeli performer Shraga Friedman and first performed in Israel in 1965, one year after the premiere of the original Broadway production.

Grey, a longtime Broadway luminary best known for his role as Emcee in the "Cabaret" movie and first Broadway production, told Forbes that the original "Fiddler" producer, Hal Prince asked him to either direct or star in the Yiddish production. Prince, a Jewish producer who has been one of the most profound arbiters of theater creation in Broadway history (you can thank him for a few small shows like "West Side Story," "Cabaret," "Phantom of the Opera," "Sweeney Todd," that sort of thing,) told Grey the choice was his. "I said I once wanted to play Tevye, but the experience never came to pass, there

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Thank you to the following
for sponsoring an Oneg
during the month of April:

- Apr 6 Louis and Betty Kleinman
 Cynthia Rephan
- Apr 13 Stuart and Kay Fleischner
 Jerry and Fran Rephan
- Apr 20 Jerry and Jodi Chalmers
 Lynda Kass
- Apr 27 David and Karen Reagler
 Betty Forshberg

Reminder: If you are scheduled for an upcoming Oneg and need to change dates, please find someone to switch with and then let Ruth Sedler know so the information printed in the bulletin will be correct.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

April Anniversaries

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Lou and Susan Siegel | Apr 1 |
| Michael and Sharon Waxler | Apr 27 |

April Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Barbara Morgan | Apr 4 |
| Larry Levi | Apr 7 |
| Maya Grenman | Apr 9 |
| Annette Baim | Apr 14 |
| Brian Waxler | Apr 14 |
| Rachel Gordon | Apr 16 |
| Stuart Fleischner | Apr 22 |
| Betty Kleinman | Apr 23 |
| Jennifer Grenman | Apr 26 |
| Gary Lax | Apr 29 |
| Cheryl Cohen | Apr 30 |

April Yahrzeits

Kaddish Recited April 6

Roslyn Kirsch

Mother of David Kirsch

Eva Brown

Mother of Betty Forshberg

Max Prushansky

Father of Carol Kleinman

Bertha K. Marcus

Mother of Imy Marcus

Kaddish Recited April 13

Nettie Gladner

Mother of Neal Gladner

Luman Sheets

Father of Mary Klompus

Craney Bellin

Mother of Ruth Sedler

Lonnie Pederson

Nephew of Cheryl Cohen

Kaddish Recited on April 20

Bernard Rephan

Father of Jerry Rephan

Sam Savel

Grandfather of David Cohen

Hannah Fogel Taub

Grandmother of Betty Feir

Kaddish Recited April 27

Irma Chalmers

Mother of Jerry Chalmers



Refuah Shelemah

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

- Louis Kleinman
- Ken Baim
- Imy Marcus
- Robert Burns
- Susan Brown
- Jean Gershner

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

If you are aware of anyone needing spiritual or any sort of assistance, please let Barbara Morgan know. Our Caring Committee is here to help all of our members in any way we possibly can.

Joel Grey Will Direct Yiddish Production of Fiddler

Continued from page 5

was never time, and I would love to direct it,” Grey recalled.

Grey, who is 86 and continues to star in roles on stage and screen, has Yiddish in his blood. His father, Mickey Katz, was a Vaudeville star who created a series called The Borscht Capades and was known for his Yiddish parodies. The chance to share a Yiddish performance of “Fiddler On The Roof” is thrilling to Grey. “It will be,” he told Forbes, “like the Sholem Aleichem stories are going home.”

Jenny Singer is a writer for the Forward. You can reach her at Singer@forward.com or on Twitter @ [jeanvaljenny](https://twitter.com/jeanvaljenny)

Weekly Parshah

April

Shemini

April 14, 2018

Aaron and his sons begin to officiate as Kohanim (priests); a fire issues forth from G-d to consume the offerings on the Altar and the Divine Presence comes to dwell in the Sanctuary.

Aaron's two elder sons, Nadav and Avihu, offer a "strange fire before G-d, which He commanded them not" and die before G-d. Aaron is silent in face of his tragedy.

G-d commands the kosher laws, identifying the animal species permissible and forbidden for consumption.

Tazria/M'tzora

April 21, 2018

The Parshahs of Tazria and Metzora continue the discussion of the laws of tumah v'taharah, ritual impurity and purity.

Tzaraat (often mistranslated as "leprosy") is a supra-natural plague, which can afflict people as well as garments or homes. If white or pink patches appear on a person's skin (dark pink or dark green in garments or homes), a kohen is summoned. Judging by various signs, such as an increase in size of the afflicted area after a seven-day quarantine, the kohen pronounces it tamei (impure) or tahor (pure).

A person afflicted with tzaraat must dwell alone outside of the camp (or city) until he is healed. The afflicted area in a garment or home must be removed; if the tzaraat recurs, the entire garment or home must be destroyed.

When the metzora ("leper") heals, he or she is purified by the kohen with a special procedure involving two birds, spring water in an earthen vessel, a

piece of cedar wood, a scarlet thread and a bundle of hyssop.

Acharaei Mot/K'doshim

April 28, 2018

Following the deaths of Nadav and Avihu, G-d warns against unauthorized entry "into the holy." Only one person, the kohen gadol ("high priest"), may, but once a year, on Yom Kippur, enter the innermost chamber in the Sanctuary to offer the sacred ketoret to G-d..

The Parshah of Kedoshim begins with the statement: "You shall be holy, for I, the L-rd your G-d, am holy." This is followed by dozens of mitzvot (divine commandments) through which the Jew sanctifies himself or herself and relates to the holiness of G-d.

Emor

May 5, 2018

The second part of Emor lists the annual Callings of Holiness—the festivals of the Jewish calendar: the weekly Shabbat; the bringing of the Passover offering on 14 Nissan; the seven-day Passover festival beginning on 15 Nissan; the bringing of the Omer offering from the first barley harvest on the second day of Passover, and the commencement, on that day, of the 49-day Counting of the Omer, culminating in the festival of Shavuot on the fiftieth day; a "remembrance

of shofar blowing" on 1 Tishrei; a solemn fast day on 10 Tishrei; the Sukkot festival—during which we are to dwell in huts for seven days and take the "Four Kinds"—beginning on 15 Tishrei; and the immediately following holiday of the "eighth day" of Sukkot (Shemini Atzeret).

Next the Torah discusses the lighting of the menorah in the Temple, and the showbread (lechem hapanim) placed weekly on the table there.



To read more complete descriptions of the weekly parsha, visit the CHI Website at http://hschi.org/Parsha_lp.html