



# The Menorah

June 2021

Temple Emanuel ~ 600 Lake Hollingsworth Dr.  
Lakeland FL 33803 ~ 863-682-8616



## Rabbi's Message

For over a year we have been meeting online and waiting for the time to come when we can once again come together in person. That time is soon approaching, But it will not happen overnight. While progress has definitely been made restoring our sanctuary, we still do not have a place to meet at the Temple. There is

no air-conditioning in the upstairs rotunda, and the downstairs construction is preventing us from meeting there. Trek is currently utilizing Renz Hall, and the board room is not large enough to accommodate social distancing. We are exploring other options and I hope that we will be announcing plans for coming together starting sometime in late June. I am thankful for the blessings of technology which allowed us to remain in contact during the pandemic, but I will be the first to admit that it is a poor substitute for meeting in person. I hope that you will all continue to be patient and safe as we start to return toward a more normal life. My wish for all of you is to have a fantastic summer and I hope to see you in person soon.

Shalom-  
Rabbi David Goldstein

## President's Message

With Passover and Shavuot behind us and our current fiscal year coming to a close, we have the opportunity to reflect back as we begin planning for the approaching High Holiday season and our upcoming Temple year.

In April, we held a Spring clean up at the Temple. Everyone attending the workday did a great job helping to spruce up our Temple grounds. We are planning to have another clean up day in August prior to the High Holidays. Todah Rabah to Brian and Jane Renz for organizing the cleanup and to all of our members that participated.

At the recent congregation meeting, I mentioned creating a Reopening Committee that is working on our plans to return to in person services. With the worst of the pandemic hopefully behind us, we are all anxious to get back together in person as soon as possible, but we must do it safely. With the renovations in the main Temple building, and Trek utilizing Renz Hall, our space is extremely limited and does not allow for safe distancing. We are currently finalizing details for an alternate location for services and will be providing more information very soon. Our hope is to return to in person services before the end of June.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Adult Education with  
Rabbi Goldstein  
Wednesdays 7 pm  
via Zoom**

**Installation  
June 11th**

**Book Club  
June 29**

Visit our [website calendar](#)  
& our [Facebook page](#) for  
details on all events!

## **President's Message Continued from Page 1**

The past few months have seen a whirlwind of activity with the sanctuary renovation:

- demolition and replacement of the sanctuary ceiling completed
- re-insulated the air conditioning ducts
- upgraded the sound system
- steam cleaned the bricks within the sanctuary
- converted the lighting to LED which will provide brighter, cooler lighting, as well as save on our utility bills

There is still quite a bit more work to complete. The pandemic, and resulting supply chain delays have played havoc with our completion goal of the High Holidays. The contractors are all experiencing long supply delays which in turn may affect our timeline. We will keep you posted.

Meanwhile, the Rabbi and Ritual Committee have begun working on preparations for our services. We are pleased to welcome Cantor Paul Goldstein and his family back to Temple Emanuel for the High Holidays. Amy Blocher will soon be contacting everyone to place names in the Book of Remembrance and to purchase honors and readings for the services. We are anticipating having a hybrid arrangement this year which will allow an in person service as well as a virtual service. Watch your emails for further information.

I want to recognize Rabbi Goldstein and our Officers and Trustees for the remarkable job they have done helping us to navigate the uncharted waters of disruption caused by COVID-19 pandemic. In March of 2020, none of us had any idea of what was ahead of us:

- closing our building
- changing all of our services to a virtual format
- programming and religious school to an virtual format
- financial uncertainties
- isolating at home
- experiencing job losses
- severe illness and/or loss of friends/family from COVID-19

Through all of this our board and congregants remained resilient and sailed through the storm. While we are now seeing a decrease in COVID-19 cases and many congregants are getting vaccinated, we must still remain vigilant and cautious.

I would also like to offer a Todah Rabah to Irma Cole for so diligently planning weekly activities to keep everyone connected. The variety of games, speakers, and other activities were enjoyed by all.

We have had many requests for a new Friday Evening Shabbat Prayer book. After many months of searching for a siddur with meaningful readings, poems, transliteration, and that is easy to use, we found: "Siddur Chaveirim Kol Yisrael". This 6" x 9" soft cover bound siddur features a gender-neutral faithful translation of the Hebrew, as well as line by line transliteration in a user friendly format. It also contains, poems, and alternative readings. Members of our Ritual Committee and other congregants gave positive reviews. If you would like to purchase your own personal copy of the siddur, you may do so through the Temple office. The cost is \$7.50 per copy. There is also a large print version available for \$22.50.

On Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm we will hold our Installation of Temple Officers and Trustees, via Zoom. Cantor Victor Geigner will participate in the service. We are pleased to welcome Gary Tabakin, our District Chair from the Southeast Seaboard Region of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism as our Installing Officer. Please make every effort to attend this Shabbat service, as we recognize our Temple Officers and Trustees.

Many of our congregants will be traveling and going on much needed vacations. We wish you good health, safe travels, and hope to see you all soon in person.

Shalom,

Allen Shane

President, Temple Emanuel

## **Religious School - Shari Hewson**

When Irma asked me for a Hebrew School Update for the Menorah I was shocked because I realized it would be the last for this school year. Already?!!

What a year! First, I have to thank all the parents and grandparents and friends and everyone in every home and car-line who helped the students attend class!! THANKS!!

To every student, Tov Maod!! You were wonderful! Only you, you know who you are, my stars, with 1/3 the class time, the jagged start times, and the intermittent freezes on Zoom, could still meet the curriculum for the year! BRAVO!!

I know you are prepared for your next adventure! Keep studying, stay safe, have a great summer and don't ever stop being uniquely, lovely, you! Thanks again for a great year! See you soon. Miss Sheri

Editor's note: I asked Shari to expound upon what was in the curriculum and this is her addendum:

"The 5th/6th grade curriculum was to be able to become so proficient at reading and if possible, not all, sing a complete Kabbalat service during a single class (for the most part). We began with the daily service and added parts until the Friday night service was complete, and we had a chance to practice Sat am service components as well by learning this way.

The 3rd grade class completed all 3 of their Aleph Bet workbooks so they now know all the reading rules for Hebrew and are able to read 4+ syllable words in the siddur! In addition, they can write them all in script!

Both classes worked very hard...the 3rd graders have opted to continue class for a couple more weeks with their parents, the school and my blessing."

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Thank you to Miss Sheri for all her efforts teaching via Zoom! You are appreciated!

## **Temple Emanuel Fundraiser**



Our postponed Taste of Lakeland Fundraiser is being planned for this November at the Poor Porker on Main Street. Jodie and Shelley are looking for some helpers so please reach out to them and offer your time and talents!

The Temple relies on proceeds from this event to help with our budget. It is really important that we all pitch in to make it a success. So any amount of time you can offer will be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

## About the Archives

By Cat. Eskin

### A Taste of Lakeland (Old School)

As my title indicates, this week's column will be a homage to Jewish food in Lakeland. I got the nudge after reading about a chef inspired to create the dishes Holocaust survivors remembered from their youth (in the May edition of our local Jewish newspaper: read the story [here](#)). In particular, the author describes people "recalling and secretly writing recipes – on scraps of hidden paper and cloth." The image brought me back to a visit from 2009, but I am getting ahead of myself. First, we should address the author and chef's conclusion that food "was important" to Jews (an understatement if ever I heard one).

Food is more than "important." Example: In a book designed to help non-Jews understand Jewish culture, *What to Do When You're Dating a Jew* (2000), co-authors Vikki Weiss and Jennifer Block devote an entire chapter to food. Titled "Have a Little More Brisket, Darling: Food is Love," the chapter provides historical and traditional elements of Jewish foodways, revealing in the process the nations of Jewish food. Not least because Jews have inhabited pretty much every country and territory on the globe, Jewish cooking is both place-specific and universal. Regional and ancestral differences emerge in ritual foods (what ingredients does your family use for the charoset?) as well as local delicacies that are sometimes less kosher (gumbo, anyone?). So for this month's column, let's explore some local scraps.



For those of you who remember the Temple Emanuel Sisterhood, you might recall *What's Cooking at Temple Emanuel* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 1970; 3<sup>rd</sup> ed, 1984). [Note: I could not find the first edition in my office or at home, but I'm pretty sure that I've got a copy at the Temple!] The lucrative fundraiser was just one of the many things accomplished by the mid-century women of our synagogue. When they were still called the Ladies' Auxiliary, they formed (and often staffed) the Jewish Alliance's Sunday School (in 1933). They organized fundraisers for the synagogue and raised money for the Red Cross during the War(s).

*Editors Janet Sinder & Marilyn Signer show off the Temple Cook Book, 1970.*

They opened their homes to soldiers, pilots and college students far from home (and why not introduce the nice boys to their daughters while they were at it?). As our community grew and the Temple's footprint on Lake Hollingsworth became more prominent (remember that when the Temple moved to the Lake, it was outside the city limits), the Sisterhood continued its efforts to demonstrate the Temple's commitment as citizens of Lakeland. In the beginning—as early as 1932—the Ladies Auxiliary had organized card nights and offered their culinary staples (a strong selling-point) for patrons. By the 1960s, Berkovitz Hall was ready for a much larger audience than the Sisterhood had entertained previously.

The popularity of the Sisterhood bazaars was due in large part to the food. People did buy the "stuff," too—everything from aprons to hats to potted plants and toys. The ladies curated an event which became a highlight for members of the Christian community: foods that they could not find anywhere else and of which many had never even heard. So the cookbook they produced was to include recipes (all kosher) that featured both the traditional (kugel, gefilte fish, babka) and the more Southern-inspired dishes that used local produce or items easily available in Florida (citrus and strawberries). The success of both the cookbook and the bazaars was due entirely to the ingenuity and cooking skills of the women of Temple Emanuel. But I digress.

Before I ever saw the Cookbook, I met Mrs. Rhoda Wolf. A force to be reckoned with, Rhoda was near the end of her long life when I met her in 1999. She and her husband Leonard moved to Orlando to be closer to their children only a few years after I arrived. In spite of the move, Rhoda was very supportive of the Temple Emanuel Archive (TEA), donating boxes of slides and adding her own special commentary along with her material donations. She was thrilled to let me spend some time with her in 2008 (and even agreed to be interviewed by one of my students in 2009).



She was an excellent cook who managed to keep a kosher home for her discerning husband; the two arrived in Lakeland seasonally, finally making it their home in the late 1940s. Rhoda knew very little about kashrut when she first married Leonard. Luckily, she found support in the “backwater” so far from her Brooklyn beginnings. Along with newer residents—Althea Miller (1948), Cele Stone (1942, 1946), Helaine Slakman (1956), Marilyn Signer (1948), Elaine Wolfson (1947)—there were long-time residents like Celia Slakman, Mildred Estroff, and Mildred Blumberg to help her. Foremost in her memory, though, was Nettie Rabin. A woman of great creativity and kindness, she also sported a wicked sense of fun (and a background far more like her own). As she spoke about Nettie, Rhoda sized me up and then narrowed her eyes conspiratorially. “Do you want to see something funny?”



*There are never too many cooks in the kitchen! (Rhoda Wolf is centered: white apron, brown dress).*

“Of course,” I immediately agreed.

Rhoda spoke dramatically, reaching into the recesses of a drawer or box (I can’t actually remember now). “I’ve kept these grubby things because she [Nettie] wrote them with her own hands!” Rhoda slowly pulled out some stained bits of paper that contained recipes. I should have known. All roads lead to food.



*Nettie Rabin helps set up for a Sisterhood Bazaar (c.1964).*

Nearly every meeting and interview I have performed over the last dozen years inevitably moves into a discussion of food. Ultimately, the food discussions reveal a network of families, friends, strangers and what they ate together. As they reveal the secrets of their kitchens, these women introduce themselves to me as individuals and as members of a community. Rhoda’s worship of Nettie (her skills and personality) was echoed by Helaine Slakman, Althea Miller and Joan Rabin (Nettie’s daughter-in-law), all excellent cooks in their own right. I’m going to reveal the contents of the recipes on those sacred slips of paper: “Strudel or Knish Dough” and “Mrs. Slakman’s Cookies.” The latter is likely Celia Slakman (d.1979), Helaine’s mother-in-law and a resident in Lakeland from the late 1920s. She was already established in Lakeland when Nettie herself arrived in 1933. I can’t help but wonder if Nettie could have produced a similarly worn slip of paper which featured the “original” recipe.

I imagine that the provenance of the recipes which follow may be a topic for debate, but the genuine engagement of these women with each other and with the community is certainly not in question. Let’s make sure that we honor those slips of paper—even if we do so by consulting a picture of it on an iPad. (The stains are the best part.)

**Monthly Profile: This month we feature Harris Estroff. Thanks Harris for sharing your story with us!** Read other profiles at: <https://templeemanuellakeland.com/member-profiles/>



**Harris—about age 5**

I am proud to be a native Lakelander since my birth in 1942. After graduating from Lakeland High School I attended the University of Texas from 1960 to 1965 and graduated with a B.B.A. in Marketing. In 1965 I moved to Atlanta, Georgia where I worked until returning to Lakeland in 1974. My first real job in Atlanta was with United Parcel Service when they first opened up in Georgia. I worked in personnel, customer service and managed the delivery information department. I also helped recruit new employees in Mississippi when UPS opened up in that state. While living in Atlanta, I joined the Army Reserves which led to six months of boot camp and active duty at Fort Benning, Georgia and then I was a monthly weekend warrior at the Atlanta Armory. I was in charge of securing Krispy Kreme doughnuts for the troops at the armory each weekend for them to munch on with the homemade coffee that was served. I was cross trained at peeling potatoes and clean up. I served two weeks per summer in a hospital unit at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina for six years between 1965 and 1971. I

did not like it but I believe that I learned a lot from that experience. In 1974 Linda and I married and we returned to Lakeland to begin my career as a merchant and eventual owner of my father's men's store, Nathan's.

I have an older sister, Gail Richman, who grew up in Lakeland but now lives in South Miami. Her husband, Jerry, was a tax attorney in Miami but he passed away about twenty years ago. Gail has two sons, Shane who lives in Portland, Oregon and Scott who lives in the Boca Raton, Florida area.

My dad was Nathan Estroff and my mom was Mildred Simovitz Estroff. They both passed away between 1995 and 1997. My grandpa Harris (my namesake) Estroff emigrated from Russia in the early 1900s and somehow wound up as a resident of Savannah, Georgia. I don't know much about him or my grandma on the Estroff side because they passed away before I was born. However, I do know that my grandpa was trying to avoid being recruited into the Russian army when he came to America.

He was a peddler who moved around from Savannah to smaller towns in south Georgia and on down to the Lakeland/Plant City area in Florida. His oldest son Sam Estroff settled in Lakeland before Grandpa Harris moved there and Sam got into the retail ladies' clothing business by opening up the Empire Store in the early 1930s. Grandpa Harris arrived in Lakeland in the mid 1930s and was in and out of some retail outlet stores himself, although I am not sure where they were located. He also was involved with the founding of Lakeland's Temple Emanuel as his signature is on the original charter.

My dad, Nathan, arrived on a train from Savannah to Lakeland in the late 1930s and began his career as a merchant by first working for his brother Sam at the Empire Store for a year or two and then branched out to begin his own men's store in the fall of 1941. The store was successful and specialized in men's suits and sportswear as well as a boy's department and a boy scout department and lots of one on one customer service.



My dad was also a signer of the original Temple Emanuel charter that is displayed in the upper rotunda at Temple Emanuel. One other thing I wish to mention is that the Empire Store started by Sam Estroff was later handed down to Melvin and Selig Estroff, Sam's sons, who built up the ladies' clothing business that eventually boasted five locations in shopping centers in Lakeland, Tampa and St. Petersburg. Mel and Selig both served our country in World War II before returning to the Empire Stores. They also both helped to grow the foundation of Temple Emanuel.

My mom, Mildred Simovitz Estroff was born to Olga and Solomon Simovitz. She had two brothers, Louie and Willie and one sister, Tillie. My mom's father and mother were Romanian Jews and immigrated through Ellis Island in New York. They were sent from New York to Key West for a short time before moving to Tampa. They spoke little or no English when they arrived in Tampa but they were fast learners and wasted no time in finding work and starting their family of four children.

I did not know my mom's siblings well although we visited them almost every Sunday as we grew up. We lived in Lakeland and they lived in Tampa but it was a very close knit family so we had fun at their house with our cousins in Tampa. I was a little afraid of Grandpa Solomon because he spoke broken English and always looked so serious. However, I vividly remember the advice he always gave me when he spoke to me.. "always look for a steel bridge to cross as you travel through life and avoid the paper bridges you may find". That advice was easy to follow for I have not yet laid eyes on a paper bridge to test out.

Grandpa passed away long before the Sunshine Skyway tragedy, but I often wonder what he would have thought about that. Grandpa Solomon was a very successful merchant. He opened Louie's Department Store in the early 1920s in Ybor City. His store was in a prime location and his children all became crackerjack sales people helping him out. In addition, he sponsored lots of immigrants from Romania and gave them jobs at his department store as well as loaning them money to help them assimilate in their new environment. In one notable case he sponsored a fellow that worked for him a few years who then decided he wanted his own store, quit grandpa's and bought from the same vendors and created a price war with grandpa's store by undercutting prices on popular items. They became fierce competitors and the story goes that they were going to have a fist fight in front of the stores at high noon one day. The scene was set but I have not been able to find out who won that fight. I can't blame gramps for being fighting mad.

One more story about Grandpa Solomon is that during the Great Depression (1929) many people who relied on the banks went broke, but not Solomon. He did not trust the bankers and he kept lots of cash in the mattress of his bed and he never went belly up during hard times!



Continued on Pages 24-27

## **BOOK CLUB**

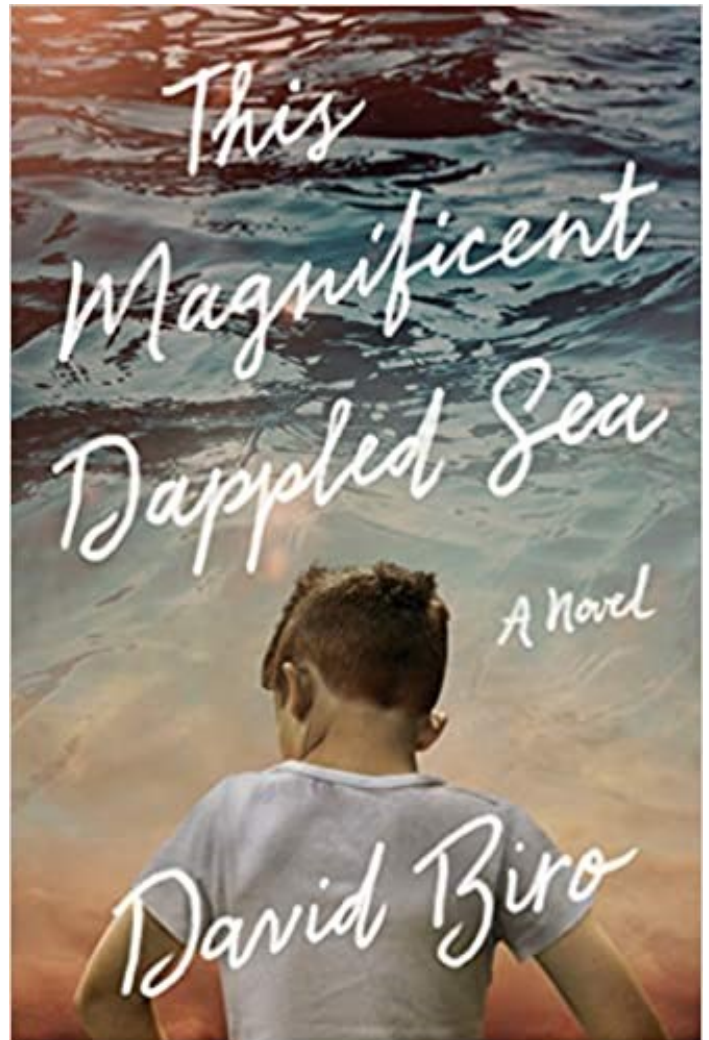
The next Temple Emanuel Book Club meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, June 29th at 11 am. Our selection is "This Magnificent Dappled Sea" by David Biro. Everyone is welcome! Contact Jane Renz with any questions at: jane7751@aol.com

Here is the Amazon Smile link: <https://smile.amazon.com/This-Magnificent-Dappled-David-Biro/dp/1542019818>

Two strangers—generations and oceans apart—have a chance to save each other in this moving and suspenseful novel about family secrets and the ineffable connections that lead us to one another.

In a small Northern Italian village, nine-year-old Luca Taviano catches a stubborn cold and is subsequently diagnosed with leukemia. His only hope for survival is a bone marrow transplant. After an exhaustive search, a match turns up three thousand miles away in the form of a most unlikely donor: Joseph Neiman, a rabbi in Brooklyn, New York, who is suffering from a debilitating crisis of faith. As Luca's young nurse, Nina Vocelli, risks her career and races against time to help save the spirited redheaded boy, she uncovers terrible secrets from World War II—secrets that reveal how a Catholic child could have Jewish genes.

Can inheritance be transcended by accidents of love? That is the question at the heart of This Magnificent Dappled Sea, a novel that challenges the idea of identity and celebrates the ties that bind us together.



The deadline for the next Menorah is August 31, 2021.

Do you want to be our next profile?

Please send inquiries, info, articles, images, comments, etc. to irmacole26@gmail.com

Thanks!



## **RITUAL COMMITTEE by Amy Blocher**

The Ritual Committee is gearing up for the High Holidays. I will soon begin work on the Book of Remembrance to be used for the four Yizkor services throughout the next year. I will be calling members to see if you want to add any names. If you remember the names you had in the book last year, please just email me at: [amyqblocher@gmail.com](mailto:amyqblocher@gmail.com) . That will help a great a lot!

It looks like we will have hybrid services for the High Holidays....both in person and via Zoom. Allen Shane will send out emails about seating in the Temple and the Zoom services.

Rosh Hashanah: Erev is Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, and runs through Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at sundown.

Yom Kippur: Kol Nidre is Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> and the services for Yom Kippur day are Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Erev Sukkot is Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, and ends Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to have an Aliyah, a reading, and/or an Ark opening, you will need to speak with Allen or myself. A Ritual Committee member will also be calling Temple members about Honors. We need to know what days you will be at services and whether you will be in person or on Zoom. On Zoom, you can have an Aliyah and do readings.

We look forward to speaking with you about the names in the Book of Remembrance and purchasing Honors for the High Holidays. More information will be sent out to all members closer to the Holidays.

I will begin calling Temple members about including your names in the Book of Remembrance. If you haven't heard from me by mid-July and want to have your family names in the Book of Remembrance, please email [amyqblocher@gmail.com](mailto:amyqblocher@gmail.com), or call 863-619-7475.

## **Marilyn Signer shared this Good News about her grandson, Scott....Mazel tov!**

### **Margolin Hebrew Academy/Feinstone Yeshiva of the South**

We are pleased to announce that the April recipient of our Teacher Innovator of the Month Award is Mr. Scott McCann! Mr. McCann was selected based on nominations from parents, students, and administrators.

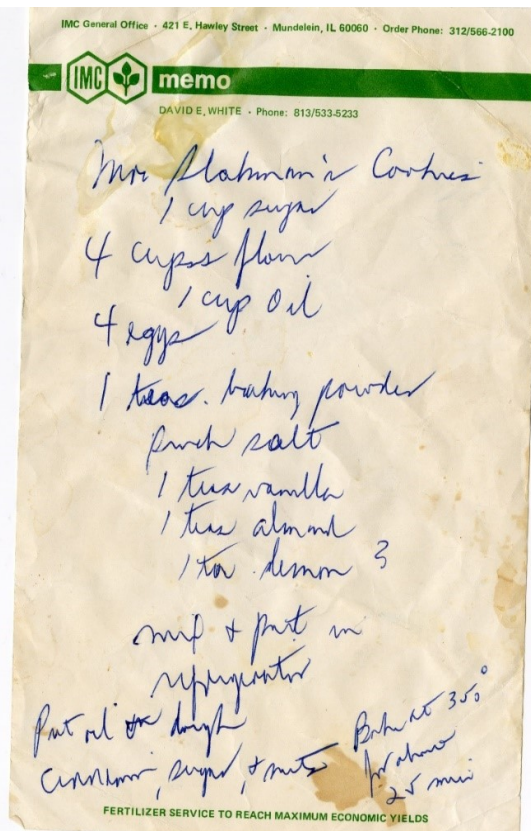


GMSG Senior Rakhel Finkelstein said, "Mr. McCann is a really great teacher. This year I've had the pleasure of having him for AP Psychology and it's one of the best classes I've ever taken. You can tell that Mr. McCann is so passionate about what he is teaching and that he is invested in each student's success. His class has impacted me greatly through his fun and innovative projects and lessons that allow students to experience the topics we are learning firsthand to gain greater knowledge about the subjects. Mr. McCann's class has influenced me to want to go into psychology in the future and that is due to his being such a great teacher."

Dr. Whitney Kennon, High School General Studies Principal, said, "Mr. McCann is an amazing Psychology teacher! His lessons are so much fun to watch and the kids are always engaged. My favorite was when he had the students break social norms for the day. One girl came to school in competing patterns on all her clothing and confused the whole GMSG. I learn so much about psychology from the kids when he teaches this course - it's great!"

We are so thankful to have amazing teachers like Mr. McCann at MHA-FYOS and we can't wait to watch him continue to create innovative lessons and inspire his students for years to come!

Thank you to Josh and Elana Kahane and family for sponsoring this program. The Teacher Innovator of the Month receives a \$250 stipend to be used towards materials that will enhance the learning in his/her classroom.



Below are transcriptions and reproductions of the recipes. Guard them with your life.

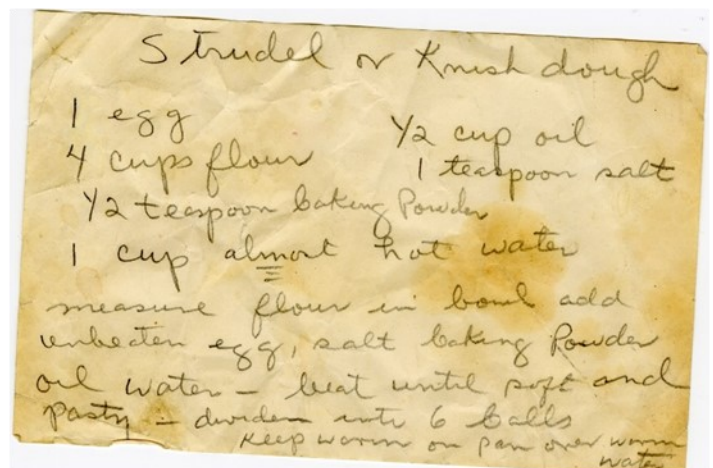
### Mrs. Slakman's Cookies

1 cup sugar  
 4 cups flour  
 1 cup oil  
 4 eggs  
 1 teaspoon baking powder  
 Pinch salt  
 1 teaspoon vanilla  
 1 teaspoon almond  
 1 teaspoon lemon  
 Mix and put in refrigerator  
 Put oil in dough  
 Cinnamon, sugar, & nuts  
 Bake at 350 [degrees F] for about 25 minutes

### Strudel or Knish dough

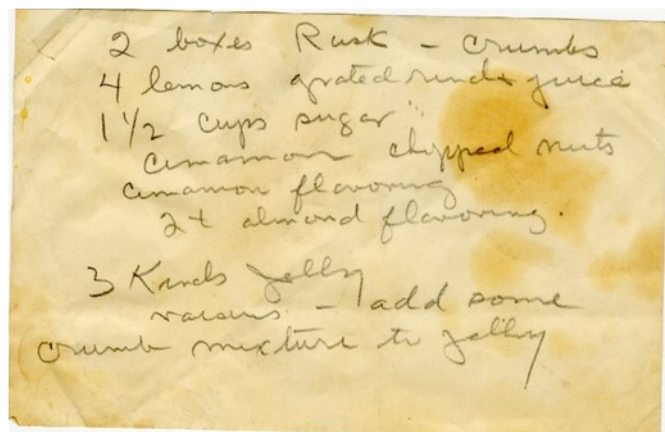
1 egg                      ½ cup oil  
 4 cups flour            1 teaspoon salt  
 ½ teaspoon baking powder  
 1 cup almost hot water

Measure flour in bowl add unbeaten egg, salt baking powder oil water – beat until soft and pasty – divide into 6 balls keep warm on pan over warm water



### [reverse of card]

2 boxes Rusk – crumbs  
 4 lemons grated rinds & juice  
 1 ½ cups sugar  
 Cinnamon chopped nuts  
 Cinnamon flavoring  
 2 teaspoons almond flavoring  
 3 kinds jelly  
 Raisins – add some crumb mixture to jelly



## Historical Origins of Cook Books - Irma Cole

Cat's article got me thinking.... what are the historical origins of cook books? I found some of this info online and thought it was worth sharing with you all.

Do you have a favorite recipe or “go-to” cookbook? I bet you do. Maybe it's the latest put out by a famous Food Network chef, or perhaps it's one handed down to you from your mother or grandmother. Wherever the recipes come from, they are reminders of special times spent with special people.

I've read that the oldest “recipe” can be found written on the tomb of Senet, an Egyptian woman, who apparently had a passion for *flat bread*. Through the centuries, however, the instructions for food preparation would have typically been passed down by word of mouth within communities over shared hearths, from mother to daughter.

With the advent of paper and more leisure time, some cooks began to write down their instructions. Some printed medieval books, which chronicled home-keeping methods in general, included food preparation as well. But the average housewife would not have had access to such costly books.

Typically, a woman would have had in her possession a handwritten recipe book, sometimes more of a journal, handed down to her by her mother. It would be filled with written instructions for various meals, as well as many other aspects of housekeeping, like recipes for herbal remedies, cleaning methods, or sewing notations.

Prior to 1700, the term *recipe* and its cousin *receipt* (derived from the Latin *recipere*, which means *to receive*) were used to refer to medicines. After that it became common to use these terms when referring to food preparation. Until about the 1960's, cooks continued to use both terms *receipt* and *recipe* interchangeably, but *receipt* is now considered quite old fashioned, and most people would not even know what it means in relation to food. *Did you?*

Keep in mind that mothers would not have simply passed down these recipe books to their daughters, but would rather have cooked side-by-side with their girls. Daughters would watch their mother add “enough” flour over and over again until they knew by sight and feel how much to add. I remember doing this with my grandmother and I bet some of you will recall doing the same thing too!

Credit is often given to Fanny Farmer, the famous cook book author from Boston, for systematizing measurements for cooking and baking, to making the process fool-proof for cooks of all abilities. Thank goodness!

Handwritten recipe journals, along with more diary-oriented journals, are highly collectible. Collectors enjoy the historical nature of these documents, using them to learn about the culture of the period. Artists like to incorporate the pages into mixed media artwork—such a special way to display these remarkable pieces of history. Vintage and antique cook books sell fairly well. I sell more common varieties in the \$8-12 range from my antique booth and online.

About the turn of the last century, ladies began to enjoy women's magazines, which quite often contained recipes to be clipped and stored away for future use. The same is true of newspapers, some of which offer a food section at least once per week.

Sometime in the 1940's, recipe boxes which held 3" x 5" index cards, became the popular way to organize one's recipes. Though I get many of my recipes off the internet these days, I still have many favorites stored away I also have many handwritten cards in my stash, some almost illegible from frequent use and spills. But the recipe cards that are closest to my heart, are the ones hand written by loved ones. Such treasures!

I hope you enjoyed reading about antique recipe books and cards. Do you have a similar book or set of cards that you cherish? I'd love to hear about them!



## Congratulations to our Graduates!

**Victor Audette:** Victor is graduating from Central Florida Aerospace Academy and will be studying to be a pilot at Polk State College.



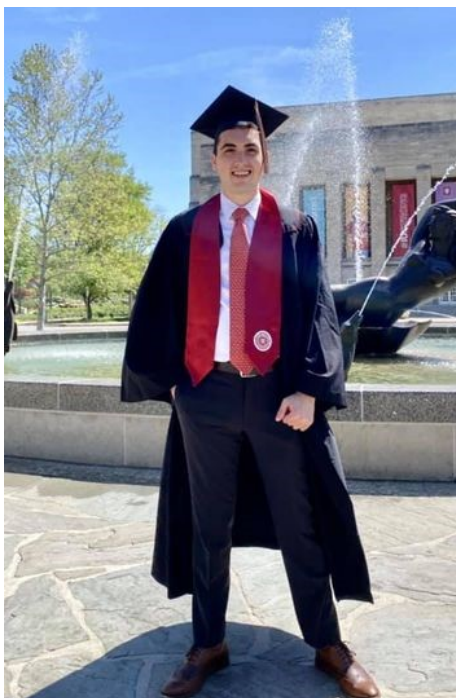
**Nathan O'Connor:** Haines City High. He is going to CDL school following high school.



Joan Greenbaum's grands:

**Justin Dougherty** graduated on May 6th from Polk State College Magna Cum Laude and on May 15th from Lakeland Collegiate High School with honors. He will be attending the University of Florida.

**Aaron Curtis** also graduated on May 6th from Polk State College and completed EMT course work. He graduated from Gateway High School on May 14th. He will go on to Hillsborough Fire Academy.



{Joan's granddaughter Taylor Oliver is completing her second year at Levin College of Law at U of F and will be doing a paid internship this summer at Ogletree Deakins Law Firm in Tampa.}



**Alex Gleicher**, great grandson of Marilyn Signer, graduated from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University. Alex is the son of Abby and Brian Gleicher and the grandson of Susan and Arnold Signer and Michael and Sylvia Gleicher.



From Lori and Jim Dougherty—

Our daughter **Kayla Dougherty** graduated from the University of North Florida with a Bachelors Degree in Political Science and Philosophy. She is working as a legal assistant at a law firm in Jacksonville. She will be taking a year to study for the LSAT and plans on attending Law School. We are super proud of her.



**Beth Goldberg**, daughter of proud parents Meg and Jay Goldberg, graduated, with her second degree, from NYU. Her first degree is from University of Maryland in Community Health).

She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing.

Beth has accepted a position at the George Washington University Hospital, on their surgical ward.

She will be living in Arlington, VA .

*Mazel Tov to all the graduates & their families.  
Temple Emanuel is proud of all of you!*

## **Review of a Recent Pew Research Survey - Mark G. Scolnick**

Pew Research is a non partisan think tank located in Washington DC. They have done research for many years and are VERY well thought of. They conducted a survey in St. Petersburg FL about 8 years ago and concluded that 80% of the Jews in that area were not interested in being affiliated with a Temple. That seems to hold true for all religions this time.

Below are some headlines of their latest report. Irma and I listened to a discussion by the people who put the report together and found it very interesting. For more information and details go to: <https://www.pewforum.org/2021/05/11/jewish-americans-in-2020/>

1. U.S. Jews are culturally engaged, increasingly diverse, politically polarized and worried about anti-Semitism.
  2. The size of the adult Jewish population has been fairly stable in percentage terms, while rising in absolute numbers, roughly in line with the growth of the U.S. population
  3. Like the overall U.S. population, Jews appear to be growing more racially and ethnically diverse.
  4. U.S. Jews are less religious than American adults overall.
  5. Jewish Americans are staunchly liberal and favor the Democratic Party, but Orthodox Jews are a notable exception.
  6. Three-quarters of American Jews think there is more anti-Semitism in the U.S. today than there was five years ago.
  7. A large majority of U.S. Jews (82%) say caring about Israel is either “essential” or “important” to what being Jewish means to them.
  8. Majority of U.S. Jews engage in cultural activities like cooking Jewish food (72%), sharing holidays with non-Jewish friends (62%) and visiting historical Jewish sites (57%).
  9. Younger Jews are more likely than older Jews to identify as Orthodox and more likely to say they do not belong to any particular branch of Judaism.
  10. Members of different branches of American Judaism generally do not feel they have “a lot” in common with one another.
- About four-in-ten married Jews (42%) have a non-Jewish spouse, but intermarriage rates differ within sub-groups.

There were two items that I thought were striking:

1. When Jews intermarry how they are accepted at a Temple will make or break whether their family stays.
2. Allowing Rabbis to do interfaith marriages was discussed and 70% (except Orthodox and Chabad) said it would be allowed with certain conditions.

Go to: [PewResearch.org](https://www.pewresearch.org) to learn more

***Robin Sussingham***

**EDIBLE TAMPA BAY**

When it comes to culinary finds, Robin Sussingham keeps the Central Florida community in the loop. She proudly serves as the publisher and editor-in-chief of *Edible Tampa Bay*. A Lakeland native, Florida holds a special place in her heart, as it's where many of her close family members reside.

With her passion for food, Sussingham recalls how it began from the experiences she had with her family first-hand and why that's translated into a quite appealing food magazine. "Family gatherings always involved big meals and lots of traditional Jewish food, like brisket, stuffed cabbage, chicken soup, and chopped liver," she says. Her love for food isn't the only way she's built the success of her career. It's her zeal for storytelling which has brought her to deeply appreciate the power of communication over the years.



Sussingham served previously as the main radio host at NPR WUSF. She hosted "Florida Matters," the station's flagship current affairs program, for WUSF Public Media and spearheading WUSF's podcast efforts. In addition, she hosted a radio program in Salt Lake City and was the first to announce the news to the audience when Elizabeth Smart, a young woman kidnapped at a young age, was found. She also covered the Olympics and hosted an engaging live call-in show on site.

She shares, "Leadership is a challenge. But what I'm good at is observing, and I've had the opportunity to observe some great leaders and some terrible ones. My sincerest goal is to recognize competent people and help them grow."



## Jewish Items for At Home Scavenger Hunt

1. Menorah
2. Chanukah Candles
3. Shabbat Candlesticks
4. Shabbat Candles
5. Havdallah Candle
6. Challah Tray
7. Challah Cover
8. Kiddush Cup
9. Seder Plate
10. Tzedakah Box
11. Mezuzah
12. Star of David
13. Israeli Flag
14. Talmud
15. Siddur
16. Hagaddah
17. Dreidel
18. Kippah
19. Matzah Cover
20. Shofar
21. Spice Box
22. Tallis
23. Yad
24. Yizkor Light or Candle
25. Hebrew Dictionary



### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!**

Lizandra Izsak submitted her picture with 24 items.

Can you tell which item is missing?

As our first place winner, Lizandra will be receiving a \$100 gift card to Spath Jewelers in Bartow.

Our Runner Up winners are Meg and Jay Goldberg and they will receive a \$50 gift card to Max Jewelers in Lakeland Town Center.





Marilyn Signer is shown here with her grandmothers brass Shabbat candlesticks and the sterling Kiddush Cup that was given to her parents by the Rabbi who married them in 1924.

Beautiful picture of Marilyn with such special items...thanks for sharing Marilyn!



Here are 2 photos from Meg and Jay Goldberg. They are missing 3 items! Good Job guys! Thanks for playing!







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# BOOK CLUB



**TUESDAY JUNE 29TH**

**11 AM TO 12 PM**

**OUR SELECTION IS  
"THIS MAGNIFICENT DAPPLED SEA"  
BY DAVID BIRO**

**MEETING VIA ZOOM - ALL ARE WELCOME**

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## **CAN YOU HELP?**

Do you have a few hours to spare once in a while? Temple Emanuel can use your help with small projects like:

1. Delivering collected food donations to VISTE.
2. Stuffing Envelopes.
3. Calling Members & Friends
4. Power Washing.
5. Odd Jobs and Maintenance.
6. Planning events

Let us know what your interests and availability are. Do a Mitzvah!

Contact: [office@templeemanuellakeland.com](mailto:office@templeemanuellakeland.com)

Help support your Temple with your time! Speak to Allen, Tammy, or Rabbi.

Thank-you!



**Wednesdays 7 pm  
via zoom**

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# **EXPLORING JUDAISM**

*Let's Learn*

**Living Judaism by Rabbi Wayne Dosick  
Jewish Literacy by Rabbi Joseph Telushkin  
Jews, God, and History by Max Dimont**

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## ONGOING JEWELRY SALES

Since our successful Temple Emanuel Jewelry Sale Fundraiser last fall, we have continued to sell remaining items online and in a local shop. All profits are benefitting Temple Emanuel. If you would like to shop for some great presents for yourself or someone else, here are a few samples of what we have available. Prices start at just \$15!

Contact [irmacole26@gmail.com](mailto:irmacole26@gmail.com)



**#49**



**What was my childhood like?** I have always felt like I was born with a silver spoon in my mouth. A sheltered childhood for sure. My mom and dad both worked during most of my early years. I recall always wanting responsibility or chores to do as a kid. I wanted to help our yardman Oscar mow the lawn with the push mower. However, I think mom was afraid to see me sweat, so I never got to help poor Oscar out. Come to think of it, I never did mow the lawn, then nor now. I've never even owned a lawnmower.

I loved Roy Rogers and used to wear a cowboy suit whenever possible. I had my own tricycle and the nursery school was three blocks away with traffic on Florida Avenue. I vaguely remember one day wearing my cowboy outfit and mounting my tricycle (Trigger) and going to the nursery school. There may have been a posse of some sort following me, but I made it to school somehow. 1947 was a long time ago so there is some vagueness to this "true" story.

**Where did I go to school/degrees?** After graduating from Lakeland High School I went to the University of Texas in Austin where I was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity and graduated with a B.B.A. degree in Marketing.

My occupation for the past 46 years was a menswear merchant at Nathan's Men's Store, full time since 1974 and retiring in 2020. I worked there part time during high school.

**How did Linda and I meet?**

We were both living at nearby apartment complexes in Atlanta and may have crossed paths at parties, but did not really notice each other until we met on a double date where Linda had a date with a friend of mine. I got in touch with Linda a few days later... we have been married 47 years with lots of dividends and fond memories. We have three grown children – son Kevin with kids Jake and Max; son Greg who is a single eligible bachelor; and daughter Erica Estroff Woodruff who with husband Adam has four children – Lyla, Kyle, Brad and Hally.



**What is the most interesting or unusual job I have ever had?** The hardest, most exerting and unusual job I ever had was the summer of 1961 when I worked for Al and Donald Kaplan at Midstate Meat Packers division of Kaplan Industries. The job consisted of some office work as well as writing down the weights of fronts and hinds of the cattle after slaughter, working in and out of a freezer, going to cattle auctions, helping load trucks etc. Being family, I got special treatment, but not special enough for I was only able to last one month. The pay was good but I had to be there by 6:30 a.m., the odor was awful, watching the poor beasts meet their waterloo was depressing, and I wasn't desperate enough to last another day. I did learn a valuable lesson as to what hard, physical work is all about and why I should pursue an alternative vocation. I will never set foot in a slaughterhouse again.

**What are my interests and hobbies.. what books have I read?** I've been officially retired for about six months and so far it has been mostly good but adjusting to it can be frustrating. It is definitely an abrupt change of pace that is taking time to accept. The pandemic has added to the frustration since alternative choices are limited. Anyway, I do have lots of spare time and I am filling blank time slots slowly but surely. As for reading, I have never been an avid reader but I just finished reading Jerry Seinfeld's book Is This Anything? It was quite funny, if you like Seinfeld. I am now reading American Desperado by Jon Roberts and Evan Wright an interesting but very graphic non-fiction book.

**On Being Jewish:** I have been and my family have been members of Temple Emanuel since its beginning on Patterson Street and then to the building on Lake Hollingsworth since it was built. My dad, Nathan, and grandfather Harris were both signers of the original charter. I have served on the Board of Directors for many years, as school board chairman and on the House and Grounds and Honorial and Memorial committees.

My Jewish roots originated in Lakeland but I owe a lot to Camp Blue Star in North Carolina. I went to Blue Star every summer as a camper and staff member for 14 summers between 1950 and 1963 and I still love it dearly. While learning about my religion in an atmosphere filled with Jewish friends and the beauty of nature I formed lifelong friendships and a special pride for being Jewish. My children and grandchildren have followed me to Blue Star and have enjoyed the amenities and comradery found there.

The camp has changed a great deal over the years but the Blue Star spirit is still there and I highly recommend it for Jewish children, especially for those from small towns with limited exposure to Jewish ties. One summer (around 1955) we had a total of 13 Estroff children, (all cousins) at camp. All from Georgia and Florida. That is where we got to know those cousins fairly well.

**What does being Jewish mean to me?** When I hear the line about Jews are G-d's chosen people, I tend to believe it. Our religion, in my eyes, is by far the most logical religion on earth. It does not rely on mysticism, miracles, or fear to recruit or retain beliefs. Faith in a hereafter is not essential to why we strive to do the right thing. We have a direct line to our creator and our creator quietly communicates with our ever present conscience!

**Who has been the biggest influence on your life and why?** Both my mom and dad because they represented to me the kind of love and support that only a parent can offer. They may have overdone it from time to time, but having the confidence that they would always be in my corner, always stand up for me, and always love me no matter what, provided me with a lot of incentive to seek success. In their eyes I could do no wrong.

**What is the one thing people would be surprised to learn about me?** I am afraid of Ferris wheels and I really like riding in helicopters.

**What is your proudest moment?** I graduated from the University of Texas in 1965 and so did my daughter Erica in 2005. That weekend of her graduation was spectacular and I was so very proud of her. We both went there not knowing anyone else that would be there before school started. We both love the University of Texas and I was ecstatic that she loved being a Longhorn almost as much as I did. As it turned out, Erica and I went to the same grammar school, same junior high school, same high school and the same university and we both had our Bar/Bat Mitzvahs and were confirmed at Lakeland's Temple Emanuel. The weekend of her Texas graduation we flew to Austin with an entourage that included Jane and Brian Renz and Linda's brother and sister-in-law. The graduation included an astronaut who spoke, lots of fireworks from the University tower and great entertainment in Austin's music district. WHAT A GREAT WEEKEND!

**Is there anything I would do over if I had the chance?** Regrets, I've had a few, but we can save them for another day.





Top Left: Harris at the store in 2020.

Top Right: Mom and Dad, Mildred and Nathan Estroff, undated.

Below: as Nathan's Men's Store closed after 38 years, Harris was presented with a Key to the city by Mayor Mutz. Also shown are some of Harris's amazing staff!







Top Left : Dad Nathan, undated



Top Right: Mom, Mildred, with sister Gail and Harris, June 25, 1946

Bottom Right: Grandpa Solomon and Grandma Olga Simovitz, undated. House shown is where Harris grew up at 2212 South Florida Avenue in Lakeland.

Thank you Harris for sharing your story with all of us. We very much appreciate it! This is truly a gift for your family.

Who wants to be next? Please contact [irmacole26@gmail.com](mailto:irmacole26@gmail.com)



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