

AGUDATH ACHIM SYNAGOGUE

THE SHOFAR

FEBRUARY
2014

1306 Seventeenth Street
Altoona PA 16601
814-944-5317



THANKGIVUKKAH 2013





Clark Adelman, President

Dear Members & Friends,

It is hard to believe that I have been your president for three years. As my term comes to an end, it is a good time to reflect on the experience. I can honestly say that this has truly been a labor of love. Being a lifelong member of this congregation, I felt it was my duty and an honor to become president. I truly enjoyed the experience and feel with Elliott and Joel before me, we have left the synagogue in a much stronger position than it was 9 years ago.

I feel the most important thing that was accomplished during my term was the hiring of our Rabbi Josh Wohl. He and I have worked closely together and I not only consider him my Rabbi, but my friend. Rabbi Wohl has worked very hard to enhance our services and holiday celebrations. His sermons are always interesting and informative. The Monday evening bible study classes are very enjoyable. I encourage everyone to attend a session and give it a try. You will find the discussions stimulating. Also, Rabbi has worked to make our holiday celebrations pertinent and fun. Rabbi's first three years have been very successful and he has agreed to be our Rabbi for three more years. For Rabbi to be successful, he needs all of us to step up and participate.

Our next Board Meeting (My last as President) is April 9, 2014. The annual meeting is May 18th at 5PM catered by Dave & Paula Binus. At this meeting a new board will be elected. I would encourage anyone who is interested in serving our congregation to contact me for a possible board position. We need to get more people involved in the operating of our synagogue. Please consider serving on the board.

I want to thank Ron Adelman our synagogue secretary for organizing and keeping our office running smoothly. Thanks to Elliott Bilofsky, Chairman of the Board and House Committee Chairman. Elliott can be found in the synagogue at any given time repairing or cleaning something. Thanks to Joel Hollander, past president and Trust Committee Chairperson. Joel is always ready to lend a hand and give guidance. Our Vice Presidents, Dave Binus, Jeff Greenberg, and Mark Lipitz were always there to help out. Thanks to Greg Werstil our treasurer, who has stepped up and done a tremendous job. Greg is always looking for creative ways for us to save money. Thank you to Donna Cohen, our secretary, for stepping up and doing the job. A special thanks to Henry Weinberg, Cemetery and Religious Affairs chairperson. Henry has been there for me the entire three years. He has cheered me on and we have become great friends. His work with the cemetery has been nothing short of amazing. Henry is looking for someone to mentor to carry on all his hard work. If you are interested, give Henry a call. Thanks to Adele Giller for all her efforts for the education of our children. Thanks to Madelyn Greenberg for her work on the Shofar and Chronicle. How could we function without these two wonderful publications!!!

Thanks to all the wonderful ladies of sisterhood who provide so much to our synagogue. What would we do without them!!! Without our wonderful congregants there would be no Agudath Achim. Thank you all.

Last but not least, I want to thank my wife, Kim who has been so understanding over the past three years with all the time it takes to be president. My term as president may be coming to a close, but my dedication to Agudath Achim is not. I look forward to seeing all of you at the synagogue.

We continue to be informed and inspired by Rabbi Wohl's Shabbat morning services and D'Var Torahs. I encourage everyone to celebrate Shabbat with us at 9:30 AM every Saturday morning followed by Kiddush lunch. You will truly enjoy the service and lively discussions during lunch. I hope to see you there soon.

Sincerely,

Clark R. Adelman

PLEASE MARK
YOUR CALENDARS
ACCORDINGLY.
THANK YOU IN
ADVANCE FOR
YOUR ATTENDANCE
AT THESE
IMPORTANT
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETINGS.
2013-2014 AAC
BOARD MEETING
DATES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9
7:00 PM

ANNUAL
DINNER MEETING
SUNDAY, MAY 18
5:00 PM

Kim Adelman
has an E-Mail
address specifically
for Golden Book
inscriptions.

Her Golden Book
E-Mail address is:

kagoldenbook
@yahoo.com



Rabbi Josh Wohl

Last week, while attending the Jewish Educators Assembly Conference in Atlanta, I along with 80 other Jewish educators had the misfortune of being trapped on a bus for 8 hours during the snowpocalypse. It's amazing that a mere two inches of snow could shut down an entire city. I saw hundreds of abandoned cars on the side of the road as their owners either ran out of gas or patience with the chaotic situation. Who knew that General Sherman could have captured Atlanta without firing a single shot if he had simply brought a few snowballs with him on his March to the Sea.

The storm was a disruptive event that paralyzed an entire city. What's amazing is that a similar storm had shut down Atlanta in 2011, yet the local politicians failed to enact strategies or innovations that would have prevented another disaster. To put it simply, they failed to adapt!

The JEA conference focused on this very concept of adaptation. Technology, like the weather can be disruptive. Successful Jewish educators must learn to embrace disruptive technology or risk falling prey to educational gridlock.

Harvard Professor Clayton Christensen has theorized that disruptive technologies don't just change the product but the market itself. The Postal Service has been diminished by the proliferation of email, CD's have been made relics with the popularity of the digital download and soon enough, he argues, computers will be replaced by tablets and smartphones.

At Religious School meetings around the country, parents and teachers covet technological innovation and 'the holy grail' - a computer in every classroom. However, this yearning for greater numbers of computers is shortsighted as within a decade many experts believe that the computer will have been rendered obsolete by the proliferation of the smartphone and tablet. And that's why it's ludicrous to demand that our students turn off their phones as soon as they enter the classroom. Do we not realize that every smartphone is a mini-computer that could be used to enhance their educational experience? Why do we desire computers and fear smartphones, which have similar capabilities? We ban the smartphone because we see this disruptive technology as destructive instead of innovative. Smartphones scare us because most of our teachers lack the proper training to use these new tools to enhance the educational experience.

At the JEA, I was fortunate to attend a session led by an educational consultant Richard Walter. He began his session by yelling at us "Don't feed your students information; let them use their smartphones to uncover it." He gave us the example of Yitzhak Rabin. When studying this great man's life, sure you could read an article or watch a video. But these activities can create passive learning environments. Instead, why not develop a learner centered experience and have the students search for the information about Rabin's life on their smartphones. Then have the class use the educational website Fakebook (not Facebook) to create their own profile for the great leader. The Fakebook profile would include pictures, videos and imaginary conversations with leaders like Arafat and Clinton, similar to what you would see on a regular Facebook page. Or the teacher could use Popplet, an app that allows the students to create web-based graphic organizers which can include photos and videos of Rabin.

Now of course, you can use technology to create a snoozer of a class, for if there's no big idea or conflict that frames your lesson, then you're just putting lipstick on a pig. But Jewish education can no longer look at the smartphone and tablet as destructive technology, rather we must see them as innovations that will open up new pathways to success. Otherwise, like Atlanta, we will continue to be mired in gridlock.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

INTRO TO HEBREW CLASSES
AT 6:15 (EVERY MONDAY
THROUGH APRIL 7TH)

TORAH STUDY: THE BOOK OF
EXODUS PART II AT 7PM (EVERY
MONDAY THROUGH APRIL 7TH)

FEDERATION FILM FESTIVAL
5:30 DINNER, 7:15 MOVIE
(FEB 20TH, 27TH,
MARCH 6TH, 13TH)

MEGILLAH READING
AND PURIM PARTY AT 7PM
(MARCH 15TH)

PURIM CARNIVAL AT 10AM
(MARCH 16TH)

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD
MEETING AT 7PM (APRIL 9TH)

COMMUNAL PASSOVER SEDER
AT 6PM (APRIL 15TH)

YIZKOR SERVICES AT 6PM (APRIL
22ND)

GUEST SPEAKER: PA SUPREME
COURT JUDGE MICHAEL EAKEN
(MAY 3RD)

WE WELCOME OUR
NEW MEMBERS

JUSTIN AND EMILY
MANDEL

IN MEMORY OF
EDYTHE VOLOSHEN

MOTHER OF DAVID BINUS AND GRANDMOTHER OF
DAVID BINUS III AND ERICA BINUS.

MAY HER MEMORY BE
FOR A BLESSING AND MAY ALL
OF THE FAMILY BE COMFORTED AMONG THE MOURNERS
OF ZION AND JERUSALEM

IN MEMORY OF
AMIE WITKIN

AUNT OF ADELE GILLER AND STEVEN DEITCH
AND GREAT AUNT OF PHYLLIS THALER

MAY HER MEMORY BE
FOR A BLESSING AND MAY ALL
OF THE FAMILY BE COMFORTED AMONG THE MOURNERS
OF ZION AND JERUSALEM

IN MEMORY OF
JEANETTE WEINBERG

STEPMOTHER OF HENRY WEINBERG, MOTHER OF RON
MARGOLIES AND WIFE OF THE LATE JULES WEINBERG.

MAY HER MEMORY BE
FOR A BLESSING AND MAY ALL
OF THE FAMILY BE COMFORTED AMONG THE MOURNERS
OF ZION AND JERUSALEM

TO SPONSOR A SHABBAT
KIDDUSH

\$100 FOR A SATURDAY MORNING
KIDDUSH.

YOUR NAME WILL APPEAR
IN THE WEEKLY BULLETIN.
PLEASE CONTACT
THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE.

\$100 COVERS APPROXIMATELY 20
PEOPLE.

OUR SISTERHOOD GRACIOUSLY
PROVIDES THIS LUNCH EVERY
WEEK.

THEY CANNOT PROVIDE THE
KIDDUSH FOR EXTRA PEOPLE
OR SPECIAL REQUESTS.

THE SHOFAR IS PRINTED
FOUR TIMES A YEAR.
FEBRUARY, MAY AUGUST,
NOVEMBER

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES TO
MADDYGRN@ME.COM OR
CALL THE OFFICE

944-5317

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.AGUDATHACHIM.COM

REMINDER:
WE HAVE HIGH HOLIDAY
PRAYER BOOKS
AVAILABLE FOR
DEDICATION AT \$36

Y A H R Z E I T S

Feb 4	Ida Kaplan	Mother of Samuel & Harold Kaplan & Anna Paikin	April 02	David Scott	Father of Nancy Devorris & Grandfather of Philip Devorris & Andrea Cohen
	Samuel Klevans	Brother-in-law of Emanuel Rosenberg			
	Maurice Sherman	Fatgher of Freya Berger	April 03	Morris Epstein	Father of Louis Epstein
Feb 5	Ida Levine	Grandmother of Ms. Ida Levine & Nancy Seigel	April 04	Aaron Gendel	Brother of Sophie Rosenberg
				Lawrence Hollander	Father of Joel Hollander & Grandfather of Nicole & Rachel Hollander & Nanci Caplan
Feb 6	Abraham Adelson	Uncle of Samuel Kaplan			
Feb 7	Pesa Tuttle Golant	Mother of Jakob Golant			
Feb 10	Ann Kline-Gilbert	Aunt of Dr. Michael Kline		Louis Miller	Husband of Mildred Miller
Feb 13	Albert Karp	Husband of Rose Karp, Brother of Ida Schulman & Father of Rick Karp	April 06	Morris Devorris	Father of Donald Devorris & Grandfather of Andrea Cohen & Philip Devorris
Feb 14	Morris Antikol	Father of Hyman Antikol & Linda Charam			
	Rose Port	Mother of Stephen, Neil & Martin Port & Grandmother of Joshua Port	April 08	Moses Sky	Uncle of Stephen, Neil & Martin Port & Phillip Sky
Feb 18	Stella Bader	Mother of Susan Karp	April 12	Morton Hollander	Uncle of Joel Hollander & Great Uncle of Nicole & Rachel Hollander & Nanci Caplan
Feb 23	Getrude Green	Aunt of Nancy Devorris			
	Ruth Scott	Mother of Nancy Devorris & Grandmother of Philip Devorris & Andrea Cohen	April 13	Gussie Kline	Grandmother of Dr. Michael Kline
Feb 24	Irving Schmidt	Father of Dr. Stephen Schmidt		Edythe Vivian	Aunt of Ronald & Clark Adelman & Joy Susengill
Feb 25	Molly Rosenberg	Mother of Emanuel Rosenberg			
Feb 27	David Brozgal	Husband of June Brozgal	April 16	Meyer Deitch	Father of Adele Giller
	Louis Burrows	Grandfather of Amy Seltzer & Eric, Bruce and Jonathan Thaler	April 20	William Greenberg	Father of Jeff Greenberg & Grandfather of Bill & Bobby Greenberg
Feb 28	Sarah Sussman	Mother of Marilyn Port		Shirley Paikin	Former wife of Saul Paikin
March 2	David Altberg	Father of Dr. Reynold Altberg & Grandfather of Marla Greiper	April 21	Sarah Epstein	Mother of Louis Epstein
March 5	Rose Altberg	Wife of Dr. Reynold Altberg & Mother of Marla Greiper	April 22	Albert Faber	Grandfather of Steven, Alex & Michael Seltzer
	Julius Mazur	Brother of Rose Karp		Yetta Seltzer	Mother of Irving Seltzer & Grandmother of Steven, Alex & Michael Seltzer
	Israel Sky	Father of Phillip Sky & Grandfather of Israel Sky	April 26	Dorothy Levinson	Mother of Howard Levinson
March 07	Benjamin Blender	Uncle of Jeffrey Blender	April 27	Joshua Golant	Father of Jakob Golant
March 08	Julius Krentzman	Father of Anita Hurwitz, Grandfather of Marcia Schulman and Reva Feldman	April 28	Anna Mazur	Mother of Rose Karp & Grandmother of Rick Karp
March 22	Rebecca Bailing	Mother of Jordan Bailing		Hanna Krapin	Mother of Millicent Bailing
March 31	Ruth Blender	Mother of Jeffrey Blender	April 30	Joseph Rosenberg	Father of Emanuel Rosenberg
				Joseph Cohen	Father of Lynn Fishbaine

Our Misheberah List

The following individuals are in our prayers of healing this week.

If you have names to add to our list, please contact the office. In addition, if you or someone you know is hospitalized or would like a visit, please contact Rabbi Wohl.

Brenda Adelman
Eva Berger
Gary Belenitsky
Nima Chorny
Debbie Coley
Mendle Covitch
Mark Eskovitz
Jakob Golant
Paulette Jacobson
Joe Lurie
Bill Lutz
Addisyn McGregor
Danny Noiman
Amy Resnik
Desiree Rosenthal
Bill Rossman
Roz Sky

All the American & Israeli Soldiers
injured in battle

Please notify us if the person on
this list has recovered.

CONGRATULATIONS
FELICIA DEVORRIS
ON A FABULOUS PERFORMANCE



Production: "Annie" at the Mishler Theatre,
November 2013

Currently in 8th Grade at The Grier School in Tyrone

Previous Experience:

Sparkle Ensemble Mishler 2008 – 2013
Once Upon a Mattress, Lady Lucille Grier School 2013
White Christmas, Ensemble Mishler 2011
ACT Summer Workshops Mishler 2008 - 2013
NYC Youth on Broadway Workshop and Showcase 2013
Grier Select Singer and Rock Band Soloist 2012-2013
Broadway Bound Kids 2010 – 2012
National Anthem Soloist at Altoona Curve Ballpark 2008

PLEASE SEND MADELYN OR RON YOUR
ARTICLE FOR NEXT SHOFAR BY APRIL 20.

OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL INCLUDE ALL
GRADUATES. IF YOU HAVE A GRADUATE
FROM HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR
ANY OTHER PROGRAM PLEASE SEND A
PICTURE AND SHORT DESCRIPTION.

GOLDEN BOOK DONATIONS

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Mrs. Fay Schmitt
 In Memory of Jeanette Weinberg
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Dr. Reynold Altberg & Mrs. June Brozgal
 In Memory of Jeanette Weinberg
 Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Bergstein
 In Memory of Jeanette Weinberg
 In Honor of 47th Bar Mitzvah
 Anniversary Joel Hollander
 In Memory of Robert L. Terdiman
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. David Dollinger
 In Honor of 47th Bar Mitzvah
 Anniversary Joel Hollander
 Happy Birthday Joseph Lurie
 Congratulations on 80th Bar
 Mitzvah anniversary Jakob Golant
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. Joel Hollander
 State of Israel Bond Tribute Jakob
 Golant
 Get Well Nancy Devorris
 Get Well Carol Cohn
 Get Well Betsy Kline
 Get Well Gary Belenitsky
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. Henry Weinberg
 Get Well Esther Scheinberg
 Get Well Carol Cohn
 Happy Birthday Joel Hollander
 Get Well Gary Belenitsky
 In Memory of Rob Terdiman
 Get Well Sandra Halpern
 Get Well Lynnea Detwiler
 Happy Birthday Sue Cohn
 In Memory of Efi Fendel
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Harry Colbus
 Happy Birthday Chub Supowitz
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Get Well Roz Sky
 Mr. & Mrs. Israel Sky, Sam & Mandy,
 Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Sky,
 Mr. & Mrs. David Rispoli, Tyler & Casey
 In Memory of Pamela C. Buoymaster
 Mazel Tov on State of Israel Bond
 honor Jakob Golant
 In Memory of Dorothy Baker
 Mr. & Mrs. David Rispoli, Tyler & Casey,
 Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Sky
 In Memory of Nelson Baker &
 Dorothy Baker
 In Memory of Marie Gallace</p> | <p>Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Fishbaine
 Get Well Norma Sevel
 In Memory of Robert L. Terdman
 Mrs. Janet Wayne
 Happy Birthday Phyllis Port
 In Memory of Robert L. Terdiman
 Get Well Steve Sheetz
 Mr. & Mrs. David Rispoli, Tyler & Casey
 In Memory of Melvin E. Lafferty
 In Memory of Anne "Tutu" Hilsinger
 Get Well Leslie Kraft
 New Year's Wishes Jon Yon
 In Memory of Joseph James Pfeister
 In Memory of Ruth Ann Cover
 In Memory of Brooks Emry George
 In Memory of Addison Holl
 New Year's Wishes C. Kim George
 Mr. & Mrs. Clark Adelman
 In Honor of 47th Bar Mitzvah
 Anniversary Joel Hollander
 Get Well Janet Wayne
 Congratulations on State of Israel Bond
 honor Jakob Golant
 Thank you for hospitality Bruce & Lisa
 Covitch
 In Memory of Rob Terdiman
 Congratulations on 80th Bar Mitzvah
 Anniversary Jakob Golant
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Get Well Roz Sky
 Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Bailingner
 Get Well Carol Cohn
 Get Well Janet Wayne
 Get Well Gary Belenitsky
 In Honor of 47th Bar Mitzvah
 Anniversary Joel Hollander
 In Memory of Robert L. Terdiman
 Get Well Henry Lee
 Get Well Geraldine Stevens
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Vincent Hauck
 Happy Birthday Joseph Lurie
 Get Well Berl Gottlieb
 Happy Birthday John F. "DON" Burns
 In Memory of Dr. Sorrell Goldberg
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Get well Roz Sky
 Dr. & Mrs. Michael Cohen
 Get well Carol Cohn
 Get Well Janet Wayne
 Get Well Gary Belenitsky
 Get Well Betsy Kline
 In Memory of Amie Watkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. Byron Lasser
 In Memory of Blaine Sidler
 Happy Birthday Joel Hollander</p> | <p>Get Well Marcia Wyant
 Get Well Gary Belenitsky
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Devorris
 In Memory of Robert L., Terdiman
 In Memory of Amie Watkin
 Get Well Darlene Figard
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. Morley Cohn
 In Memory of Robert L. Terdiman
 Get Well Gary Belenitsky
 Congratulations on performance as
 "Annie" Felicia Devorris
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Harry Colbus
 In Memory of Merle K. Evey
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. Rick Karp
 Congratulations on 80th Bar
 Mitzvah Anniversary Jakob Golant
 Mr. & Mrs. David Binus
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 Mr. & Mrs. Philip Devorris
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Greenberg
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Henderson &
 Family
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Dr. & Mrs. Michael Kline
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. Neil Port
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mrs. Amy Seltzer
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mrs. Ilissa Zimmerman
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mr. & Mrs. Boris Aryev
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Dr. & Mrs. Marvin Meisner
 In Memory of Merle K. Evey
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Mrs. Mildred Miller
 In Memory of Amie Witkin
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen
 Get Well Roz Sky
 Dr. & Mrs. Bruce Thaler
 In Memory of Edythe Voloshen</p> |
|--|--|--|

D O N A T I O N S

Rabbi M. Herbert Berger Memorial Scholarship Fund

David & Jean Dolinger

In Memory of David's Father Herman Dolinger

Joel & Barbara Hollander

In Honor of Phyllis Port's Birthday

Joel & Barbara Hollander

In Honor of Felicia Devorris

For her outstanding performance in "Annie"

Joel & Barbara Hollander

**Best wishes for continued good health to Mina & Gary
Belenitzky**

Joel & Barbara Hollander

**Best wishes for continued good health to Madelyn
Greenberg**

Joel & Barbara Hollander

**Best wishes for continued good health to Sandra
Halpern**

David & Jean Dolinger

In Memory of David's Grandfather Aaron Dolinger

David & Jean Dolinger

In Memory of David's Aunt Freida Trompeter

Congregational Fund

Joel & Barbara Hollander

In Memory of Barbara's father David Sirkin

Laurel A. Crum

In Honor of Joseph Lurie's 90th Birthday

Marlene & Bernhard Kiewe

In Memory of Hilda Lurie

Ethel Fried

In Memory of her husband Joseph Fried

Morley & Carol Cohn

In Memory of Morley's father Joseph Cohn

Anita Hurwitz

In Memory of Anita's husband Alfred Hurwitz

Anita Hurwitz

In Memory of Anita's sister Thelma Levy

Marvin & Betty Hoffenberg

In Memory of Morris and Geraldine Antikol

Freya & Irvin Berger

In Memory of Frank's father Frank Berger

Anita & Irvin Hurwitz

In Memory of Anita's mother Fannie Krentzman

Pat & Larry Benton

In Memory of Edythe Voloshen

David & Sarah Sky Charitable Trust

Michael & Barbara McNelis

In Memory of Edythe Voloshen

Marlene Kiewe

**In Memory of her Grandfather Moshe
Schulman**

Marlene Kiewe

**In Memory of her Grandmother Peshah
Rochel Solomon**

Ida Levine & Nancy Siegel

**In Memory of their Father Morris
Levine**

Louis Silverman

**Wishing speedy recovery for Ester Jean
Laberman**

Selma Bilofsky

**In Memory of her Husband Herbert
Bilofsky**

Anna Paikin

In Memory of her Mother Ida Kaplan

Ida Levine

In Memory of her Grandmother

Hy Antikol

**In Memory of his Grandfather Chaim
Antikol**

Hy Antikol

**In Memory of his Mother Gerry
Antikol**

Hy Antikol

**In Memory of his Father Morris
Antikol**

Mickey Port

**In Memory of her Mother Sarah
Sussman**

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Paul & Yvonne Bellina

Kiddush Sponsorship

Jeol Hollander

**In Honor of his 47th Bar Mitzvah
Anniversary**

Kara & Elliott Bilofsky & Family

**In Memory of Elliot's Father Herbert
Bilofsky**

Donna Cohen

**In Memory of Donna's Husband Arthur
Cohen**

DONATIONS

Cemetery Trust

Morley & Carol Cohn

In Memory of Carol's Parents - Samuel
& Thelma Brenner Skolnek

David A. Dezen

In Memory of Jules & Esther Weinberg
and Bill, Paul, Ethel, Abe &
Anne Colbus

David A. Dezen

In Honor of Uncle Henry Weinberg's
dedication to the Cemetery

Prayer Book

Morley & Carol Cohn

In Memory of Jeanette Margolies

Dr. Marvin & Judi Sue Meisner

In Memory of Adele Giller's aunt Amy
Witkin

Tree of Life

David & Jean Dolinger

In Honor of Grandson Andrew
Dolinger's 1st Birthday

Chair Lift Fund

Byron and Ronna Lasser

THE BINUS FAMILY WISHES
TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THE
CARDS AND DONATIONS IN
MEMORY OF
EDYTHE VOLOSHEN
MOTHER OF DAVID BINUS
AND GRANDMOTHER OF
DAVID BINUS III
AND ERICA BINUS.



THE HANUKKAH LIGHTS were lit at Agudath Achim by (from left) Rabbi Herbert Berger, Danielle Newborn (on ladder) and Nanci Hollander.

Hanukkah to begin after sunset today

Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights and Dedication, begins at 5:08 p.m. (after sunset) today and concludes Sunday, Dec. 27 (after sunset).

Hanukkah, as chronicled in the Book of Maccabees (which is sacred to the Jewish as well as Catholic and Greek Orthodox religions), recites the struggles between the Jewish Freedom fighters and the troops of the Syrian King Antiochus, in the Holy Land more than two thousand years ago. The despotic ruler attempted to force idolatry and paganism upon the Jewish people, who rose up to resist under the leadership of Judah Maccabee.

In the year 165 B.C.E. Judah and his followers recaptured, the Temple in Jerusalem, cleansed it, rededicated it and proclaimed an eight day "Festival of Lights and Dedication of the Alter." The Jewish religious community has commemorated the holiday ever since.

Candles are kindled every night of the holiday beginning with one

the first night, two the second, until finally eight candles blaze in the special Hanukkah Menorah or candelabrum. Hanukkah is known as the "Festival of Lights," and also known as Days of Dedication.

The Community Religious School will have a Hanukkah celebration at 11 a.m. Sunday at Agudath Achim Congregation.

Rabbi Berger will supervise Hanukkah services with spiritual message at 4:30 p.m. today; 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Sunday; 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Dec. 21 through December 25; 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, and 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27.

Rabbi Berger will conduct Hanukkah candlelighting services at the State Correctional Institution at Cresson, the Altoona Center and the Ebensburg Center Dec. 23 and 24. He recently conducted an interfaith service for the lighting of the Hanukkah Menorah in front of the Altoona Hospital.

Birthdays

February

1 Daniel Henderson
2 Sara Gould
2 Kevin Thaler
11 Samantha Bilofsky
11 Amanda Sky
11 Maxine Weinberg
13 Sam Gould
14 Matthew Eiman
17 Brittany Thaler
19 Jolene Bowers
21 Elizabeth Kline
22 Sophie Rosenberg
23 Philip Devorris
23 Emanuel Rosenberg
23 Carolyn Wallen
24 Stephen Port
26 Cathie Gould
26 Alex Thaler

March

6 Adam S. Werstil
7 Sarah Lipitz
8 Clark Adelman
9 Seth Bergstein
11 Rachel Hollander
11 Nicole Lipitz
12 Nanci Caplan
13 Mina Belenitsky
14 Sandra Singer

16 Ryan Seltzer
18 Howard Levinson
20 Judi Sue Meisner
24 Claudia Devorris
25 Joshua Seltzer
26 Bernice Levinson
26 Andrea Okonak
27 Sarah Arlick
27 Janine Werstil
29 Ilissa Zimmerman

April

2 Dr. Jay Arlick
2 Adam Seltzer
5 Noah Scheinberg
5 Michele Schmidt
5 Steven Seltzer
8 Leeanne Port
8 Adam Schneider
9 Joel Schocker
12 Ian Housman
13 Scott Glass
13 Alex Seltzer
19 David Halpern
20 Jan Housman
23 Gerald Bergstein
23 Phyllis Thaler
28 Jeffrey Blender
30 Elva Dolinger
30 Madelyn Greenberg
30 Erica Schmidt

Anniversaries

February

19 Jay & Mary Eiman

March

3 Joel & Barbara Hollander
8 David & Sandra Halpern
26 Barry & Cathie Gould

April

2 Saul & Anna Paikin
8 Philip & Colleen Devorris
11 Anderson & Sheila Rains
16 Michael & Andrea Cohen



AGUDATH ACHIM OFFERS MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR SYNAGOGUE THROUGH VARIOUS FUNDS. PLEASE CONSIDER A CONTRIBUTION TO AGUDATH ACHIM TO HONOR, REMEMBER, OR CONGRATULATE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS. FOR YOUR REFERENCE, WE ARE HAPPY TO PROVIDE A LIST OF THE AREAS THAT ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

GOLDEN BOOK - MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION OF \$4.00

SISTERHOOD WINDOW FUND (PLAQUE LOCATED IN SOCIAL HALL) - MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION OF \$25.00

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND - RABBI WOHL USES THESE FUNDS TO MAKE CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE SYNAGOGUE AS WELL AS TO PURCHASE MUSIC, BOOKS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL THAT BENEFIT THE SYNAGOGUE AND JEWISH COMMUNITY OF ALTOONA.

TREE OF LIFE SCULPTURE (MAIN LOBBY) - MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION PER LEAF OF \$125.00

ETERNAL LIGHT FUND (SCULPTURE IN MAIN LOBBY). CATEGORIES ON THE SCULPTURE INCLUDE CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$1000.00, \$2500.00, \$5000.00, \$10,000.00, AND \$25,000.00.

SISTERHOOD PRAYER BOOK FUND - MINIMUM \$36.00

RABBI M. HERBERT BERGER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND- DONOR'S DISCRETION

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR GENERAL FUND FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR OPERATING BUDGET ARE WELCOME IN ANY AMOUNT.

PARTICIPATION IN OUR TRUST FUNDS THAT INCLUDE OUR ETERNAL LIGHT AND OUR PHYSICAL TRUST CAN INCLUDE YOUR GIFTS OF SECURITIES, CASH, OR INSURANCE BENEFITS. PLEASE CONTACT JOEL OR CLARK TO DISCUSS YOUR INTEREST IN HELPING TO SECURE THE FUTURE OF OUR AGUDATH ACHIM WITH YOUR KIND GENEROSITY.

**PLEASE VISIT US AT WWW.AGUDATHACHIM.COM
OR TWEET US AT [@AGUDATHACHIM](https://twitter.com/AGUDATHACHIM)**