



## GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

February 2026  
Vol. 31 No. 2

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am truly honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve our congregation. I look forward to working together, listening with an open heart, and helping strengthen our community as we move forward.

We are living in interesting times, to say the least. In moments like these, it is especially meaningful to have a place where we can come together as a community. We each come from different backgrounds, carry different life stories, and hold a wide range of perspectives. Yet at Beth Shalom Temple Center, we are one family.

When I arrived in Green Valley five years ago, during the height of COVID, it was nearly impossible to meet people. Having grown up in Israel, I deeply missed the sense of connection that comes from being among like-minded individuals. I was grateful to discover BSTC in the heart of Green Valley, and thanks to Mike and Joyce Finkelstein, I felt immediately welcomed. From that moment on, my experience here has been both meaningful and enriching.

As we begin 2026, I wish everyone a happy, healthy, and successful year. I truly hope to hear from you. Please feel free to volunteer for any of the activities listed on our website and to suggest new ideas that spark your interest. We are always open to your thoughts and involvement—after all, this is your community.

I would also like to warmly welcome our 2026 Board. The full list has been shared by our very capable Stacy Laetsch, who truly is at the heart of BSTC.

Lastly, I look forward to continuing our work with

*(Continued on page 3)*

### RABBI'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Once a year, I am invited to offer an Invocation at a meeting of the Green Valley Council. If you are unfamiliar with this fine group, permit me to share both their words of self-description and the message I delivered in prayer on January 22nd:

"Because Green Valley is an unincorporated community, the Council is an all-volunteer organization that serves as the community's 'Civic Voice'. It acts as Green Valley's liaison for government relations with local municipalities, the City of Tucson, Pima County, the State of Arizona, as well as Federal and Tribal governments."

*"We pray to You this morning, God of holiness -*

*Let us remember Your message from the Book of Deuteronomy:*

*'Tzedek tzedek tirdof . . . Justice, justice you shall pursue.'*

*We pray to You this morning, God of freedom -*

*Let us hear Your command from the Book of Leviticus:*

*'U-k'ratem d'ror ba-aretz l'chol yosh'veha . . . Proclaim liberty throughout the land, unto all its inhabitants.'*

*Inspire us through these sacred teachings to love and uphold the preciousness of democracy in our community.*

*Let every one of us take responsibility for the rights and freedoms we cherish.*

*(Continued on page 3)*

# The GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

is the Official Newsletter of  
Beth Shalom Temple Center

BSTC is located at 1751 N. Rio Mayo  
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Phone: (520) 648-6690

Website: bstc.us

### Office Hours:

**Monday & Friday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Wednesday: Noon to 4 p.m.**

### 2026 Board of Trustees:

|           |                  |
|-----------|------------------|
| President | Joshua Migdal    |
| VP        | Steve Feldman    |
| Treasurer | Ricki Letowt     |
| Secretary | Marlys Fiterman  |
| At Large  | Mike Finkelstein |
| At Large  | Beverly Lake     |
| At Large  | Ruthann Shapiro  |
| At Large  | Amy Storer       |
| At Large  | Dawna Wheeler    |

### In This Issue:

- ◆ President's Message
- ◆ Rabbi's Message
- ◆ Contact Info/Mailing Address/Sending Checks
- ◆ How to make Temple Usage Reservations
- ◆ Calendar of Events/Schedule of Services
- ◆ Updated phone numbers, emails
- ◆ Member News and Updates
- ◆ Committee Reports
- ◆ Commemorative Items, Tributes & Yahrzeits
- ◆ Birthdays/Anniversaries/Committee Chair List

## PAYMENTS MADE TO BSTC

- ◆ Checks are always welcome! Please memo for the program/event for which you are paying.
- ◆ BSTC accepts ZELLE to bstcgv@gmail.com
- ◆ Credit cards/PayPal link is on the BSTC website and a 3% processing fee is requested.

## MAIL TO THE TEMPLE

Any **mail sent to the temple** should be addressed to:  
**P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622.**

To expedite delivery you may include the name of the person you wish to contact on the front of the envelope.

- ◆ For information on the *Memorial Board* and *Yahrzeits* contact Joyce Finkelstein.
- ◆ For *Tributes* items, contact Amy Storer.
- ◆ For information on *Commemorative Items*, contact the office.

## TEMPLE USAGE SCHEDULING

**Please turn in the Facilities Reservation Form (on the website or from the rack in the temple lobby) to reserve space.** Contact the BSTC office at (520) 648-6690 with any questions.



This is the February issue of the Green Valley Shofar. The Shofar newsletter is published monthly, electronically only. Go to: [bstc.us](http://bstc.us) for viewing and printing of current and archived volumes. Subscriptions can be ordered from the office with a free will donation towards printing and postage.

Not all scheduled events are included in the Shofar. To have your program included in the calendars, please notify the Shofar editor. Deadline to submit Shofar copy is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the publication date.

**EDITOR:** Stacy Laetsch

**NEWSLETTER SUPPORT STAFF:** Mike Finkelstein and Jane Gold

The editors reserve the right to edit contributions for grammar, length and content. Community and member news will be published as space permits. ***Community and/or member events that conflict with Temple events will not be publicized in the Shofar.***

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

Rabbi Norman, whose services and Judaic wisdom provide guidance, comfort, and healing for the soul.

Let's make 2026 a wonderful year together.

Josh Migdal  
BSTC 2026 President



## RABBI'S MESSAGE (continued)

*Let each of us be an advocate for justice, an activist for liberty, a defender of dignity.  
And let us champion the values that make our nation a haven for the persecuted and a beacon of hope among all nations.*

*Bless all of us with courage and conscience, as we aim to support the highest values and aspirations, the hard-won rights that define us as a people, and the responsibilities that they entail.*

*We give thanks and pray for all who serve our Green Valley community, our State and our Country with selfless devotion - whether in peace or in conflict, whether on fields of battle or in clinics or classrooms or office buildings,*

*from government to grassroots;*

*all those whose noble deeds and sacrifice benefit our world and Your creation.*

*We are grateful, so very grateful, for the simple rights of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness that our Nation's Founders attributed to You, our common Creator.*

*We humbly pray for their wisdom and moral strength -*

*that we, in our deliberations and daily lives, may be true guardians of these rights for ourselves, for our neighbors, for the strangers in our gates, and for the sake of all people,*

*Now and forever.*

*And let us say: Amen."*

*[adapted from the CCAR Life-Cycle Guide]*

Rabbi Norm Roman



## TREASURER'S MESSAGE

I have just completed my second year serving as Treasurer of BSTC. When I accepted the position, I said I knew I had to serve at least 3 years to get BSTC on a fiscally responsible track.

The first year, I seriously reorganized the Chart of Accounts to aid understanding of our 'books.' I created 'departments' to represent each of our committees.

This last year, 2025, I worked with each of the Committees to establish realistic budgets. We offered "Budget vs. Actual" reports so each Committee Chair could see how they were doing. We have established that each event must have income equal to, or greater than, its expense.

As I start my third year, I continue to fine-tune the Chart of Accounts and the budget process. We have reduced the Budget deficit significantly and I'm working toward a **balanced budget** WITHOUT RAISING THE DUES. We have instituted a way to receive significant revenue each year, and am planning on other income streams.

Prior to my being Treasurer we consistently ran budget deficits of \$70,000+. Last year our proposed deficit was \$54,000 and this year, it is less than \$20,000. This has been accomplished by taking some of the interest earned on our brokerage account as revenue. In the past "unrealized gains" were posted as income which skewed our financial reports.

In addition, we are scheduling an outside audit. This has not been done for at least 5 years, and used to be done every other year.

BSTC is proudly a volunteer-run organization. We pay for a Rabbi, an Office Manager, a Handyman, and Cleaning staff. Volunteers perform everything else. **The more we do for ourselves, the less money we spend on services.** The corollary is, if we don't have volunteers, we must hire help.

A major goal I have for this year is the establishment of a cadre of volunteers who can do what we can do for ourselves, rather than paying outside contractors to do what we can do.

### Examples of volunteerism at work:

Two years ago, we spent \$2,000 to have the kitchen professionally cleaned. Our new Hospitality

*(Continued on page 4)*

# BSTC ACTIVITY CALENDAR

BSTC continues to Live Stream Services on YouTube. Links are emailed to members.

| Schedule of Services, Meetings, Classes & Events |         |         |  |
|--|---------|---------|--|
| Day  | Date    | Time    | Event  |
| SUN  | 2/1/26  | 10am    | Bagel Breakfast<br><i>Sponsors: Bev Lake &amp; Les Bakke</i>                                 |
| TUE  | 2/3/26  | 1pm     | Ritual Committee Meeting   |
| WED  | 2/4/26  | 10am    | BSTC Book Club @BSTC   |
| FRI  | 2/6/26  | 5pm     | <b>Community Shabbat Dinner @JCC in Tucson (see your email)</b><br><b>NO SERVICE AT BSTC</b> |
| SAT  | 2/7/26  | 10am    | Torah Study on Zoom  |
| MON  | 2/9/26  | 10am    | Therapy Doll Project   |
| TUE  | 2/10/26 | 10am    | Sisterhood Meeting   |
| WED  | 2/11/26 | 9am     | Men's Club Meeting @El Patio   |
| SAT  | 2/14/26 | 10am    | <b>Saturday Shabbat Service</b>  |
| SUN  | 2/15/26 | ALL DAY | Panda Express FUNdraiser<br><i>(print flyer or pick up in lobby)</i>                         |
| TUE  | 2/17/26 | 2pm     | Sisterhood Members' Only<br>Trolley Tour of Tucson Murals                                    |
| FRI  | 2/20/26 | 9:30am  | Program Committee Meeting<br>on Zoom   |
| FRI  | 2/20/26 | 7pm     | <b>Friday Night Shabbat Service</b>  |
| SAT  | 2/21/26 | 10am    | Torah Study on Zoom ONLY   |
| MON  | 2/23/26 | 10am    | BSTC Board Meeting   |
| TUE  | 2/24/26 | ALL DAY | Hamantaschen Baking Project  |
| SAT  | 2/28/26 | 10am    | Torah Study on Zoom ONLY   |
| SUN  | 3/1/26  | 10am    | Bagel Breakfast<br><i>Sponsor: Ricki Letowt</i>  |
| MON  | 3/2/26  | 5pm     | <b>Purim &amp; Megillah Reading</b>  |

**RECOMMENDED:** Please check the Active Calendar on the BSTC website (bstc.us) for any updates.

## TREASURER'S MESSAGE (continued)

Chairperson is planning on getting a team of volunteers to scrub the kitchen top to bottom, thus saving that \$2,000+ we would spend.

For food events, those of us who have made trays of crudités, in camaraderie with others, have spent about 1/3 the cost of buying pre-made trays.

- Our Landscaping Contractor has asked for a budget of \$12,000 to keep our grounds in shape. I believe that we can do the normal maintenance (blow the garden and parking lot, ...) and use the contractor just for major jobs (trimming trees, hauling brush, ...) saving a significant amount of money.

If you can think of other tasks that we can do, rather than pay to have them done, please let me know. As I said in my bio for running for the Board, "I get the most out of organizations that I put the most into."

Most importantly, I want to thank all the people who have volunteered for all the jobs that have kept BSTC the wonderful community it is.

Sincerely,

Ricki Letowt, BSTC Treasurer

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## MEMBER DIRECTORY UPDATES

The **2026 Membership Directory** will be officially updated in early February.

***Please let the office know as soon as possible if you move, and/or change your contact information.***

*Printed copies of the directory spreadsheet are available for members upon request. Please email [bstcgv@gmail.com](mailto:bstcgv@gmail.com) (or, call the office) for a copy.*

### Directory Updates:

- ◆ **NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: Shelly Rothstein**



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## BOARD NOTES

The monthly Board meeting is normally held on the fourth Monday of each month. **The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 23rd at 10am.** All members are welcome, and encouraged to attend.

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## RESTRICTED (DESIGNATED) ACCOUNTS

While no specification is required, when making a general donation or tribute to BSTC, you may opt to specify that to the general fund, or to some other fund that represents your desires regarding where the money is used.

Following here is a list of the Restricted Accounts we have on our books. Some have been there for a while, and some are new. The money can only be used for the stated purpose if an account is restricted (designated).

- ◆ **Rabbi Discretionary Fund**: This will be a standard Discretionary fund to allow the Rabbi to donate as he sees appropriate.
- ◆ **Gratitude Fund**: This fund was set up allows us to subsidize some or all the cost of participation in rituals for our less fortunate members.
- ◆ **Garden Fund**: BSTC does have a budget for *property maintenance*. However, we may want to do something extra (special) for the garden, and this fund is for this.
- ◆ **Bikur Cholim (Caring Meals) Fund**: This fund is partially subsidized by a JPSA grant and provides meals and visitation to members who are recovering from illness/surgery.
- ◆ **Art Gallery Fund**: While the Art Gallery Committee has a budget for expected costs (hanging devices, receptions, honorariums for speakers), the committee chairs can use this fund to enhance the gallery at their discretion.
- ◆ **Membership Fund**: This account is set up to support the recruitment of new members to our Temple, through various means of communication outside the temple.

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## TEMPLE TIDINGS

**Wander Women**, a new social group for all Temple women, invites all BSTC women members to please join us on **Sunday, March 22nd at 3pm** for an entertaining afternoon performance of “The Belle of Tombstone” at the Gaslight Theater in Tucson.

Senior tickets are \$27 + tax.

Please RSVP to Charne. Information re payment will follow.

We hope you'll join us !!

If you're interested in joining other Jewish women for outings to the myriad venues the area has to offer, please contact Gail Abend.

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## COMMITTEE NEWS

### ART GALLERY

The exhibit now on display, “**Nature As I See It**” features the works of BSTC’s own Marcia Wiener.

#### **Call for Artwork!**

BSTC Artists wanted for upcoming exhibitions!

We're on the lookout for talented artists to submit artworks for display in the BSTC Gallery.

Please submit photos of up to 3 artworks.

Artwork Size: Not to exceed 24 inches in any dimension.

*Marcia Wiener & Bev Lake*

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### **BIKUR CHOLIM—CARING MEALS PROGRAM**

At Beth Shalom, we believe in feeding body and spirit. Through our Caring Meals program—rooted



in the Jewish tradition of Bikur Cholim (visiting and supporting those who are ill or in need)—BSTC members lovingly prepare and deliver meals, along with a visit or friendly check-in, to anyone who could use a little extra care.

extra care.

If you're recovering, grieving, feeling alone, or simply in need of support, we're here for you. But

*(Continued on page 6)*

we're not mind-readers—so please let us know.

Contact the Temple Office or Amy Storer to request support for yourself or someone you care about and/or to let us know you have food to contribute. Either bring it without portioning and we can divide and freeze, or please freeze in individual portions. **If you add or take anything to/from the freezer for the Caring Meals, please let Stacy, Ricki, or Dawna know. We keep an inventory of what's there so we know what we are able to offer.**

We are here to nourish, connect, and remind each other: you are not alone.

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### BOOK CLUB

The BSTC Book Club usually meets at BSTC every first Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

#### BSTC Book Club 2026 Reading List:

- ◆ Feb 4th—***The Berry Pickers*** by Amanda Peters  
*A novel about a kidnapped 4-year-old Native American child. The effects on her real family, and her, as she grows up with the kidnappers.*
- ◆ Mar 4th—***The Girl with Seven Names***  
by Lee Hyeon-Seo
- ◆ Apr 1st—***A Tree Grows In Brooklyn***  
by Betty Smith
- ◆ May 6th—***The Worst Hard Time***  
by Timothy Egan
- ◆ Jun 3rd—***Book Woman of Troublesome Creek***  
by Kim Richardson
- ◆ Jul 1st—***People of The Book***  
by Geraldine Brooks
- ◆ Aug 5th—***The Greatest Generation***  
by Tom Brokaw
- ◆ Sept 2nd—***Beloved*** by Tony Morrison
- ◆ Oct 7th—***Silent Spring Revolution***  
by Douglas Brinkley
- ◆ Nov 4th—***The Haj*** by Leon Uris
- ◆ Dec 2nd—***A Tale of Love & Darkness***  
by Amoz Oz

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### CARING COMMITTEE

Do you need to let the congregation know about an important life event? Are you interested in making calls to other members? Can you cook meals for the Bikur Cholim freezer and/or deliver food to those in need?

We have beautiful Tribute cards available to commemorate a life event, and they also act as a fundraiser. At the moment, our financial records indicate that the cost of these cards is greater than the donations that they are bringing in. When making your donation, please remember that the cost to temple for each card is just under \$5, which includes the card stock, printing, envelopes, and stamps. Tribute cards are available for viewing on our BSTC website.

If you have prayer requests, know of members who are sick and/or in/just out of the hospital, would like to make phone calls, or otherwise volunteer to help with this committee, please contact Amy Storer.

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### GRANTS

If you're interested in joining this committee, or would like more information, contact the temple office or Esther Levine Brill.

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### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The BSTC Grief Support group has been meeting regularly since last Spring, creating a caring space for those navigating loss. If you are finding it difficult to move forward due to a loss, whether recent or from long ago, please know that you are not alone. Our meetings offer a safe and supportive environment to share experiences, listen, and support one another in confidence. All are welcome, regardless of where you are in your journey. We hope you will join us. For more information, please contact me for the next meeting date and location.

Looking forward to seeing you.

*Bunny Tarquinio, Grief Recovery Specialist*

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Fundraiser for

## Beth Shalom Temple Center

20% of event sales will be donated

We're a synagogue in Green Valley, AZ,  
with a Caring Meals program.



### When

**Sunday, February 15, 2026**

**Time: 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM**

### Where

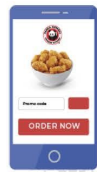
**Panda Express located at:**

**750 S. Rancho Sahuarita Blvd**

**Sahuarita AZ 85629**

**(520) 648 - 3889**

### How to Order



**Online**

**PandaExpress.com or the App.**  
**Enter 3855679 in the fundraiser code box**

or



**In-Person**

**Bring paper flyer or show it on  
your smartphone**

**Order ahead or on the event day Sunday, February 15, 2026**

Participating fundraiser guests are required to present a valid fundraiser flyer (paper copy or digital image) with each order to receive credit towards the fundraiser. Flyers may not be distributed inside or within the vicinity of the restaurant including, without limitation to, the restaurant parking lot before or during the fundraiser. Panda Restaurant Group, Inc. ("PRG") reserves the right to cancel any and all fundraiser events, if the Neighborhood Fundraiser Terms and Conditions are not followed. If the organization is not in good standing with the IRS, Franchise Tax Board, or the State of California (for California organizations only), then donations may not be made to the organization. You must present your unique code or a copy of this flyer (digital copies are accepted) at the designated date, time, and your Panda Express location at check-out. PRG will donate 20% of all pre-tax purchases made, provided that the organization raises a minimum of \$100 in total event sales pre-tax. PRG does not charge the organization fees related to the event. Purchase(s) of gift cards do not count towards the fundraiser, but purchases made with gift cards will count. No portion of purchase is tax deductible. The donation from PRG to the organization is tax deductible. The organization receiving the donation must be a tax exempt organization. PRG will issue the donation check and provide an accounting statement to the organization within 45 days of the completion of the event. Participants in the fundraiser may request the total dollar amount donated to the organization by emailing [communityprograms@pandarg.com](mailto:communityprograms@pandarg.com) or by submitting the question at <https://community.pandaexpress.com/faq>



Find a local hiring event or apply online at **PandaCareers.com**

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## HOSPITALITY

Bagel Breakfasts are usually on the first Sunday of each month at 10am. The **February 1, 2026** event is sponsored by Bev Lake and Les Bakke.

To ensure there is enough food and that plenty of tables and chairs are set up, the Committee policy is that all food events are prepaid. **WE MUST HAVE YOUR RSVP by the Monday prior to the event and your PAYMENT PRIOR TO THE EVENT CONFIRMS YOUR RESERVATION.**

The cost remains \$12 for Members and for \$15 for Non-members. **Your reservations are appreciated!**

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## JIM CLICK RAFFLE

There is no new information to report yet about the 2026 Jim Click Raffle but watch for details to come soon! Contact Ed Gold with any questions.

***The 2025 raffle raised \$875 for BSTC! THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this fun way to donate to BSTC!***

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## LIBRARY

Jane recently moved all non-fiction books that were on the bottom of the fiction shelves to the metal book shelves. She plans to put up new labels soon. She also is slowly removing the discarded books that are underneath the meeting table.

Please contact BSTC Librarian, Jane Gold, with any questions or donations.

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## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

New members who have not done so in the past, please submit a digital photo of yourself and brief profile in order to allow the rest of the membership to know a little bit about each of you. Send your photos and write-up of your background, interests, and any Jewish activities you particularly enjoy to Mike.

\*\*\*

## MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club is gaging interest in future field trips. Please review your emails for messages from Steve Maron with those details.

**The next Men's Club meeting will be on Wednesday, February 11th, at El Patio Restaurant, at 9:00 am.**

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## PROGRAMS

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- ◆ Thanks to Bobbie Vishner and her crew of volunteers for another successful **Pasta Dinner** that raised over \$350.
- ◆ The **FUNdraising DINE OUT** at MOD Pizza was also a great success, raising over \$500, and lucky Bobbie Vishner won the gift card drawing. Another event is planned for **Sunday, February 15th at the Panda Express in Sahuarita**. See the flyer on the previous page for details, or pick up one from the lobby table.
- ◆ A local archeologist, Linda Gregoris, a specialist in Hohokam art and iconography, will give a presentation at **2pm on Wednesday, March 18th**. There will be no charge for this event. See flyer on next page for details.
- ◆ BSTC has rescheduled the **Jewish Film Festival**. Join us at BSTC on **Sunday, March 29th at 1pm**, for three English language short films. There is **NO CHARGE** for this event!
- ◆ Uniting the Community Through Music, held last November 23rd, was a phenomenal success for our temple. We are planning our next big event for 2026 with this theme. Please contact Mike Finkelstein if you would like to participate in the committee's work this year!
- ◆ **Paul Gross**, an associate of Rabbi Roman, **will present a discussion on climate change on April 22nd**, which is Earth Day. Depending on speaker availability, it will be in person or on Zoom. Time to be determined. There will be no charge.

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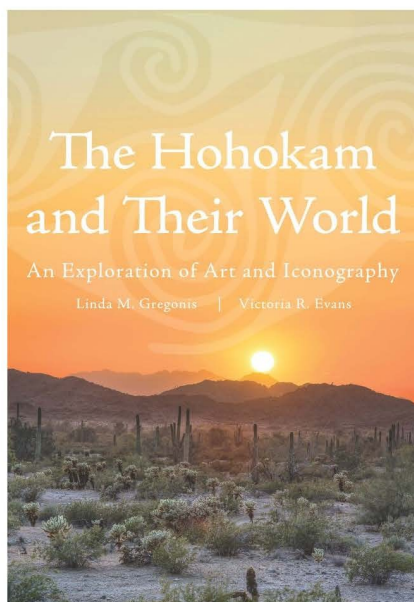
# Please join us at Beth Shalom Temple Center The Hohokam & Their World

Presented by Linda Gregonis

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 2pm



## Hohokam Art and Iconography



The Hohokam were farmers who lived in the Sonoran Desert for a thousand years. Traces of their culture can be found from Nogales to the Mogollon Rim and from Gila Bend to the Tombstone area. Hohokam artists drew inspiration from their Sonoran Desert homeland and were also influenced by the cultures of western Mexico and other regions. In this talk, Linda Gregonis will explore how these artists used pottery, shell ornaments, carved stone, and rock imagery to convey their ideas about water, the Sonoran Desert, the ocean, travel, ancestors, and the cosmos.

LINDA M. GREGONIS is an independent archaeological consultant based in Tucson, Arizona. She has a master's degree in anthropology from the University of Arizona and has spent more than forty years researching and teaching about various aspects of Hohokam culture. Her interest in art and iconography stems from her work as a ceramic analyst. In addition to analyzing pottery, Linda also writes indexes for academic books and is the editor of the University of Arizona Anthropological series.

**The book will be available for sale at the event.**

## REWARD PROGRAMS

**RAISE RIGHT** is a program offering name brand gift cards for purchase and *raises funds for BSTC!*

Please contact Ricki Letowt or Joyce Finkelstein with questions or for help getting started.

### **FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM**

1. Visit [www.frysfood.com](http://www.frysfood.com)
2. Register your Fry's VIP Card online
3. Search for Beth Shalom Temple Center, or by organization #MH533
4. Select "Enroll"

If you are not a Fry's VIP Card holder, just stop by your nearest Fry's and ask for a free application.

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## RITUAL

Ruthann Shapiro is now the Ritual Committee Chair. Please contact her with any questions or if you are interested in participating on this committee.

### **February & March Service Schedule:**

- ◆ **Friday, February 6th—NO SERVICE AT BSTC**  
Instead, a Community Shabbat Dinner at JCC in Tucson begins at 5pm. There will be transportation provided, leaving from BSTC, if you need a ride. Please see the flyer on the next page for more details, and how to make reservations.
- ◆ **Saturday, February 14th—10am**  
Saturday Shabbat Service
- ◆ **Friday, February 20th—7pm**  
Friday Night Shabbat Service
- ◆ **Monday, March 2nd—5pm**  
Purim & Megillah Reading
- ◆ **Friday, March 6th—7pm**  
Friday Night Shabbat Service
- ◆ **Saturday, March 14th—10am**  
Saturday Shabbat Service
- ◆ **Friday, March 20th—7pm**  
Sisterhood Friday Night Shabbat Service



## **Re: the Mi Shebeirach at Worship Services**

Rabbi Roman, the Ritual Committee and the Board of Trustees are continuously re-evaluating how BSTC can best support our members who request public acknowledgement of their (or their loved ones') desire for healing prayers at our Services. There are several complicating issues, not the least of which are HIPAA privacy laws, and managing the length of any list that might be read out-loud.

A suggestion has been made, and we will experiment for the next several months: the Rabbi or Worship Leader will ask for those present to share the name of someone in need of prayers WITH FIRST NAME ONLY, OR FOR THE INDIVIDUAL'S HEBREW NAME TO BE SPOKEN (e.g. Nachman ben Hindel).

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## SECURITY

***"If you see something, say something!"***

Hello everyone,

From time to time, BSTC works closely with JCC security advisors Paul Patterson and Chelsea Gutierrez to stay informed about local developments and best practices related to community safety in the Tucson area.

On January 15, we participated in a Jewish Security Roundtable discussion, which also included Tucson Police Sergeant Jacob Smith. During this meeting, important information and guidance were shared regarding current security considerations.

I would like to pass along this information to our Temple members so that we may all remain informed and vigilant. It is attached on the next three pages.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and commitment to keeping our community safe.

Josh Migdal  
BSTC President & Security Chair

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## **Jewish Security Roundtable: January 15, 2025**

- 1. Tucson Police Department Sergeant Jacob Smith (Public Safety and Active Attack Response)**
  
- 2. Incident Management**
  - a. Designate a primary and secondary to mitigate incidents**
    - i. Coordinating and directing all facets of the incident response effort**
      1. If needed, contact 911, implementing lock down or evacuations, contact law enforcement once on site
    - ii. Designing and delegating ad hoc roles as required by the incident**
      1. Preserving the scene and evidence, Taking pictures if necessary, etc
    - iii. Communicating updates to law enforcement, the necessary staff and Chelsea/Paul (if not on site)**
    - iv. Ensuring security camera footage can be accessed for responders on site**
    - v. Post Incident: Document details of the incident and actions taken**
    - vi. Participating in post-incident debrief with leadership and Chelsea/Paul**

\*These responsibilities ensure that the incident management team operates effectively, maintaining business continuity and safeguarding sensitive data.

- 3. Posters/Signage/Graffiti/Items**
  - a. Do not touch or disturb**
  - b. Take pictures of placement and close-up details**

- c. If needed, cover with larger paper or plastic covering without disruption of evidence
- d. Designate a staff member to remain with the item(s) until law enforcement is on site
- e. Log chain of custody if items are disturbed

#### 4. Unwanted persons and Trespassers

##### a. Warnings to the Trespasser

- i. Issuing a warning to a trespasser communicates your property rights.
  - 1. A verbal or written warning establishes that the trespasser is knowingly infringing those rights, which is crucial for pursuing legal action in many jurisdictions.
  - 2. When delivering a warning, remain calm to avoid escalating the situation.
  - 3. Clearly state that the individual is on private property and request that they leave.
  - 4. If possible, have a witness present or record the interaction. This documentation can prove valuable if the situation escalates to legal proceedings, as it demonstrates that the trespasser was made aware of their unauthorized presence.

##### b. Contacting Law Enforcement

- i. Contact law enforcement if unwanted person fails to depart
  - 1. During the initial 911 call, provide name if known, description of person, state any threats or key phrases spoken
  - 2. If person departs the property after calling law enforcement, recontact law enforcement and advise they have departed and state the direction they were last observed heading
    - a. Ensure to say that you want the encounter documented

##### c. Post-Incident: Document Internally

- i. Record details such as the date, time, and location, along with a description of the trespasser and any interactions.
    - ii. Photographic or video evidence is particularly effective, capturing the trespasser's presence and any damage or disturbances caused.
    - iii. Provide this documentation to Chelsea and Paul
  - d. Understanding Property Boundaries and Legal Rights
    - i. Clearly defined property boundaries are crucial in addressing trespassing issues.
    - ii. A professional land survey is one of the most effective ways to define property boundaries.
    - iii. A licensed surveyor can create a detailed map of your property, marking its exact dimensions and borders. This survey can serve as legal evidence in court if a trespassing case arises.
  - e. Pursuing Criminal Charges
    - i. When trespassing escalates beyond a nuisance, pursuing criminal charges may be appropriate.
    - ii. This step is generally considered when the trespasser poses a safety threat, repeatedly violates property boundaries, or causes significant damage.
    - iii. To initiate criminal proceedings, the property owner must file a formal complaint with law enforcement
    - iv. Police will investigate and refer the case to the county attorney or prosecutor.
    - v. The county attorney/prosecutor will decide whether to file charges.
    - vi. A successful criminal prosecution can result in penalties such as fines, probation, or incarceration
    - vii. This legal recourse holds the trespasser accountable and serves as a deterrent to future violations.

## 5. Incident Reporting

- a. Why to report
- b. What we do with incident reports
- c. How to report: please educate your constituents

**SISTERHOOD**

The Sisterhood usually meets every second Tuesday of the month at 10am at BSTC and all Sisterhood members are invited to join. The next meeting is at BSTC on Tuesday, February 10th at 10am.

On Tuesday, February 17th, paid up Sisterhood Members will be taking a field trip for a Trolley Tour of Tucson Murals.

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**SOCIAL ACTION**

The Chair for this committee is open. Please contact the President if you are interested in discussing this.

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**TORAH STUDY**

Torah Portions are included in the table below. BSTC Torah Study meets ONLY via Zoom, on Saturday mornings that have no service. All are welcome. The link has been emailed and does not change. Please contact the office if you need it.

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## Shofar Subscriptions

### Available upon request!

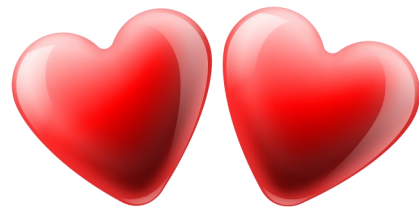
If you would like printed copies of the Shofar mailed to you each month, please send your free will donation to cover printing & postage to: BSTC, PO Box 884, Green Valley AZ 85622 and put "Shofar" on the memo line.

**WEBSITE—[bstc.us](http://bstc.us)**

**Please email [bstcgv@gmail.com](mailto:bstcgv@gmail.com) or call the office at 520-648-6690 with any questions or comments.**

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*Happy Valentine's Day*



| MONTHLY TORAH PORTIONS |                 |                    |                   |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Portion (Parashat)     | Date            | Torah              | Haftarah          |
| <b>YITRO</b>           | Feb 6/7, 2026   | Exodus 18:1-20:23  | Isaiah 6:1-7:6    |
| <b>MISHPATIM</b>       | Feb 13/14, 2026 | Exodus 21:1-24:18  | Jeremiah 34:8-22  |
| <b>TERUMAH</b>         | Feb 20/21, 2026 | Exodus 25:1-27:19  | I Kings 5:26-6:13 |
| <b>TETZAVEH</b>        | Feb 27/28, 2026 | Exodus 27:20-30:10 | Ezekiel 43:10-27  |



## TRIBUTES

The volunteer chairing this committee will mail a personalized card to whomever you choose.

**SEE SOME SAMPLE CARDS ON THE BSTC WEBSITE.**

For an acknowledgement card to be sent **All Tributes MUST include the following information:**

1. **Name** of EACH recipient
2. **Address** of EACH recipient (*for temple members living in Green Valley address need not be submitted with your request; however, if recipient has more than one address, please specify which address*)
3. **Type of Tribute:** Happy Birthday, In Honor Of, With Sympathy, etc.
4. **Names of ALL who are sending** the Tribute including name of spouse, if appropriate.
5. Send your Tribute request and free-will offerings to: BSTC, P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622 (mark "Tributes" on the envelope and check memo line!)

### **Tributes received since our last publication:**

- ◆ From Esther & Ed Brill: **get well to:** John Holleran
- ◆ From Esther & Ed Brill: **condolences to:** Joyce & Mike Finkelstein on the death of their nephew, Daryn Shapiro
- ◆ From Bob & Lisa Ungar: **condolences to:** Joyce & Mike Finkelstein on the death of their nephew, Daryn Shapiro
- ◆ From Esther & Ed Brill: **condolences to:** Roberta Rabin on the death of Fil Ficks
- ◆ From Donna & David Wyte: **condolences to:** Roberta Rabin on the death of Fil Ficks
- ◆ From Donna & David Wyte: **condolences to:** Michael Benisch on the death of his wife, Sara

## YAHRZEITS

Beth Shalom Temple Center will provide reminders of yahrzeits, and the name(s) of your loved ones will automatically be recited for Kaddish at the appropriate Sabbath Services according to the Hebrew calendar. Please email Joyce Finkelstein (or send a note to the Temple for her attention) including your name, the name and relationship of deceased, and the date of death.

### **Yahrzeit Donations:**

| Remembered by | Yahrzeit           |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Serene Rein   | Benjamin D Leavitt |
| Nancy Feldman | Les Feldman        |
| Sig Friedman  | Elsie Friedman     |
| Gail Norton   | Doris Sable        |

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Lynne Block           | 1-Feb  |
| John Rothstein        | 2-Feb  |
| Lucy Graham           | 5-Feb  |
| Fran Gordon           | 8-Feb  |
| Agi Klieger           | 10-Feb |
| Deborah (Devi) Kasson | 12-Feb |
| Linda Alexander       | 13-Feb |
| Kent Blumenthal       | 13-Feb |
| Tobey Gitelle         | 13-Feb |
| Mike Finkelstein      | 14-Feb |
| Esther Brill          | 14-Feb |
| Bill Liebson          | 17-Feb |
| Hermine Router        | 17-Feb |
| Judy Berlin Clifford  | 21-Feb |
| Barbara Brotman       | 23-Feb |
| Andrew Katz           | 25-Feb |

## COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS

The following commemorative items are available for purchase to honor or memorialize:

**Memorial Board Plaques \$300 • Leaf for the Tree of Life \$100 • Sanctuary Chair \$125**

**Garden Bench \$225 • Garden Brick \$100**

Send specific wording for the plaque, brick, etc. together with your check made out to BSTC, Attention "Memorial Board" or "Tree of Life," etc. Order forms can be found in the Temple foyer or contact the office.

| <b>COMMITTEE</b>          | <b>CHAIR/CO-CHAIR</b>     |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Aesthetics                | Tobey Gitelle             |
| Art Gallery               | Marcia Wiener<br>Bev Lake |
| Bagel Breakfast           | Mariann Katz              |
| Book of Remembrance       | Suenette Maron            |
| Calendar & Reservations   | BSTC office               |
| Caring & Bikur Cholim     | Amy Storer                |
| Facilities & IT           | Les Bakke                 |
| Facebook                  | Jane Gold                 |
| Finance                   | Ricki Letowt              |
| Grants                    | Esther Levine Brill       |
| Historian                 | Gail Sommers              |
| Hospitality               | Dawna Wheeler             |
| Jim Click Raffle          | Ed Gold                   |
| Library                   | Jane Gold                 |
| Long Range Planning       | OPEN                      |
| Memorial Board /Yahrzeits | Joyce Finkelstein         |
| Membership                | Mike Finkelstein          |
| Men's Club                | Steve Maron               |
| Oneg                      | Cris Hager                |
| President                 | Josh Migdal               |
| Programs                  | Mike Finkelstein          |
| Rabbi                     | Norman Roman              |
| Rewards Programs          | Joyce Finkelstein         |
| Ritual                    | Ruthann Shapiro           |
| Security                  | Josh Migdal               |
| Shofar                    | Stacy Laetsch/BSTC Office |
| Shopper                   | Judy Gehman               |
| Sisterhood                | Sue Cohen                 |
| Social Action             | OPEN                      |
| Tributes                  | Amy Storer                |
| Website                   | Stacy Laetsch/BSTC Office |