



Our Mishpacha



HAZZAN'S REFLECTIONS

Dear Friends,

As we move forward together, the next installment in my Education Series will be on Sunday, February 11, 2018. It will be an interesting look at our Friday night service and specifically the prayers we recite, and we will ask the questions: Why these and why are they in the spots they are in the service? It will be an in-depth focus on how and why the Rabbis chose these sentiments to bring to the liturgical table on our Shabbat eve.

Among the topics we will focus on are: the “real” issue of candles, the transition from weekday into Shabbat, and the fact we actually recite selections from two services on Shabbat evening. I hope you will want to join us in study at 10:00 a.m. and then join us for food and camaraderie at 11:30 a.m. It will be a true learning experience of the feeling and meaning of Erev Shabbat.

Later in February, on the 28th, we will have an Erev Purim service which will include a special Megillah reading to celebrate this most festive of holidays on our calendar. I will guise myself as a well-known television character for you to enjoy in this very interesting context. This character will have their own inimitable way of reading

(Continued on next page)

Hazzan's Reflections *(Continued)*

and chanting the Megillah for you. And, you will enjoy drowning out the name of the vilest man of his period with your graggers. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m. Come dressed in a great costume or just a fun and happy demeanor since we are supposed to be so drunk with joy that we cannot tell Mordechai from Haman (good from evil). I promise you will have a fun time. (Hint; It won't be a "3-hour tour.")

Hazak, Hazak, V'nithazek -- May we be strong together in all we do!

~Hazzan Lance H. Tapper

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 our lobby.

\$18 per year for non-members.

The editor welcomes comments and suggestions.

This is *Our Mishpacha* !





FEBRUARY SERVICE SCHEDULE



February 2 - Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

February 3 - Lay Study Session with Shmuel Gonzales and Sam Pearlman - 9:00 a.m. Breakfast, 9:45 a.m. Study Session

February 9 - Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

February 16 - Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

February 23 - Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

February 24 - *Siddur Kol Shalom* - Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson
9:00 a.m. Breakfast, 9:45 a.m. Service

February 28 - *Erev Purim* - Hazzan Lance, 7:00 p.m.



Thank You
For your contributions to our Oneq Shabbats

Susan Lieberman
Joel and Diane Chesler
Myra Weiss





Educational Series

*The Shabbat Evening Service and Prayers:
Why We Say and Do What We Do*

Sunday, February 11, 2018

Beth Shalom Youth Room

Study Session

10:00 a.m.

Presented by
Hazzan Lance H. Tapper



Pizza, Salad, Drinks

11:30 a.m.



15 Shevat to 29 Adar 5778

Shevat is the 11th month of the Hebrew calendar. It is a winter month of renewed growth and vigor which began on its first day (January 17th). The sap in the trees starts to rise, and life runs through their limbs. The blood of the living begins to move faster and awakens to seek food. Ice cracks and melts as water covers the land. In Israel and Los Angeles trees blossom and flowers emerge, although there may still be a chill on the ground and some storms occur. It is an invigorating cold that says to us, “Lekh lekha—Get going!”



Shevat 15 - Tu B'Shevat - (January 31)

The full moon of Shevat and the new year of the trees begins on Shevat 15. At one time this day was a day of tree tax that our ancestors paid in tithing the fruits of new trees. Our people believed that eating a simple fruit such as those that are described in the Torah (grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates) could release divine light into the world.

Adar - Ahlef - (January 15) - Adar - Beht - (January 16)

Adar is the 12th month on the Hebrew calendar. It is a spring month and it carries an additional date, as the Hebrew date is based on the lunar year, 354 days. Our local calendar is based on the solar year of 365 days. An in-depth explanation of the leap month—called Adar II—when I write about the Hebrew calendar. Adar occurs on a Friday this year, which has the significance of the welcoming of Shabbat and the lighting of candles.

Shabbat Candles

Because of its nature and its difference from other material entities, the lighting of Shabbat candles is used to describe spiritual insights. Shabbat is a day of light that begins on Friday night and lasts through Saturday. Its pattern and orientation is different from the other days of the week. The lighting of Shabbat candles ushers in the state of awareness and inspires us to feel the way it permeates us in the presence of G-d. Since my boyhood I have called the Friday night candles the welcoming of the Shabbat Queen. The responsibility for lighting the candles and inducing the change of perspective is the woman's. It is she who welcomes the

(Continued on next page)

Shevat/Adar (Continued)

Shabbat Queen into the home. Shabbat candles are lit 18 minutes before sunset.

Friday Night Lighting

1. How to FridayLight. It starts with one light. Add a candle for your soulmate, and if you are a mother, one for each child. A girl over the age of three may (with help from Mom) light her own candle.
2. Light a Candle. Once the candles are lit, close your eyes, and with your hands gently moving above the flames, sweep the warmth toward your eyes three times. Then, placing your hands over your eyes, honor the divine spiritual connection of lighting Shabbat candles by speaking the Hebrew blessing that women across the globe have said for thousands of years.
3. The Blessing. Hebrew: Boruch A-toh Ado-noi E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ho-olom A-sheh Ki-de-sha-nu Be-mitz-vo-sov Vi-tzi-vo-nu Le-had-lik Ner Shel Shabbat Ko-desh. English: Blessed are You, Lord, our G-d, King of the Universe, who sanctifies us with His commandments, and enjoins us to light the candles of Shabbat.
4. Say a Prayer. This is the moment to pray for yourself, your loved ones, and all the world. As you uncover your eyes, feel the candles' glow seep through every cell of your being, ushering in a moment of inner peace.
5. Share the Light. Picture millions of women around the world lighting Friday-Light candles. Picture the peace of Shabbat radiating across the globe.

Purim

The season of Adar moves on to its most significant event, the holiday of Purim. The story of Purim, contained in the Scroll of Esther, is as spellbinding as a Daniel Silva bestseller. It is sacred scripture that nowhere do we find the name of G-d within the Megillah. What becomes evident is the hand of Divine Providence. The deeper we examine the story, the more we find the even insignificant events are all arranged by the Almighty!

According to the Book of Esther, Haman, the royal vizier to King Ahasuerus (Xerxes I) of Persia, planned to kill all the Jews in the empire. Haman's plans were compromised by Mordechai and his cousin and adopted daughter, the beautiful Esther. She rises to become Queen of Persia. Haman and his sons met the fate

(Continued on next page)

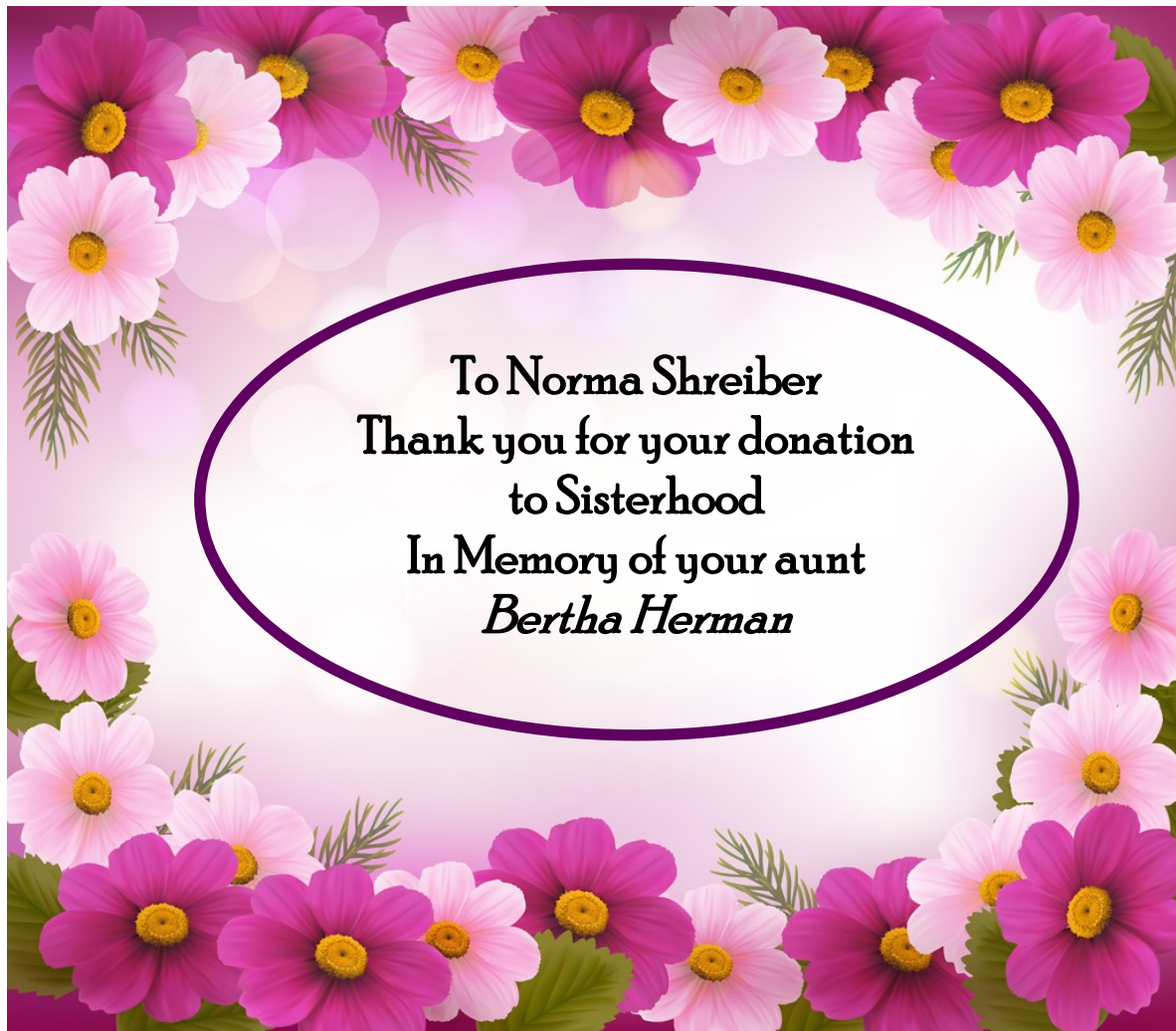
Shevat/Adar (*Continued*)

of the gallows that Haman had planned for the Jews.

The day of our deliverance became a day of feasting and rejoicing. It is celebrated annually on the 14th day of Adar (and on Adar II in Hebrew leap years that take place every two to three years). It is also celebrated in Jerusalem and a few other cities on the 15th of Adar.

Assignment: Open your Bible and read the Book of Esther. Then ask yourself, “Is there any question that we are G-d’s chosen people?” In every generation we have, with His help, overcome disaster and defeat, to be followed by victory and miracles. Shalom!

~Sam Pearlman



THANK YOU

A big thank you to all of you for contributing money, volunteering to prepare and serve meals, and supervising the Shelter Christmas week at Whittier Area Community Church. Ninety of us prepared and served 580 meals to the 40 guests at the Shelter.



The breakfast menus included a variety of juices, yogurt, scrambled eggs, toast, jam, corned beef hash, pancakes, sausage, a variety of cold cereals, country gravy, Rapee Morv Madelle (Gratin of Shredded Potatoes with Ham, Eggs, and Onions), oatmeal with brown sugar, chilaquiles, donuts, chorizo, beans, ham, and French toast with syrup.

Lunch on Christmas was tuna and egg salad sandwiches with lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, and a variety of chips. Each guest also received a duffel bag with practical items such as socks, tee shirts, sweatshirts, hats, scarves, rain ponchos, towels, cards, pens, pads, and personal hygiene items.

Christmas dinner was salad, two hams, two turkeys, stuffing, two kinds of cranberry sauce, rolls, mashed potatoes, sweet potato soufflé, green bean casserole, and pies with Cool Whip for dessert.

Other dinners included salad every night, Pakistani chicken, pork paprikash with noodles, steamed vegetables, seasoned rice, kota kapama (Greek chicken with tomatoes and cinnamon sticks), mixed vegetables, orzo, Italian sausage with mixed peppers and onions, garlic bread, herb roasted potatoes, beef stew, enchiladas with rice and beans. Desserts were cake, cookies, brownies, and ice cream.

The food was fantastic, and we had lots of compliments.

Thanks again for making this another successful year at the Cold Weather Shelter.

~Rita Rubin and Jo Ann Golden
Co-Chairs, Cold Weather Shelter Committee

The World of Jewish Books

The books most frequently printed by Jews at first were, of course, religious books. As time went on, however, story books, books of legend, school books, and books meant only for entertainment were widely circulated among Jews. Everywhere, Jews were hungry for the printed word and for the learning, enjoyment, and comfort that can be found only in books.

More and more, Jewish books were printed every year, and the quality of their printing, which had been poor at first, became better as time went by. By the nineteenth century, Jewish books written in Hebrew, Yiddish, or other languages were published and distributed on a world-wide scale.

Of the many volumes on the Jewish bookshelf, the greatest of all are three: the Bible, the Talmud, and the Siddur. Without the first, there would be no Jewish people; without the second, there would be a vast gap in Jewish scholarship and learning; without the third, there would be no bridge of prayer uniting many centuries of Jewish happiness and despair, fears and hopes.

Our most cherished possession, the Bible, has been translated from the Hebrew into over a thousand tongues. It continues today, as in ages past, to help people lead a good and righteous life. The Bible tells us that there is one G-d; it teaches us to honor our parents; it urges us to tell only the truth. The Bible contains the world's most wonderful stories — of heroes like Moses, Joshua, and Samson; of thrilling events like the Flood and the Exodus; of stirring prophecies like those of Isaiah and Jeremiah.

The Torah consists of the Five Books of Moses (although the word *Torah* also means the whole Bible). The Five Books begin with Genesis and the creation of the world and end with Deuteronomy and the death of Moses. The Five Books are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

The Hebrew name for *Genesis* is *B'rayshis* and comes from the first word in the book which means "in the beginning." Genesis discusses many subjects. How did the world begin? Why do men have to work so hard to earn a living? How did murder enter the world to mar G-d's beautiful plan? When did man get the idea of fashioning tools and instruments with his hands? The Book of Genesis answers these questions in the language and thought of long ago. It is not a "Book of Knowledge," however; its chief purpose is to tell us how G-d wants us to live in His world. It makes clear that the Jewish way of life leads to happiness.

~~Continued Next Month~~



Purim Tzedakah ! Purim Goodies ! Purim Fun !

Don't miss your opportunity to donate for this year's Shalach Manot bags. They are filled with treats and surprises.

Your donation will help ensure that everyone in our Beth Shalom family will receive a Shalach Manot bag for Purim and that this fundraiser will be a success. Donations should be sent to Beth Shalom, marked for Shalach Manot.

If you have already donated, thank you very much for helping Beth Shalom continue programs such as this one.

~Jordan Eres

Please see Page 14

February Birthdays

<i>Yvette Pollack</i>	<i>February 1</i>
<i>Lynn Alice Briggs-Cantu</i>	<i>February 2</i>
<i>Charles Held</i>	<i>February 6</i>
<i>David Weiss</i>	<i>February 22</i>
<i>Dorothy Rubin</i>	<i>February 28</i>



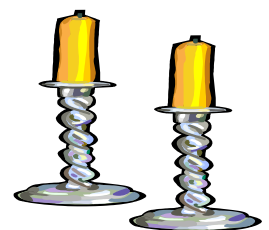
February Anniversaries

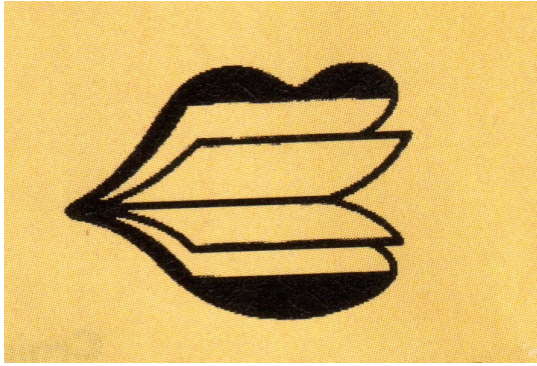
<i>Charles and Lila Held</i>	<i>February 1</i>
<i>Lynda Bruce and Anne Lesser</i>	<i>February 14</i>

*Beth Shalom of Whittier
Wishes you all
A Very Happy Birthday
and Happy Anniversary !*

Candle Lighting Times

February 2	5:07 p.m.	February 9	5:13 p.m.
February 16	5:20 p.m.	February 23	5:26 p.m.





Book Group News

The Beth Shalom Book Group is moving along. We had to cancel our January meeting due to illness, but we have rescheduled our meeting to Tuesday, February 6. We are meeting at Evelyn Litwin's home. Evelyn has graciously invited everyone to lunch; she says it will be vegetarian. It will be a refreshing change.

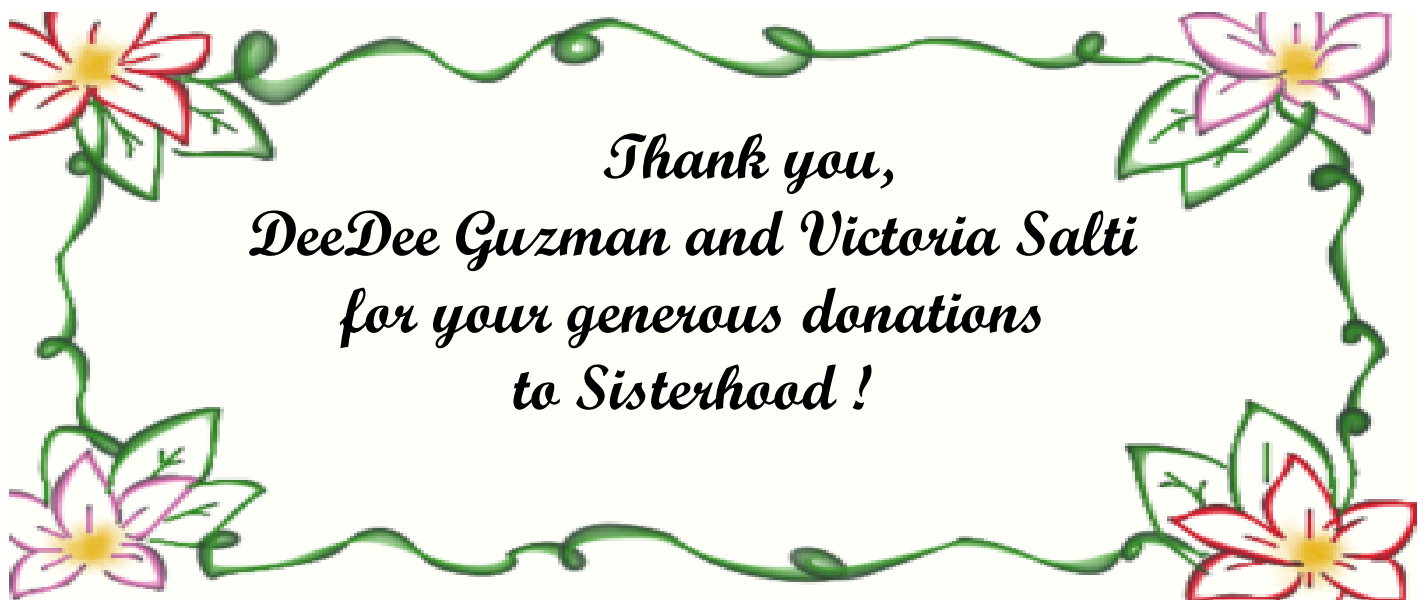
We will be discussing *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. The story may not be Jewish subject matter, but it is certainly Jewish values. It is a very good read.

In March we will be reading *The Orphan's Tale* by Pam Jenoff. Ms. Jenoff was one of the authors featured at the 2017 Jewish Book Festival. *The Orphan's Tale* is a Holocaust story from a very different perspective.

I will try to arrange a Skype meeting with the author; it will all depend on her schedule. That is always a fun time, chatting with an author.

Everyone is welcome at our Book Group, and if you have any questions, please call me. Happy Reading!

~Myra Weiss



*Thank you,
DeeDee Guzman and Victoria Salti
for your generous donations
to Sisterhood !*

BIOGRAPHY OF THE MONTH

Irving Berlin (1888—1989)

He was born Israel Baline, the son of a cantor and kosher butcher, in Temun, Siberia and went to the United States with his family, who fled the pogroms, when he was six. At eight, following his father's death, he began helping to support his family, progressing from selling newspapers to singing while he waited on tables at Chinatown's Pelham Café. It was on the piano there that he first taught himself to play — on the black keys only. In more successful days, he would work on an instrument especially built to change whatever music he played into the only key he had mastered, F sharp. It was also for the Pelham Café that he first wrote lyrics, and an error on the sheet music gave him a new name—Irving Berlin. His cakewalks and ragtimes soon brought him a reputation.

Berlin found himself capable of writing music as well as lyrics, and in 1911 he became a household name when "Alexander's Ragtime Band" swept the country.

Serious ballads began to join the novelty songs in his repertoire after his bride, Dorothy Goetz, died of typhoid fever shortly after their wedding in 1914.

Berlin graduated from individual hits to complete stage scores, and by 1921 he was writing them for his own theater, the Music Box, as well as acting as his own publicist.

With the inclusion of his "Blue Skies" in the historic part-talkie *The Jazz Singer*, Berlin's songs became as important for the screen as they had become for the stage. He wrote three film scores for Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers and two for the team of Astaire and Bing Crosby. The first of the latter, *Holiday Inn*, contained his greatest song success, "White Christmas."

During both world wars, he was responsible for fund-raising soldier shows, including *This is the Army* and the song "America," originally written for a soldier show, gained the status of being an unofficial American anthem.

Immediately after World War II, Berlin produced his most renowned work for the stage, *Annie Get Your Gun*. Its star, Ethel Merman, also starred in his last major success, *Call Me Madam*, in 1950.

In 1955 he received the Congressional Gold Medal for his patriotic songs, and widespread celebrations marked his one-hundredth birthday in 1988.



Geoffrey Wigoder, Dictionary of Jewish Biography, 1991

Some of Irving Berlin's Hits: "Alexander's Ragtime Band" "Always" "What'll I Do" "Blue Skies" "White Christmas" "Easter Parade" "There's No Business Like Show Business" "Over There" "All Alone" "A Pretty Girl is Like a Melody" "Puttin' On the Ritz" "The Song is Ended" "Cheek to Cheek" "Top Hat" "Let's Face the Music and Dance" "Isn't This a Lovely Day"

What is Shalach Manot?

Purim is fast approaching! Purim mitzvah of *Shalach Manot* is a most enjoyable one to fulfill. The source comes from Megillat Esther, which details how the Jews united under the leadership of Esther and Mordechai to defeat Haman's wicked plot, honor their kinship, and unity. The Jewish people were directed to "send delicacies to one another" (Esther, 9:22). Jews worldwide have continued to perform this mitzvah, and Purim has become a very special day of community and warmth. One that we look forward to every year.

QUESTIONS? Contact Lila or Jordan at (714) 893-8221

Send your contributions to:

Beth Shalom of Whittier ☆ 14564 E. Hawes Street ☆ Whittier, CA 90604

Purim – Thursday, March 1, 2018

SHALACH MANOT PROJECT

Yes! I would like to make a donation in support of Beth Shalom of Whittier.

Please print your name:

Amount Enclosed: \$

Suggested Categories:

☐ \$180 ☐ \$90 ☐ \$54 ☐ \$36 ☐ Other \$

Thank You!

To celebrate Purim this year, Beth Shalom of Whittier, as a community, will be delivering a complementary Shalach Manot gift to you on Sunday, Feb 25, 2018

WE INVITE YOU TO BE A PART OF THIS SPECIAL DAY

AND TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR

BETH SHALOM SHALACH MANOT FUNDRAISER

Yahrzeit Remembrances

Pauline and Harris Kuhn	Samuel Kuhn, Father of Bernard
Howard Brookfield	Dora Fleischmann, Mother-in-Law
Howard Brookfield	Willy Fleischmann, Father-in-Law
Richard and Michelle Hess	Julius Schwartz, Uncle of Michelle
Richard and Michelle Hess	Leigh Hess, Father of Richard
Myra Becker	Pauline Newman, Aunt
Christel Mergruen	Siegbert Mergruen, Husband
Mina Cano	Socorro Torres, Grandmother
Mona Di Natale	Irving Cirulnick, Uncle

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.



Thank You for Your Donations




*Thank You
Revekah Martinez
for your
Generous Donation
To Beth Shalom*





Beth Shalom of Whittier

Invites you, your family, & your friends



1st Night Pesach Seder

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper

Mark Peterson, Accompanist

Friday, March 30, 2018

6:00 pm

Beth Shalom of Whittier


14564 Hawes Street, Whittier 90604

Kosher Chicken Dinner

Catered by Panache

\$50 for adult members , \$25 children age 5 to 13

Please RSVP with payment by March 20, 2018



February 2018

Shevat/Adar 5778

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1 Minyan 2:30 pm	2 Shabbat Service 7:30 pm 	3 Breakfast 9:00 am Lay Study Session 9:45 am Yitro
4 Bingo	5 Minyan 2:30 pm	6 Book Group 12:30 pm	7	8 Minyan 2:30 pm	9 Shabbat Service 7:30 pm 	10 Mishpatim
11 Educational Series 10:00 am Luncheon 11:30 Bingo	12 Minyan 2:30 pm	13	14	15 Rosh Hodesh Minyan 2:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm	16 Rosh Hodesh Shabbat Service 7:30 pm 	17 Teruma
18 Bingo	19 President's Day Minyan 2:30 pm	20	21	22 Minyan 2:30 pm	23 Shabbat Service 7:30 pm 	24  Breakfast 9:00 am Siddur Kol Shalom 9:45 am Tetzaveh
25 Bingo	26 Minyan 2:30 pm	27	28 Sisterhood Board Meeting 1:00 pm Fast of Esther Erev Purim 7:00 pm			

Brain Train

Train your brain by keeping it active!



CRYSTAL BUILDING

Have you ever looked closely at a crystal? If so, you may have noticed that the crystal has flat sides and uniform angles.



That's because a crystal is a repeating arrangement of tiny particles of matter. Often, a central particle is surrounded on all sides by other particles.

Here's a puzzle that will help you visualize a crystal pattern. Suppose you coat a tennis ball with glue. What is the maximum number of tennis balls that can attach directly to this sticky surface?

CONSONANTCY

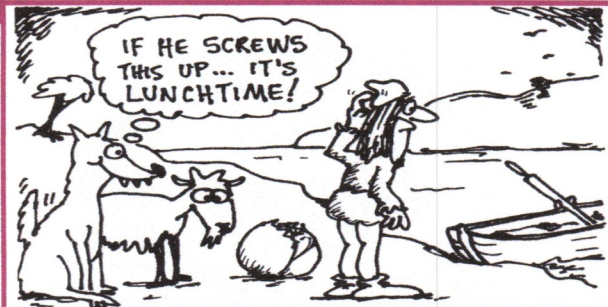
Tourney, outrun, try on, and U-turn form a "consonantcy," a set of words or phrases with the same consonants from left to right (T-R-N), but with different vowels. From the clues listed below, identify a different set that forms a consonantcy.

1. Wrinkly fruit
2. Kitchen wear
3. "They're watching me!" feeling
4. Juan or Eva of Argentina

Eighth Century Enigma



Here's a puzzle that can be traced back to the eighth century. A man has a goat, a wolf, and a head of cabbage. He comes to a river and must bring these three things across to the other side. The boat can only take the man plus either the goat, wolf, or cabbage. There is another problem. If the cabbage is left with the goat, the goat will eat the cabbage. If the wolf is left with the goat, the goat will be devoured. How can he transport the wolf, goat, and cabbage to the other side?



Can you name two kinds of automobiles that start with T?

Breakfast Takeaway

On the counter are 66 freshly baked muffins. My share of the muffins is 10% of the number remaining after



I deduct my share of the muffins.

How many muffins is my share?

SHATTERING

Greta, Hal, Inigo, and Jake are all children standing around a shattered vase. They make these statements:

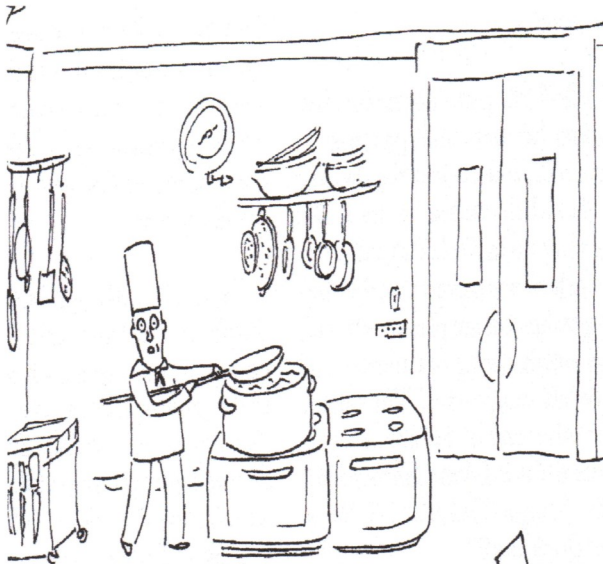
Greta: "Inigo broke the vase."

Hal: "I didn't break it."

Inigo: "Hal is lying."

Jake: "Inigo is lying."

Exactly one of these statements is true. Who broke the vase?



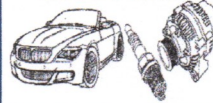
"Sorry—we're making alphabet soup and we've run short of letters."



CLASSIFIEDS

From your good friends at

SUKIE'S USED AUTO PARTS



Congratulations on completing another catalog to our good friends at The Unem

LOST FIRE ANT

Answers to "Sport."
Call head cashiers Dani or Al at The Pet Hut and watch your step

Jack and Jill Nursery Supplies

"bassinets" "strollers" "cradles"
"trowels" "aphid sprays" "pruners"
"epsom salts" "fungicide"

40% OFF WATER COOLERS WITH THIS COUPON UNTIL THE END OF JULY.
Remember — Don't Run with Hedge Trimmers
Toddlers too!

THE PET HUT

\$4.99 Cat Buffet
Tues & Thurs

"On the Boulevard"

The Wig Hideaway

Bobs, weaves, trims, beehives, upsweeps, entire wedding parties.



West entrance, Chokeslurry Mall

Shout-out to Lauren and Dan at

Dan and Lauren's
BIG WHITE ROOM
Cafeteria

Best reunion lunch ever!
xxx Meryl & Tommy

Laurie in the Insertion Dept. — Hi, sweetie, we hope you are having a good time at your new job sticking those little magnets in the finger puppet heads. Love, Mom & Kenneth

With the eventual compliments of the
TROW FUNERAL HOME

PEPPER'S FRESH CHIPPED ICE —

a thoughtful gift for tonsillectomy patients.

Franchises still available!

The Corner Deli

Order the same sandwich every day for six months and eventually we'll figure out that it's your usual.

"Now We Know"



Clichés and Idioms

1:20 p.m. in Albany
2:45 a.m. in Rochester

PUSHOVE

'S
T
A
H
W

M.D.?

Answers

Crystal Building: Twelve tennis balls. Place six in a circle around the middle of the ball. Place three on top and three on the bottom.

Eighth Century Enigma: On his first trip, the man brings the goat over, leaving the wolf and cabbage behind. On his second trip, he brings over the cabbage. When he lands on the other side, however, he takes the goat back in his boat. He drops off the goat and takes the wolf across the river and leaves the wolf with the cabbage. On his last trip, he ferries over the goat.

Consonantcy: The consonants are P-R-N. 1. prune. 2. apron. 3. paranoia. 4. Peron.

Two Kinds of Automobiles: Automobiles don't start with tea; they start with gasoline or electricity.

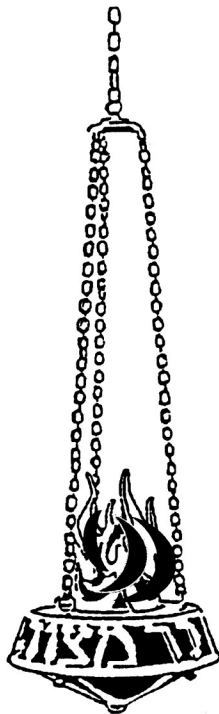
Who Broke the Vase: Hal. Greta, Hal, and Jake are all making consistent statements, so if one of these statements is true, they all are. There is only one true statement, so none of them can be true. This means that Inigo is the truth-teller. Hal broke the vase.

Breakfast Takeaway: 6. If my share is N muffins, then $(1/10)(66-N) = N$. Clearing fractions, $66-N = 10N$.

Solving, $N = 6$.

Clichés and Idioms: 1. the New York Times. 2. When push comes to shove. 3. What's up, Doc?





Beth Shalom of Whittier

14564 East Hawes Street
Whittier, California 90604