



THE SCRIBE

Monthly Newsletter of Temple B'nai Abraham
Now Celebrating its 127th Year
Affiliated with the United Synagogue
Of Conservative Judaism

127 EAST MAIN STREET

MERIDEN, CT 06450

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September, 2016

Av - Elul 5776

From Rabbi Michael G. Kohn

Elul

We begin the Month of Elul, the last month before Rosh HaShannah, on September 4. Sometime after the destruction of the Second Temple, Elul was designated as the time to prepare for the High Holy Days. Jewish tradition symbolically refers to the name of the month, as Elul is an acronym for the words in a verse from the Song of Songs: *Ani l'dodi v'dodi li* — “I am my beloved’s and my beloved is mine,” describing the relationship between God and Israel. In Aramaic, the word “Elul” means “search”. It is during Elul when we begin to search our hearts in earnest before the *Yamim Norai'im* — the “Days of Awe”, as the High Holidays also are known. As the Maharal of Prague said, “All the month of Elul, before eating and sleeping, a person should look into his soul and search his deeds, that he may make confession.” This soul seeking is called *heshbon ha'nefesh* in Hebrew. Every day during Elul, except the first (Rosh Hodesh), the last, and Shabbat, we blow the Shofar as a wake-up call to sleepers, designed to rouse us from our complacency to remind us that the time for repentance during the past year is coming to an end. And when words fail us, think of the sound of the Shofar. It reminds us that significant meaning can be conveyed without the use of words.

S'lihot

As the month of Elul draws to a close, the mood of repentance becomes more urgent. Prayers for forgiveness called s'lihot are recited in the early morning, before normal daily shaharit service. These prayers are recited for at least three days before Rosh Hashanah until Yom Kippur. A fundamental part of the s'lihot service is the repeated recitation of the “Thirteen Attributes,” a list of God’s thirteen attributes of mercy that were revealed to Moses after the sin of the golden calf. The first s'lihot service is usually held around midnight on *Motza'ei* Shabbat — right after Shabbat ends (after nightfall on Saturday night). This year it will be held on September 24, 2016, at 8:30 p.m. This year, our S'lihot observance, as last year, will begin with two short cartoons related to the themes of the season, each to be followed by discussion. Following a refreshment break, we will hold our S'lihot service.

The annual cemetery service, another custom of the month of Elul — visiting the graves of our ancestors — will be held the following morning, Sunday, September 25, at 11:00 a.m. Following our custom, the Tashlikh ceremony will be held on Sunday, October 9, at Hubbard Park.

5777

As the year 5776 draws to a close, I am reminded of the challenges facing our world. Here at home, the increased hate and violence against people of color and other cultural and religious minorities, as well as those sworn to protect us. Both here at home and in Europe, we see the growing tide of antisemitic words and violence. In Israel, as in other places around the world, the risk of terror. And not the least, the constant battles among Jews, both here and in Israel, over Israel and who is a Jew. We cannot wait for someone else to fix these challenges. We each must do our part — with our money, our vocal support and our vote.

May this upcoming year, 5777, be one of health, happiness, love and peace for us, for our families, for our community, our country, for Israel, and for the world.

B'Shalom,
Rabbi Michael G. Kohn



CALENDAR EVENTS

September 2016

1 Thursday

8:00 am Morning Minyan

7:30 pm Auxiliary Committee Meeting

2 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

3 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

8 Thursday

8:00 am Morning Minyan

9 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

10 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

11 Sunday

9:30 am Jewry Duty begins

15 Thursday

8:00 am Morning Minyan

7:30 pm Ritual Committee Meeting

16 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

17 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

18 Sunday

9:30 am Jewry Duty

22 Thursday

8:00 am Morning Minyan

7:30 pm Board of Directors' Meeting

23 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

24 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

8:30 pm Leil S'lihot

25 Sunday

9:30 am Jewry Duty

11:00 am Cemetery Memorial Service

1:00 pm Auxiliary Hayride

29 Thursday

8:00 am Morning Minyan

30 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

**Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner
Sunday, October 2nd**

Be sure to check out the flier enclosed.

From the President's Corner:

I hope everyone has had a happy and enjoyable summer so far. The High Holy Days are quickly coming up, so let me take this opportunity to wish you a Shanah Tovah – a happy, healthy, and fulfilling new year. Let me also take this opportunity to apologize to everyone I have slighted, angered, insulted, or annoyed in the past year. I know there are many of you. Believe me when I say that none of it was intentional.

If you get a call from one of the organizers of the High Holy Day services offering you an honor, asking that you do a reading, or requesting your participation in some other way, please say yes. The services are big, and there are not as many of us as there used to be. It is truly a mitzvah to help out in any way you choose. If you wish to volunteer, please call the synagogue office or talk to Fred Zierler.

I will probably say this next item in every President's column. The synagogue needs your help. Come volunteer to serve on a committee, participate in the Auxiliary, and attend services on Shabbat, Friday evening, Thursday morning, and/or Sunday morning. These services are often minyan-challenged, and even a few new participants can make a world of difference.

Shalom – Bob

רפואה שלימה

Wishing a Speedy & Complete Recovery to:
Mark Burwick

With regret we inform you of the passing of:

Evelyn Mautner
Mother of Jo Robin Gould

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבילי ציון וירושלים.

May the Lord comfort and sustain
all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Thank you to Howard and Helene Koenig for donating a new United States flag for the Social Hall. They noticed that the previous flag was very dirty and had only 48 stars. The old flag will be used by the Boy Scouts of America to learn the correct way to fold the flag and then there will be a ceremony for disposing of it.

Thank you to all of the Temple members who helped James prepare for his Bar Mitzvah. Also thank you to those who worked so hard to make his kiddush/luncheon so beautiful. James and I were truly moved by all of the work that was done to make his day so special.

Orit Avizov

Thank you to everyone who donated something to my Bar Mitzvah project. The project was to collect items for the Meriden Humane Society. I brought many bags of food, treats, food dishes, toys, blankets and towels over there. The people at the Humane Society appreciated all of the donations. Thank you for making my project a success.

James Kendzierski

Selichot Services

prelude to the High Holidays

Saturday, September 24th

8:30 PM

with a film, refreshments and services

**Please RSVP to the Temple office by
Wednesday, September 21st.**

Cemetery Memorial Service

Sunday, September 25th

11:00 AM

**At the Corrigan Avenue
Cemetery**

**Please notify any interested
family members.**

Heads Up for October

Schedule of Holiday Services

Mark your calendar

Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, Oct. 2	Dinner	6:30 PM
	Services	7:30 PM
Monday, Oct. 3		8:30 AM
Tuesday, Oct. 4		8:30 AM
Sunday, Oct. 9		12:00 Noon
	Tashlich at Hubbard Park	

Kol Nidre

Tuesday, Oct. 11		6:00 PM
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Yom Kippur

Wednesday, Oct. 12		8:30 AM
	Minhah Services	4:30 PM
	Ne'ilah Services	5:30 PM
	Shofar Sounds	6:55 PM

Sukkot

Sunday, Oct. 16		10:15 AM
	Build Temple Sukkah	
Monday, Oct. 17		9:30 AM
Tuesday, Oct. 18		9:30 AM
Monday, October 24		9:30 AM
	Shemini Atzeret with Yizkor	
	Simhat Torah	7:00 PM
Tuesday, October 25		9:30 AM
	Simhat Torah	
Sunday, October 30		10:15 AM
	Take down Temple Sukkah	



TASHLICH IN THE PARK

Tashlich is a remarkable ceremony which this year will be held on **Sunday, October 9th**, at **12:00 Noon** in Hubbard Park near the duck pond. Children and their parents are expected to go to the park when school is dismissed. Hubbard Park is located on West Main Street.

Through the ritual of Tashlich, we express not only our desire to be free from future sin, but our continuing hope that we will be forgiven for past misdeeds. It is customary to go to a flowing body of water and recite prayers while “casting” our sins (represented by pieces of bread) into the water.

So please join us for this meaningful ceremony at the **Hubbard Park Duck Pond on Oct. 9th. THIS IS OPEN TO EVERYONE.**

Don't forget to bring bread (any type of bread or crackers). Leftover challah from your Rosh Hashanah dinners is perfect.

Additional Important High Holiday Notes:

1. Silent Meditation – Cantor Gruenwald chants the beginning of the *Musaf Amidah* on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur; we will pause for a few moments of silent reflection and prayer before the *Unetaneh Tokef* prayer.
2. Gratitude for Recovery – Anyone who has undergone surgery, had a serious illness or an accident is invited to participate in the reciting of the *Gomel* blessing on 1st Day of Rosh Hashanah. Please contact the Temple office and we will send you a copy beforehand.
3. Ne'ilah Meditation – During the Ne'ilah service on Oct. 12th, we will once again offer individuals or families time to meditate and pray before the open ark.



Time to order your Lulav and Etrog for Sukkot

**All orders (with payment) must
be in to the Temple office by
Friday, Sept. 23rd.
The cost is only \$35 per set.**

Bring your lulav and etrog to the Sukkot services Monday, Oct. 17th and Tuesday, Oct. 18th and then use it at home the rest of the week. You can also bring it to Thursday Morning Minyan.

Can you spare an hour on **Sunday, Oct. 16th**, to help construct the Temple Sukkah? We will begin construction at 10:15. The help of 4 or 5 people will make the job go much faster. We will also need several helpers on **Sunday, Oct. 30th** (10:15 AM) to take down and put away the Sukkah. Please call the Temple office and let Linda know that you are willing to help.



מזל טוב Mazal Tov

Happy Anniversary to our couples celebrating an anniversary during the month of September:

- 1st - Marty & Jon Ernstoff
- 1st - Ruth & Sherwin Borsuk
- 2nd - Nancy Turover & Tom Klee
- 6th - Debbie & David Kaye (35th)
- 9th - Susan Croog & Ken Steele
- 10th - Estelle & Harvey Limon (66th)
- 10th - Janet & Frank Tonkonow (66th)
- 17th - Jean & Jim Lawrence

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating a birthday during the month of September:

- 1st - Judith Sochin
- 1st - Michael Ash
- 7th - Julie Liseo
- 11th - Howard Koenig
- 11th - Etoile Shemkovitz
- 17th - Larry Lew
- 21st - Natalie Langner
- 21st - Yakov Filler
- 26th - Anita Hillman
- 27th - Lenny Cheerman
- 27th - Debby Coopersmith
- 28th - Michael Filler

Happy Birthday to our next generation:

- 12th - Dallas DeFrancesco
- 26th - Samuel Filler
- 30th - Travis Adams (3rd)

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Plan Early!

Traditional Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner

By popular demand, we are holding another "family" dinner.

**Sunday, October 2nd — 6:30 PM
immediately following (7:30 PM) will be
the Erev Rosh Hashanah services**

**All reservations must be in to the Temple office by Friday,
September 23rd. No late reservations will be accepted.**

_____ adults at \$ 20.00 (max. payment \$50)

_____ children at \$10 (ages 5–12)

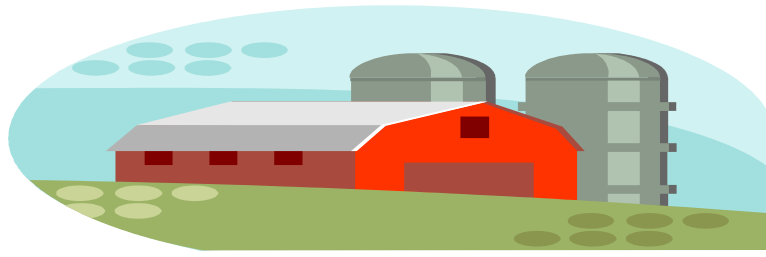
_____ children 4 and under (free)

\$ _____ Total enclosed

Name _____

Phone # _____

The Temple Auxiliary and the Meriden Federation will
be supplementing the cost of the meal,
and we thank them for their generosity.



**Temple B'nai Abraham's
Auxiliary Hayride
Sunday September 25, 2016**

1:00 pm

Norton's Fruit Farm
450 Academy Rd. Cheshire

\$9.00 Auxiliary Members and
Religious School families
\$11.00 Non-Members



Fee includes a half hour hay ride; bag your own apples; small pumpkin; donut holes and apple cider.

RSVP to Susan Massicott 203-630-1947 or the Temple office (203-235-2581) by September 19th to save your spot.

Yahrzeits Observed in the Month of September

Sept. 1	Joseph Hozer Jacob Rubin Max Cherniack Abraham Fish		Moses Troy Anita Cooper	Sept. 21	Lillian Stein Sol Ziskis Belle Katt Garry York
Sept. 2	Louis Henken	Sept. 11	Charles Tennenberg Winifred Gredinger		Jerome Beloff
Sept. 3	Herman Levine Dorothy Paterson Toby Messinger Morton Greenblatt	Sept. 12	Elsie Berson Israel Zempsky	Sept. 23	Leah Edelson Anna Dobbins
Sept. 4	Freda Frank	Sept. 13	Marilyn Brodsky Paul Krochmal	Sept. 24	Ethel Cooperstein Edith Letendre Henry Krochmal Gertrude Hasburg Bernard Sigmond Rachel Goldner
Sept. 5	Leo Zimmerman	Sept. 14	Celia Woien Alvin DuBrow	Sept. 25	Irving Rosenthal Gertrude S. Goldberg
Sept. 6	Jennie Grossman Sylvia Brodach Betty Hardegen	Sept. 16	William A. Jacobs Elmer Seaman	Sept. 26	Klari Schwartz David S. Miller Abraham Stein Esther Rosen Murray N. Friedman
Sept. 7	Max Cheikin Sally Limon Celia Goldstein Lillian Bichunsky Adeline Noe	Sept. 17	Jacob Silverman Lillian Gross Harris Diana Umansky Richard Silver Martin Trueheart Adele Zimmerman	Sept. 27	Mark Greenberg
Sept. 8	Eva Landsberg	Sept. 18	Bessie Limon Avis Schreier	Sept. 28	Dr. Jesse Leban Enid Avizov Bessie Katz
Sept. 9	Robert Troy Doris Port Gross Eva Alderman Louis Seligman Esther Lable Natalie Levine Catherine Simonetta Ruth Kaufman	Sept. 19	Jacob Cheerman Seymour Siegel Rose White Saul Seligman	Sept. 29	Harold Johnson
Sept. 10	Marion Stein Isidore Kalmanowitz	Sept. 20	Esther Israel Isadore Limon Morris Cherniack Rose Gelfand Bernie Seidon Mildred Dobris	Sept. 30	Bertha Davidson Rosalind Normandy Herman Gross Isaac Kaplan



A Candle or Yahrzeit Light should be lit at sundown the night before these dates.

Tzdakah to perpetuate the memory of a loved one is a Mitzvah.

Your contribution to the Yahrzeit Fund would be greatly appreciated.

תודה רבה - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO OUR VARIOUS FUNDS

Yahrzeit Fund: In Memory of:

Thelma Caplan by Marcia Caplan

Esther Rubenstein by Norman Shulkin

The Limon and Cerrotti Family by Abby & Gene Cerrotti

Burt Kahn by Sandra Kahn

Geraldine Kahn by Sandra Kahn

Daniel Kahn by Sandra Kahn

Leonard Katz by Richard A. Katz

Natalie Levine by Hilda Trueheart

Edward Louis Friedman by Esia Friedman

General Temple Fund

The following people made a donation

In Memory of Rena Berliner

by Peter Robinson

by Gerry Emple

by Michelle & Rick Grossman

by Gladys & Marvin Beloff

by Bea & Ines Gerstenblatt

by Phyllis & Herman Sochin

by Ruth Kahn

by Natalie & Joseph Langner

by Jane Mulligan

by Lesley Solkoske

by Shari & Roger Turner

by The Perrys

by Jo Robin & Michael Gould

by Renata & Michael Filler

by Debra & David Kaye

by Jane & Harry Hajedemos

by Linda & Robert Reger

In Memory of **Estelle Kosofsky** by Doris McBride.

The following people made donations

In Memory of Evelyn Mautner

by Natalie & Lenny Cheerman

by Ruth & Sherwin Borsuk

by Jean & Marc Nemeth

by Renata & Michael Filler

by Debra & David Kaye

by Michelle & Rick Grossman

by Jan & Jay Weiss

by Shari & Roger Turner

by Linda & Robert Reger

by Linda & Jack Winkleman

Get Well Wishes to **Dr. Mark Burwick** by Natalie & Lenny Cheerman.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of **Joseph J, Folk, M.D.** by Carolyn (Folk) Schwartz.

Barry Koslow Torah Restoration Fund

In Memory of **Rena Berliner** by Debbie Broadley.

In Memory of **Rena Berliner** by Marilyn Petroff.

In Memory of **Rena Berliner** by Linda & Jack Winkleman.

In Memory of **Rena Berliner** by Marilynn Mazanek.

In Memory of **Evelyn Mautner** by Marilynn Mazanek.

In Memory of **Evelyn Mautner** by Flora Shorr.

In Memory of **Julius Kirchheimer** by Debbie Broadley.

Sarah Zietz Pierson Scholarship Fund

In Memory of **Rena Berliner** by Risa & Fred Zierler.

In Memory of **Rena Berliner** by Shana, Alyn & Travis Adams.

In Memory of beloved mother **Sylvia L. Zietz** by Judy (Zietz) & Ed Siegel & family.

In Memory of beloved grandmothers **Beatrice Levin** and **Leah Zietz** by Judy (Zietz) & Ed Siegel & family.

In Memory of **Evelyn Mautner** by Risa & Fred Zierler.

In Memory of **Evelyn Mautner** by Shana, Alyn & Travis Adams.

In Memory of **Evelyn Mautner** by Sarit & Ed DeFrancesco and sons.

Cemetery Fund

In Memory of **Rena Berliner** by Flora Shorr.

In Memory of **Rena Berliner** by Atty. Jack Shorr.

In Honor of **Morris & Lena Rovinsky** by Richard Robbins.

In Memory of **Edna Helpert Lipman** by Sarah Greenblatt.

In Memory of **David Bernstein**, father and grandfather to the Richard Bernstein & Paula Eisner families.

Chevre Kadisha Fund

In Memory of **Evelyn Mautner** by Gerald Emple.