January 2024 (631) 563-1660 www.bnai-israel.org

67 Oakdale-Bohemia Road, Oakdale, NY 11769

B'nai Israel Reform Temple Bulletin

2024 marks our 60th Anniversary



Rabbi Rosenthal's Message

Happy (secular) New Year! While it seems that I just talked about becoming our best selves during the High Holidays, January is often another time when we consider resolutions, think about what we want to accomplish, and we make plans to get a handle on our bad habits. Certainly, many of us participate in this renewing ritual and it has great value.

Interestingly in Judaism, New Year's isn't limited to the secular New Year and Rosh Hashanah. In fact, according to the Mishnah (an ancient legal code and text) Rosh Hashanah is joined by 3 other celebrations to make a total of 4 times in a year that we celebrate the beginning of a specific time of year. Rosh Hashanah is the New Year for the creation of the world. This is the most well-known Jewish New Year. Tu Bishevat is the New Year of the trees. It signifies a time when

the sap has begun to rise and the fruit begins to ripen. Today, it is celebrated as a Jewish environmental day honoring trees and the earth. It often takes place in the month of January. The third Jewish New Year is 1 Nisan. This is the New Year of redemption and signifies our peoples' freedom from Egypt and the birth of the Israelite nation after receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai. Finally, there is 1 Elul. This is the New Year of the animals or for Tithing cattle.

While we do not always highlight these various New Year markers, there is great wisdom in acknowledging that there are several aspects of our lives that benefit from renewal throughout the year as opposed to just the beginning of the year.

I think that Rosh Hashanah and Tu Bishevat are 2 New Years that speak loudly to our responsibilities to improve our relationships with friends and families and to consider our personal responsibility to care for the earth.

But have the other New Years become too distant to reclaim?

Could there be a New Years to celebrate our birth as a Jewish people, like 1 Nisan in which we take time to celebrate our past and plan our future Jewish observances?

Could there be a New Years for our special connection to our animal friends that we take a step further and really think about how to create better and safer realities for all animals?

Or should we consider adding in a few additional New Year's celebrations to help us renew and consider other aspects of our lives?

Could there be a New Years to inspire us to aid the ills of the world?

Could we work to become an antiracist (being an antiracist is fighting against racism), and start on shabbat tzedek (the shabbat of Martin Luther King Jr. weekend)?

Could we commit to fighting antisemitism through educating friends and neighbors?

Could we commit to aiding Israel in finding her way towards a sustainable and healthy peace, security and just society in which democracy and inclusion prevail?

Or is there another issue that keeps you up at night that could benefit from your expertise and time?

Could there be a B'nai Israel Reform Temple New Years/or Jewish Synagogue New Years?

Could we volunteer a little to help out?

Could we join a committee and brainstorm new ideas?

Is there a friend or neighbor we could bring to Temple?

Could we introduce ourselves to some folks we don't know too well?

Could we come in person to a service or event we have always wanted to come to?

Perhaps a self-care and renewal New Years would also be impactful.

We could take some time to commit to mental and physical well-being.

We could take some time to rest.

We could take some time to learn – or to finally find a group for an activity we have always wanted to do but never

Rabbi Rosenthal's Message Continued

found the time to do so.

What would your creative New Years celebrations be? When would you add them into your calendar and why?

Judaism reminds us that the cycle of the seasons, can serve as a beautiful and holy reminder of what might help us become fulfilled and healthy human beings throughout the year.

Let's take this special month of January to plan a year full of reminders and times for renewal that we find to be essential and just.

Wishing everyone healthy and happy New Year's celebrations throughout the year!

President's Message

Seth Berman



Welcome to 2024! Where does the time go?

As 2024 begins, 2023 went out with a bunch of events. For menorah lightings to Chanukah parties to Karaoke to musical Shabbat and a return to our in-house blood drive it seemed like something was always happening. This is a good time to thank our security volunteers. In the past we didn't have security volunteers at out events but now we do. This small group of volunteers has given up their Shabbat participation and also participation in events. Thank you very much for giving your time.

Sixty years ago, our wonderful Temple was founded. Over those years we have seen members come and go. We have shared celebrating many simchas and been there to console one another

when great tragedies have befallen one of our temple family members. The congregation has been a support system for us. I have said this before and I will keep on repeating myself, the more you are present and involved the more you will get out of belonging.

With the flip of the calendar year, we are also halfway through the temple's fiscal year. As you might remember our budget this year took into account a deficit amount. Even with that we are still just a bit short. A simple donation of \$60.00 can go a long way to helping us reach our budget goals. Can you start off 2024 by helping us just a little more?

From Jeannette and myself, Happy New Year and I'Shalom Seth C. Berman

Outreach Committee Report

Alice Lambert

As we're looking forward to Chanukah with all the family get-togethers and latkes to eat, I'm also thinking about 2023 just around the corner. With the arrival of winter and cold weather, there are many people in our local communities who are suffering; fuel prices are very high, rents are being raised, and food prices are also going up.

Please consider making a donation to the "Outreach Fund" to help us, help others as requests come in. Sometimes it is an individual family that needs our help, and sometimes it is another organization that is reaching out to us, because we have been able to help them in the past.

As always, donations of non-perishable food items are greatly appreciated. Whenever you come to Temple or Religious School, your donations can be put into the brown bins in the Temple lobby. If you are unable to carry heavy bags of groceries, gift cards to supermarkets or pharmacies are extremely helpful.

If you, or someone you know within our congregational community, is in need of our help, please contact me and we'll see what we can do. All requests and records are kept strictly confidential.

Thank you. I wish everyone a safe, healthy, and peaceful 2023.

B'nai Israel Reform Temple

COMMUNITY SHABBAT

Dinner at 6:30pm Service at 8:00pm

FRIDAY JANUARY 26

Adults \$20 Children \$10

RSVP by Jan 12

see following page for details



Join us for a memorable evening!

Glatt Kosher
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SHABBAT DINNER January 26, 2024



- * Call the office (631) 563-1660 and use a charge
- * Go to Temple website https://bnai-israel.org/ and use a charge
- * Fill out form and send with a check to Bnai Israel Reform Temple, 67 Oakdale Bohemia Road, Oakdale, NY 11769

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Religious School News



We had such a fun time at the Chanukah festival and Sisterhood party on Dec 2! Thank you all for coming and celebrating with us!

We are looking forward to seeing all of our students and families at the Religious School Shabbat Service for grades PK-6 on January 12, 2024 at 7:15PM. Students will actively participate! Please come and Worship with your entire family on this very special night.





Join us for the next family fun event: **BINGO** *on Jan 20, 2024 at 7pm in the social hall*. There will be fun, prizes, and raffles! Light refreshments will be served.

Please be advised in case of emergency school closings or delayed openings announcements will be made by email. Please make sure you are checking your email regularly. If you have not been receiving correspondences please send an email to school@bnai-israel.org so we can update your email address.

Please bring nonperishable food for the food pantry.

Continue to bring in tzedakah and \$ a week



Torah and Haftarah Readings

January 6th:

Exodus ch. 1 vs. 1 through ch. 6 vs. 1 Isaiah ch. 27 vs. 6 through ch. 28 vs. 13; ch. 29 vss. 22 through 23

January 13th:

Exodus ch. 6 vs. 2 through ch. 9 vs. 35 Ezekiel ch. 28 vs. 25 through ch. 29 vs. 21

January 20th:

Exodus ch. 10 vs. 1 through ch. 13 vs. 16 Jeremiah ch. 46 vss. 13 through 28

January 27th:

Exodus ch. 13 vs. 17 through ch. 17 vs. 16 Judges ch. 4 vs. 4 through ch. 5 vs. 31





COMING SOON!











4TH ANNUAL

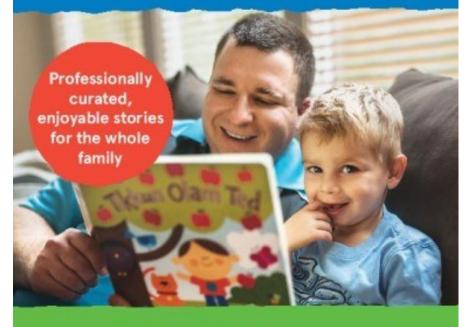


Lottery will be held in the month of April. More details coming soon about how to purchase and the prizes.



Cost will be: \$5.00 per ticket

Send your kids FREE Jewish books!





Sign up today at pjlibrary.org



The Membership Committee continues to support small group activities that can connect members with common interests and strengthen relationship building in our temple community.

Upcoming events include:

Couples Connection is meeting on Saturday, Jan. 6th at 7:00 pm at the Temple. Contact Sandy Weber for more information at <a href="mailto:sandy-understand-2007/sand-2007/sand-2007-sand

Leisurely Single group is meeting for lunch on Sat., January 13th at 1 pm for a potluck luncheon. Please contact Barbara Abrams for information at babrams19@gmail.com

A Business Mixer is scheduled for Monday., Feb. 5th at 7:00 at the Temple. Contact Mark Wittenberg for more information at mark@wittenberg.com.

A Snowbirds group has been facilitated by Barbie Saslau. The group will be joining the Temple virtually for services on Friday night, Jan. 5th. Contact Barbie Saslau at saslau1@gmail.com.

If you have additional ideas for an interest group you would like to facilitate, contact Fran Leiboff at membership@bnai-israel.org.

MAZEL TOV!

We love to wish people Mazel Tov!
If you have some great news,
please let us know by contacting the Temple Office.
(631) 563-1660

office@bnai-israel.org



TORAH STUDY & ADULT EDUCATION

TORAH STUDY **ADULT EDUCATION 11 AM**

- January 20th
- January 27thApril 6th
- February 3rd
- February 10th
- March 2nd

10 AM

- March 16th
- April 20th
- May 4th (No Adult Ed)

Schedule is subject to change. Please watch the weekly emails and bulletin for updates.

QUESTIONS?

RABBI ROSENTHAL

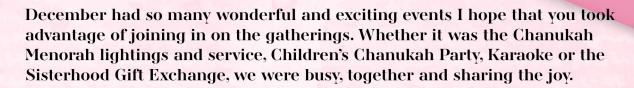
RABBI@BNAI-ISRAEL.ORG

SISTERHO January 2024

Dear "Sisters" and B'nai Israel Temple Members,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope the start of the New Year is bringing everyone a new outlook for 2024. Hoping for good health, happiness and peace for all.





We have some great events set up for 2024. Planned are a craft night in January, Jewish Trivia Game Night in February, and a Jewish Music Discussion in March, trying to keep our spirits up during those long winter days. We are trying so many different things this year to attract all Sisterhood and Temple Members to join us. We would love to see more of you, everyone is always welcome, bring a friend!

So come and join us for a cup of coffee and a nosh, and have an exciting evening while we try to leave the cold outside.

Thea Gunther, Sisterhood President

DON'T FORGET MAHJONG CARD ORDERS ARE DUE BY MID JANUARY!



JAN 16 AT 7PM

JEWELRY CRAFT NIGHT WITH SYNDI REIBMAN

SEE HER SHOP SYNDICATIONS ON ETSY

RSVP to Paige by Jan 9 at PSacks@Bnai-Israel.org

\$10 donation suggested to benefit Sayville Food Pantry

Sisters are asked to bring a non-perishable/toiletry to donate and a goody to share

THE NEW MAH JONG CARDS ARE COMING! ANOTHER YEAR! ANOTHER CHALLENGE!

The 2024 Mah Jong Card orders will be taken from now until January 10th, 2024.

This year the prices from the League, per card, are as follows:

Standard card @ \$14.00 and Large card @ \$15.00

All checks are to be made payable to B'nai Israel Sisterhood and mailed along with a list of names and addresses to:
Thea Gunther, 219 Normandy Road, Massapequa, New York 11758

A form is supplied for your convenience below. Any questions, please feel free to contact Thea at 516-541-1332 Your Sisterhood thanks you for your support. ENJOY!

If you would like to purchase your Mah Jong Cards Online, Click Here

NAMES & ADDRESS	cm cm	#CARDS	\$ TOTAL
		335337	



We are selling Grocery Store Food Cards!

Contact Rich Lindner (516) 641-8050 or the Temple Office to purchase.

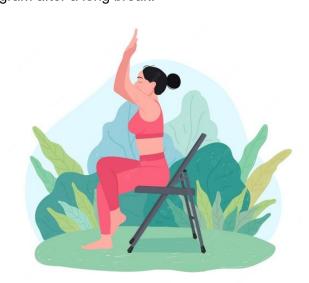
Consider donating
food cards to the Temple's
Outreach Committee
to help others in our community
who are in need of some assistance.

Card; can be delivered to you!

Dynamic Chair Yoga with Bonnie Rubell

Dynamic Chair Yoga is an intermediate level yoga class held at our Temple every Thursday morning at 10:30 am.

This is an active yoga class for fit seniors who want to start or continue their yoga practices. This class presents modifications for many yoga poses. Students choose the modifications which work best for them. This is a Hatha chair approach aimed at building body strength for balance and flexibility for life activities such as walking, hiking, travel, dog walking, kayaking and more. Special therapeutic exercises on the Yoga mat will address typical age-related physical changes and conditions. Senior Yoga is strengthening, therapeutic and protective for body and mind. It's also social and fun. This class is also appropriate for all ages who want to get back to an exercise program after a long break.



Share a SIMCHA Sponsor an ONEG

Let everyone celebrate with you for your Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation, or any simcha you would like to share.

Contact the Temple Office for Details



B'nai Israel Reform Temple celebrating it's

60th Anniversary
in 2024!

Please consider donating \$60 for our 60 years.

Donations & Contributions

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors for their contributions to B'nai Israel Reform Temple:

Ethan William Snair Memorial Fund

Gammie In loving memory of my beloved grandson Ethan William Snair Roberta Snair Saraceni In loving memory of my beloved grandson Ethan William Snair

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Sharon Inkles & Mark

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Milton & Paula Schneebalg
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Michele & Allen Kaminsky
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In memory of Muriel Miller
In memory of Edith Blake
In memory of Marvin Kaminsky
In memory of Martin Saltus

Music Fund

Suzanne & Mark Wittenberg In memory of Jan Silverman Choir Members In memory of Jan Silverman

General Fund

Alice & Mike Lambert In memory of Elisabeth Strauss Denes

Bonnie Glenn In memory of Bobby Ferguson

Myra Mandel In loving memory of my husband, Melvin Mandel Myra Mandel In memory of my dear sister, Sylvia Fineberg

Outreach

Lesli Vohwinkel In memory of my aunt Marilyn and Uncle Edwin, the kindest people I knew

Fundraising

Debby Lazen Donation

Help-A-Family

Toby Bolson In loving memory of my mother, Bess Leibowitz

Gerald & Rochelle

Slochevsky Donation

Ira Rosenfeld Memorial Scholarship Fund

Alice & Mike Lambert In memory of Linda Zaccaro

Building & Grounds Fund

Debby Lazen In memory of Linda Zaccaro

Debby Lazen In honor of Bailey Miller making the Honor Roll

Debby Lazen In memory of Debby Marcal's mother

January 2024 - Please see website and weekly email for updates, changes, and corrections.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 No School	7pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	3	4 10:30 am Chair Yoga 7pm Board of Ed 7:30pm Fundraising Committee	5 8pm Shabbat Service	9:30 am School grades 1-6 7 pm Couples Connection
7	8 6:30 pm School Gr 7 9 7 pm School Gr HS	9 7 pm Membership Committee	10 Bulletin Deadline	11 10:30 am Chair Yoga	12 7:15 pm Family Service & Shabbat Tzedek & Religious School Shabbat Grades PreK-6	13 9:30 am School grades 3-6, PreK/K 1pm Leisurely Single Gathering
14	15 No School 7:30 pm Finance Committee	16 7pm Sisterhood Jewelry / Craft Night	17	18 10:30 am Chair Yoga 7:30 pm Temple Board Meeting	19 7 pm Kid-ish Shabbat 8 pm Shabbat Service	20 9:30 am School grades 1-6 10am Torah Study 11am Adult Education 7pm Religious School Family Fun Bingo
21	22 6:30 pm School Gr 7 8	23	24	25 Tu Bishvat 10:30 am Chair Yoga	26 6:30 pm Shabbat Dinner (RSVP) 8pm Shabbat Service & Ellie Smith's Bat Mitzvah	9:30 am School grades 3-6, PreK/K 10am Torah Study 11am Adult Education
28	29 6:30 pm School Gr 7 9	30	31			

February 2024 - Please see website and weekly email for updates, changes, and corrections.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:30 am Chair Yoga 7pm Board of Ed 7:30pm Fundraising Committee	2 8pm Shabbat Service	9:30 am School grades 1-6 10am Torah Study 11am Adult Education
4	5 6:30 pm School Gr 7 8 7 pm School Gr HS 7 pm Business Mixer	6 7pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	7	8 10:30 am Chair Yoga	9 7:15 pm Family Service	10 9:30 am School grades 3-6, PreK/K 10am Torah Study 11am Adult Education Bulletin Deadline
11	12 6:30 pm School Gr 7 9 7:30 Finance Committee	13	14	15 10:30 am Chair Yoga 7:30 pm Temple Board Meeting	16 7 pm Kid-ish Shabbat 8pm Shabbat Service	17 9:30 am School grades 1-6
18	19 No School	20 7pm Sisterhood Jewish Trivia Game	21	22 10:30 am Chair Yoga	23 8pm Shabbat Service	24 No School
25	26 6:30 pm School Gr 7 8	27	28	29 10:30 am Chair Yoga	It's a le	ap year!

Condolences: The B'nai Israel Reform Temple extends its deepest condolences to the Yellen family on the loss of Andrea's mother, Linda Zaccaro. May they find comfort in the blessings of good memories that will always be theirs.



January 5th

*Joseph Abuelo Naomi Aronson

*Regina Barb

*Robert Bard

*Abner Berenblatt

*Max Berger

*Jack Bermowitz

*Jack Bloshinsky

*Sara Bonsey

*Barbara Capon

*Helen Cernieux

Murray Fine

*Sylvia Fineberg **Howard Fisher**

*Murray Gainsburg

Eileen Garber

*Milton Ginsburg

*Ethel Goldenberg

*Louis Goldstein Herbert Haselkorn

*Albert Holmes

*Pearl Jackson

*Sylvia Kabalkin

Harry Kaplan

Eleanor Lesch Kelly

Abe Krasner

*Rose Krauss

Alec McKeefry

*Harry Lefkowitz

*Morton A. Mihlstin

*Bruce P. Mowbray

*Albert Nemo

*Nathan Pollack

*Abraham Pomerantz

*Jacob Rivilis

*Dorothy Rosenberg

*Sophie Rosenberg

*Samuel Rosenthal

*Pearl Rothbart

*Florence Rubin

*Phyllis Rubin Martin Saltus

*Harry Samuels

Jeanette Sass Muriel Schechtel

*Jack Schneider

*Samuel Singer

*Norman Teplitz

*Harold Travin

Lvnette Wagner *Rose Wasserman

*Esther Wiener Ruth Williamson

*Sol Yourist

*Ruth Zuckerman

January 12th

*Jennie Abramowitz

*HarryAdoff Merrill Altman

Samuel Ballin

*Harry Berman

*Linda Burg

Debra Cernieux

Phyllis Cooper

Irving Crone

Anne Dachinger Pauline Ehrlich

*Louis Epstein

*Renee Fishman

*Marvin Freedman

*Sarah Gaba

*Yetta Goldsmith

*Mary Gottlieb

*Anna Greenberg *Victoria Greenspan

*Anne Serra Haines

*Harry Harfe

Stanley Hellin

*Sevmour Israel

*Henrietta Kaufman

Ed Kersch

*Betty Lentin

*Karen Levine

*Samuel Luria

*Trudy Neckameyer

*Henry Neidish

*Leah Persoff Ben Pettick

*Shirley Pollack

*Rosalie Rock

*Jacob Rosenzweig

*Al Roth

*Simha Sabah

*Joseph Saunders

*Ben Scherr

*Frank Schwartz

*Abraham Seltzer

*Carl Siegal

*Rose Sobel

*Lizette Temple

*Joseph Terry

*Barbara Truocchio

*Edna Ullman

*Beniamin Weiss

*Theodore Wenacur

January 19th

*Ida Abramowitz

*Gershon Altman

*Helmut Altman

*Martha Altman

Renee Byan

Joan Meyer Cimino

*Muriel Cohen

*Glenn Steven Friedman

*Max Gelband

*David Gluck

Sylvia Goldbaum

Morton Goldberg

*Bessie Goldstein

*Linda Sue Gray

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Martha Herzfeld

*Joe Kaplan

*Samuel Karmelin

Louis Klinger

Shirley Klinger

*Sigo Lack *Henry Lazen *Pearl Levine

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Sam Spergel

Betty Stone

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Carl Moon

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*Harold Perkal

*Eugene Rassell

*Robert Roth

*Jacob Ryskind

*Morris Salth

*Louis Schneider

*Jacob Schuchman

Ida Skolnick

Ethel Stein Sam Stulzaft

Phyllis Taitz

*Shirley Tieman

*Libby Toback

*Harry Weber *Lena Weinstein

*Ruth Weiss *Jacob Zimmerman

January 26th

*Albert Abrams

*Charles Cohen

*Gus Cohen

*Elsie E. Cole

Michael Feuer

*Gertrude Frankel

*Celia Geller Florence Goldberg

*Norman Green

*Annie B. Grushoff *James F. Interlicchio

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so that the Temple can extend its assistance. Before making any funeral arrangements, please call.

See Temple Directory for phone numbers.

IS A DEATH IN THE FAMILY

Temple Directory

67 Oakdale, Bohemia Road, Oakdale, NY 11769 **Phone** (631) 563-1660 Fax (631) 563-9816 Website **Email**

www.bnai-israel.org office@bnai-israel.org

Clergy

Rabbi Jessica Rosenthal Cantor Ilana Plutzer

Rabbi Emeritus Dr. Steven Moss

(928) 925-3279

rabbi@bnai-israel.org cantor@bnai-israel.org rabbiemeritus@bnai-israel.org

president@bnai-israel.org

bandg@bnai-israel.org

fundraising@bnai-israel.org

treasurer@bnai-israel.org

financial@bnai-israel.org

webmaster@bnai-israel.org

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Custodian

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Chairperson, Alice Lambert (631) 589-1375

Religious School Office (631) 563-1663 school@bnai-israel.org

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Scheduling Fran Baker

(631) 567-1537

Advertising

To place a Business Card sized advertisement please contact the office. Space is limited.

Committees, Groups, and other individuals to know...

Choir Director, Ellen Spergel elspiano826@gmail.com Sisterhood President, Thea Gunther sisterhood@bnai-israel.org **Brotherhood President**, Gil Sacks brotherhood@bnai-israel.org **Membership**, Fran Leiboff membership@bnai-israel.org Ritual Committee, Joel Silverman ritual@bnai-israel.org **Donations Committee** donations@bnai-israel.org Landscaping Lesli Vohwinkel (305) 927-7847 lvohwinkel@gmail.com Outreach, Alice Lambert (631) 589-1375 amlambert430@gmail.com **Communications**

(631) 775-6147

Temple Caterers

B'nai Israel is limited to these caterers for any celebration in the Temple Social Hall. Please see Kitchen Committee with questions or requests.

Lessing's Caterers

(631) 277-7800 (631) 581-0022

Mitzvah Caterers of Plainview

(516) 938-1310 (516) 351-0661

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