



CONGREGATION
BETH ISRAEL

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024 TEVET/SHEVAT/ADAR I 5784

THE SHUL SHOFAR

VOL. 28, NO. 3 * Congregation Beth Israel * Bellingham, WA 98229 * bethisraelbellingham.org * (360) 733-8890

Israel Book Discussion with Rabbi Samuels

Sunday, February 4 at 1:30 pm

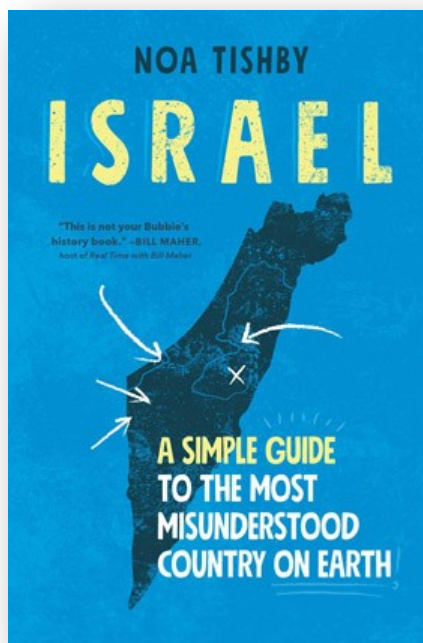
Rabbi Samuels will lead a conversation about Noa Tishby's book, *Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth*. The book explains the history of the land and emergence of the State of Israel with honesty and plenty of humor. We will delve into the issues that make Israel such a controversial subject.

Noa Tishby is an actress, producer, writer, and activist. She was born and raised in Tel Aviv.

A passionate political activist, Tishby founded the nonprofit "Act for Israel," Israel's first online advocacy organization. She served as Israel's first Special Envoy for Combatting Antisemitism and Delegitimization and has been a keynote speaker and panelist at events around the world, including the United Nations General Assembly. She is a contributor to publications such as *The Huffington Post*, *Jerusalem Post*, *The Jewish Journal*, *Tablet*, and *Ynet*, where she writes about policy, culture, and

international relations. Learn more about Tishby at www.noatishby.com

Order your copy of the book from your favorite bookseller. While everyone is encouraged to read the book, it's not required.



FROM THE RABBI

The Greatest Mitzvah



With a new year in front of us, it is natural to think ahead to all the opportunities for improvement and happiness in our lives. I

wish this is where my mind was right now. Sadly, like many of you, I am focused on the remaining Israeli hostages being held in Gaza by Hamas. Every day I check the news to see if there has been any movement on rescuing them. Like the rest of the Jewish world, we rejoiced when just over 100 hostages were released between November 24 and December 1. But that came at a huge cost. And, I imagine, any future release of Israelis will also come at a steep price. For those who remember, Gilad Shalit was abducted by Hamas and held in Gaza for five years. He was exchanged for over 1000 Palestinian prisoners, one of whom was Yahya Sinwar, a Hamas leader who went on to orchestrate the October 7 massacre.

One question so many people have is how much should Israel give up for a single hostage? Not surprisingly, the rabbis from generations ago discussed the mitzvah of

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From the President...

Increased Security Costs



Even during times of peace, security is top of mind for CBI leadership. The terrorist attacks on Israel have heightened our collective and individual

senses of safety and security as we manage our way through an outside world that is increasingly antisemitic and largely ignorant of facts and the history of Israel. While we may not 100% agree on the best path forward for Israel, none of us can deny the indelible mark that 7 October has made on our lives as Jews. It is unfortunate and painful that we live in a world where we must be concerned with our own personal safety as well as the safety of our CBI campus.

Late in the summer, right before the High Holy Days, CBI's contracted security vendor announced a price hike that more than doubled what we had been paying. While we weren't particularly surprised — after all the price for all services has increased — we were caught off guard by the percentage of increase and the timing, as I was notified shortly after the start of our fiscal year. And then the High Holy Days arrived and, then 7

October. Put simply, the amount of the increase was not budgeted, and we find ourselves in a situation now where our security needs are greater than they have ever been, and our costs are higher than they have ever been.

A security fund has been established to help offset the cost, and I invite members to join me in donating to this fund. Much like our yearly Voluntary Financial Commitment, required of each CBI member, an amount is not set or mandated. Instead, I ask that you donate above and beyond your yearly dues to CBI security, keeping in mind the comfort of having professionally trained personnel on campus while we gather, celebrate, pray, and study together.

Please donate online through our website www.bethisraelbellingham.org. Log onto the Member site. Scroll the menu towards the bottom under GIVE and Make a Donation. From there you will find the security fund. Alternatively, you can send your tax-deductible checks to the office with a memo line for security.

Thank you, CBI Community. As we hope for peace in 2024, we also must plan for our safety.

JODI LITT
PRESIDENT

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

751 San Juan Boulevard
Bellingham, WA 98229

The Shul Shofar

Volume 28, Number 3
January/February 2024
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The *Shul Shofar* is the bulletin of Congregation Beth Israel. It is published bi-monthly and distributed to all congregation members. Nonmembers may subscribe for \$60/year. Advertising space (business card size) is available; contact the office.

Deadline for submission of all articles and calendar events for the March/April issue is FEBRUARY 11. Call the office for more information.

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The Kvelling Corner

Welcome to our new members!

- **Alicia Gamer** – Bellingham
- **Rachel & Jason Goldberg** – Beverly Hills, CA
- **Rachel LeWitte & Kelsey Thomas** – Bellingham
- **Rachael Stanley** – Mount Vernon
- **Inka von Sternenfels & Susan Gause** – Bellingham
- **Anika & Colleen Tilland-Stafford** and daughter **Eliahah** (age 15) – Bellingham
- **Laura Wall** - Bellingham

Mazel Tov to **Idalina Trank**! She completed her conversion with Rabbi Samuels and was officially welcomed into the Jewish community on December 8, 2023.

From the Keshet Center for Jewish Learning

Our Madrichim

BY LEAH BORDMAN

Keshet has had a very successful first half to this year! Contributing to our success are our incredible teen helpers, our Madrichim. This year, ten teens are helping our Keshet teachers. Let me introduce you to them.

- **Aviva Weinstein** is the Gan Madricha. Since Gan happens every other Sunday, she also spends a lot of time helping in other classes!
- **Natalie Ravitsky** is a K/1 Madricha. This is her second year in the Madrichim program, and she loves working with little kids!
- **Bella Gentry** is a senior, and this is her second year working as a Madricha at CBI. She has spent time with some of our oldest students, as well as some of our youngest.
- **Lucy Naiman** is also a second-year Madricha. She is getting a lot of experience working with our second-fourth-grade learners in Keshet.
- **Evan Konikoff** is a freshman, and this is his first year as a Madrich. He was very excited to join this group and has been enjoying working with Lucy N. in the second and third-grade class this year.
- **Liza Jane Price** is a second-year Madricha and loves working with our middle-school learners. She is working in this year's fourth-grade Keshet class.
- **Lior Somers** is a freshman, and this is his first year working as a Madrich. He takes this job very seriously and has been learning a lot through working with this year's fifth-grade class.
- **Lucy Greenberg** is a senior and has been a Madricha for two years. She has

worked with a range of ages in Keshet, and this year she is assisting with some of our oldest learners in sixth grade (our largest class!).

- **Orion Dixon** is a freshman, and this is his first year working as a Madrich. He is also assisting with some of our oldest learners in the sixth-grade class and has been learning a lot!
- **Sydney Wolfson** is a senior, and this is his first year working as a Madrich. He has been assisting with the seventh and eighth-grade Holocaust class, which has been a great opportunity for him to engage middle-school learners in serious discussions.

We hope you'll take some time to get to know these interesting people and discover what a wonderful addi-



Half of the 23/24 Madrichim at our December meeting.
Left to Right: Evan, Orion, Bella, Sydney, and Natalie

Synagogue 411

Archives:

Tim Baker, (360) 305-6945

Care:

Else Sokol, (360) 393-9618

Sarah Witte, (360) 296-3058

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Sue Mahar (360) 319-5314

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Sarah Bauman – Second Artist Featured in CBI Exhibition Series

BY EMILY WEINER

Prints and drawings by Congregation Beth Israel member Sarah Bauman will be on display in the foyer and social hall from February 23 through August. This is the second exhibition in the Programming Committee's series to showcase the work of visual artists who are members of CBI.

Join us for the official opening of the Bauman exhibition on Friday, February 23, at the Oneg following the 7:30 pm Shabbat service.

In another exhibition-related event, there is a free Artist Talk at 2:30 pm on Sunday, March 17. Sarah is also planning linoleum-block workshops during the exhibition to share her expertise with both adults and children.

Sarah expresses her creativity through making art, teaching, mentoring, landscaping, and designing the interior of her home. Her father was also an artist and an art educator, and Sarah, now 80, started making art as a child. She has always carried a sketchbook and drawn wherever she is — including while waiting to pick up her children, sitting through synagogue meetings, and while enjoying mountain and coastal vistas.

Born in Minnesota, Sarah grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and has also lived in Vermont, Arizona, California, and Nebraska. In 2015, Sarah and her husband, Miles Bryant, moved to Bellingham and joined CBI. Their older son, Ben, lives with his wife and daughter in Portland, Oregon; their younger son, Zac, and his wife live in Bellingham.

Sarah earned a B.A. in Fine Arts from the University of Iowa, with a concentration in ceramics, drawing, prints, and composition. She continued her studies on the graduate level at the University of Arizona (printmaking, drawing, museum registration, restoration, and art education).

Included in the CBI exhibition are works in several media — pastel, charcoal, graphite, ceramics, and intaglio printmaking, including drypoint, aquatint, mezzotint, etching, and engraving. Sarah's work has been shown in solo exhibitions and prestigious invitational and juried art shows in galleries across the United States, as well as in synagogues.

Some but not all of Sarah's work is inspired by Judaism. As a strong woman, she has taken great pleasure portraying women of the Torah, including Miriam and Ruth. She also was deeply influenced by her mother's escape from Germany in the late 1930s and the fact that some of her mother's siblings did not make it out of the camps. The Holocaust has been one of Sarah's subjects in abstract and figurative works.



Sarah pointing at her work "Envelope for You."
Photo by Ashley Mask

Sarah has taught both to help support the family and because of the joy she gets inspiring and increasing the artistic skills of children, as well as college students preparing to teach art. She gets excited when she describes the artistic growth of her students. In the 1970s, she developed and designed a college curriculum for the certification of public school art teachers — the first such certification opportunity in Vermont. She speaks about her challenges and triumphs teaching classes geared for gifted children, inner-city youth, and teacher candidates with limited previous art experience. She also taught beginning Hebrew and Judaica studies to grades 1-6 for the Tifereth Israel Religious School in Lincoln, Nebraska — where she used classroom art projects as a reward.

Sarah's philosophy of art education is that there is no right or wrong. "Just as everyone is different in the way they look and the way they feel about things, and are totally unique from anybody else, so are the solutions they find in their art. Nobody failed my class unless they never came," she said.

She also believes that you can't teach art unless you are an artist. When she assigned a project to students, she tried her own hand at it outside the classroom — for example, kimono designs (a Hawaiian motif and Joseph's dream coat) that are displayed in her home. Sarah had spontaneously asked her students to design kimonos after some of her least enthusiastic students arrived in her classroom excited about kimonos they had just seen during a lesson on Japan. Sarah was thrilled that this project awakened their excitement about art.

Our curator for the exhibition of Sarah's work is again CBI member Dr. Ashley Mask, who moved to Bellingham

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From the Social Action Committee

Social Action Committee News

We continue to keep our thoughts on world affairs. Recent actions have included:

- OneWhatcom, a local antiracist group, held a peace prayer vigil in Ferndale, November 12. The group collected cards expressing support to our Jewish community in the face of rising antisemitism. This event was coordinated with the Sikh communities, BetterTogether Lynden, and Connect Ferndale. The cards are available to read. Look for a basket and sign in the foyer of the synagogue.
- We are planning a Social Action book discussion on antisemitism on January 21 at 2:00 pm. The primary book will be Deborah E Lipstadt's *AntiSemitism Here*

and Now. However other books which may add to the discussion are:

We Need to Talk About Antisemitism by Rabbi Diana Fersko (just published \$29 dollars hardcover and \$18 Kindle), *Jewish Resilience Rabbinic: Reflections after Colleyville* edited by Rabbi Menachem Creditor with foreword by NY's Central Synagogue's Rabbi Angela Buchdahl.

All the books are available at the public library.

Please note: The Social Action Committee is still looking for a new chairperson. Please reach out if you are interested. The committee will be inactive if no new leadership is found.

Sarah Cobb Profile/Mary Somerville Farewell

As of the first of the year, you will find Sarah Cobb, a new face, sitting at the desk next to Rabbi Samuels's office. She is replacing the very familiar face of Mary Somerville, who has greeted folks from her desk for 27 years.

"Mary has been a consistent presence, welcoming congregants and visitors with her melodic voice and cheery disposition," Sarah said.

Meanwhile Mary, who has been teaching Sarah the ropes, has a few thoughts about her tenure. "This is a very bittersweet moment in my life. While I'm looking forward to the opportunity to pursue new endeavors, I'm sad to be leaving a job, and a community, that I've loved for the past 27 years. Beth Israel has been my second family — my *mishpocha* — for more than a third of my life, and it will be a big change to no longer be part of the everyday goings-on."

Sarah knows that Mary can answer nearly every question anyone has ever asked about the shul. "I have big shoes to fill. It is a formidable task becoming the 'new' Mary," Sarah said, "and I hope to make this a seamless transition."

On that note, Mary assures membership that during the past two months, "it's been a true blessing to work with Sarah. She is talented, skilled, and a very quick study. She's also effervescent, empathetic, and funny, and she's helped me out in so many ways. Beth Israel is indeed fortunate to have her taking over the reins, and I'm very pleased to welcome her!"

As Mary said, Sarah is qualified to fill the bill. Take a look at her backstory: Born in Wilmington, NC she and her family moved to Arizona, and in the late 1980s to Spokane to be near her stepfather's family. She majored

in cultural anthropology and Spanish at Western Washington University. Although an impractical subject, she loved learning about different cultures. She also met her husband in the dormitory there. They married in 2006, had their first son, Avery, in 2008, and their second son Zeke, in 2014. They moved to Whatcom County in 2018, because Seattle was both expensive and hectic.

After their second child was born, Sarah took a year off to attend graduate school for midwifery at Bastyr University. "I realized after a few months that I was not fit for an on-call lifestyle," she said. "I did not want to miss my children's birthdays or holidays." She now takes one class at a time to prepare for the Washington State CPA exam with only nine more to go. Accounting has been her mainstay job for the past 20 years. In Seattle, where she moved in 2010, she found nonprofit accounting rewarding because "I can help others and make a difference, all while using math and accounting to do so. It also allows me to interact with interesting people."

The list of what Sarah loves to do is lengthy. When the weather is warmer, she loves to kayak. She loves to cook so much that her sons get a homemade meal every night of the week. She can easily find fresh produce from her husband's garden and from farms around Lynden, where her family lives. She loves making pickles and canning. She also loves animals, so her backyard hosts chickens. "We took in a stray, and I ended up being a cat midwife for the two litters she had last summer, Sarah said. "I'd like a goat, but my husband said no more animals."

We will miss Mary, but we know that her training will ensure that we will still be in good hands with Sarah.

Talking about Israel's Tragedy

These days you cannot turn on the radio or open a newspaper without encountering emotional and dramatic stories about current events in Israel and Gaza. The news is often upsetting and confusing. The tension is high, and there are so many different opinions. When you need to talk about it, who do you call? For many in the congregation, the call goes to Rabbi Samuels.

When people in the larger Bellingham community (e.g., schools, newspapers, churches) have the same questions or concerns they also often turn to Rabbi Samuels. He recognizes the importance of these conversations and is spending hours every week on the phone or in the community talking about October 7 and the aftermath.

Upon hearing of this work and the number of hours it consumes, the Board of Directors wanted to support and acknowledge him for the knowledge and caring he brings to these difficult and emotional conversations. We unanimously passed a resolution recognizing Rabbi Samuels (see below).

Feel free to call or write Jodi.litt@bethisraelbellingham.org or jane.relin@bethisraelbellingham.org if you have questions.

Feel free to call or write rabbi@bethisraelbellingham.org if you need to talk.

Board Resolution November 28, 2023

The terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel on October 7 has attracted attention to the Jewish people and to Jewish communities in the United States and around the world. Some of the attention is antisemitic, but much is by supportive people who recognize the tragedy the Jewish world is experiencing. People want to know about Israel and its history, today's Jewish beliefs and practices, as well as Jewish attitudes toward Palestinians. Congregants and others need to talk to process their shock and pain. People are looking for answers.

Rabbi Samuels has extensive knowledge of Israel and its history, an awareness of the wide variety of opinions in the Jewish community, and has skill and experience in reaching across divides to bring greater understanding. He gives his time generously to both congregants and community members.

At this time, the Congregation Beth Israel Board of Directors unanimously and formally recognizes Rabbi Joshua Samuels as Congregation Beth Israel's representative to the broader community and as a knowledgeable voice for the Jewish people. He has our support and our heartfelt gratitude.

This resolution was submitted to the Board of Directors of Congregation Beth Israel and was approved by unanimous vote on November 28, 2023.

ART BY SARAH BAUMAN

Continued from Page 4

in 2022 to accept a position at Western Washington University as Assistant Professor, Art & Museum Education.

Art displayed during the exhibition series is not for sale at CBI, but each artist has the opportunity to let viewers know how to contact them to discuss possible purchases. Sarah is exhibiting some prints that have unframed impressions available for sale.

In 2024, the Programming Committee will be contacting other CBI artists and scheduling subsequent exhibitions. We know of several artists we hope to include, but with CBI membership expanding so fast, we want to be sure we don't miss someone — so if you are interested in participating please contact the Programming Committee co-chairs: Emily.Weiner@bethisraelbellingham.org and Melissa.Schapiro@bethisraelbellingham.org

Exhibition of Art by Sarah Bauman at CBI

Opening:

Friday, February 23, at the Oneg following 7:30 pm Shabbat service

Artist Talk: 2:30 pm, Sunday, March 17, 2:30 pm

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Adult Education Course Offerings

A Jewish Look at Jesus

Instructor: Stuart Berman

Thursdays: February 22, 29;
March 7, 14

There is much debate as to how Jewish Jesus was. Was he a Jewish reformer on the level with Hillel? Or was he a revolutionary, preaching a new theology, alien to mainstream Judaism? We hear Jesus quoted all the time, but do we know what he actually said? What we do know is that the writers of the Gospels were very knowledgeable about the Jewish Bible and quoted it frequently. In our four sessions, we will look at one of the four Gospels each week and ask ourselves, is this really Jewish? We might also bring in some later material like the Letters of Paul to see how the message evolved. We welcome all opinions and backgrounds and let's see if we can come to some

of our own conclusions. We will use *The Jewish Annotated New Testament* as a text, although most Christian Bibles will suffice.

There is no fee for this course; however, donations in support of Adult Education at CBI will be appreciated.

The Hebrew Prophets

Instructor: Rabbi Joshua Samuels

Wednesdays: March 20, 27; April 10, 17; May 1, 8, 22, 29

More than any other figures in the ancient world, the prophets of Israel helped to define and strengthen the covenantal bond between the people and God. In this course we will learn about these individuals in our tradition, who spoke out against injustices and modeled compassion, reason,

and leadership. This course will be a survey of the Hebrew Prophets where we will explore all of these themes while looking at sections from the second book of the *Tanach* (Hebrew Bible) called *Nevi'im* or Prophets. The text for the course, along with the Bible, will be Victor Matthews's *Social World of the Hebrew Prophets*. This book provides an excellent background into the social and historical milieu from which these ambassadors from God came. The Hebrew texts will be in translation.

The fee for this course is \$36.

REGISTRATION

To register for Adult Education classes, please contact Sarah Cobb in the main office at 360-733-8890 or office@bethisraelbellingham.org

MASSA Updates about 2024 Israel Trip

Due to the distressful situation in Israel and the ongoing uncertainty of when the crisis will resolve, the MASSA youth trip to Israel has been canceled. Our admin team debated if we should postpone the trip until the summer of 2025. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that there will be peace by then, and several students would be aging out from the Samis Foundation grant regulations if we needed to wait any longer.

It was a challenging decision, as we are determined to get students to Israel so they can make connections to our homeland. After much debate we chose to lead our students to Spain and Portugal for the summer of 2024. The curriculum has been adapted to address the Sephardic history and how the Jewish community thrived during the Golden Era in Spain before Jews were thrown out by the Alhambra Decree in 1492. The Samis Foundation has approved our new travel destination and wants the new curriculum to incorporate how the Sephardim traveled from the Mediterranean region to Seattle, WA.

After this cohort of students completes this cycle of MASSA class, Samis will not be awarding us additional funds for future cohorts. Samis has connected us to a Jewish foundation called Rootone which offers up to \$3,000

scholarships for each student willing to travel to Israel with a preapproved Jewish organization. Since there are several organizations who take Jewish students to Israel, we will soon be collaborating with them in order to better support our next cohort of students planning to travel to Israel. This would mean that our current students in seventh and eighth grade would be eligible to travel with a Jewish program with the support of Rootone scholarship funding when they are in the tenth and eleventh grades (summer 2026.) We strongly believe that Israel will be safer by then, and this is the best avenue to pursue for our teens.

In the meantime we are continuing to fund-raise so that our current MASSA students can still pay for their tickets. Our next fundraiser will be our silent auction at our annual Purim Party on March 24. If you have items you would be willing to donate for this event, then please contact Nicky Naiman at nickybassett@hotmail.com

Items need to be collected by February 25. Items can be brought to CBI, where they will be stored until the event. Your support and ongoing involvement are critical as we continue to provide enriched Jewish education for our students.

Faces in Our Community: Emily Weiner

BY LINDA HIRSH

Emily was born in New York City, lived first in Yonkers, for two years in Detroit, then moved to Eastchester, NY, where she lived until she left for college. Classes in dance in “the city” after school and on Saturdays enriched her life there.

Emily started modern dance lessons at age 4, added Indian dance and ballet as a teen — all of which “taught me the discipline that has served me well in every job I have had,” she said.

She had a taste of the Pacific Northwest in 1968-69 while a freshman at Reed College, but New York beckoned again. She studied dance at New York University School of the Arts, and in 1995, she finished her bachelor’s degree in communications from State University of New York Empire State College.

Emily’s most influential teacher in a school without walls was Karl Marx. Reading him in the 1970s helped her understand the connections between economics, politics, and power. Add to Marx feminist and LGBTQ leaders, along with Kurdish revolutionary leader Abdullah Ocalan, and she garnered a full schooling.

Her history of Judaism began with her parents. Emily’s father’s family belonged to a nonreligious Yiddish *Folkshul*, and she attended their sum-



Peggy and Emily overlooking Bet She'an

mer camp. And although Emily’s mother believed in Marx’s dictum that religion “is the opiate of the people,” the family joined a Reform temple led by a rabbi who had marched for civil rights. She was confirmed there. She was active in Westchester Federation of Temple Youth where she learned the connection between Judaism and left-wing politics. This became a major theme.

After Israel’s 1967 war, though, she heard racist remarks against Arabs from synagogue members and other Jews, hence stopped participating in religious activities. She returned to Judaism after becoming a mother because she wanted to hand down the heritage to her sons. Now Patrick, 40, is married to Rachel Witter, 40, and they have two children, Niilo, 4, and Eli, 2, who also live in Bellingham. Robert, 32, lives in New York City.

Emily came out as a lesbian in 1970, but married John McGarrity in 1981 when they decided to have chil-

dren. She and John lived mostly in Greenwich Village, then moved to Bellingham in 1990 to be near his family. They joined Congregation Beth Israel as soon as they landed. She became an adult Bat Mitzvah on March 11, 2023.

In 2021 Emily met her partner Peggy Kibbel through an online Seattle lesbian literature book group.

“I am happy to have love in my life,” Emily said. She also cherishes being close to her children and daughter-in-law. Regarding her grandchildren, she says, “I can’t even begin to describe this joy. Their love warms my heart and keeps me young.”

Emily’s first jobs were babysitting, running an offset printing press at her father’s office, typesetting and proofreading. This led to a long spate of journalism, first at the *New York Times* as a map and chart artist, as

Continued on Page 14



1. Sixth-grade Kesher friends. 2. Shabbatnukkah! 3. Arts and crafts at the Chanukah party. 4. Geraldine Reitz, the dreidel maven. 5. Max Naiman spinning the dreidel. 6. Shoshana Samuels spinning the dreidel. 7. Dreidel spin off winners. 8. Miriam Davids and Marcy Probst. 9. MASSA teens at Chanukah party. 10. Future B'Mitzvah students receiving their Hebrew *Tanakhs* from their parents. 11. Gaby Mayers presenting on the Bene Israel Jews in India.

Programming Committee Rolls Out Winter 2024 Events

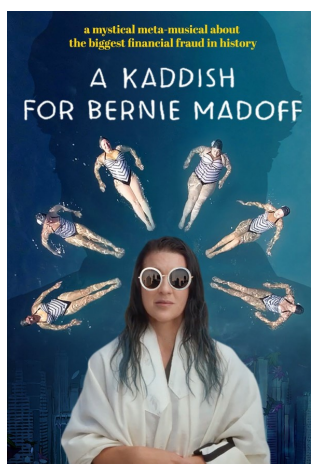
The Programming Committee has been busy planning a variety of events for our membership and the broader community for 2024, building on the success of recent programs: a Klezmer concert, an author event, and our first Exhibition and Artist Talk in our new Visual Art Series. (Through January, you can still enjoy — and purchase — mosaics by Linda Hirsh.)

Coming up in 2024, so far, we have planned one program open to the community:

February 23: The second in our Visual Art Series, featuring Sarah Bauman (see article by Emily Weiner, page 4).

These upcoming events are members only:

January 7: A showing of the award-winning film *A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff* followed by a Q & A via Zoom with



film creator Alicia Jo Rabins, and director Alicia J. Rose. The film is a “hybrid of musical memoir and dazzling narrative fantasy” about the greatest financial fraud in history. It is conceived and seen through the eyes of musician/poet Alicia Jo Rabins. If you were embarrassed and disgusted when a prominent Jewish businessman bilked investors, including preeminent Jewish and secular charities, you will recognize

yourself and be eager to participate in a discussion of this work of art born from the unique perspective of an artist.

Registration and details for this January event will be in the weekly *Timbrel*.

January 25: Beit Café, a night of storytelling and music (see article by Holly Witte, page 14).

February 11: Let's cook in our new kitchen! Samantha Ferraro of Little Ferraro Kitchen will teach a hands-on class in Mediterranean cooking in our kitchen. Space is limited, so register as soon as you see the details in an upcoming *Timbrel*.

March 9: Wine tasting! An “Israeli Wine 101” tasting event. Presented by Holly Witte, CBI member and former Oregon vineyard owner/winemaker. Participants will learn about the development of Israel's modern wine industry, what kinds of grapes Israel grows, and in which regions and what makes wines kosher. Included will be tasting of several white and red Israeli wines and time to talk about them. Space is limited, so register as soon as you see the details in an upcoming *Timbrel* (see article next page).

The Programming Committee mission is to provide meaningful Jewish learning and experiences through our programs to the CBI and wider communities, with an aim to accomplish one or more of the following:

- build and strengthen the CBI community
- welcome students involved with Hillel
- attract unaffiliated Jews to CBI
- build relationships with the broader community

We are always looking for ideas for future programming, and, we also welcome volunteers from our CBI community who want to help with events. Contact co-chairs Emily Weiner and/or Melissa Schapiro if you'd like to get involved.

Kesher Volunteer Guest Speaker Series

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

January 28

The evening begins with an optional potluck at 5:30 pm, followed by the presentation from 6:30-8:00 pm.

Ray Wolpov is a professor emeritus and namesake of the Holocaust studies center at WWU. He has taught Shoah history and literature at CBI's Kesher for more than a decade

and was co-author of Noémi's book *Sharing Is Healing*. He has presented these messages to numerous academic and faith-based groups. Please come prepared to listen and share your own thoughts, remembrances, and hopes for *tikkun olam*.

During this short talk and slide presentation, he will share messages of resiliency and hope from his work with concentration camp survivors. Together, we will endeavor to gain insight into how our own CBI congre-

gants 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.



Join Us for a Wine Tasting on Saturday Evening, March 9

In time for your Passover wine selections, join us for some wine savvy and to sample five Israeli wines from the Golan Appellation in Israel.

Your wine-tasting host for the evening, Holly Witte, moved to Washington after 15 years in the Willamette Valley where she and her late husband owned a vineyard and a winery. Holly will guide us through the tasting with some tips along the way and, maybe, some insider information about “wine speak”!

We will taste whites and reds, all from the Golan Appellation in Israel. What is an Appellation anyway? Wine regions are created around specific characteristics common to all of the vines grown in that area. It is much more than just drawing a line around an area on a map, though. Appellations or, in the U.S., AVAs — American Viticultural Areas — take a long time to be identified and include not only characteristics of the vineyard itself, but also production and content requirements. In Washington, for instance, of its 20 AVAs, the Columbia Valley is probably the best known. In Oregon, it's the Willamette Valley.

At our tasting, we'll learn something about the Golan Appellation and its characteristics and see if we recog-

nize them in the wines we taste. We'll also do a little test to find out who among us is a Super Taster — and what that means! And we'll have platters of appetizers selected to pair with our wines.

A preview of the Appellation: It is the most Northern and considered the best. Within the Appellation is the Golan Heights, which is the coldest area in Israel. It is a volcanic plateau from 1300 feet to 3900 feet above sea level. We have selected Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Syrah and two red blends to share. Seifert & Jones Wine Merchants has also agreed to offer a 10% savings if you decide to buy some of the wines. Order forms should be available that evening...while the memory of the wine is still on your palate!

We have wine makers in the CBI congregation, surely wine lovers, and probably those who want to learn a bit more. We will have space for 40 tasters, members only, please. Watch for the announcement of the cost and how to make reservations.

Gathering to explore the mysteries of wine is often a magical experience. Join us in March for a little magic and a lovely evening together.

FROM THE RABBI

Continued from Page 1

pidyon shvuyim, redeeming captives. In fact, this mitzvah is considered a mitzvah *rabbah*, a great mitzvah. Maimonides goes even further, teaching that “there is no greater mitzvah than redeeming captives” (*Mishneh Torah*). And the *Shulchan Aruch*, which is a compendium of Jewish law, teaches, “Every moment that one delays in redeeming captives, when it is possible to expedite, it is considered as if one has shed blood” (*Yoreh De'ah*, 252:2). Although Maimonides sees *pidyon shvuyim* as the ultimate mitzvah, he also acknowledged that redeeming captives at an exorbitant price, as has happened last month and back in 2011, should be forbidden both for individuals' and for public safety. He teaches, “We do not redeem captives for more than their value *mipnei tikkun olam*, lest the enemies pursue them to capture them” (*Mishneh Torah*). In other words, showing our enemies that Israel is willing to pay any price for our Jewish siblings in captivity could potentially lead to an increase in abductions.

There are also Jewish voices that teach how, even in the face of a threat to life, it is our duty to redeem captives at any financial cost, even if this poses a risk to future lives. The Talmud reads, “If their lives are in danger, we redeem captives for more than their value.” One

important point to consider is that when discussing this topic, most sources were thinking about individual soldiers and not hundreds of innocent civilians. I wonder if our sages would have said unequivocally that we should pay any price necessary.

Israel is at war with a genocidal terrorist regime that does not value the sanctity of life, and they certainly don't care for Jewish lives. And yet they know that Israel will go to great lengths to save lives, even if fulfilling the mitzvah goes against commonsense security considerations, even if exchanging thousands of terrorists for one Israeli encourages more kidnappings.

Despite what the majority of our Jewish textual tradition teaches us — mainly that the public welfare takes precedence over the individual — I think we all feel that anything must be done to get our Jewish siblings back home safely. We see our own loved ones in the pictures of those taken hostage. War is ugly and complicated and dreadful, and our detractors will criticize every action Israel takes. However, I remain hopeful that families will be reunited and that Israel and her allies will do all that they possibly can to fulfill the mitzvah of *pidyon shvuyim*. *Ken yehi ratzon*, may this be God's will.

RABBI JOSHUA SAMUELS

January/February 2024 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, Jan.5	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Family service, with potluck afterward	Friday, Feb. 2	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Family Service, featuring the Keshet 4th Grade class, with potluck afterward
Saturday, Jan 6	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Shemot</i>) 11:00 am Jewish Renewal Shabbat Service	Saturday, Feb. 3	9:30 am Torah Study on Zoom only (<i>Parashat Yitro</i>)
Friday, Jan. 12	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	Friday, Feb. 9	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Saturday, Jan. 13	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Vaera</i>) 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service	Saturday, Feb. 10	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Mishpatim</i>) 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service
Friday, Jan. 19	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service, with potluck afterward	Friday, Feb.16	6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service, with potluck afterward
Saturday, Jan. 20	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Bo</i>) 11:00 am Tot Shabbat service	Saturday, Feb. 17	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Terumah</i>) 11:00 am Tot Shabbat service
Friday, Jan. 26	7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service, with leadership from the Ma'Ayan Shir ensemble	Friday, Feb. 23	7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service, with leadership from the Ma'Ayan Shir ensemble
Saturday, Jan. 27	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Beshalach</i>) 10:30 am Conservative-style, lay-led minyan	Saturday, Feb. 24	9:30 am Torah Study (<i>Parashat Tetzaveh</i>) 10:30 am Conservative-style, lay-led minyan

Library News

BY JOAN WAYNE

"The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library" – Albert Einstein.

The Beth Israel Max Glass Library is really two amazing libraries! The Youth and Children's library is near the Keshet classrooms and enjoyed by Keshet students and teachers. The Adult Library is on the second floor. It is open when the building is open except during Keshet when it is used as a classroom. Tamar Clarke continues to find new and interesting books for all ages.

There are also many books in the Beit Midrash, including a complete Talmud.

It's easy to find out what books we have in both libraries. Just go to tinyurl.com/maxglass and type in an author, title, or subject.

Generous CBI Donations for IDF Soldiers

With all the generous donations provided by our CBI congregants, Victoria and Gaby Mayers traveled to Israel with four enormous

check-in bags filled with long thermal underwear, headlamps, inflatable water bottles for 80 soldiers, and some additional clothing donations. Extra money was donated to purchase winter coats for another unit of reserve soldiers serving in the North. The recipients were so very appreciative of the donations, and the supplies will be really cherished. Thank you to everyone who made contributions in honor of our Israel Defense Fighters.



Special Fund Donations

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Sylvan Weinstein, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

From: Patrick Crane

Susan Katz

Fredda Robinson

* Max Naiman, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

* Max Braunstein, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

From: Fran Levy

Idalina Trank, for her conversion

From: Paul Blum & Alison Zak

Marv Wayne, in celebration of his 80th Birthday

From: David Goldman & Linda Blackwell

IN APPRECIATION TO:

Rabbi Samuels

From: Terry Weiner & Rob Lopresti

Rabbi Samuels, for your dedication to building a strong Jewish community in Bellingham.

From: Marc Weinstein & Elizabeth Snyder

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Ruth Ingberman and family, in loving memory of Arthur Ingberman

From: Geri Mandell (Monroe Township NJ)

Phyllis Mazur

Sandra Laeser

(Reston, VA)

EJ Borrack &

Blair Flicker (Boca Raton, FL)

Joan & Marv Wayne

Rochelle Zohn

(Arlington, VA)

Karen Sloss, in memory of her mother, Edna Jean Sloss

From: Fran Levy

Rhoda & Peter Samuels, in memory of Tom Juda

From: Fran Levy

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Esther Mazur, Shelly's beloved mother

From: Phyllis Mazur

Kevin Donner's beloved younger brother, Blair

From: Kuk Sool Won of Bellingham

Arthur Ingberman

From: Ruth Ingberman

Daniel Ingberman &

Renee Elder

COMMEMORATING THE YAHREZEIT OF:

My beloved husband, Harold Katz

From: Susan Katz

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

The Aaron & Marie

Blackman Charitable

Fund

Rachelle Herdman

Dan Raas

Idalina Trank

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE FUND

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Ira Kaufman

CAMP/YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Dan Raas

GENERAL FUND

IN SUPPORT OF:

Beth Israel programming

From: Carol & David Robinson

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Ruth Ingberman and family, in loving memory of Arthur Ingberman

From: Bethe Burns & Family (Freehold NJ)

Karen Sloss, in memory of her mother, Edna Jean Sloss

From: Joan & Marv Wayne

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

My daughter-in-law, Bobby

From: Sally Waddell

(Bellingham)

My wife, Theresa, and son, Anthony Lee Allen

From: Daniel Blomquist (Sedro Woolley)

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Ella & Alan Barney;

Paul Blum & Alison Zak;

Marta & Craig Brand;

John Cook; David &

Katie Edelstein; Helen

Feiger; David Goldman

& Linda Blackwell; Jodi

Litt; Nora Mazonson;

Phyllis Mazur; Gregory

Peterson; Rick Romito

& Linda Read; Carol &

David Robinson; Steve

& Rita Spitzer; Richard

Widerkehr; Todd &

Sarah Witte; Rena &

David Ziegler

ISRAEL TRIP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Kevin Donner's beloved younger brother, Blair

From: Kuk Sool Won of Bellingham

YOUTH GROUP FUND

IN APPRECIATION TO:

* Leah Bordman, for her help getting Sylvan prepared for his Bar Mitzvah

* This year's B'nei Mitzvah cohort, for all their help making Sylvan's Bar Mitzvah celebration such a wonderful event

From: Marc Weinstein

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TUITION FUND

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Idalina Trank

MAX GLASS LIBRARY FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Kevin Donner's beloved younger brother, Blair

From: Kuk Sool Won of Bellingham

RABBI'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Kevin Donner's beloved younger brother, Blair

From: Kuk Sool Won of Bellingham

YOUTH OUTREACH COMMITTEE

IN MEMORY OF:

Kevin Donner's beloved younger brother, Blair

From: Kuk Sool Won of Bellingham

NEW SYNAGOGUE FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Marv Wayne, in celebration of his 80th Birthday

From: Steve & Janis Ban

IN APPRECIATION TO:

Karen Sloss, for her dedication to our community, and for the beautiful flower arrangements at Sylvan's Bar Mitzvah

From: Marc Weinstein

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Karen Sloss, in memory of her mother, Edna Jean Sloss

From: Jodi Litt

Todd & Sarah Witte

Kathy & Mark Zitzer, in memory of beloved brother/ brother-in-law, Ward Zitzer

From: David & Katie Edelstein

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Dan Raas

Lee Shapiro

CARE COMMITTEE

IN HONOR OF:

The Committee

From: Rena Blauner

IN MEMORY OF:

Kevin Donner's beloved younger brother, Blair

From: Kuk Sool Won of Bellingham

Tell Us a Story at the Beit Café

BY HOLLY WITTE

We are excited to announce that Beit Café for CBI members returns on January 25 at 6:30 pm in the Mt. Baker Theatre Encore Room, 104 N Commercial St, Bellingham, WA 98225, hosted by Rabbi Samuels and Holly Witte.

People have stories: wonderful stories that entertain, shed insight, delight listeners. We are hoping you will want to tell your story and, to make it relevant to CBI, we've selected the theme: *Jewish Journey*.

That can mean so much — It can be a story of significant moments or events that have shaped you whether you are Jewish or have a connection to Judaism. It can be a story of a literal journey, a journey through your favorite foods and recipe, childhood memories that connect to who you are today, the decision to choose Judaism. There are any number of possibilities!

Please plan a story that is no longer than 7 minutes. You may either tell your story or read it. We know some of you may already have experience in telling stories and, for others, it can be a little daunting to

prepare, so we have some tips which may help you to organize your story. There is also an opportunity for you to meet with Holly Witte for a little advance work — email her at: bloominghillvineyards@gmail.com

Here are some things to consider as you plan your story:

What makes a good story

- You are the star of the story because you are telling it!
- Choose a moment that marked a change for you.
- Why did that moment stand out?
- Examples can be making a decision, how an outside circumstance affected you, a moment when something didn't go as planned, something surprising.
- Thoughts and feelings about the subject matter; details matter — colors, smells, tastes, what rooms looked like, what you were wearing, whether there was music involved.

Some prompts to find a story

- If your life was a movie, what's a standout scene?
- Something someone said to you that was a turning point.
- Following your heart.

- Reunions.
- Childhood memories — including favorite foods!
- Trips.
- Relatives.
- Old boyfriends or girlfriends
- Did you move often as a child? As an adult?
- Important teacher or mentor.

Story structure

- Find a good place to start — with an event, person or the moment that the story itself is about — to get people's attention.
- Decide if your story moves forward best chronologically or by using flashbacks and your own commentary about what is happening.
- The idea is for people to experience with you what you are telling them.
- Know your ending.

Please let us know in advance that you would like to tell a story. Please call Sarah Cobb in the CBI office at (360) 733-8890 by January 20 to let us know you would like to tell a story and the title of your story.

We promise you a night of good stories.

EMILY WEINER

Continued from Page 8

well as a leader in the Newspaper Guild and Coordinator of the Times Women's Caucus. She also wrote and edited for *The Bellingham Herald*, *Cascadia Weekly*, and others.

She raised funds for Mount Baker Theatre from 2008-2014; for Western Washington University — soliciting grant funding from 2014-2023; and currently freelances with Nonprofit Accelerator.

She also gardens, joins sessions of the CBI Sisterhood Book Group, co-chairs CBI's Programming Committee, does *qigong*, and walks and plays with Toby, their mini-Australian shepherd.

Activism is always prominent in her life. Even her travel carries a sense of giving as well as getting. In 1970, she took a bus with other feminists to march for legalization of abortion in New York.

"I'm proud that we succeeded three years before *Roe v. Wade*," she said.

Foreign travel includes a trip to Grenada while it was governed by the revolutionary movement led by Maurice Bishop. She visited a cooperative farm and met a man whose father had been a slave there. She saw that, unlike in other Caribbean countries, children were not begging at cruise ship docks, and she learned about progress toward eliminating workplace harassment.

And in March and April, Emily and Peggy traveled to Israel and Jordan. There her understanding of the need for the Jewish state deepened — especially for immigrants forced from the Middle East, North Africa, and the Soviet Union, as well as from European pogroms and the Holocaust. Sites were unveiled that proved to her that Jewish residence there is ancient and continuous.

"And I felt how the people of Israel are my family, which prepared me to respond to the October 7 attacks by Hamas," she said.

Yahrzeits

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

Friday, January 5

Martin Katz	1/6
Jack Siegel	1/6
Florence Weintraub	1/6
Louis Lebowitz	1/7
Brian House	1/10
Harry V. Welch, Jr	1/10
Marion Glassman	1/11
Shirley Spiegel Jacobson	1/11
Miriam Cohen	1/12

Friday, January 12 and Saturday, January 13

Morris Kalman Patinkin	1/13
Simon Rosen	1/13
Harry Suslow	1/14
Victorie Haislip	1/15
Sylvia Goldman	1/16
Mary Bayer Koplowitz	1/17
Jerome Selznick	1/17
David Kaplowitz	1/18
Eleanor Scharff	1/18
(Arabelle) Chaya Schlanger	1/18

Friday, January 19

Harold Earl Perper	1/20
Joel K. Rubenstein	1/20
Lawrence Weintraub	1/20
Morris Faber	1/21
Fred Graff	1/21
Irving Lackowitz	1/21
Lillian Mauer Pravda	1/21
George Markell	1/22
Florence D. Shain	1/22
Sandor Garfinkle	1/25
Celia Zak	1/26

Friday, January 26

Leona Chorney Sondik	1/27
Dr. Herzl Spiro	1/27
Judy Holtzman	1/29
Mishra Stephen Suloway	1/29
Frank Kraus	1/30
Daniel Weis	1/30
Meyer Wolpow	1/31
Mark Luster	2/1

Friday, February 2

Derrek Jeremy Adelstein	2/2
David Shain	2/2
Alvis E. Swindell	2/2
Willie Kluger Pollock	2/3
Debbie Haskell	2/4
Urve Moyer	2/4
Hally Vernon	2/4

Hannah Jacobson	2/5
Paul Sondik	2/5
David Fine	2/6
Rita Gordon	2/6
Steven R. Rivkin	2/6
William Schwartz	2/6
William Freeman	2/7
Burton Sklar	2/7
Roy Athol Thomas	2/7
Gloria Perper	2/8
Elinor Pravda	2/8
Jean Beverly Blank	2/9
Rochelle Blum	2/9
Isadore Graff	2/9
Michel Oksenberg	2/9

Friday, February 9 and Saturday, February 10

Judith T. Sklar	2/10
Clarence Weiner	2/10
Linda Kaplowitz Copeland	2/11
Beth R. Curtis	2/11
David Ragosin	2/11
Benjamin Solomon	2/11
Muriel Smith	2/12
Frieda Blank	2/13
Betty Goldberger	2/13
Albert Lebovich	2/13

Harold Katz	2/14
Lou Fine	2/15
Sadie Gordon Schiller	2/15

Friday, February 16

Judith Ferbel	2/18
Robert Baker	2/19
John H. Bruns	2/19
Ruth Lippman	2/19
Alice Duckworth	2/21
Jack Eigen	2/21
Joseph Sonneman	2/21
Nelson Beller	2/22
Phil H. Miller	2/22
Ninfa Short	2/22
David Boman	2/23
Phyllis Goldin	2/23
Gilbert Orlik	2/23
George Schwartz	2/23
Harold Shepard	2/23

Friday, February 23

BJ Elder	2/25
Colleen Koplowitz	2/26
Walter von Hollander	2/26
Robert Dixon	2/27
Gene Adelstein	3/1
Benjamin Goldberg	3/1

In Memoriam

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

We mourn the passing of Beth Israel congregant **Arthur King Ingberman**, who passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his loved ones, on Thursday, November 30, 2023. He was 97 years old. Mr. Ingberman is survived by Ruth, his wife of 67 years; children Daniel (Renee Elder) and Jeanne Graulich (Andrew); grandchildren Teddy, AJ, Mark, Benjamin, Sarah, and Rachael; and great-grandchildren Sean, Lucas, Ozzie, and Jozy.

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

Kathy Zitzer on the loss of her brother-in-law, **Wade Zitzer**, who passed away on November 25, 2023, in San Jose, California, his lifelong residence. He was 65 years old. A cabinet-maker by trade, Wade was a loving, generous person — the neighbor that was always there to lend a hand, and a great brother and brother-in-law.

Zev Kronenberg and wife Elle on the loss of his mother, **Shira Tziporah Kronenberg**, who passed away on November 25, 2023.

Karen Sloss on the loss of her mother, **Jean Elsa Sloss**, who passed away peacefully at her home in Forestville, CA with family at her bedside on December 1, 2023. She was 97 years old.

John Sternlicht on the loss of his father, **Martin William Sternlicht**, on December 6, 2023 at home in Fayetteville, North Carolina, just one week shy of his ninety-second birthday. He was funny, kind, generous, caring — one of those rare people whom everyone loved — and nothing was more important to him than family.

THE SHUL SHOFAR

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Tim Baker: How Congregation Beth Israel Evolved

Sunday, February 25, 2024
Optional Potluck 5:30 pm
Presentation 6:30-8:00 pm



Tim Baker is a CBI congregant, now happily retired from his job as a paralegal. Tim has been researching the history of Congregation Beth Israel and the Bellingham Jewish community since 1995. In his presentation,

Tim will share intriguing stories about the Orthodox Lithuanian Jewish co-founders, reveal interesting facts about the lives of the original CBI members, and provide little-known details about the ever-growing Bellingham Jewish community. There will be time set aside for questions after the presentation.

Second-Night Community Passover Seder!



Mark your calendar for **April 23, 2024** for the second-night community seder.

This all-ages event will include a fun, lively, and upbeat retelling of the Exodus story. Dinner will include vegetarian, gluten-free, and dairy-free options and will be catered for the second year by *Taste of Elegance*. Look for more information on how to register in January.

Birthdays

JANUARY 2024

1/1 Jeaninne Kahan
 1/1 Binnie Perper
 1/1 Alison Zak
 1/2 Rachel Bjarnason
 1/2 Cierra Burkill
 1/2 Bella Gentry (18th)
 1/3 Keren Gott
 1/3 Tahlia Somers (17th)
 1/4 Julia Ban
 1/4 Linda Blackwell
 1/4 Elijah Fay (16th)
 1/4 Wolf Pomerantz (12th)
 1/4 Asher Stoane (21st)
 1/6 Isaac Konikoff
 1/6 Tom Maxim
 1/8 Max Becker (2nd)
 1/8 Judy Diamond
 1/8 Victoria Mayers
 1/9 Helen Feiger
 1/10 Lou Lippman
 1/11 John Schapiro
 1/12 Talia Clarke (20th)
 1/14 Leslie Hamilton
 1/15 Diana Dixon (10th)
 1/15 Audrey LaPlante (15th)
 1/15 Nora Mazonson
 1/15 Kathi Paluch
 1/15 Crow Richards
 1/16 Maya Cornwall (21st)
 1/17 David Elkayam
 1/17 Jodi Litt
 1/18 Miriam Buckman
 1/18 Dashka Garretson
 1/21 Arturo Flores Pritchett (7th)
 1/21 Alyson Kassen
 1/22 Stuart Berman
 1/23 Joshua Greenberg
 1/23 Maya Stein (11th)
 1/25 Marc Weinstein
 1/26 Leo David Cohen (11th)
 1/26 Nate LaMont (3rd)
 1/26 Mitch Press
 1/26 Geraldine Reitz
 1/28 Angie Lee
 1/29 Avinoam Baruch Bokser (5th)

1/30 Wendy Blum
 1/30 Gib Morrow

FEBRUARY 2024

2/1 Bill Freeman
 2/3 Adina Diamond (7th)
 2/4 Bonnie Zell
 2/5 Matthew Kinney
 2/5 Elizabeth Snyder
 2/6 Stephanie Machlin
 2/6 Laura Wolfson
 2/7 Elan Maxim
 2/8 Samantha Schwartz (19th)
 2/9 Steven Schram
 2/10 Bob Friedman
 2/11 Ella Barney
 2/11 Shalem Blum (19th)
 2/11 Leo Banks Strich (6th)
 2/14 Bob Goldman
 2/15 Gloria Lebowitz
 2/16 Leviah Landau
 2/17 Dan Ohms
 2/18 Tom Oliver
 2/18 Sarah Zarrow
 2/20 Don Fenbert
 2/20 Susan Schneider
 2/20 Elijah Wolfson (15th)
 2/21 Gregg Orlik
 2/21 Kristin Sykes-David
 2/22 Frank Corey
 2/22 Teva Corey-DuBow (17th)
 2/22 Corinne Hecht
 2/22 Naomi Math (4th)
 2/22 Karen Sloss
 2/22 Jeannette Stephens
 2/24 Todd Haskell
 2/24 Robert Meltzer
 2/25 Nancy Auerbach
 2/25 Avi Brennan (17th)
 2/25 Genny Cohn
 2/26 Alex Jeffers
 2/26 Robin Kodner
 2/26 Orly Ziv-Maxim
 2/27 Herschel Goodwin (7th)
 2/27 Ken Levinson
 2/27 Teresa Sommers

Anniversaries

Jan. 1 Ella & Alan Barney (# 10)
 Jan. 6 David Goldman and Linda Blackwell (# 39)
 Jan. 8 Lindsey & Jordan Genut (# 14)
 Feb. 4 Cathy & Mark Zitzter (# 40)
 Feb. 17 Rob & Kathy Grossman (# 17)
 Feb. 17 David & Carol Robinson (# 43)

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.



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ACROSS

- 1 Tevye's familial role in 'Fiddler'
 5 Gloom's partner
 9 Joseph and his brothers, in a dream
 14 Pal
 15 "Yeah, I don't think so"
 16 Japanese maker of watches and synthesizers
 17 Heavenly instrument
 18 Tobacco plug
 19 Revise
 20 Sharing a meal
 23 College dorm VIPs
 24 Cracks up, online
 25 Signature Napa Valley drink
 30 ___-mo
 33 The floor, to imaginative children
 34 Israeli mentalist Geller
 35 Wyoming's Grand ___ National Park
 37 Hebrew affirmation
 38 Entourage
 41 Farrow and Hamm, e.g.
 42 Tuesday, in Toulouse
 44 Unagi, as on a sushi menu
 45 Pot starter
 46 Local time zone
 47 One way to set the mood

- 51 Pastrami purveyor
 52 DC insider
 53 Weekend words
 59 Embarrassment
 60 Caramel colored beverage
 61 The golden calf, for one
 63 More resentful?
 64 Southernmost coast-to-coast rte.
 65 Half of a vinyl record
 66 Chinese restaurant assurance
 67 Eye of ___: classic cauldron inclusion
 68 Try

DOWN

- 1 Main hwy. through Malibu
 2 Moby Dick's arch-nemesis
 3 Contented cat sound
 4 Neon character in Seattle's Olympic Sculpture Garden
 5 1933 Marx Brothers classic
 6 Surprised greeting
 7 Biblical name Dorothy Parker gave her canary because he "spilled his seed"
 8 'The Jungle Book' boy
 9 Miss in the game of Clue
 10 Domesticates
 11 Between ports
 12 Watermelon waste
 13 Ground cover
 21 They may not be included
 22 ___ vivant
 25 Rough it luxuriously
 26 Tibetan monks
 27 Prevent
 28 To's partner
 29 Caught on, with "up"
 30 Jellyfish injury
 31 Disinclined
 32 Beginning
 36 'The Timbrel' delivery system
 39 Fleur de ___

- 40 Beast slain from below in the Chanukah story
 43 Titanic's undoing
 48 Priest's robe
 49 Vitamin B3
 50 Hawaiian volcano Mauna ___
 51 Knighted ladies
 53 "Git!"
 54 Damage
 55 Schlep
 56 Whole bunch
 57 Garfield's canine companion
 58 User-designed video game tweaks
 59 Nine-digit ID
 62 Allow

