READING OF NAMES
SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 27-28
AT CHISUK EMUNA
CONGREGATION

Join the Jewish community on Sunday evening, April 27 at Temple Chisuk Emuna Congregation to commemorate Yom Hashoah with the Reading of Names, a vigil in which the names of our Kedoshim (those who lost their lives during the Holocaust) are read continuously over a period of 24 hours.

In order to continue passing the torch of memory to the next generation, students from congregational Religious Schools, the Silver Academy, and the Jewish Youth Choir will take part on the conduct of the opening ceremony.

Names are being read by a variety of Jewish and non-Jewish groups and individuals, congregations, organizations, youth groups and churches have signed on to read for portions of the vigil.

Unto Every Person There is a Name seeks to dignify the memories of the victims of the Shoah (the Nazi Holocaust) by reading their names aloud. These victims were stripped of their names by their oppressors and tattooed with numbers. Through the public reading of the names of Holocaust victims, this program strives to restore a portion of their humanity and to retrieve them for the lost depths of anonymity.

If you would like to have the opportunity to participate in the Reading of Names, please contact Lillian Rappaport at 236-9555, ext. 3402.

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Passover...

A time of reflection.
A time of hope.
A time of peace for all.

May this holiday bless your family with good health, abundant peace, and bountiful happiness.

The Staff and Board of Directors
of the Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg

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SAVE THE DATE!
26th Annual Harrisburg Jewish Film Festival
May 15-22, 2014

Nine great films, three great venues - and a “heads up” for this season’s BOOK CLUB FILM:

Read Philip Roth’s “Goodbye, Columbus” before Festival week, then join us at the State Museum on May 16th to watch the movie and to discuss both classic works.

For more information on this, other special events, and our film slate, please visit our website at www.hbajff.com. See you at the movies!
A Message from
Margie Adelmann, CEO

Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg

Even though I was not here in September 2011, I am reminded almost daily of the devastation that took place when our building was flooded by Tropical Storm Lee. I have heard the stories of the community coming together and working around the clock to save as many items as possible. I have seen pictures of the awful aftermath, and heard about how staff and volunteers didn't miss a beat to ensure that we could be up and running in as short a time as possible. I also know that we are not fully recovered and that we continue to work to return to full strength in terms of finances and also programs.

Shortly after the flood, the staff and Board leadership began working with our insurance company and learned what would be covered and what our true losses were. Once again I am sure they were devastated to learn of the uninsured costs of the flood. But this did not deter them; together they worked to secure funding and with a loan from the Jewish Community Foundation of Central Pennsylvania (which has been fully paid back), donations from the community, FEMA and Jewish Federation of North America's money, they were able to pay for most of the damages that had occurred. At the same time, a Flood Mitigation committee was formed to identify solution(s) to flood-proof the building.

They researched and developed grant applications to the Dauphin County Gaming Local Share Municipal Grant Program and to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through Dauphin County to protect our building against future flooding.

I am thrilled to share with you that in addition to the $225,000 Dauphin County Gaming Grant that we were notified of last spring, we just learned that we received $163,000 from HUD. Together these funds will enable us to protect our building to 30 feet! The only recorded flood greater than 30 feet in Harrisburg was Hurricane Agnes in 1972.

We have been working with engineers and expect to start work this spring on this major Flood Mitigation Project to “flood-proof and provide standby power” to the building. We will keep you up to date on this important project and hope to minimize any disruption to the day-to-day activities in the building and appreciate your patience as we work together to get stronger!

B’shalom,

Margie Adelmann, CEO
On Sunday, March 9th the Maimonides Society presented their first Continuing Medical Education program led by Dr. George Beauregard, Senior Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer of Pinnacle Heath System. Dr. Beauregard, an industry expert on the Affordable Care Act, discussed with the participants how the new law impacts them as medical professionals. Dr. Beauregard’s presentation received high praise from those in attendance.

A special thank you to Dr. Maggie Grotzinger and Dr. Avi Beck, Co-Chairs of the Maimonides Society for organizing program, Steve Roth who played critical roles securing the Continuing Medical Education credit and Dr. Beauregard and Norma Gras for his delicious catering.

The Maimonides Society was developed nationally to foster a sense of common purpose and commitment among healthcare professionals to work towards the betterment of Jews wherever they may be. The goals of the Society here in Harrisburg are: To promote fellowship among Jewish health care professionals in the greater Harrisburg area; To strengthen commitment to Jewish values through educational and cultural programs; To respond to Jewish needs in the greater Harrisburg area, Israel and throughout the world; To mobilize health care professionals to serve as resources to the entire community.

Please join us in our efforts. Membership in the Maimonides Society has been reconfigured to encourage participation from medical students and healthcare professionals just entering the profession and those already established in their fields. A minimum contribution to the Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg Annual Campaign will qualify for Maimonides Society membership at various levels.

For more information about the Maimonides Society or its events, please contact Beth Romano at 717-236-9555 ext. 3204.
Honor
Marcia & Sandy Cohen

Welcome
Ed Finkelstein
Korsunsky Family
Temple Beth Israel (York)
to the Susquehanna Tzedakah Society

Award
The Endowment Achievement Award of
the Jewish Federations of North America
to Alyce and Morton Spector

Guest Speaker
Martin Raffel
Senior Vice President and
Director of the Task Force on Israel,
World Jewry and
International Human Rights
Jewish Council for Public Affairs

The Jewish Community Foundation
of Central Pennsylvania

15th Annual Susquehanna
Tzedakah Society Dinner
Friendship • Community • Israel

Thursday, May 1, 2014
5:30 PM Reception
6:30 PM Dinner

Jewish Community Center
Mary Sachs Auditorium
3301 North Front Street | Harrisburg, PA

$75 per person by Friday, April 18
$90 per person after Friday, April 18

Reservations can be made by mail or online at
pajewishendowment.org/STSTickets.htm

Is Your Teen Going to ISRAEL?

Get $500 towards your teen’s trip

Harrisburg teens going on an approved organized trip to Israel this summer are eligible for The Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg Scholarship program.

For more information go to www.jewishharriscburg.org or e-mail scholarships@jewishfedhbg.org

Scholarship made possible by a grant from The Jewish Community Foundation of Central Pennsylvania
Silver Academy Parents’ Meeting to Discuss Middle School Students’ Needs

There will be a meeting for families of all current 4th, 5th and 6th grade public school students to discuss how the Silver Academy can meet their children’s middle school needs. The meeting will be on Tuesday April 8 at 7 P.M. at the school.

When asked, Teri Berman, a parent of a current 6th grader said, “I just finished reading the article in the March 4, Patriot-News about how our school districts are failing our kids in science, and I had to smile because I am secure in the knowledge that my son, Sam, is receiving an extraordinarily strong start in science at the Silver Academy. Last night he reviewed for a quiz on the phases of the moon. He knew them well. This is a lesson I have been waiting for him to have for 6 years. In his state of the art, Penn State Learners Lab, Susan Gaughen, a teacher with 20 years of experience, makes this one of the most fun school memories. The students are given a pile of Oreos and they have to eat them just enough to demonstrate the eight phases of the moon. Enjoyable and unforgettable.”

Caitlin Welks indicated that not only was she well prepared academically, but that with all the science laboratory experience she had at the Silver Academy, she was never intimidated by the lab work required of her in high school. She also felt that the homework required throughout her Silver career gave her the experience and discipline necessary to meet all her high school assignments without difficulty.

Scott Rubin, commented on the fact that the Silver Academy’s expanded curriculum added an important element to his middle school education. “Rabbi Gewirtz was the first person who showed me how to take a deeper analytical view of things. We would study a singular sentence of the Torah portion and try to extract the meaning of every letter. He showed me how sometimes you can read something and initially interpret it one way, but after going back over it a few times you can derive a completely different understanding of it. He taught me that every word serves a purpose, and to look at a something from both a high and low level when trying to analyze it. There are many times when I am presented with a contract or a legal document that I employ this strategy. If being a Rabbi wasn’t going to work out for him, he probably would have been a very good lawyer.”

We invite you to join us on April 8, for a tour and discussion with current middle school parents and faculty members about how your child can benefit from our unique educational plan. Please contact Jackie Rubin at jrubin@silveracademypa.org or 717-238-8775. Indicate that you are interested in learning about the middle school and how it can respond to your child’s academic needs.

Two Generations Enjoy Spending Time Together

It’s not uncommon to see different age groups of people sharing some fun time together here at the JCC. Whether it’s the children from the Brenner Family Early Learning Center or the students from the Silver Academy or members of the Senior Adult Club all interacting together in some way, it’s one of our most gratifying and enjoyable programs.

Here, Senior Adult Club President Roberta Krieger delights the children in Miss Corrine’s and Miss Jean’s Pre-K class with a story-time session. Roberta loves going downstairs to read to the children, and the students enjoy the time she spends with them.

Award-winning "The Prime Ministers" film to be shown at JCC, Dickinson

It’s not every day that the Harrisburg community gets an exclusive showing of an award-winning film.

We are fortunate to have just that happening on Sunday, April 20, when “The Prime Ministers: The Pioneers” will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Sachs Auditorium of the Jewish Community Center.

It also isn’t everyday that a movie showing goes to such a good cause. Proceeds will benefit The Silver Academy, with some of the money going toward scholarships for The Silver Academy trip to Israel in April.

Another showing of the film will take place at the Stafford Auditorium of the Rector Science Complex at Dickinson College on Thursday, April 17 at 6:15 p.m.

The film, which won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Gold Coast International Film Festival last year, is a compilation of historical footage and accounts of Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin, Levi Eshkol and Menachem Begin. The filmmakers use famous actors’ voices, such as academy award winner Sandra Bullock and Leonard Nimoy to tell some of the story by reading letters and speeches. The film also includes clips of the real Israeli leaders speaking about events such as the Six-Day War, the Yom Kippur War and the history of Israel’s close relationship with the United States.

The film was released by Moriah Films, which is part of the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

For tickets to the film, a reception for the event and sponsorships please contact The Silver Academy at 717-238-8775 or email Shari Dym at sdym@comcast.net.
Special Holocaust Photo Exhibit at Reading of Names Program

Included as part of the Reading of Names program held at Chisuk Emuna Congregation this year is an exhibit entitled “Through Their Eyes: Modern visions of the Holocaust”. Created by Dr. Mark Glick, it is a collection of photographs he took while chaperoning the March of the Living.

According to Dr. Glick, “It has been 75 years since the start of World War II. For many people, it is just something in a history book. But for me, as the only child of Holocaust survivors, it has always been an integral part of my life. Between 2007 and 2013, I had the honor of leading a delegation of high school seniors on the March of the Living three times. Visiting a concentration camp is a surreal experience. You are not sure what to think or feel. You are both tearful and numb at the same time. The sights and smells somehow transport you to another world. Each year we honor the memory of the millions who were killed during that horrible time in World history by reading their names. Our hope is that doing this will give them a voice. Let them be heard and always remembered. My hope through these photographs is to also see; to perhaps give us their vision as well.”

The Reading of Names is a community-wide Holocaust observance which will take place beginning Sunday evening, April 27 through Monday evening, April 28. For more information or if you would like an opportunity to read names, please contact Lillian Rappaport at 236-9555, ext 3402.

Pre-Passover Cooking Demo Offers New Dishes

On Sunday, March 23rd, 38 men and women enjoyed a Pre-Passover Cooking Demo. Chef Alison Gutwaks demonstrated exciting and innovative dishes for Passover, and guests then had the opportunity to sample each dish.

Sen. Teplitz to Host Senior Fair on May 2

HARRISBURG, March 18, 2014 — Local senior citizens are invited to attend state Sen. Rob Teplitz’s upcoming Senior Fair on Friday, May 2 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Harrisburg, 3301 N. Front St. in Harrisburg.

Participants will have the opportunity to meet with representatives and receive information from many state and local agencies and community organizations, including AARP Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate, Pennsylvania Treasury Department’s Bureau of Unclaimed Property, Capital Area Transit, UGI Utilities, Dauphin County Veterans Affairs, YMCA, Highmark and more.

“This event is a one stop shop for information that our community’s older residents will find helpful,” said Teplitz (D-Dauphin/York). “I welcome all seniors from my district to attend this informative event and learn more about the many resources that are available to them.”

For more information, contact the senator’s Harrisburg district office at 717-232-2937.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER PRODUCTION OF YOU’RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN THE MUSICAL

Harrisburg JCC | 3301 N Front Street | Harrisburg PA

Sunday, April 13, 2014

2:00 pm

Tickets:
$8 each
$6 each for groups of 10 or more

To purchase tickets please call the JCC at 236-9555, ext 0.

All seating is reserved.

Funding provided by the Lois Lehrman Grass Foundation.


JCC Programs are funded by the Annual Campaign of the Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg.
Jesters, royal maidens, rabbits and rockers filled the Spector Lounge at the JCC Purim morning for the 3rd annual Women’s Megillah Reading on Sunday, March 16th. The room was set in the rich purple colors described in the Purim story as the costumed assembly of over 70 women and children came to hear 23 women chant from the handwritten parchment Megillah scroll.

As Jackie Sternthal Rubin read her portion, she held her three-year-old son, Noah, in one arm and rocked baby Daniel who comfortably rested in a carrier on her chest. Julia Frankston-Morris held Pearl, dressed as Minnie Mouse, who, as a 14 month old, was at the readers’ table for her second year.

“I was touched by the respectful attention of the congregation and by the variety of ages of the readers and attendees,” said Susan Leviton. She continued, “Every stage of motherhood was represented by the readers. Imagine when those babies grow up to learn where they were when Mama read Megillah!”

Sally Jo Bronner thought she would have to opt out of reading because of her very busy schedule this year. “I hung in there anyway and am so glad I did. I loved being surrounded by supportive and happy women. It gave me a boost of energy.” One of the youngest readers, Julia Zharichenko, said, “I have read Megillah for the three years since this great event has started, and I plan on reading every year until I can no longer do so. It’s an incredible opportunity and it made me feel important and part of the female Jewish community.”

A Power Point of the Megillah, produced as part of an inclusion program by YACHAD, was projected in order to allow women with hearing impairments to follow the service. An 80-year-old woman who had never been at a Megillah reading joined the Women’s Megillah reading because of this accommodation.

Following the reading, attendees were treated to a festive reception sponsored by Myra and Stuart Sacks in honor of the marriage in Jerusalem of Leah Werrin Sacks and David Hagelberg.

Faye Doctrow summed up the feelings of many in the room, “I am so glad I made the choice to attend. It was really special and spiritual. I was impressed with the readers. We have very talented women in our community.”
The JCC Young Adult Committee Presents

**BAGS & BREWS**
Thursday, May 8, 5:30 pm
JCC, 3301 N. Front Street, Harrisburg
Rain or Shine
Fee: $10/person, $15 team (2 players) JCC Member Discount: Free Fee
includes tournament, prizes, snacks & adult beverages

To register please e-mail Steve at s.cooper@jewishfedhbg.org

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A NEW DAY AT THE JCC

Let’s celebrate YOU!
Our JCC Members!

**pancake breakfast**
Sunday, April 13 | 9:00-11:00 am
Mary Sachs Auditorium

Enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast and activities for all ages.
Let us show you how much we appreciate your support.
This event is open to all JCC members.
Please RSVP to events@jewishfedhbg.org

If you would like to join us for this event and are not yet a member, please contact Linda Skulsky at lsukulsky@jewishfedhbg.org or 236-6555, ext. 3050.

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Penn State Hershey Medical Center - Bone & Joint Institute
Presbyterian Apartments • Rite Aid
Treasury Department – Bureau of Unclaimed Property • UGI Utilities, Inc.
Visiting Nurse Association of Central PA • Volunteers of America
YMCA East Shore • YWCA of Greater Harrisburg • And More!

Light Refreshments

For more information, contact Senator Teplitz’s Harrisburg District Office at 717-232-2937.
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& Nancy Yoffe Family

Happy Pesach
Rob, Randi, Ben and Adam Teplitz

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**Bat Mitzvah**

**Skyler Siegel Oken**

On April 12, 2014, Skyler Siegel Oken will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Shabbat Hagadol, the Shabbat before Passover. Skyler is a distinguished honors seventh-grade student attending Lingestown Middle School. She finds science her most interesting subject in school. Skyler will graduate from Chisuk Emuna Congregation Hebrew School this year. She hopes to continue her Jewish education in Hebrew High.

Skyler enjoys playing sports. She plays lacrosse, basketball, skiing, cross country, and tennis. Skyler loves to dance and listen to music. Skyler also plays the oboe in her school band. She enjoys spending time on her family’s boat and Jet Skiing in Maryland and fishing. Skyler is also a big Ravens fan. Skyler attends Emma Kaufmann Camp in the summer and she loves it!

For her mitzvah project, Skyler is volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club and collecting new or used sports equipment, which she will donate to the children she works with at the Boys and Girls Club.

Skyler is the daughter of proud parents Ilene and Ken Oken and youngest sister of Rebecca, Dani, and Molly. Maternal grandparents are Marilyn Siegel and Harvey Siegel of blessed memory. Paternal grandparents are Davida Oken and David Oken of blessed memory.

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**Beth El Temple Hosts Interfaith Freedom Seder**

**Tuesday, April 8, 7:00 p.m.**

On Tuesday evening, April 8, the Religion and Society Center, the Interdenominational Ministers Conference, and the Rabbinic Advisory Council will sponsor a community-wide Freedom Seder to celebrate Passover, the Festival of Freedom. Freedom Seder will take place at Beth El Temple in the Arthur and Pearl Anne Rosen Sisterhood Hall.

The evening will be filled with the symbolic Seder foods and rituals, including singing songs of freedom, sharing varied teachings and table discussions about what freedom means for us as Americans. The history of the Freedom Seder goes back to 1969, when America’s Civil Rights Movement inspired African Americans and Jews to ponder the meaning of freedom from slavery, from Biblical times through our own time. The first such Seder was held on April 4, 1969, which was the third night of Passover and the first anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. Since then, Freedom Seders have been held in many cities to bring freedom-loving people together in prayerful fellowship.

The Freedom Seder, hosted by Beth El Temple, will be co-led by Rabbi Carl Choper, President of the Religion and Society Center, Rabbi Eric Cytryn of Beth El Temple, and Bishop A.E. Sullivan, President of the Interfaith Ministers Conference. Freedom songs will be led by the IMC Choir.

All are welcome to join us on April 8. Reservations are required. There is a nominal per person cost for the Freedom Seder. Call Beth El Temple at 232-0556 for more information and to make your reservation.
The Man Behind Chisuk Emuna’s Woodwork

By Mary Klaus

When Stephen F. Spector was 4, he received a carpenter’s set that included a hammer, a saw, wood and nails. The fascinated little boy picked up the tools, wood and nails and got to work as if he knew that woodworking and building would be his destiny.

Decades later, he’s still at it as owner and operator of S.F. Spector Inc., which specializes in cabinets, furniture and millwork.

Over the past year, he and his assistants made the cherry and maple woodwork of Chisuk Emuna Congregation's new synagogue. Their work was celebrated by friends and family after Sabbath services and a special lunch on February 22, the anniversary of Spector's Bar Mitzvah. That day coincides with the Hebrew reading about Bezalel, who used Acacia wood, gold and silver when he built the Tabernacle in the desert.

Chisuk Emuna congregation members listened to that reading while looking at the new synagogue's ark, Torah case, podiums and other items made by Spector. They smiled as Spector and other skilled workers were recognized for their work at Chisuk Emuna.

(As an aside, the art glass is Youghiogheny glass from Western Pennsylvania, that was purchased by the congregation at a yard sale and was selected and cut by Susan Leviton and placed into the ark design with great reverence and skill by Gary Nenninger and Bruce Beam of Reynolds Construction.)

Morton and Alyce Spector, the builder's parents, smiled too, recalling how their young son made a bird house, a lamp and salt and pepper shakers before he began to make furniture.

In his youth, Spector’s knack for building and science even inspired him to produce a Capital Area Science Fair project about how launching tad poles into the air at low and high acceleration affected their growth. The project attracted military attention and earned Spector various awards, including some from the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force.

By the time Spector graduated from the Yeshiva Academy and went to Susquehanna Twp. High School, he was buying machines for his woodworking shop in the family home. Soon, he had a lathe, circular saw and drill press. Eventually, he headed to the Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan, where he majored in business administration and minored in construction. He and his wife, Lisa, lived for a few years in Marquette, where he did woodworking in new construction and remodeled houses and businesses.

In 2000, he moved back to the Harrisburg area where he set up his custom millwork and building business at 608 Brook St., Susquehanna Twp.

Over the past 35 years, he has done woodworking in many private homes. He also has created unique and beautiful offices with wooden reception areas, huge conference tables, doors and more in such diverse places as the Hershey Library, Rite Aid, Saul Ewing Law Firm, Susquehanna Art Museum, Capital Area Transit and the State Capitol.

Spector, who grew up in the Chisuk Emuna neighborhood and works about a mile from it, said he was pleased to work on the new synagogue. He called himself "a local boy" who knew the Chisuk Emuna members and had their trust.

“The rabbi and congregation had a lot of input into the project,” he said. “They wanted a contemporary design of maple and cherry from Pennsylvania hardwoods.”

Spector and his two assistants, Dan Lauver and Michael Rhoads, began the work in late December 2012 and finished last winter.

“The architect and congregation came up with a unique design for the Torah stands,” he said, “That was a difficult project but it turned out well.”

Rabbi Ron Muroff thinks so too, expressing gratitude to “all those who used their gifts to beautify and strengthen our congregation and community” during the construction project.

“The building of Chisuk Emuna’s new home was an amazing collaboration of skilled and dedicated professionals and volunteers,” the rabbi said. “The creation of the ark and other synagogue furniture involved our architects, committee members and Steve Spector. Ultimately, it was Steve who took our plans and made them come alive. As the Psalmist declares ‘May G-d bless the work of our hands’.”

www.jewishharrisburg.org   | april 4, 2014  |  13

Tallit stand

Ark

Lectern

Torah stand
The family of Elaine Reis would like to express its appreciation for all the love, kindness and support given to us, she will be missed.

The Reis Family

BREAKFAST ’N LEARN 9:30 a.m. in the Bethel Temple Bistro with Rabbi Cytryn.

Saturday, April 5: Mincha/Maariv/havdalah at same time as Friday evening candlelighting time.

Friday, April 4: Erev Shabbat services will begin at 6 p.m. and include the participation of Joseph Kass, in celebration of his becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Saturday, April 5: Shabbat Services, 9:15 a.m.; Bar Mitzvah celebration of Joseph Kass. Mincha, Maariv and Torah study, 7:20 p.m.

Sunday, April 6: Spring Gala – L’dor V’dor: Honoring the Legacy of Aaron & Lena Rubin and the Leadership of Carl & Beth Shuman; For more information about this Gala, please contact Linda Laff at 385-0077.

Friday, April 11: Erev Shabbat services will begin at 6 p.m. and include the participation of Skylar Oken, in celebration of her becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Saturday, April 12: Shabbat services, 9:15 a.m.; Bar Mitzvah celebration of Skylar Oken. Mincha, Maariv and Torah study, 7:25 p.m.

Monday, April 14: Mincha & Maariv – 7:25 p.m., Erev Passover/First Seder

Tuesday, April 15: First Day of Passover/Festival Morning Services, 9:15 a.m.

9:25 p.m. - Mincha & Maariv, including the beginning of the counting of the Omer, the period of seven weeks that connects Pesach with Shavuot, the physical redemption with the spiritual redemption at Sinai.

Wednesday, April 16: Second Day of Passover/Festival Morning Services, 7:25 p.m. Mincha & Maariv

(Thursday, April 17 thru Sunday, April 20: Intermediate days of Passover)

Thursday, April 17: Morning Service, 6:45 a.m., Evening Service, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, April 18: Morning Service, 6:45 a.m., Erev Shabbat Service, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 19: Shabbat Services, 9:15 a.m., Shabbat Mincha, Torah Study and Maariv, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 20: Morning Service, 8:30 a.m., followed by Hearing Men’s Voices, a program of the Men’s Club, 9:30 a.m.; Mincha/Maariv for 7th Day of Passover, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 21: Seventh day of Passover – Festival Morning Services, 9:15 a.m.; Mincha, Maariv and Torah Study, 7:35 p.m.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL
Lebanon | 273-2669
Visit the Congregation Beth Israel Web Site at www.congregation-beth-israel.org

All are welcome to our egalitarian services: Sundays at 9 a.m., Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. Our Shabbat services, led by Rabbi Paula Reimers, are at 7:30 p.m. on Friday evenings and on Shabbat morning at 9:30 a.m. followed by Kiddush.

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Carlisle | 245-2811
www.beth-tikvah.org

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

HISTORIC B’NAI JACOB
Middleton | 319-3014
www.bnaijacob.org

Historic B’nai Jacob Synagogue, Water and Nissley Streets in Middletown, will conduct Shabbat services on Friday, April 4th at 7:30 p.m. We are a Community Shul, all are welcome. Tel 717-319-3014 Visit web site for more information

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

KESHER ISRAEL CONGREGATION
238-0763 | www.kesperisrael.org

PARTICIPATE IN OUR DAILY MINYANIM: Mornings: Sundays and Federal holidays at 8 a.m., Monday through Friday at 6:45 a.m. Rosh Chodesh and fast days at 6:30 a.m. Evening services begin at 20 minutes before sunset.

Please join us for our 9 a.m. Shabbat morning services - followed by Kiddush

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM
697-2662 | www.tbshalom.org

April 5: No Saturday services

April 12: Saturday morning services, 9 a.m.

April 19: Saturday morning services, 9 a.m.

April 26: Saturday morning services, 9 a.m.

Sunday, April 6: 10 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Temple Beth Shalom and the PA Behavioral Health and Aging Coalition will present Recipes for Good Health and Good Mental Health as We Age. Learn the “secret recipe” for good health and mental health. Become an active partner in your healthcare. Learn where to find safe health information online. Email the TBS office by April 3 to sign up!

Tuesday, April 15: Temple Beth Shalom’s annual Passover Seder will be held at 6:30 p.m. Cost is $27 for members age 14+; $13 for member children ages 5-13; $35 for non-members, and children 4 and under FREE. All reservations with payment must be received by Friday, April 4.

Call the Temple office for more details or to sign up.

Monday, April 27 and Tuesday, 28: Temple members will be participating in the Yom Hashoah 24-Hour Reading of Names Commemoration on Sunday at Chisuk Emuna Congregation.

Wednesday, April 30: The Sisterhood Book Club will meet at 7 p.m. at the home of Andi Russell to discuss the book, “Defending Jacob” by William Landay. RSVP to dandipa@earthlink.net if you plan to attend.

Contact: Jenny Kornfeld, TBS Ritual Chair, jenmar55@comcast.net

To find out more about our programs and events, visit www.tbshalom.org or contact us at tbs.temple@verizon.net.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

TEMPLE OHEV SHOLOM
233-6459 | www.ohevsholom.org

Friday, April 4: Family Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Friday, April 11: Shabbat Service, 6 p.m., Lehman Chapel

Friday, April 18: Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Friday, April 25: Shabbat Service and Soup-N-Study, 6 p.m., Lehman Chapel

Saturday, April 26: Tot Shabbat Service, 10/30 a.m., Lehman Chapel
What Was He thinking? Speculations on G-d's Holiday Scheduling

By Rabbi Akiva Males

Each year, as she cleans up from Purim and starts preparing for Pesach, a relative of ours always declares, "Far be it from me to question G-d's infinite wisdom. But why did He schedule Purim and Pesach so close to one another?"

My wife Layala and I always laugh about this deep theological question. While G-d has not yet decided to explain His ways to me, I did come across something which may shed some light on His choice in holiday scheduling.

The main theme of Purim is that with G-d in charge, anything is possible. G-d is involved in the running of our world, and if He so chooses, any earthly circumstance can be transformed. For example, G-d changed a date which should have been full of sorrow and mourning for the Jewish people into one of great gladness and joy (Esther 9:22). Similarly, the very gallows which Haman had set for Mordechai became the instrument through which he would meet his own end (ibid. 7:9-10).

This same theme can be found in the story of our Exodus from Egypt as well. In his commentary to the Pesach Haggadah, the great Rabbi Naftali Z.Y. Berlin (1817-1893) of Volozhin, Lithuania finds this lesson in the splitting of the sea. In Exodus 14:9, we read that the Egyptian army, in trying to capture the runaway slave nation of Israel, pursued and trapped the Jews against the sea. Our ancestors cried out in despair. One can imagine how they must have cursed the sea that blocked their escape and seemed to deliver them into the hands of their oppressors.

Yet they soon saw "G-d's Hand" (Exodus 14:31). The sea, which they had perceived as the instrument of their capture, became the source of their rescue, and the means through which their pursuers met their doom.

Thus, both Purim and Pesach share a common theme: with G-d at the helm, our destiny is anything but fixed. Dates which our people once dreaded can be transformed into ones we eagerly anticipate. Agents of devastation can become the means of triumph. Perhaps G-d wanted us to celebrate Pesach on the heels of Purim so this reality would not go unnoticed.

I hope this theory makes it a bit easier to clean up all the Hamantashen crumbs and prepare for Pesach. Kesher Israel Congregation's Rabbi Akiva Males can be reached at rabbimales@yahoo.com