

# Beth Shalom Temple Center



## GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

March 2025  
Vol. 30 No. 3

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm sure we have all been riveted to our televisions to see the return of the latest round of hostages. What a wonderful feeling to see the chair on the bimah with Sagui Dekel-Chen's name removed and know that he is home with his family. But how sad and heartbreaking it was to see the next round of returned hostages, but with this time some of them in coffins. It is like the celebrations of *Yom HaZikaron* and *Yom HaAtzmaut* events.

These two events recall the tragedies and triumphs of the state of Israel, its settlers, soldiers, and people; *Yom HaZikaron* (Day of Remembrance) and *Yom HaAtzmaut* (Independence Day). How gratifying it was to see all of Israel stop what they were doing when the buzzer for *Yom HaZikaron* blared out, followed by the next day's celebration of Israel's independence.

Unfortunately, with this exchange of prisoners, the joy is mixed with sadness.

It is easy to become discouraged at the slow pace of negotiations and returns, as well as the still egregious refusal to identify Hamas as a terrorist organization on many newscasts. How many more children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren will face a lack of knowledge and disregard for facts and history? Will "Never Again" truly become a reality in my lifetime – I am beginning to doubt it.

Sorry for being so negative, but as we celebrate another Purim where we Jews had to protect ourselves against another leader wanting to annihilate us, followed by Pesach celebrating our entry into the "promised land" after being slaves in Egypt. Of

### MESSAGE FROM RABBI NORM

#### 50 Years!

At Cincinnati's historic Plum Street Temple (built during the Civil War), in the city that Isaac M. Wise described as the "Jerusalem of the New World", my classmates and I were ordained as Rabbis in the Spring of 1975. Joyfully and prayerfully, we were honored at the recent Convention of the National Association of Retired Reform Rabbis (where I was elected First Vice-President), and will be blessed later in March by the Central Conference of American Rabbis. The Michigan Congregation that I served for more than 30 years (Temple Kol Ami) is hosting Lynne and me for a special Shabbat in recognition on March 21-22, and you are all invited to a celebration here at BSTC on Saturday evening, May 10.

The 50-year class members were asked to write brief statements about our Rabbinate to share with our younger colleagues and be collected at the American Jewish Archives. These are the words I submitted:

*"Spring of 2025 - 50 years since ordination in Cincinnati (and further memories of five previous years at the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, with my student pulpits, and two and a half years of serving/training as 'pre-rabbinic intern' at my home congregation in Cleveland). It has been an entire lifetime of identifying and finding fulfillment as a Rabbi.*

*When asked why this was my chosen lifestyle, I inevitably respond that I never seriously considered doing anything else: teaching, working with youth, supporting those in need, being on the stage, helping the Jewish people, repairing the world, and wrestling*

# The GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

The Official Newsletter of  
Beth Shalom Temple Center

**Mail to: PO Box 884  
Green Valley, AZ 85622**

**Location: 1751 N. Rio Mayo  
Green Valley, AZ 85614  
(520) 648-6690**

**www.bstc.us**

## Office Hours:

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

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

President	Esther Levine Brill
VP	Joshua Migdal
Treasurer	Ricki Letowt
Secretary	Amy Storer
At Large	Mike Finkelstein
At Large	Marlys Fiterman
At Large	Beverly Lake
At Large	Harry Segal
At Large	Laurie Sherman

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**Editor:** Stacy Laetsch

This is the March issue of the Green Valley Shofar. The newsletter is being published monthly, electronically only. Go to: [bstc.us](http://bstc.us) to view and print current and archived volumes.

Subscriptions can be ordered from the office with a small donation towards printing and postage.

**NEWSLETTER SUPPORT STAFF:** Mike Finkelstein, Jane Gold, and Laurie Sherman

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

## **PAYMENTS MADE TO BSTC**

- ◆ BSTC accepts ZELLE to [bstcgv@gmail.com](mailto:bstcgv@gmail.com)
- ◆ Credit cards/PayPal link is on the BSTC website.
- ◆ Checks are always welcome! Please memo for the program/event for which you are paying.

## **MAIL TO THE TEMPLE**

To expedite delivery, any mail sent to the temple should be addressed to: **P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622**. Please 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 by phone or by email.
- ◆ For information on *Tributes* items, contact Gary Melton.
- ◆ 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.

Not all scheduled events are included in the Shofar. To include your program in the Shofar calendars, please notify the Shofar editor. Deadline to submit Shofar copy is the 23rd of the month prior to the publication date.

## 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.

## 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 (*Addresses for temple members living in Green Valley need not be submitted with your request; however, if your 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 since last publication:**

- ♦ From Gary & Toi Melton: **mazel tov to:** Jonathan & Katie Melton on the upcoming birth of their child.
- ♦ From Esther & Ed Brill: **healing thoughts to:** David Wyte.
- ♦ From Esther & Ed Brill: **healing thoughts:** Cris Hager.
- ♦ From Esther & Ed Brill: **healing thoughts:** Chloe Rochkind.
- ♦ From Esther & Ed Brill: **mazel tov to:** Harry & Debbie Segal on the birth of their first granddaughter.
- ♦ From Esther & Ed Brill: **in honor of:** Helene & Larry Feldman.
- ♦ From Bunny & George Tarquinio: **in honor of:** Rabbi Norm Roman for the renewal of vows ceremony.

## YAHRTZEITS

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. If your yahrzeits are not yet on the current list and you wish them to be, 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	Relationship	Yahrzeit
Sig Friedman	For his Mother	Elsie Friedman
Linda Stein	For her Father-in-law	Ben Stein
Linda Stein	For her Mother-in-law	Betty Stein
Linda Stein	For her Mother	Pearl Atlas



# 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
SAT	3/1/25	10am	Torah Study on Zoom ONLY
SUN	3/2/25	10am	Bagel Breakfast <i>sponsors: Gary &amp; Toi Melton</i>
WED	3/5/25	10am	BSTC Book Club
FRI	3/7/25	7pm	Friday Night Shabbat Service
SAT	3/8/25	10am	Torah Study on Zoom ONLY
SUN	3/9/25	2:30pm	Art Gallery Reception
MON	3/10/25	10am	Therapy Doll Project at BSTC
TUE	3/11/25	10am	Sisterhood Meeting
WED	3/12/25	9am	Men's Club Meeting
THU	3/13/25	9am	Long Range Planning Meeting
THU	3/13/25	5pm	Purim Celebration & Service
SAT	3/15/25	10am	Saturday Morning Service
SUN	3/16/25	2pm	BSTC Film Series: <i>White Bird</i>
FRI	3/21/25	9:30am	Program Committee mtg on Zoom
FRI	3/21/25	7pm	Men's Club Shabbat Service
SAT	3/22/25	10am	Torah Study on Zoom ONLY
THU	3/27/25	10:30a	Social Action Committee Mtg
SAT	3/29/25	10am	Torah Study on Zoom ONLY
MON	3/31/25	10am	BSTC Board Meeting

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

## President's Message (continued):

course, this only came after forty years of wandering, so an entire generation could die out before seeing victory.

My condolences to the many families and friends who have lost loved ones in this latest act of murder. It was also excellent to have the Rabbi update us with a text from Sagui's family updating us on how he's doing at our recent board meeting.

While condemning the loss of life, one of my friends said we need to look through it all and realize, surprisingly, some of the benefits coming from this disaster, such as meeting new friends, finding common ground among neighbors, and strengthening our ties to Israel. Seeing some joy in the face of so much sorrow is heartening.

Unfortunately, as of this writing, we are once again in limbo. Will further exchanges be discontinued? I hope that by the time the next Shofar is published, we will again be able to celebrate.

*I shall pass this way, but once. Therefore, let me do what little I can now since I will not pass this way again.*

*Let us continue this incredible journey together,*

Esther Levine Brill

President, BSTC, Board of Directors



### SAVE THE DATES

**Purim Celebration & Service**

***Thursday, March 13th at 5pm***

**AND**

**BSTC Film Series**

***White Dove starring Helen Mirren***

***Sunday, March 16th at 2pm***

**AND**

**Passover Second Seder at Desert Diamond**

***Sunday, April 13th at 5pm***

**AND**

**Rabbi's 50th Anniversary Celebration Party**

***Saturday, May 10th at 5pm***

## Rabbi's Message (continued)

*with God. I knew that I could do all of them - praying that I would be successful in at least some of them - in the role known as **Rav**. Gratefully, my mentors and family have all lovingly been with me on my journey.*

*I take great pride in knowing that I have had a positive influence on many people in the communities which I have served. I am humbled that many have overlooked or forgiven my faults and mistakes. I look back with fondness and approval at the number of my former students and campers who have chosen to devote their lives to Jewish professional life. In short, I have immense satisfaction and contentment in what I have accomplished. 'I am happy with my lot', paraphrasing Pirkei Avot.*

*From the pulpit, I have tried to instruct and interpret Torah. In the university classroom, I have tried to represent our tradition and history in such a way as to further interreligious respect and understanding; and (in the happiest experiences I have shared) working with NFTY teens in their leadership development, I have tried to be a role model and guide, while at the same time relishing in their spirit, for it continually recharged my soul's batteries.*

*What do I look forward to? If I am so privileged, I will continue to be a 'part-time' Rabbi to my community of active seniors and retirees. And hopefully, being blessed with the strength, health, wisdom and love to be a better husband, father, father-in-law, and **Zeyde**."*

Rabbi Norm Roman



## MEMBER DIRECTORY UPDATES

The 2025 Membership Directory will be posted on the password-protected page of the website after the Annual Meeting.

***Please let the office know if you move, or change any of 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.*

- ♦ **New member:** Deborah ("Devi") Kasson  
Green Valley, AZ 85614  
*Devi is the daughter of new member, Caroline Weintraub.*

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## BOARD NOTES

**The Board of Directors Meeting was held at BSTC on Monday, February 24th at 10am.** Officers were elected at an executive session immediately following adjournment of the annual meeting in January, and the one seat that was left open at that time has been filled by appointment.

**The 2025 Board of Directors is as follows:**

<b>President</b>	<b>Esther Levine Brill</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Joshua Migdal</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Ricki Letowt</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Amy Storer</b>
<b>At Large</b>	<b>Mike Finkelstein</b>
<b>At Large</b>	<b>Marlys Fiterman</b>
<b>At Large</b>	<b>Beverly Lake</b>
<b>At Large</b>	<b>Harry Segal</b>
<b>At Large</b>	<b>Laurie Sherman</b>

**THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS FOR CASTING YOUR VOTES TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR ELECTION!**

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## **TEMPLE TIDINGS**

### **MEMBERS ACHIEVEMENTS**

At the end of February, BSTC Board Member and Communications Chair, Laurie Sherman, presented at the Jewish Digital Summit, a digital conference focusing on the Jewish community. She shared information and answered questions about how the successful BSTC 2024 Dine & Laugh Gala was produced.

Also, on Sunday, February 23rd, BSTC Member and astronomer, David Levy, was featured in the Arizona Daily Star. David, who has discovered 23 comets, has just completed his latest book “Star Gazers” and he will appear on March 16, 2025 at the Tucson Festival of Books.

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## **HELP WANTED**

### **Oneg Chairperson**

Do you love creating warm and welcoming spaces? Do challah, wine, and good company bring you joy? Then we need YOU to help make our Friday night Onegs special!

Your mission (should you choose to accept it!):

- ◆ Set up challah, wine, and goodies for after services. (Training provided!)
- ◆ Prepare candles for lighting.
- ◆ Organize a small team—so you’re not flying solo every week. (We already have a few helpers!)
- ◆ Coordinate with the Hospitality Chairperson for shopping.
- ◆ Ensure everything is tidied up and the synagogue is closed after Oneg is over.

This is a fun and fulfilling role that brings our community together. Interested? Know someone who might be interested? Let’s talk!

Contact Esther L Brill or Ricki Letowt to learn more.



## **HELP WANTED**

### **Long Range Planning Chairperson**

Beth Shalom Temple Center Needs a Visionary!

We’re looking for a Chair for the Long-Range Planning Committee—someone who thinks ahead and is ready to help shape the future of our Temple.

Are you a forward thinker? Do you want to ensure the Temple’s growth and sustainability? This role allows you to make a meaningful impact, and best of all—you can participate mostly from home!

If you’re interested (no resume required, just enthusiasm!), please contact Esther L. Brill to express your willingness to serve.

We already have a few team members. Let’s build a strong future together!

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## **COMMITTEE NEWS**

### **ART GALLERY**

A new exhibit will be on display beginning March 10th and a reception in the Gallery will be held on Sunday, March 9th beginning at 2:30. All members are encouraged to join us for refreshments.

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### **BOOK CLUB**

The BSTC Book Club meets at BSTC every first Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. All members are welcome. Contact Laura Unger for more information.

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## CARING COMMITTEE

### Who to Call?

Do you need to let the congregation know about an important life event? Are you interested in making calls to other members? If you have any prayer requests, know of any of our members who are sick and/or in the hospital, or would like to make phone calls or chair this committee, please contact Amy Storer.

\*\*\*

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Communications Committee will focus on communicating both in direct membership and public campaigns. All BSTC members with an interest in participating are welcome to join.

Chair Laurie Sherman has shared the following short article of interest, and a Passover-safe recipe.

### Stones Instead of Flowers

In Jewish tradition, placing stones on graves symbolizes permanence, memory, and connection. Unlike flowers, which wither, stones endure, representing the lasting impact of a person's life. The custom may stem from ancient shepherding practices, where pebbles helped track flocks, reflecting the idea of God keeping souls in His care. Some believe stones prevent spirits from wandering, echoing Eastern European Jewish folklore. Biblical and Talmudic traditions emphasize stones in altars and sacred sites, reinforcing their spiritual significance. Ultimately, placing stones affirms that while life is fleeting, memory and the bonds of faith remain steadfast and unbroken.



## Flour-Free Passover Chocolate Almond Cake



This rich, flourless cake is perfect for Passover and incredibly easy to make!

### Ingredients:

- 6 oz bittersweet chocolate, chopped
- ½ cup unsalted butter or margarine
- ¾ cup sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 1 cup almond flour
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ¼ tsp salt

### Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease an 8-inch round cake pan and line with parchment paper.
2. Melt chocolate and butter together in a heat-proof bowl over simmering water or in the microwave in short bursts. Stir until smooth.
3. Whisk in sugar, eggs (one at a time), vanilla, and salt. Fold in almond flour until fully combined.
4. Pour batter into the pan and smooth the top.
5. Bake for 25-30 minutes or until set but slightly soft in the center. Let cool before serving.

Dust with powdered sugar or cocoa, or serve with fresh berries. Enjoy this simple, delicious Passover treat!

Tip: For a nut-free version, substitute potato starch for almond flour.

Adapted from 'My Jewish Learning' by Laurie Sherman

Chag Sameach!

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## GRANTS

**The following message appeared in the last Shofar and is being repeated due to its importance. Please consider participating on this committee.**

The Board voted to establish a **Grants Committee** to help secure funding for Beth Shalom Temple Center's vital programs and initiatives. This is an exciting opportunity to make a meaningful impact, and we're seeking a chairperson and members to help lead this effort.

Initially, the committee will focus on:

- Identifying grant opportunities that align with our temple's mission and goals.
- Writing grants and learning and teaching ourselves and other members how to write grants effectively.
- Learning how and where to do grant research.
- Securing funding to support our temple's programming, improvements, and outreach.

This work is critical to ensuring our community's continued growth and success. While the responsibility is important, the time commitment is manageable—just a few hours each month to meet, collaborate, and work on applications.

No prior experience is necessary—training and resources will be provided. However, if you do have experience, we'd love to have your expertise on board! Enthusiasm, dedication, and a willingness to learn are all you need to get started.

If you're interested in chairing or joining the committee or would like more information, don't hesitate to contact the temple office or directly to Esther Levine Brill, Beth Shalom Temple Center's Board President.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to support BSTC in an impactful way. We look forward to hearing from you!

Warm regards,  
Esther Levine Brill  
President, Beth Shalom Temple Center

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## HISTORIAN

BSTC member, Gail Sommers, has accepted the role of Historian. Gail had been Gloria's partner and support staff for the last several years. Gail will continue working to organize and update the archives.

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## HOSPITALITY

Bagel Breakfasts are on the first Sunday of each month at 10am. March's event is sponsored by Gary and Toi Melton. John Evans will be at the piano from 9:30 until the breakfast begins at 10am.

To ensure there is adequate food and that enough tables are set up, ***the Hospitality Committee has reinstated its policy that all food events MUST HAVE YOUR RSVP by the Monday prior to the event and YOUR CHECK IS YOUR RESERVATION.***

The cost remains \$12 for Members and for \$15 for Non-members. You may mail checks or you make payment via Zelle (no fee) or PayPal (add 3%).

**Your reservations are appreciated!**



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## JIM CLICK RAFFLE

The 2025 Jim Click Raffle kickoff was February 26th. Tickets will be available in the office and at bagel breakfasts, possibly as early as March. Contact Ed Gold for more details.

***BSTC raised \$1050 in the 2024 raffle. THANK YOU to all who participated!***

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## LIBRARY

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

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## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

**Welcome to new members, Caroline Weintraub and Deborah (Devi) Kasson!** Caroline and Devi are mother and daughter, both now full-time residents in Green Valley.

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 meets at El Patio Restaurant at 9am on the second Wednesday of each month.
- ◆ The **Men's Club Shabbat Service** will be led by Steve Maron and is scheduled for **Friday, March 21st at 7pm** with an Oneg to follow.
- ◆ The Men's Club will be **collecting pre-flattened cardboard** to benefit the Sahuarita Food Bank **QUARTERLY on Bagel Breakfast Sundays in April, July and October.**

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## PROGRAMS

### Program News:

- ◆ Pat Shearer spoke about his experiences in Ukraine at BSTC at 2pm on Wednesday, January 29th. Pat was an honoree at the recent 30th Anniversary Gala, and was recognized for his incredible efforts to help those in Ukraine since the Russian invasion.

- ◆ On Sunday, February 16th at 2pm, James Ertel spoke on How A.I. Works: How it evolved in just two years and is already integrated into our daily lives.
- ◆ On Sunday, February 23rd at 2pm, we had a guided walk through BSTC's Labyrinth with Ami Sarasvati, a trained facilitator. She offered ceremonial flute music during the walk. Photos and a video will be posted on the BSTC website.
- ◆ **"White Bird" starring Helen Mirren will be shown at BSTC on Sunday, March 16th at 2pm.** We plan for discussion time after each film.



- ◆ Our Dine & Laugh Gala fundraiser in November 2024 was a lot of work but yielded a significant return for BSTC. **This year we need volunteers to help put on smaller but more frequent events.** Among the promising ideas for 2025 are: pasta dinners; a "Taste of the Temple" where members bring their families' favorite

(Continued on page 10)

meals; a tribute dinner in honor and memory of past Presidents Merle Sobol and Gloria Clancy; entertainment by the Tucson Klezmer group; entertainment by a high school Mariachi group; and/or an ethnic musical extravaganza including Klezmer, Mariachi, Dixieland and folk music, at the local high school auditorium. A Texas Roadhouse dinner night fundraiser is being considered, too. Potential dates have been targeted and focus is on having programs at BSTC versus at outside venues to avoid extra advertising and rental costs.

Contact Mike Finkelstein with any questions or suggestions, or if you would like to join the Programs committee.

### **Programs with Rabbi Norm:**

#### **RENEWAL OF MARRIAGE VOWS**

Thanks to the generosity of Jim and Bonnie Cole, who purchased Rabbi Roman's "Renew Your Marriage Vows" item at the our Gala's Auction in November (and offered to share the opportunity with anyone else who chose to come to BSTC on Sunday morning, February 16th) four couples celebrated and were blessed as they re-consecrated their love. Mazel Tov to:

Bonnie and Jim Cole

Joyce and Mike Finkelstein

Marge and Dan Galitz

Bunny and George Tarquinio (pictured)

Thanks again to Bonnie and Jim Cole for making this possible!



### **CELEBRATE RABBI NORM ROMAN AT BSTC!**

Join us on Friday, May 10, for a special evening honoring Rabbi Norm Roman! Enjoy a delicious dinner and a fantastic concert featuring pianist Will Foraker. \$18 per person covers both the meal and music. Let's come together as a community to show our appreciation for Rabbi Norm and enjoy a night of friendship and celebration.

More details coming soon! Don't miss this special event!

### **“A TIME TO MOURN”**

Our Wisdom Literature, in the Book of Ecclesiastes, reminds us that life consists of finding the “time to weep and a time to laugh, time to mourn and time to dance, a time to cry and time to laugh”. The human condition, as well, reminds us that we need a place and community in which we can openly and safely do all those things.

This invitation is overdue and sadly, it is needed more than ever:

BSTC and the Green Valley Jewish Community have members who are hurting, grieving, and feeling

*(Continued on page 11)*

alone. Especially in light of Rabbi Roman's call for "Sacred Aging" as a theme for this year, we need to respond to and support our friends who have lost spouses or partners, or are facing the inevitability of that reality sooner rather than later.

If you are interested, or know someone Jewish who might be interested or in need, please let Rabbi or the Office know. A support group has been formed and is currently meeting a couple times per week.

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## REWARD PROGRAMS

**RAISE RIGHT** is a national program offering name brand gift cards for purchase (sometimes at a discount) and *raises funds for BSTC without costing anything extra!*

**FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM** shares a percentage of purchases with charity organizations.

Please contact Joyce Finkelstein with questions or for help getting started in either or both programs.

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## RITUAL

Marly Fiterman has accepted this Chair.

Upcoming service dates are as follows:

- ♦ **Friday, March 7th—7pm**  
Friday Night Shabbat Service
- ♦ **Thursday, March 13th—5pm**  
Purim Service and Celebration
- ♦ **Saturday, March 15th—10am**  
Saturday Shabbat Service
- ♦ **Friday, March 21st—7pm**  
Men's Club Friday Night Shabbat Service

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## SECURITY

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

The new Security Chair is Josh Migdal. Please contact Josh with any security questions or concerns.

*BSTC Security*

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# PURIM IS COMING!

BETH SHALOM TEMPLE CENTER CELEBRATES

## THE FEAST OF ESTHER

Thursday, March 13, 2025

5:00-6:00 pm



Please join us:

Reading of the Megillah

"Drowning out the name of Haman"

(bring a noise-making donation of non-perishable food, e.g. Mac & Cheese, for the Food Bank)

Songs:

The 'Uncensored' Real Story of Esther, Mordecai, and Achashveirosh Revealed

Plus Everything You Ever Wanted to know about Purim that you weren't taught in Sunday School!

And, of course: Hamantaschen provided by the Sisterhood!

Please RSVP by Friday, March 7th: 520-648-6690 or bstcgv@gmail.com

## SISTERHOOD

The Sisterhood meets every second Tuesday of the month at 10am at BSTC.

The Sisterhood hosted a print making workshop on Tuesday, February 18th where about a dozen ladies created artworks.

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## SOCIAL ACTION

The Social Action Committee meets monthly the 3rd Thursday of the month from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the temple. We also have a Zoom option for our meetings. Please consider joining our committee. If you would like to receive meeting reminders please let me know.

Food donations are always needed but are needed even more at this time of year. Please consider bringing non-perishable food items to the temple as often as possible. Men's Club, Sisterhood, Services,



Bagel Breakfast are wonderful opportunities to drop off a donation.

The most needed items are cereal, peanut butter, instant rice or potatoes, beans, regular rice, canned soup, canned veggies, canned meat or fish, mac & cheese, canned tomato products, and soup packets that only require hot water.

The Social Action Committee is also working with the Santa Cruz Valley Methodist Church to collect pet food for the women who use the services of Sister José Women's Shelter. Their request for pet food is very specific. Kibble for small dogs and cat food. I will send out an E-Blast when the donation drive has an official start date. We plan to collect pet food on a regular basis, possibly 3-4 times a year.

Thank you and stay warm,

Connie Greenwald

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## TORAH STUDY

Torah Portions are included for members in the table below. Torah Study meets only via Zoom, every Saturday morning at 10am. All are welcome. The link has been emailed and does not change. Please contact the office if you need it.

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## WEBSITE—bstc.us

There is a photo gallery, links to the Board meeting minutes and financial reports, the calendar, on-line payment options, and **member contact directories available here.**

***Please email bstcgv@gmail.com or call the office at 520-648-6690 with questions or comments.***

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MONTHLY TORAH PORTIONS			
Portion (Parashat)	Date	Torah	Haftarah
<b>TETZAVEH</b>	Mar 7-8, 2025	Exodus 27:20-30:10	Ezekiel 43:10-27
<b>KI TISSA</b>	Mar 14-15, 2025	Exodus 30:11-34:35	I Kings 18:1-39
<b>VAYAK'HEL</b>	Mar 21-22, 2025	Exodus 35:1-38:20	I Kings 7:40-50
<b>PIKUDEI</b>	Mar 28-29, 2025	Exodus 38:21-40:38	I Kings 7:51-8:21



Janet Kenigsberg	1-Mar
Paul Cohen	4-Mar
Rosalind Cooper	6-Mar
Gary Melton	12-Mar
Debbie Segal	13-Mar
Myrna Feldman	18-Mar
Cliff Shekter	21-Mar
Ann-Marie Schaffer	23-Mar
Rick Kunin	26-Mar
Dusty Kunin	27-Mar
Jack Vishner	29-Mar
Sandy Drucker	30-Mar
Jo Legat	30-Mar
Arnie Krohn	31-Mar

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Art Gallery	Marcia Wiener
Art Gallery (co-chair)	Bev Lake
Bagel Breakfast	Mariann Katz
Book of Remembrance	Suenette Maron
Calendar & Reservations	BSTC office
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e-Scrip	Joyce Finkelstein
Facilities & IT	Les Bakke
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