



# Temple B'nai Abraham

Temple B'nai Abraham  
President – Betsy Ramos

**The Temple Shofar**  
Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein

Sarah Seidel Sisterhood  
Co-Presidents  
Bonnie Friedman & Debby Weiss

5766-5767

MARCH

2006-2007

Dear Temple B'nai Abraham Community

This February, I had the opportunity to take part in a program where a pair of comic strip artists presented. These were not just ordinary comic strip artists, but in fact a Jewish married couple, the wife a licensed social worker and the husband a longstanding cartoonist. Not only that, but they also happen to live in the community where I work in Elkins Park, PA, and are active members of one of the local synagogues (the husband is even on the synagogue board). And, to top it all off, the comic strip that they have created together, a nationally syndicated strip called "Edge City" (you can find it in the Philadelphia Inquire or at [www.edgcitycomics.com](http://www.edgcitycomics.com)), features the first identified Jewish family as its central characters.

During their presentation, the couple, Patty and Terry LaBan, spoke about their tentativeness when they initially brought Judaism into their comic strip. The idea first came into their heads in December of their first year writing "Edge City." Christmas had often been a theme in traditional comic strips, but what about Hanukkah? How cool would it be if their central characters, Len and Abby Ardin, lit a Menorah with their kids!! However, they were not ready yet to broach Judaism with a national audience. They chose instead to wait until the next major Jewish holiday, Passover.

Now, to decide on what part of Passover would be accessible to a largely non-Jewish audience. Well, they thought, most Americans have holiday meals with their families. What about a story line, where Abby's mother decides to pass on the hosting of their family Seder to the Ardins? Even if readers were unfamiliar with the specifics of the holiday, they could relate to the complications that this type of situation might cause. And, so the first official Jewish family of the funny pages was born.

The response was overwhelmingly positive, so much so that the next year, when they ran another Passover storyline, their editor suggested having the characters wear Kippot. The cover of their new book features the Ardins standing over a challah with the light of Shabbat candles flickering in the background.

The Ardin's Passover Seder adventure is something we can relate to at B'nai Abraham,. I take you back to last April, when the planning for our Passover Seder fell through and many of our members were left to fend for themselves elsewhere. Just as the Ardins' struggled with passing the torch down in their family, our synagogue struggled with finding new leadership to organize the Seder. This year, we are very fortunate to have Kim Aubry take on this very important task.

We are now scheduled for the second night of the Seder, April 3. If you are interested in helping out with this or would like to come to the Seder, please be in touch with Kim ([kimaubry@gmail.com](mailto:kimaubry@gmail.com)) as soon as you can. (See the details inside)

Other important March-April events include our very popular Purim Kids carnival and Megillah reading with Cantor Avi Green on Sunday, March 4, between 12 and 2 PM. All proceeds will go to Tzedukah. And, we have our second movie night on Thursday, March 8 at 7 PM at the United Methodist Church of Crosswicks. The film is "La Petite Jerusalem" which deals with Muslim and Jewish communities in a low-income Parisian neighborhood." (see inside for details).

*B'Shalom,*

Rabbi Alex

**Temple B'nai Abraham  
Officers for 5766-67**

President	Betsy Ramos
Exec. Vice Pres.	Charlie Weiss
Religious VP	Michael Rosen
Financial VP	Jennifer Carton
Secretary	Eileen Gale
Trustees:	
Religious School Chair	Susan Giachetti
Membership/Outreach Chair	Stewart Warren
Building Committee Chair	Stan Zeichner
Adult Education Chair	Rick Shain

**Sarah Seidel Sisterhood  
Officers for 5766-67**

Co-Presidents	Bonnie Friedman & Debby Weiss
Treasurer	Shira Lowry
Financial Secretary	Rita Nissim
Record. Secretary	Ellen Wehrman
Corres. Secretary	Mimi Geller
Trustees:	
	Susan Giachetti
	Melissa Fattori

**SHABBAT SERVICES, YAHRZEITS  
ONEGS**

**Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Shabbat Services 7:30PM We will remember Arthur Fishman, father of Arlene Speiser, Rose Klepner, mother of Len. **Light Candles 5:34PM**

**Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>** Shabbat Services 7:30PM We will remember Leonard Greenblat, brother of Marcia Rosen, Irving Epstein, father of Rhea Goldman, Sylvia Goldman, mother of Bonnie Goldman, Jeffrey Goldman, wife of Norman, mother-in-law of Rhea Goldman, Abe Kaufman, grandfather of Phyllis Busch, and Esther Reichlin. Oneg Shabbat hosts families, Shira Lowry and Arlene Speiser. **Light Candles 5:41PM**

**Friday March 16<sup>th</sup>** Shabbat Services 7:30PM. We will remember Rebecca Shemesh, mother of Marty Nissim. Oneg Shabbat host family Liebman/Ramos in honor of B'nai Mitzvah of Nicole and Jeffrey Liebman. **Light Candles 6:40PM**

**Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>** Shabbat Morning Services 9:30AM B'nai Mitzvah of Nicole and Jeffrey Liebman.

**Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>** Shabbat Services 7:30PM Rabbi Julie Pfau will lead services. We will remember William Trackman, father of Jay, Mildred Josephson, mother of Mark, wife of Sam. **Light Candles 6:56PM**

**Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>** Tot Shabbat/Pot luck dinner 6PM, Adult services 7:30PM. We will remember Charles Herzog, father of Madge Rosen, Frances Epstein, mother of Rhea Goldman, Bess Light, mother of Patricia Light-Tolomeo **Light Candles 7:03PM**

**Friday April 6<sup>th</sup>** Shabbat Services 7:30PM. We will remember Jack Harrison, brother-in-law of Renee Harrison.

**AROUND OUR TEMPLE NEWS**

The Temple and Sisterhood communities extend our condolences to the Urken/Kessler Family on the passing of Jerry.

The Temple and Sisterhood communities extend our condolences to Shyrle Kushner on the loss of her sister-in-law Dorothy Mervish.

**Get well** wishes to Sid Lavine and Larry Fenick/**Mazel Tov** to Nicole and Jeffrey Liebman and family on the occasion of their B'nai Mitzvah. Please join our Temple President and her family at the Oneg on Friday night in the twins honor.

**Mazel Tov** to Lynn Groveman on the birth of Sebastian and to Sue Ann Groveman on her recent marriage.

**Welcome** new member Sheri Haines.

**Tot Shabbat News**

Tot Shabbat met in February to celebrate Shabbat and learn about Purim, the Festival of Lots. After the story reading the children made their own clown groggers (noisemakers). Tot Shabbat families also fulfilled one of the four mitzvot of Purim, providing gifts of food to the needy, by contributing food and granola bars to our food pantry. Thank you to all the families who participated.

Tot Shabbat will meet again on March 30 when we celebrate Passover and join together for our pot luck dinner, child friendly service, story and craft. Future Tot Shabbat services will be held on April 20 when we celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israeli Independence Day and May 18 when we celebrate Shavuot.

For more information about Tot Shabbat or to join our pot luck RSVP list call Sharon Dauber 291-9169 or email sdauber@comcast.net.

## CALLING ALL TEENS!!!

The next teen group activity is Sat., March 10, when the teens will get together at a home in Princeton for fondue and Jewish comedy videos.

For details, please call Abbie and Sam at 324-0571.

### Social Action

Many thanks to all who have been supporting our food collection efforts! After a recent plea from the St. Mary's Food Pantry to help out with their stock, we brought over SIX GROCERY BAGS of food items. They were extremely grateful, as the winter months bring a big demand for emergency food. We also have collected enough granola bars to contribute to the multi-faith monthly donation of groceries to families in the motels the last two months. Please keep contributing!

The bar and bat mitzvah class continues to deliver hot meals to families in transitional housing at a local motel once a month. The students have been a great help, adding a friendly greeting and a smile to the meals at each motel room door.

Anyone who would like to help out with local community social action, please call Marcy at 324-0571.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** at the St. Mary's Community Food Pantry Hours are Mon., Wed. and Fri. 2:00-3:00 and Tues. and Thurs. 9:00-10:00. Signing up for only one hour per week would be a big help! Please call Bob Jacobs at 298-0494 or Kathy Hughes at 324-1696 if you are interested.

*Marcy Schwartz*

## Hebrew and Religious School Notes

The Aleph Bet class was inspired by the Shema to write a poem. The following is the result:

There is only one G-d in the galaxy  
G-d is everywhere,  
now G-d is right next to me  
and G-d will help us for a million forever's'  
G-d makes me excited  
I love G-d very much

- Noah Osman, Noah Goldberg, Alyssa Carton,  
guided by Abbie Shain

This month the students will prepare for Passover with each group learning a different section to learn and present at the model Seder.

## 2005-2006 Host List for Oneg Shabbats Luncheons and Sisterhood Meetings

**March 9** Shira Lowry & Berny & Arlene Speiser Family  
**March 12 Sisterhood Meeting** Patricia Light-Tolomeo & Bonnie Goldman

**March 16** Liebman B'nai Mitzvah- Betsy Ramos

**April 13** Marty & Rita Nissim and Neil & Karen Nissim

**April 28** Luncheon Fechter and Aubry Families

**May 4** William & Rona Goldberg and Brian & Bethann Goldberg

**May 12** Luncheon Madge & Jerry Rosen and Marcia and Michael Rosen

**June 11 Sisterhood Covered Dish** Randy Bloom & Marsha Dowshen

**June 15** Osman Family in honor of Bat Mitzvah

**June 29 Member of the Year** Rhea Goldman and Is & Phyllis Kamer

### NOTE

If an Oneg is canceled due to inclement weather, your responsibilities may be moved to another date. If the date assigned to you is not a good date for you, **YOU** are responsible for finding a replacement.

## Temple B'nai Abraham Community Seder

Tuesday April 3 6pm  
with Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein

\$30 for Adults \$15 for children 5 years and up

The dinner will have two entrees, probably Turkey and Brisket, Matza ball soup, two or three vegetable choices and some kugels. The details of the menu are still being worked out.. Desserts will be contributed by members.

**Reservations must be made by March 15th.** Call me at 609-841-8965 or email to kimaubry@gmail.com for reservations, any questions or if you would like to volunteer for set up or clean up.

Dinner will be ordered based on the number of reservations. Please let me know how many children and how many adults will be in your group.

Checks are to be made out to Temple B'nai Abraham and sent to Kim Aubry at 930 Hamilton Ave. Roebling, NJ 08554

Non-temple members are invited to participate at the same cost.

*Kim Aubry*

## Knitters Group February 26, 2007

A fun time was had by all who attended the first Knitters Group. There is still room for you to join us on February 26th at the home of Temple president, Betsy Ramos at 7:30pm. Please RSVP to Betsy so we have an idea of how many to expect. (298-9437) We will be meeting the fourth Mondays of the month. Come and kibbitz and have a good time.

### Programs and Services Available to Temple and Sisterhood Members

#### Sisterhood Joy and Sorrow

Cards of sympathy, good cheer, or mazel tov, are available through Sarah Seidel Sisterhood at a cost of \$2.50 minimum. Contact Rita Nissim at 298-5357.

#### Temple Joy and Sorrow

Cards of sympathy or good wishes are available through Temple B'nai Abraham at a cost of \$5 minimum. Contact Sharon Dauber at 291-9169.

#### Torah Prayer Books (Chumashim)

For those interested in purchasing a torah prayer book in honor of or in memory of someone, the cost is \$75. If interested, please call or e-mail Betsy Ramos. You may also sponsor our existing Siddur at a cost of \$35.00.

**General donations** For anyone interested in making a general donation to the synagogue that does not fit into any of the above categories, of course, the synagogue will be happy to accept the donation. You may send a check to Temple B'nai Abraham, P.O. Box 245, Bordentown, NJ and indicate whether it is for a special occasion and whether you would like the synagogue to send an acknowledgment to someone. If it is a non-temple member, please provide their name and address

#### Memorial Plaques

Memorial plaques are available at \$200 each. To order, please send the following information IN WRITING to Sid Morginstin, plaque chairman, (PO Box 8101 Trenton NJ or e-mail Sidmorgy@verizon.net. (1) English name of deceased (2) Hebrew name of deceased. (3) Date of death in the English calendar. Once the plaque has been put up, you will be billed. Plaques will not be moved from one board to another.

#### Cat's Meow Temple Collectors plaque

Sarah Seidel Sisterhood has available the Cat's Meow Collectors plaque of our Temple for sale at \$10.00. The plaques are imprinted on the back with the date of our establishment, and signed by the artist. Contact Eileen Gale at 291-0220.

Movie night at the United Methodist Church of Crosswicks at 7:00pm. The movie is La Petite Jerusalem.. Join us for a family night out

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

### BOARD MEMBERS STILL NEEDED

We have filled most of our slots, including president. I have agreed to return for a second (and last) term. However, we are still looking for one more person for the board - either someone to serve as the board secretary or as our building chair. The secretary takes the minutes during the meetings and types them up. The building chair is responsible for ensuring that all necessary maintenance of the temple is performed. This person would not need to do any of the maintenance him or herself and there are others on the board who provide input and assistance with respect to the building. Please consider volunteering. If you have a family membership and your non-Jewish spouse would like to be on the board in one of these 2 positions, we would be happy to have that person as well. Many reconstructionist synagogues appear to permit non-Jewish spouses to maintain most board positions. Please call Betsy Ramos 609-298-0437 or bramos@capehart.com to advise if you are interested in serving.

*Betsy Ramos*

## Donations

### Temple

#### Yahrtzeit

##### *In Memory of*

**Ella Kessler** by Henry and Rhoda Kessler

**Lawrence Bowker, Eudell Rodd** by Linda Bowker

**Jules Bloom** by Randy Bloom and Michael Scolaro

**Rose Kaiser** by Eileen Gale

### Sisterhood

##### *In Memory of*

**In memory of Dr. Jerome Urken:**

Jean Scattergood

Ellen Wiener

Is and Phyllis Kamer

Jay and Elaine Trackman

Jeff and Phoebe Nissim

Jeffrey and Barbara Streisfeld

Renee Harrison

Sol and Shirley Kushner

**Jill Popko's aunt** by Jay and Elaine Trackman

##### *Rejoicing with you*

**Corine Nissim's first birthday** by Jeffrey and Barbara Streisfeld

**Happy birthday** to Sol Kushner by Is and Phyllis Kamer

### HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGES

Is and Phyllis Kamer

## Programs of Interest In March

TBA Movie Night - LA PETITE JERUSALEM  
Thursday, March 8, 7 PM at the United Methodist Church of Crosswicks (make a right at Ward Avenue next to the Town and Country Diner and follow until the first stop sign. The church is immediately to the right. Writer-director Karin Albou is nothing if not intrepid: in LA PETITE JERUSALEM she grapples with three of life's most loaded and complex issues--faith, family, and sexuality. Set in a drab and aptly named housing project, Little Jerusalem, on the outskirts of Paris, the film focuses on a family of Algerian Orthodox Jewish immigrants  
Movie Night March 8 at 7:00pm at United Methodist Church of Crosswicks, Ward Avenue, Crosswicks.

Religious School Purim Carnival on March 4<sup>th</sup> 10 to 12  
Megillah Reading 1 to 2 with Cantor Avi Green.



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## SARAH SEIDEL SISTERHOOD NEWS

On March 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30PM, the Sisterhood will be holding a book review on the book Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See. This is a story of women in ancient China sharing their lives and a unique language that Chinese women created in order to communicate in secret, away from the influence of men. Sisterhood hosts for the evening are Patricia Light –Tolomeo and Bonnie Goldman.

Sisterhood is looking for a few energetic volunteers to explore the possibility of holding a Health, Fun and Fitness Fair. It's a fun family event where everybody gets to play, move, snack and learn about new ways to be healthier. If you are interested, please call Shira at 324-0072.

Upcoming event – Grounds for Sculpture April 29th

If anyone is interested in joining Sisterhood and/or becoming more involved by holding a position, please contact Debby at 208-2084.

## Supermarket Gift Cards

Seems like our members are all on diets after the holidays. Gift card sales have fallen off for the months of January and February. Come on everyone this is a painless way for the Temple to earn much needed money. Just pick up the phone and call Marsha at 298-5306.

Total sales for this period was \$3700. earning the Temple \$185. A big thanks to the members who supported the fund raiser during this period: Ramos, G. Rosen, Zeichner, Cantor, Gale, Barman, Chudoff, Wehrman, Dowshen that's it.

*Marsha and Joel Dowshen*

## Temple B'nai Abraham and Sarah Seidel Sisterhood Embroidered Tablecloth

Many of our new members of both the Temple and Sisterhood have never seen our special embroidered tablecloth. The cloth was started many years ago and has been an ongoing fundraiser for the sisterhood.

The cloth is very delicate and is used on special occasions during the year. Phyllis Chudoff has taken on the task of embroidering names on the cloth

Donation is \$5.00 to the Sisterhood.

## *Hadashot/News from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College*

RRC is the rabbinical training institution of the Reconstructionist Judaism movement. Founded in 1968, the rabbinical college is a fully accredited academic institution that offers a five- to six-year curriculum leading to a master's degree in Hebrew letters and the title of rabbi. The rabbinical school prepares men and women for leadership and service in a variety of settings.

Temple B'nai Abraham student Rabbis and our current Rabbi have come from the RRC in Philadelphia.

Items for April newsletter due by March 19

JEWISH FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICE OF GREATER  
MERCER COUNTY  
OFFERS A NEW FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION PROGRAM  
**NEW MOMS II**

This group is designed for you, mom, to connect with other moms and discuss the daily joys and challenges another "new" baby brings to the family.

Are you asking yourself:

How can I love another baby like the first?

When am I supposed to sleep?

Where do I fit in time with my spouse?

How do I introduce spirituality into my children's life?

What about time for me?

When does sibling rivalry kick in?

Thursday mornings

10:30am – 12:00pm

April 12, 19, 26 May 3, 10, 17\*and 31

Congregation Beth Chaim, 329 Village Road East,

Princeton Jct. Fee: \$36/mom Facilitator: Riva Levy,  
MSW

For further information, please call Debra H. Levenstein  
(609) 243-0390 or [debral@jfcsonline.org](mailto:debral@jfcsonline.org)  
Pre-registration required by March 26, 2007

\*\*\*\*\*

Please register me and my baby for the New Moms II Group  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(h) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Send check (payable to JFCS) and form to: Jewish  
Family & Children's Service,  
707 Alexander Road, Suite 102, Princeton, NJ 08540  
attn: Debra**

This program is funded in part by the Deborah and Harry Kauff  
Family Fund for  
Family Life Education

Thank you Diane Weinberg, a guest at services on Feb.  
16<sup>th</sup>, for your participation in leading Services and the  
lovely Oneg Shabbat. All members are invited to  
participate with the Rabbi in leading services. Call Alex  
to volunteer

*ANOTHER GREAT AD SPACE GONE*

**SISTERHOOD FUND RAISER**

**SARAH SEIDEL SISTERHOOD IS  
SELLING PASSOVER CANDY BY  
MISS CHOCOLATE AND BARTONS.**

There are forms at the Temple but because the deadline for ordering is March 4th., you can check out what you would like from the list below. Please check the list and contact Shira Lowry at [shira@eksuccess.com](mailto:shira@eksuccess.com) or drop off a list at the temple.

Parve Bar 2.5oz. Bittersweet Choc.	\$2.75
Choc. Cov Macaroons 8 oz.,Parve	\$11.25
Choc. Cov Marshmallow 7oz. Parve	\$12.75
Chocolate Macaroons 10.oz Parve	\$8.50
Vanilla Macaroons 10 oz. Parve	\$8.50
Fruit Slices 12 oz. Parve	\$14.25
Dark Choc. Matzos 10 oz. Parve	\$14.75
Bittersweet Assortment 6 oz.,Parve	\$13.25
Seder Mints 6 oz., Parve	\$11.50
Rasp. Chocolate Jellies 9 oz.,Parve	\$12.25
Almond Bark 5 oz.,Parve	\$11.25
Milk & Dark Choc. Asst 8 oz.,Dairy	\$13.75
Almond Butter Crunch 8 oz.,Dairy	\$15.50
Almond Kisses 10 oz. Tin,Dairy	\$16.25
Cashew Butter Crunch 6oz Dairy	\$10.75
Choc. Caramel Daisies 5oz.Dairy	\$11.50
Milk choc. Matzo 10oz. Dairy	\$14.75
Lollycones 2.5oz., Dairy pops on safety sticks	\$6.00
Almond Caramel Clusters 5.5oz.,Dairy	\$12.75
Milk Choc. Bar Milk chocolate 2.5oz.,Dairy	\$2.75

All Barton's products are especially prepared Kosher for Passover under the strict supervision of the Orthodox Union. KOSHER FOR PASSOVER.

**March**  
**Adar-Nissan 5767**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	February 26  <b>Knitting Bee at Betsy Ramos</b>			<b>1</b>  Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM  <b>Temple Board Meeting at the Temple</b> Fast of Esther	<b>2</b>  Shabbat Services 7:30PM	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>  Religious School 10 to 2 <b>Purim Carnival Megillah Reading</b>  <b>PURIM</b>	<b>5</b>  Shushan Purim	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM <b>Movie Night at United Methodist Church</b> Crosswicks 7PM	<b>9</b>  Shabbat Services 7:30PM Oneg hosts Shira Lowry and Speiser Families	<b>10</b>  <b>Teen Group Activity Movie in Princeton</b>
<b>11</b>  Religious School 9:30 to 10:30 Hebrew School 10:30 to 12:30  <i>Daylight Saving Time</i>	<b>12</b>  <b>Sarah Seidel Sisterhood 7:30PM</b> <b>Book Review hosts Bonnie Goldman &amp; Patricia Light-Tolomeo</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM	<b>16</b>  Shabbat Services 7:30PM <b>Oneg Liebman/Ramos Family in honor of B'nai Mitzvah of Jeffrey and Nicole Liebman</b>	<b>17</b>  <b>Shabbat Morning Services 9:30AM</b> <b>B'nai Mitzvah Jeffrey and Nicole Liebman</b>
<b>18</b>  Religious School 9:30 to 10:30 Hebrew School 10:30 to 12:30	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  Rosh Chodesh Nissan	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM  <b>Mitzvah Run 5:15-6:30</b>	<b>23</b>  Shabbat Services 7:30PM Rabbi Julie Leads	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>  Religious School 9:30 to 10:30 Hebrew School 10:30 to 12:30	<b>26</b>  <b>Knitting Bee</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM	<b>30</b>  <b>Tot Shabbat/Pot Luck dinner 6PM</b> Adult Services 7:30PM	<b>31</b>