—The Story, Continued from inside

After the first banquet, the king was told that Mordecai saved his life and asked Haman, "What shall be done for the man whom the king wishes to honor?" Thinking that the king was referring to Haman himself, Haman said the honoree should be dressed in the king's royal robes and led around on the king's royal horse. To Haman's horror, the king instructed Haman to render such honors to Mordecai. That night, at the second banquet, Esther revealed that she was Jewish and that Haman was planning to exterminate her people, which included her. Haman tried to get Esther to pardon him but instead fell onto her couch, making the king even more angry. Ahasuerus ordered Haman's execution and allowed the Jews to defend themselves from Haman's execution militias — thus Esther saved her people and originated Purim.

Many, Many, Many Thanks!

Thanks to the **Purim Spiel party organizers**: co-chairs Judy Stern and Adrea Moss with Judi Hyman, Terry Gurevitch, Barbara Tomin, David Kahn, Elly Cohen, Susan Miller, Marge Ballo, Alan Chesterman, Michele Guttenberg, David Matzner, Carolyn Metz, Ellen Mundell, Anne Brown, Richard Kahn, Bobbi Rosenthal, Howard Moss, Len Cohen, Barb McGee, Ahuva Simon Sa'ar and Myra Thomas.

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Thanks to Barb McGee; USYers Jared McGee and Ben Alexander; and volunteers Laura Alexander, Jim & Stephanie Sweeney, Ronit Glickman, and Ahuva Simon Sa'ar for our **Shalach Manos** bags. There is one for every Beth Ami member family; if you have not picked yours up yet, please do so.

Bonnie Boren, our fabulous **set and costume** designer, thanks Chip Swanson for his design and construction expertise, and Mark Stoelting and Russ Gurevitch for getting the set up, plus Carolyn Orlik for its storage.

Thanks to Phil Dwight of On Q for the ever evolving **sound** system. Leanne Schy did **graphics**, Ben Braver the still photography, and Rick Krigstein the **video**.

Thanks to Asher Nathan and Ahuva Simon Sa'ar for chanting the real Megillah.

Kicking Off Yom Kippur...

Please forgive these jokes and songs. We have already begun atoning for them. Many thanks to Rabbi Miller and the tolerant Congregation Beth Ami.

SING	We've got to hold on to what we've got	Woah, we're half way there
ALONG	That's what makes the difference	Woah, livin' on a prayer
	if we make it or not	Take my hand,
	We've got each other and that's a lot	we'll make it I swear
	For love, we'll give it a shot	Woah, livin' on a prayer
	Woah, we're half way there Woah, livin' on a prayer	Livin' on a prayer

Woah, livin' on a prayer Take my hand, we'll make it I swear Woah, livin' on a prayer



THE SPIELERS

(and their sponsors— with thanks) Brought to you by Friedman's Home Improvement and Terry & Russ Gurevitch of Veterinary Referral Surgical Service

with Sonoma Cutlery, Carolyn Metz Realtor, Barta Hides, Rio Nido Lodge, and Dierk's Parkside Café

Mordy McChai (Michelle Gutenberg & David Matzner) Isaac Matzner			
Bubbe Brown (Bernice Fox & Ed Harman) Leanne Schy			
BigthanAndy Fleming			
Teresh (Stephanie & Jim Sweeney)Patty Bernstein			
Esther Jenny Levine-Smith			
Haman (Evelyn Gurevitch) Russ Gurevitch			
PrincesRonnie Kaplan Rosenbach, Ken Plattner			
The KingStefan Rubin			
Queen VashtiJoslyn Metzger			
LadiesBonnie Boren, Judy Kupfer			
Mordecai (Judy Stern & Mel Decker)Michael Mundell			
Madge Jane Rogan Dwight			
TinaNancy Fleming			
CyndiCarolyn Orlik			
Sound GuyPhil Dwight			
Prom GirlsCarolyn Orlik, Nancy Fleming, Bonnie Boren, Jane Rogan Dwight			
Prom Giris Carolyn Orlik, Nancy Fleming, Bonnie Boren, Jane Rogan Dwight			
GuardsRonnie Kaplan Rosenbach, Ken Plattner			
GuardsRonnie Kaplan Rosenbach, Ken Plattner			
GuardsRonnie Kaplan Rosenbach, Ken Plattner The Rabbi			
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Guards			
GuardsRonnie Kaplan Rosenbach, Ken Plattner The RabbiRabbi Mordecai Miller Jews			
GuardsRonnie Kaplan Rosenbach, Ken Plattner The Rabbi			
GuardsRonnie Kaplan Rosenbach, Ken Plattner The RabbiRabbi Mordecai Miller JewsEverybody available SongleaderRuss Gurevitch Keyboard/Musical Direction (Judi Hyman)Nancy Hayashibara Guitar (Kim & Bill Cordell)Dave Ballo Bass Guitar (Maury Jones)Ross Jones Drums (Patty Bernstein)Marc Bernstein SoundPhil Dwight			
GuardsRonnie Kaplan Rosenbach, Ken Plattner The Rabbi			
Guards			

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BACK TO THE FUTURE Musical Numbers (and their sponsors— with thanks)

Like a Virgin, Madonna (Judy Stern)Bubbe Brown, Mordy McCh			
Thriller, Michael Jackson Ensemble			
I Wanna Dance With Somebody, Whitney Houston King and Princes			
What's Love Got to Do With It, <i>Tina Turner</i>			
Don't You Want Me, <i>Human League</i> Vashti, King, Princes, Women			
We're Not Gonna Take It, <i>Twisted Sister</i>			
The Tide is High, <i>Blondie</i> (Betty Boyd & Eli Cohen)Bubbe, Esther, Mordecai, Mordy			
Walk Like an Egyptian, Bangles (Pam Jacobs-Letourneau)			
Girls Just Want to Have Fun, Cyndi LauperProm Girls, Princes			
Power of Love, Huey Lewis (Marge & Dave Ballo)Sound Guy, Esther, King, Prom Girls			
Sweet Dreams are Made of These, <i>Eurythmics</i> Haman, Bigthan, Teresh			
Let's Get Physical, <i>Olivia Newton-John</i> Bigthan & Teresh			
Another One Bites the Dust, <i>Queen</i> Mordy, Mordecai, Bigthan, Teresh, Guards			
Karma Chameleon, <i>Culture Club</i>			
Every Breath You Take, <i>The Police</i>			
Eye of the Tiger, <i>Survivor</i>			
Livin' on a Prayer, Bon Jovi (Pam Jacobs-Letourneau)Esther, Jews			
I'm Gonna Be- 500 Miles, The Proclaimers (Leanne Schy) Esther and King			
True Colors, <i>Cyndi Lauper</i> King			
Don't Stop Believin', <i>Journey</i> Ensemble			
Livin' on a Prayer Reprise, Bon Jovi (Leanne Schy)Ensemble and Audience			

The Story – Summarized (Spoiler Alert)

King Ahasuerus ruled in ancient Persia, from his palace in Shushan. His queen, Vashti, refused to appear at his 180-day party, and was banished. Ahasuerus then ordered all young women to be presented to him, and chose an orphan named Esther to be his new queen, unaware that she was Jewish. Her cousin Mordecai accompanied her to the palace; he was given a position guarding the palace gates. One day, he overheard a plot by Bigthan and Teresh to assassinate the king. He reported the plan and saved the King's life. Meanwhile, the King appointed a new prime minister, Haman. When the Jews would not bow down to him, this evil man proposed that all of the Jews of Persia should be executed, telling King Ahasuerus, "There is a certain people dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom who keep themselves separate. Their customs are different from those of all other people, and they do not obey the king's laws; it is not in the king's best interest to tolerate them."

Mordecai pleaded with Esther to intervene. Going to the king unsummoned was punishable by death, unless he commuted the sentence by raising his golden scepter. Esther decided, "If I perish, I perish," and went to the king. When he raised his golden scepter, she invited him and Haman to two banquets.