

# Sim Shalom

Adar II 5774  
March 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL, HARLINGEN TEXAS

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SUNDAY, MARCH 16  
10 A.M.

PARTY! COSTUMES!  
HAMANTASHEN!

## FROM FERNANDO RUSSEK

This has been the fastest start of the year (we are already in the middle of March), and the coldest, longest winter I have experienced here in the RGV -- that combined with the fact that the Jewish calendar comes early and now we are celebrating Purim in just a few days.

I would like to invite everyone to come to our annual Purim celebration this coming Sunday, March 16, at 10 a.m. We will read the Megillah, have a costume and hamantashen contest and enjoy a potluck oneg after the services. (Alma will be organizing the potluck. Please contact her about what you will bring or ask her what is needed: 956-970-7722.)

Our community has also been invited to a Purim masquerade and Megillah reading at 7 p.m. Saturday evening at Temple Emmanuel in McAllen. Also, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the people who helped in organizing and supporting the Stan and Nivia Fisch Tribute Dinner. It was a great success. Special thanks to my wife Alma for preparing the dinner and to the confirmation class for helping with the service and music.

We have two certificates for a round of golf for four people left over from the auction. If you are interested or if you know somebody who might be, let me know. We will sell to the best offer. (956) 970-4005

Shalom,  
Fernando A. Russek

# Calendar

## MARCH

- 14-16 *Rabbi in town*  
 14 Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m.  
 15 Shabbat service, 9 a.m.,  
 with Torah discussion and  
 breakfast to follow  
 16 Megillah reading and Purim  
 Party, 10 am  
 23 Religion School  
 23 Potluck and annual Congrega-  
 tional Meeting, 12:30 pm  
 30 Temple Clean Up/Work Day

## APRIL

- 4 Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m.  
 6 Religion School Model seder  
 11-14 *Rabbi in town*  
 11 Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m.  
 12 Shabbat service, 9 a.m.,  
 with Torah discussion and  
 breakfast to follow  
 12 Havdalah and talk by Rabbi  
 Joseph, 6:30 pm  
 14 Temple Community Seder,  
 Erev Passover; 6:30 p.m.

# Celebrations

## BIRTHDAYS

- 3/14 Gerald Sondock  
 3/16 Meredith Linsky  
 3/19 Bert Wolf  
 3/22 Dan Simha  
 3/31 Gilbert Weisberg  
 4/5 Alma Russek  
 4/5 Jamie Wolf  
 4/6 Dagan Wise-Herring  
 4/11 Andre Suissa  
 4/15 Jonathan Berg  
 4/16 Brittni Elise Greenfeld  
 4/17 Sophia Simha  
 4/20 Harry Holzman

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 3/7 Dr. Stan & Nivia Fisch  
 3/20 Paul & Sofia Shirazi

*Did we miss you?*

*Please send birthdays & anniversaries  
 to [laurie.b.joseph@gmail.com](mailto:laurie.b.joseph@gmail.com).*

## NEWS

■ **CONDOLENCES** to Tammy Spink and family on the passing of Tammy's father. May his memory be for a blessing.

■ **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** On Sunday, March 23, following a 12:30 potluck lunch coordinated by Laurel S.

The officers for 2014-15 will be elected at the meeting. Slate of officers:

Abby Warshowsky \_ President

Rich Newman - Vice President

Anne Weiss - Secretary

Bert Wolf - Treasurer

Joel Smith - Trustee

Susan Ander - Trustee

Rollie Koppel - Trustee Emeritus

Trustees may also be nominated from the floor at the meeting if they are present.

■ **PURIM CELEBRATION** - Sun, Mar 16, 10 am, services, Megillah reading, costume contest for all ages, hamantaschen baking contest. Pot luck lunch coordinated by Alma R. Bake sale sponsored by the confirmation class to benefit their trip to Houston this spring.

■ **TEMPLE WORK DAY:** March 30, Sunday, is work day at the temple for the religion school and all the congregation, after 10 am services. Lunch will be served. Includes planting flowers, pruning bushes, polishing wood-work, and cleaning for Passover.

■ **COMMUNITY SEDER:** Monday, April 14, 6:30 pm, led by Rabbi Joseph. Choice of kosher chicken or fish). Cost: \$35 per member adult and guests 13 and over, \$15 for children 6 to 12, free for children under 6 years old; \$45 for non-member adults. Send your check made to Temple Beth Israel to: Laurel Steinberg, 613 W Saint Charles St, Brownsville, TX 78520, and indicate your preference of chicken or fish. **Please make your paid reservations by Thursday, April 10.**

■ **SCRIP FUNDRAISER:** Temple Beth Israel has started a new fundraiser that is painless, fun, and easy for all to participate in. We are selling "gift" cards and certificates for many of the businesses we all use regularly, through the Great Lakes Scrip company. The temple gets a percentage of each purchase, from 2 to 10 percent, and sometimes more. Here's a tiny sample of the available businesses: Amazon.com, Starbucks, Target, Best Buy, Home Depot, Marshall's, Gap, Neiman Marcus, Bed Bath & Beyond, HEB, and Subway.

Some congregants have ordered already and it works!!!

Go to the Great Lakes website to see a list of businesses for which you can buy cards: <http://www.glscrip.com/> The denominations available are listed. If you decide to order, send a check for your total amount to Temple Beth Israel, PO Box 3398, Harlingen, TX 78551, and write "scrip" on your check. List out the cards you want to buy, how many, and what denominations.

Read more about the scrip company and see the list of gift cards available at <http://www.glscrip.com/>

Help the temple to raise some funds at no extra cost to you. Contact Liz Holzman at 459-5433 for more information. Thanks to Liz for coordinating this project.

# Thank You

## DONATIONS

### FISCH TRIBUTE DINNER DONATIONS

Stan & Nivia Fisch *with thanks to Alma,*  
*Rabbi and friends Stan and Nivia Fisch*  
 Tamarah S. Spink  
 Ron Papilla and Dinah Saavedra  
 Richard & Judy Berkowitz  
 Charles and Mary Lewis  
 Jan Workman and Abe Tamayo  
 Alpert Emily  
 Rene y Eliza Gonzalez  
 Oziel and Dalila Gonzalez  
 Jesus and Janie Luna  
 Marsha Griffin and Mike Seifert  
 Joel P. Smith and Janice Cassidy  
 Lula Tamez *Donation of Chocolate Cake*  
 Geoffrey & Rossana Bogorad *with thanks*  
*Alma Russek for all her work*

### GENERAL FUND

Jesus and Angela Silguero  
 Gary and Teri Paradiso *in honor of Nivia*  
*Fisch's Retirement*

## Oneg Shabbat Hosts

Each member household is asked to host one Shabbat oneg during the year. Remember hosting now involves setting up, cleaning up, and providing challah, Kosher wine, grape juice, paper/plastic goods, coffee and drinks. You can bring other treats you like, but the congregation will share the responsibility of bringing snacks and desserts. If you cannot be a host on the date assigned, please call Laurel Steinberg at 550-9530.

### ONEG HOSTS

MARCH: Keyes, Shirazi

APRIL: Ander, Quintero, Rojas

## TRIBUTE DINNER FOR DR. STAN AND NIVIA FISCH



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# TRIBUTE DINNER FOR DR. STAN AND NIVIA FISCH

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