# **THE SHUL SHOFAR**

VOL. 23, NO. 2 \* Congregation Beth Israel \* Bellingham, WA 98229 \* https://bethisraelbellingham.org \* (360) 733-8890

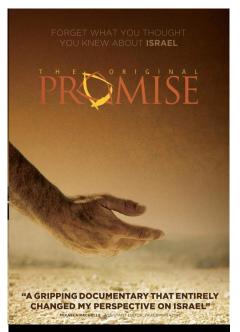
# 'The Original **Promise'** comes to CBI

**BY RABBI JOSHUA SAMUELS** 

In partnership with StandWithUs Northwest, Beth Israel will be screening "The Original Promise" and hosting a post-film discussion with its Executive Producer, Bill Iny, Sunday, November 11 at 6:30 pm.

The evening will begin with light refreshments, followed by the screening of the documentary at 7:00 pm. Along with Bill Iny, we might even hear from one of the film's cohosts and/or the film's musician. StandWithUs Northwest's Executive Director, Randy Kessler, will also be present.

"The Original Promise" is a visual celebration of the State of Israel and its people. The film explores the Israeli people and seeks to answer the question of why the Western world should support Israel. "The Original Promise" follows veteran TV host Doug Kooy and actor Farrah Aviva on a video odyssey as they



#### The Original Promise

6:30 pm light refreshments 7:00 pm screening 8:00 pm post-film discussion/Q&A Sunday, Nov 11, 2018

- Post-film discussion with the film's Producer and Art Director, and StandWithUs Northwest's Executive Director.
- No charge to attend!

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## **INSIDE:**

- Blood drive and bone marrow registration was a success, page 3
- FACES IN OUR COMMUNITY: Sara Geballe and Steve James, page 8



FROM THE RABBI

# The message of Hanukkah

If you were to visit each class during Kesher and take a poll of everyone's favorite Jewish holiday, chances are that the majority would respond with Hanukkah. What's not to love with all of the



presents. candles, donuts and latkes? The students probably also appreciate the minimal time spent in services, as there isn't

much liturgy specific to Hanukkah. The Festival of Lights was never near the top of my favorites until I became a rabbi and started celebrating it with so many children. I love talking about the miracle of the oil with our students and challenging them to beat me in a dreidel spin-off. Our community Hanukkah parties are always a lot of fun.

As we all know, however, Hanukkah is more than playing a spinning top game and talking about a story the rabbis came up with to move away from the theme of military victory. This year, I've been thinking a lot about the theme of courage that stems from the both the historical and

# Page 2 From the President... Hineni

Dear Congregants,

As I write this, we have just heard the story of Noah in the Torah. My message for this Shul Shofar is an abbreviated version of my remarks on *erev* Rosh Hashanah.

During the High Holy Days, it is traditional for the cantor to answer G-d, like so many of our people in the past, with the refrain *Hineni*, "Here I am." Three simple words, but in connection with our history, these words take on very special meaning. *Hineni* does not simply mean that one is present, but rather that one is present and ready to stand for something. It is what Abraham said when he prepared to take up his covenant with G-d, and it is what Moses said when he stood before the burning bush and accepted his charge to lead the Jewish people.

We celebrated all of the High Holy Days this year in our new home, built to be a center for Jewish life in the Northwest for generations to come. An earlier generation of congregants built our old home on Broadway, where we grew as a community for nearly one hundred years. Each generation after those builders enjoyed a beautiful space in which to worship and to gather that had been paid for in advance. This generation of congregants has renewed that gift. Our new campus will be enjoyed not only by our children, but also by their children, beyond counting, long into the future. It took a long time, more than twice as long as it took to build Solomon's temple, and in that process, so many of you stood up and said, "Here I am."

Of course, we are not quite done building our future. Work remains that we hope to complete sooner rather than later. Our Capital Campaign Committee will shortly retire after their heroic work and be replaced by a standing fundraising committee. This new committee will see that we outfit and maintain our facilities to the high standards we are already enjoying. I know how hard we have all already worked to make this happen, but I ask that when one of these groups calls on you, you will answer with a resounding, *Hineni*, "Here I am!"

This Fall, students in my classes at Western are reading the Epic of Gilgamesh. The Epic contains one of the earliest versions of the flood story, famous to us in the book of Genesis. In the various versions of the flood story, all living things are brought together in an ark to weather a great storm and to ensure the survival of life on earth. The Epic of Gilgamesh recalls the moment when the work order went out to the community, "At the first light of dawn, the population began assembling; the carpenter brought his axe, the reed worker his stone." All of the town's people, young and old, rich and poor, women and men, answered the call. We can imagine them saying to their Noah, "Here I am!" And critically, they were not just building an ark, they were building a larger idea of community and of service.

Our community is much bigger than a building, but this building gives us all the opportunity to say that we stand with our people on our long journey, and we stand together even when we disagree. Let us commit to continuing this voyage side by side. Congregation Beth Israel is a model to our region and to Jewish communities across the country of what we can accomplish when we are not only present, but ready to stand for something. We must answer the call individually and say "Here I am," but the wonder of our community is that, even in these divided times, and just like the cantor during High Holy Days, we are never alone when we stand up for our Jewish values.

# CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

#### 751 San Juan Boulevard Bellingham, WA 98229

*The Shul Shofar* Volume 23, Number 2 November/December 2018 Heshvan/Kislev/Tevet 5779

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Deadline for submission of all articles and calendar events for the January/February issue is <u>DECEMBER 11</u>. Call the office for more information.

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#### From the Social Action Committee

# CBI blood drive, bone marrow registration successful

BY LINDA BLACKWELL

On Sunday, September 16, our blood drive registered a total of 29 donors! We welcomed 16 first-time donors. We also registered 6 new donors for the Gift of Life Bone Marrow Registry.

A big THANK YOU to each and every donor who took the time out of their busy day to come donate, and for your patience and flexibility as we had an extremely late start to the blood drive. A big thank you to Gloria Lebowitz for volunteering at the blood drive. Also, an enormous shout-out to Andrea Shupack for organizing our first bone marrow registration. We have hopes for both projects to expand next year.

We were able to collect 23 units of whole blood. Since each unit of whole blood is separated into the different components (red cells, platelets, and plasma), this benefited 69 patients throughout the Northwest. The blood donations collected at the blood drive are critical to maintaining a stable blood supply for surgeries, medical emergencies, and for supporting patients battling lifethreatening illnesses, like leukemia and other cancers.

Below are a few patients who recently received blood products from Bloodworks Northwest:

Congregation Beth Israel wishes to thank Joy Gardner and Susan & Casey Schanen for donating our beautiful High Holy Days flower arrangements



- Patient with heart surgery. Patient used: 11 units of red blood cells, 15 units of plasma, and 6 units of platelets.
- Patient with ulcer, gastrointestinal bleed. Patient used: 18 units of red blood cells, 6 units of plasma, and 5 units of platelets.
- Patient with aortic valve replacement. Patient used: 8 units of red blood cells, 12 units of plasma, and 4 units of platelets.
- Patient with hematemesis. Patient used: 10 units of red blood cells, 3 units of plasma, and 2 units of platelets.
- Patient with obstetric bleed. Patient used: 10 units of red blood cells, 6 units of plasma, and 1 unit of platelets.

Again, we are immensely grateful to everyone who participated in our blood/bone marrow registration drive, and we hope to see even more CBI members join us next year in this life-saving work!

### Synagogue 411

Archives: Tim Baker, (360) 647-7031 Care: Harriet Markell, (916) 207-9381; Else Sokol, (360) 393-9618 Kesher Parent Committee: Nora Mazonson, (360) 739-4335 Membership: Rita Spitzer, (360) 647-7065; Ann Suloway, (360) 647-7031

#### Library, Scrip: Joan Wayne, (360) 676-8939 New Synagogue Task Force: Warren Rosenthal, (360) 961-9772 Scholarship: Emil Hecht, (360) 733-4825 Social Action: Linda Blackwell, (360) 647-9519



From the Social Action Committee

# **Social Action Committee news**

Our community was very generous this High Holy Day Season. We were able to complete the blood drive even with a late start, collecting 23 units of blood. (Please see Thank You to all donors, page 3). We also were successful at our Gift of Life Bone Marrow registration. Next year, we hope to tap the Millennials for the Bone Marrow Registry. There is a preference for those under age 45 to donate to the Bone Marrow Registry.

The collection for the Bellingham Food Bank at the High Holy Days continues to grow each year. Thanks to everyone who donated and collected the food. We collected 700 pounds of food and almost \$220!! This collection helps the Food Bank bridge their needs between the seasons.

Boxes of coats, hats, and gloves were collected and donated to the

Interfaith Coat Drive at the end of October. These donations help our neighbors in need stay warm through the winter. Thanks to the CBI Stitchery Group, who provided 20 wonderful hats.

Other Interfaith Coalition opportunities to support our neighbors include the Family Promise Program. Congregation Beth Israel continues to be a support congregation by supplying meals. Wonderful volunteers from CBI also help with the transitional housing in our community by quarterly cleaning a home for families in need. Please contact Linda Blackwell or Andrea Shupack if you are interested in volunteering with the Family Promise Program or their Daycenter.

The Family Promise Project is also in need of diapers, especially in larger sizes. These can be dropped off at the Social Action baskets in Kesher



or in the nook next to the water fountains. We will be collecting money and food for DVSAS for their Thanksgiving Dinner. Further announcements will be in the eNews about signing up and donations.

Please consider attending the next Social Action Committee meeting in early November to voice what projects we should plan for 2019. Please contact Linda Blackwell, 360-739-1492, for date and time.

# **FUNDrive benefits Kesher!**

A few weeks ago, we announced this great FUNDrive in partnership with Value Village. We've already received many donations, but we need to keep them coming all through April 7, 2019. On April 14, we will deliver all the items to Value Village, they will be weighed, and we will be paid by the pound. That's it! The more we bring, the more money we will receive. For example, if we want to make \$1,000.00, we need 4,000 pounds of soft goods, or about 220 bags (calculations are based on 33-gallon trash bags filled with 20 pounds of soft goods each). We challenge every family, even if they don't have a child in Kesher, to bring at least one bag once a week. Tell your friends and neighbors!

No one has to dig into their pockets to support Kesher with money! Help keep landfills emptier AND support Kesher by simply cleaning out your closets, basements, storage units, and forgotten bins of "someday clothes." We are collecting any and all cloth items (including bedding and towels, shoes, belts, purses), CDs/DVDs, small electrical items, toys & games, small kitchen items, knickknacks, and sporting goods. Cloth items will need to be in trash bags, and household items will need to be in cardboard boxes. All items must be in good, clean, and sellable condition. Your donation is tax deductible.

Kindly leave your donations on the black cart that is placed by the Kesher entrance on Sundays from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm, or any other day by appointment with Sagit (please text her at 360-927-0701). If you have any questions, please contact Nora Mazonson (phone: 360-739-4335; email: nora.shwadsky@gmail.com)



#### From the Kesher Center for Jewish Learning

# Kesher Center for Jewish Learning is now CBI's congregational learning arm!

קשָׁר KESHER With the big changes that our community has gone through in the past few years, most notably the move to the

new building, doors have been opening—not only literally, but also figuratively, for expanding CBI's mission to provide creative, engaging and meaningful Jewish learning opportunities for all ages. This past summer, *Kesher Center for Jewish Learning* officially became CBI's home of the Congregational Learning operations of our community. As of the summer, it is in addition to our growing Sunday classes program for infants through youth (Religious/ Hebrew School). Kesher will now centralize Adult Education classes and other community enrichment events—one of which we hope will be our very own Jewish Food Festival! This "extended umbrella" will enable a unified vision of learning to reach all ages in a way that will reflect the character of our community as mindful stewards of the environment, as lovers of the outdoors, and as a diverse group of Jews that find comfort in the wisdom of the Torah.

Our Sunday Kesher teachers are encouraged to use simple, natural materials for educational craft projects, to consume a minimum amount of disposable material (such as paper cups), and to take advantage of the great outdoors as the ideal classroom for our young learners. In addition to our long-standing Adult Education classes such as Rabbi Samuels's *Judaism 201*, our class offerings now include a *Yoga and the Sephirot* class and *Kuk Sool Won* (Korean Martial Arts) as a reflection of a community that values mindful living. These classes embrace *shmirat haguf* (nurturing our bodies) and *keiruv levavot* (bringing hearts together). We welcome your participation!

> —SAGIT HALL שגית הול DIRECTOR, KESHER CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING

# Celebrate Hanukkah with Beth Israel

#### **BY MARCIA LIPPMAN**

The Annual CBI/Kesher Hanukkah Party will be held between noon and 2:00 pm, Sunday, Dec. 9, at the synagogue at 751 San Juan Blvd.

Celebrate with yummy food, Hanukkah-themed crafts for kids, the annual Dreidel Spin-off, Kesher class performances, music and singing, and by lighting the Hanukkah candles together.

Beginning in November, please purchase Hanukkah candles on our website (under the "donate" tab), and pick them up at CBI, or purchase



before and after Kesher classes, starting in mid-November. \$5 for 44 candles; 100% goes to help fund the party.

Want to help? Please contact Lynn Korner, lkmk1@yahoo.com, or Nora Mazonson, nora.shwadsky@gmail.com

#### "THE ORIGINAL PROMISE" COMES TO CBI

Continued from Page 1

discover a country that is seldom seen in the mainstream media. They explore the idea of democracy, the rule of law, and women's rights while recording images of contemporary life in Israel: fine wine, exquisite cuisine, professional sports, and some of the world's greatest nightspots. "The Original Promise" also takes a look at the world's three Abrahamic religions against the contrast of one of the world's most productive hi-tech industries.

# Third Annual Men's Snowshoeing Trip – Jan. 6

**BY TODD WITTE** 

Gear up, guys, for the Brotherhoodsponsored Third Annual Men's Snowshoeing Trip at Mt. Baker, on Sunday, January 6. Our numbers are growing, from three of us two years ago, to ten men last year! We will leave in the morning, carpooling in a caravan of 4WD cars/trucks, to arrive early on the mountain, snowshoe outof-bounds on Mt. Baker, stop for lunch at a viewpoint, then come down with a stop for a nosh and a brew on the way home. Everyone had a GREAT time last year, and we are ready for another round of exhilarating fun to welcome 2019!

We want to emphasize that while no snowshoeing experienced is required, being somewhat physically fit is needed for the climbing part. We will rent equipment from Yaeger's for those who need it. Appropriate clothing should be worn, and we can help advise those who may not know what to wear or bring. The day will offer a good cardiovascular workout, with lots of fun and camaraderie! We will also have two CBI guys who are wilderness rescue experts, as it is our experience and continued goal to provide a safe, positive outing for everyone.

Please contact Todd Witte at sixwittes@gmail.com or call/text 360-296-3057 for further information, and to RSVP. We hope to grow our CBI snowshoeing group every year, and look forward to another excellent Brotherhood adventure.





Photo below, left to right: Todd Witte, Steve Spitzer, George Farkas, David Strich, Mark Steinberg, Perry Somers, Mike Braunstein, Marty Moskowitz, Mitch Press, Kevin Donner





Windermere

#### Warren Rosenthal

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# Sisterhood membership 2018-2019

#### **BY MIRIAM DAVIDS**

First, a huge thank you to all who paid Sisterhood dues and to all who generously contributed to our "Kitchen Shower." We were able to fill many shelves! We also bought a mini-fridge for the office, some new round tablecloths, and have been filling in gaps as the need arises. The Sisterhood also uses our regular dues to purchase the calendars distributed annually, buy Kiddush cups as gifts for B'nei Mitzvah students and contribute to the Camp Scholarship Fund. There is also the Sisterhood Book Group and a knitting/handwork group that meets regularly.

Please consider joining. Your membership allows the Sisterhood to continue to support our congregation. We won't burden you with meetings and tasks, but are open to suggestions.

The Sisterhood is open to all women of the congregation. Annual dues are \$25. We are still doing things the old-fashioned way, so you can send a check to "Beth Israel Sisterhood" and mail to either of the following addresses:

#### **Miriam Davids**

2740 E. 56th Vista Bellingham, WA 98226

#### **Congregation Beth Israel Sisterhood** 751 San Juan Blvd.

Bellingham, WA 98229

You can also pay dues online on the Sisterhood page!

# **Birthdays**

#### **NOVEMBER 2018**

- 11/1 Susan Jay
- 11/1 David Ziegler
- 11/2 Max Nahani Braunstein (9th)
- 11/2 Lev Shuster (17th)
- 11/4 Elinor Hall (13th)
- 11/5 Ian James (10th)
- 11/6 Rodney Shainbom
- 11/7 Steve James
- 11/8 Rob Grossman
- 11/10 Urtica Goldman (5th)
- 11/11 Stephanie Korn
- 11/11 Wendy Schwartz
- 11/12 Jakob Garfinkle (20th)
- 11/12 Rebecca Garfinkle (20th)
- 11/13 Peter Auerbach
- 11/13 Miriam Schwartz
- 11/14 Isaac Schapiro (18th)
- 11/14 Raphael Schapiro (18th)
- 11/14 Shoshana Schapiro (18th)
- 11/16 Kristan Brennan
- 11/16 Ellie Greenberg (20th)
- 11/16 Jane Relin
- 11/16 Toby Sonneman
- 11/17 Nancy Lloyd
- 11/17 Bonnie Stone
- 11/17 Jay Wolfman
- 11/18 Rita Spitzer
- 11/19 Anita Meyer
- 11/19 Patsy Strumpf
- 11/20 Willow Corey-DuBow (15th)
- 11/24 Liberty Amit Schoelss (7th)
- 11/25 Sylvan Weinstein (8th) 11/26 Tamar Clarke
- 11/26 Shala Erlich
- 11/27 Elkah Katz
- 11/28 Floyd King
- 11/29 Xavier Sommers (7th)

11/30 Orion Dixon (10th) 11/30 Priscilla Feld 11/30 Sarah Witte

#### **DECEMBER 2018**

12/3 Zach Bastow
12/4 Rebecca Oliver
12/4 Susan Cohen Raphael
12/7 Alyssa Diller (18th)
12/8 Noam Richmond (16th)
12/10 Trisha Adelstein
12/11 Marvin Wayne
12/13 Sheldon B. Pravda
12/13 Rory Verkh-Haskell (13th)
12/14 Eli Brennan (20th)

12/15 Anna Booker 12/15 Niall Ó Murchú 12/16 Corinne Gimbel-Levine 12/17 Maya Taranow (20th ) 12/18 David Strich 12/19 Cathie Diller 12/19 Cinda Zemel 12/20 Leon Baron 12/22 Michelle Anderson 12/22 Jennifer Seltz 12/26 David Halpern 12/27 Philip Buri 12/28 Ella Keefe (5th) 12/28 Mark Pomerantz 12/30 Shawn Clarke

#### Welcome to our new members:

- Minda Rae Admiran Fredonia, NY (moving to Bellingham summer 2019)
- Emily & Zach Bastow and daughter Eliza Rose (age 5) Bellingham
- David & Anniece Kiersky Anacortes
- Shemaia Kountouros, Ruth Hohman & Dave Willingham Bellingham
- Susan Mahar Bellingham
- Jennifer Seltz & Niall Ó Murchú; daughters Laoise & Nora Seltz (ages 12 & 8) — Bellingham
- Edwyna Spiegel Mount Vernon
- Shlomis Waters Nooksack
- Jerry Witler & Mary Knight Bellingham
- Alexis (Lexi) Zantkovsky & Dan Stone Sedro Woolley

Faces in our community

# *Un an en France* (a year in France), lived by Sara Geballe and Steve James

BY LINDA HIRSH

Some years ago, anti-draft activists headed for Canada during the Vietnam War. But how many of the 65,844,954 who voted against our current president fled to France after the 2016 election?

Most likely, only two: Sara Geballe and Steve James.

"In the aftermath, we were so despondent," said Sara. She admits bolting would not solve problems, but it was a relief.

"When we calmed down, we also realized we were at the point of life where we could go," said Steve. "If not now, when?"

"Still, it never would have occurred to us if not for the election," Sara insisted.

France was a natural. Sara had lived there after college graduation. They had also enjoyed two home exchanges with French citizens wishing to explore the Pacific NW.

"After the home exchanges, they became friends with their exchange partners," said friend Karen Sloss. "They took the travel experience to another level with their yearlong French adventure, immersing themselves and engaging with locals. They love to try new places and new experiences that open up along the way."

Sara and Steve researched where to live. "Some place off the tourist track," Sara said. "A progressive town," said Steve. They narrowed choices to three cities, then in April 2017 spent five days in each. The winner: Angers, a city of 150,000 people southwest of Paris. The choice made for a culture that Sara called "the art of living gently."

It is a place where, when one is invited to Sunday lunch, it is a six-hour visit in which guests and host may walk, talk, play games, even sightsee a nearby chapel or



Sara and Steve at Fougères Castle, near Normandy.

a chateau. "Lunch is not just to eat," Steve said. "They want to find out about our life."

This is what the Angevins found out: Steve grew up facing the Pacific Ocean in Santa Paula, California, where he had deep family roots. Sara was born in the Bronx, closer to the Atlantic. Sara first went to Akiba Academy, but transferred to a public school in the third grade, where she found neighborhood friends. Sara earned a degree in biology from Cornell University and a graduate degree in genetics. She's been a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration science writer, an editor for the Massachusetts State Association's monthly Deaf Community News, as well as running her own memoir writing business and working as an ASL (American Sign Language) interpreter. Steve's family was Methodist. He bounced around various colleges but never completed a degree. Drafted, he served a year in Vietnam. After his discharge, his jobs included law en-

# **CELEBRATION AND FUN AT CBI**















**1 and 2. Moving the Torahs into Beth Israel** (*photos by Don Fenbert*); **3. Decorating the** *sukkah*; **4. Eytan** Samuels and Max Braunstein shaking the *lulav* and *etrog*; **5. The first Simchat Torah at our new synagogue**; **6. First day of Kesher**; **7. The first Millennial Club outing at Twin Sisters.** 

# The Yenta speaks...

Lindsey and Jordan Genut welcome their new son! **Eli Nevoh Genut** was born Saturday October 6th, 2018 at 2:25 pm, 7 lbs 15 ounces, 19 1/2 inches long. Big sisters **Leeya** and **Gabi** are so excited and are taking great care of their little brother.



# Jews in the 'hood —the first CBI neighborhood get-together

More than thirty people of all ages gathered for a couple of hours on a late Sunday afternoon during Sukkot, around potluck offerings of wine, appetizers, and festive meal courses. These lucky people were CBI members who live in or near the South Hill neighborhood. Someone floated an idea about getting to know your CBI neighbors a little better and Joan Wayne, Deborah Oksenberg, and Serge Lindner decided to act on it. Joan said it was easy. First, they figured out who was in the neighborhood by reading through a printed copy of the membership directory (found in the members-only section of the website). Next, they sent an Evite asking everyone to sign up for appetizers, food, and dessert. All that was left was to show up and have a good time! Which they most certainly did! Will your neighborhood try this next?





# Anniversaries

Nov. 2	Lisa & Chris Balton	(# 32)
Nov. 6	Sarah & Norman DesRosiers	(#14)
Nov. 15	Matthew Schall & Gayle Kay	(# 15)
Nov. 16	George & Fay Farkas	(# 22)
Nov. 29	Floyd King & Leigh Squires	(# 16)
Dec. 6	David & Anniece Kiersky	(# 33)
Dec. 9	Stuart & Judy Berman	(# 44)
Dec. 15	Jeffrey & Priscilla Feld	(# 38)
Dec. 15	Jeff & Amy Margolis	(# 56)
Dec. 20	Sue & Hans-Rudolf Guenter-Schlesinger	(# 34)
Dec. 21	Lou & Marcia Lippman	(# 53)
Dec. 22	Terri Weiner & Rob Lopresti	(# 42)
Dec. 28	Jesse & Nicky Naiman	(# 14)
Dec. 29	Armando & Diana Lindner	(# 53)
Dec. 30	Joan & Marvin Wayne	(# 47)
Dec. 31	Tracy & Cathie Diller	(# 21

Did we miss your anniversary? Call the office at (360) 733-8890 or email office@bethisraelbellingham.org with the month, day & year of your special day.





#### FROM THE RABBI

#### Continued from Page 1

midrashic aspects of the Maccabean revolt.

We all remember the story: Judah Maccabee and his brothers rose in revolt against the Seleucid Empire, which was turning Jerusalem into a Greek city. The Maccabees had the courage to fight an impossible battle and against all odds came out victorious. Once the dust had cleared, the Maccabees entered the Holy Temple and searched the rubble until they could find a vessel of oil marked with the High Priest's seal. The little amount they found lasted longer than anyone expected. Imagine the scene! The Temple is in ruins, and these brothers immediately set out to light the menorah with sacred oil. They didn't see defeat or destruction; rather, they saw the Temple as they hoped it would later become. Their first task was to rededicate the Temple. Every aspect of this story can be

its own lesson in courage, from the courage to fight an impossible battle to the courage of moving forward in life amidst tragedy.

Rabbi Laura Geller also sees the theme of courage in the Hanukkah story. "The miracle wasn't that the oil lasted an additional seven days, but rather that those ancestors lit the first wick at all, without being certain that the light would last long enough to complete the rededication of the Temple. The miracle was that they took the chance, a risk, a leap of faith. They took the first step even though they were not sure they had enough resources to succeed. What is the real miracle of Hanukkah? It is the miracle of human courage that empowers us to take risks for the future even in our imperfect, uncertain world. It is the courage, even in the darkest of times, to create our own light."

As we approach Hanukkah this year, I suggest we ask ourselves

questions to get us thinking about courage in our own lives.

When have I been courageous? What prevents me from acting courageously?

What about my life would be different, if I had more courage?

What advice would I give myself to demonstrate more courage and begin a task, despite uncertainty of its success?

Perhaps as we contemplate these questions, we'll add a new layer of appreciation for Hanukkah this year. Maybe we'll begin to see this holiday beyond all the *gelt* and presents and realize that its lessons are both timeless and personal. Of course, there's nothing wrong with eating a lot of latkes.

May each of you and your loved ones enjoy a festival filled with light and love.

Chag Urim Sameach, — RABBI JOSHUA SAMUELS

#### SARAH GEBALLE AND STEVE JAMES

#### Continued from Page 8

forcement, Marine water rescue, deputy marshal, and the National Park Service.

The two met on April 1, 2005, at Bellingham's Northwest Singles, a social group for people "of a certain age," and were married by Rabbi Cindy Enger in the Roeder Home on July 13, 2008.

Diverse backgrounds aside, the two are united in their love of adventure. Here's what they found in their getaway to Angers: Regardless of their attempt to disengage from politics, news still trickled in, and people would approach them, shaking their heads and asking them what was going on in the USA. No one agreed with its recent policies. Touched that the two spoke French, local residents complimented Sara and Steve on their linguistic efforts, opened up to the couple, and were welcoming. Upon their arrival, the landlord invited them to his formal wedding, complete with a Mass and a meal held in a 500-year-old chateau.

In France, social formality is observed. If a host puts out pre-meal snacks, guests do not dig in, but wait until the host gives a signal. They restrain themselves in restaurants until everyone is served, then announce, "Bon appetit"!

Speaking of food, with cheese, cream, and croissants, "the diet is not what you'd call low carb," said Sara. Yet their cholesterol lowered, because after those rich meals, snacks or junk food were out. They also walked everywhere. Despite previous trips, there were a few surprises. They found the French fascinated with America's pop culture. English words like "*le weekend*" and "*le brunch*" prevailed. Steve was moved by memorials to WWII resistance and Jewish victims of the Nazis.

Another surprise was a synagogue, a former convent fallen into disrepair, which the city donated to the Jews. Sara didn't announce that she was Jewish, but having volunteered to lead language classes at the town's English library, she met a woman who asked her to High Holy Day services. And of course, "they prepared a festive after-service meal, to which I was generously invited," Sara said.

# **Special Fund Donations**

#### **CAMP & YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

#### IN HONOR OF:

\* Sara Geballe and Steve James' new grandson \* Sharona & Daniel Feller's new granddaughter **From:** *Karen Sloss* 

Michael Sommers, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah *From: The Witte Family* 

#### CARE COMMITTEE

#### IN APPRECIATION TO:

The Committee – Good wishes for the New Year **From:** *Phyllis & Shelly Mazur* 

The Committee – Thank you for all your caring **From:** *Nancy Lloyd* 

Lindsey & Jordan Genut, on the birth of their son Eli **From:** *The Witte Family* 

#### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY**

#### IN HONOR OF: Michael Sommers, on

Michael Sommers, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah **From:** *Patrick Crane* 

The Board and Rabbi Samuels, for their courage in passing a new resolution supporting interfaith weddings **From:** *The Witte Family* 

#### IN APPRECIATION TO:

Rabbi Samuels, Linda Blackwell and Andrea Shupack, for organizing the "Gift of Life" blood/bone marrow drives From: Ann Buzaitis & Dena Petersen

#### **DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:**

Marla Finkelstein and Wendy Holtzman, in memory of your father, Leonard Katz **From:** *Isaac & Samantha Konikoff* 

Diane Goldberg and family (Los Angeles, CA) – in memory of Jim Goldberg **From:** *Rhoda & Peter Samuels* 

#### COMMEMORATING YAHRZEIT OF:

Dora Graff From: Phyllis & Shelly Mazur

#### **CONTRIBUTION FROM:**

The Aaron and Marie Blackman Foundation

#### THE GENERAL FUND

#### IN APPRECIATION TO:

CBI – We enjoyed being part of your community this summer From: Jay & Judy Shupack

#### THE KESHER FUND

IN HONOR OF: Rabbi Samuels – Thank you for all your teaching From: Nancy Lloyd

#### New Synagogue Fund

#### IN APPRECIATION TO:

Warren Rosenthal, in thanks for his help in our move to Bellingham From: Grant, Carissa & Evelyn Guiley

Congregation Beth Israel, for High Holy Day services From: Arlene Ehrlich (Seattle) Anne Pollack & Bob Kneuzel (Ashland, OR) Joan & Ivor Sachs (Lynnwood)

#### IN HONOR OF:

Victoria Garfinkle – Happy Birthday! From: Gail Yamner (Clifton, NJ) \*Shlomis Waters \*My husband, Richard **From:** *Idalina Trank* 

Karen Sloss, on her retirement **From:** *The Witte Family* 

#### **DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:**

Debbie Aylott and family, in loving memory of Anne Brown

From: The Guenter-Schlesinger Family Rena Ziegler

Marla Finkelstein and Wendy Holtzman, in loving memory of their father, Leonard Katz

From: Miriam & Perry Davids Nancy & Don Davis Karen Sloss Larry & Melissa Stahlberg

Jeff, Roberta and Joel Jaffe and their families – in loving memory of their mother, Audrey Jaffe **From:** *Rena Ziegler* 

#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

\* My beloved son, Nathan Loober \* My beloved husband, Arnold Loober

From: Bernice Loober

CONTRIBUTION FROM: Richard Widerkher



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- 8 PM Torah Trope (NO Hebrew Class) class (A. Shupack)	NO Kesher classes @ The Colophon Café 4-5 PM Kuk Sool Won	25 17 Kislev 26 18 Kisl	TEDIEW (IVI. DUC	Torah Trope 5-		(Michal Retter)	10-30 AM Morring Yorga	<sup>slev</sup> 19 <sup>11</sup>	w/ StandWithUs NW Hebrew (M. Buckman)	"The Original Promise" 5-6:30 PM Conversational	ļ	Grp @ Ann Suloway's 4-5 PM Kuk Sool Won	2 PM - Sisterhood Book	<sup>lev</sup> 12 <sup>4</sup>		class (A. Shupack) 5-6:30 PM Conversational	ĕ	(Michal Retter) 4-5 PM Kuk Sool Won	Kesher Classes 10:30 AM Morning Yoga	4 10 AM - 2 PM 5 27 Cheshvan							SUNDAY MONDAY	CAIIO
s)	afé 2-4 PM CBI Knitting Grp	Kislev 27 19 Kislev		onal	-	2-4 PM CBI Knitting Grp	12 PM - Lunch Bunch	Kislev 20 12 Kislev	an)	onal 6:30PM Board of Directors	ner)		2-4 PM CBI Knitting Gro	Kislev <b>13</b> <sup>5</sup> Kislev	an)		ner) 2-4 PM CBI Knitting Grp		$\stackrel{\text{ELECTION DAY}}{\longrightarrow} VOTE! \longleftarrow$	Ivan 6 28 Cheshvan							TUESDAY	<b>I ISKAEL</b>
Martial Arts (K. Donner)	4-5 PM Kuk Sool Won	28 <sup>20</sup> Kislev			(NO Adult Ed Classes)		~~~~	21 <sup>13</sup> Kislev	Judaism 201 (Rabbi S.)	7-8:15 PM Adult Educ.	Martial Arts (K. Donner)	4-5 PM Kuk Sool Won		14 <sup>6 Kislev</sup>	Judaism 201 (Rabbi S.)	7-8:15 PM Adult Educ.	Martial Arts (K. Donner)	4-5 PM Kuk Sool Won		7 29 Cheshvan							WEDNESDAY	NOVEMBER
Aruch class (A. Scharff) 7-8 PM Kuk Sool Won Martial Arts (K. Donner)	6 PM Adult Ed: Shulchan	29 21 Kislev	THANKSGIVING			NO CIASSES	Office closed	22 <sup>14 Kislev</sup>	er)	7-8 PM Kuk Sool Won	Aruch class (A. Scharff)	6 PM Adult Ed: Shulchan		15 <sup>7 Kislev</sup> 16	er)	i	Wkshp:Bereavemnt Supp.	6-30-8-30 PM Care Comm	6 PM Adult Ed: Shulchan Aruch class (A. Scharff)	8 <sup>30</sup> Cheshvan	Martial Arts (K. Donner)	Workshop: Bikur Cholim	· 1	6 PM Adult Ed: Shulchan Aruch class (A. Scharff)		1 23 Cheshvan	THURSDAY	8102
Shabbat at Home Please welcome Shabbat at home w/ family&friends	NO Shabbat Service	30 22 Kislev å 3:58	w/ Ma'ayan Shir ensemble	7:30PM Shabbat Service				23 15 Kislev	6:15PM Shabbat Service	5:30PM Pre-Service Nosh				<b>8 Kislev</b> åå 4:09		7:30PM Shabbat Service				9 1 Kislev åå 4:18	Potluck dinner afterward	6:15 PM Family Service			ຳ ຄຳ 5:28	2 24 Cheshvan	FRIDAY	CHESHVAN-
					11:00 AM Tot Shabbat	IU:30AM Conservative-style	9:30 AM Torah Study	24 16 Kislev Vayishlach			class (A. Shupack)	1:15-2:30 PM Siddur/Svcs	9:30 AM Torah Study	~					9:30 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Service	10 2 Kislev	ciass (A. Silupack)	1:15		9:30 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Contemplative	Chaye Sarah	ລຸ 25 Cheshvan	SATURDAY	CHESHVAN-KISLEV 5779

<b>CONGREGATION BETH</b>		ISRAEL	DECEMBER	2018	<b>KISLEV-TEVET</b>	Т 5779
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						23 Kislev
						Vayeshev
						9:30 AM Torah Study
						10:30 AM Contemplative
						1:15-2:30 PM Siddur/Svcs
						class (A. Shupack)
2 24 Kislev	3 25 Kislev	4 26 Kislev	5 27 Kislev	<b>6</b> 28 Kislev	T 29 Kislev	<b>8</b> <sup>30</sup>
10 AM - 2 PM			(NO Martial Arts Class)		0.0	0.30 MI Tomb Ctude
Kesher Classes		2-4 PM CBI Knitting Gro		6 PM Aduit Ed: Shulchan		3.30 AM FUIRI Study
	4-5 PM Kuk Sool Won			Aruch class (A. Scharff)	6:15 PM Family Service	6:15 PM Family Service 1:15-2:30 PM Kol B' Yachad
	Martial Arts (K. Donner)	6:30PM Board of Directors	7-8:15 PM Adult Educ.	7-8 PM Kuk Sool Won	w/ 4th Grade class	class (A. Shupack)
	(NO Hebrew Class)		Judaism 201 (Rabbi S.)	Martial Arts (K. Donner)	Potluck dinner afterward	
HANUKKAH EVE	1" DAY of HANUKKAH	2 <sup>IIII</sup> DAY of HANUKKAH	3 <sup>rd</sup> DAY of HANUKKAH	4 <sup>th</sup> DAY of HANUKKAH	5 <sup>th</sup> DAY of HANUKKAH	6 <sup>th</sup> DAY of HANUKKAH
9 1 Tevet	<b>10</b> <sup>2</sup> Tevet	11 <sup>3 Tevet</sup>	<b>12</b> 4 Tevet	<b>13</b> 5 Tevet	14 6 Tevet	15
10 AM -12 PM Kesher			4-5 PM Kuk Sool Won		00 3:55	Vayigash 0:30 AM Torah Study
12 - 2 PM Hanukkah	4-5 PM Kuk Sool Won		Martial Arts (K. Donner)			10:30 AM Shabbat Service
Party in CBI Social Hall	Martial Arts (K. Donner)	2-4 PM CBI Knitting Grp	: 0	6 PM Adult Ed: Shulchan		1:15-2:30 PM Siddur/Svcs
	5-6:30 PM Conversational	-		Aruch class (A. Scharff)		class (A. Shupack)
	Hebrew (M. Buckman)		1	7-8 PM Kuk Sool Won	7:30PM Shabbat Service	
			JUUAISTII ZU I (KADDI S.)	Martial Arts (A. Donner)		
<b>16</b> 8 Tevet	<b>17</b> 9 Tevet	<b>18</b> 10 Tevet	<b>19</b> 11 Tevet	<b>20</b> 12 Tevet	21 <sup>13</sup> Tevet	22
10 AM - 2 BM		domin domin 1 01			60 3:58	Vayechi
1 (		riz PM - Lunch Bunch			-	9:30 AM Torah Study
		2-4 PM CBI Knitting Gro				10:30AM Conservative-style
	5-6:30 PM Conversational	D				11:00 AM Tot Shabbat
	Hebrew (M. Buckman)				5:30PM Pre-Service Nosh	
				Aruch class (A. Scharff)	6:15PM Shabbat Service	
23 15 Tevet	<b>24</b> <sup>16 Tevet</sup>	25 <sup>17 Tevet</sup> 26	18 Tevet	<b>27</b> <sup>19</sup> Tevet	<b>28</b> <sup>2(</sup>	<b>29</b> <sup>21</sup>
					ðð 4:U3	Shemot
2 PM - Sisterhood Bk Grp @ Ruth Ingberman's	NO Adult Ed Classes	NO Knittina Group				9:30 AM Torah Study
30 <sup>22 Tevet</sup> 31	<b>31</b> <sup>23 Tevet</sup>					
NO Kesher Classes	NO Adult Ed Classes			6 PM Adult Ed: Shulchan Arrich class / A. Scharff)	7:30PM Shabbat Service	
				AINCHI CIASS (A. OCHAIN)	w/ Ma'ayan Shir ensemble	

Elaine Cohn

#### Page 15

Yahrzeits

Observances follow the Hebrew calendar, unless the secular date is requested, and are read on the Shabbat prior to the observance date.

11/26

#### Friday, November 2

Max Mazonson	11/3
Irving Grossman	11/4
Margaret Hamburger	11/4
Hilda Meltzer	11/4
Sadie Neiburger Stolzoff	11/4
Henry (Hank) Gordon	11/5
Helen Skinner	11/5
Anna Mae Baker	11/6
Rose Weitzman Price	11/6
Bette Bikman	11/7
Myer Avraham Goldberg	11/7
Melvin Goldberger	11/7
Esther Mazur	11/7
Sam Moskowitz	11/7
Julian Lewis	11/9

# Friday, November 9 and Saturday, November 10

outaraay, no romson	
Marvin Siegel	11/12
Otto V. Vohl	11/12
Leah (Lilly) Kleiman	11/13
Lazar Emanuel	11/14
Herman Tabak	11/14
Irma Stone	11/15
Pam Champagne	11/16
John Paschetag	11/16
Lanny "Bip" Sokol	11/16
Zelda Turovitz	11/16
Henry David Weill	11/16

## Friday, November 16 and Saturday, November 17

Saturday, November 1	1
Hyman Bettman	11/17
Louis Groper	11/18
Margaret (Peggy) Korner	11/18
Irmgard (Korneck) McNulty	11/20
Sylvia Sulkin	11/20
Gladys Bloch	11/21
Louise Reese	11/22
Abraham Andrew Widerkehr	11/22
Otto Korneck	11/23

#### Friday, November 23

Frances (Fran) Mishler	11/24
Samuel M. Pravda	11/24
David Dubonsky	11/25
Bud Robinson	11/25
Abram Stolzoff	11/25

Rose Wick Eigen Jack Sheinkopf Sanford Thal Fred Damski Phyllis Heck Robin Hoffman	11/26 11/26 11/26 11/29 11/30 11/30
Friday, November 30 Joshua Louis Adelstein Bernard "Barry" Shapiro Shirley Adelstein Reuben Dechter Patricia Jantzen Friday, November 30	10/8 10/10 10/11 10/11 10/13
(No Shabbat service -	
read on November 23	3)
Paula Brown	12/1
John Douglas (Doug) Freeman Diane Lewis Bernard Shuster Frances Feiger Henry Frank Rachel Jaffe John Lester Nick Schira Ida Zderic Edith Jensen Elly Kraus Lucille Rest Irving Baron Hannah Glass David Mendelsohn Victor Geretz Carol Zagnoli	12/1 12/1 12/2 12/2 12/2 12/3 12/3 12/3
Friday, December 7	and
Saturday, December	
Joel Corman Burton Jay Nathan Loober Sarah Patinkin Marion Relin George Shaw Bioberd Placemfield	12/9 12/9 12/9 12/9 12/9 12/10

**Richard Bloomfield** 

Benjamin David Glazer

Ben Gordon

12/13

12/13

12/14

#### Friday, December 14 and Saturday, December 15

Saturday, December	15
Richard Kite	12/15
Barry Zell Mary Vermeda Paschetag	12/15
Alice Behrstock	12/16 12/17
Mona Helms	12/17
Lois Looney	12/17
Marvin Richmond	12/18
Monica Biggin	12/19
Cecile R. Gordon	12/19
Regina Tein George Garmo	12/19 12/20
Ivan Senzon	12/20
Joseph Soode	12/20
Haskell David	12/21
John J. Read	12/21
Max Spigelman	12/21
Friday, December 21	
Jerry Roberts	12/22
Pearl Turovitz	12/22
Morris M. Stone Joseph Kahan	12/23 12/24
Solomon Thal	12/24
Dorothy Mazel Spiro	12/26
Beatrice Weiss	12/26
Ruth Robinson	12/28
Nicole Russell	12/28
Ben Thal	12/28 12/28
Irwin Wapner	12/20
Friday, December 28	40/00
Aimee Lewis Arnold Loober	12/29 12/29
Jack Miller	12/29
Anna Winefield Fox	12/30
David Miller	12/30
Aaron Sanger	12/30
Felice Bourne	12/31
George Bikman	1/1
Barney Cohn Bette Levy	1/1 1/1
Rudolf Reitz	1/1
Jack Siegel	1/2
Rachel Siegfried	1/2
Ruth Jacobson	1/3
Dale Allison Harriman	1/4
Lynn Shuster	1/4



Information & bookings: call Dan Raas 676-1621

#### In Memoriam Zíchrono l'vrachah ~ May his memory be for a blessing

Our congregation offers heartfelt condolences to Marla Finkelstein and Wendy Holtzman on the loss of their father, **Leonard Katz**, who passed away on August 22, 2018 at his residence in Southern California. He was 97 years old.

# THE SHUL SHOFAR

**Congregation Beth Israel** 751 San Juan Boulevard Bellingham, WA 98229

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# **CELEBRATE HANUKKAH WITH BETH ISRAEL!**

#### 4th Night for Others Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 5:00 pm Beth Israel Social Hall

Consider a break from presents in your house and instead shop for a new toy or book for a child of any age. Then bring your unwrapped gift, plus your menorah (if possible), and dinner for your family to our 4th Night celebration on December 5. We will light candles as a community. Donated items go to the nonprofit PLLAY, which provides the women at Agape House a chance to "shop" for their children this holiday season.

#### Hanukkah Party Sunday, Dec. 9 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm Beth Israel Social Hall

Celebrate with yummy food, Hanukkah-themed crafts for kids, the annual Dreidel Spin-off, Kesher class performances, music and singing, and by lighting the Hanukkah candles together.





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