

Temple Israel of Highlands County  
1305 Temple Israel Drive  
Sebring, Florida 33870  
863-382-7744 **MARCH 2024 / 5784**

Temple Israel's Web Page [www.templeisraelofhcf.org](http://www.templeisraelofhcf.org)



Temple Israel is a Reform Temple that promotes the enduring and fundamental principles of Judaism.

Through prayer, study and friendship we strive to enrich our lives and insure Jewish continuity in Highlands County.



## **Congregational Board**

### **Officers:**

#### **President:**

**Julia Ruden**

#### **Vice President:**

**Sara Rosenbaum**

#### **Secretary:**

**Mary Ann Romer**

#### **Treasurer:**

**Cathy Blumenthal**

### **Trustees:**

**Phyllis Behrens**

**Karen delValle**

**Lois Lewis**

**Pamela Paralikis**

**Rolph Rosenberg**

**Herb Weiss**

**Alan Wildstein**

### **Officiating Cantor:** **Cantor Riselle Bain**

Cell: 813-600-8013

\*American Conference of Cantors  
Clergy Committed to Judaism and  
Jewish Music

### **Rabbi Emerita:**

**Lorraine Rudenberg**

### **Newsletter Staff:**

**Mary Ann Romer**

**Michelle Herchick**

Dear Congregants,

As we march into March Madness (not college basketball!), I am still glowing and grateful about how much we have to be thankful for that happened in February! Our Shabbat services have been well-attended both in our Sanctuary and on Facebook Live. We all had a great time on February 18<sup>th</sup> at our Temple concert, “A Celebration of Broadway Divas.” I still can’t believe the amazing work and talent of Phyllis Behrens, and how she created not one, but two beautiful backdrops for the concert. Mary Ann whipped through the Sebring community and sold 144 tickets. And, as our president, Julie, wrote in her newsletter, so many of our Temple family came together to make the whole afternoon a success.

Speaking of our Temple family, we were blessed with adding two more wonderful human beings to our patriarch Abraham and our matriarch Sarah’s children at our last Shabbat service. Donna Wasson and Tyler Carroll formerly converted to Judaism and joined the mishpacha as they immersed into a mikva and recited the blessings that are part of the Judaic ritual of conversion. Both Donna and Tyler have been living a devoted Jewish life and studying diligently long before that formal service. We are so blessed to have them as part of our Temple Israel congregation.

Now, what is on the agenda for Temple Israel in March Madness? PURIM!!!!!!! This year we will present “The Megillah According to Fiddler on the Roof!” I will be emailing the script to everyone who has already expressed an interest in participating in this year’s Purim spiel. If you haven’t spoken to me, but would still like to be part of our fabulous “Megillah According to Fiddler on the Roof” cast, just email me or call me!



## Cantor Riselle Bain's Message Cont.

Please know that the spiel was sent to me as a PDF and I cannot change anything in the digital version, but I will be making cuts and keeping our version as learner friendly as possible. I would like everyone who is part of the cast to choose a character and create a costume for that character. No one will have to memorize the script or the words to the familiar music of “Fiddler on the Roof.” The cast will all sing each song together – lots of voices and support! Our first rehearsal will be on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM at the Temple. We will have bagels and cream cheese and fruit and juice and coffee to greet you! Bring your pencils and print out your script. If you don't have a printer, we will print the script for you at Temple. So, get ready for March Madness and Purim!

*Cantor Riselle Bain*

*P.S. On Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3PM, I have organized and will be performing as one of the Cantors in “A Musical Mitzvah for Israel” concert. It will take place at Temple Emanu-El in Sarasota. If you can attend the concert, you will hear ten Cantors each sing their heart out for Israel. If you cannot attend, but wish to make a donation, please email me or call me!*



# BAY AREA CANTORIAL ASSOCIATION (BACA)

In Association with Rabbi Stephen Sniderman of Temple Beth Israel of Longboat Key

Invites You To **A MUSICAL MITZVAH FOR ISRAEL**

featuring Tampa Bay & Sarasota/Bradenton Area Cantors, Cantorial Soloists, and Musicians

Hosted by Temple Emanu-El • 151 McIntosh Rd • Sarasota, FL 34232

Sunday, March 3, 2024 • 3:00 PM • Open Seating • Sanctuary Doors open 2:20 PM

benefitting the Israel Emergency Fund of the Jewish Federations of North America



*Cliff Abramson*  
Temple Sinai, Sarasota



*Riselle Bain*  
Temple Israel of Highlands County



*Tanya Greenblatt*  
Congregation Beth Am, Tampa



*Joy Katzen-Guthrie*  
Temple Ahavat Shalom, Palm Harbor



*Jonathan Schultz*  
Congregation B'nai Israel, St. Petersburg



*Kei Reea Sulhi*  
Temple Beth Israel, Longboat Key



*Marci Vitkus*  
Jewish Congregation of Venice



*Roger Weisberg, Cantor Emeritus*  
Cong. Beth Judea, Long Grove, IL



*with Special Guest, Alberto Mizrahi*  
World-Renowned Cantor



*and Scott Sable, Accompanist*  
Temple Emanu-El, Sarasota

**PRESENTED BY CANTORS, CANTORIAL SOLOISTS, AND MUSICIANS  
OF TAMPA BAY AREA & SARASOTA-BRADENTON-VENICE REGIONS**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR FOR A SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$36 PER PERSON  
CASH OR CHECK ONLY « SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE « DONATIONS OF ANY AMOUNT GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED**

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE BY CALLING TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL AT 941-383-3428**

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ISRAEL EMERGENCY FUND OF THE JEWISH FEDERATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA**

**NO RESERVATION NECESSARY « OPEN SEATING « 3:00 PM « SANCTUARY DOORS OPEN 2:20 PM**



MARCH 2024 / 5784

# Message From the President

**Julia Ruden**

Dear Friends and Family;

Thank you Phyllis and Bruce Behrens, Mary Ann Romer, Dixon Taylor, Cathy Blumenthal, Sara Rosenbaum, Donna Wasson, Rolph Rosenberg, Karen del Valle, Vicky Martin, Tyler Carroll, Donna Wasson, our whole Board, Shawn and Annette Owens and Cantor Riselle Bain for all the effort you put into our Temple and our celebrations!

The "Celebration of Broadway Diva's" concert performed by Cantor Riselle Bain and Joy Katzen-Guthrie was FANFLIPPINGTASTIC and everyone truly enjoyed the show! Thank you xoxo so very much EVERYONE!

With the Conversion Service of Donna Wasson and Tyler Carroll, this shul of ours has done it all now. It was wonderful to meet Rabbi Shayndel Kahn who participated in the conversion and Shabbat Service honoring Tyler Carroll and Donna Wasson. We look forward to seeing her again.

ALL the "Life Cycles" we have shared together here at shul, even the sad ones, are so beautiful. We are truly blessed with each other! The hope of the Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and baby naming cycles are in our future along with our traditional holidays.. AMEN!  
We are truly blessed with LIFE! The Life is YOU! It is always great to see you!

We need participants for our Purim spiel on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please let Cantor Riselle know you want to participate as soon as possible so you have time to rehearse, time flies so fast.

Passover is Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, **please** get your reservations in as soon as possible!

I still light a third candle on Shabbat for all the IDF and innocent suffering souls of this war!

The hope lives for World PEACE, Tukan Olam! No Hate, No Fear, No Way! World Peace!

Continued Prayers Mi Shebeirach for all who are recovering and healing!

May we continue to go from strength to strength!

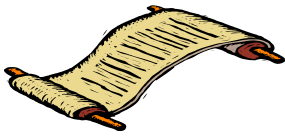
Be thankful for everything, everyone, everyday – I am!!

Stay Safe!

Love Julie







MARCH 2024 / 5784



**Mrs. Blumie's  
Porcelain Doll Studio**

207 N. Ridgewood Dr.  
Sebring, FL 33870

**863-402-9190**

BOARD CERTIFIED



**LAKE PLACID EYE CLINIC**  
GARY J. PEARCE, M.D.  
EYE PHYSICIAN & SURGEON

211 US 27 South  
Lake Placid, FL 33852  
(863) 465-1880



## March Yahrzeits

**\*\* Memorial Plaque in our Shul**

Alexander Amster**	David Miller**
Ruby J. Blumenthal**	Harry Moscovitz
Linda Blumenthal Cantrell**	Margaret Novich**
Herbert Cowell**	Anne Perlman
Christopher J. Fobbe**	Leo Rosenbaum**
Mildred Duncan	Gwen Siegel
Fannie Erskine	Ina Bertha Smith
Esther Ettinger	Virginia Spence
Edward Levi Fields**	Leon Toister**
Minnie Gorsetman	Marshall Toister**
Philip Gouz**	Jessie Wallace**
Frances V. Heyman	Doris Werner
Stephen Ross Kaphan**	Charles Francis Weiss
Dean Lemelle	Claude Wilson
Sophie Levy	Harold Wilson
Sadie Markowitz**	

## Yahrzeit Donations



### Given by

**Rolph Rosenberg  
Mary Ann Romer  
Bonnie & Sharee Salles**

**Joe Snoll  
Jill Liebeck  
Karen delValle**

### In Memory Of

**Germaine Rosenberg  
Frances V. Heyman  
Sophie Levy, Elliot Salles,  
Rabbi Moses Sapir  
Solomon Snoll  
Judith Liebeck  
Ina Bertha Smith**





# We Remember



A tree was planted in Israel in loving Memory of Michael Wasson by our Temple Israel Congregation.

A tree was planted in Israel in loving Memory of Michael Wasson by Cantor Riselle Bain.

A tree was planted in Israel in loving Memory of Michael Wasson by Julie Ruden.

A tree was planted in Israel in loving Honor of Donna Wasson's Conversion by our Temple Israel Congregation.

A tree was planted in Israel in loving Honor of Tyler Carol's Conversion by our Temple Israel Congregation.

A tree was planted in Israel in loving Memory of Robert Goodman by our Temple Israel Congregation.



To plant a tree, email your information of who you're honoring/remembering to [jruden18@gmail.com](mailto:jruden18@gmail.com)  
Mail check (\$18.00/tree) to Temple Israel. Write "Tree" in the memo line on check.





## Announcements

MARCH 2024 / 5784



March Onegs are  
sponsored by:

March 8, 2024 – The Board

March 22, 2024 – The Board PURIM

Challah, wine, decaf coffee & fruit are  
the basics for our onegs. If you would  
like to sponsor an Oneg contact Karen  
del Valle 863-260-0325

### LUNCH BUNCH

The next Ladies Lunch Bunch Group  
Monday, March 25, 2024 at 12:30pm

Nutmeg's Café  
3953 US Hwy 27 S  
Sebring, FL

Contact Renee Tepper  
863-414-8811 or  
[reneetepper@gmail.com](mailto:reneetepper@gmail.com)  
and let her know you'll be there.

**תודה רבה - Thank You**  
**Alan Wildstein** for your continued and  
generous support from  
Alan Jay Automotive Network for our  
transportation to and from Services!  
And for ALL YOU Dooo!  
Please, if you need assistance to get to  
services.  
Contact Cantor Riselle Bain  
813-600-8013

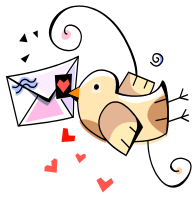


*Happy Anniversary*

Max & Sarah Sherwood 3/23

## CARDS SENT

*(All donations go to Temple Israel.)*



**To send a birthday, anniversary, get well, sympathy or mazel tov card contact Mary Ann Romer at [matromer@aol.com](mailto:matromer@aol.com).**

**Write "Temple card" in the email subject box.**

**Send your minimum \$5.00 donation to the temple.**

### **February Greeting Cards Sent**

### **Anniversary Greeting Cards Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**

**To: Ronald & Renee Tepper**

### **Get Well Cards Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**

**To: Rolph Rosenberg, Shawn Owens, Karen DelValle, Dixon Taylor, Pamela Jay Paralikis**

### **Donation Thank You Cards Sent**

**To: Mrs. Gerri Marder for husband Alan Marder's funeral service done by Cantor Bain**

**To: Roberta Goodman donation to Temple for funeral service of husband, Robert Goodman**

**To: Jay & Susie Luck for donation to Temple**

## CARDS SENT

*(All donations go to Temple Israel.)*

### Condolence Cards Sent

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**

To: Roberta Goodman on the passing of her beloved husband Robert (Bob) Goodman;

Joe Snoll on the passing of his companion dog, Fritz;

Lois Lewis on the passing of her son, Steven Crissy

### Thank You Cards Sent

To: Joy Katzen-Guthrie for her piano accompaniment at "A Celebration of Broadway Divas"

To: Sharon Weatherhead for reporting the Temple "Diva" concert in the Highlands News-Sun

To: Rabbi Shayndel Kahn for participation and certification of conversions for Tyler Carroll and Donna Wasson

**Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home  
& Crematory**



**Craig M. Nelson**  
Licensed Funeral Director

**Don Elwell**

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING  
& PUBLIC RELATIONS  
401 U.S. Hwy 27 S. Sebring, FL 33870  
Email: don.elwell@ALANJAY.COM  
Phone (863) 314-5334

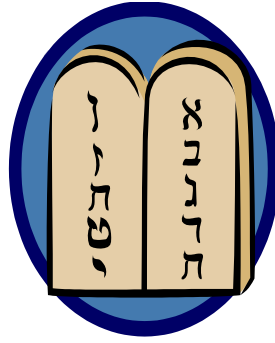
**ALAN JAY**  
Automotive Network

Board of County Commissioners  
COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2  
600 S. Commerce Ave. Sebring, FL 33870  
Email: delwell@hcbcc.net Phone: (863) 402-6835  
Cell: (863) 381 - 5622





# Cantor Bain's Schedule:



## Future Erev Shabbat Services

6:30 PM (subject to change)

<https://www.facebook.com/662042600572611/live/>

- Friday 3/8/24 – Torah Portion Vayakhel (Rosh Chodesh Adar II)
- Friday 3/22/24 – Purim
- Friday 4/5/24 – Torah Portion Shmini
- **Tuesday 4/23/24 -- PASSOVER SEDER (signup by 2 April)**
- Friday 5/3/24 – Yom Hashoah/Yom Haatzmaut –  
Torah Portion K'doshim
- Friday 5/24/24 – Torah Portion Behar
- Friday 6/7/24 – Torah portion Bamidbar
- Friday 7/12/24 – Torah portion Chukat
- Friday 8/9/24 – Torah Portion Devarim
- Friday 9/13/24 – Torah portion Ki Teitzei
- Wednesday 10/2/24 and Thursday 10/3/24 – Rosh Hashanah
- Friday 10/11/24 and Saturday 10/12/24 – Yom Kippur
- Friday 10/25/24 – Sukkot, Sh'mini Atzeret, Simchat Torah
- Friday 11/8/24 – Kristallnacht – Torah portion Lech L'cha
- Friday 11/22/24 – Torah Portion Chayei Sarah
- Friday 12/13/24 – Torah portion Vayishlach
- Friday 12/27/24 – Chanukah (3<sup>rd</sup> night) – Torah portion Miketz

**CELEBRATE PESACH WITH YOUR TEMPLE FAMILY AND FRIENDS ON**

**TUESDAY APRIL 23, 2024 AT 6:00 PM**

**IN TEMPLE ISRAEL'S SOCIAL HALL**

**A TRADITIONAL PASSOVER MEAL WILL BE SERVED**

**\*\* RESERVATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 2, 2024 \*\***

**PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESERVATION AND CHECK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO:**

**TEMPLE ISRAEL OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY**

**1305 TEMPLE ISRAEL DRIVE, SEBRING, FL 33870 TELEPHONE (863) 382-7744**



**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **ADULT MEMBERS @ \$36.00 EACH** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **ADULT NON-MEMBERS @\$46.00 EACH** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **YOUNG ADULTS (UNDER 18) \$12.00** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **CHILDREN 12 & UNDER are Free**

\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE LIST NAMES AND CHOICE OF CHICKEN OR BRISKET**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_