



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

203-235-2581 FAX 203-235-2582

January, 2017

Tevet - Shevat 5777

From Rabbi Michael G. Kohn

The New Haven Jewish Community Center

As many of you are probably aware, there was a fire at the New Haven Jewish Community Center on December 5. The fire and the water that was necessary to contain it caused significant damage to the lower level of the facility. In the immediate aftermath of the fire they had hoped that the damage was minimal and that they could return swiftly at least to parts of the building. However, the water and smoke has wrought damage throughout our 100,000 square foot structure. The air quality in the building was poor and the remediation work is so extensive that the entire staff of the Jewish Federation, Foundation and JCC had to be relocated. All of the flooring throughout the lower level of the building, including our double gymnasium has been or will be removed. Much of the drywall was affected in total or in part. All ceiling tiles throughout the building have been or will be removed. All contents are being evaluated to determine if they can be cleaned and salvaged or are a total loss. The double basketball court and aerobics studio will have to be completely replaced, and there is a question regarding the stability of the building's main structural beam / expansion joint. Given the extensive smoke damage, HVAC systems must be cleaned and repaired. We experienced plumbing issues when pipes burst due to the fire. They have since learned to expect a 6 to 12 month time frame for rehabilitation and occupancy

The JCC can use our help. Other synagogues and communal organizations in the Greater New Haven area and elsewhere around Connecticut have stepped in to assist. If you would like to make a special contribution to the New Haven Jewish Community Center, please send it to my discretionary fund, with a notation. I will bundle all of the contributions and forwarded it on. In this Hanukkah season, we can be a portion of that small cruise of oil that keep the light burning for eight days and beyond.

Asarah b'Tevet — The Tenth Day of Tevet

Sunday, January 8, is the tenth day of the month of Tevet. This day is one of the four “minor” fast days during the Jewish year. The observance of the fast is in commemoration of the onset of the siege that Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia laid to ancient Jerusalem, that ultimately led to the destruction of Solomon's Temple (the First Temple) and Babylonia's conquest of the Kingdom of Judah. The siege is mentioned in the Second Book of Kings, chapter 25, verse 1 and the fast on that day is recorded by the prophet Zekhariah, in chapter 8, verse 19. As a “minor fast”, we refrain from eating from sunrise to sunset, but otherwise, we go about our normal daily routine. There are special prayers in the service (A'neinu and Avinu Malkeinu), a special Torah reading and a special haftarah is read at Minhah, if there are the required number of people in the minyan who have observed the fast. No food may be brought into the building on that Sunday.

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CALENDAR EVENTS JANUARY 2017

1 Monday

No Jewry Duty

5 Thursday

8:00 am Morning Minyan

7:30 pm Auxiliary Meeting

6 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

7 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

7-9 pm Duckpin Bowling

8 Sunday

9:30 am Jewry Duty resumes

12 Thursday

8:00 am Morning Minyan

7:30 pm Ritual Committee Meeting

13 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

14 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services
(Snow date for Duckpin Bowling)

15 Sunday

9:30 am Jewry Duty

19 Thursday

8:00 am Morning Minyan

20 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

21 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

Luncheon and discussion to follow services.

22 Sunday

9:30 am Jewry Duty

26 Thursday

8:00 am Morning Minyan

7:30 pm Board of Directors' Meeting

27 Friday

6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

28 Saturday

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services

29 Sunday

9:30 am Jewry Duty

Winter Reminder:

1. In the event of snow on a Thursday - if the Meriden schools are closed or delayed - there will be NO morning minyan.
2. For Friday night, Saturday or Sunday morning - we will get any closing on the following TV stations as soon as possible: chan. 3 (WFSB); chan. 8 (WTNH); chan. 30 (WVIT); and chan. 6 (WTIC-Fox).
3. Remember - When in doubt - Safety First!

From the President's Corner:

So here it is, the third week in December, and Hanukkah is just about to begin. Very strange. Actually, I just read an article that explains how unusual this actually is. The writer obviously had a bit too much time on his hands, but he did a good job answering the question. If you're interested:

<http://www.vox.com/2016/12/20/14010130/hanukkah-christmas-same-day>.

This is a quiet time, with not a lot to report. The Temple Future Committee has met, and will continue to do so. If you have something you would like the committee to consider, please let us know. We want to hear from everyone. We are continuing to have discussions with Congregation Beth Israel on work we can do together. The sanctuary ceiling has been repaired, and the workmen did a beautiful job. Yasher koach to Dave Kaye for arranging and overseeing this work.

Please keep track of the events we are scheduling, be they Shabbat luncheons, holiday celebrations, adult education, or social events. We are working on setting these up, and I hope that everyone will attend. The life of this synagogue should be more than religious services. You are the life blood of the temple, and your participation in our events keeps our temple alive.

Have a very happy Hanukkah, and a happy, healthy, and peaceful new secular year.

Bob

From Rabbi Kohn continued - Adult Education

The program for January, to be held following the Shabbat service and luncheon on January 21, will deal with United Synagogue and the benefits and restrictions of our continued membership in the organization.

For the past two months, I have been visiting the residents at Kensington Village twice a month — on the first Friday of the month for an abbreviated Shabbat service and on another Friday for a discussion. These discussions are open to all residents — one need not be Jewish — past two have focused on the BDS movement and Hanukkah. If you wish to join us in the Common Room on the third floor (it is no longer designated as a Chapel), the next discussion will take place on January 20, 2017, at 1:00 p.m.

B'Shalom,
Rabbi Michael G. Kohn

MERIDEN SELF-STORAGE, LLC.
Lisa Highbridge
Manager

210 Pomeroy Ave. (rear)
Meriden, CT 06450
(203) 639-7335 Phone (203) 639-0759 Fax

sales@meridenselfstorage.com
www.meridenselfstorage.com

מזל טוב – Mazal Tov

Happy Anniversary to our couples celebrating an anniversary during the month of January:
2nd - Cathy & Michael Burwick

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating a birthday during the month of January:
1st - Frank Tonkonow
17th - Helene Koenig
19th - Debbie Kaye
21st - Jim Lawrence
28th - Doris Goldstein
28th - Marjorie Perry

Senior class co-president, Jake DeFrancesco, helps cut the ribbon on the newly renovated Maloney High School, December 12, 2016.



רפואה שלימה

Wishes for a Complete & Speedy Recovery to:

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qualitygarden ct.com

E. JACK SHORR
Attorney & Counselor at Law

E. JACK SHORR LAW OFFICES, LLC
1501 East Main Street, Suite 301
Meriden, CT 06450

Phone: 203-238-3600

Fax: 203-235-6945

Email: ejs@ejshorrlaw.com

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Thursday December 29th

Come and Light Your Menorah

Celebrate Hanukkah

Bring your Hanukkah Menorah and

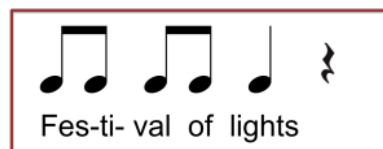
we will supply the candles

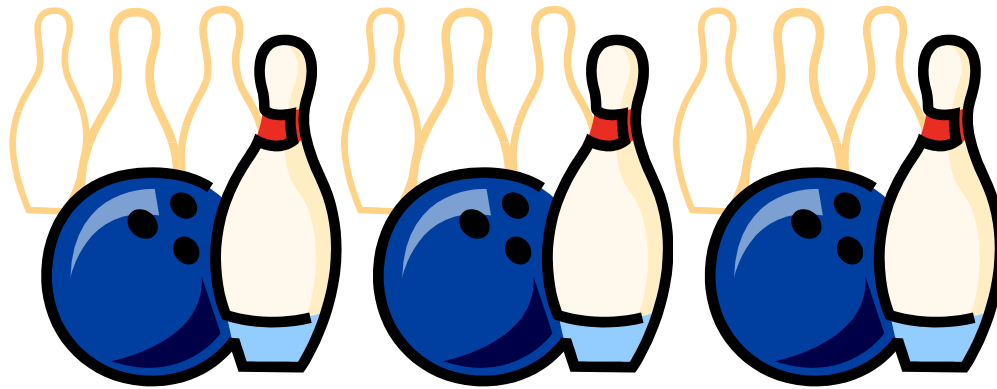
5:30 pm - We will light the menorah and recite the blessings.

6:00 pm - We will enjoy a light dairy dinner, with potato latkes, followed by make your own ice cream sundae.

We will all join together and sing some Hanukkah songs and perhaps even play dreidle.

Please RSVP to the Temple office (203-235-2581) by Dec. 26 and let us know how many of you are planning to attend. Missed the RSVP date? Call by Thursday morning.





Temple Auxiliary Goes Duck-Pin Bowling
Saturday Evening, January 7th, 2017
(snow date January 14th)

Join as we go to Highland Bowl, 1211 Highland Ave (Rte. 10)
in Cheshire, for “**Disco Ducks Glow Bowling.**”
Complete with glow lights and special effects.

The duck pin bowling (small pins) will be from 7 – 9 pm.
The fun does not stop there. Come on back to Sue and Roy
Massicott’s home for coffee and!! 39 Spice Hill Drive,
South Meriden (on Diamond Hill) 203-630-1947.

The cost of the evening is **\$12.00 per person for Auxiliary Members**
and \$14.00 for Non-Members. This gives you an unlimited number
of games in the 2 hours and dessert. **Or \$3.00 Dessert Only**

Please call the Temple office by Monday, January 2nd and let us know how
many will be coming. The more who come the better. Don’t miss out on a
great evening!! Small pins, small ball, hopefully no strain on your back!!

You are welcome to bring non-Temple members.
Be sure to call and make your reservation!!!

Yahrzeits Observed in the Month of January

Jan. 1	Jacob Cohen	Jan. 11	Martin Beloff	Benjamin Ledewitz	
Jan. 2	Herman Weinberg		Anna Weiss	Dorothy Werfel	
	Etta Lang	Jan. 12	Marlene Kaller	Jan. 24	Dorothy Greenblatt
Jan. 3	Samuel Umansky		Harold Warren	Edith Barker	
	Elsie Cherniack		Rose Muchnick	Bella DuBrow	
	Beatrice Sadowsky	Jan. 13	Sarah Goodman	Abraham Grossman	
	David Rubin		M. David Freedman	Jan. 25	Max Zakin
Jan. 4	Martha Bittman	Jan. 14	Minnie Feltzin	Morris Sheftel	
	Max Bichunsky		Nathan Strauss	Hoskar Frank	
	Natalie Bogatz	Jan. 15	Lena Goodstein	Esedor Derector	
	Goldman		Rose Harris	Rose Katz	
	Kayla Nissenson		Fannie Levin	Jan. 26	Hattie Henken
	Bernice Friedman		Adele Krochmal	Mollie Katz	
Jan. 5	Sherman Tonkonow	Jan. 16	Morris Arovas	Abraham Paterson	
Jan. 6	Philip M. White	Jan. 17	Anne Pierson	Charlotte Buchman	
	Beatrice Reich	Jan. 18	Joseph Risen	Abraham Epstein	
	Rose Hyman		Jean Cohen	Jan. 27	Abraham Harris
	Mildred Goralnik		Dr. Alan Rozen	Max Burwick	
	Max Hertzmark		Esther Muravnick	Michele Zimmitti	
Jan. 7	Molly Bogatz		Sophie Sugarman	Jan. 28	Lee Silver
	Breindel Katz	Jan. 19	Lillian Teller	Max Seligman	
	Jerry Kosofsky		Bessie Ledewitz	Rebecca Cheikin	
	Rivke Perecman		Rebecca Kaplan	Fannie Grossman	
	Paulette Shulkin		Frieda Pierson	Jan. 29	Rose Sodel
	Oscar Goldner		Moshe Shweky	Julius D. Friedman	
Jan. 8	Rachel Shorr		David Clayton	Manuel Gould	
	Pamela Fine		Paul Levine	Gussie Gerber	
	Arthur Pierson		Myron Zellman	Jan. 30	Sam Gerber
	Rose Sperling	Jan. 20	Sarah Gordon	Julius Bogatz	
	Dorothy Seaman		Max Hoffman	Rose Hasburg	
Jan. 9	Herman Sodel	Jan. 21	David Arovas	Charles Hagenauer	
	Abram J. White		Harry Cohen	Hope Tonkonow	
	Robert Rovinsky		Elizabeth Sigman	Leo Smith	
	Beatrice Zempsky		Avis Leban	Jan. 31	Zigmund Ziring
	Stephen Sheftel	Jan. 22	Dorothy Klein	Banne Sodel	
Jan. 10	Milton Silver		Blanche Koenig	Evelyn L. Grossman	
	Milo Levin	Jan. 23	Marks Wilder	Marion Bienstock	
	Charles Harris		David Resident		
	Fanny Byer		Jacob Tonkonow		



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

Dr. Arthur Weiss by Sherly Weathers
Murray Schutz by Bonnie & Michael Sperling
Herbert Sperling by Bonnie & Michael Sperling
Rose Sperling by Bonnie & Michael Sperling
Abraham Katz by Richard A. Katz
Paulette Shulkin by Norman Shulkin
Yetta Gerstenblatt by Bea & Ines Gerstenblatt
Jay Grossman by Glenda & H. Robert Grossman
David Caplan by Marcia Caplan
Roslyn Harris by Rachelle Harris
Maurice Harris by Rachelle Harris
Elizabeth Sigman by Stuart Shapiro
Philip M. White by Sheila Solomon

Barry Koslow Torah Restoration Fund

In Honor of **Mr. & Mrs. Neal Wernuth**, on their anniversary, by Marge, Janet & Larry Kirchheimer.
In Memory of **Lillian Levine** by Flora Shorr.
In Memory of **Walter Walonoski** by Flora Shorr.
Mazal Tov to **Howard & Julie Levine**, on the marriage of their son **Daniel to Sarah Spielman**, by Jack Shorr.
In Memory of **Rachel Shorr** by Flora Shorr.

Sarah Zietz Pierson Scholarship Fund

Mazal Tov to **Howard & Julie Levine** in honor of **Daniel and Sarah's** marriage, by Sarit & Ed DeFrancesco and family.
Mazal Tov to **David & Debbie Kaye** in honor of **Rachel and Allan's** marriage, by Sarit & Ed DeFrancesco and family.
In Memory of **Walter Walonoski** by Sarit & Ed DeFrancesco and family.

Cemetery Fund

In Memory of **Walter Walonoski** by Jack Shorr.
In Memory of **Lillian Levine** by Jack Shorr.

General Temple Fund

In Memory of **Etoile Shemkovitz** by Carolyn & Michael Levine.
In Memory of **Etoile Shemkovitz** by Sue & Bruce Bergman.
In Memory of **Muriel Berson** from the Family of Muriel Berson.
In Honor of **Lesley & Abe Chidekel** on their 63rd wedding anniversary by Bonnie & Michael Sperling.
In Memory of **Lillian Levine** by Hilda Trueheart.
In Memory of **Walter Walonoski** by Hilda Trueheart.
Mazal Tov to **Ruth & Sherwin Borsuk**, on the birth of **Rosalind Juniper Borsuk**, by Myra Skluth & Mark Burwick.
In Memory of **Etoile Mekies Shemkovitz** by Gail & Jeffrey Adler.
Mazal Tov to **Ruth & Sherwin Borsuk**, on the birth of **Rosalind Juniper Borsuk**, by Jean & Marc Nemeth.
Mazal Tov to **Debbie & David Kaye**, on the marriage of daughter **Rachel to Allan Rozin**, by Jean & Marc Nemeth.
In Memory of **Lil Levine** by Jean & Marc Nemeth.
In Memory of **Etoile Shemkovitz** by Jean & Marc Nemeth.
In memory of **Al Lowell** by Cathy and Fred Morro.
Mazal Tov to **Ruth & Sherwin Borsuk**, on the birth of **Rosalind Juniper Borsuk**, by Natalie & Joseph Langner.
In Memory of **Roslyn & Maurice Harris** by Rachelle Harris.
In Memory of **Dorothy Seaman** by David Seaman.
In Memory of **Etoile Shemkovitz** by Ona & Tom Mastronarde.