

## Musician in Residence

# Noah Aronson in Concert June 11



BY MELISSA SCHAPIRO  
CBI PROGRAMMING & COMMUNICATIONS

### Inspiring. Creative. Soulful.

Singer and songwriter Noah Aronson will bring his unique sound to Bellingham as musician-in-residence the weekend of June 10-12, 2022. The highlight of the weekend — his concert the evening of Saturday, June 11, 2022 — will be open to the whole community.

"Noah is one of the most exciting and accomplished musicians in the Jewish world right now," said CBI's Rabbi Joshua Samuels. "Each time I've had an opportunity to see him live, I've gone and loved every minute. He's a wonderful and engaging performer who has a deep knowledge

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FROM THE RABBI

## Changing Language for Good



In last year's May/June issue of the *Shul Shofar*, I included a poem written by Merle Feld about the Sinai experience, titled, "We all Stood

Together." As I mentioned, the poem has become a sort of anthem of the Jewish feminist movement over the past few decades as it shares the point of view of how a woman felt outside the normative religious and communal experience that we read about year in and year out. As we all know, the theophany at Sinai, which we'll be marking during Shavuot, was an experience meant for every Jew. And while we understand this, the reality today is that not all Jews feel entirely comfortable in the communities in which they find themselves. This may not be the case at CBI, but we can always improve the ways we show others that we see them and want them to participate in the life of our synagogue.

One such group that may feel outside the Jewish community are our non-binary friends. And one of the main reasons for this is because of language. Hebrew is a gendered

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*From the President...*

## Annual Meeting 2022



Spring is in the air, which means tulips, Passover, and as it is written, the Congregation Beth Israel Annual meeting. Our

Bylaws state that we hold a member meeting every year, and this year we are scheduled to meet in the afternoon of May 22. We will be following our Covid protocols and are planning on an in-person meeting. This is a great time to connect and catch up. It's also a time to learn about committee activities, and maybe find ways that you can get more involved. Find connections and make new friends. We have been apart too long.

And speaking of annual meetings, have you heard the one about Yitzi at the annual meeting?

He's having a great time seeing everyone and enjoying refreshments. but after a while he realizes he has lost his wallet. He begins to panic over potentially losing money. Yitzi's not a shy guy, and he is among his Jewish congregation friends. So he stands up on a chair and says, "Excuse me! Excuse me! I lost my wallet with \$500 in it. I'll give \$50 to whoever finds it!"

From the back of the room comes a voice, "I'll give \$75!"

Hopefully no one will be standing on chairs at our meeting, but there will be opportunities to learn about the activities that have taken place over the past year. A couple of items to look forward to are some changes we hope to make to the policies

regarding "Members in Good Standing." Currently, our bylaws do not specifically include any discussion about a member's behavior. We have a Code of Ethics for our staff and our Board, but nothing directly connected to being a member. In this day and age, it is really important to be clear about what we will tolerate and what is not acceptable. We are guided by the principle of *Kavod* (honor and respect) and should adhere to the policies and values of our congregation.

In addition, we plan to have a grievance process in place. If someone feels another member is not meeting the membership Code of Ethics, there will be an appointed committee to deal with the conflict in a confidential and structured way.

These are not very pleasant scenarios to think about, but I feel both the Board and Governance Committee have done a great job drafting up these policies. We will present the policies and get some feedback from the community before the Board approves them. I believe they will strengthen our community. We take pride in our inclusivity and we all want to treat each other with respect.

Please keep an eye out for more details about the annual meeting as we get closer to the date. I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as can make it.

All the best

Joshua Greenberg  
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.

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*From the Kesher Center for Jewish Learning*

# Looking to the Future and Exciting News for Next Year!

As the school year comes to another end in just a few weeks, it's a time when we assess how the year went, and look to how we can do better and what our goals will be for the future. We also want to hear from you — our students, parents, teachers, and whole CBI community. As we continue to grow and learn, what Jewish legacies are most important to you to uphold and pass down to the next generation?

The past two years have certainly been more challenging as we switched to remote teaching on Zoom, opened classes in the building, returned to Zoom again, and then finally back to the building again. But perhaps because of these challenges, we are closer, stronger, and more dedicated to this school and Jewish education than ever. Pictures can often tell more than words, so here are a couple

from our recent events, Purim Day at Kesher and Family Service by the second/third grade.

We have very exciting news! After months of hard work from the Kesher Directors, the Kesher Advisory Group members, in particular co-chairs Katie Edelstein and Rita Spitzer, and incredible writing and editing support from Emily Weiner, we applied for and were awarded two grants by the Samis Foundation. We received a large grant to help fund part of a teen Israel learning experience, which will culminate in a trip to Israel in the summer of 2024. We also received a grant to bring Moving Tradition's long-established curriculum for B'nei Mitzvah Family Education, which we will be incorporating into our B'nei Mitzvah program starting this fall. We are so excited about these amazing opportunities and will provide more information about them in the coming months. A huge



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Purim day



Family service

## Synagogue 411

### Archives:

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## B'Mitzvah



**Aniel Dazze Wells-Langley** will be called to the Torah as a B'Mitzvah on May 7, 2022. Ani is a seventh grader at Shuksan Middle School. They are a dedicated visual artist working in digital and traditional media, an avid creator of dark fantasy stories, a baker and decorator of delicious cakes, and begrudgingly a viola player (though they

very much enjoy listening to many genres of music). Ani treasures the time they spend at Camp Kalsman every summer and with family on the East Coast. They are the child of Litav Langley and Lindsay Wells, eldest sibling of

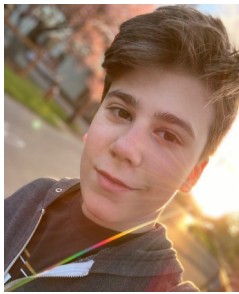
Sivan and Orilev, and a preferred human to the family's cats, Stella and Cassidy. Ani is interested in caring for the planet, reproductive justice, and LGBTQ+ rights. With their B'nei Mitzvah class they are supporting the Trevor Project, an organization providing crisis services, education, and advocacy for LGBTQ+ young people.

The Wells-Langley family invites you to join them in celebrating this *Simcha*:

**SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE**  
Friday, May 6, 2022 at 6:15 pm

**SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE**  
Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 10:00 am

## Bar Mitzvah



**Milo Avery Levinson** will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on June 25, 2022. He is the son of Ken and Regan Levinson and the brother of Elliot and Willa. Milo is a seventh grader at Shuksan Middle School, where he is involved in ASB and supporting the LGBTQ community. In his free time, Milo

loves riding horses, sailing, playing with his two dogs, Lu and Jesse, and anything to do with music.

The Levinsons invite you to join them in celebrating this *Simcha*:

**SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE**  
Friday, June 24, 2022 at 7:30 pm

**SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE**  
Saturday, June 25, 2022 at 10:00 am

## Anniversaries

May 1	Richard & Idalina Trank	(# 18)	June 8	Richard & Bonnie Cavell	(# 25)
May 5	Jeff & Rochelle LaPlante	(# 10)	June 9	Don Fenbert & Valerie Randolph	(# 32)
May 7	Steven & Victoria Garfinkle	(# 28)	June 10	David Strich & Michelle Banks	(# 8)
May 9	John & Melissa Schapiro	(# 29)	June 12	Andy Kaplowitz & Lore Filgueira	(# 2)
May 11	Patrick Crane & Rick Peavy	(# 38)	June 12	Gaby & Victoria Mayers	(# 37)
May 12	Jeffrey & Wendy Holtzman	(# 37)	June 14	Joel & Jessica Cohen	(#14)
May 16	Larry & Melissa Stahlberg	(# 44)	June 16	Tammy & Daryl Dixon	(# 15)
May 18	Rick & Leslie Adelstein	(# 47)	June 16	Andy & Neah Ingram-Monteiro	(# 4)
May 24	Rick & Tracey Levine	(# 35)	June 18	David & Jill Elkayam	(# 44)
May 24	Rebecca & Andrew Orloff	(# 24)	June 19	Miles Bryant & Sarah Bauman	(# 46)
May 27	Lynne & Mark MacDonald	(# 44)	June 19	Erin & Steven Cohen	(# 34)
May 28	David & Ellen Smith	(# 45)	June 19	David & Nancy Halpern	(# 18)
May 29	Darcie Donegan & Phil Buri	(# 29)	June 19	Ann Suloway & Tim Baker	(# 29)
May 29	Rabbi Joshua & Nicole Samuels	(# 17)	June 23	Meg Jacobson & Russell Pritchett	(# 48)
June 2	Jay & Donna Solomon	(# 58)	June 23	David & Rena Ziegler	(# 54)
June 5	John Sternlicht & James Finley	(# 12)	June 25	Peter & Nancy Auerbach	(# 56)

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

*From the Social Action Committee*

# Choose Hope

BY LINDA BLACKWELL

As I write this article, for the first time in three years, we are planning our Mitzvah Day on April 24. I want to thank the many volunteers who worked to make this day happen. The project leaders were: Peggy Hanley, Jerome Rosen, Minda Rae Amiran, Andrea Shupack, Joan Wayne, Corrine Gimbel-Levine, Howard Sharfstein, Sarah Witte, Kristin Sykes-David, Cora Boothby, Victoria Mayers, David Goldman, and the Donner family. I am very grateful for speakers Harry Werber from Ridwell and Michael Feerer from the Whatcom Million Trees project.

The congregants of CBI are dedicated to healing our world. Hope, and its opposite, despair, have been increasingly in the news about climate change, war crimes, and The Voting Rights Act. It is easy to burn out or freeze into inaction, especially if we read the news on social media. To quote David Arrow, Ph.D., "Two things are clear. First, we are living in an age that tests our ability to sustain hope. Second, if despair dominates hope, we will be unable to meet the challenges that beset us." His book *Choosing Hope, The Heritage of Judaism* recognizes the long history of the Jewish people to persevere and to overcome despair.

*Tikkun Olam* encourages us to pursue social justice. However, it is hard to practice that ideal in the reality of climate grief, mass shootings, and antisemitic attacks. Many rabbis and therapists suggest we take small steps, share our grief, and seek support of our spiritual community. Working the projects of Mitzvah Day confirms our need for action. We channel our despair by finding gratitude for what we have and sharing it with others. Donating first-aid kits to the Jewish community of Nasenyi, Uganda or helping them develop a water bore-well

allows us to maintain hope and conviction for the long haul.

We spread kindness packing up hygiene kits for Northwest Youth Services, and we are not isolated in inaction.

Planting seedlings with the Whatcom Million Trees project helps us not to be paralyzed by fear of climate change. We can affirm there has been progress in the last fifteen years in environmental and racial justice despite the serious remaining challenges.

In "A Meditation on Hope," Elie Wiesel reflected, "Created in the imaged of [God] who has no image, it is incumbent on our contemporaries to invoke and create hope where there is none. For just as only human beings can push me to despair, only they can help me vanquish it and call it hope (Inaugural May Smith Lecture on Post-Holocaust Christian/Jewish Dialogue, Florida Atlantic University, March 10, 2003).

In May and June we will collect milk money for the Bellingham Food Bank. 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 who visits the Food Bank during June. Please make checks payable to Bellingham Food Bank, donate directly on their website, or mail earmarked donations to the synagogue.

The Social Action Committee would like to help resettle refugees, but we are in need of volunteers for this project. The committee is small and could use your help. We have a *chavurah* that meets to support ourselves as we make environment-friendly changes in our homes and community. If you are interested, please contact Linda Blackwell.

*Vermeda M. Fred, MFT, MFA*



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## Cantor's Corner

# Why Do We Count?

BY ANDREA SHUPACK

Time is a strange thing. An event that happened a decade ago can feel like another lifetime, yet simultaneously feel like it happened yesterday. Especially during the pandemic, when months and years blend together. This is the season of counting. For 49 days, from the second night of Passover until Shavuot, we are commanded to count. What is the purpose of this ritual, and how do we imbue it with meaning today? As with many Jewish holidays, the counting started from agricultural needs. In this case, it was the barley harvest. Farmers had to count 49 days so they would know when to celebrate Shavuot, despite being out in the fields. The *omer* period was also the critical time to ensure a good harvest. Our liturgy reflects this as well, as we just changed our prayer in the *G'vurot*, the second blessing of the *Amidah* from a prayer for rain to a prayer for dew. We can imagine the 49 days of counting and making offerings of grain to God as a continual prayer for a good harvest. Without dew in Israel there would be no food.

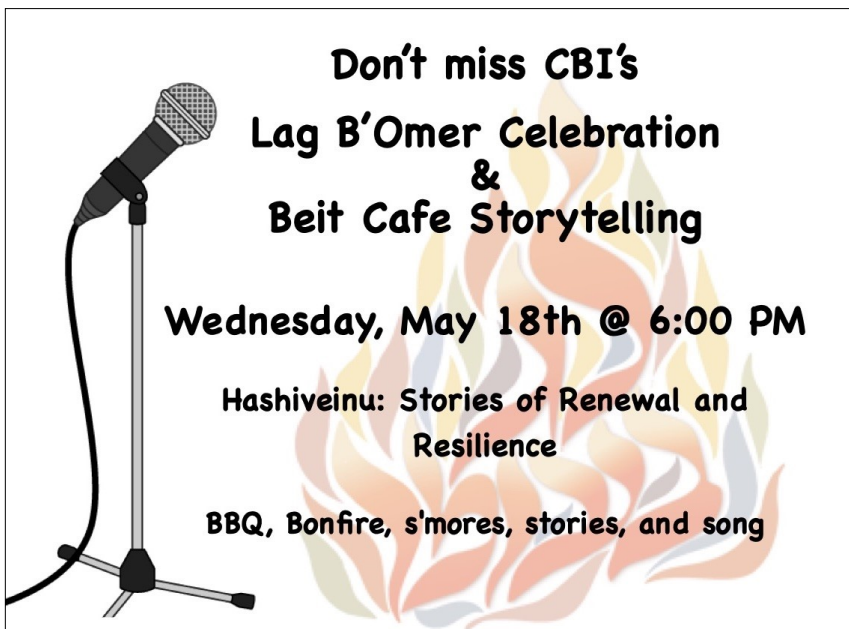
The Torah's instruction is simply to count each day for seven complete weeks. As Jews do with every word of Torah, we turn it and turn it to make sense of it and learn how it can guide and elevate our lives. The Rabbis, (as they did with just about every holiday) expanded the earth-based practice to add a spiritual level. For the Rabbis counting became less about harvest and more the journey from slavery to God's revelation at Sinai, which we celebrate on Shavuot. Kabbalists interpreted the as-

pects of sevens as very significant and created a process of spiritual growth and personal refinement.

A ritual is using purposeful practices to bring meaning to a moment in time. The potential for a ritual to transform us depends on how much connection we have to the process. I imagine that most people who make sure to count every one of the 49 days of the *omer* do not have memorable experiences every night. We "go through the motions" to some extent in anything we do repetitively. Ritual and prayer are not wasted or pointless if we are simply going through the motions. Ritual is a tool to help us preserve the fleeting moments and slow life down a little by taking time to mark them, to acknowledge and process their arrival and their passing. It's why we have birthdays, complete with a song and candle ritual. But there is a risk of rituals becoming rote. There are many resources to alleviate this pitfall while counting the *omer*. Groups form to count together. Many books have been written on the spiritual aspects of counting, playing cards and apps for each day can be downloaded, and much more. Even though we are over two weeks into the *omer*, you have plenty of time to try it. I encourage you to try it for one week. If you'd like any materials, reach out! I have lots to share.

Whether you connect more with the land and seasons, gratitude for food and plenty, with personal spiritual growth, our journey as a peoplehood, or something else, counting time can be impactful. We can use this period of

time to pause and reflect. **By counting, we are reminded to cherish our days, to make the most of each moment we have.** If we only counted down in anticipation of the holiday's arrival, we might not notice the journey, focused on where we are going, forgetting to experience where we are. We might be so ready to skip traveling in the desert and jump right to Mount Sinai, our moment of revelation, that we miss the point of our travels. Instead, we count to 49. For each day, we are richer with wisdom, each day we are changed in some small way, each day we have the potential to witness miracles and to find awe in the day-to-day of living. We count up, as we climb up and gaze out from the new vantage point we have gained.



**Don't miss CBI's  
Lag B'Omer Celebration  
&  
Beit Cafe Storytelling**

**Wednesday, May 18th @ 6:00 PM**

**Hashiveinu: Stories of Renewal and  
Resilience**

**BBQ, Bonfire, s'mores, stories, and song**



## MUSICIAN IN RESIDENCE

*Continued from Page 1*

of Jewish liturgy, too. When I found out there was a possibility he'd be able to come to Bellingham, I knew we had to make it happen. CBI will be talking about him for months after his visit. I just know it."

Aronson will join the congregation as part of regular Friday evening and Shabbat morning services. He will also present a Saturday afternoon workshop, which he described as, "Take a musical deep dive into the prayer book and explore the Left Side of the Page, as composer Noah Aronson shares insights and reflections into some of the prayers he's set to music using our *Mishkan Tefilah* Siddur." And he'll spend time teaching and leading song sessions at Keshet on Sunday morning, a special treat for the last day of the school year.

Aronson, who earned his degree in jazz composition and piano from Berklee College of Music, has released five full-length albums and songbooks: *Am I Awake?*; *Left Side of the Page*; and *More Love* feature his five-member Israeli Berklee alumni band. *I Want To Sing Your Song* is a self-produced project created entirely in his home studio. His latest album is *M.O.V.E.* He is currently in production with Transcontinental Music Publications to create an anthology of his work.

Aronson's music is sung in progressive communities and summer camps worldwide and has been included as part of the curricula in all the major progressive cantorial schools in the U.S.



## TICKETS FOR THE NOAH ARONSON CONCERT

Tickets for the Saturday, June 11, 2022 evening concert will be available the first week of May, at [bethisraelbellingham.org](http://bethisraelbellingham.org)

- \$20 CBI member
- \$30 others
- \$40 Keshet Family special discount
- \$15 students

CBI's cantorial soloist Andrea Shupack had the opportunity to learn from and spend time with Noah Aronson over a four-day intensive workshop he taught at Hebrew Union College for rabbinical and cantorial students.

Shupack says, "Noah is such a talented musician and also a genuine mensch. He creates such soulful and spiritual music because he is a deeply soulful and spiritual person. Noah has inspired and helped me in my songwriting endeavors, and his music often helps me find spiritual connection. I am thrilled for our CBI community to learn with Noah during his classes, and to experience his music in concert, and his spiritual leadership on the *bima* during Shabbat services. We are all in for a treat and a moving experience."

In 2013, Aronson led more than 5,000 people in evening prayer at the URJ Biennial in San Diego. In 2015, he partnered with Berman House, the distinguished publishers of Jewish educational materials, to create an innovative, music-based curriculum entitled "Hebrew in Harmony." His educational and liturgical music has been featured on several compilations for the PJ Library series and multiple Transcontinental Music Publications' projects including their *Ruach Series*, *Shabbat Anthologies*, *Mishkan HaNefesh Project*, and *Chazak v'Emetz Social Justice* release.

During 2017 and 2018, Aronson released four music videos, including his acclaimed "Goofy Guf" children's movement song, and he created a unique Passover Seder Musical Maggid that's been incorporated into countless family seders. Additionally, in 2018, he created The Chai Project where he partnered with 18 communities across the United States to compose 18 new songs for 2018. Each song was created in collaboration with the leadership of each congregation to reflect both their uniqueness as well as their connection to the broader Jewish community.

In 2019, Aronson created The Movement Movement, in which he composes electronic dance music for prayer and facilitates intentional movement practices. Noah partners with different organizations to create unique movement ex-

*Continued on Page 13*

# Faces in Our Community: Debbie and Steve Adelstein

BY LINDA HIRSH

*One can deem Debbie Adelstein a pioneer, as a Jew and as a woman. She became the first openly Jewish public service official in Whatcom County when she was elected County Auditor, serving from 2012 to 2020, in a county which has 162 churches and two synagogues.*

Debbie broke the glass ceiling, stepping into the role of first woman president of Congregation Beth Israel, from 1988 to 1990. And she started this very newsletter in the mid-seventies, “typing the content on stencils before taking them to the printer,” this self-starter said.

Steve, her husband of 50 years, is proud of her. “Debbie is smart, organized, thoughtful, caring and driven to be the best. These leadership qualities are the foundation of her successes, so it was not surprising when she achieved those firsts,” he said.

One certainly can call Steve, a Bellingham native and second-generation synagogue member, a leader, too. The road to his accomplishments started like this: When he was in eighth grade, a cousin, a Seattle lawyer, stayed at his home when reporting for the Air National Guard. “He would regale us with



Debbie and Steve Adelstein

stories of his court trials and of his helping those who needed it,” Steve said. “I was fascinated and said to myself, ‘I want to do that!’”

Before retiring, he enlarged his own law firm in Bellingham to nine lawyers. Like Debbie, he served as CBI president and taught CBI religious school from 1977 to 1980. When it comes to supporting the synagogue as well as town and county, these two folks are tireless.

In addition, they offer loyal friendship. “Debbie and Steve are the kind of friends who still associate with you even when your behavior has been a gross embarrassment,” said Corrine Gimbel-Levine, who has long been close to the couple.

Debbie, a Tukwila, WA native, met Steve in the romantic ambiance of a Western Washington University biology class. Both political science majors, they dated all through college. When Debbie graduated in 1970, she settled into a Seattle law firm as a legal secretary. “In those days they didn’t have a program of study for that. You just had to get a law firm to teach you!” she said.

At this time, she began studies at a Seattle synagogue to begin conversion while Steve completed his last year at Western. Then he was accepted and began classes at Gonzaga University Law School in 1971.

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# NFTY Sings a New Song

BY JASON BENHEIM  
BAY YOUTH GROUP ADVISOR

*"Sing unto God a new song." – Psalm 96:1*

Have you ever noticed how almost every Jewish activity incorporates song? From our weekly prayer services and Shabbat dinners to grand musical feasts like the Passover Seder, song is integral to so many aspects of Jewish life.

NFTY-NW's recent Spring Kallah at Camp Kalsman — the very first NFTY camp event in North America since the start of the pandemic — was no exception. Eight teens from Congregation Beth Israel attended, joining dozens of young Jews associated with Temple Youth Groups (or TYGs) from all over the Pacific Northwest. And what was the first thing we did together?

We sang, of course!

Just as our ancestors burst into song after finally crossing the Red Sea to escape Pharaoh's grip, we raised our voices, masked though we were, to celebrate this moment of relative freedom from the restrictions of the pandemic. By the end of the weekend, we must've sung every Jewish song in the book, with a few secular classics thrown in for good measure (shoutouts to both Neil Diamond and Taylor Swift). Indeed, the spectacle of a hundred or so Jewish teens swaying in one giant song circle was a striking reminder of the power of song to build community.

The Book of Psalms, meanwhile, reminds us not only to sing, but to sing new songs. In other words, we should

always be striving to harmonize with our particular historical moment. At this crucial juncture, with the pandemic slowly fading, NFTY leadership is getting proactive about the future of the Reform Jewish Youth Movement. In a recent email, they identified four key strategies going forward: centering teen leadership, focusing on relationship and movement-building, establishing part-time staff in every region, and partnering with congregations to run local programming.

We are so pleased that BAY, our own TYG, is sure to be a part of NFTY's bright future. With our hearts so full of song, it's hard not to be optimistic!



Spring Kallah song circle

## Confirmation Shabbat Service

Friday, June 3 at 6:15 pm

Every year we honor those students in our community who "graduate" from Keshet with a Confirmation service. These outgoing sophomores have been studying social justice issues through a Jewish lens for the past two years. Next year some of them will travel to Washington, DC with

Rabbi Samuels and lobby their elected officials on specific issues that resonate deeply with them. Please consider joining us in person to hear from our students: Sydney Wolfson, Mia Clarke, Ben Sommers, Rory Verkh Haskell.

Mazel tov to each of them!

## The Kvelling Corner

Welcome to our new member!

• **Robert Spector** – Bellingham

Leslie and Richard Adelstein are delighted to announce the marriage of their daughter **Carrie** to **Adam Tipps**. They were married on December 3, 2021 in a ceremony on San Juan Island. Mazel Tov to the bride and groom and to the proud parents!

**Iliamna Francesca Ban Dudzinski** is a new addition to the Ban family. She was born April 7 to Miriam and Mark and 2-year-old brother, Gabor. Proud grandparents are Janis and Steve Ban and proud Aunties Julia Ban and Rachel Tefft.



John Sternlicht and James Finley are proud and excited to announce the birth of their new granddaughter! **Mia Adele Sternlicht** was born on April 7 to David and Naama Sternlicht of Oakland, CA, weighing 9 lbs 7oz (and two weeks early). Best wishes to all the family on this joyous occasion!

Do you have a family member who has graduated or will be graduating in the coming months from high school, college or grad school? We'd love to kvell about them in the July/August issue of the *Shofar*! Please email a photo plus a few sentences about the school they attended, the degree received, and their future plans to [office@bethisraelbellingham.org](mailto:office@bethisraelbellingham.org) by June 11.

## Jewish Mother Guilt and Sexuality Preferences

BY JANIS BAN

The Chevra Kadisha recently developed a policy for how we will handle situations involving trans, non-binary, or gender-fluid persons for whom we are asked to do *Tahara*. It reads:

*If we know ahead of time what the person's preference is for the Tahara team to do their Tahara, we honor that preference. If we don't know the person's preference, we use the Tahara team for how the person identifies. If a non-binary, trans, or gender-fluid person's preference is unknown, then the women's team will perform the Tahara. In cases of lack of clarity, the Rabbi and Chevra Chairperson will make the decision.*

The Jewish principles guiding us were *K'vod Ha Met* (honoring the person who has died), the tradition of modesty, and the fact that throughout our history women have been permitted to do *Tahara* for men, but not men for women.

Here is the important part: If you are trans, non-binary, gender-fluid, etc., please think about your preference and email me at [janisban@gmail.com](mailto:janisban@gmail.com) to select which team (male or female) you would like to do your *Tahara*. I will keep this information confidential until it is needed by the team. As an alternative, you could let a trusted family member know your preference. It will be so much easier to know ahead of time than to try to figure it out at the last minute. If you change your mind, you can always email me the change.

Now for the Jewish mother guilt part: In the last *Shofar* I asked members if they would like to have the option for *Shomer* services (sitting with the body until burial) when a member passes. I also asked for who would be interested in serving on a *Shomer* team. I got exactly three replies to these two questions. So do we assume the community is not interested in having *Shomer* services available, or perhaps there could be other reasons for the small number of responses?

Let's try again: Please email me at [janisban@gmail.com](mailto:janisban@gmail.com) and let me know, 1) If you would like *Shomer* services to be available; and 2) Are you interested in being on the *Shomer* team? Please refer to the article in the last *Shofar* for more details.

# Special Fund Donations

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### IN HONOR OF:

Gabriel Witte, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

**From:** *Patrick Crane*

Gabriel Witte, for his amazing leadership of services during his Bar Mitzvah

**From:** *Vermeda Fred & Rodney Shainbom*

Larry Hildes and Karen Weill

**From:** *Patty Yust & Jeff Popp*

### IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Arthur and Sandra Miller

**From:** *Brenda Miller*

My husband, Harold Katz

**From:** *Susan Katz*

### IN APPRECIATION TO:

Rabbi Samuels, with heartfelt thanks for the wonderful experience of Gabriel's Bar Mitzvah

**From:** *Sarah & Todd Witte*

### DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Victoria & Gaby Mayers and Family, in memory of their beloved son Jonathan

**From:** *Rick & Leslie Adelstein  
Vermeda Fred & Rodney Shainbom  
Kuk Sool Won martial arts class  
Rick Romito & Linda Read  
Steve & Rita Spitzer*

Rana Evans, Randy Evans and Patrick Liu – in memory of their beloved mother, Ruth Evans

**From:** *David Schlitt & Sarah Zarrow*

### CONTRIBUTION FROM:

*Stuart & Cinda Zemel*

## CANTORIAL ASSISTANT FUND

### IN APPRECIATION TO:

Andrea Shupack – with gratitude for all the work done to prepare Gabriel so well for chanting at his Bar Mitzvah

**From:** *Sarah & Todd Witte*

## CARE COMMITTEE

### DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Anji Citron & Family – in memory of her beloved mother, Elka Fink

**From:** *Nancy Lloyd  
Bonnie Stone  
Nancy & Don Davis*

Victoria & Gaby Mayers – in memory of their beloved son, Jonathan

**From:** *Sara Geballe  
Toby Sonneman*

Rana Evans, Randy Evans and Patrick Liu – in memory of their beloved mother, Ruth Evans

**From:** *Marta & Craig Brand  
Nancy & Don Davis*

Jeff Kronenberg (Boise, ID) in memory of his mother, Phyllis

**From:** *Steve & Janis Ban*

## CAMP/YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

### IN HONOR OF:

\*Gabriel Witte, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

\*Mary Somerville's 25th Anniversary at Beth Israel

**From:** *Karen Sloss*

### DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Victoria & Gaby Mayers and Family, in memory of their beloved son Jonathan

**From:** *Karen Sloss  
Kuk Sool Won martial arts class*

## GENERAL FUND

### IN APPRECIATION TO:

The Mishloach Manot committee – thanks for the Purim goodies

**From:** *Fredda Robinson*

### IN HONOR OF:

The marriage of Carrie Adelstein and Adam Tipps

**From:** *Katie & David Edelstein*

### DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Susan Katz – in memory of beloved husband, Harold Katz

**From:** *Linda & Bill Mazzia  
(Jackson, NJ)  
Madelene & Murray Blaszc  
(Jackson, NJ)*

Rana Evans, Randy Evans and Patrick Liu – in memory of their beloved mother, Ruth Evans

**From:** *Barbara Kleinfeld  
(Albuquerque, NM)*

### IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Slava Shapiro

**From:** *Lyudmila Shapiro  
(Bellingham)*

## KESHER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

### IN APPRECIATION:

Thank you, Mishloach Manot Team!

**From:** *Ann Suloway & Tim Baker*

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

The Witte Family – Mazel Tov on Gabe's Bar Mitzvah

**From:** *Erin & Steve Cohen*

### IN HONOR OF:

Larry Hildes and Karen Weill

**From:** *Patty Yust & Jeff Popp*

### DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Victoria & Gaby Mayers – in memory of their beloved son, Jonathan

**From:** *Marta & Craig Brand*

## NEW SYNAGOGUE FUND

### IN APPRECIATION TO:

The Mishloach Manot committee – thanks for the Purim treats

**From:** *Phyllis Mazur*

### IN HONOR OF:

Gabriel Witte, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

**From:** *Sid & Aline Wanne*

### DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Susan and Elkah Katz – in memory of beloved husband and father, Harold Katz

**From:** *Lucille & Jerry Kort  
(Jackson, NJ)  
Karen Sloss*

Shirley Brownstein (Tampa, FL) – In memory of her beloved husband, Herman "Hy" Brownstein

**From:** *Paul Blum & Alison Zak*

\*Anji Citron & Family – in memory of her beloved mother, Elka Fink

\*Rana Evans, Randy Evans and Patrick Liu – in memory of their beloved mother, Ruth Evans

**From:** *Karen Sloss*

Victoria & Gaby Mayers and Family, in memory of their beloved son Jonathan

**From:** *Phyllis Mazur  
Bonnie Stone  
Sid & Aline Wanne*

Hank Levine – In memory of his brother, Lenny

**From:** *Steve & Janis Ban*

### IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Ruth Evans – Toward completion of the new kitchen

**From:** *The Beth Israel Knitting Group:  
Linda Blackwell;  
Roby Blecker;  
Judy Diamond;  
Iris Parker;  
Rita Spitzer;  
Kristin Sykes-David;  
Dana Wayne;  
Joan Wayne*

Dr. Leonard Levine – Toward the Audio/Visual Improvements project

**From:** *Lee & Glenda Kraft  
(Nashville TN)*

Harold Schneider – toward landscape plantings

**From:** *Ella & Alan Barney*

### CONTRIBUTION FROM:

*The Estate of  
Sandra Glazer Lake*

## YOUTH GROUP FUND

### IN APPRECIATION TO:

Sonorah DesRosiers, Lucy Naiman, Liza Jane Price, and Natalie Ravitsky – for their beautiful chanting and support of Gabriel at his Bar Mitzvah

**From:** *Sarah & Todd Witte*



## FROM THE RABBI

*Continued from Page 1*

language, like so many others. For instance, a child either becomes a *Bar* (son) or *Bat* (daughter) *Mitzvah*. For someone who identifies somewhere else along the gender spectrum — and by the way, there are several gender identities mentioned in our sacred Jewish texts including the Talmud — those two binary options don't work.

I once thought that the term *B'nei* (children) *Mitzvah* would suffice as it is in the plural form; however, it is the masculine default for plural and thus it does not necessarily address the issue for some. *The Non-binary Hebrew Project*, whose website I have shared in recent *Timbrels*, gives a couple of suggestions. *Bet Mitzvah* holds the

"Ben" and "Bat" linguistically. It is non-binary, gender expansive, and yet it does not avoid Hebrew whereas the more often used term *B'mitzvah*, does away with Hebrew entirely for the first part of the term.

This is only one example of what is currently happening to the Hebrew language and I think it is fascinating. I've heard some express the viewpoint that we can't just make up new Hebrew words to accommodate a minority in the community, but remember, Eliezer ben Yehuda did just that when he attempted to create modern Hebrew. Some words stuck and others didn't. I will admit that some of these new phrases you might hear from time to time from the *bima* might not sound entirely familiar, and indeed they will sound strange until they don't anymore. The point is that I believe we

should err on the side of inclusion. And even if we wanted to err on the side of "tradition" then I think we'd still find ourselves in this same place. Both paths lead here. This issue with Hebrew is going to be a long-term process and I hope you will embrace it with me. One thing we can all do, that is not Hebrew-related, is write our pronouns on our name tags when we attend synagogue services and events. If you have other suggestions for how we can be a more inclusive Jewish community, for any demographic, let us know. The Sinai experience may have been exclusionary to some, so let's do what we can to widen the tent of Congregation Beth Israel.

RABBI JOSHUA SAMUELS

## DEBBIE AND STEVE ADELSTEIN

*Continued from Page 8*

During his semester break, they were married at the old synagogue in Bellingham on January 15, 1972.

After Steve graduated law school in 1974, they moved back to Bellingham permanently. He joined an established law firm for a decade then went solo. He has been a trial lawyer for 47 years, focusing on commercial, construction, probate and general litigation.

Debbie freelanced by typing court transcripts. Later, she organized her own business transcribing reports and working as a bookkeeper for several small businesses. When she worked for the City, she served as administrative assistant for the Director of Public Works until 1976, when they started their family.

The synagogue is a family affair. Following in the footsteps of Steve, who was a Bar Mitzvah in 1962, son Aaron had his in 1991 and daughter Rena's Bat Mitzvah was held in 1989. Debbie participated in the first women's B'not Mitzvah ceremony here in 1988.

Meanwhile, she and member Diane Garmo set up a female Chevra Kaddisha burial committee. Debbie also served as chair of the Cemetery Committee for 30 years. She was active in Sisterhood and Hadassah, serving as chapter president, regional president and on the boards of both groups, taking several trips to Israel sponsored by Hadassah. When CBI was without a religious leader, she took part in the rotating rabbi group, leading Friday night services. But youth group activities were her favored domain, "often driving the van and chaperoning when needed," she said.

Among their many secular activities, Debbie was active on the Whatcom Human Rights Task Force board, and Steve has served as trustee for 16 years at Whatcom Community College.

Both retired in 2020. That leaves them time to enjoy schussing down snowy slopes, walking, reading, and, for Debbie, continuing her love of sewing. They also enjoy international travel.

Still, after being so involved in the hearts of local communities, "Retirement is more of an adjustment than I thought," Debbie said. "Since Steve and I both retired at the same time, we're working out our adaptations together."

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# Birthdays

## MAY 2022

5/2 Richard Trank  
 5/3 Lenny Halpern (15th)  
 5/4 Avigail Ravitsky (8th)  
 5/4 Bobbie Jaffe  
 5/4 Sydney Wolfson (16th)  
 5/5 Rick Adelstein  
 5/5 Michael Braunstein  
 5/5 Oleg Ravitsky  
 5/5 Russell Sheinkopf  
 5/6 Gary Adelstein  
 5/8 Bonnie Cavell  
 5/8 Greg Schwartz  
 5/8 Corey Welch  
 5/10 Andy Kaplowitz  
 5/10 Penny Schuman  
 5/10 Beth Tableman  
 5/12 Warren Cornwall  
 5/12 Leah Grossman  
 5/13 Tim Baker  
 5/13 David Cohn  
 5/13 Adam Greenberg (21st)  
 5/16 Lyla Simmie Attar (5th)  
 5/16 Max Johnson (21st)  
 5/16 Natalie Ravitsky (14th)  
 5/17 Lindsey Genut  
 5/17 Suzanne Fischel Kite  
 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 Ann Suloway  
 5/22 Danny Finkelstein  
 5/22 Aviva Grossman (11th)  
 5/23 Isaac Blum  
 5/23 Serge Lindner  
 5/23 Ezra Carter Price (17th)  
 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 Cassandra Wolfson  
 5/27 Fay Farkas  
 5/29 Aline Wanne  
 5/30 Teddy Ingberman (19th)  
 5/31 Todd Witte

6/6 Stephanie Druckman  
 6/7 McNeel Jantzen  
 6/8 Chris Balton  
 6/8 Janet Seltzer  
 6/9 Jeffrey Grossman  
 6/10 James Prickett  
 6/11 Diane Garmo  
 6/11 Neah Ingram-Monteiro  
 6/11 Marcy Probst  
 6/11 Aiden Shupack (10th)  
 6/11 Adin Sokol (20th)  
 6/12 Ansel Hecht (6th)  
 6/12 Ron Walt  
 6/12 Henry Zemel  
 6/13 Leslie Shankman  
 6/14 Willa Wren Levinson (8th)  
 6/15 Diane Leigh  
 6/16 Lee Shapiro  
 6/17 Valerie Randolph  
 6/17 Todd Shuster  
 6/19 Rena Ziegler  
 6/20 Phyllis Mazur  
 6/21 Sheila Sondik  
 6/22 Milo Levinson (13th)  
 6/24 Jill Elkayam  
 6/25 Mike Brennan  
 6/25 Julia Schwartz (20th)  
 6/26 Tracy Diller  
 6/26 Clairra Garretson (10th)  
 6/26 Jane Hammerstrom  
 6/26 Jeremiah Witte (15th)  
 6/26 Nathaniel Witte (15th)  
 6/27 Sid Wanne  
 6/29 Nicole Samuels

## JUNE 2022

6/1 Steve Spitzer  
 6/1 Caden Stoane (20th)  
 6/3 Hans-Rudolf Guenter-Schlesinger  
 6/3 Linda B. Hirsh  
 6/4 Emily Bastow  
 6/4 Judith Osman  
 6/4 Belle Shalom  
 6/5 Samuel Comstock (12th)  
 6/5 Lore Filgueira

## MUSICIAN IN RESIDENCE

*Continued from Page 7*

periences to help individuals become more embodied.

At the beginning of 2020, he started a new company called BeMajor to inspire individuals and organizations towards personal growth and team building by creating original music for communal singing experiences. For more information, go to [bemajor.com](http://bemajor.com)

Aronson currently lives in New York City and tours year-round visiting communities nationwide and abroad. In addition to his tour schedule, Noah pursues his love of teaching by serving on the faculty of Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion's Debbie Friedman School of Sacred

Music in Manhattan, as well as on the faculty of Jewish music, leadership, ritual, and worship conferences such as Hava Nashira, Shabbat Shira conferences at OSRU in Wisconsin, the Wexner Heritage Institute's annual retreat in Colorado, and Shirei Chagigah in London, England.

I've seen Aronson at several of the last few URJ biennials and can attest to his mesmerizing sound. I've been listening to his CDs and am amazed at how he takes central prayers and interprets them in such a beautiful way. I am so excited to have him in Bellingham, and that the whole community will get to hear him and sing along.

Check him out at [noaharonson.com](http://noaharonson.com)

**This special weekend is supported by donations from:**

- Erin Cohen/Personal Touch Travel Design
- Patrick Crane
- Daniel & Sharona Feller
- Kuk Sool Won of Bellingham
- John & Melissa Schapiro
- Karen Sloss
- Marv & Joan Wayne

Thank you to all of the donors, including those who wish to remain anonymous.

## May/June 2022 Shabbat Service Schedule

**PLEASE NOTE:** All services and Torah study will be accessible on Zoom. Each Friday evening service will be **hybrid**, allowing fully vaccinated congregants and visitors to worship in the sanctuary, provided they are masked at all times and maintain social distancing. This schedule is subject to change, so please watch the weekly *Timbrel* or the Beth Israel website for updates.

Wednesday, May 4	<b>6:00 pm</b> Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebration (in-person only)	Friday, June 3	<b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Family Service – Teacher Appreciation and Confirmation
Friday, May 6	<b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Family Service with Keshet K/1 class and Aniel Wells-Langley	Saturday, June 4	<b>9:30 am</b> Torah Study ( <i>Parashat Bamidbar</i> ) <b>10:45 am</b> All-music, Contemplative Service with Andrea Shupack <b>8:00 pm</b> Tikkun Leil Shavuot
Saturday, May 7	<b>10:00 am</b> B'Mitzvah of Aniel Wells-Langley – in person and on Zoom	Friday, June 10	<b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat with Musician-in-Residence Noah Aronson
Friday, May 13	<b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Family Service with Keshet Fourth Grade class	Saturday, June 11	<b>9:30 am</b> Torah Study ( <i>Parashat Naso</i> )
Saturday, May 14	<b>9:30 am</b> Torah Study ( <i>Parashat Emor</i> )	Friday, June 17	<b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Friday, May 20	<b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	Saturday, June 18	<b>9:30 am</b> Torah Study ( <i>Parashat Behalotecha</i> )
Saturday, May 21	<b>9:30 am</b> Torah Study ( <i>Parashat Behar</i> )	Friday, June 24	<b>7:30 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat, with leadership from the Ma'Ayan Shir ensemble and Milo Levinson
Friday, May 27	<b>7:30 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service, with leadership from the Ma'Ayan Shir ensemble	Saturday, June 25	<b>10:00 am</b> Bar Mitzvah of Milo Levinson – in person and on Zoom
Saturday, May 28	<b>9:30 am</b> Torah Study ( <i>Parashat Bechukotai</i> ) <b>10:30 am</b> Conservative-style, lay-led minyan		

### KESHER: LOOKING TO THE FUTURE AND EXCITING NEWS FOR NEXT YEAR!

*Continued from Page 3*

thanks and lots of gratitude to all those who helped us secure these two grants!

Registration for Keshet's 2022/2023 school year will be open in just a few short weeks. Keep an eye out in your email for information and links to view the school calendar and registration. If you've been thinking about Jewish education for your child or grandchild, don't hesitate to reach out to us at [Keshet@bethisraelbellingham.org](mailto:Keshet@bethisraelbellingham.org)

We are passionate about providing meaningful Jewish experiences and learning to your family and our community, and are always here to talk with you about the Keshet program. Here is a small taste of what we do at Keshet:

**Keshet's Mission** is to create enduring Jewish experiences that support and challenge our students and families to engage creatively with their Judaism, and to inspire lifelong Jewish learning.

Keshet goals are to:

1. Help students and families discover the ways Judaism is relevant to their own lives.
2. Build a solid foundation of Jewish knowledge and experiences, utilizing that knowledge to develop a strong and positive Jewish identity.
3. Instill Jewish values in a way that students can apply them to their contemporary lives.
4. Engage entire families in their Jewish journey.
5. Create a *Kehila Kedoshah* - a holy community whose culture celebrates each person's unique Jewish expression and contributions.
6. Inspire our community to add richness and meaning to their lives, by passing on the wisdom and tools our Jewish heritage offers us.
7. Prepare our students to be confident prayer leaders and teachers of Torah for their B'nei Mitzvah service and beyond.



# 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 6 and Saturday, May 7

Sharon Gordon Greer	5/7
Elayne B. Weiner	5/7
Mary Widerkehr	5/7
Lloyd Saxton	5/9
Lucie Weis	5/9
Judith Teir Kasser	5/10
Esther Siegel	5/10
Barbara Vaughan	5/10
Felicia Keller	5/11
Sergio Shwadsky	5/11
Sally Warshay	5/11
Ray Jay	5/12
Benjamin Ostry	5/12
Pearl Albert	5/13
Lois M. Welch	5/13

## Friday, May 13

Elaine Greenberg	5/15
Evelyn Roberts	5/15
Fred Spector	5/15
Frances (Faigie) Morrill Schlitt	5/16
Alan Raas	5/16
Saul S. Spiro	5/16
Florence Marcus	5/17
Alan Stone	5/18
Sydell Zemel	5/18
Emanuel Jacobson	5/19
Maia Haykin	5/20
Margaret Horwitz	5/20
Louis Suloway	5/20

## Friday, May 20

Rachel DeVries	5/21
Arthur Markell	5/21
Lloyd Relin	5/21
Esther Kahn	5/22
Myron Gordon	5/23
Irwin Suloway	5/23
Audrey May King	5/25
Jean Dement	5/26
Sam Eilenberg	5/26
Irene Rosenfeld	5/26
Arnold Zolotrow	5/26

## Friday, May 28

Louis Adelstein	5/28
Rose Block	5/28
Nan Lopresti	5/29
Walter Miller	5/29
David Robinson	5/29
William Stone	5/29
Harold Boehi	5/30
Dottie Berelson	6/2
Noemi Ban	6/3
Otto Furth	6/3
Ethel Sandford	6/3

## Friday, June 3

Reva Beck	6/4
Samuel Beck	6/5
Louise Hecht	6/5
Belle Kaplan Shapiro	6/5
Annette Curtis	6/6
Henry W. Fenbert	6/6
Marvin Globberman	6/6
Dorothy Katz	6/6
Monroe Abrams	6/9
David Archie Bauman	6/9
Rose Beck	6/10

## Friday, June 10

Rosalind Kantor	6/11
Laurence Sharfstein	6/11
Audrey Jaffe	6/12
Marion Selznick	6/13
Frances Glazer Garmo	6/15
David Ohms	6/15
Harold Rosenberg	6/15
Miriam Shepard	6/15
Marcia M. Morris Yust	6/15
Jack Glazer	6/17

## Friday, June 17

William Robinson	6/12
Edward R. Glazer	6/18

Stanley Schlanger	6/18
Rose Rebecca Glazer	6/19
Vincent Romito	6/19
Sadie Rosen	6/19
Bill Lewis	6/20
Gloria Abrams	6/22
Marcella Schapiro	6/22
Perry Davids	6/24
Irving Edward Shapiro	6/24

## Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25

Edith Corman	6/25
Paul Zemel	6/25
Harold "Bud" Blank	6/26
Lillian Feldman	6/26
Mark Raymond Witter	6/26
Rasela Catz	6/27
Elaine Meadows	6/27
Ann Dechter	6/28
Sol Harris Lewis	6/28
Lawrence Witte	6/28
Libby Witte	6/28
Sandy York	6/28
Elaine Lev Beller	7/1
Joanne Cohen	7/1
Ida Ostry	7/1

## In Memoriam

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

We mourn the passing of three members of the Beth Israel family, and offer heartfelt condolences to their loved ones:

**Sandra "Sandy" Miller**, who died peacefully at Hospice House in Bellingham on March 11, 2022. She was 87 years old. She was the loving mother of fellow congregant Brenda Miller, sons Scott and Gary, and grandmother to Brittany, Matthew, Alexandra, and Elizabeth. She was married for 61 years to the love of her life, Arthur, who preceded her in death.

**Jonathan Mayers**, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 12, 2022, at his home with his parents Victoria and Gabriel (Gaby) Mayers by his side. He was 32 years old. He is survived by his parents; his brother Joshua and wife Jaymie; Jonathan's three nieces Elia, Lila and Olivia; his entire family in Israel; and many close friends.

Long-time congregant **Ruth Evans**, passed away on March 18, 2022. She had just celebrated her 80th birthday in February. Ruth was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Richard Evans. They moved to Bellingham in 2004 and she immediately became a very active CBI volunteer, continuing until late last year. She is survived by her daughter Rana and son Randy (Patrick Lai). Our congregation offers heartfelt condolences to the following individuals and their families:

Hank Levine on the loss of his brother, **Leonard (Lenny) Levine**, who passed away on March 24, 2022 in Hopewell, New Jersey at age 88.

Susan Schneider and Ella Barney on the loss of husband and father **Harold Schneider**, who passed away in Bellingham on March 28, 2022. He was 78 years old. He was known for his great stories, New York accent, and family who loved him, including his beloved wife Susan, daughters Ella and Beth, and dog Shelby.

# THE SHUL SHOFAR

## Congregation Beth Israel

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## Tikkun Leil Shavuot

**Saturday, June 4, 8:00-10:00 pm**

Come spend a couple hours on Erev Shavuot learning some Torah taught by your CBI friends. If you are interested in leading a 10-minute Jewish teaching, please contact Rabbi Samuels.

Moroccan Jews believe staying up all night guarantees you life for the next year. How can you possibly turn this down?!?

