



## Our Mishpacha

### Notes from the Board

We have had our first Board of Directors meeting with the newly elected Board. We have a very diverse and enthusiastic group, and we are looking forward to a productive and interesting year.

If you have ideas for future activities or things to celebrate at our Friday evening services, please let us know. We love Simchas and celebrating them! We are thinking of having a Spaghetti Dinner with the new Board doing the serving, like the one we had a few years ago with the Men's Club serving. Any thoughts pro or con on that?

In addition to the Board members elected at the last General Meeting, we have appointed two new members-at-large: Irving Bartikofsky and Eddie Maldonado. We have also appointed David Weiss as Past President/Parliamentarian. We have a very full Board with people of varied backgrounds and areas of expertise, and we are very happy about that.

The committee to look into alternatives for the future of Beth Shalom of Whittier will have their first meeting next week. I expect a lot of brainstorming and discussions.

*~Lila Held*

## Our Board of Directors



Co-Presidents

Lila Held, Bonnie Neville

Executive Vice-President

David Starkman

Vice-President, Finance

Barry Neville

Vice-President, Membership

Victoria Salti

Vice-President, Publicity, Social Media

Samuel Gonzales

Vice-President, House & Grounds

Mark Singer, Christine Singer

Vice-President, Ways & Means

Jordan Eres

Vice-President, Ritual

Sam Pearlman, Samuel Gonzales

Vice-President, Sisterhood

Michelle Hess

Vice-President, Adult Education

Myra Weiss

Vice-President, Bingo

Bonnie Neville

Past President/Parliamentarian

David Weiss

Member-at-Large

Irv Bartikofsky

Member-at-Large

Eddie Maldonado



LGBT Families Welcome

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*Our Mishpacha* is published monthly, on or near the first of the month. If you want an article or announcement to appear in the next issue, the submission deadline is the 20th of this month.

*Our Mishpacha* is sent on-line to those members of Beth Shalom with computers. If you wish a printed copy mailed to you, please call the office, 562-941-8744. Printed copies are also available in the lobby of Beth Shalom. The cost: \$18 per year for non-members.

The editor welcomes comments and suggestions.

This is *Our Mishpacha*!



## HAZZAN'S NOTES



Dear Friends,

I am glad to be back from my vacation and here for your needs and concerns.

This month we begin our new regimen of having two Shabbat mornings a month celebrated together in our synagogue. Based on our attendance patterns over the last few years, one of the Shabbat mornings will be a study session similar to the study sessions in the past, with either Sam Pearlman or Shmuel Gonzales leading them based on the Torah portion of the week. The other Shabbat morning will be led by me and will be either our **Kol Shalom** service or a festival or High Holyday service. Our study session this month will take place on August 12 beginning at 9:00 a.m. with breakfast and followed by the study session from 9:45 to 11:00 a.m.

This month I will lead the **Kol Shalom** service on August 19 beginning with breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and the service beginning at 9:45 a.m., which will include the Blessing of the New Month in preparation for our High Holyday season.

We know you will want to participate in these monthly exceptional Shabbat experiences that enhance our already well-attended Shabbat Evening services.

*~Hazzan Lance H. Tapper*

ELUL

A summer month of 29 days, Elul is the sixth month of the Hebrew calendar. It occurs in August-September of the civil Georgian calendar. It is a time of preparation and repentance for the High



Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. An acronym for the phrase “Ani L’dodi Y’dodi” — “I am my beloved’s and my beloved is mine.” [Song of Solomon 6:3] During Elul we search our hearts and come close to G-d to ready ourselves for the coming Day of Judgment, Rosh Hashanah, and Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur.

A number of special rituals that lead up to the High Holy Days include the blowing of the shofar every morning (except Sabbath), Rosh Hodesh Elul (the first day of the month), through the eve of Rosh Hashanah. This is to awaken us and inspire the soul-searching which is in preparation for the High Holy Days. Elul is also a time for asking for and giving forgiveness. An old custom of the month is the recitation of Psalm 27 every day from Rosh Hodesh Elul through Hashanah Rabbah on Sukkot in the month of Tishrei. This is to remind ourselves that the house of G-d, our own Beth Shalom, is open to all who believe in Him and all who wish to be among our congregation. In essence, we seek G-d’s closeness and endeavor to live our lives to His will. This provides a solid area of constant comfort among life’s difficulties.

Another ritual during the month of Elul is the recitation of Selichot (penitential prayers). Ashkenazi tradition is to begin the recitation of Selichot with a special service on a Saturday night between solar midnight and morning light on the first day of Selichot. In our year of 5777, the Selichot service begins on September 16, 2017. Stay tuned for our Hazzan’s announcement.

It is also customary to visit the graves of one’s family during the month of Elul. These visits honor the memories of those who inspired us to live

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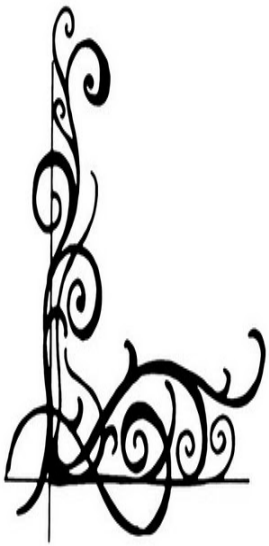
Elul (*Continued*)

our lives as Jews more fully in the future.

One of my favorite social customs during Elul is to end my written letters wishing the recipient a good year. The usual blessing for this is, “K’tiva VaHati-ma Tova” — “A good writing and sealing of judgment,” wishing that on Rosh Hashanah the recipient should be written in the Book of Life for a good year. According to tradition, each of us is written there for a good or poor year, based on their performance in the previous year and their sincere efforts of atonement. That fate is sealed on Yom Kippur.

May all of you be blessed, and may all of you recognize that in the month of Elul we have the ability to come face to face with ourselves, our loved ones, and our G-d. Amen!

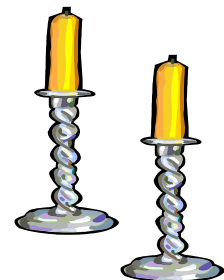
*~Sam Pearlman*



### *Candle Lighting Times*

August 4 7:39 p.m.      August 18 7:17 p.m.

August 11 7:25 p.m.      August 25 7:08 p.m.





## *Sisterhood Tribute Cards*

*To order Sisterhood Tribute cards, please call or email Bonnie Neville with your request.*

562-691-1541

[barryandbonnie@verizon.net](mailto:barryandbonnie@verizon.net)



*“I want to attend services, but I need a ride, and I hate to keep asking friends.....”*

**THERE IS AN ANSWER!  
TO ARRANGE A RIDE TO BETH SHALOM,  
CALL 323-807-0842.  
24-HOUR NOTICE REQUIRED.  
OCCUPANCY—3 PASSENGERS**



There are lots of benefits to waking up early!

Here's how to do it successfully.

- ♦ Turn off your Smartphone at least an hour before bedtime.
- ♦ Blue light, i.e., computer screen and TV, will keep you awake, so turn these off at least a half hour before bedtime.
- ♦ Leave the curtains open and rise with the sun.
- ♦ Avoid hitting the snooze button. Hit the deck!
- ♦ Drink a glass of water and exercise first thing in the morning to feel more alert all day.

## CELEBRATIONS

### *Birthdays*

*Jordan Eres August 19*

*Liz Herrera August 20*

*Jerry Landau August 21*

*Samuel Pearlman August 27*

### *Anniversaries*

*Howard and Miriam Brookfield August 9*

*Alberto and Liz Herrera August 20*

*Joseph and Barbara Lebovitz August 29*

*Beth Shalom of Whittier*

*Wishes you all*

*Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary*

## Our Grateful Thanks



As the sun set on our warm California summer days, the sanctuary of Beth Shalom has been filled with the sounds of our Congregation celebrating our beautiful Shabbat services. The last two Friday evenings we welcomed Hazzan Toby Schwartz and her accomplished accompanists, Robert Remstein and Neal Brostoff, to our Congregation. Both evenings were filled with Hazzan Toby's beautiful voice, witty comments, and her friendly, outgoing personality, which gave a special warmth to the services.

Hazzan Toby acknowledged many of the members from the bimah by name, after just having met them. At the July 14th service, Hazzan Toby especially noted the presence of Eunice Singer, who had been hospitalized and is now home. It is so nice to have Eunice back in her regular pew.

Friday, July 21st was an even more meaningful evening as the three outgoing Presidents were honored. After all their years on the Board of Directors, they were acknowledged for their time and hard work given to Beth Shalom. Each outgoing President was acknowledged by Lila Held during the service and presented with a small gift on behalf of the Congregation.

It is difficult to find adequate words to thank Steve, Rita, and David for the endless hours spent working to make our Temple open and welcome. Their dedication, long hours, and hard work have made Beth Shalom what it is today. I truly feel we would not be here today if these three individuals had not stepped forward and assumed the job of keeping us together. Their job was not always easy, but they faced

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### Our Grateful Thanks *(Continued)*

things head on with the best interest of our Congregation. The position of leadership is not always easy, decisions not always popular. You don't please everyone, but the goal is to do your best.

But there are three other very important people who allowed our Presidents to put all the time into their job of running our Temple. We also acknowledge and thank Eileen, Myra, and Bob for allowing their spouses to give all the time they have over the years. I must apologize to Bob for an oversight; the ladies received flowers, so please accept my IOU for a bottle of wine.

Lila expressed our gratitude on behalf of both the new Board of Directors and the Congregation, but there is nothing we can say or do to adequately thank Steve, Rita, and David for all their endless hours and hard work.

The evening ended with warm wishes, good conversation, and a variety of desserts, an Oneg that Beth Shalom is noted for.

A new chapter is beginning at Beth Shalom, filled with uncertainty of what tomorrow will bring for our Congregation. With the support of our members and past Board members, we can work through the new challenges our Community faces. We have always been there to support one another, even though we have not always agreed.. This has been one of the strong points of our Congregation and has helped us through other adversities.

It is important that we continue to work together, support one another, and keep Beth Shalom the strong Community it has been.

*~Bonnie Neville*

## Book Group News

Beth Shalom Book Group is moving forward. On Tuesday, August 15 we are reading and discussing *The Women in the Castle* by Jessica Shattuck.



*The Women in the Castle* was an Amazon Best Book in April 2017. *People Magazine* called it “a masterful epic.” The *New York Post* said it is “a must read!” In the words of the Amazon reviewer, “The women referred to in the title are widows of three conspirators involved in the assassination attempt on Hitler.” The reviewer continues, “If you’re curious about what it was like to be a typical citizen during this time — if you struggle to comprehend how a society could become a breeding ground for Hitler’s brand of evil, this book offers some insight.”

We are meeting at Michelle’s house at our usual 12:30 p.m. Bring your dairy brown bag lunch, and our charming hostess will provide drinks and dessert (always something chocolate). Anyone is welcome to join us.

~Myra Weiss



### We’re Honoring Our Graduates

Please save the date of August 11th to come out and celebrate our congregation’s simchas!

We will be celebrating the graduation of several of our congregants — Jordan Eres (CSU Long Beach), Christine Singer (CSU Fullerton), and Isaac Herrera (Whittier High School).

If there is anyone else who has graduated this year, please call the office with their name and school, and we will be more than happy to include them in the celebration. Let’s all come out and let them know how proud we are of them!

## *Yahrzeit Remembrances*

Richard and Michelle Hess

Norma Shreiber

Agnes Fuchs

Agnes Fuchs

Agnes Fuchs

Agnes Fuchs

Pauline and Harris Kuhn

Myra Becker

Bob and Rita Rubin

Dorothy Wiener

Norma Shreiber

Fred Blankstein

Arlene Norton

*Benjamin Steinhauer*, Uncle of Michelle

*Dorothy Leibowitz*, Mother

*Joseph Fuchs*, Father

*Rose Fuchs*, Mother

*Joseph Schwartz*, Step-Father

*W. A. Meissner*, Cousin

*Anna Gross*, Mother of Pauline

*Morris Beckelman*, Grandfather

*Morey Gnessin*, Brother of Rita

*Leonard Wiener*, Husband

*Irvin Leibowitz*, Father

*Leah Margolis*, Mother of Pearl

*Louis Vinetsky*, Father

## *Thank You for Your Donations*



## *Thank You*

### *For your contributions to our Oneg Shabbats*

Lila Held

Barry and Bonnie Neville

Claire Rademacher

## August Yahrzeit Observances







<i>Yetta Aronowitz</i>	Susan Lieberman	10 Elul
<i>David Bohrer</i>	Samuel Bohrer	1 Elul
<i>Betty Brandt</i>	Sally Brandt	28 Av
<i>Ruth Broomer</i>	Bea Fuhrman	2 Elul
<i>Barbara Fishbein</i>	Agnes Fuchs	3 Elul
<i>Anna Friedheim</i>	Bea Fuhrman	18 Av
<i>George Friedman</i>	Richard and Michelle Hess	7 Elul
<i>Grace Galvin</i>	Eileen and Steve Baptista	28 Av
<i>Phil Goldberg</i>	Evelyn Goldberg Brunelle	8 Elul
<i>Fred Grosz</i>	Agnes Fuchs	22 Av
<i>Irvin Leibowitz</i>	Norma Shreiber	10 Av
<i>Caleb Kane Martinez</i>	Rebecca Martinez	14 Av
<i>Ida Michlin</i>	David and Myra Weiss	5 Elul
<i>Louis Rosen</i>	Esther Lynn Dobrin	19 Av
<i>Blanka Rosenbaum</i>	Agnes Fuchs	19 Av
<i>John Sacker</i>	Alfred and Elaine Sacker	8 Elul
<i>Kate Sacker</i>	Alfred and Elaine Sacker	4 Elul
<i>Ervin Shuman</i>	Agnes Fuchs	13 Av
<i>Ida Smolowitz</i>	Dorothy Rubin	4 Elul
<i>Ong Haw Tee</i>	Caesar Abutin	22 Av
<i>Louis Vinetsky</i>	Arlene Norton	16 Av
<i>Katherine Weiner</i>	Teresa Weiner	10 Elul
<i>Irving Weinschenker</i>	Jay Weinschenker	7 Elul
<i>Leonard Wiener</i>	Dorothy Wiener	12 Av
<i>Rachel Wood</i>	Deborah Miranda	2 Elul
<i>Murray Zuckerman</i>	Madelon Alpert-Herman	12 Av

We honor the memory of our loved ones who have departed this earth as we kindle the Yahrzeit candle in remembrance. May their memory endure as an eternal blessing.

# August 2017

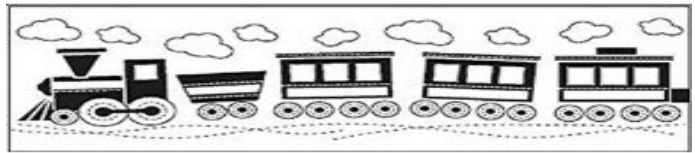
## Av/Elul 5777

*Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat*

		1 Fast of Av	2	3  Minyan 2:30 pm	4 Raoul Wallenberg Day  Shabbat Service 7:30 pm 	5  Va'ethanan
6  Bingo	7  Minyan 2:30 pm	8	9	10  Minyan 2:30 pm	11  Honoring Graduates  Shabbat Service 7:30 pm 	12  Breakfast 9:00 am Study Session 9:45 am Ekev
13  Bingo	14  Minyan 2:30 pm	15  Book Group 12:30 pm	16	17  Minyan 2:30 pm	18  Shabbat Service 7:30 pm 	19  Breakfast 9:00 am Kol Shalom 9:45 am Re'eh
20  Bingo	21  Minyan 2:30 pm	22 Rosh Hodesh	23 Rosh Hodesh  Sisterhood Board Meeting 1:00 pm	24  Minyan 2:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm	25  Shabbat Service 7:30 pm 	26  Shoftim
27  Bingo	28  Minyan 2:30 pm	29	30  Minyan 2:30 pm	31	 Sound the Shofar in Elul :- Heal us, and we shall be healed. Save us and we shall be saved.	

## Brain Train

Train your brain by keeping it active!



Know these mnemonics?

Mnemonics are acronyms/phrases to help you remember things.

1. Super Man Helps Every One
2. RICE
3. Will A Jolly Man Make A Jolly Visitor
4. ROY G BIV

Here's a good project. Take out a dictionary and turn to the entries listed under the letter I. See if you can locate the 14-letter word that repeats the same vowel six times.

Found it? Okay. Here's another one. Can you take three letters away from a four-letter word and yet not change its meaning?

*What's the difference between knowledge and wisdom?*



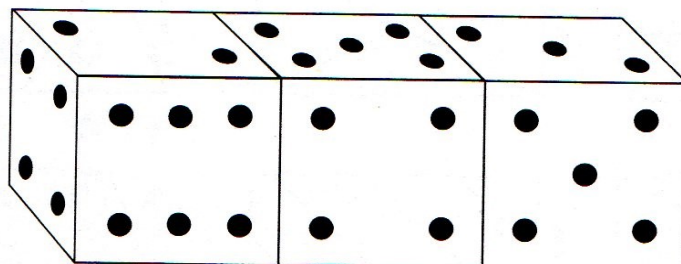
At a sports banquet, there are 100 famous athletes.

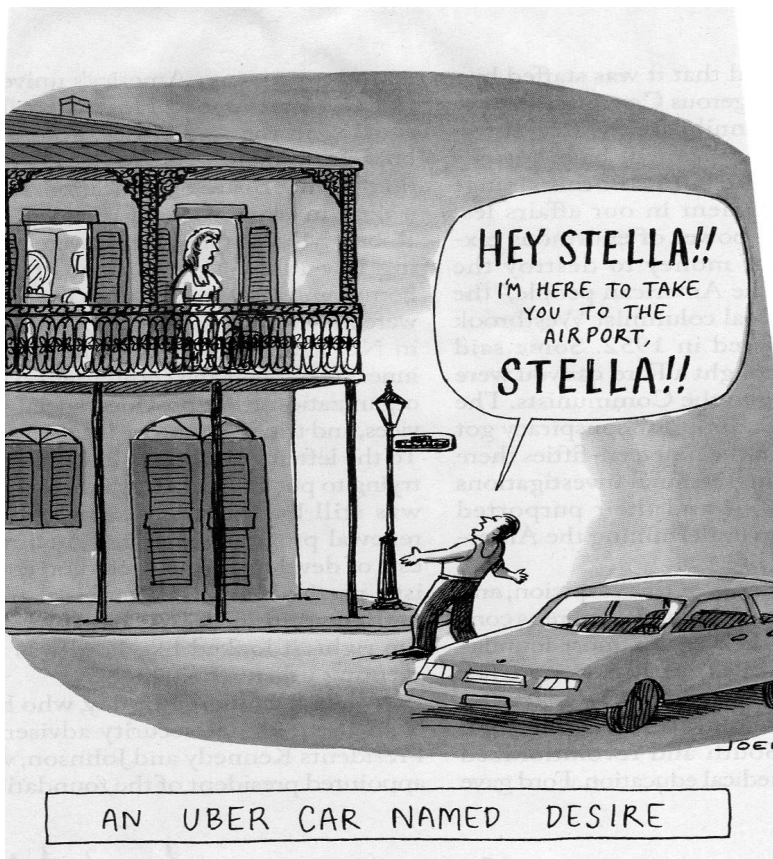
Each one is either a football or basketball player.

At least one is a football player. Given any two of the athletes, at least one is a basketball player. How many of the athletes are football players and how many are basketball players?



If you know that the opposite sides of one die always total the same, what are the numbers on the four faces that are stuck together in the picture below?





What four-letter word will fit in the blank to create two new words from those on either side in each grouping below? Each line will have a different four-letter word.

1. ROAD \_\_\_\_\_ BOOK
2. BEAN \_\_\_\_\_ GAME
3. NICK \_\_\_\_\_ LESS
4. PUSH \_\_\_\_\_ LOOK

### Clichés and Idioms

S  
O  
L  
DANUBE

Merepeat

ofBreath

#### Answers;

**Mnemonics:** 1. For the Great Lakes, west to east—Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, Ontario. 2. For treating a sprain. Rest the injured area, Ice the sprain, Compress with a bandage, Elevate the injured area. 3. The first eight U. S. presidents. Washington, J. Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, J.Q. Adams, Jackson, Van Buren. 4. The sequence of colors in a rainbow. Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet.

**Dictionary:** One word that fits the requirement is indivisibility.

**Four-Letter Word:** The word is five. Take away the f, i and e and you have V, the Roman numeral for five.

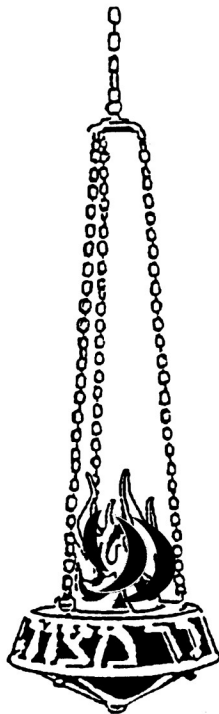
**Difference:** Knowledge is knowing that the tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

**Players;** Only one of the athletes is a football player. The other ninety-nine are basketball players.

**Dice:** 3, 6, 1, 6.

**Two New Words:** 1. Work. 2. Ball. 3. Name. 4. Over.

**Clichés and Idioms:** 1. Sold down the river. 2. Repeat after me. 3. Short of breath.



*Beth Shalom of Whittier*

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Whittier, California 90604