



CONGREGATION
BETH ISRAEL

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023 HESHVAN/KISLEV/TEVET 5784

THE SHUL SHOFAR

VOL. 28, NO. 2 * Congregation Beth Israel * Bellingham, WA 98229 * bethisraelbellingham.org * (360) 733-8890

We Will Get Through This

BY RABBI SAMUELS

It is hard to believe that, as of this writing, the crisis taking place in Israel and Gaza has lasted for two weeks. I know you share my prayers that calm will come quickly to the region and eventually a lasting peace, and most importantly, a safe return of the hostages. Our Beth Israel community is home to nearly 300 families, and we won't all see eye-to-eye on every issue, especially when it comes to politics in Israel and the ongoing conflict with Palestinians. But I hope we are all unified in standing with our Jewish family in our Homeland as we fight for our

survival. I also hope we stand with innocent Palestinian civilians who are caught in the middle of a tragic situation. Both sentiments can be felt simultaneously. Holding these thoughts can feel heavy on one's mind. Please know I am available to listen if you need someone to talk to.

*Oseh shalom bim'ro'mav hu
ya'aseh shalom alei'nu, v'al kol Yisrael
v'al kol yoshvei tevel v'imru, Amen.*

May the One who makes peace in the heights make peace for us, for all Israel, and for all who dwell on earth and let us say, Amen.



FROM THE RABBI

The Festival of Light



Chanukah is a big deal in my household. It always has been. When I was growing up, my parents decorated our home with "Happy

Chanukah" signs and paper dreidels pinned on the walls. All of our *chanukiyot* would be on display, even the ones my sister and I made from clay in Sunday school. Not much has changed in my own house today. Our ever-expanding *chanukiyah* collection takes over our dining room table, and if you were to walk in our front door, you would know immediately that we were celebrating something. The one thing we don't do each year is fry latkes. I prefer eating those in other people's homes. And if you're wondering, I eat mine with applesauce.

Chanukah is the most widely celebrated Jewish festival in America today. I think we all get why it is so popular. Part of its success clearly comes from the gift-giving and the holiday's proximity to Christmas, unless, of course, it falls closer to Thanksgiving and then we've got the rare "Thanksgivikkuh." (The next one

INSIDE:

• Author of *Kiss the Red Stairs Will Speak* at CBI, page 6

• Faces in Our Community: Wendy Westgate, page 8



Continued on Page 11

From the President...

Volunteer!



Becoming active at CBI is a conscious decision to step forward and choose to be an integral part of our communal tapestry. By becoming involved — by giving a bit of your time

— we invest not only in the future of our congregation but also in the betterment of our own lives.

The bonds forged through shared experiences, whether lending a hand in caring for our landscaping or cleaning up after a social event, create a sense of belonging that is irreplaceable. Can it be awkward to get going and to raise your hand? Perhaps... some of you know how socially uncomfortable I felt when I stepped forward. I found that once you start working on the said task or committee the awkwardness disappears and the connections — the magic — happens. I've had congregants tell me that they don't feel connected to CBI and miss the old days when we were a small congregation. To this, I suggest that perhaps volunteering in some way can create the sense of belonging we all want.

I encourage you to think about what you are getting out of your membership at CBI and what you contribute to creating your experiences as a member at CBI.

Perhaps you wonder how you can get involved and where we might need help:

1. We have an approved position in place for a **volunteer coordinator**. This individual would help link our volunteers with their interests or expertise. With some database experience, you can work with our existing framework to get us started. If you are a self-starter who lit up at the mention of this, please let me know... Let's create this long needed position together.
2. We are looking for people with strong **accounting and or financial services backgrounds** for our finance team. If you have a financial or business background and are interested in helping chart our future, please let

get in touch with me or our fabulous Treasurer, Karen Sloss.

3. Perhaps you only have the time/ability to volunteer for a few weeks or have very little free time. Great! Get in touch with Cathy Zitzer who is forming teams to work on specific **holiday observances**. This type of volunteering could be perfect for parents who want to model the spirit of volunteering.
4. We are also looking for a key individual to act as our **facility rental point person**. In this exciting role you serve as the point of contact for members and the public to schedule events in our space. You will have the benefit of learning from Katie Edelstein, who has held this position since we moved into the building and is ready to pass the baton.
5. Our **governance** team is looking for fresh ideas and energy in codifying the policies and procedures that frame how we operate. If this speaks to you, please reach out and we will connect you with Mitch Press and Rena Zeigler, our long-standing co-chairs.
6. Finally, we are searching for a special member to be our **membership ambassador**, acting as the first point of contact when interested people reach out about joining CBI. In this position, an individual or two would greet prospective new members, tour them through our beautiful synagogue, and guide them through the membership process to connecting them, ideally, with groups or activities that interest them, or with a new volunteer coordinator. Imagine what we can achieve when we not only welcome new members but help shepherd them into our flock.

Member of CBI is more than a title; it is a bond that ties to generations past and future. It is a commitment to preserving and passing on the wisdom and teachings of our tradition. Every member adds a unique thread to the rich tapestry of our congregation. Please join me in continuing to weave this tapestry.

JODI LITT
PRESIDENT

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

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Bellingham, WA 98229

The Shul Shofar
Volume 28, Number 2
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Deadline for submission of all articles and calendar events for the January/February issue is DECEMBER 11. Call the office for more information.

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From the Kesher Center for Jewish Learning

Introducing Kesher Staff of 5784

BY LEAH BORDMAN

The Kesher year is off to an incredible start, and we have our staff and madrichim to thank!

Welcome our staff:



Darcie Donegan is the leader of our Gan class. Her kiddos are between 1-4 years old, and there are currently 11 students enrolled in her class. Darcie also teaches Early Childhood Education at WCC. She's the mother of 3 and has been married for more than 30 years. Darcie loves to read, craft, and spend time outdoors.

Her Madricha is **Aviva Weinstein**.



Kellan Moss is the Kindergarten/first-grade teacher, currently with 9 students enrolled in this class. Outside Kesher, Kellan is a Life Science/Medical illustrator learning to animate, and this winter will spend two months living and working on a scientific research boat in the Atlantic.

The Madrichim in the K/1 class are **Bella Gentry** and **Natalie Ravitsky**.



Samantha Schwartz is a first-year Kesher teacher who grew up in this community and was recently a Madricha in our program. Sam is the second/third-grade teacher, with 9 students currently enrolled. Sam loves to sew and has a cat named Archimedes, in addition to being a freshman at Western.

The Madrichim in the 2/3 class are **Lucy Naiman** and **Evan Konikoff**.



This year we've hired **Naomi Schapiro** to fill a special role in Kesher. She is working as the K-third grade Mentor, serving as a talented extra support system for the staff of our youngest students. Naomi grew up here at CBI and is studying to be a teacher. She also loves blueberries and burritos.



The fourth-grade teacher this year is **Parker Geffen**, and there are 6 students enrolled in his class so far. Parker spends his summers working at URJ Camp Kalsman as a camp counselor and a lifeguard. He lived in Israel for 4 months when he was 16 years old, and he loves to scuba dive.

The Madricha in Parker's class is **Liza Jane Price**.



Abby Kroopkin is our fifth-grade teacher again this year, and there are currently 8 people enrolled in this class. Abby is also a URJ Camp Kalsman staff member who studies at Western. She has played the cello for 8 years and can pogo stick for thirty minutes without stopping.

The Madrich in the fifth-grade class is **Lior Somers**.



Again this year, the sixth-grade Kesher teacher is **Hannah Shernicoff**. Hannah has our biggest Kesher class, with 16 students currently enrolled and with more to come. Hannah recently adopted two kittens named Jean and Ivy. She is student-teaching at Cascadia Elementary

Continued on Page 10

Synagogue 411

Archives:

Tim Baker, (360) 305-6945

Care:

Else Sokol, (360) 393-9618

Sarah Witte, (360) 296-3058

Membership:

Ann Suloway, (360) 296-8220

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Bar Mitzvah



Sylvan Alexander Weinstein will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 25, 2023, his thirteenth birthday. He is the son of Marc Weinstein and Elizabeth Snyder and the younger brother of Aviva. Born in Bellingham, he is a seventh grader at Shuksan Middle School.

Sylvan is doing a mitzvah project where he bakes Shabbat challah monthly for our elderly Jewish community living in local

residential care. He enjoys playing piano, video games, building Lego sets, listening to music, and backpacking.

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

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE
Friday, November 24, 2023 at 7:30 pm

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE
Saturday, November 25, 2023 at 10:00 am

Speaker Series

Gaby Mayers
From Bombay to Bellingham

December 3
Optional Potluck: 5:30 pm
Presentation: 6:30-8:00 pm



Gaby is a Squallicum High School History teacher and a long-time CBI congregant. Gaby was born into the Bene

Israel Jewish community in Bombay, India. In his presentation he will discuss the theories regarding how Jews arrived in India, share memories from his childhood in Bombay and his family's experiences as new immigrants in Israel. There will be time allotted for questions after the presentation.

Ray Wolpov
From Hurt to Hope: Messages from Shoah Survivors Noémi Ban z"l and Fred Fragner z"l

January 28
Optional Potluck: 5:30 pm
Presentation: 6:30-8:00 pm



Ray Wolpov is a professor emeritus and name-sake of the Holocaust Studies Center at WWU. He has taught Shoah history

and literature at CBI's Keshet for more than a decade and was co-author of Noémi Ban's book *Sharing is Healing*. He has presented these messages to numerous academic and faith-based groups.

During this short talk and slide presentation, Ray will share messages of resilience and hope learned from his work with concentration camp survivors. Together, we will endeavor to gain insight into how our own CBI congregants Noémi Ban and Fred Fragner were able to transform profound loss and sorrow into personal integrity, family strength, and love for their faith and communities.

Please come prepared to listen and share your own thoughts, remembrances, and hopes for tikkun olam.

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From the Social Action Committee

Social Action Committee Seeks Chair

BY LINDA BLACKWELL

The Social Action Committee is looking for a new chairperson in 2024. Two individuals could co-chair. I began co-chairing in January 2014 with Debbie Raas (z"l). Debbie Raas and Linda Hirsh were great mentors, and I plan to stay on the committee to mentor a new chairperson. It has been a great opportunity to learn about the activists and projects in our CBI community, as well as the Interfaith Coalition of Bellingham. I am grateful to have collaborated with Jewish organizations at the state and national level. The Religious Action Center (RAC) of the URJ provided many programs that were helpful as the committee addressed immigration justice, racial equity, and diversity. It is time for new ideas and leadership. The volunteers on the committee have accomplished much, and I appreciate all their efforts and work. Please consider taking on this leadership role to advocate for social justice.

This fall the committee gathered food donations at the High Holidays. Once again the congregants of Beth Israel were very generous. The donations to the Bellingham Food Bank were \$430 in cash, and over 100 lbs of food. The Food Hills Food Bank in Kendall received \$190 plus over 120 lbs of food. Thanks to Joan Wayne, Gloria Lebowitz, Peggy Hanley, and Cora Boothby for volunteering and transporting the food.

The Annual Interfaith Coat Drive took place in October. As I write this article the total number of coats donated is pending, but at least five bags of coats with numerous hats and mittens knitted by the CBI knitting group were received.

By the end of October, the Social Action Committee had mailed approximately 200 postcards encouraging voting in Ohio on reproductive freedom. On the ballot was an amendment to protect the right to make personal health care decisions. This Letter Writing project was done in coordination with the Ohio Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism.

Future plans are for a movie and book club night. The movie screening will be "Denial," about Deborah E. Lipstadt's court battle. To quote the movie blurb, "Deborah Lipstadt and Penguin Books published *Denying the Holocaust* in 1993. Two years later the English author David Irving sued her for libel on the grounds that her book had ruined his once well-regarded career as an historian by accusing him of deliberately distorting historical facts. The resulting court case put the onus on her legal team to prove that the Holocaust did indeed take place. Based on a true story." We hope this can happen in December. Later in January, the committee would like to have a book group discussion of Deborah E. Lipstadt's book *Antisemitism Here and Now*. The committee plans to focus on antisemitism during the upcoming year.

MASSA Youth Program Collecting Items for Silent Auction

The MASSA Youth Program has scheduled a silent auction for the spring of 2024.

We are looking for donations to make this a great auction and help us raise money for our June trip to Israel:

- Hand-made art such as pottery, paintings, flower baskets, quilts, and jewelry.
- Baskets filled with treasures like beauty products, sports equipment, arts and crafts supplies, tools, baked goodies, stuff for pets, or Judaica.
- Services you might donate include garden help, dog walking, babysitting, house cleaning, house clutter collecting, moving furniture assistance, Hebrew lessons, tutoring lessons, mending – basically, the list is endless.

- Cook a meal and deliver it.
- Donate the use of your summer home, camper, boat, bikes, kayaks, etc!

Please contact Nicky Naiman at nickybassett@hotmail.com with information regarding your items. We request you write something up so bidders will know exactly what they're bidding on when they see your donations.

We will announce when we need your items and where to deliver them at a later date.

Until then, thank you for considering donating items for our MASSA teens.

Author of *Kiss the Red Stairs* Will Speak at CBI November 12

BY EMILY WEINER

Marsha Lederman, a columnist and arts correspondent for *The Globe and Mail*, who is the daughter of Holocaust survivors, reflects in her memoir on how the past she didn't live lives on in her, and on her fear that it will continue to live beyond her, in her son.

Lederman will speak about her memoir *Kiss the Red Stairs; The Holocaust Once Removed* at CBI at 4:00 pm on Sunday, November 12. Village Books is co-presenting this author event with CBI and will sell books. The Ray Wolpov Institute for the Study of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Crimes Against Humanity at Western Washington University is a sponsor.

Lederman begins her memoir on a day early in the COVID pandemic when her eleven-year-old son was begging to go outside to a roped-off playground they could see from their living room. Part of her was instantly transported from her own life to what happened to her parents and their siblings: "In 2020 Canada, I could say to my son: yes, this is terrible. But nobody can go out and play. It's hard for everyone. This is what we have to do to stay safe. What if, through that window, he was able to see other children at the playground?"

Lederman said these thoughts are where it always went for her: "Auschwitz, Treblinka, the ghetto, the forest, the farm. What if all the other kids could play but my child could not, because he is Jewish?"

"One moment my son was my mother, and then he was her little brother. I looked at this disappointed boy peering out the window, and I was imagining him rounded up in a chaotic scream of desperate people, separated from me, pushed on a train, stripped of his clothes, his little eleven-year-old dignity, and in a few hours, his life."

Lederman wrote that she "was raised on a diet of quiet sorrow. There was a sort of osmosis taking place in my house; the grief of genocide hung silently in the rooms. Sometimes not completely silent, but transmitted in bits and pieces of conversation, or deafening absences."

Even her parents' repeated statement, "We just want you to be happy" carried the weight of her parents' wishing that Marsha's happiness could serve as a path out of the devastation that had befallen them.

Once she was old enough to know what her parents had gone through, it became impossible to voice her own pain. "How dare I unload... about a disappointing biology test result, a friend's broken promise, even my own broken heart? These problems were luxuries, I knew."

Decades later, reeling in the wake of a divorce, Lederman realized she needed to examine how her parents' trauma was exacerbating her own distress. She plunged into researching—and writing about—her childhood, her parents' lives, the Holocaust more generally, the experiences of other children of Holocaust survivors, intergenerational trauma, and the science of epigenetics.

Reading Lederman's memoir reinforced and clarified for me how much not only the children of Holocaust survivors, but most Jews live with intergenerational trauma caused by what we know about the Nazi genocide. In CBI's Sisterhood Book Group, we discover month after month that even when we don't choose books focusing on the Holocaust, its shadow looms — to some extent — over many of the Jewish characters in contemporary narratives.

The Congregation Beth Israel community was able to learn about the Holocaust firsthand from CBI members, including the late Noémi Ban — who shared her story about surviving Auschwitz and Buchenwald with thousands of school children, adults, and readers of her book, *Sharing is Healing* (written with CBI member Ray Wolpov).

Noémi was twenty-one when she and her family were captured by the Nazis, and ninety-six when she died in 2019. Marsha Lederman's father died in 1984, her mother in 2006. All the remaining Holocaust survivors are elders, so our opportunities to hear from them are rapidly diminishing. But we can, fortunately, still learn from the children of survivors who are offering to us additional insights and memories.

Steve Ban, a CBI member and a son of Noémi Ban, says *Kiss the Red Stairs* is a powerful book. "The author gives a painfully honest description of the emotional trauma experienced by most of the children of Holocaust survivors. It was interesting and validating to note how very similar some of my emotional reactions have been to hers. I am looking forward to comparing notes with her in November."

Lederman's talk is free, but donations to CBI are requested. Security will be present. Preregistration is required: Go here to reserve your spot: tinyurl.com/2sde53h9



A Wish-List for Our Forever Home

BY KAREN SLOSS

The last major element of our new synagogue construction—the main floor kitchen—is about to be permitted! Recent *Oneg* hosts have been overjoyed to simply have running water at hand, and soon the full kitchen will be operational, providing a whole new level of functionality and convenience for both members and caterers, for *Onegs*, *simchas* and all sorts of occasions.

However, the kitchen is not the end of important projects to improve our synagogue campus and that means building up the Building Fund will again be necessary.

The Facilities Maintenance and Management Committee (FMMC), in concert with CBI leadership, has come up with a “wish list” of 31 items, large and small, that would greatly benefit the CBI community. Using a survey format, the FMMC and Board of Directors prioritized the list and will soon move ahead with the most pressing items. Near the top of the list are a new pump to improve water pressure in the building (critical for the new kitchen), a back-up battery for the elevator, and equipping an area for food trucks between the building and gaga pit. We need steps between the upper and lower parking lots, and better storage for yard equipment. Improving building acoustics, maintenance equipment (riding lawn

mower, professional vacuum), and more interior decor are also on the list.

Of course, all these improvements require funding—funding that goes way beyond CBI’s annual budget capacity. For building improvements, major equipment purchases and furnishings, CBI relies on our Building Fund, one of several restricted, special-purpose funds we maintain. The 20-year Capital Campaign left the Building Fund with enough money to complete the kitchen and a limited number of other items. But to address even the top priorities, our fundraising focus for the near term will be on the Building Fund.

Previously, over 200 CBI families gave generously, raising over \$8 million to acquire the land and construct the synagogue we enjoy today. Now, like “the little engine that could,” we aim to raise \$500,000 over the next two years to fund the entire list and secure CBI’s ability to maintain what we have created. For both newer and long-standing members this is a fresh opportunity to support our “forever home” with donations to the Building Fund. You can expect to hear more on this in the coming months!

For more details on the “wish list” or tax-efficient ways to donate, please contact: fundraising@bethisraelbellingham.org

Beit Café Returns!

Thursday, January 25, 7:00 pm at the Mount Baker Encore Room
Stories of Jewish Journeys

We are our stories! CBI is hosting our annual storytelling Beit Café on January 25, 2024 at Mt. Baker Theatre. The theme is “Jewish Journeys.” Stories of significant Jewish moments or events, Jewish people who shaped your trajectory, conversion stories, or all the stories we’ve never imagined, there is something for everyone. Every one of your senses will be delighted in this favorite synagogue event, where we learn so much about people in our community, have fun, sing a little, and enjoy the Mount Baker Theatre setting with wine and delicious food.

Storytelling Workshop

Sunday, December 3, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm at CBI

Anyone who is curious about storytelling is welcome to join us. Anyone who might want to tell a story at the Beit Café is strongly encouraged to attend if at all possible.

If you love stories, are curious about what it takes to tell one, think you have a story, wish you had a story, want to tell your story or delve deeper into this craft, then join us on December 3 at 11:00 am. This workshop will give you the scoop...and maybe a little courage!

Andrea Shupack and Holly Witte will lead the workshop. Both have experience telling stories and love sharing their process and tips. Holly is a writer and won the Seattle ver-

sion of The Moth three times. Andrea studied Jewish storytelling for three years from some of the leading Jewish tellers in the U.S. She has created and performed Jewish personal stories and traditional tales at conferences and synagogues.

Once you’ve decided to tell a story, Holly will be available for a one-on-one session for anyone who wants help shaping their story, and having a great experience with us.

Whether you are a returning storyteller or making your debut, get ready for applause!

Contact Holly at: bloominghillvineyards@gmail.com or Andrea at: andreashupack@gmail.com

Faces in Our Community: Wendy Westgate

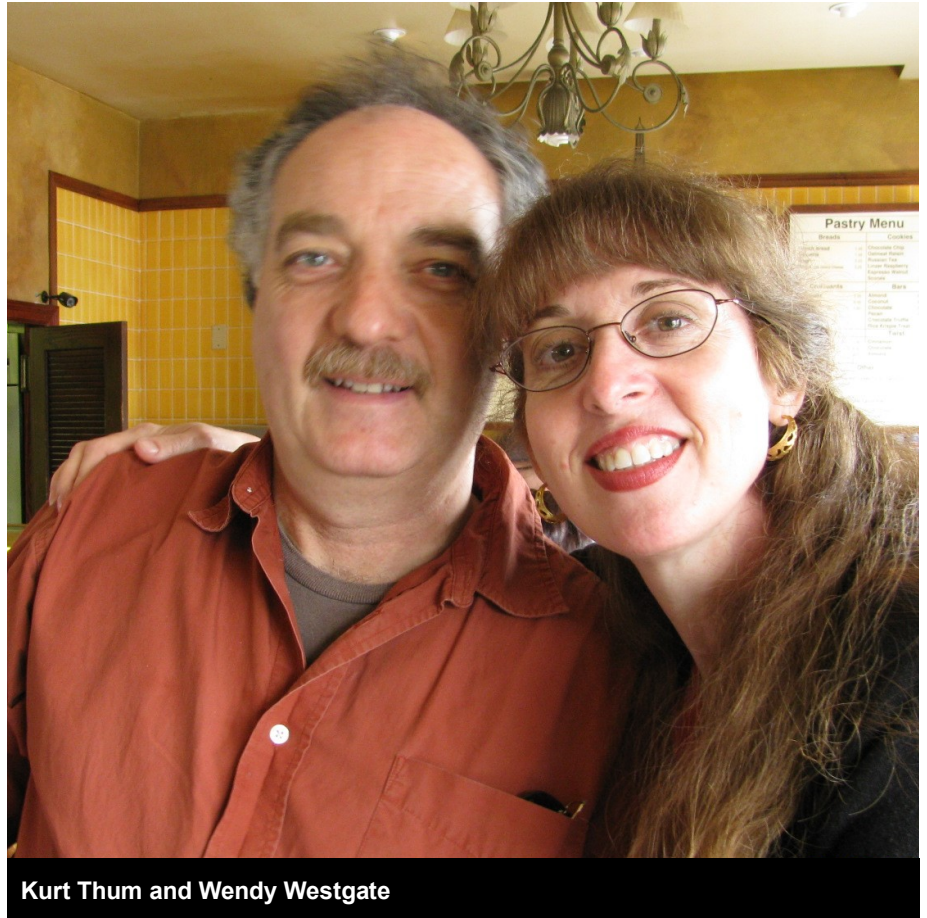
BY LINDA HIRSH

Wendy Westgate skipped her senior year of college in 1982 and, instead, left for Paris where she could see the Arc de Triomphe from her bedroom window. She spent a year there then the Free University of West Berlin beckoned.

There too, she knew not a soul when she arrived and, although it was less glamorous than Paris, she said she chose it to see if she could comprehend how the Holocaust happened. “I wanted to understand the German psyche better,” she said. “And over the seven years I was there, I brought up the topic with tons of people of all ages. In the end, I concluded that their need to do everything 150% (like following orders), combined with other attributes, played a role in the developments that led to the atrocities of the Holocaust.”

There was a plus, though. “Not a day went by when the events of WWII were not mentioned in the newspaper, on TV, or on the radio. As a country, Germany really dealt with its past, at least while I was living there.”

During her first year in Berlin, Wendy, whose family came from Russia and Poland, also took a trip to Russia to visit Moscow and St. Petersburg, Poland, Hungary, and



Kurt Thum and Wendy Westgate

Czechoslovakia, taking trains all over Europe. Adventurous, Wendy tends to follow her curiosity, which often entails languages — she speaks French, German and even Yiddish — as well as Judaism itself.

Wendy’s parents were what she calls “cultural Jews.” They presented the bare minimum — celebrating Chanukah, and having their daughter attend a Jewish preschool. Yet because Wendy, born and raised in San Diego with three sisters, has always had an interest in the subject, she took an 18-week course at a temple in Encino, CA. Rabbi Joshua Samuels filled in the rest with Judaism 201, she said. Oh, and she’s part

of Ringele, a local Yiddish conversation group.

Some Ringele participants also belong to the temple. Hank Levine, for instance, was a student in a Yiddish class Wendy was taking online and told her about the group. “Hank brought me into the Ringele, for which I’m so grateful!” Wendy said.

And the group seems grateful to have her. “Wendy and I were second semester Yiddish students when we met online,” Hank said. “She was still living in LA at the time and was a friend of our Yiddish teacher. The teacher knew I was from Bellingham and that Wendy was moving here, so

Continued on Page 14



1. Pancake volunteers Isaac and Mark Konikoff, Tammy Curtis, Katie Edelstein. 2. Pancake breakfast to kick off the Keshet year. 3. Becki Van Glubt volunteering at the pancake breakfast. 4. Yumm...pancakes! 5. Blessing the students at the opening *tefillah* of Keshet. 6. Parachute time with Gan Yeladim. 7-9. Simchat Torah at CBI. 10-13. Sukkot at CBI. 10. Amanda Robins building the *sukkah*. 11. Liza Jane Price demonstrating shaking the *lulav* and smelling the *etrog*. 12. Congregants building the *sukkah* 13. Melissa Schapiro and Ann Suloway celebrating.

INTRODUCING KESHER STAFF OF 5784

Continued from Page 3

School in Ferndale. She also loves music and has gone to more than 10 concerts so far this year.

The Madrichim in the sixth-grade class are **Orion Dixon** and **Lucy Greenberg**.



Kesher's seventh/eighth-grade class is led by two masters in Holocaust education. **Leah Sauter** grew up in Bellingham, loves reading, hiking, and spending time with family and their cat Miss Honey. Leah also lived in Israel for a year while getting their Master's degree in Holocaust history. Leah is assisted in teaching the Holocaust class by **Ray Wolpow**, the co-author of Noémi Ban's book *Sharing is Healing: A Holocaust Survivor's Story*. Ray likes to watch baseball with his mini-schnauzer, Stuey. This class has 11 students enrolled.



The Madrich in the seventh/eighth-grade class is **Sydney Wolfson**.



This year's Confirmation class, our ninth/tenth-grade students, is taught by **Rabbi Samuels** one Sunday every month. Rabbi Samuels plays competitive pickleball, collects baseball cards, and loves passionfruit and flavor-king pluots. The Confirmation class has 11 students enrolled this year, many of whom will attend L'Taken in Washington, D.C. later this year.



Many of our teens also participate in our MASSA Israel class program, taught by **Gaby Mayers**. Gaby has been a member of CBI since 1991 and has taught eight-grade Israel Studies for several years in Kesher. Gaby is planning to lead 23 of our teens on a trip to Israel in 2024.

And Kesher wouldn't be as amazing as it is without our specialists!



Jason Benhaim is this year's Kesher Hebrew Specialist. He visits five Kesher classes every Sunday, curating Hebrew education specifically to reach the students we have in each class. Jason writes the crossword puzzle found in the *Shul Shofar* (go check it out now!), hiked all 2,650 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail with his wife Carly in 2016, and has a son named Oren.



Mikayla Goodkin is this year's Kesher Music Specialist. She visits every class each Sunday and has created a year-long curriculum specific to each Kesher class. Mikayla used to ride a unicycle, and she's passionate about writing poetry. Catch her leading music for B'nei Mitzvah and family services at CBI.

These 13 staff members and 10 madrichim are the key reason why our Kesher program is so amazing! Coming soon in future *Shul Shofars*, we will take a deeper dive into each Kesher class!

The Kvelling Corner

Welcome to our new members!

- **Ellie Adelfang** – Bellingham
- **Rachel Bjarnason**, daughters **Fjola** (11) and **Juna Blue** (8) **Martinez** – Bellingham
- **Mia & Todd Ellis**, daughters **Josie** (16), **Vivian** (12) and **Audrey** (10) – Bellingham
- **Leviah Landau & Alex Bokser**, sons **Amitai Shalev** (8) and **Avinoam Baruch** (4) **Bokser** – Bellingham
- **Stephanie Machlin** – Bellingham
- **Rabbi Dennis Math** – Bellingham
- **Jesse Math & Cat Toren**, daughters **Naomi** (3) and **Leyna Fay** (2 mo.) **Math** – Bellingham
- **Daniel Picus and Isaac Meister** – Bellingham

- **Anne-Marie Misko-Kennedy & Scott Kennedy**, sons **Jonas** (20) and **Samuel** (17) **Kennedy** – Bellingham
- **Genevieve Ze'Eva Sanchez** – Bellingham
- **Natalie & Steven Schram**, and son **Asher** (6) – Bellingham
- **Nina & Sean Stein**, daughters **Rachael** (12) and **Maya** (10) – Anacortes
- **Samantha Terriss** and daughter **Jade Eleena** (12) – Bellingham



On September 6, 2023, David Strich and Michelle Banks welcomed son **Jasper Sylvan** as the newest member of their family. He joins big brother Leo, age 5, and big sister Elora, age 3. Mazal Tov to all on this joyous event!

CBI Is a Community

BY ERIN COHEN

I am one of the CBI Vice Presidents. My husband Steve and I became members of CBI 3 years ago when we moved to the area from Raleigh, NC. We are parents to a son, Mike, who lives in Seattle, and a daughter, Rachel, who lives in Denver. Steve and I live in Ferndale with our 2 ½-year-old golden retriever, Bailey Belle.

As Jodi Litt mentioned in her *Shul Shofar* article in September, through the membership survey that was sent last year, many congregants expressed the desire to gather to share holidays and socialize with each other. Along with the board, one of my initiatives will be starting a *Chavurah* program. *Chavurot* are defined as “a group of synagogue members who come together to socialize and enjoy Jewish living. The program is designed to bring together congregation members with similar interests.” This program will be open to all synagogue mem-

bers. Please look for a link to a questionnaire to be completed if you would like to join a *Chavurah*.

In addition, I would also like to start special-interest clubs. Currently there is a book club, a walking club, a knitting club (and probably others I don’t know about). With close to 300 members, if you have an interest in something, probably someone else does as well and wouldn’t it be nice to pursue your interest with fellow CBI congregants? Some thoughts I had were clubs for movie lovers, hiking, mah jong lessons and play, game lovers, and LGBTQ+ community. But the sky is the limit. If you have an idea for a club you would like to start or join, please contact me at erin.cohen@bethisraelbellingham.org

As a CBI member, you are a very important part of this community. I look forward to connecting with many of you to discuss these programs and deepen our community.

FROM THE RABBI

Continued from Page 1

occurs in 2070.) Candle-lighting happens to be my favorite ritual associated with Chanukah. Those who attended my son, Eytan’s, Bar Mitzvah in August got a peek into our own lighting customs. I love how each family can truly create rituals that may be passed down the generations.

One of my go-to teachings on Chanukah candle-lighting comes from the Talmud (BT Shabbat 21b) which features a debate between two of the most famous rabbis in our tradition, Hillel and Shammai. They argued over everything under the sun, and Hillel usually emerged victorious. That is the case with this debate.

Shammai suggests that on the first night of Chanukah we should light eight candles and take away a light for each subsequent night. This would mean that on the final night there would be just one candle lit. Hillel, on the other hand, argues that on the first night of Chanukah we should light one candle and add a light for each subsequent night. On the eighth night there would be nine candles lit. Hillel won the debate in keeping with the Jewish principle: *D’m’a’alin b’kodosh v’ein moridin*—“in matters of holiness we do not decrease, only increase.”

Had Shammai’s practice won over the rabbinic academy, our favorite holiday would feel quite a bit different,

with each night getting darker and darker, along with the night sky. Instead we follow Hillel and we add light.

I love this story and teaching. The question for us as we count down the days to Chanukah is: How are we going to bring added light into this world? What can each of us do to make our home, community, synagogue, city, and beyond brighter? Perhaps as we sink our teeth into oily foods we can contemplate these questions. Hopefully they will add a new layer of appreciation for Chanukah this season.

May each of you and your loved ones enjoy a festival filled with light and love. *Chag Urim Sameach!* May you have a happy festival of light!

RABBI JOSHUA SAMUELS

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November/December 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. **Except for B'Nei Mitzvah, all Saturday morning services will be in person only.**

Friday, Nov. 3	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Family service, featuring the Keshet 6th Grade class, with potluck afterward	Saturday, Dec. 2	9:30 am Torah Study on Zoom only (<i>Parashat Vayishlach</i>)
Saturday, Nov. 4	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Vayera</i>) 11:00 am Jewish Renewal Shabbat Service	Friday, Dec. 8	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Chanukah festivities
Friday, Nov. 10	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	Saturday, Dec. 9	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Vayeshev</i>) 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service
Saturday, Nov. 11	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Chaye Sarah</i>) 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service	Friday, Dec. 15	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service, with potluck afterward
Friday, Nov. 17	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service, with potluck afterward	Saturday, Dec. 16	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Miketz</i>) 11:00 am Tot Shabbat service
Saturday, Nov. 18	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Toledot</i>) 11:00 am Tot Shabbat service	Friday, Dec. 22	7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service, with leadership from the Ma'Ayan Shir ensemble
Friday, Nov. 24	7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service, with leadership from Sylvan Weinstein	Saturday, Dec. 23	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Vayigash</i>) 10:30 am Conservative-style, lay-led minyan
Saturday, Nov. 25	10:00 am Bar Mitzvah of Sylvan Weinstein (in person and on Zoom)	Friday, Dec. 29	Fifth Friday "Shabbat at Home" - No service at CBI. Join (or host) a Shabbat Dinner Crowd gathering!
Friday, Dec. 1	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Family Service, featuring the Keshet 5th Grade class, with potluck afterward	Saturday, Dec. 30	9:30 am Torah Study on Zoom only (<i>Parashat Vayeichi</i>)

What's New with the Scrip Program?

First: *What's old*: the Scrip program has been earning money for our congregation for over 15 years — at no cost to those who participate. It's simple, and Beth Israel earns a percentage of each purchase you make!

Sales have not yet returned to pre-Covid levels — you can help with this by setting up a purchase plan to buy Scrip cards for Safeway/Haggen, Fred Meyer, Food Co-op, and Starbucks, for instance. Cards for other retailers are also available. Check the details and the list at bethisraelbellingham.org/scrip/

What's new? Scrip can now be paid for by Zelle directly through your bank!

Have you been reluctant to purchase scrip because it creates plastic waste?

While used gift cards cannot be recycled with curbside recycling or Ridwell, the cards you purchase through our Scrip program can be. Simply return used cards to Joan Wayne or to Mary in the office. To date, 17 pounds of cards have been collected and delivered to a plastics recycler!

Questions or to order Scrip, contact Joan Wayne jawayne2@gmail.com

Special Fund Donations

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

IN HONOR OF:

*Max Naiman, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

*Max Braunstein, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

From: *Patrick Crane
Rita & Steve Spitzer*

Eytan Samuels, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

From: *Jodi Litt*

IN APPRECIATION TO:

Rabbi Samuels and Miriam Schwartz, for facilitating the brit for our son, Jasper Sylvan Strich

From: *David, Michelle,
Leo & Elora*

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

*The Attermen family (Cordova TN), in memory of Ken Attermen

*Laura Pearce (San Francisco), in memory of her father, Gilbert H. Young

From: *Rhoda & Peter Samuels*

IN MEMORY OF:

Edward G. Francell – Holocaust survivor, husband, father, and grandfather.

From: *Mary Francell
Sharfstein & Howard Sharfstein*

COMMEMORATING THE YAHRZEIT OF:

My beloved mother, Dora Graff

From: *Phyllis Mazur*

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Alan Rooschvarg

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Linda Hirsh – you are a woman of valor, and you've only just begun. *Yasher Koach!*

From: *Nancy Lloyd*

CAMP/YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

IN HONOR OF:

The Samuels family – Mazel Tov on Eytan's Bar Mitzvah

From: *Erin & Steven Cohen*

CELEBRATING THE B'NEI MITZVAH OF:

*Jonah Attar

*Eytan Samuels

*Nóra Seltz

*Max Naiman

*Max Braunstein

*Sylvan Weinstein

From: *Karen Sloss*

GENERAL FUND

IN HONOR OF:

The High Holy Days that just passed, and in recognition of the horrors that befell Israel recently and the deep need for Jewish Community

From: *John Cook*

My grandmother, Ruth Strich 4/25/1932 -10/1/2023

From: *David Strich*

IN APPRECIATION TO:

Beth Israel, for the warm welcome and support given to my son's family, and with great joy at the birth of my granddaughter, Leyna Fay Math

From: *Ellen Stettner
(Boynton Beach, FL)*

IN MEMORY OF:

The victims of the recent attacks in Israel.

From: *Karen & Rod Blankers
(Lynden)*

COMMEMORATING THE YAHRZEIT OF:

My son, Benjamin

From: *Inka von Sternenfels*

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Marta & Craig Brand

NEW SYNAGOGUE FUND

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Kathi Paluch, in memory of her beloved husband Barry

From: *Karen Sloss*

COMMEMORATING THE YAHRZEIT OF:

My beloved son, Nathan Loober

My beloved husband, Arni Loober

From: *Bernice Loober*

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Lynn & Michael Korner

ISRAEL TRIP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN APPRECIATION TO:

The MASSA teens for their help with Eytan's Bar Mitzvah

From: *Rabbi & Nicole Samuels*

YOUTH GROUP FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Max Braunstein, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

From: *Cynthia Block
(Sarasota, FL)*

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TUITION FUND

IN APPRECIATION TO:

Meg Jacobson & Russell Pritchett

From: *Arundel Pritchett & Art Flores*

RABBI GARTNER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Our Robinson and Edinger families

From: *Carol & David Robinson*

RABBI'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

IN APPRECIATION TO:

Rabbi Samuels

From: *Erin & Steve Cohen*

YOUTH OUTREACH COMMITTEE

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Kevin Donner and family, on the loss of his beloved brother, Blair

From: *Karen Sloss*



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WENDY WESTGATE*Continued from Page 2*

she put us in touch. I told Wendy (and our teacher) what great places Bellingham and CBI were, and introduced her to the Bellingham Yiddish Ringele, a group of eight or so local Yiddish aficionados who meet every two weeks to speak and read Yiddish, share original Yiddish compositions, and schmooze. Wendy is notable in the group for her verve, her enthusiasm, and her smile. She contributes a lot!"

She soon joined the shul. "One member who really helped me integrate was Sara Geballe, whom I met in my French conversation group. We would attend together and she would help me find my place in the siddur and tell me when to stand up. Kind of like a shul babysitter!"

Wendy added that when released from job obligations — she now works on an historical indexing project of old property records in the Whatcom County Auditor's Office and gets to help with elections — she will have time to plunge into volunteering for shul committees. This comes from someone who, until she joined CBI, had entered a synagogue maybe three times in her life. Ironically, through her interest in Jewish genealogy, she found she has a number of cantors in her ancestry.

Along with all that, she, as a member of the People of the Book, shares a love of books. After returning to the United States, she did some academic publishing: From 1991-1996 she was an Assistant Editor at Lin-

guistics and Language Behavior Abstracts in San Diego. That's where "my stable of foreign-language abilities came in very handy," she said. "We edited and indexed abstracts of articles from foreign-language linguistics journals."

Next came a job as journal production editor in New Jersey at a company that published books on the social sciences. Back in San Diego, she worked at Academic Press, "where I tried to convince college professors to adopt our textbook for their courses," she said. "We also had a Library Science line of textbooks and during a call with one of those professors, I confessed that I had wanted to be a librarian ever since my first-grade class took a field trip to our local public library. This professor convinced me that I could work full time and still attend library school. Which I then did, and the rest is history. In 2004 I got hired by Los Angeles Public Library and worked there for 15 years."

Los Angeles Public Library was also the scene of meeting another librarian, Kurt Thum, who became her life-long partner. They have traveled together in Europe as well as India, Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

But don't think that coming and going is this couple's only method of traveling. They have owned a house in the south of France since 2017 where they spent time during the pandemic. It is now on the market because other places such as the United Kingdom are calling to them.

Wendy and Kurt moved to Bellingham in 2020. With less traffic and more nature, they say they love it

here. Having a knack of living near spots of importance like the Arc de Triomphe, she now lives at one entrance to the Greenway trails.

"We enjoy the zen of "forest bathing" (walking or riding bikes in the forest)," she said. "And the view of Lake Whatcom from our house is breathtaking and inspiring. We love to kayak on the lake as well as just marvel at its beauty."

Wendy also enjoys cooking and baking, doing genealogy research and watching British mystery series. She volunteers with the Friends of the Library, helping to sort books for the sales. "It's fun and is a way to remain involved in 'Libraryland,' to meet other like-minded people, and to also give back," Wendy said. "Variety feeds my soul. I'm a happy person and I guess all that keeps me that way."

The CBI Knitting Group

The CBI knitting/needlecraft group has donated more than 40 handmade hats and scarves to the Interfaith Coalition cold weather clothing drive. Join us! Our group meets on the third and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Beit Midrash at Beth Israel at 2:00 pm. We knit hats for charity, work on personal projects, and visit. You will be welcome.

Questions? contact Joan Wayne jawayne2@gmail.com

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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, November 3

Robert (Bob) Farkas	11/4
Anne Enger	11/5
Anna Mae Baker	11/6
Phillip Fine	11/6
Sharon Serne	11/6
Bette Bikman	11/7
Sephora Andresen	11/8
Samuel Hecht	11/8
Irving Grossman	11/10
Hilda Meltzer	11/10
Sadie Neiburger Stolzoff	11/10
Lily Swartz	11/10

Friday, November 10 and Saturday, November 11

Henry (Hank) Gordon	11/11
Helen Skinner	11/11
Rose Weitzman Price	11/12
Otto V. Vohl	11/12
Myer Avraham Goldberg	11/13
Melvin Goldberger	11/13
Esther Mazur	11/13
Julian Lewis	11/14
James T. Reilly	11/16
Joseph Dlugoszewski Reilly	11/16
Esther Schwarz	11/17
Marvin Siegel	11/17

Friday, November 17

Leah (Lilly) Kleiman	11/18
Margaret (Peggy) Korner	11/18
Lenore Shankman	11/18
Irene Till Hamilton	11/19
Sylvia Sulkin	11/20
John Paschetag	11/21
Lanny "Bip" Sokol	11/21
Zelda Turovitz	11/21
Henri Benhaim	11/22
Hyman Bettman	11/22
Dick Eigen	11/22
Louise Reese	11/22
Louis Groper	11/23
Frances (Fran) Mishler	11/24

Friday, November 24 and Saturday, November 25

Gladys Bloch	11/26
Rose Wick Eigen	11/26
Donald Waldo Redell	11/26
Jack Sheinkopf	11/26
Abraham Andrew Widerkehr	11/27
Samuel M. Pravda	11/29
Phyllis Heck	11/30
Abram Stolzoff	11/30
Elaine Cohn	12/1
Bernard Shuster	12/1
Sanford Thal	12/1

Friday, December 1

Bud Robinson	11/25
Mikel Luster	12/2
Amy Margolis	12/2
Ida Zderic	12/3
Edith Jensen	12/4
Joseph Koplowitz	12/4
Robin Hoffman	12/5
Harold Sharpe	12/5
Diane Lewis	12/6
Frances Feiger	12/7
Victor Geretz	12/7
Rachel Jaffe	12/7
Joseph Robinson	12/7
John Lester	12/8
Frank Zderic	12/8

Friday, December 8 and Saturday, December 9

Elly Kraus	12/9
Marion Relin	12/9
Lucille Rest	12/9
Ella M. Swindell	12/11
Pearl Lilien	12/12
Stanley Alper	12/13
Joel Corman	12/13
Burton Jay	12/13
Nathan Loober	12/13
Sarah Patinkin	12/13
Leslie Spitzer	12/13
George Shaw	12/14
Judith F. Swindell	12/14
Bella Heller	12/15
Richard Kite	12/15
Ray Redel	12/15

Friday, December 15

Solomon Schwartz	12/16
Alice Behrstock	12/17
Richard Bloomfield	12/17
Ben Gordon	12/17
Carol Zagnoli	12/17
Benjamin David Glazer	12/18
Barry Zell	12/19
Mary Vermeda Paschetag	12/20
Joseph Soode	12/20
Glinda Blackwell	12/21

Lois Looney	12/21
John J. Read	12/21
Jerry Roberts	12/22

Friday, December 22

Cecile R. Gordon	12/23
George Garmo	12/24
Joseph Kahan	12/24
Rodger E. Whitney	12/24
Haskell David	12/25
Ezra Isaiah Wood	12/25
Pearl Turovitz	12/26
Beatrice Weiss	12/26
William Zderic	12/26
Ruth Robinson	12/28
Nicole Russell	12/28
Robert Schultheiss	12/28
Stanley Litt	12/29
Jack Miller	12/29
John Miller	12/29

Friday, December 29

Dorothy Mazel Spiro	12/30
Milton Kaufman	12/31
George Bikman	1/1
Rudolf Reitz	1/1
Ben Thal	1/1
Irwin Wapner	1/1
Aimee Lewis	1/2
Arnold Loober	1/2
Rachel Siegfried	1/2
Anna Winefield Fox	1/3
Ruth Jacobson	1/3
Aaron Sanger	1/3
Felice Bourne	1/4
Dale Allison Harriman	1/4
Lillian Stiglitz Heller	1/4
Lynn Shuster	1/4
Steve Zabinsky	1/4
Herman "Hy" Brownstein	1/5
Barney Cohn	1/5
Jack Diamond	1/5
William Aron Dorfman	1/5
Nathaniel Jacob Hirsh	1/5
Sherwood Jacobson	1/5
Bette Levy	1/5
Dorothea Zimmerman	1/5

In Memoriam

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

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

Andy Kaplowitz on the loss of his uncle, **Ethan Coane**, who passed away peacefully at home on Tuesday, August 15, 2023

David Strich on the loss of his grandmother, **Ruth Strich**, who passed away on Sunday, October 1, 2023. She was 91 years old.

THE SHUL SHOFAR

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ANNUAL CHANUKAH PARTY, DECEMBER 10



Come celebrate **Chanukah** on **Sunday, December 10** immediately following Keshet classes. The party is open to the whole congregation and our friends.

What Time: 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Where: CBI Social Hall

Food and Activities: Celebrate with latkes, jelly donuts, pizza, Chanukah-themed crafts and games, and the annual Dreidel Spin-off. (If you have the trophy from last year, please return it.)

Support: If you are interested in helping, please contact Keshet Co-Director Victoria Mayers at victoria.mayers@bethisraelbellingham.org or Cathy Zitzer at c.zitzer@yahoo.com

Chanukah Candle Fundraiser: Boxes of candles will be for sale at CBI beginning on Sunday, November 19 and available as long as supplies last. The cost is \$5 each box. Total amount goes to help with the party expenses.

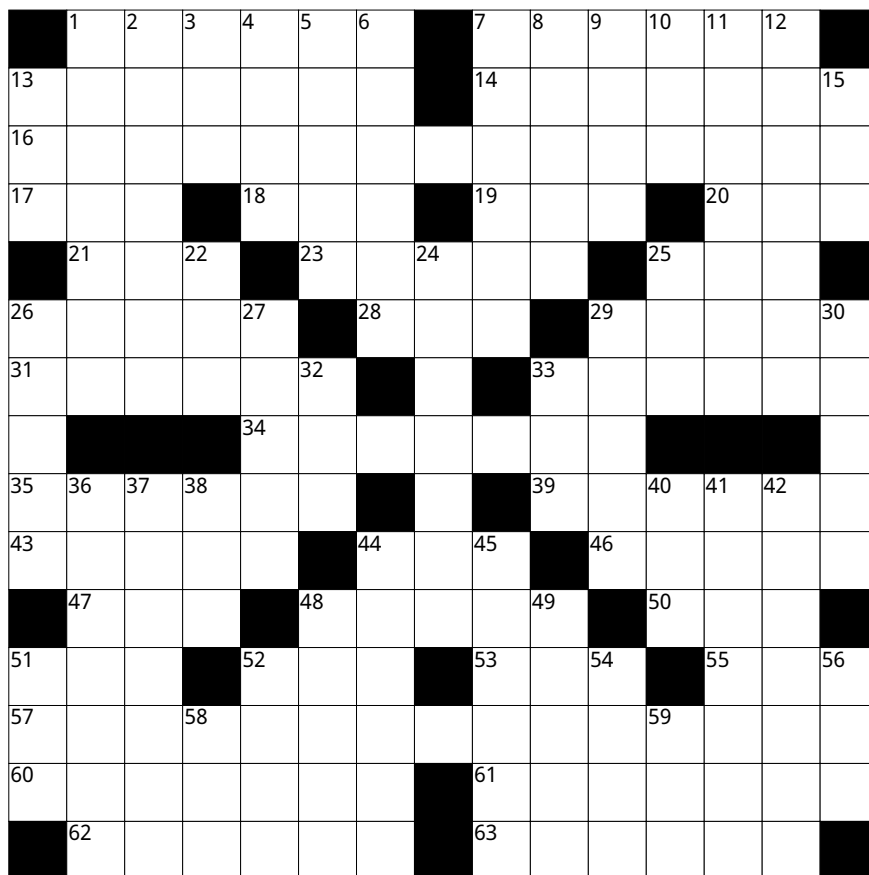
ACROSS

- 1 Greg's sitcom wife
 7 Target with a toss
 13 Imaginary playground malady
 14 Pennsylvania city that's home to the Horseshoe Curve
 16 Our nightly Chanukah task
 17 Dendriform Tolkein creature
 18 Serpentine swimmer
 19 Twenty make two cms
 20 Address that begins with "http://"
 21 "Scram!"
 23 Recovery clinic
 25 Zuckerberg, to Meta
 26 "Old MacDonald" refrain
 28 Yang's counterpart
 29 "Open a ___ worms"
 31 Bug
 33 Catchy 'Sound of Music' song
 34 One way to translate 24-Down
 35 'A Beautiful Mind' director Ron
 39 Sound quality
 43 Unifying idea
 44 GIF alternative
 46 Gives a hoot
 47 WWW connection co.
 48 Three-note chord
 50 Put on

- 51 Feathery accessory
 52 Harry's first crush at Hogwarts
 53 Extinct emu-like bird
 55 Fly catcher
 57 Our other nightly Chanukah task
 60 Dethrones
 61 Court shoes, casually
 62 Went for, in an auction
 63 Wears away

DOWN

- 1 Finishing off
 2 Immobilizes, rodeo-style
 3 Where the third measure of the alphabet song begins
 4 ___ of passage
 5 Poet's concern
 6 The slightly older Olsen twin
 7 Video game featuring Blinky, Pinky, Inky, and Clyde
 8 "Gentle as ___"
 9 Amtrak stops: Abbr.
 10 Turf
 11 The second "T" in TNT
 12 Like some old schoolhouses
 13 Eastern Washington city ___ Elum
 15 Silent communication syst.
 22 Draw
 24 Hebrew word that Abraham, Moses, and Samuel each use to respond when called upon by God
 25 Auto
 26 Number of "folds" on the Buddhist path to enlightenment
 27 Earthy hue
 29 Stand-up guy?
 30 Lets go
 32 TV's '___ Lasso'
 33 "Who ___?": Saints fan's chant
 36 Residents of Kent or Cleveland
 37 "Because ___": parents' declaration
 38 Roadie's burden
 40 Hot under the collar



- 41 Chocolate treat
 42 Goes back on one's word
 44 'Survivor' host Jeff
 45 Sex cell
 48 Greek letter often found in textbook triangles
 49 Medicine dispenser
 51 Sch. in Idaho's capital
 52 Country south of Libya
 54 "It comes ___ surprise"
 56 Techie undergrad degrees
 58 ___ Aviv
 59 Neither Dem. nor Rep.

Turn page over for solution

Birthdays

NOVEMBER 2023

11/1 Susan Jay
 11/1 Gerald Manganaro
 11/1 Rachel Witter
 11/1 David Ziegler
 11/2 Max Nahani Braunstein (14th)
 11/2 Lev Shuster (22nd)
 11/4 Samuel Kennedy (18th)
 11/4 Patrick McGarity
 11/4 David Schlitt
 11/6 Rodney Shainbom
 11/7 Steve James
 11/8 Rob Grossman
 11/10 Urtica Goldman (10th)
 11/11 Stephanie Korn
 11/11 Wendy Schwartz
 11/13 Peter Auerbach
 11/13 Alex Bokser
 11/13 Miriam Schwartz
 11/14 Jessica Galbraith
 11/14 Isaac Schapiro (23rd)
 11/14 Raphael Schapiro (23rd)
 11/14 Shoshana Schapiro (23rd)
 11/16 Kristan Brennan
 11/16 Jane Relin
 11/16 Toby Sonneman
 11/17 Nancy L. Lloyd

11/17 Bonnie Stone
 11/17 Jay Wolfman
 11/18 Rita Spitzer
 11/19 Anita Meyer
 11/20 Erin Cohen
 11/20 Willow Corey-DuBow (20th)
 11/23 Mick Altman
 11/23 Nina Stein
 11/25 Sylvan Weinstein (13th)
 11/26 Tamar Clarke
 11/26 Shala Erlich
 11/27 Elaine Beck
 11/27 Kathleen Bell
 11/27 Elkah Katz
 11/28 Floyd King
 11/29 Arundel Pritchett
 11/29 Xavier Sommers (12th)
 11/30 Orion Dixon (15th)
 11/30 Priscilla Feld
 11/30 Rochelle LaPlante
 11/30 Sarah Witte

12/4 Rebecca Oliver
 12/4 Susan Cohen Raphael
 12/7 Alyssa Diller (23rd)
 12/7 Eden Kinney (16th)
 12/8 Robin Curtis
 12/8 Levi Goodwin (8th)
 12/9 Mira Schott McCurdy (3rd)
 12/10 Trisha Adelstein
 12/11 Marvin Wayne
 12/13 Shelly Pravda
 12/13 Charlie Redell
 12/13 Rory Verkh-Haskell (18th)
 12/15 Anna Booker
 12/15 Niall Ó Murchú
 12/16 Corinne Gimbel-Levine
 12/18 David Strich
 12/19 Peter Burkill
 12/19 Cathie Diller
 12/19 Shira Gold
 12/19 Cinda Zemel
 12/22 Jennifer Seltz
 12/23 John Sternlicht
 12/26 David Halpern
 12/27 Philip Buri
 12/27 Jacob Garretson
 12/28 Mark Pomerantz
 12/29 Andrew Schwarz
 12/30 Shawn Clarke
 12/30 Wendy Westgate

DECEMBER 2023

12/1 Juna Blue Martinez (9th)
 12/2 Karen Bailor
 12/3 Zach Bastow
 12/4 Betsy Becker

Anniversaries

Nov. 2 Lisa & Chris Balton (# 37)
 Nov. 7 Sarah & Norman DesRosiers (#19)
 Nov. 16 George & Fay Farkas (# 27)
 Nov. 22 Jesse Math & Cat Toren (# 6)
 Nov. 23 Iris & Kevin Parker (# 48)
 Nov. 25 Solomon & Emily Falk (# 16)
 Nov. 29 Floyd King & Leigh Squires (# 21)
 Dec. 3 Carrie Adelstein & Adam Tipps (# 2)
 Dec. 9 Stuart & Judy Berman (# 49)
 Dec. 12 Natalie & Steven Schram (# 8)
 Dec. 15 Jeffrey & Priscilla Feld (# 43)
 Dec. 20 Sue & Hans-Rudolf Guenter-Schlesinger (# 39)
 Dec. 21 Lou & Marcia Lippman (# 58)
 Dec. 21 Corey Welch & Judy Diamond (# 37)
 Dec. 22 Terri Weiner & Rob Lopresti (# 47)
 Dec. 24 Debbie & Fay Whitney (# 21)
 Dec. 28 Jesse & Nicky Naiman (# 19)
 Dec. 29 Armando & Diana Lindner (# 58)
 Dec. 30 Joan & Marvin Wayne (# 52)
 Dec. 31 Tracy & Cathie Diller (# 26)

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

