



THE TENT

Congregation Beth Jacob's Monthly Newsletter

July, 2023



CBJ Calendar of Upcoming Events:

July 7, 7:00 pm: Shabbat Evening Service

July 10, 7:00 pm: Sisterhood Meeting

July 14, 7:00 pm: Shabbat Evening Service

July 16, 9:30 am: Brotherhood Breakfast! (Topic - How Can We Address Climate Change?)

July 21, Shabbat at the Pinehills - Bring optional picnic supper at 6:00; Evening Service begins at 7:00. Bring lawn chairs.

July 26, 8:00 pm: Tishah B'Av (Jewish Day of Mourning) Joint small congregations Tisha b'Av program_(via Zoom)

July 28, 7:00 pm: Shabbat Evening Service

See the "CBJ Weekly Update" for details and links.

[To see the complete CBJ Calendar on our website, click here.](#)

Welcome to CBJ's New Executive Board

At CBJ's Annual Meeting held on June 25th, the following Slate of Officers was elected to serve for the term 2023-2025:

- Co-Presidents: Devon Fernald and Dianne Bluestein
- Vice President: Mark Streifer
- Recording Secretary: Kaitlyn Woods
- Corresponding Secretary: Judith Sherman
- Treasurer: Brad Engel
- Trustees: Allan Sherman, Jerry Levine, and Brad Engel
- Members-at-Large: Larry Winokur, Paula Keller, and Lane Goldberg

[To read Rabbi Mills' D'var Torah at the start of the meeting, click here.](#)



The Essential Prayers and Songs for Our Shabbat Evening Services

To access a document with YouTube videos of the prayers and songs that we sing at our Shabbat evening services, [click here.](#)

What is Tishah B'Av?



TISHAH B'AV'S ORIGINS

Tishah B'Av, observed on the 9th (tishah) of the Hebrew month of Av, is a day of mourning the destruction of both ancient Temples in Jerusalem. Liberal Judaism never has assigned a central religious role to the ancient Temple, so mourning the destruction of the Temple may not be particularly meaningful to liberal Jews. In modern times, many Jews understand Tishah B'Av as a day to remember many tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people throughout history, and to reflect on the suffering that still occurs in our world.

Customarily, Tishah B'Av is a time set aside for fasting and mourning. As on Yom Kippur, the fast extends from sundown until the following sundown. In the synagogue, the Book of Eichah (Lamentations) is chanted, as are kinot, which are dirges written during the Middle Ages. Sitting on low stools, a custom associated with mourning the dead, Jews read sections of the books of Jeremiah and Job, as well as passages from the Bible and the Talmud that deal with the Temples' destructions in 586 B.C.E. and 70 C.E.

Some Jewish communities begin a period of semi-mourning three weeks before Tishah B'Av, on the 17th of the Hebrew month of Tammuz. It was supposedly on this day in 586 B.C.E. that the Babylonians first made an incursion into the Temple in Jerusalem. Beginning on this date, Jews who observe this custom refrain from holding weddings and festive celebrations or cutting their hair. The mourning intensifies on the first of Av, with no meat or wine consumed, no new clothing purchased, and no shaving allowed. On the evening before Tishah B'Av, a 24-hour fast begins, and in synagogue services, the Book of Lamentations is chanted. When Tishah B'Av falls on Shabbat, its observance begins after Shabbat ends and extends into the next day.

For most liberal Jews, Tishah B'Av has faded in importance as a ritual observance, as the rebuilding of a central Temple in Jerusalem has lost its priority and significance in modern times. Although historians dispute the fact that both Temples were destroyed on this day, Tishah B'Av has become a symbol of Jewish suffering and loss. Over the centuries, other tragic events have come to be commemorated on this day, including the brutal massacres of the Crusades, the Jewish expulsion from Spain, and the Holocaust.

Five Calamities:

According to the Mishnah (Taanit 4:6), five specific events occurred on the ninth of Av that warrant fasting:

1. The Twelve Spies sent by Moses to observe the land of Canaan returned from their mission. Only two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, brought a positive report, while the others spoke disparagingly about the land. The majority report caused the Children of Israel to cry, panic and despair of ever entering the "Promised Land". For this, they were punished by God that their generation would not enter the land.[4] The midrash quotes God as saying about this event, "You cried before me pointlessly, I will fix for you [this day as a day of] crying for the generations", alluding to the future misfortunes which

occurred on the same date.

2. The First Temple built by King Solomon was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BCE, and the population of the Kingdom of Judah was sent into the Babylonian exile.[6] According to the Bible, the First Temple's destruction began on the 7th of Av (2 Kings 25:8) and continued until the 10th (Jeremiah 52:12). According to the Talmud,[7] the actual destruction of the Temple began on the Ninth of Av, and it continued to burn throughout the Tenth of Av.
3. The Second Temple built by Ezra and Nehemiah was destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE, scattering the people of Judea and commencing the Jewish exile from the Holy Land.
4. The Romans subsequently crushed Bar Kokhba's revolt and destroyed the city of Betar, killing over 500,000 Jewish civilians (approximately 580,000) on 4 August 135 CE.
5. Following the Bar Kokhba revolt, Roman commander Quintus Tineius Rufus plowed the site of the Temple in Jerusalem and the surrounding area, in 135 CE.

Other calamities

Over time, Tisha B'Av has come to be a Jewish day of mourning, not only for these events, but also for later tragedies which occurred on or near the 9th of Av. References to some of these events appear in liturgy composed for Tisha B'Av:

- ☐ The First Crusade officially commenced on 15 August 1096 (Av 24, AM 4856), killing 10,000 Jews in its first month and destroying Jewish communities in France and the Rhineland.
- ☐ The Jews were expelled from England on 18 July 1290 (Av 9, AM 5050).
- ☐ The Jews were expelled from France on 22 July 1306 (Av 10, AM 5066).
- ☐ The Jews were expelled from Spain on 31 July 1492 (Av 7, AM 5252).
- ☐ Germany entered World War I on 1–2 August 1914 (Av 9–10, AM 5674), which caused massive upheaval in European Jewry and whose aftermath led to the Holocaust.
- ☐ On 2 August 1941 (Av 9, AM 5701), SS commander Heinrich Himmler formally received approval from the Nazi Party for "The Final Solution." As a result, the Holocaust began during which almost one third of the world's Jewish population perished.
- ☐ On 23 July 1942 (Av 9, AM 5702), began the mass deportation of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto, en route to Treblinka.
- ☐ The AMIA bombing, of the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, killed 85 and injured 300 on 18 July 1994 (10 Av, AM 5754).
- ☐ The 2005 Israeli disengagement from Gaza.
- ☐ While the Holocaust spanned a number of years, most religious communities use Tisha B'Av to mourn its 6,000,000 Jewish victims, in addition to or instead of the secular Holocaust Memorial Days. On Tisha B'Av, communities which otherwise do not modify the traditional prayer liturgy have added the recitation of special kinnot related to the Holocaust.

Celebration on the Occasion of Rabbi Emeritus Lawrence Silverman's 50th Year Anniversary Since His Ordination



On June 9th, the congregation held our Shabbat service at The John Carver Inn, where we celebrated the 50th year anniversary of Rabbi Lawrence Silverman's ordination. It was a wonderful evening that was well-attended by many of our long-time members, as well as newer members of our CBJ family, as we honored Rabbi Lawrence's many years of service and reminisced on all of the many ways that he had touched our lives and the lives of our families. As a congregation, we bestowed the Priestly Blessing on Rabbi Lawrence, and Rabbi Mills proclaimed, "Hazak, hazak, v'nithazek - May you go from strength to strength and may we continue to be strengthened by you." [To see photos, click here.](#) [To see the program booklet, click here.](#)

It's Summer!



Come Our Outdoor Summer Shabbatot!

Celebrate the arrival of summer! Join us for our summer outdoor Shabbat services, each in a different beautiful natural setting. Come early with a picnic dinner if you wish; schmooze with old friends and new before and after the services. Please remember to bring lawn chairs when you come.

- July 21st: Shabbat in the Pinehills (at the Pinehills amphitheater)
- August 11th: Shabbat IN a Pool with a BBQ (at the home of Kate and Brad Engel)
- September 1st: Shabbat by the Pond (at the home of Ronnie Hirschhorn)

CONGREGATION BETH JACOB

Outdoor Shabbatot

Monthly: May-September

**Friday, May 19th @ Nelson Beach
Shabbat at the Beach**

**Friday, June 23 @ the Luftman home
Shabbat by the Sea**

**Friday, July 21 @ the Pinehills
Shabbat in the Pinehills**

**Friday, August 11 @ the Engel home
Shabbat in the Pool with a BBQ**

**Friday, September 1 @ the Hirschhorn Home
Shabbat Overlooking a Pond**

**COME AT 6 PM WITH A PICNIC DINNER
OR AT 7 PM FOR SERVICES
(*September Service will be an hour earlier)
PLEASE BRING A LAWNCHAIR**

Progress Report on CBJ's Ark Cover Donated in Honor of Rabbi Emeritus Lawrence Silverman's 44 Years of Service as Our Spiritual Leader



Elizabeth Creeden, the textile artist who is embroidering the beautiful new Ark curtain in honor of Rabbi Silverman's 44 years of dedicated service to CBJ, has been working on this extraordinary project every morning in the upstairs studio of her home.

As you will see, Michael Cohen did a superb job capturing the extraordinary detail in her work. The mayflowers are completed and she has been working now on the beach roses. There is depth to the finished stitches, the shadowing of thread colors, that is better seen when it will be in the vertical position. The material of the curtain is from Italy and the silk embroidery threads are from France.

[To see photos of this work in progress, click here.](#)



Brotherhood Breakfast!

July 16, 9:30 a.m.

Topic: Climate Change and What We Can Do About It

Details will be available in The Weekly Update soon.



**Limud Torah/Torah Study Group
with Rabbi Emeritus Lawrence Silverman
Monday mornings, from 8:30-9:45 am**

LimudTorah will not meet on July 3rd and July 10th. Meetings are expected to resume on July 17th.

To join the Zoom Meeting, click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2947234661?pwd=RVFTQmFFYXBVWHRJQ3RkeDhjTVptZz09>

Meeting ID: 294 723 4661, Passcode: 720299



A Way to Make a Meaningful and Lasting Contribution

You may honor a special occasion or make a lasting contribution in memory of a loved one by donating a copy of Mishkan T'filah, our Shabbat and Festival Prayer Book. The price for each book is \$42.00. Bookplates with the acknowledgment of the dedication will be placed inside the front cover of each donated prayer book. For additional information, please contact Rabbi Mills. cbjplymouthrabbi@gmail.com.

If you wish to contribute, please send your check, payable to Congregation Beth Jacob, with "Prayer Book Donation" in the memo line, to:

Congregation Beth Jacob
Attention: Treasurer
P.O. Box 3284
Plymouth, MA 02361



Brotherhood Bowling!
The 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the Month at 5:30 pm
At Kingston Ten Pins

We'll be bowling the first and third Wednesday of every month at 5:30 pm. We bowl 3 strings and pay only the special rate of \$4.50/string. You don't need to have any equipment, as bowling shoe rental is available for a small additional fee, and there is a large selection of balls to use. This is a great way to get together with other members of Brotherhood, renew old friendships, and make new ones. You don't have to be good at bowling to participate - all you need is a good sense of humor! Contact Seth Teles at scteles@aol.com or Arnold Gladstein at aralglad@verizon.net and let us know if you would like to join us. Is your spouse or significant other welcome? Of course!



As we all know, "It takes a village" to make an organization successful. There are many opportunities for congregants to lend their talents to the work that it takes to keep our congregation running smoothly. Sisterhood is still looking for a member who is willing to assume a leadership position for the coming year.

Do you play a musical instrument? A few simple chords played on a guitar or the ethereal sound of a flute can do so much to enhance the beauty of our services. Are you adept with handling computer technology? We need someone in our congregation who is willing to assist with managing Zoom audio and video settings for our Shabbat services and other programs that are being streamed.

Please contact our co-Presidents, Ronnie Hirschhorn and Fred Sarke, if you are able to help. president@cbjplymouth.org



Please Volunteer to Sponsor an Oneg!

Thank You to Barbara Aharoni, who has graciously volunteered to serve as CBJ's Oneg Chair for the coming year. This is one more of the many ways that Barbara has served our congregation over time, and we are grateful for her dedication in helping to sustain our Jewish community, as well as the greater Plymouth area at large.

If you would like to honor a special occasion (birthday, anniversary, etc.) in a very special way, please consider sponsoring an Oneg. A beautiful, welcoming Oneg table of challah, fruit, baked goods, or even ice cream sundaes is a sign of our warm hospitality to our congregants, guests, and prospective members. Please contact Barbara at ahabubs@gmail.com to reserve a date!



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to CBJ's Newest Members!

Judi Chaskes
6 Mayflower Court, Apt. 1
Pembroke, MA 02359

Judi is a mental health therapist, specializing in addictions, death and dying. Her interests include reading, needlework, political and social action, Hadassah, the National Council of Jewish Women, and she delivers Meals on Wheels. Judi recently moved to Pembroke and is looking forward to meeting people, making new friends, and participating in temple activities, including Sisterhood and Adult Education programs. Welcome, Judi!

Welcome Back!

Dr. Fred Wax & Gail Lury Wax
7645 Royale River Lane
Fort Worth, FL 33469

Fred and Gail had been members of CBJ for many years until they moved to Florida several years ago. We are delighted to welcome them back to our CBJ family as Associate members!

If you would like to learn more about CBJ and are interested in becoming part of our Jewish community, please contact our Membership Chair, Barbara Aharoni, at ahabubs@gmail.com. [Click here for a link to CBJ's Application Form.](#)



Congregation Beth Jacob is grateful for all donations that are received. The following donations were recently received:

Yahrzeit/General Fund:

- Fred Wax & Gail Lury Wax, in memory of Fred's first wife, Terri Wax
- Fred & Irene Sarke, in memory of Irene's parents, Edith and Marc Lipitz
- Ronnie Hirschhorn, in memory of her mother, Frances Ribeck
- Judy & Andrew Kusmin - in memory of Dan Hirschhorn
- Linda & James Hurwitz - in memory of Linda's parents, Jack and Muriel Swartz, and James' mother, Kate Hurwitz

Rose Sherman Geller Fund for Jewish Family Life:

Anne Geller & Family - in memory of Anne's husband, Lawrence Geller

Capital Building Fund:

- Judge & Mrs. Gregory R. Baler
- Susanne Leliveld Wittenberg

Rabbi Discretionary Fund:

Phyllis Coffman, in honor of Lois Klasky's birthday

Beit Sefer End of Year Party

Our Beit Sefer students ended their very successful year with a fun afternoon at Rabbi Mills' house, where they enjoyed boating on the pond, eating (of course!) and just having fun!

All of us at CBJ congratulate Devon Fernald, the Principal of our Religious School, our professional teaching staff, and Rabbi Mills for creating a program where students master the skills of Hebrew reading, learn the ritual prayers and songs that are integral to our religious services, learn about Jewish history and the lessons about Jewish values and ethics in the Torah - all taught in a creative way that engages them. Students have become comfortable and familiar with being on the Bimah and leading portions of Shabbat services long before their Bar or Bat Mitzvah ceremonies.

We look forward to expanding our physical space for our Beit Sefer classes this September, and welcome the enrolment of additional students into our Religious School; program. For additional information, please contact Devon Fernald at devon.portney@gmail.com.

To see photos of the Beit Sefer End of Year party, see below.



Our Beit Sefer students enjoyed a wonderful day in mid-June at their end-of-year event that was hosted by Rabbi Mills. It was a great day at the lake, with paddle boarding, swimming and yard games, followed by pizza, cake and ice cream.







The Next Sisterhood Meeting Will be on July 10th at 7:00 pm

Sisterhood will be holding our regular meetings on the second Monday of each month. We all look forward to being able to meet outdoors in person over the coming months.

The Zoom link for Sisterhood meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81885106141?pwd=dHd6LzMzSTRJZ2J6VmM2WIBZenpXZz09>

Meeting ID: 818 8510 6141

Passcode: 579857



Sisterhood Dues Notice

For almost 70 years, CBJ Sisterhood has been an essential part of CBJ, providing the link that binds together long-term members with newer members of our congregation. Being part of Sisterhood provides a great way to be introduced to and get to know the members of CBJ. We pray together, study together and, yes, we have fun together. Although the Covid pandemic had affected our ability to meet for the past 2 years, Sisterhood has resumed holding interesting and informative monthly meetings as we celebrate holidays together and raise funds for the benefit of our synagogue.

In the past, Sisterhood has provided support to our young students in the Beit Sefer program by sponsoring our Pizza in the Hut for Sukkot, as well as the annual Chanukah and Purim Parties. Sisterhood provides all of the supplies for the Temple kitchen; sponsors Onegs throughout the year, and helps us all to celebrate the various holidays in the Jewish calendar by providing appropriate holiday foods for the Oneg table. In addition, as its ongoing tzedakah commitment, Sisterhood supports the Kiva project, an international organization that provides loans for women to open new businesses, purchase livestock to sustain food supplies and become financially independent in countries such as Guatemala, Honduras, Ghana, The Philippines, The Congo, Uganda and Fiji. To learn more about Kiva, click here: <https://www.kiva.org> and <https://www.kiva.org/lend-by-category/women>

Sisterhood donates \$2500.00 to the Temple each year! We can't do it alone. We need your financial support. Please become a member of Sisterhood.

Name _____

Phone _____ (home) _____ (cell)

Email _____

Area of interest _____

Talent you would be willing to share with the group _____

Program suggestions _____ If

you prefer to be an inactive member, please indicate that preference here: _____

Dues are a primary source of funds for many projects. Even if you can't participate, please join us and support our important programs and activities.

Special Limited Time Reduced Dues Rate for 2023: _____ \$18.00

Make your check payable to Beth Jacob Sisterhood and put "Sisterhood Dues" in the Memo line. Please mail to: Cindy Teles, 31 Birch Avenue, Plymouth MA 02360. For your convenience, you may also pay your dues online on the CBJ website. [Click here](#). Be sure to identify your payment as Sisterhood Dues. Thank you!



WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN CBJ's BROTHERHOOD

Over the 100 year history of CBJ, Brotherhood has established itself as an essential part of this congregation...this community. Our mantra has been: "to do everything we can to help this synagogue grow and flourish....and have fun doing it."

Under the leadership of Brotherhood's new President, Louis Goldman, we are looking forward to resuming those "sumptuous" Brotherhood Breakfasts with their intriguing and informative guest speakers. Brotherhood is planning monthly Discussion Group meetings and has already revived our Movie Discussion Nights, to which all members of the congregation are invited. Brotherhood has also restarted their bowling nights on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. This is an excellent opportunity for members to bond and share the often hilarious experience of what is loosely called "bowling." (You don't have to be an expert bowler to join the fun - just have a sense of humor!)

Brotherhood also provides $\frac{3}{4}$ of its treasury to our synagogue. Between our fundraisers and your dues, we have been able to contribute \$2,500 to CBJ's General Fund in each of the last few years, with the exception of the Covid pandemic. In addition, CBJ Brotherhood has been the catalyst for providing over \$7,200 in gift cards to the Greater Plymouth Food Warehouse.

Please become a member of CBJ Brotherhood so that we can continue this much needed help for our beloved CBJ as well as our extended Plymouth community.

NAME _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

AREAS OF INTEREST _____

Talent(s) that you would be willing to share _____

If you have any new ideas for programming or Brotherhood activities for the coming year, we look forward to hearing them. If you prefer being non-participatory, we still welcome and look forward to your membership. We thank you for your generous support.

Basic Membership (\$36)____ Mitzvah Membership (\$54)____ Big Macher (\$72)____

Make your check payable to: CBJ Brotherhood

Please indicate "Dues Payment" and mail to:

Seth Teles, 31 Birch Avenue, Plymouth, MA 02360



**The Following Yahrzeits Will be Observed This
Month:**

(A memorial candle should be lit on the preceding evening.)

July

1 Kurt Weishaupt	18 Mary Edith Goldstein
4 Lena Milner Koblantz	18 Gladys Reuben
4 Hyman Romanow	19 Meyer Cohen
4 Raymond Russo	21 Julius Cohen
6 Esther Aranowitz	21 Jean Sackheim Feinberg
6 Joseph Feinberg	21 Rebecca Lavine
8 Harry Minsky	21 Jacob Veiner
8 Jack Minsky	22 Joseph Carlin
8 Katherine P. Toabe	22 Robin Goldstein
9 Melinda Hightower	23 Samuel Koblantz
9 Selma Leopold	26 Bert Sternfield
11 Roslyn Jarmel	28 Judah James Evans
11 Steven Mills	29 Louis K. Kaplow
13 Toby Freedman Aharoni	29 Mary Kaplowitz
13 Mary Cohen	29 Devorah Shector
13 Julia Snapper	30 Elizabeth Epstein
14 Helen L. Shiff	30 Jacob S. Shiff
15 Elizabeth Greene	31 Jack Bernard
16 Norman Hollander	
16 Melvin "Manny" Mann	

May their memories be for a blessing and live forever in the hearts of all who knew and loved them.



Hot Dogs Are the Greatest American Jewish Food. Here's Why. American hot dogs are a true immigrant success story.

JOEL HABER (Published in The Nosh)

American Jewish food is most typically defined as pastrami sandwiches, chocolate babka, or bagels and lox. But I am here to argue that the greatest American Jewish food may actually be the humble hot dog. No dish better embodies the totality of the American Jewish experience.

What's that you say? You didn't know that hot dogs were a Jewish food? Well, that's part of the story, too.

Sausages of many varieties have existed since antiquity. The closest relatives of the hot dog are the frankfurter and the wiener, both American terms based on their cities of origin (Frankfurt and Vienna respectively). So what differentiates a hot dog from other sausages? The story begins in 19th century New York, with two German-Jewish immigrants.

In 1870, Charles Feltman sold Frankfurt-style pork-and-beef sausages out of a pushcart in Coney Island, Brooklyn. Sausages not being the neatest street food, Feltman inserted them into soft buns. This innovative sausage/bun combo grew to be known as a hot dog (though Feltman called them Coney Island Red Hots).

Two years later, Isaac Gellis opened a kosher butcher shop on Manhattan's Lower East Side. He soon began selling all-beef versions of German-style sausages. Beef hot dogs grew into an all-purpose replacement for pork products in kosher homes, leading to such classic dishes as Franks & Beans or split pea soup with hot dogs. Though unknown whether Gellis was the originator of this important shift, he certainly became one of the most successful purveyors.

Like American Jews, the hot dog was an immigrant itself that quickly changed and adapted to life in the U.S. As American Jewry further integrated into society, the hot dog followed.

In 1916, Polish-Jewish immigrant Nathan Handwerker opened a hotdog stand to compete with Charles Feltman, his former employer. Feltman's had grown into a large sit-down restaurant, and Handwerker charged half the price by making his eatery a "grab joint." (The term fast food hadn't yet been invented, but it was arguably Handwerker who created that ultra-American culinary institution.)

Nathan's Famous conquered the hot dog world. Like so many of his American Jewish contemporaries, Handwerker succeeded via entrepreneurship and hard work. His innovative marketing stunts included hiring people to eat his hot dogs while dressed as doctors, overcoming public fears about low-quality ingredients. While his all-beef dogs were not made with kosher meat, he called them "kosher-style," thus underscoring that they contained no horse meat. Gross.

The "kosher-style" moniker was another American invention. American Jewish history, in part, is the story of a secular populace that embraced Jewish culture while rejecting traditional religious practices. All-beef hotdogs with Ashkenazi-style spicing, yet made from meat that was not

traditionally slaughtered or “kosher”, sum up the new Judaism of Handwerker and his contemporaries.

Furthermore, American Jewry came of age alongside the industrial food industry. The hot dog also highlights the explosive growth of the kosher supervision industry (“industrial kashrut”).

Hebrew National began producing hot dogs in 1905. Their production methods met higher standards than were required by law, leading to their famous advertising slogan, “We Answer to a Higher Authority.”

While the majority of Americans may be surprised to hear this, Hebrew National’s self-supervised kosher-ness was not actually accepted by more stringent Orthodox and even Conservative Jews at the time. But non-Jews, believing kosher dogs were inherently better, became the company’s primary market. Eventually, Hebrew National received the more established Triangle-K kashrut supervision, convincing the Conservative Movement to accept their products. Most Orthodox Jews, however, still don’t accept these hot dogs as kosher.

But over the last quarter of the 20th century in America, the Orthodox community has gained prominence and their opinions, and food preferences, hold more weight in the food industry.

The community’s stricter kashrut demands and sizable purchasing power created a viable market, and glatt kosher hot dogs hit the scene. Abeles & Heymann, in business since 1954, was purchased in 1997 by current owner Seth Leavitt. Meeting the demands of the Orthodox community’s increasingly sophisticated palate, their hot dogs are gluten-free with no filler. Recently, they’ve begun producing a line of uncured sausages, and the first glatt hot dogs using collagen casing.

Glatt kosher dogs can now be purchased in nearly thirty different sports arenas and stadiums. American Jews have successfully integrated into their society more than any other in history. So too, the hot dog has transcended its humble New York Jewish immigrant roots to enter the pantheon of true American icons. So when you bite into your hot dog this summer, you are really getting a bite of American Jewish history, and the great American Jewish food.