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February 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

"When you are finished changing, you are finished." - Benjamin Franklin

Personal and communal changes that introduce potential growth, further understanding and tolerance are essential to our lives. While it can be hard and unfamiliar and sometimes even scary, change is what allows us to be lifelong learners, seekers and explorers. Change is what allows us to continue and start anew.

What I find fascinating is that as we change so does our understanding and interpretation of the Torah. Consider what it means to celebrate shabbat. In the Torah this month we will we read, "remember the sabbath day and keep it holy, six days you shall do all your work, but the seventh

day is a sabbath of God: you shall not do any work, you, your child, your slave, your cattle or the stranger in your settlements." Resting was at the heart of what it meant to celebrate shabbat so much so that people complained about waiting for shabbat to end so that they could STOP resting. And then during Temple times, there were sacrifices and perhaps a psalm. But there were no services, or special meals, or even specific prohibitions related to resting. All of that came later. And now we have services, delectable foods, joyous songs, prayers, candle lightings and treats to boot.

This month's Torah portions: Yitro, Mishpatim, Terumah and Tetzaveh are full of similar commandments and progressions. Parshat Yitro details the giving of the 10 commandments. In subsequent Torah portions there are laws about how to lead a Jewish life, what to eat, how to celebrate holidays, how to give donations, what our inner Mishkan should look like, and how the worship leaders should behave. All of these laws and ways of worship are set for an ancient worship system that doesn't exist anymore. And the worship leaders were part of the ancient priest system, one had to be born into to participate.

Thankfully, we have come a long way from this type of worship. I myself am glad that as the leader of our community, I am not required to sacrifice a goat or other animal. And I am equally thankful that worship leaders don't have to be men who are specifically descendants of Aaron.

I love that we are continuing to evolve, to try new ways to celebrate our beautiful tradition, and honoring the heart and not the letter of the law. Because the truth is that as our understanding of what is right, what is ethical, what is meaningful changes, so do our laws, even laws that are written in the Torah.

May we continue to find new and inspirational ways to engage with the ancient laws in our Torah, this month and beyond.

Scout Shabbat Friday, February 9 7:15 pm



Our annual **Scout Shabbat** will be celebrated this year on Friday evening February 9th to recognize and honor youngsters and adults who participate in the Suffolk County Scouting program. All branches of Scouting will be recognized and uniforms are appropriate for the occasion. Scouts do not have to be members of B'nai Israel to participate and all are welcome.

A representative of the Jewish Committee on Scouting will join us that evening. Scouts and their leaders will receive a blessing from Rabbi Rosenthal and everyone present in uniform will receive a patch to represent their participation in this special service.

As always, parents, family and friends of our Scouts are invited and encouraged to attend.

President's Message

Seth Berman



Here we are again. The beginning of the end of winter. It's also a "slow" time in the Jewish Calendar. Unfortunately, slow times can mean a harder time figuring out a message to put in the bulletin. Last year I fell back and talked about Tu B'shvat. I probably went to that as a suggestion by Jeannette because she made the same smart suggestion. I say that because she suggested it again. I try not to repeat myself (it gets harder and harder to do) so I won't go down that path.

I am typing this out and looking out my office window. It happens to be the first real snow of the year (for those that are interested you can look back at the weather reports to see if I beat the deadline or not!). It is one of those cold miserable winter days.

It is so easy to bundle up and sit at home when it is cold. I say this because the last few Friday nights I had to push myself to make it to the temple for services. Yes, it was cold out and it took

time for the car to warm up but in the end it was worth it. The warmth that is felt when praying as a group is amazing. There are reasons why our traditions say that some prayers are supposed to be said with a group of 10 adults. The Reform Movement has evolved, and we will say those prayers with less than 10 adults but there is a lot to be said about praying as a community.

Please don't get me wrong, Zoom is great and has its place. There are members that have no way to be able to join us for different reasons. Cantors' dad joins us from Manhattan. We had snowbirds join us as a group from Florida. Some have joined on Zoom when they are ill. However, if we can be together as a group in person it changes the dynamics.

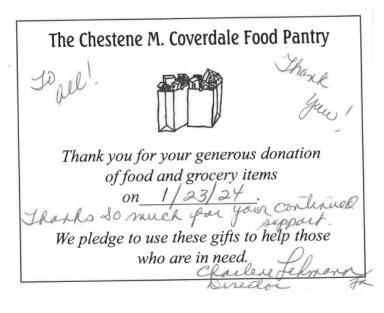
As 2024 continues I look forward to seeing you in the sanctuary!

l'Shalom, Seth C. Berman

Outreach Committee Report Alice Lambert

Winter is here, people are hungry, the shelves in the food pantry are empty. Please remember to bring non-perishable food items and put in bins in Religious School and Temple lobbies.

Gift cards are always welcome.



Long Island Ducks—Play Ball Joel Silverman

As a "heads up" to our B'nai Israel community, although it's still winter, plans are already in place and a contract signed with the Long Island Ducks to return for the 2024 baseball season as the premier non-profit working concession stands at the ballpark in Central Islip. The season begins on Thursday evening April 25th and continues for us with a fireworks night on Saturday the 27th. We hope to work those games and as many more as possible throughout the spring and summer to earn as much as we can in commissions and tips.

Ducks management is looking for our help to help lower their labor cost. And we are anxious to pitch-in as our income from Ducks concession stands is expected to continue to be our single most profitable Temple fund raiser. In the three summers following the pandemic B'nai Israel has earned an average of \$20,000 each season, money that goes directly to the General Fund and pays bills throughout the year. There is no limit to what we can earn. The more volunteers we can provide the more we can make, and we need that income now more than ever!

Additional details on volunteer opportunities will be available closer to opening day. Meanwhile you can check out the schedule on the LI Ducks web site, and/or contact <u>ducks@bnai-israel.org</u> to get on our mailing list for Ducks updates. It is never too soon to volunteer!! We hope to see our experienced volunteers back, along with many new faces to help out throughout the 2024 season.

Religious School News

BINGO WAS A BLAST! Special thanks to all who participated, helped with set-up and clean up. A huge thank you to the best bingo callers ever! We had so much fun! Congratulations to all the winners! Watch for information for the next family fun event!

Come one Come all to the next **Family Worship Service on Feb 9th at 7:15 pm!** This is a perfect opportunity for all children to participate in this wonderful experience. It was so wonderful to see so many people at the Religious School Family Shabbat Service on January 12th!

Outreach is an important part of our School's values. Helping people in our community is so important. **Please continue to bring in tzedakah and food for outreach!**



The Library is OPEN!! It is very organized; we encourage you and your children to borrow books!



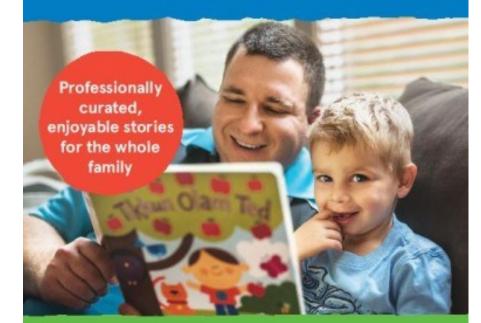


Parents:

Please check your email regularly for announcements of upcoming events and any missed assignments as this is our primary method of communication. If we do not have your current email address and you have not been receiving correspondences, please email us at school@bnai-israel.org with your current email address.

In case of emergency school closings or delayed openings announcements will be made by email.

Send your kids FREE Jewish books!



Sign up today at pjlibrary.org

Torah and Haftarah Readings

February 3rd: Exodus ch. 18 vs. 1 through ch. 20 vs. 23 and Isaiah ch. 6 vss. 1 through ch. 7 vs. 6; ch. 9 vss. 5 through 6

February 10th: Exodus ch. 21 vs. 1 through ch. 24 vs. 18 and Jeremiah ch. 34 vss. 8 through 22; ch. 33 vss. 25 through 26

February 17th: Exodus ch. 25 vs. 1 through ch. 27 vs. 19 and I Kings ch. 5 vs. 26 through ch. 6 vs. 13

February 24th: Exodus ch. 27 vs. 20 through ch. 30 vs. 10 and Ezekiel ch. 43 vss. 10 through 27



SONKINS Sensational LOTTERY RAFFLE 4TH ANNUAL

If your raffle ticket number matches the evening New York State 3-digit drawing you win the prize shown on the calendar below on that date.

Donation: \$5.00 per ticket

To purchase tickets please either contact the Temple Office or CLICK HERE to purchase online.

Anril 2024

April 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	\$100	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$25	\$50
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
\$25	\$50	\$25	\$50	\$100	\$25	\$50
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
\$25	\$100	\$75	\$50	\$25	\$50	\$50
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
\$25	\$25	\$50	\$25	\$50	\$25	\$50
28	29	30				
\$25	\$25	\$500				







Saturday, March 23, 2024 doors open at 6 pm

2)23

\$40 per guest Adults only ~ Open seating **Dress** ~ Purim Chic

50/50







* 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 B'nai Israel Reform Temple, 67 Oakdale Bohemia Road, Oakdale, NY 11769

Name:	
Additional Guests:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Total number of adu	lts: x \$40 = \$
Optional Donation:	\$

No refunds. Guests must be accompanied by a Temple member.



Our members continue to participate in our Temple "Interest Groups"; group members get to know each other better as they plan and participate in a range of activities. Our current "Interest Groups" are:

A Business Mixer is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 5th at 7:00 in the Temple Social Hall. Members are encouraged to bring guests to this event. Contact Mark Wittenberg for more information at <u>mark@wittenberg.com</u>.

Couples Connection Couples met in January and have planned a series of monthly activities. A "Game Night" (bring dessert to share) is scheduled for Saturday, February 24th at 7:00 pm in the Temple Social Hall. Contact Sandy Weber for more information at <u>sandra.weber654@gmail.com</u>

Leisurely Single Members have scheduled time with the Rabbi on Monday, February 26th at 1:00 pm. The topic will be "Gather and Nosh". Details about the location will be included in Temple emails. Please contact Barbara Abrams for information at <u>babrams19@gmail.com</u>

A Snowbirds group joined the January 5th Friday night Shabbat Service virtually. Our showbird friends were able to participate in the service with a group alliyah They also have plans to join us again in February and March. Contact Barbie Saslau for information at <u>saslau1@gmail.com</u>.

Temple members are invited to join these groups as they continue to meet and build relationships within our Temple community. Contact Fran Leiboff at membership@bnai-israel.org with ideas for other interest groups or Temple events.





Trish & Rich Lindner on the birth of their grandsons, Elias Andrew Wright, 6 lbs. 11 oz., & Gabriel Bishop Wright 6 lbs. 7 oz., born on December 23, 2023.

Shari & Tom Hanwright on the birth of their granddaughter, Charlotte Isabella Hanwright, born 1/19/2024, 6 lbs. 7 oz.

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 UPCOMING CLASSES WITH RABBI ROSENTHAL

ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR

TORAH STUDY & ADULT EDUCATION

TORAH STUDY ADULT EDUCATION

- February 3rd
- February 10th
- March 2nd
- March 16th

10 AM 11 AM

- April 6th
- 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

SISTERHOOD FEB 2024

We hope you have enjoyed and found meaning in the programs that Sisterhood has provided so far this year. Please help us to continue providing events and philanthropy by getting involved and joining us.

We welcome all to join us for meaningful programming, joyful camaraderie, and service to B'nai Israel and our community.

LET US EMBRACE AND CELEBRATE OUR JEWISH FAITH TOGETHER.

Feb 20 at 7pm

<u>mmm</u>

JEWISH TRIVIA NIGHT Mar 19 at 7pm

<u>Marana</u>

JEWISH MUSIC Evan Rapport

see next page for details

APRIL 9 WOMAN'S SEDER



SISTERHOOD



Exciting events ahead

Save the date

Celebrating our <u>commun</u>ity Embrace the connection

Unite and inspire

Viddish

JewishFood

Holidans Israel

JewishHumor



FEB 20 at 7pm

Join us for a fun evening !!

Bring a nosh to share, a beverage of your choice, a few \$1 bills for a new kind of 50/50 and non-perishables for donation

American Jewny

Something for Everyone

Tie Breakers



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.

Cards can be delivered to you!

Dynamic Chair Yoga with Bonnie Rubell

Dynamic Chair Yoga is an intermediate level yoga class held at our Temple <u>every Thursday</u> 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

to B'nai Israel Reform Temple celebrating it's 60th Anniversary in 2024!

heere

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 Fund

Gammie Roberta Snair Saraceni Grandma and Jerry In loving memory of my beloved grandson Ethan William Snair In loving memory of my beloved grandson Ethan William Snair Happy Birthday to my grandson, Emmerson Snair

B'nai Israel's 60th Anniversary Alice & Mike Lambert

General Fund

Monaco Family & Friends Braemar Assisted Living Alice & Mike Lambert Alice & Mike Lambert Debby Lazen Fran Leiboff

Yahrzeit Fund

Barbara & Bob Kersch Ellen & Charles Fishman Joel Silverman Joel Silverman Fran Leiboff Joyce Brass Laurie & Clifford Aronson Ileane & Don Neckameyer Ileane & Don Neckameyer **Edith Gross** Semsettin & Natalie Berhumoglu Semsettin & Natalie Berhumoglu Sarah Seltzer Sarah Seltzer Eve & Steve Taitz David Roth

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Eleanor Smith

Help-A-Family

Rochelle & Gerald Slochevsky

Donation

Thank you to B'nai Israel Thank you to Rabbi Rosenthal In memory of Estelle Parks In memory of Sylvia Waldman In memory of Henry Lazen In loving memory of Leon Leiboff

In memory of Harry Gutkin In memory of Herbert Haselkorn In memory of Florence Silverman In memory of Karen Levine In memory of Leah Persoff In memory of Glen Friedman In memory of Naomi Aronson In memory of Frank Schwartz In memory of Trudy Neckameyer In memory of Seymour Gross In memory of Leah C. Lane In memory of Melvin H. Lane In memory of Joseph Kaplan In memory of Abraham Seltzer In memory of Phyllis Taitz In memory of Robert Roth



to thank Rabbi Rosenthal for her incredible patience while preparing me for my Bat Mitzvah

Donation

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	3 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 & Scout Shabbat	10 9:30 am School grades PreK-6 10am Torah Study 11am Adult Education Bulletin Deadline
11	12 6:30 pm School Gr 7 9 7:30 Finance Committee	13 7pm membership Committee	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 3-6
18	19 No School	20 7pm Sisterhood Jewish Trivia Game Night	21	22 10:30 am Chair Yoga	23 8pm Shabbat Service	24 No School 7pm Couples Club Game Night (bring Dessert to share)
25	26 6:30 pm School Gr 7 8	27	28	29 10:30 am Chair Yoga	lt's a le	ap year!

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Please not	e time cha	nge for t	he	1 8pm Shabbat Service	2 9:30 am School grades PreK/K & 3-6
	Service on	Friday, M	arch 22n	d.		10am Torah Study 11am Adult Education
3	4 6:30 pm School Gr 7 9 7pm School grade HS	5 7pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	6	7 10:30 am Chair Yoga 7pm Board of Ed 7:30pm Fundraising Committee	8 7:15 pm Family Service with Grades 3 & 4	9 9:30 am School grades 1-6
10 Bulletin Deadline Daylight Saving Time starts - Spring Ahead!	11 6:30 pm School Gr 7 8	12	13	14 10:30 am Chair Yoga	15 7 pm Kid-ish Shabbat 8pm Shabbat Service	16 9:30 am School grades PreK/K & 3-6 10am Torah Study 11am Adult Education
17	18 6:30 pm School Gr 7 9 7:30pm Finance Committee	19 7pm Sisterhood Jewish Music with Evan Rapport	20	21 10:30 am Chair Yoga 7:30 pm Temple Board Meeting	22 7:15 Shabbat & Purim Service with Costume Parade	23 9:30 am School grades 1-6 12pm Purim Carnival 6pm Purim Masquerade
24	25 6:30 pm School Gr 7 8	26	27	28 10:30 am Chair Yoga	29 7:30 pm Musical Shabbat	30 No School
31						

Condolences: The B'nai Israel Reform Temple extends its deepest condolences to the Fishman/Parks family on the loss of Jill's mother, Estelle Parks; to the Waldman family on the loss of their mother, Sylvia Waldman, and the Hochheiser Family on the loss of Martin Hochheiser. May they find comfort in the blessings of good memories that will always be theirs.



Yahrzeits

February 2nd Robert Atkins *Minnie Baker *Herbert Balkin *Joseph Beer *Celia Burrows *Hannah Deckinger *Lawrence Ellner Louis Farrell *Selma Fisher Mark Freiman *Albert Freistadt *Morris Gelbert Sydell Geller Sophie Gerb Joseph Goldberg Sheryl Lynn Hechler *Anna Holmes *Herman Kalt *Rita Leibowitz *Seymour Levine *Tillee Levine Josephine Lyons *Morris Madow Joseph Manas *Sarah Mirrer *Sadie Pshedesky Dr. David Rabinovici *Henrietta Gabay Rauchwerger *David Raynes *Louis Reisch *Samuel Ringle *Sarah Robin *Louis Rosen *Dora Rosenberg *Minnie Rosenfeld Jerome Rovinsky *Sheila Schisler *Fave Schwenk *William Silver *Florence Silverman *Caroline Shmaqin *Annette Singer *Donald H. Singer *Arthur Sumner Sanford Tannenbaum

Charlotte Teller *Ruth Wahlberg *Florence Weiman *Nathan Weisberg *Barbara Wunderlich

February 9th

*lonel Alscheck *Lois Berger George Berman *Bernard Blum *Frank Brand *David Burrows *James Burrows *Eveline Carchman *Nicholas Carulli *Jennie Chapoff *Rafael Dana *Dennis Dolling *Jim Eaton *Elliott Eckhaus *Edward Epstein *Henry Erdrich Lloyd Feuer *Frank Francese *Loyce Friedman *Bess Glasser *Samuel Hertzberg Jack Isaacs *Vivian Kirson *I illian Kranker *Paul Lebensfeld *Leon Leiboff *Sandra Mandel *Bertha Markofsky *Yettie Miller *Beatrice Moyses Selma Pettick *Carole Porwick *Murray Porwick *Murray Rubenstein *Sylvia Schrank & Family *Mary Schreiber *Leon Seldin *Miriam Shorr Sheldon Simon

Anne Tabak *Moshe Vianu Ruby Wilber

February 16th

*Irwin Altman *Estelle Bassell *Isidor Batter *Sophie Berger *Jennie Berman Muriel Blaugrund *Martha Brass Ruth Cohen *Mortimer Cohen Joseph Forman *Miriam Frank *Sally Geller *Estelle Goldstein *Stephanie Goodman *Irene Gray *Seymour Gray *Sache Greenberg Melvin Hart *Gertrude Hertzberg *Alfred Klein Allen Klein Aaron Krasner *Ruth Lack Miriam Lavender *Mollie Lazen *Jerome Leibowitz Samuel Lindner *Laura Marsh *Charlotte Morganstern *Joseph Nebreda *Arnold "Marty" Neckameyer Rachelle Nooger-Ellis *Murrav Reich *Sadie Romanick Sylvia Rosolinsky *Sylvia Roth *Rosalind Sloane *Murray Spindel Gerald Stone Martin Tuck *Charles Wasserman

*Irving Weiss George Westwater *Max Wetzler *Sarah Zusman

February 23rd

*Rebecca Alcabes Yitzak Armoza *Max Atkins *Marilyn Avergun Lee Bialer *David Bornstein *Laura Brass *Dora Cohen *Irving Cohen Bessie Darmstadt Joel Feigenson *Max Fein *Benjamin Feinstein *Roslyn Flum Wallace Heckman *Bertha Jacobs Harriet Kave Robert Kissinger *Robert Klopert *Henry Labiak *Irving Levine *Harry Joseph Lewis Ronnie Lowenberg *Joseph Mankovitz *Carl Olinsky *Irving Pallik *Milton Rifkin *Jack Rosenstein **Raymond Schleicher** *Jennie Schuchman *Maggie Serafini *Morris Sirlin *Sidnev Sonkin *Deborah Turchen *Adelaide Wohl Irving L. Woolf

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PLEASE CONTACT US WHEN SOMEONE IS SICK OR IF THERE IS A DEATH IN THE FAMILY

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

See Temple Directory for phone numbers.

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(928) 925-3279Cantor Ilana PlutzerRabbi Emeritus Dr. Steven Moss

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

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

Sisterhood President, Thea	sisterhood@bnai-israel.org		
Brotherhood President, Gil	brotherhood@bnai-israel.org		
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Landscaping Lesli Vohwink	lvohwinkel@gmail.com		
Outreach, Alice Lambert	(631) 589-1375	amlambert430@gmail.com	
Communications Jeannette Berman	(631) 775-6147	webmaster@bnai-israel.org	

Temple Office

Karen Smollins

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Religious School

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.

Temple Caterers

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

Lessing's Caterers (631) 277-7800 (631) 581-0022

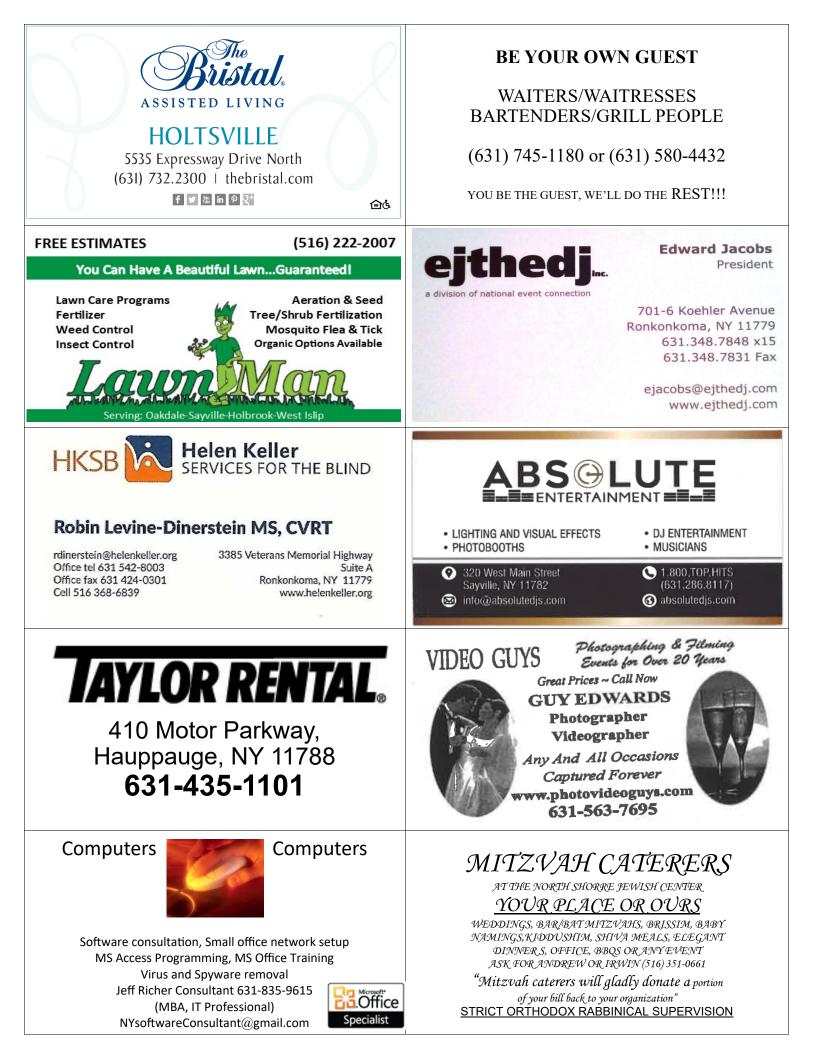
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