



CONGREGATION
BETH ISRAEL

MAY/JUNE 2020 IYYAR/SIVAN/TAMUZ 5780

THE SHUL SHOFAR

VOL. 24, NO. 5 * Congregation Beth Israel * Bellingham, WA 98229 * bethisraelbellingham.org * (360) 733-8890

Kesher Update: Community Makes Us Stronger



Transition has been the theme of Kesher this year. Soon after Nicky and Andrea began working as co-directors, the school had to move online. Most recently before the COVID-19 shutdown, Andrea had been working with teachers to refine their teaching skills, planning curriculum for next year, and creating marketing materials to include with our registration. Nicky had been

working with HR to create employee files, getting families properly enrolled with payment plans, and creating a new and easier-to-use Kesher online enrollment process with Melissa Schapiro. We quickly set aside the majority of

this work due to the shutdown, and we jumped into action to come up with a plan to continue providing our families with a Jewish Education.

After canceling classes for only one week, we are proud to say that Kesher has been successfully running online since March 22. Using Zoom as our online platform and a

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FROM THE RABBI

Resilience in a Time of Pandemic



I had the pleasure of guest-speaking, via Zoom, to a class of rabbinical students at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of

Religion (my alma mater) just before Pesach. The rabbi instructing the class asked me to talk about how I have adapted leading a community during the coronavirus pandemic. The first thing I told the students was how envious I was of them.

At no time in my five-year studies at HUC did any rabbi speak to my class about conducting services, classes, pastoral care, funerals, and Hebrew school during a stay-at-home order. Who would have thought to broach such a topic? But these students will now be prepared should they face a similar situation down the road.

Our community has changed. While we will one day come back together to worship and study, synagogue life may never be quite the same as it was. We will be more conscious of our personal space, sharing food, handling *siddurim*,

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*From the President...***Simple Pleasures**

There is always this funny lag between when these articles get written and when they arrive in your mailbox. It's about three weeks, as a rule. As I write, we are in the third week of Stay Home, Stay Healthy, aka lockdown. By the time you read this, we may be in a whole new situation. Hopefully, the end of lockdown will be in sight.

I wonder how long it will take for things to return to 'normal.' Will they ever be the same?

For some of us, life may go back to a mostly familiar normal, with the only change being a commitment to keeping further ahead on our toilet paper supply. For others, the answer is a resounding "No." Businesses may not be able to survive the effects of the lockdown. Jobs will have been lost. Even sadder, some of us will have gotten sick, or perhaps died. More insidiously, many may feel suspicious about being at the grocery store, hugging those they used to hug, being with others in casual ways that previously were of no concern.

For a lot of us, the answer is somewhere in the middle. I know the practice of medicine will be changed, and schools are seeing dramatic changes as well. Educational and medical folks have had to learn new tricks in record time – and perhaps there are ways in which some of these practices may improve our teaching and healthcare experiences as we move forward. It is Passover as I write this. Our Torah is replete with stories of people being thrown into times of great change and hardship and coming out stronger on the other side.

For Congregation Beth Israel, we have been on a similar learning curve, and I applaud Rabbi Samuels, Andrea Shupack, and Nicky Naiman as well as the teachers, committees, and congregants who figured out early how to keep things functioning by having virtual meetings and services. This has enabled us to keep a lot of our usual activities moving forward during this time of hunkering down. The silver lining is that we have had more families participating in some services and Keshet classes. We have found a way that reduces travel time to meetings, especially for our dear Skagit friends. We have formed a better network

for connecting with those among us who could use a little extra help – way to go, Care Committee and the Mitzvah Corps!

Things that we have not been able to do: Our Community Seder and Debbie Raas's memorial service, in person. The rest of the End of Life series. Work on the landscape project. Mitzvah Day. The Volunteer Appreciation Lunch. For our dear volunteers, the Board very much wanted to host an event to express our heartfelt thanks for ALL you do to keep CBI running and growing! We know this congregation would be nowhere without those who give time, effort, and care to the many functions that fall outside the work of our staff. Look for this next year, for sure! (Or as sure as we can be, in this uncertain time.)

I am confident we will be back to in-person events once the Stay Home, Stay Healthy order is lifted. There is something about being with people in person that cannot be replicated by an online meetings or services. But maybe we can find some ways to keep the better parts of the COVID-19 experience as we move forward. Maybe we can have some meetings by Zoom, and save time while reducing pollution. Perhaps we can incorporate a virtual component for services for those who can't be there in person. One of the things I have really enjoyed has been the Shabbat services by Zoom, seeing everyone in their homes with their candles. It reminds me of the Shabbat scene in "Fiddler on the Roof," lovely and poignant.

Life for many of us is usually very busy. We have been slowed down and may now be more mindful of simple pleasures that we have been taking for granted. For me, some of these pleasures are: the renewal of spirit from getting my hands in the garden; cooking with my daughters for Passover; time to talk with my husband; and seeing the faces of friends. What are the simple pleasures that you are now more aware of?

My hope is that we will all stay well and learn what we can from this challenging time, and use it to build a better future for ourselves, for CBI, and for the world.

— MIRIAM SCHWARTZ,
PRESIDENT

**CONGREGATION
BETH ISRAEL**

751 San Juan Boulevard
Bellingham, WA 98229

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Deadline for submission of all articles and calendar events for the July/August issue is JUNE 11. Call the office for more information.

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

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curriculum called Shalom Learning for third-seventh grades, we are able to meet the needs of most of our learners. We have had a lot of positive feedback from our families, who were thrilled that we were able to provide their children with a connection to their Jewish community so quickly.

While quality Jewish education is always a primary goal, in these challenging times, the best part of Keshet lately has been our ability to still gather together in community every week to sing, laugh, and learn. We have come to treasure this time to connect, as we know many families have. This COVID-19 reality has really brought into focus how our school is so much more than the sum of its parts. Thank you to the Keshet community for being there for each other, for showing up wholeheartedly, and for inviting us into your homes. We also want to thank our teachers for working patiently and tirelessly to learn the Zoom features, and for continuing to enhance what we can accomplish online.

We are trying new things, like our new weekly book club for third-sixth-grade students, where we introduce students to Jewish-related literature and inspire them to read. Students in grades 3-7 have been set up with a self-directed online Hebrew learning program, giving them the means to practice Hebrew on a daily basis, in addition to Hebrew learning in class on Sundays.

Now that all of these transitions have smoothed significantly, our focus is shifting to next year. Registration and curriculum information will be going out soon, along with our new, improved online form. Meetings with teachers to discuss next year's staffing are well under way. Of the many exciting changes ahead, we are brainstorming how to incorporate the positive aspects of online learning we've gained, to enhance our program when the building opens again. Our goal is to continue to bring more Judaica into each family's home,

making it more meaningful and lasting for entire families. The Keshet Advisory Group will be sending out a survey to parents to help us learn what has and hasn't worked while meeting on Zoom, and where the silver linings have been through this process. Your responses will help us turn these challenging times into blessings for our future school and the entire Beth Israel community, as we prepare to gather again in person, hopefully very soon.

Sincerely,

Your Keshet Co-directors:

Andrea Shupack and Nicky Naiman



Synagogue 411

Archives: Tim Baker, (360) 305-6945

Care: Harriet Markell, (916) 207-9381;
Else Sokol, (360) 393-9618

Membership: Ann Suloway,
(360) 296-8220, Sue Mahar
(360) 319-5314

Library, Scrip: Joan Wayne,
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Bar Mitzvah



Lenny Halpern will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on June 6, 2020. He is the son of David and Nancy Halpern of Anacortes and brother to Kelly and Anthony. Lenny is a seventh-grade student at Anacortes Middle School, where he plays on the varsity basketball team and enjoys math and science.

His true passion is playing as a striker on the North West United Boys 07 soccer team. Instead of individual

projects, the entire 2020-21 B'nei Mitzvah class is planning a mitzvah together this year. They are going to help reduce single-use plastic consumption.

We are hopeful that we will be able to share this celebration with you. If necessary, we will broadcast using an online platform for those who want to take part.

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE

Friday, June 5, 2020 at 5:30 pm

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

Saturday, June 6, 2020 at 10:00 am

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Thursday, May 28, 2020, 8:00 pm

Shavuot is one of the three major original festivals in the Jewish tradition. It celebrates the giving of the Torah on Sinai. In honor of this gift, it's customary to spend part of the holiday studying from our sacred texts. Developed by the sixteenth-century mystics in Tzfat, a *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* is an all-night study session. At Beth Israel, however, we'll start at 8:00 pm.

This year we will hold our study session through Zoom. You can learn from your friends in the comfort of your own home.

Last year's topics included: The influence of one single word: A deeper look into the Jewish view of abortion; How LGBTQ+ Jews have reinvented Jewish rituals; Stories and symbols; *The Book of Ruth* through the eyes of Yiddish poet Itzik Manger; Mi'Sinai - Musical origins to beloved melodies; Rock On: Rituals surrounding Jewish burial (and mourning); and Judaism and the environment.

If you are interested in leading a 10-minute Jewish teaching, please contact Rabbi Samuels.

Confirmation Shabbat Service

Friday, June 5, 2020, 5:30pm

Every year we honor those students in our community who "graduate" from Kesher with a Confirmation service. These outgoing sophomores have been studying social justice issues through a Jewish lens for the past two years. Some have even traveled to Washington, DC with Rabbi Samuels and lobbied their elected officials on specific issues that resonated deeply with them. Please consider joining us (probably through Zoom) to hear from our students: Orly Lindner, Willow Corey-Dubow, Olivia Probst, and Flora Booker. Mazel tov to each of them.

The Kvelling Corner

After three years of study through an online program with Boston University, Camille Keefe graduated on January 25, 2020 with a Masters in Social Work (MSW) degree. To quote Camille, "What a crazy three years it has been!" While working on her degree, she, husband Matthew, and daughter Ella became a foster family for baby Nancy, and Camille gave birth to son Conor, now one year old. She is

proud to report that on April 1 she was hired to work as a behavioral health clinician with Northwest Regional Council. *Yasher koach* to Camille and all her family!

Welcome to our new members:

- Margaret (Peggy) Hanley — Maple Falls
- Judith Zibbell — Bellingham

*From the Social Action Committee***Social Action News: Remembering Debbie Raas**

BY LINDA BLACKWELL

At present, I and so many of our congregants are grieving the loss of Debbie Raas. Debbie was the chair of the Social Action Committee for over a decade. She and Linda Hirsh set up the framework for Mitzvah Day, the Thanksgiving meal for DVSAS, and the many donations we collect throughout the year. Debbie's activism was inspiring. Her mission statement of our congregation's Tikkun Olam is still on the CBI website. She was empathic toward all those in need of housing, clothing and food. She was active in making and distributing "Sandwiches and Coffee on the Streets" many Thursdays on Railroad Avenue. Debbie served on the Interfaith Coalition Board of Directors, which further engaged CBI in Bellingham's social justice community. She also was on the Board of Whatcom Literacy Council, because ensuring literacy was one of her passions. Last fall, when I asked her for further suggestions for our committee, she was hoping to involve more volunteers for the Literacy Council. She was a fun, engaging, kind, and dedicated woman. I will miss her as a mentor and as a leader for social justice.

It is heartwarming to see the many acts of compassion and kindness that are happening in these turbulent times. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the Skagit Relay-for-Life on June 13 has been cancelled and may be a virtual event. Information on how to participate or contribute will be on the CBI website and eNews. As I write this article in early April, plans are to move the CBI blood drive to the High Holidays.

In May and June we will collect milk money for the Bellingham Food Bank. There is great need at the Bellingham Food Bank at this time. Shavuot is the time we celebrate the giving of the Torah and eat blintzes and cheesecake, which we associate with Israel, the land of milk and honey. We hope to collect money to provide a half-gallon of milk to each family visiting the Food Bank during June. Please make checks payable to Bellingham Food Bank and mail donations to the office. The Food Bank has reopened, but is only taking donations between 10:00 am-4:00 pm on weekdays. They are also in need of younger volunteers to distribute food. Sites to sign up to volunteer are WhatcomCOVID.com or whatcomvolunteer.org.

Many congregants are making cloth masks to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. These masks can be donated to Bellingham Makerspace, located with a drop-off at Bellis Fair



Embroidered panels by our CBI seamstresses for 25 Million Stitches

Mall. The Whatcom Mask Collective is accepting and organizing distribution of home-made masks to essential workers who are not in health care but still at high risk of exposure, such as those in caregiving or service industries. The collective is best connected by messaging through Facebook. However, donating your masks to friends and neighbors is also highly encouraged.

The CBI seamstresses recently embroidered panels for 25 Million Stitches, a public engagement art display in California that documents the overwhelming number of refugees and immigrants in the world today—i.e., 25 million. The project goal is to have each stitch represent a refugee and to engage as many people as possible to raise awareness of the global refugee crisis.



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Torah Mantle Donation

BY MELISSA SCHAPIRO

Two of Congregation Beth Israel's old, unused Torah mantles are making *aliyah*, traveling to Israel to take part in a special women's observance at the Western Wall.

They will be among hundreds (if not thousands) of mantles donated by synagogues around the world to Women of the Wall for a Rosh Hodesh parade into the Western Wall plaza — girls and women will carry the empty Torah mantles as a symbol of what women have been denied.

According to their website, WOW's goals include achieving "4 Ts" for women, 3 of which have been accomplished: the right for women to wrap *tallit*, to wear *tefillin*, and to hold *tefillot* — praying out loud and as a group at the Western Wall. The fourth T is still beyond our grasp: access to Torah scrolls for women. The male-dominated, ultra-Orthodox governing body at the Western Wall prohibits women from bringing in, holding, or reading from a Torah — under the guise of religion. It is widely known that there is no basis in Jewish law for this ruling; it is simply a means of control and manipulation.

The chair of the WOW board, Anat Hoffman (who also is the Executive Director of the Israel Religious Action Center, the legal advocacy arm of the Reform Movement in



Congregation Beth Israel's donation of two unused Torah mantles are held by attendees of the February 2020 meeting of the Sisterhood Book Group. From left are Nancy Auerbach, Ann Suloway, Melissa Schapiro, Nancy Allison, and Emily Weiner.

Israel), spoke at the URJ Biennial in December 2019 about the parade and request for mantle donations, which prompted Beth Israel's attendees to participate.

The parade had been set for *Rosh Hodesh* Sivan (Sunday, May 24, 2020), the month of Shavuot, the holiday when we celebrate the giving of the Torah. However, it has been delayed due to the world health crisis. We will be notified when a new date is set, and WOW will send photos from the parade.



Learn more about WOW's struggle and vision of a more tolerant, just, and pluralistic Israel: www.womenofthewall.org.il.

Taste of the Town Update

The Taste of the Town event has been moved to June 2021 in order to give everyone a chance to heal, and so our wonderful restaurant, winery, and brewery donors have time to recover economically.

It will be great for our 21+ people to all join together for a festive Hawaiian-themed evening of tasty food, drinks, and entertainment.

Look for upcoming details early in 2021. The Taste of the Town committee will continue to work on bringing together a delightful evening.

Shalom, Lynn Korner and Candace Kiersky

Annual Meeting Goes Virtual! And New Date!

In response to the COVID-19 situation, the Board of Directors has decided to postpone the Annual Meeting to **May 31, 2020**. We are planning a virtual meeting this year since we do not know what the rules will be for gathering in large groups at that time, and also because we may have congregants who would like to participate but will not feel comfortable being in the midst of a large group of people.

The Annual Meeting booklet will be presented digitally. Anyone who is not able to view it on an electronic device and wants a paper copy will be mailed one. Please contact Mary Somerville at the CBI office.

We have something special planned for this year's meeting – not a big thing, but something to put a smile on your faces! Watch for details in the weekly e-News in the weeks to come.

Letter from the Interfaith Coalition

Dear Friends:

The power of love and generosity cannot be quarantined. Our *Virtual Hope Auction* on Saturday, March 28, raised nearly \$200,000 and had 357 attendees! To say that we are overwhelmed and awed is to vastly understate our feelings. Thanks to all who donated items, helped spread the word about the event, participated, and continue to join us (from home) in this mission that is even more vital. We are deeply grateful.

Much is still happening even with the shelter-in-place order. Here are a few updates:

- Families in our transitional housing units are remaining safe and well cared for. A new program created in town through a multi-agency partnership will see food boxes being delivered soon from the Food Bank to our families.
- Our **Family Promise** program has built a new partnership with First Christian Church in Bellingham that will allow us to establish a temporary static site in the church facility where we can house more families during this crisis. We will update you more about that soon.
- **CAST** continues to serve food on the streets on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings. Volunteers have not only been faithfully (and safely!) running the program, but have also been providing fresh fruit, granola bars, and other packaged items that meet health department guidelines. Huge thanks to everyone!

I also want to let you know about a resource for your congregation. Hilltop Restaurant, on the Guide Meridian in Bellingham, is offering "*Comfort Food for Tuff Times*" to local congregations. In an effort to help seniors and others, they will provide food for congregations who wish to reach out to their shut-in members who might need help with meals. The congregation must coordinate their own effort to pick up the meals at the restaurant and deliver to the recipients. The meals do cost \$4.50 (that

price does already include tax) and includes entree, side, bread, salad, and cookie. Portions are generous. The congregation would be responsible for determining your meal recipients, volunteers to pick up and deliver the meals, and collecting the money and paying the restaurant. Some congregations already participating (Northlake Community Church, Christ the King, etc.) experienced members of the congregation donating money to cover the cost of many of the meals. I will attach more info, and if you are interested, please contact restaurant manager, Tom Kilpatrick, at (360) 920-1372 directly.

We will continue to update you on what is happening, and please feel free to contact us. Although we are all working remotely from home, we do check our phone messages daily and respond to emails. I am sending the regards and deep gratitude from everyone at Interfaith Coalition to you and your congregation members. We keep you in our hearts and prayers at this time and hope that you all remain safe and healthy.



Janie Pemble
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 Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County
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Faces in Our Community: Nancy and Pete Auerbach

BY LINDA HIRSH

The mid-twentieth century introduced the Cold War and the Cold War, prompted black-listing. Companies would not employ anyone suspected of engaging in Communist activities.

One of the accused included Nancy Auerbach's father, an editor for a Communist newspaper. While his "red" peers despaired, he stuck to his ideals, founding an advertising and public relations agency that served left-leaning nonprofits such as Planned Parenthood and the Los Angeles Children's Home Society.

"We grew up on the left," said Nancy, whose mother was a labor organizer.

The parents of both Nancy and her husband, Pete, were members of the Communist Party. Pete remembers the FBI "kicking on our door to talk to my parents, who told them to 'go speak to some real criminals'," he said. Both have continued to walk on the left. They have worked for civil rights and other humanitarian causes while protesting inequalities — creating a new, second-generation radical track.

In addition to their political backgrounds, similarities between the two abound. Nancy was born in Brooklyn in a neighborhood that included Yiddish-speaking Jews and Italians. Pete was born in the Bronx in a Jew-



Nancy and Pete Auerbach

ish/Irish neighborhood where youngsters played together "except for Easter and Christmas when I became a Christ-killer," he said, chuckling.

Nancy's parents moved to Los Angeles to join her mother's family when she started fourth grade. Pete started college in New York, but at age 19 moved to Los Angeles, where his brother lived. He graduated from California State University in LA, majoring in psychology and sociology. He became involved with the civil rights movement around 1960. Majoring in art, Nancy also graduated from California State University in LA. Although she says she does not have the compulsion to make art now, she continues to appreciate it.

Her living room, packed with paintings and sculpture, provides evidence. On the coffee table is a book chosen for discussion at the Sisterhood book club.

Fellow book club member Ann Suloway said: "Nancy is a regular at book group. She always has observations and stories to share with us."

If their ambiance becomes too intellectually stimulating, the Auerbachs can ease their eyes through the living room window, where Orcas Island perches on the bay.

"I wanted to live in a place with an ocean view," she said. "Now we

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PURIM CARNIVAL 2020



1. Darcy Donegan, Elana Buri, and Phil Buri. 2. Rabbi Samuels and Paul Blum. 3. Rich Simon and Marc Weinstein. 4. Evan and Aiden Shupack. 5. Tahlia Somers. 6. Lilah Blum.

NFTY Update

BY AMANDA ROBINS

As with almost every other aspect of day-to-day life, the BAY youth group's programming has changed during this time of coronavirus. The most recent regional gathering, Spring Kallah, was moved online, and kids from across the region participated in a 3-day virtual retreat. For those of you whose teens are wanting to stay engaged with NFTY

events or Camp Kalsman, the URJ has developed online programming. You can find more information at www.northwest.nfty.org. Locally, we have moved our youth group events online as well. Our board will be hosting virtual events in May and June to stay connected with Jewish friends locally. Parents can keep an eye out for emails from Amanda and

Daniel, and teens will receive messages about events via text or Snapchat. If you have any ideas for virtual engagement, we'd be happy to hear your suggestions!

Please email us with any questions, ideas or concerns at youthgroup@bethisraelbellingham.org

Nefesh Mountain — Thanks!

Thank you to everyone who helped with and attended the Nefesh Mountain concert February 24, 2020 at Congregation Beth Israel. More than 200 people, from both our congregation and the wider community, enjoyed a wonderful evening of music — one of our last events before having to temporarily close our building due to the current health crisis.

A special thanks to event sponsors Marv and Joan Wayne, and Rick and Leslie Adelstein (Louis Auto Glass) for helping to make it all happen.

Melissa Schapiro



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Larry Hildes – in loving memory of his wife Karen Weill

From: Sylvia Williams

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Larry's sister Audrey

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Dan Raas & Family – in loving memory of Debbie Raas

From: David Goldman &

Linda Blackwell

Stuart & Cinda Zemel

IN APPRECIATION TO:

Anne Buzaitis – thank you for chauffeuring me and Edwyna

From: Teresa Sommers

SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

Mark Luster – Get Well Wishes

From: Susan & Alan Kendal

COMMEMORATING THE YAHZEIT OF:

Jack Mazur, beloved father

From: Phyllis & Shelly Mazur

My beloved father, Nathan Lassman

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DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Dan Raas - in loving memory of his wife, Debbie

From: Martha Greenstone

COMMEMORATING THE YAHZEIT OF:

My brother, Martin S.

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From: Stephen Spigelman

KESHER FUND

IN APPRECIATION TO:

The Beth Israel community – Thank you for the Purim gift

From: Bonnie & Alan Stone

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Dan Raas - in loving memory of his wife, Debbie

From: Sara Geballe &

Steve James

Nancy Lloyd

Ann Suloway &

Tim Baker

NEW SYNAGOGUE FUND

IN APPRECIATION TO:

CBI and members – Thanks for the lovely and thoughtful Purim bag!

From: Phyllis & Shelly Mazur

Terri Weiner and Rob Lopresti – Thank you for taking such good care of Lena

From: Nancy Lloyd

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Larry Hildes – in loving memory of his wife Karen Weill

From: Steve & Janis Ban

Joan & Marv Wayne

Sylvia Williams

Dan Raas – in loving memory of his wife, Debbie

From: Leslie & Rick Adelstein

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Birthdays

MAY 2020

5/2 Richard Trank
 5/3 Lenny Halpern (13th)
 5/4 Avigail Ravitsky (6th)
 5/4 Bobbie Jaffe
 5/4 Sydney Wolfson (14th)
 5/5 Rick Adelstein
 5/5 Michael Braunstein
 5/5 Oleg Ravitsky
 5/5 Russell Sheinkopf
 5/6 Gary Adelstein
 5/8 Greg Schwartz
 5/10 Penny Schuman
 5/11 AJ Ingberman (20th)
 5/11 Oren Shilo (6th)
 5/12 Warren Cornwall
 5/12 Leah Grossman
 5/13 Joseph Anderson
 5/13 Tim Baker
 5/13 David Cohn
 5/13 Adam Greenberg (19th)
 5/13 Karen Weill
 5/16 Lyla Simmie Attar (3rd)
 5/16 Max Johnson (19th)
 5/16 Mark Luster
 5/16 Natalie Ravitsky (12th)
 5/17 Lindsey Genut
 5/17 Suzanne Fischel Kite
 5/17 Mel Velsher
 5/18 Kendra Bradford
 5/18 Adelle John
 5/19 Howard Fuller
 5/19 Kathy Grossman
 5/20 Helen Franklin
 5/20 John Siegfried
 5/20 Emily Weiner
 5/21 Meredith Attar
 5/21 Andrea James

5/21 Ann Suloway
 5/22 Danny Finkelstein
 5/22 Aviva Grossman (9th)
 5/23 Isaac Blum
 5/23 Serge Lindner
 5/23 Ezra Carter Price (15th)
 5/24 Harriet Fine
 5/24 Jeffrey Holtzman
 5/24 Stephen Martin
 5/24 Becki Van Glubt
 5/25 Alan Barney
 5/25 Rena Blauner
 5/26 Stephen Spigelman
 5/26 Cassandra Wolfson
 5/27 Haley Davis
 5/27 Fay Farkas
 5/29 Kim Moskowitz
 5/29 Aline Wanne
 5/30 Teddy Ingberman (17th)
 5/31 Hannah Rose
 5/31 Todd Witte

JUNE 2020

6/1 Steve Spitzer
 6/1 Caden Stoane (18th)
 6/3 Hans-Rudolf Guenter-Schlesinger
 6/3 Linda B. Hirsh
 6/4 Emily Bastow
 6/4 Sam Hunter (20th)
 6/4 Judith Osman
 6/4 Belle Shalom
 6/5 Samuel Comstock (10th)
 6/6 Stephanie Druckman
 6/7 Adrienne Champagne
 6/7 Frank Champagne
 6/7 McNeel Jantzen
 6/8 Chris Balton
 6/8 Janet Seltzer

6/8 Elon Shilo-Young (2nd)
 6/9 Jeffrey Grossman
 6/10 James Prickett
 6/11 Diane Garmo
 6/11 Marcy Probst
 6/11 Galit Shilo
 6/11 Aiden Shupack (8th)
 6/11 Adin Sokol (18th)
 6/12 Ron Walt
 6/12 Henry Zemel
 6/13 Leslie Shankman
 6/14 Halle Goldner
 6/14 Susan Kendal
 6/14 Willa Wren Levinson (6th)
 6/15 Diane Leigh
 6/16 Lee Shapiro
 6/16 Stuart Zemel
 6/17 Valerie Randolph
 6/17 Todd Shuster
 6/19 Rena Ziegler
 6/20 Phyllis Mazur
 6/21 Ruth Schneider
 6/21 Sheila Sondik
 6/22 Milo Levinson (11th)
 6/23 Leah Reitz (22nd)
 6/24 Jill Elkayam
 6/25 Mike Brennan
 6/25 Adam Regan
 6/25 Julia Schwartz (18th)
 6/26 Tracy Diller
 6/26 Claira Garretson (8th)
 6/26 Jane Hammerstrom
 6/26 Jeremiah Witte (13th)
 6/26 Nathaniel Witte (13th)
 6/27 Sid Wanne
 6/29 Lily Davis (9th)
 6/29 Nicole Samuels



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FROM THE RABBI*Continued from Page 1*

wearing communal kippot, and so many other facets of life at Beth Israel. Perhaps some of these concerns will slowly fade over time, but maybe they won't, and we will simply need to adapt to a new normal for Jewish living. I am not worried about any of this, because we are a resilient people. Not only have we needed to adapt in these past two months — thankfully we did quickly and with few hiccups — but throughout history, the Jewish people have shown tremendous resilience and adaptability when faced with overwhelming challenges. Today is no different. Collectively, we will get through this.

In her book *Road to Resilience*¹ Sherri Mandell shares her seven

spiritual steps of resilience: Chaos, community, choice, creativity, commemoration, consecration, celebration. It's hard imagining "celebration" as a step, but Mandell, an expert in resilience, teaches us that there can, indeed, be greater happiness after one has experienced pain. It might be hard for some of us to conceive of this notion now, but it's possible. Getting to this point is not only psychological, it's spiritual.

I am so grateful for our Beth Israel family, and I hope your spirits are also bolstered by the work we are doing in maintaining connections with everyone. Please continue to seek community. Show up virtually. Show up for your friends. Let others know if you need help. This is not a time to be shy or self-conscious about calling one another. Let's

continue to show our love and support to all who need it. We can and will persevere.

Our God and God of our ancestors, we pray that You look with kindness on us all, and particularly on those hurting the most, whether physically or emotionally. We look to You as a source of healing and ask You to imbue us with strength, courage, health, and resilience. Amen.

RABBI JOSHUA SAMUELS

¹ Mandell, Sherri Lederman. *Road to Resilience: from Chaos to Celebration*. The Toby Press, 2015.

NANCY AND PETE AUERBACH*Continued from Page 8*

know where the sun will set each season."

While it is almost certain that the two were present at the same protests in the sixties, they met the summer of 1964 at an Idlewood folk music festival. A month later they recognized each other at one of "those leftie organization events, and we clicked," Pete said.

They were married on June 25, 1966. They have a 47-year-old daughter, Rose, "who likes being single," Nancy said. Rose is an editor for Fandango, an online ticketing agency. Their son, Paul, 43, who is in a committed relationship, has a Ph.D. in molecular biology from Harvard School of Public Health.

Nancy, an only child, said a community of friends supported her in raising her two children. Living in Echo Park, she became involved in a

food co-op. The members then organized a preschool cooperative that met in a park.

Right after college, Pete worked in a foster home, then served as a probation officer, before becoming an elementary school teacher. He then gained credentials in special education, enabling him to work with severely disabled students in special education schools for the rest of his career. Nancy, a two-time breast cancer survivor, taught as a substitute. After her daughter was born, she completed early childhood and special education teaching credentials. Both Nancy and Pete were charter members of United Teachers Los Angeles.

When they moved to Bellingham in 2013, it was not unknown to them. One of Nancy's friends lived here. They had visited and seen that "the city has what we need," said Pete, "beauty, convenience and Village Books!"

They joined Congregation Beth Israel a year later. "It was strange for us," Nancy said, "because we went to secular Jewish schools. I had never joined a temple before. I wondered whether we would fit in."

The Auerbachs spoke to Rabbi Samuels, who made them feel at home. Eschewing most services except Yom Hashoah, they find plenty of chances to knit with the community. They enjoy the Purim party and concerts held at the shul. Nancy attends the sisterhood book group and the lunch bunch. They have anticipated the yearly community Seder.

"We've adjusted," she said. "CBI is enriching for us. It is a strong Jewish community."

Thank You Letter from the Interfaith Coalition

"Happy Passover to everyone at Congregation Beth Israel, and our prayers are that you are safe, healthy, and absorbing the blessings of sun and growing things! We are so grateful to everyone for participating in our recent Hope Auction. With much gratitude from all of us, and the children and adults you help to care for... the Interfaith Coalition."



Recipe for a Life

1 cup gratitude
 2 tablespoons humility
 ½ teaspoon pride
 5 cloves love, 2 crushed
 4 seeds forgiveness
 2 tall stalks strength
 1 tablespoon surrender
 2 sprigs awe
 3 sprigs wonder
 ½ cup hard knocks, melted
 1 cup fresh squeezed joy
 ½ cup pounded sorrow
 1 cup wisdom, sifted
 1 gleaming ray of light
 Two cubes compassion
 Dash of fleeting time
 Pinch of coarse suffering
 Zest of music
 Zest of prayer

Combine ingredients
 Stir with abandon
 Invite friends
 Sing

"Recipe for a Life" is © 2016 Alden Solovy and www.tobendlight.com. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Anniversaries

May 1	Richard & Idalina Trank	(# 16)
May 7	Miriam & Perry Davids	(# 3)
May 7	Steven & Victoria Garfinkle	(# 26)
May 9	John & Melissa Schapiro	(# 27)
May 11	Patrick Crane & Rick Peavy	(# 36)
May 12	Jeffrey & Wendy Holtzman	(# 35)
May 16	Larry & Melissa Stahlberg	(# 42)
May 18	Rick & Leslie Adelstein	(# 45)
May 24	Rick & Tracey Levine	(# 33)
May 24	Rebecca & Andrew Orloff	(# 22)
May 27	Lynne & Mark MacDonald	(# 42)
May 29	Darcie Donegan & Phil Buri	(# 27)
May 29	Rabbi Joshua & Nicole Samuels	(#15)
June 2	Jay & Donna Solomon	(# 56)
June 5	John Sternlicht & James Finley	(# 10)
June 9	Don Fenbert & Valerie Randolph	(# 30)
June 10	Frank & Adrienne Champagne	(# 8)
June 10	David Strich & Michelle Banks	(# 6)
June 12	Gaby & Victoria Mayers	(# 35)
June 14	Joel & Jessica Cohen	(#12)
June 16	Tammy & Daryl Dixon	(# 13)
June 18	David & Jill Elkayam	(# 42)
June 19	Miles Bryant & Sarah Bauman	(# 44)
June 19	David & Nancy Halpern	(# 16)
June 19	Ann Suloway & Tim Baker	(# 27)
June 23	Michelle & Joseph Anderson	(#19)
June 23	Meg Jacobson & Russell Pritchett	(# 46)
June 23	David & Rena Ziegler	(# 52)
June 25	Peter & Nancy Auerbach	(# 54)
June 25	Sarah & Todd Witte	(# 20)

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.



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Yahrzeits

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

Friday, May 1

Judy Aikens	5/3
ErnaFlora Haughawout Boothby	5/3
Etta Fine	5/3
Esther Siegel	5/3
Felicia Keller	5/4
Sergio Shwadsky	5/4
Naomi Krauzer Feinberg	5/5
Ray Jay	5/5
Benjamin Ostry	5/5
Elaine Greenberg	5/8
Evelyn Roberts	5/8

Friday, May 8

Frederick (Freddy) Kullman	5/9
Alan Raas	5/9
Lloyd Saxton	5/9
Saul S. Spiro	5/9
Victor Thal	5/9
Lucie Weis	5/9
Barbara Vaughan	5/10
Sally Warshay	5/11
Sydell Zemel	5/11
Pearl Albert	5/13
Margaret Horwitz	5/13
Louis Suloway	5/13
Arthur Markell	5/14
Rachel Damski	5/15
Esther Kahn	5/15

Friday, May 15

Myron Gordon	5/16
Irwin Suloway	5/16
Jack Kleinfeld	5/17
Florence Marcus	5/17
Jean Dement	5/19
Sam Eilenberg	5/19
Emanuel Jacobson	5/19
Rebecca Leavitt	5/19
Arnold Zolotrow	5/19
Maia Haykin	5/20
Barbara (McNulty) Higham	5/20
Evelyn Renfro	5/20
Rose Thal	5/20
Louis Adelstein	5/21

Rose Block	5/21
Rachel DeVries	5/21
Lloyd Relin	5/21
Nan Lopresti	5/22
William Stone	5/22

Friday, May 22

Audrey May King	5/25
Dottie Berelson	5/26
Oscar Evans	5/26
Noemi Ban	5/27
Ethel Sandford	5/27
Louise Hecht	5/29
Walter Miller	5/29

Friday, May 29

Annette Curtis	5/30
Henry W. Fenbert	5/30
Marvin Globberman	5/30
Samuel Emanuel	5/31
Denise Guren	5/31
Rose Millstein	5/31
David Archie Bauman	6/2
Irene Rosenfeld	6/2
Samuel Schwartz	6/2
Otto Furth	6/3
Reva Beck	6/4
Anne Frank	6/4
Donald Glazer	6/4
Rosalind Kantor	6/4
Laurence Sharfstein	6/4
Samuel Beck	6/5
Audrey Jaffe	6/5
Belle Kaplan Shapiro	6/5

Friday, June 5

Annette Curtis	5/30
Henry W. Fenbert	5/30
Marvin Globberman	5/30
Samuel Emanuel	5/31
Denise Guren	5/31
Rose Millstein	5/31
David Archie Bauman	6/2
Irene Rosenfeld	6/2
Samuel Schwartz	6/2

Otto Furth	6/3
Reva Beck	6/4
Anne Frank	6/4
Donald Glazer	6/4
Rosalind Kantor	6/4
Laurence Sharfstein	6/4
Samuel Beck	6/5
Audrey Jaffe	6/5
Belle Kaplan Shapiro	6/5

Friday, June 12

William Robinson	6/12
Emma (Weigt) Korneck	6/13
Bill Lewis	6/13
Harold Rosenberg	6/15
Marcella Schapiro	6/15
Irving Edward Shapiro	6/17
Edith Corman	6/18

Friday, June 20

William Robinson	6/12
Rasela Catz	6/20
Elaine Meadows	6/20
Ann Dechter	6/21
Sol Harris Lewis	6/21
Arthur Thal	6/21
Lawrence Witte	6/21
Libby Witte	6/21
Sandy York	6/21
Adrienne Benson	6/22
Richard Morrison	6/22
David Horwitz	6/23
Ida Ostry	6/24
Chaim (Carol) Zacharia	6/25
Harold "Bud" Blank	6/26
Lillian Feldman	6/26
Benjamin Heller	6/26
Michael Kendal	6/26

Friday, June 26

Chase Jimmy	6/27
Faye Goldberg-Miller	6/28
Eva Rosenberg Kiersky	6/28
Nathan Lassman	6/28
Morris R. Hecht	6/29
Doris Zemel	6/29
Marcie Janacek	6/30
Lillian Markell	6/30
Mark Sanders	6/30
Stanley Simon	6/30
Elaine Lev Beller	7/1
Alice Lebanksy	7/1
Jacob Schlitt	7/1
Sue Groper	7/2
Naftalie Mottel Jaffe	7/2
Leah Tabak	7/2
Rachel Emanuel	7/3
Cora Quiggle	7/3

In Memoriam

Zichronam l'vrachah ~ May their memories be for a blessing

Our congregation mourns the passing of two members of the Beth Israel family and offers heartfelt condolences to their loved ones:

Karen Weill, who passed away on March 10, 2020 following a long illness. She is survived by her husband, Larry Hildes, her brother, Ron Weill, and an extended family.

Debbie Raas, who passed away on March 27, 2020 which was her seventy-first birthday. She is survived by her husband, Dan Raas; their children Adam Raas and Beth (Allanah) Raas-Bergquist, and granddaughter Svea Raas-Bergquist.

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

MAY 2020

IYAR - SIVAN 5780

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		At time of publication, all services, meetings, and Kesher classes were set to be held virtually via Zoom. If in-person gatherings become OK again, we'll post updated info on our website.			1 7 Iyar <small>8:08</small> 5:30 PM Family Shabbat and Teacher Appreciation	2 8 Iyar <i>Achare-Kedoshim</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Contemplative Service w/ Andrea Shupack
3 9 Iyar 10 AM - 12:30 PM Kesher Classes Virtual Mitzvah Day	4 10 Iyar	5 11 Iyar	6 12 Iyar	7 13 Iyar	8 14 Iyar <small>8:18</small> 5:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Rabbi & Andrea	9 15 Iyar <i>Emor</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study
10 16 Iyar NO Kesher Classes MOTHERS DAY	11 17 Iyar	12 18 Iyar 6:30PM Board of Directors	13 19 Iyar 7- 8:30 PM Modern Yiddish Lit. in Translation (D. Schlitt)	14 20 Iyar	15 21 Iyar <small>8:28</small> 5:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Rabbi & Andrea	16 22 Iyar <i>Behar-Bechukotai</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study
17 23 Iyar 10 AM - 12:30 PM Kesher Classes	18 24 Iyar	19 24 Iyar	20 26 Iyar 7- 8:30 PM Modern Yiddish Lit. in Translation (D. Schlitt)	21 27 Iyar	22 28 Iyar <small>8:37</small> 5:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Rabbi & Andrea	23 29 Iyar <i>Bamidbar</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study 11:00 AM Tot Shabbat led by Rabbi Samuels and Andrea Shupack
24 1 Sivan NO Kesher Classes	25 2 Sivan	26 3 Sivan	27 4 Sivan 7- 8:30 PM Modern Yiddish Lit. in Translation (D. Schlitt)	28 5 Sivan	29 6 Sivan <small>8:44</small> - SHAVUOT - 5:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Rabbi & Andrea	30 7 Sivan <i>Megillat Ruth</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study
31 8 Sivan 10 AM - 12:30 PM Kesher Classes 5 - 7 PM Annual CBI Membership Meeting	MEMORIAL DAY			8 PM Tikkun Leil Shavuot with Rabbi Samuels		

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

JUNE 2020

SIVAN - TAMMUZ 5780

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
At time of publication, all services & meetings were set to be held virtually via Zoom. If in-person gatherings become OK again, we'll post updated info on our website.	1 9 Sivan	2 10 Sivan	3 11 Sivan	4 12 Sivan	5 13 Sivan 8:51	6 14 Sivan <i>Naso</i> 10:00 AM Lenny Halpern Bar Mitzvah
7 15 Sivan	8 16 Sivan	9 17 Sivan 6:30PM Board of Directors	10 18 Sivan	11 19 Sivan	12 20 Sivan 8:55 5:30 PM Family Shabbat and Confirmation service - featuring Lenny Halpern	13 21 Sivan <i>Behalotecha</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study
14 22 Sivan	15 23 Sivan	16 24 Sivan	17 25 Sivan	18 26 Sivan	19 27 Sivan 8:58 5:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Rabbi & Andrea	20 28 Sivan <i>Shelach</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study <i>1st Day of Summer</i>
21 29 Sivan	22 30 Sivan	23 1 Tammuz	24 2 Tammuz	25 3 Tammuz	26 4 Tammuz 8:59 5:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Rabbi & Andrea	27 5 Tammuz <i>Korach</i> 9:30 AM Torah Study 11:00 AM Tot Shabbat
28 6 Tammuz	29 7 Tammuz	30 8 Tammuz				