



CONGREGATION
BETH ISRAEL

MARCH/APRIL 2023 ADAR/NISSAN/IYAR 5783

THE SHUL SHOFAR

VOL. 27, NO. 4 * Congregation Beth Israel * Bellingham, WA 98229 * bethisraelbellingham.org * (360) 733-8890

You're Invited to Esther's '80s Prom!

— The Megillah According to John Hughes —

ESTHER'S

PROM

Monday, March 6 at 6:30 pm

Dress like it's the 80s
It's going to be, like, totally rad!

FROM THE RABBI

A Whole Lot of Holy Days



There are a lot of Jewish holidays and festivals. If they were all spread out evenly over the course of a year, we would be observing

something around every 22 days, and this doesn't include Shabbat. My parents sent me to a Jewish Day School for 9 years and I remember staying home way more often than my friends who went to public schools ever did. I know they were jealous when my school closed its doors on Simchat Torah, Tu B'shvat, and of course the "big ones." As a kid, this was incredible. I got to play more video games and watch episodes of "I Love Lucy." Being Jewish had its perks for an elementary school student.

In February I taught a mini-course on the Jewish festival cycle for the Academy of Lifelong Learning through Western Washington University. As a rabbi, it's a joy living the festival cycle with my CBI community. Surprisingly, I never had the opportunity to teach students about each of these holidays in depth, at least not how I did it last month. It was a wonderful experience, sharing the deeper meanings of each of our sacred times as well

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From the President...

Food, Glorious Food



Spring is right around the corner. Although Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow on Groundhog Day predicting six more weeks of winter, I am sensing the warmer weather

is approaching. Time will tell if I know more than a groundhog. This wouldn't be the first time my gut instinct has not been correct, which brings me to CBI affairs. I will admit that even recently I had my reservations about the timing of investing into our commercial kitchen at the synagogue.

The plans for the building have always included details about the kitchen. Even though the kitchen is my favorite room in the house, I felt it should be a lower priority when it comes to finishing our synagogue improvements. Perhaps that is why it's good that almost all the decisions we make as a community are not made by an individual, but by committees, task forces, and the Board. What I failed to remember is the importance of food to Jews.

The Torah contains many laws and guidelines regarding food, including which animals can and cannot be eaten (kosher and nonkosher animals), how animals must be slaughtered (*shechita*), and the prohibition of consuming blood or mixing meat and dairy products. These laws are part of our dietary rules, known as *kashrut*, which are still followed by many Jews today. The Torah also includes descriptions of various food-related practices and offerings, such as the Passover Seder and the offerings in the Temple.

But even outside of rules and teachings, we have a long history of communal consumption. My grandmother was a caterer and loved to cook as well as watch people enjoy her food. I remember visiting her and continually being offered food. "Would you like a little *nosh*? Something to drink? I have some nice chopped liver...would be delicious on a cracker." It was easier to just break down and take her offers even if I wasn't hungry. It was her way of showing her love. My mom would al-

so push food on me. Whenever I said I wasn't hungry, she would reply, "What has hunger got to do with it?"

Even our humor is often focused on food. Like this great joke:

Moishe and Miriam were sitting down to eat at the dinner table. Miriam commented, "You know, Moishe, when we were first married, you took the small piece of brisket and gave me the larger. Now you take the large one and leave me the smaller. You don't love me anymore?"

"Nonsense, honey," replied Moishe, "you just cook better now."

As we continue to think of ways to attract our community members back to shul, food inevitably is one of the items that gets mentioned. Our *Onegs* are such nice times to catch up with people after a service and share a little *nosh*. Joan Wayne has started organizing the *Onegs* again, and if you are interested in hosting one, please reach out to her.

We also have two great Jewish holidays approaching, Purim and Passover. These holidays always make me think of delicious food and are a great time to come together both as a community and within our friend and family groups.

We don't have a precise timeline for the completion of our commercial kitchen, but we are moving full speed ahead ordering appliances and installing the different components. I am looking forward to some events where we gather to cook food in our kitchen and eat together: Pancake breakfasts, spaghetti dinners, latkes! I just finished eating, but the thought makes me hungry. Maybe an instinct from my visits to my Bubbie. I am glad that my instincts and worries about the kitchen didn't slow us down and that others have encouraged us to move ahead with the kitchen. Thank goodness we have so many wonderfully smart people in our leadership.

Wishing you all happy times with your loved ones around the table, and with your larger Jewish family at the synagogue. Now I need to dig around for a little something to eat.

JOSHUA GREENBERG
PRESIDENT

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

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From the Keshet Center for Jewish Learning

Highlighting our Keshet Staff

BY LEAH BORDMAN

This year our incredible Keshet staff comes to us with an interesting range of experience and talents. Some are brand new to teaching in a classroom, and some have been teaching for 40+ years. All of them, however, have brought their A game to Keshet this year and are really the reason our school is thriving. Let me introduce you!

Our youngest Keshet cohort, Gan Yeladim is run by **Darcie Donegan**. She has been teaching this class at CBI for many years, and throughout this year her class has continued to increase in size. We can't wait to see her tiny humans grow up through our program. Darcie wants you to know: "I also teach Early Childhood Education at WCC, and I have three children."

The next youngest class in Keshet is our kindergarten through second grade, run by two very talented educators. The first, **Robin Curtis**, has been a part of Keshet for a very long time and brings with her a literal suitcase full of programmatic experience. Robin wants you to know, "I have been teaching and mentoring Judaic programs for over 40 years. I am passionate about teaching and providing children with a variety of Judaic experiences." The second teacher, **Kellan Moss**, is new to the Keshet community this year and brings a vibrant and energetic attitude to school each week. Kellan wants you to know: "I love working with kids and wanted to get more involved with this community. I've loved it and I am excited for the rest of this year."

Our next class is the third and fourth grade, taught by **Jason Benhaim**. Jason began teaching in Keshet last year and comes to school each week with a wealth of knowledge and a smile. In addition to teaching this class, Jason also teaches our students Hebrew over Zoom during the week. Jason wants you to know: "I attended private Jewish elementary, middle, and high schools growing up, and I'm excited to pass that knowledge on to a new generation!"

This year the Keshet fifth-grade class is co-taught by two teachers who are new to CBI, **Parker Geffen**, and



Abby Kroopkin. Each of them brings teaching experiences from working at URJ Camp Kalsman. Parker wants you to know, "I attend WWU, and last year was my first time working at Camp Kalsman after 8 years of being a camper there. So far, I am loving this community. I am so grateful to be in such a supportive environment and I adore my fifth-grade class." And Abby wants you to know: "I am a student at WWU, and I plan on going into education. I really enjoy teaching, and the fifth-grade class has been a joy to get to know this year!"

The sixth- and seventh-grade class is also taught by a Kalsman representative, **Hannah Shernicoff**. Hannah has been teaching in Keshet for a few years now and brings with her a lot of experience and passion for working with middle-school-age kids. Hannah wants you to know: "This is my third year teaching here. I'm also a student at Western studying psychology and elementary education. I love teaching and I'm so happy to be here!"

One of our oldest groups in Keshet is the eighth-grade class studying the Holocaust, which is taught by **Leah Sauter**, with **Ray Wolpow** as a mentor. Leah has been teaching in Keshet for a while and brings with her a master's degree in Holocaust history. Leah wants you to

Continued on Page 7

Synagogue 411

Archives:

Tim Baker, (360) 305-6945

Care:

Harriet Markell, (916) 207-9381

Elise Sokol, (360) 393-9618

Membership:

Ann Suloway, (360) 296-8220

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Bat Mitzvah



Chiara Jane Horton will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on May 6, 2023. She is the daughter of Leah Kiviat and Ian Horton, and the sister of Esther Horton. Chiara is a seventh grader at Kulshan Middle School. She can often be found racing either with her swim team or her downhill mountain bike team. When

she's not racing through the water or the forest, her nose is usually buried in a book. For her mitzvah project,

Chiara volunteers with the "Flying Squirrels" as a mountain bike instructor for elementary school girls who are learning to ride mountain bikes.

Chiara's family invites you to join them in celebration of this simcha:

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE
Friday, May 5, 2023 at 6:15 pm

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE
Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 10:00 am

2023 Speaker's Program Announced

The CBI Speaker's Program goal is to bring interesting topics to our community, and 2023 is shaping up to fulfill that. The first program in 2023 featured Dr. Sarah Zarrow, speaking about Eastern European Jewish history in honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.



Prior to the event we passed out a questionnaire, and the results indicated that people were interested in more events. Inspired by that feedback the Rabbi and I have begun pursuing future speaker volunteers. If you have any topics you're interested in learning more about or if you're able to offer an informational talk, please contact the Rabbi or Victoria Mayers (Victoria.mayers@bethisraelbellingham.org). We have scheduled the following events on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. So mark your calendars now:

March 12 - John Michael Graves: "Addressing the Rise in World-Wide Anti-Semitism." John is an educator and coordinator for the Northwestern United States Stand-With-US, an international nonprofit organization focused on education about Israel and anti-Semitism. His lecture will also address the increase of anti-Semitism occurring on college campuses throughout the United States.

March 19 - Rob Lopresti: "When Women Didn't Count." This lecture is based on Rob's first nonfiction book and is a result of years of research. The presentation will reveal how women have been overlooked and misplaced

in federal statistics. His award-winning book reveals how U.S. federal statistics have hidden and distorted information about women for generations. Rob, a renowned public speaker, is married to CBI congregant Terri Weiner and has been involved with the CBI community for years.

April 30 - Katie Edelstein: "35 Years of Traveling throughout Israel." Katie Edelstein, a member of CBI since 1979, brings her expertise in a variety of personal and leadership skill sets. She has served on several boards, both voluntary and professional, including but not limited to, CBI's Board for 12+ years; as CBI Vice President for 3 years; and as chair of several CBI committees. Katie was also the National Hadassah Coordinator of the Leadership, Education and Training Division and National Hadassah Coordinator of the Membership Division. Katie will be kicking off the new "Kindred Spirits Traveling Havurah" group (see article on page 7).

May 21 - Dr. Daniel Picus: "The Ancient Origins of Synagogues." Daniel Picus is an assistant professor at WWU and a specialist in late antique Judaism and Christianity. He is interested in how ancient Jews and Christians read earlier texts, like the Hebrew Bible and New Testament. His current project, a continuation of his dissertation, examines rabbinic Jewish reading practices.

June 4 - Mary Knight: "What You Can Do To Prevent the Sex Trafficking of Minors." Mary is a child sex trafficked survivor. Her memoir *My Life Now: Essays by a Child Sex Trafficking Survivor* is available on Amazon. This presentation is for adults and for youth ages 12 and up (children must be accompanied by an adult). Mary is a renowned filmmaker, child advocate, retired social worker.

VICTORIA MAYERS

From the Social Action Committee

The Stranger Who Resides with You

BY LINDA BLACKWELL

“The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as one of your citizens: you shall love them as yourself for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.” — Lev 19:34

The Torah readings instruct us to treat the strangers as we would treat ourselves and need that we work to create opportunities for refugees who require asylum. We have a responsibility to offer kindness and assistance to the families fleeing war and oppression. It is a part of our spiritual growth.

Congregation Beth Israel completed a donation drive for refugee resettlement this January for Seattle Jewish Family Service (JFS). We did a similar drive for refugee donations in 2017 with JFS. *Tikkun olam* means to *repair the world*. It is a call to social justice. I am very proud of the wide participation of our community, the Board and many anonymous donors at Congregation Beth Israel.

Our members want to help refugees, but since we don't have the resources to “adopt” a family, in 2023 the Social Action Committee will work with the World Relief / Western WA organization to support a local agency in Whatcom County. At the time of this writing, we will have heard a speaker in February from World Relief talk about how to help with a call to action for local resettlement. We are collecting items to stock a bathroom but would like our community to be more involved. We want to survey who at CBI can volunteer with driving clients to school or doctor appointments, who is bilingual, who can teach English as a second language. If you have skills or

time to volunteer, please contact Linda Blackwell (linda.blackwell@bethisraelbellingham.org)

Our annual Passover food bank collection, “Soup and *Chametz*,” will run until April 2. As you clean out your cupboards for Passover, remember that you can put your *chametz* to good use in the community.

You can drop off non-kosher-for-Passover foods and any other nonperishable food items. The collection bins are inside the social hall. Please note that drop-off is available only when the synagogue is open for services or Keshet. The Social Action Committee will deliver everything to the Bellingham Food Bank or to newly settled refugees.

Finally plans are under way for Mitzvah Day 2023. On April 30 we will begin at 10:00 am with Keshet students to pray, sing, and gather for multiple projects. The projects are open to all families and congregants. We are adding some new projects this year, such as painting the Gaga pit and a visit to a local Senior Center. Past projects will continue with cleanup at our cemetery, providing backpacks and hygiene supplies for Northwest Youth Services, and advocacy letter writing. Further announcements will be in *The Timbrel*. Please mark the date in your calendar. We hope to see you there.

Keshet's Volunteer Program Is Thriving

On February 5, Keshet celebrated Tu B'Shevat. Steve Spitzer and Terri Weiner assisted with planting celery seeds with Gan-fourth-grade students. Plans are being made for Keshet youth to plant new flower starts or spread seeds in our currently empty galvanized planters. Stay tuned everybody.

We really appreciate Ella Barney for all her volunteering enthusiasm. She is always ready to offer a helping hand, give donations, or bring goodies to a class.

We also extend thanks to Joan Wayne, Meghan Galvin, Gayle Kinney, and Lindsey Genut for working above and beyond with our annual Purim *Mishloach Manot*. Their efforts have raised thousands of dollars annually

for our Keshet program. We're really grateful to every family that supports this fund drive.

On February 12, MASSA students took a field trip down to visit their class peers at Temple Beth Or in Everett. Students participated in various activities and enjoyed getting to know each other better. They will be visiting the Seattle Holocaust Center on March 19, where they'll spend two hours at the center and then enjoy a falafel lunch. Thanks to all parents who volunteered to carpool. It takes a village.

Please enjoy some photos in the central spread of this issue.

What Might Hillel of WWU Have To Do with You?

BY WENDY BLUM

I recall Rabbi Samuels telling me one time that there are many doors and paths to Judaism. Sometimes we have been walking down a path and missed the opening of a door because we did not know it was there. Perhaps you are wondering about what doors and opportunities are available for you to be more involved in Jewish life.

The community board of Hillel of Western Washington University is looking for someone just like you! Our board is a small group of folks who care about Jewish life on our local college campus and supporting young adults to continue to engage with and discover their connection to Judaism. Maybe a board sounds boring or intimidating, or perhaps you think it

might take too much of your time. Not true! Our board meets every other month to exchange ideas and help support our Hillel Coordinator Elena Buri and the student board.

Current members of the Hillel Community Board are Geraldine Reitz (chair), Harriet Markell (treasurer), Wendy Blum, Miriam Schwartz, and Emily Weiner.

Hillel's mission is "Enriching the lives of Jewish students so that they may enrich the Jewish people and the world." Hillel International is marking 100 years of actively supporting the many voices and faces of Jewish identity for college students. Come join our board and celebrate Jewish life together as we help support the

many paths and doors available to our young community members. For more information, please contact Geraldine Reitz (Flori121@yahoo.com)

Hillel of WWU is an Associated Students club that offers opportunities for Jewish students from Western Washington University, Whatcom Community College, and Bellingham Technical College to gather for social and cultural activities, meet other Jewish young adults, and create a vibrant Jewish student community that is welcoming regardless of students' religious education, political beliefs, gender identity, or their families' past affiliations.

Learn more about WWU Hillel: wwuhillel.weebly.com or on Facebook: Hillel of WWU.

FROM THE RABBI

Continued from Page 1

as all of the rituals, customs, and foods associated with each holiday.

I loved taking my adult students on a journey through the Jewish year and stopping along the way to teach them about our many observances. A few takeaways that we all left with include: Jewish people mark time well; Jewish people stress the importance of differentiating between sacred and profane moments and time; and Jewish people go to great lengths to infuse meaning and intentionality in all of our sacred observances.

However, the takeaway that has stayed with me is that the Jewish festival cycle is full of different moods and emotions. Take, for example, the rejoicing on Simchat Torah, the bittersweet happiness and feeling of gratitude on Passover, the awe of Yom Kippur, and the loosening of inhibitions during Purim. Some holidays evoke feelings such as guilt, grief, or wonder. Each one of us experiences the full range of these emotions throughout the course of a year, and, for many, the context of a particular holy day helps evoke those emotions that might be more difficult to express.

This year, I am most looking forward to celebrating Purim. We are given free rein to let loose and step away from reality and all that might be troubling us and humankind. Life can be stressful and reading the news depressing, but when we come together on Purim, at least for just a few hours, we have an opportunity to be joyful and silly

Yom HaShoah Ve-Hagevurah: Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day

Monday, April 17, 7:00 pm

Please join us for our annual Yom HaShoah Service of Remembrance. This intergenerational event will include leadership from our eighth-grade students. As in years past, these incredible teens, with help from their teachers Leah Sauter and Ray Wolpow, have created a service packet filled with their poetry and writings. They will also lead us in song with Keshet's song leader, Mikayla Goodkin.

Yom Ha'Atzmaut: Israeli Independence Day

Tuesday, April 25, 6:00 pm

Please join your CBI community as we sing, dance, and eat in celebration of *Medinat Yisrael*. Our evening will begin with a *Yom HaZikaron* (Israeli Memorial Day) siren and moment of silence, followed by "*Hatikva*." Rabbi Samuels will lead the sixth annual *Hidon HaTanakh* (Torah trivia) so brush up on your Hebrew Bible! Please bring an Israeli dish to share.

in community. Surprisingly, even the Talmudic rabbis understood how badly Jews need Purim. They wrote that when all other holidays will be abolished in the messianic age, only Purim will remain. I don't know about you, but laughing and having fun seems a whole lot more compelling than fasting or eating parsley dipped in salt water.

RABBI JOSHUA SAMUELS

Got Wanderlust? Join Kindred Spirits *Havurah*

With the support of Rabbi Samuels and approval of the Executive Committee leadership, Victoria Mayers and Katie Edelstein announce that a new *Havurah* called "Kindred Spirits" is being developed. It's for those with wanderlust, however, one does not have to travel on the trips to participate in the meetings, presentations, and talks. This traveling *Havurah* is being created with the vision of learning about Jewish communities from around the world and then planning an experiential trip to visit those communities. In addition, each trip will include some form of *tikkun olam*, like volunteering, donating, or bringing needed supplies.

Save the date! December 16-31 is our first planned trip to Spain and Morocco. This tour will be family friendly and open to all ages. Trips will include days of walking tours, so being in physical condition to walk for a few hours daily is important. This tour is currently being priced, and an itinerary is being developed. More details will be presented by Katie and Victoria after we return from Israel in April. Stayed tuned!

HIGHLIGHTING OUR KESHER STAFF

Continued from Page 3

know, "I lived in Israel while getting my degree at the University of Haifa, which was wonderful. Providing Holocaust education in a Jewish setting is a challenging but incredibly rewarding experience."

There are two more people to highlight on our Keshet team this year and they are our music and Hebrew specialists. Bringing music education to each Keshet classroom every week is **Mikayla Goodkin**. She has experience song leading with her home congregation as well as with Camp Kalsman, and she works to create a separate music curriculum for each Keshet class. Mikayla wants you to know: "I am a student at Western in the English Lit

The Kvelling Corner

Welcome to our new members!

- **Zev and Elle Kronenberg** and son **Nathan** (age 5) – Bellingham

David Goldman and Linda Blackwell are proud grandparents of their first grandchild, **Nora Lillian**, who was born on February 2, 2023 to Lauren and Kyle Buckham, who make their home in Seattle.



Samantha Sommers and **Thalen Cambo** were married at Congregation Beth Israel on January 28, 2023, with Rabbi Samuels officiating. Samantha is the daughter of Teresa and Mark Sommers, and Thalen's parents are Rebecca Morse and Andrew Cambo. *Mazal Tov* to the happy couple and their families!

department, and I plan to become a high school English teacher. I love working with youth, and I'm looking forward to continuing to bring Jewish music into the classroom." Our Hebrew specialist, **Elan Maxim**, grew up in the CBI community and also brings experience from camp to his teaching. Elan teaches Hebrew in three Keshet classrooms each Sunday, as well as teaching Hebrew over Zoom to our students during the week. Elan wants you to know: "I had my Bar Mitzvah and worked as a Madrich here growing up. I am currently a student at WWU with interests in business and Jewish education."

There you have it—the CBI Keshet Staff of 5783, striving every week to mold the next generation of Jewish folks in Bellingham! For more information on any of these lovely people, reach out to keshet@bethisraelbellingham.org



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Faces in Our Community: Holly Witte

BY LINDA HIRSH

Holly Witte's memories of her hometown are wrapped in nostalgia: The Brooklyn Museum, the majestic Brooklyn Public Library, the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, places she calls "heaven on earth."

She has written three walking guides to local landscapes there.

Even the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team lodges deep in her heart. She claims her sister's first words were *Don Newcombe*. "Brooklyn in the magical post-World War II 1940s and 1950s was an unparalleled place to grow up," she said.

Holly steps herself in places to gain a sense of them.

Brooklyn plus Manhattan and Snedens Landing, NY, are all on the East Coast. Now think West Coast and see that she has room for more: Oregon, where she and her late husband owned a vineyard and winery and bred, raced, and showed fourteen horses. Add to that the Washington locations of Port Ludlow, Seattle, Birch Bay, and finally Bellingham.

East Coast, West Coast, she embraces them both, which is convenient since she has just been named co-editor of the *Shul Shofar*, the Beth Israel newsletter that serves a geographically diverse congregation.



Holly Witte and son Charles Redell

And she gets involved wherever she goes as Congregation Beth Israel member Judy Osman has witnessed: "Holly lived in Birch Bay a short time, and she is greatly missed since she moved to Bellingham," Judy said. "While she was here she became an integral part of the social committee and secretary of the Lakes and Drainage committee in Birch Bay Village. She was also an active member and fundraiser for the friends of Birch Bay Library. It is a delight to know Holly, and I am glad she is now a member of the Beth Israel community."

Growing up, Holly attended Union Temple, which was half a block from her home, a place she said had a powerful effect on her. "Everything I know and believe about social justice I learned at Union Temple," she said.

She attended Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn and Adelphi University in Garden City, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Theater and English and a Master's in Communications. She served as a Teaching Fellow there as well.

In New York City she freelanced as a writer for the *New York Daily News*, *Newsday*, *Map & Guide* magazine, and a Greenwich Village magazine where she did theater reviews. She also had a WMCA radio spot where she discussed how to amuse oneself in NYC without spending much money. Its emphasis was on kids.

She served as executive director for a Reconstructionist congregation, West End Synagogue. This is where her son, Charlie, became the syna-

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1-2. Tot Shabbat fun. 3-5. Beit Café. 4. Gayle Cloud. 5. Leah Bordman. 6. Volunteers Steve Spitzer and Terri Weiner assist students Gan-Fourth grade with planting celery in small pots to be taken home for Passover. 7. Fifth and eighth graders enjoy the chocolate fountain for dipping the first fruits. 8. Fourth graders paint trees with water colors. 9. Sixth and seventh graders learn to make their own challah. 10. Ella Barney brings a challah to share for the sixth- and seventh-grade family *oneg*. 11. Good times were had by all at Keshet.

In Lieu of Spiel

By Jason Benhaim

ACROSS

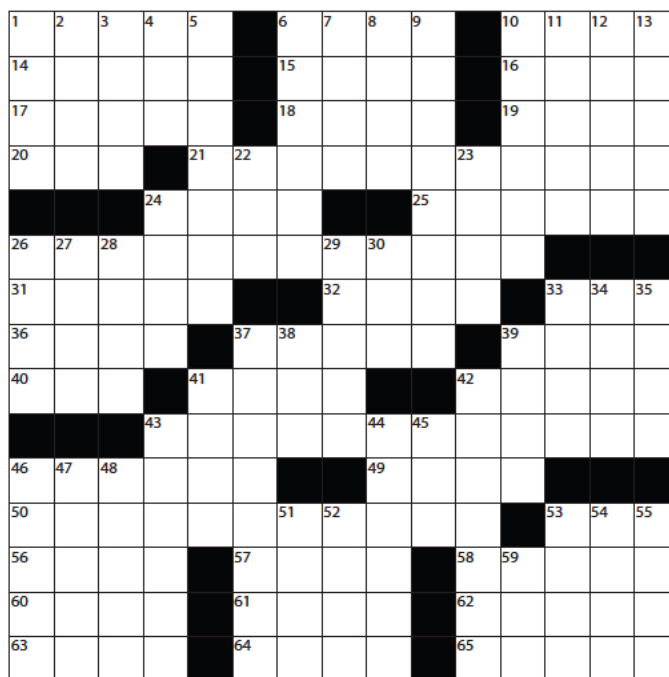
- 1 Fragrant backyard flower
6 Rain cats and dogs
10 Dodgeball variant for Keshet kids
14 Boise's state
15 Seattle neighborhood Queen ____
16 Zenbook laptop maker
17 '____ Black' (1997 sci-fi spoof)
18 "Sweet Caroline" singer Diamond
19 They may be dropped for emphasis
20 Spoiled
21 Hebrew holiday saying
24 Person, place, or thing
25 Canadian \$2 coin
26 You and your shul-mates, collectively
31 Noah was on top of it
32 Cleveland NBA team
33 South Korean "Princes of Pop"
36 Allows
37 Havdalah spice
39 Longest type of year
40 Plea at sea
41 Naturalist who wrote "The mountains are calling, and I must go"
42 Extremely
43 Purim poppyseed pocket
46 Jacob's second name (and, with 21-Across, 26-Across, and 33-Down, this puzzle's message)

49 Deli breads

- 50 Moves like a dreidel
53 Scoundrel
56 Where Graceland is: Abbr.
57 180s, slangily
58 Around, time-wise
60 Gymnast Korb
61 Mediterranean or Keto, e.g.
62 Helvetica look-alike
63 Texter's Tevye-like way of saying "Then again ..."
64 'My Fair Lady' professor 'iggins
65 Akiva or Samuels, e.g.

DOWN

- 1 An arm or a leg
2 Notion
3 ____ of milk and honey
4 Poke bowl tuna
5 Manischewitz wine grape
6 Thai curry choice
7 Post-Shabbat gathering
8 Aussie colleges
9 According to Einstein, it's all ____
10 "Let's play!"
11 Traditional Christmas Eve cuisine, for Jews
12 Luxury purse purveyor
13 "Steady ____ goes"
22 Shade
23 Cow sounds
24 Private nonprofits



- 26 Energy-efficient bulbs
27 Old name for margarine
28 Forget-me-____
29 Squirrel snack
30 Aleph-Bet's caboose
33 Sister of Meg, Jo, and Amy
34 Container weight
35 Bridge
37 Impressive way to graduate
38 Alternative spelling for "Leah"
39 Like some businesses
41 Fannie ____ (securities)
42 It might be a lemon
43 Palindromic girl's name
44 Reliable
45 'The Fountainhead' author Rand
46 Rejoinder to "Is not!"
47 Kind of wheat
48 Fab Four drummer
51 Horse halter
52 Yiddish speaker?
53 Baby bed
54 Call ____ (yell "Taxi!")
55 Surrealist Salvador
59 'This American Life' host Glass

Solution on page 13

Love Where You Live



Melissa Schapiro,

Realtor with



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Birthdays

MARCH 2023

3/1 Richard Cavell
 3/1 Tannia Hecht
 3/1 Brenda Miller
 3/1 Debbie Whitney
 3/2 Ivy Hammerstrom (2nd)
 3/2 Nadia Mazonson (18th)
 3/4 Renee Elder
 3/4 Nancy Luster
 3/4 Talya Sanger (22nd)
 3/5 Lev Cornwall (17th)
 3/6 Christoph Reitz
 3/6 Mary Somerville
 3/6 Judith Zibbell
 3/7 Jay Braunstein
 3/7 Sara Geballe
 3/8 Norman DesRosiers
 3/8 Deborah Oksenberg
 3/8 K.C. Sulkin
 3/9 Bert Curtis
 3/9 Leeya Shoshana Genut (10th)
 3/9 Ryan Goldman (18th)
 3/11 John LaMont
 3/11 Samuel Pomerantz (8th)
 3/12 Sivan Wells-Langley (12th)
 3/13 Carly Benhaim
 3/13 Rebecca Orloff
 3/13 Steve Schwartz
 3/14 Jeff Galbraith
 3/14 Jordan Verkh-Haskell (21st)
 3/15 Yaniv Attar
 3/15 Esther Horton (11th)
 3/16 Jason Benhaim
 3/18 Jessica Cohen
 3/18 Samantha Sinai
 3/19 Carol Robinson
 3/20 Jody Meltzer

3/20 Matthew Schall
 3/21 Naomi Pomerantz
 3/21 Bonnie Quam
 3/22 Jonah Attar (13th)
 3/22 Sonorah DesRosiers (15th)
 3/22 Sue Mahar
 3/22 Roy Shankman
 3/23 Camille Keefe
 3/23 Elle Kronenberg
 3/23 Jerome Rosen
 3/24 Ruth Ingberman
 3/24 Michael Korner
 3/25 Tami DuBow
 3/25 Ariel Sarah Gott (10th)
 3/27 Marybeth Taranow
 3/27 Aviva Weinstein (16th)
 3/28 Eileen Miller
 3/28 Nancy Thomson
 3/29 Rick Romito
 3/30 Meghan Galvin
 3/30 Samantha Konikoff
 3/30 Niilo Witter McGarrity (4th)
 3/31 Lynn Korner
 3/31 Jeff Margolis
 3/31 Gabriel Witte (14th)

APRIL 2023

4/1 Amy Kraham
 4/3 Ethan Oliver (21st)
 4/3 Alisa Sachs
 4/4 Daniel Feller
 4/4 Mary Jo Lewis
 4/5 Jeff Collard
 4/6 Tammy Dixon
 4/6 Katie Edelstein
 4/6 Hank Levine
 4/6 Daniel Zagnoli
 4/7 Lisa Balton

4/7 Steven Cohen
 4/7 Samuel Donner (16th)
 4/7 Kevin Parker
 4/10 Katie Comstock
 4/10 Jeffrey Feld
 4/10 Susan Katz
 4/11 Lilah Blum (22nd)
 4/12 Cora Boothby
 4/12 Sarah DesRosiers
 4/13 Steve Ban
 4/13 Karen Fisher
 4/14 Jeffrey Probst
 4/15 Gabriel Burkill (2nd)
 4/16 Mia Clarke (17th)
 4/16 Elizabeth Witte (11th)
 4/17 Paul Blum
 4/17 Benjamin Sommers (17th)
 4/18 Navah DesRosiers (18th)
 4/18 Ian Horton
 4/18 Liza Jane Price (15th)
 4/18 Linda Read
 4/18 Ruby Simon (14th)
 4/18 Alexandra Verkh
 4/19 Jaz Balasa
 4/19 Orly Ravitsky
 4/23 Lindsay Roberts (13th)
 4/24 Leah Lippman
 4/24 Aniel Wells-Langley (14th)
 4/25 Margaret Bikman
 4/25 Ian McCurdy
 4/25 Jason Stoane
 4/26 Spencer Jantzen (18th)
 4/27 Philip Wolff
 4/28 Joel David
 4/28 Andrew Orloff
 4/28 Katlaina Rayne
 4/28 Shoshana Samuels (11th)
 4/29 Abigail Comstock (15th)
 4/29 Richard Widerkeh
 4/30 Sabrina Gentry (13th)

HOLLY WITTE

Continued from Page 8

gogue's first Bar Mitzvah. Charlie is now 49 and married to Alexis. They live in an extension of Holly's Bellingham home. Holly also has three step-daughters.

Before all that and early in her professional life, she worked for TeleTape Productions, a videotape company that designed the first mobile production studio so that events could be taped as they happened. The company also built the studio for Sesame Street and The Electric Company.

This company is where she met her first husband, Don, Charlie's father. He was vice president of sales at the company, and they were happily

married from 1973 until his death in 1980. When she finally remarried in 2006, it was to Jim Witte who had been TeleTape's president and was a good friend of her first husband. Jim died in 2021.

For pleasure Holly writes, creates art, performs her written pieces for libraries and senior centers. She volunteers for the Friends of Birch Bay library and is just about to join the Board of Allied Arts Whatcom County.

She loves making connections for people, as in "You want to publish a book? Wait, I know a publisher!" She has done much traveling, for both business and pleasure. She still works in Association Management and Development for a global membership organization of systems engineers.

Two to four meetings a year have taken her to different points on the globe.

One special voyage was her first trip to France to a jazz festival followed by 10 days in Paris. She's returned to Paris six or seven times since. Another was the ferry trip to Alaska through the Inside Passage. "It was magnificent," she said, "right up there with my first trip to Paris."

And just as she lived down the street from her childhood *shul*, so she now lives only several minutes from Congregation Beth Israel, which she joined as soon as she moved to Bellingham in 2022. "I wanted to renew my connection to what played such a large part of what formed me growing up," she said, thus creating a neat circle in her life.

Landscape Committee

What a Difference Two Years Makes

BY MIRIAM SCHWARTZ

As I write, in mid-January, the witch hazel tree near the Memorial Garden is in bloom showing tassels of marmalade-colored flowers that catch the light. Only two years ago, in late winter and early spring of 2021, that tree was sitting in the parking lot along with scores of other trees and shrubs, waiting to be planted. My computer shows me photos from the current day in past years, so I see again the process—the weedy areas turning into blank pallets, and those blank areas being filled with small plants.

Fast forward two years—those plants have grown! Some new plants have been added, and a few replaced or moved to better sites. I am adding a few pictures to show the process.

Since the summer of 2021, those small plants have been nurtured by Team Mayim, a group of intrepid people who came regularly through the first two summers to water and weed the landscaped beds. Others have helped keep the rain gardens (water run-off abatement areas) in a state that allows them to function properly and keep excess water out of the sewer system.

This summer, our plantings are three years old and should have established good, deep root systems. Most areas are planted with things that should be drought-tolerant, which means plants that should survive without being watered a lot, but may need some occasional help to look decent. The rain gardens have not been watered at all, and they are robust and flourishing.

We have some future plans and ideas as well. Some are in process; others are just ideas at this point. Josh Greenberg, in addition to being the Board President, is working on ways to improve our water supply, which has been a huge limitation. Horsetail is thoroughly inhabiting the uphill slope along the upper front drive, and a longer-term solution is being sought. Our trees, those red oaks along the drive and the other parking lot and patio, may be ready to have their stakes removed. A few different visions for the slope between the upper and lower driveways are being considered. And the steel containers along the Kesher walkway are going to be planted by the kids, at long last!

We contract with a landscape company a few times for big clean-ups a year of the grassy areas and the meadow, but to limit our costs we still have need of Team Mayim helpers—the weeds, as you can imagine, are drought-tolerant, too. We gather in the early part of the day when it is cool to do what needs to be done. By doing, we grow not only a beautiful setting, but our hands-on connection to Congregation Beth Israel. If you are interested, please contact me at Miriam.Schwartz@bethisraelbellingham.org or pieface880@gmail.com



Special Fund Donations

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

IN HONOR OF:

- My husband, Richard
- Lynn Korner
- Nicole Samuels

From: *Idalina Trank*

Rick & Leslie Adelstein, in celebration of the birth of their new granddaughter

From: *Nancy & Don Davis*

The baby naming of our granddaughter, Selah Ivy Adelstein

From: *Rick & Leslie Adelstein*

IN APPRECIATION:

To Rabbi Samuels

From: *Debra & Bruce Parelskin Henry Zemel*

To Rabbi Samuels, for the wedding of Samantha and Thalen Cambo

From: *Mark & Teresa Sommers*

To Rabbi Samuels, for officiating our wedding

From: *Samantha & Thalen Cambo*

Rebecca Morse & Andrew Cambo, for their love and support

From: *Samantha & Thalen Cambo*

GET WELL WISHES TO:

- Kenny Atterman
- Ed Rosenberg

From: *Peter & Rhoda Samuels*

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

- Shirley Zipkin—in memory of Bob Stillman
- Judy & Shelly Brodsky—in memory of your daughter, Karen

From: *Peter & Rhoda Samuels*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

- My beloved brother, Fred Graff
- My beloved father, Isadore Graff

From: *Phyllis Mazur*

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

*Arlene Feld
Dan Raas
Karen Sloss*

CARE COMMITTEE

IN APPRECIATION:

To the Committee members
From: *Janis & Steve Ban*

Sommers Family members Amanda, Ashley, and Malea, for their support and help with our wedding

From: *Samantha & Thalen Cambo*

CAMP/YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Dan Raas

GENERAL FUND

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

*Karen Sloss
Joan & Marv Wayne*

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Noémi Ban and Fred Fagner
From: *Ray Wolpow*

NEW SYNAGOGUE FUND

IN APPRECIATION:

To the Witte and Somers families, for their support and help with our wedding

From: *Samantha & Thalen Cambo*

To Katie Edelstein, for her support and for keeping our building beautiful

From: *Teresa & Mark Sommers*

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

*Kuk Sool Won
martial arts
Michal Matar-Schene
& Robert Schene
Dan Raas*

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

IN HONOR OF:

Linda Hirsh

From: *David Goldman & Linda Blackwell*

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Jeff Harkavey – in memory of Dennis Harkavey

From: *Iris & Kevin Parker*

YOUTH OUTREACH COMMITTEE

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

*Kuk Sool Won
martial arts*

ISRAEL TRIP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

David Goldman & Linda Blackwell

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March/April 2023 Shabbat Service Schedule

PLEASE NOTE: Friday evening services and Saturday Torah study will be *hybrid*, allowing congregants and visitors to worship or study in person, or attend via Zoom. **All Saturday morning services will be in person only.** It is no longer required to show proof of vaccination or to wear a mask while in the building, although both vaccination and masking are strongly recommended. This schedule is subject to change, so please watch the weekly *Timbrel* or the Beth Israel website for updates.

Friday, March 3	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Family Service, featuring the Keshet 1st/2nd Grade class	Saturday, April 1	9:30 am Torah Study on Zoom only (<i>Parashat Tzav</i>)
Saturday, March 4	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Tetzaveh</i>) 11:00 am Jewish Renewal Shabbat service	Friday, April 7	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Family Service
Friday, March 10	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	Saturday, April 8	9:30 am Torah Study for Pesach 10:30 am Shabbat morning service, including Yizkor/Hallel
Saturday, March 11	10:00 am Adult B'nei Mitzvah of Johnny Cook, Henry Curme, Harriet Markell, and Emily Weiner	Friday, April 14	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Friday, March 17	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	Saturday, April 15	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Shemini</i>) 11:00 am Tot Shabbat service
Saturday, March 18	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Vayakhel-Pekudei</i>) 11:00 am Tot Shabbat service	Monday, April 17	7:00 pm Yom HaShoah Service with the Keshet 8th Grade class
Friday, March 24	7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat service, with leadership from the Ma'Ayan Shir ensemble	Friday, April 21	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat service
Saturday, March 25	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Vayikra</i>) 10:30 am Conservative-style, lay-led minyan	Saturday, April 22	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Tazria-Metzora</i>) 10:30 am Conservative-style, lay-led minyan
Friday, March 31	Fifth Friday "Shabbat at Home." No service – welcome Shabbat with friends and family	Friday, April 28	7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat service, with leadership from the Ma'Ayan Shir ensemble
		Saturday, April 29	9:30 am Torah Study on Zoom only (<i>Parashat Achare Mot-Kedoshim</i>)

Declutter for Mitzvah Day

Spring is nearly upon us, and there's no better time to start preparing to declutter or spring clean our homes.

MASSA students are collecting second-hand items to be sold to Value Village. The proceeds will go towards students' tickets to Israel.

We are looking for used clothing, small household items, books, baby stuff, sports equipment, CDs, bedding, toys, etc. No furniture or anything that can't be enclosed in an average size box, please. Clothing will need to be put in plastic bags, other items in boxes. We do have extra boxes in our large storage if you need some.

Please plan to donate your items on Mitzvah Day, April 30, between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. If you need to have your items picked up, then please contact Victoria Mayers at Victoria.mayers@bethisraelbellingham.org

We can arrange to have a MASSA student come collect your donations.

Thank you for your consideration and ongoing support for our MASSA program.

Happy decluttering everyone.

Vermeda M. Fred, MFT, MFA



(415) 518-4321

vmfred08@gmail.com
Bellingham, WA
Vancouver, BC

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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, March 3

Victoria Goldstein	3/4
Irwin Weiner	3/4
Paul Zentner	3/4
Alice Duckworth	3/5
Jack Eigen	3/5
Joseph Sonneman	3/5
Henry Edwards	3/6
Elsa Zentner	3/6
David Boman	3/7
Fred Fragner	3/7
Phyllis Goldin	3/7
Ida Chia Kahn	3/7
Gilbert Orlik	3/7
George Schwartz	3/7
Harold Shepard	3/7
Carole Bajema	3/8
BJ Elder	3/9
Archie Fine	3/9
Harry Skinner	3/9
Judith Goldstein Zibbell	3/9
Saul Faber	3/10
Colleen Koplowitz	3/10
Floyd Pritchett	3/10
Walter von Hollander	3/10
Monica Zderic	3/10

Friday, March 10 and Saturday, March 11

Jessie Edinger	3/4
Thomas Josiah Boothby	3/12
Esther Redel	3/13
Corey Skelton	3/13
Benjamin Goldberg	3/14
Max Lazarus	3/14
Leonard Levine	3/14
Charles Blackwell	3/15
Marcia Landau	3/15
Felicia Elizabeth Romito	3/15
Elaine Fox Suloway	3/15
Shirley Boman	3/16
Eduardo Filgueira	3/16
June Krauzer Mazonson	3/16

Friday, March 17

Charles B. (Bud) Koplowitz	3/18
Harold Schneider	3/18
Lylyan Wick	3/19
Abraham Blum	3/20
Dorothy Brody	3/20
Helen Sharfstein	3/20
Gordon Eli Stolzoff	3/20
Harry Zemel	3/20
Mabel Berman	3/21
Alyson Weinstein	3/21
Raymond DeVries	3/22
Morrie Feller	3/22
Esther Katz	3/22
Frank McKelvey	3/22
Eliezer Spiro	3/22
Amy Louisa Blank	3/23
Leila Fallet	3/23
Norman Fallet	3/23

Loren Lund	3/23
Louis Sloss	3/23
Norma Soode	3/23
Anna Kushner	3/24
Debbie Raas	3/24
Ben Zderic	3/24

Friday, March 24 and Saturday, March 25

Jimmy Goldstein	3/25
Leonard Price	3/25
Megan Guppy	3/26
Marjorie L. Hanley	3/26
William A. Gordon	3/27
Lou Mazel	3/27
Herbert Sulkin	3/27
Naomi Stone	3/28
Fred Heller	3/31

Friday, March 31

Leah Rachel Shapiro	4/1
Norma Edwards	4/2
Beatrice Lazaroff	4/2
Justin Scharff	4/2
Joyce Zvenia	4/2
Robert Korner	4/3
Lois Oksenberg	4/3
Burl Ives	4/5
Ray Schapiro	4/5
Manfred Vernon	4/5
Dorothy M. Fine	4/6
Curt Jay Alper	4/7
Arthur Feld	4/7

Friday, April 7

Harry M. Eisner	4/8
Sue Ohms	4/8
Arnold Somers	4/8
Max Wolfman	4/8
Naomi Lazarus Barnes	4/9
Arnold Behrstock	4/9
Dennis Scharff	4/10
Jack Mazur	4/11
James Edward Witte	4/11
David Alper	4/12
Esther Suloway	4/12
Emanuel M. Lindheimer	4/14
Marcelo Lindner	4/14
Akiva Schoen	4/14
Yochevad Katz Zimmerman	4/14

Friday, April 14 and Saturday, April 15

Jean Cheever	4/15
Violet Shaw	4/15
Max Swartz	4/15
Jennie Shuster	4/16
Ethel Berger	4/17
Glen Myers	4/17
Fragner Family	4/18
Harold Jules (Hal) Kaplowitz	4/18
Selma Lebovich	4/18
Morris Fischel	4/20
Gregory Kurman	4/20
Benjamin Shapiro	4/21

Friday, April 21

Thelma Weiner	4/22
Hy Zimmerman	4/22
Henrietta Siegel	4/23
Edward Stone	4/23
Joanne M. Lund	4/24
Rose Sondik	4/24
William Deas	4/25
Karleene Press	4/25
Eliezer Strich	4/25
Ronald King	4/26
Sharon Gordon Greer	4/27
Elayne B. Weiner	4/27
Mary Widerkehr	4/27

Friday, April 28

Regina Hiatt	4/29
Judith Teir Kasser	4/30
Esther Siegel	4/30
Rachel Kaplan Tartak	4/30
Leonard Halpern	5/1
Felicia Keller	5/1
Sergio Shwadsky	5/1
Ray Jay	5/2
Benjamin Ostry	5/2
ErmaFlora Haughawout Boothby	5/3
Etta Fine	5/3
Lois M. Welch	5/3
Elaine Greenberg	5/5
Evelyn Roberts	5/5
Jeanne Schwartz	5/5
Fred Spector	5/5

In Memoriam

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

Our congregation offers heartfelt condolences to the following individuals and their families:

Rena Ziegler on the loss of her brother, **Dr. Herzl Spiro**, who passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with his wife and children at his side. He was 87 years old.

Kathi Paluch on the loss of her mother, **Murial Smith**, who passed peacefully at age 95 on Sunday, February 12, 2023 at home in Portland, Oregon.

THE SHUL SHOFAR

Congregation Beth Israel

751 San Juan Boulevard
Bellingham, WA 98229

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COMMUNITY SEDER 2023

5:30 pm Thursday, April 6, 2023
(doors open at 5:00 pm)

After three long years, the wait is over—join us at Congregation Beth Israel for a second-night Community Seder here at the synagogue, 751 San Juan Blvd.

The meal will include a delicious Passover buffet dinner with salmon or vegetarian, gluten-free and dairy-free options, as well as Manischewitz wine. You may bring your own kosher-for-Passover wine if you like.

Join us for a fun, lively, and upbeat retelling of the Exodus story, sure to please young and old alike.

Register online at bethisraelbellingham.org/seder-registration-2023

Deadline is March 20, 2023.

For questions, contact Nicole Samuels, nicolesamuels@gmail.com
or Jane Hammerstrom, janeboman@gmail.com

We hope to see you there!

