

# The Shofar



## Letter from Rabbi Alpert

“Now we're cooking with gas!”



Chicken and cauliflower.

I took that phrase both literally and figuratively after our Community Shabbat dinner in November. Literally in that we cooked ten whole chickens in our two gas ovens and they came out beautifully. We also baked six challahs and roasted cauliflower in those ovens as well as sautéing broccoli on the stove top. With gefilte fish to start and bourbon blasted brownies to finish, our evening was a culinary success.

But the phrase “now we're cooking with gas” has come to mean doing something the right way – successfully. And that Shabbat, we as a congregation were definitely cooking with gas. We had forty attendees, including most

of our young families, plus some new friends and potential members. We prayed together, sang together and enjoyed each other's company. And we experienced Shabbat dinner as I believe it should be experienced: joyously.

Judaism offers us so much: rituals for all signs and seasons, learning of both law and legend, commandments that both challenge and comfort. And all of this can and indeed should be observed in a spirit of joy – joy born of the gift of being alive at this very moment. None of us lives his or her life in such a state of perpetual joy. But whatever the trials of the week just past, when the sky darkens on Friday night, we should remind ourselves of our need for joy in our lives. And what better way to bring joy than with a good meal among those we care for and love.

In the next three months, we will have two opportunities to

enjoy a Shabbat meal together. On **December 15** bring your menorahs with you as we light them together and then enjoy latkes and other goodies together. And on **February 2**, join us for another community Shabbat dinner. The menu will likely be the same as last time – but that is the taste of Shabbat.



Getting ready to braid the challah.



Challah ready for Shabbat!

## Letter from our President

Good day everyone. I am writing you now to catch you up on the Board's summer and fall work. Last summer we reviewed 2016-2017 and began to set some goals for 2017-2018. In the spring of 2017, we decided to include several new Board positions to spread out the duties of the Board and ease its demand for so few to do so much. This has served us well. More Board members share the responsibilities of the operation and this has created a solid team atmosphere. You are going to be pleasantly surprised all year.

With the help of the Kiddush Cup and the food gift certificate program and the generosity of our membership, we have stabilized our financial obligations and are now prepared to upgrade our sanctuary. In fact, we recently invited our congregation to come on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 in the morning (our December Board meeting) to review and reflect and offer some input to our plans. We are preparing to

paint the ceiling, the walls and the window trim. We will be installing new carpet, new lighting and increase the size of our bema. The goal is to make it much more welcoming.

Our possible merger talks to the Meriden Jewish community has gone on now for some time. I believe we are entering a new stage of identifying the details and policies as to just how we would/could make this merger work. I believe we will have significant information for the congregation's review this winter.

We are just starting to begin the work on putting together our 19<sup>th</sup> (yikes!) Kiddush Cup. It will be early this year: **May 16<sup>th</sup>!** Everyone please set aside this date. We raised over \$13,000 last year. We will shoot for \$15,000 in 2018. The Coalition for a Better Wallingford will again be our designated partner to share some of the profits with.

It has been a pleasure to serve with the Rabbi and this Board.

It continues to be a remarkable team effort.

Lastly I want to remind everyone to purchase food gift certificates from Bob Gross. He has all the major supermarkets and at Stop & Shop you can also use them for gasoline as well as food. Bob's telephone number is (203) 589-7425. This is an absolutely painless way to support the synagogue. We net 5% on all sales we make to ourselves. I know we can do better. Bob has raised thousands of dollars over the years with this program. It will pay for the painting of the sanctuary including the ceiling! So come on guys! You have to go food shopping anyway. Don't be bashful.

Peace,

*Dick Caplan*

**SAVE THE DATE**

*The 19th Annual*



**May 16, 2018**

Proceeds to benefit Beth Israel Synagogue as well as the Coalition for a Better Wallingford.

## Jewish Holidays December - February 2018

**Hanukkah**  
(December 13-20, 2017)



Known as the Festival of Lights, is an eight-day Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple (the Second Temple) in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt of the 2nd century BCE.

**Tu B'Shevat**  
(January 31, 2018)



Tu B'Shevat is a minor Jewish holiday, occurring on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat. It is also called "The New Year of the Trees".

**Purim**  
(March 1, 2018)



Purim is a Jewish holiday that commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people in the ancient Persian Empire from destruction in the wake of a plot by Haman.



### 2017 Kiddush Cup

A heart-felt thank you to the many contributors and sponsors from the Annual Kiddush Cup.

<a href="#">Archie Moore's</a>	<a href="#">D.L. DeBaise &amp; Company</a>	Larry Hyatt	<a href="#">Saas Kirwan Associates</a>
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<a href="#">Cella-Flanagan, P.C.</a>	Julius & Eve Gold	Richard and Karen Caplan	<a href="#">Wallace Realty</a>

## Upcoming Yahrzeits Honoring Our Beloved Relatives



Yahrzeit	Related To	Relation	Date Observed	Hebrew Date
Mollie Stolzman	Sandy Rosen	Grandmother	12/3/2017	15 Kislev
Elaine Sommer	Howard Sommer	Mother	12/5/2017	17 Kislev
Rachael Shoag	Barbara Gross	Mother	12/7/2017	19 Kislev
Isidore Bubis	Iris Papale	Grandmother	12/8/2017	20 Kislev
Abraham Winkleman	Jack Winkleman	Father	12/9/2017	21 Kislev
Martin Factor	Susan Burt	Father	12/9/2017	21 Kislev
Myron Schacht	Barry Schacht	Father	12/10/2017	22 Kislev
Bernard Murray Golub	Harriet Curcio	Father	12/15/2017	27 Kislev
Noson Freeman	Iris Papale	Grandmother	12/15/2017	27 Kislev
David Caplan	Allen Caplan, Len Caplan	Brother	12/18/2017	30 Kislev
Louis Schlessinger	Alida Cella, Les Schlessinger	Grandfather, Father	12/18/2017	30 Kislev
Herbert Waldman	Linda Waldman	Father	12/22/2017	4 Tevet
Sylvia Zamelman	Tammy Kahn, Rebecca Kahn	Mother, Grandmother	12/26/2017	8 Tevet
Dominic Amodio	Deborah Gross, Robert Gross	Father, Father-in-law	12/27/2017	9 Tevet
Esther Silver	Philip Silver, Rosalie Rolando, Dorothy Petrucelli	Mother	12/28/2017	10 Tevet
Samuel Silverman	Linda Winkleman	Father	12/29/2017	11 Tevet
Marion Puklin	Richard Caplan	Mother	12/30/2017	12 Tevet
Estelle Kessler	Mimi Bloch	Sister	1/2/2018	15 Tevet
Gertrude Golub	Harriet Curcio, Andrea Curcio	Mother, Grandmother	1/3/2018	16 Tevet
Stephen Kaitz	Sue Rubin	Brother	1/3/2018	16 Tevet
Ezra Bernheim	Les Schlessinger, Alida Cella	Father-in-law, Grandfather	1/5/2018	18 Tevet
Abraham Ominsky	George Ominsky	Uncle	1/8/2018	21 Tevet
Dan Rennick	Marge Cohen	Father	1/8/2018	21 Tevet
Sarah Semack	Linda Caplan	Aunt	1/10/2018	23 Tevet
Andrew Zemelman	Tammy Kahn	Father	1/11/2018	24 Tevet
George Ginsberg	Lisa Graber	Father	1/12/2018	25 Tevet
Bernard Harris	Shirley Glasner	Father	1/13/2018	26 Tevet
Abraham Lichtman	Mindy Schwartz	Father	1/14/2018	27 Tevet
Harry Hubelbank	Mimi Bloch	Father	1/17/2018	1 Shevat
Neil Radin	Lisa Radin, Diane Rosen	Husband, Brother	1/19/2018	3 Shevat
Herman Rosenberg	Ellice Rosoff	Father	1/23/2018	7 Shevat
Norman Bush	Denise Reitman	Father	1/23/2018	7 Shevat
George Ominsky	George Ominsky	Grandfather	1/27/2018	11 Shevat



## Upcoming Yahrzeits Honoring Our Beloved Relatives

Yahrzeit	Related To	Relation	Date Observed	Hebrew Date
Althea Boyarsky	Rick Kaletsky	Aunt	2/8/2018	23 Shevat
George Sandburg	Rae-Ann Allen	Father	2/9/2018	24 Shevat
Arthur Bramley	Jean Bramley	Husband	2/13/2018	28 Shevat
Esther Lee	Marilyn Rappoport, Phyllis Gordon	Mother, Grandmother	2/14/2018	29 Shevat
Jack Greenberg	Edwin Greenberg	Father	2/14/2018	29 Shevat
Pearl Zale	Julie Zale, Devorah Zale, Rebecca Senzer	Mother, Great Aunt,	2/16/2018	1 Adar
Ryan Gordon	Barry and Phyllis Gordon, Marilyn Rappoport	Son, Grandson	2/17/2018	2 Adar
Harry Hessell	Tom Hessell		2/20/2018	5 Adar
Thomas Caplan	Richard Caplan	Father	2/20/2018	5 Adar
Diane Aniloff	Lauren Esposito, Galina Esposito	Mother, Grandmother	2/23/2018	8 Adar
Cecelia Manela	Miriam Fried	Mother	2/24/2018	9 Adar
Patricia Carruthers	Darrell Stancuna	Aunt	2/28/2018	13 Adar



If we do not show your name and your relationship with your loved one in our yahrzeit listing, please notify Lisa MacDougald, [lisa@tartanltd.com](mailto:lisa@tartanltd.com) to update the information for future editions.

### Yahrzeit Plaques

If you would like to purchase a Yahrzeit Plaque, the following are costs if purchased at the same time: \$300 for one; \$550 for two; \$1,000 for four.

## Beth Israel Synagogue

### Upcoming Events December – February 2018

Date	Day	Time	Led by	Event
Dec. 1	Friday	6:45 PM	Congregant led	Shabbat evening service
Dec. 2	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Torah study
Dec. 8	Friday	6:45 PM	Rabbi Alpert	Shabbat evening service
Dec. 9	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Family Shabbat service
Dec. 9	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Sommer	Torah study
<b>Dec. 15</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Rabbi Alpert</b>	<b>Chanukah service/dinner</b>
Dec. 16	Saturday	8:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Shabbat morning service
Dec. 16	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Torah study
Dec. 22	Friday	6:45 PM	Rabbi Alpert	Shabbat evening service
Dec. 23	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Torah study
Dec. 29	Friday	6:45 PM	Congregant led	Shabbat evening service
Dec. 30	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Sommer	Torah study
Jan. 5	Friday	6:45 PM	Rabbi Alpert	Shabbat evening service
Jan. 6	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Torah study
Jan. 12	Friday	6:45 PM	Congregant led	Shabbat evening service
Jan. 13	Saturday	8:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Shabbat morning service
Jan. 13	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Torah study
Jan. 19	Friday	6:45 PM	Rabbi Alpert	Shabbat evening service
Jan. 20	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Family Shabbat service
Jan. 20	Saturday	9:30 AM	TBD	Torah study
Jan. 26	Friday	6:45 PM	Congregant led	Shabbat evening service
Jan. 27	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Torah study
<b>Feb. 2</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Rabbi Alpert</b>	<b>Community Shabbat Dinner</b>
Feb. 3	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Torah study
Feb. 9	Friday	6:45 PM	Congregant led	Shabbat evening service
Feb. 10	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Sommer	Torah study
Feb. 16	Friday	6:45 PM	Rabbi Alpert	Shabbat evening service
Feb. 17	Saturday	8:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Shabbat morning service
Feb. 17	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Torah study
Feb. 23	Friday	6:45 PM	Congregant led	Shabbat evening service
Feb. 24	Saturday	9:30 AM	Rabbi Alpert	Family Shabbat service
Feb. 24	Saturday	9:30 AM	TBD	Torah study
<b>Feb. 28</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Rabbi Alpert</b>	<b>Purim service</b>

For more information about any of these services, please contact Rabbi Alpert at [Rabbi@BethIsraelWallingford.org](mailto:Rabbi@BethIsraelWallingford.org)

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[www.bethisraelwallingford.org](http://www.bethisraelwallingford.org)



Security is provided to Beth Israel by Monitor Control, located at 178 Center Street, Wallingford. [\(203\) 269-3591](tel:2032693591)

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Buy Stop & Shop, Shop Rite and/or Big Y gift cards and Beth Israel Synagogue will receive 5%. It adds up! Just fill out this form, tell us what denomination cards you want and how often. We will mail them to you along with a pre-addressed envelope in which you can send payment.

Post-dated checks are OK. Each card order must be paid in full before the next one is sent.



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**How often?** Weekly \_\_\_\_\_ Bi-Weekly \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly \_\_\_\_\_ Bi-monthly \_\_\_\_\_ Just this once \_\_\_\_\_

For more info, please contact: **Bob Gross** at 203-589-7425.