

# Voice of the Shore

Congregation Torat El ~ Jersey Shore Jewish Center December 2021 - Kislev/Tevet 5782



# Celebrate Chanukah with Congregation Torat El Tuesday, November 30, 6:00pm (rain date Wednesday, December 1)

# Menorah Lighting, Chanukah Songs, Hot Chocolate, S'mores, Fire Performers!

For planning purposes please register on our website at upcomingevents.torat-el.org

# Thave the gift of light

### **Keep someone warm**

We are now accepting new and gently used coats for children and adults.

Donations will go to local shelters and human services centers. Donation bins are located in the temple lobby and will be outside at the Chanukah celebration.

### Bring joy to a child

We are now accepting new/in-the-box toys. Donations will go to local shelters and Ronald McDonald House. Donation bins are located in the temple lobby and will be outside at the Chanukah celebration.

# CONGREGATION TORAT EL CONTACT INFORMATION

Torat El Professional Staff		Committee Contact Info			
Senior Rabbi Aaron Schonbrun		Beth El Cemetery - Alan & Sonny Winters	732-670-9200		
		Chesed Chair - Alyce Isaacson	732-870-1492		
Executive Director		Contribution Cards - Beverle Richelson	732-493-1595		
	Pam Cardullo	Education Chair - Sherrie Robinson	732-513-9688		
Dir. of Ritual Engagement  Ben Laskowitz		Hazak - Marjorie & Stanley Cotler	732-922-6590		
-: 6x	2011 201011011112	Social Action - Dorothy Secol	732-690-7376		
Dir. of Youth Ed.& Engagement Rachel Weitzenkorn Bookkeeper/Admin. Joanne Bass		Technology - Howard Lang	admin@torat-el.org		
		Koreen Family Library - Sandy & Carl Koreen	732-229-6125		
		Other Contact Info			
Administrative A	A <i>sst.</i>	Temple President - Andrew Robins	732-531-4410		
	Lisa Arnold	Sisterhood President - Janet Attner	732-918-0987		
			132-310-0301		
		Men's Club President - Gregg Taffet	732-544-4957		
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	ecutive Board	Men's Club President - Gregg Taffet	732-544-4957		
President	Andrew Robins	Men's Club President - Gregg Taffet Meet the Author - Alison Block	732-544-4957 732-547-7919		
President V.P.	Andrew Robins Neil Becourtney	Men's Club President - Gregg Taffet  Meet the Author - Alison Block  JNF Tree Donations - Sandy Rosen	732-544-4957 732-547-7919 732-870-2166		
President V.P. V.P.	Andrew Robins Neil Becourtney Susan Berkowitz	Men's Club President - Gregg Taffet  Meet the Author - Alison Block  JNF Tree Donations - Sandy Rosen  Facility Rental - Pam Cardullo	732-544-4957 732-547-7919 732-870-2166 732-531-4410		
President V.P.	Andrew Robins Neil Becourtney Susan Berkowitz Linda Pickelny	Men's Club President - Gregg Taffet  Meet the Author - Alison Block  JNF Tree Donations - Sandy Rosen  Facility Rental - Pam Cardullo  Kiddush Information - Pam Cardullo	732-544-4957 732-547-7919 732-870-2166 732-531-4410 732-531-4410		
President V.P. V.P. V.P.	Andrew Robins Neil Becourtney Susan Berkowitz	Men's Club President - Gregg Taffet  Meet the Author - Alison Block  JNF Tree Donations - Sandy Rosen  Facility Rental - Pam Cardullo  Kiddush Information - Pam Cardullo  Bulletin - Pam Cardullo	732-544-4957 732-547-7919 732-870-2166 732-531-4410 732-531-4410 732-531-4410		

### **Board of Trustees**

Alan Morris

Secretary

Dawn Barofsky Galit Binns		rabbi@torat-el.org			
Marjorie Cotler	Tanis Deitch	Pam Cardullo, Executive Director			
Mindy Estin Sheryl Kaplar		pamc@torat-el.org	ext.10		
Howard Lang Sherrie Robinson	Beverle Richelson Judy Solomon	Joanne Bass, Bookkeeper			
Mark Steinberg	Neil Warar	joanneb@torat-el.org	ext.11		
Monica Weiss		Lisa Arnold, Administrative Assistant			
		lisaa@torat-el.org	ext.12		
		Ben Laskowitz, Director of Ritual Engagement			
Sisterhood Pres.	Janet Attner	benlaskowitz@torat-el.org	ext.16		
Men's Club Pres.	Gregg Taffet	Rachel Weitzenkorn, Director of Youth Education and Engagement			
		rachelw@torat-el.org			
		Robin Wander, Pre-School Director			

Rabbi Aaron Schonbrun



elc@torat-el.org

Congregation Torat El Main Office 732-531-4410

ext. 18



# Please note change of start time for Erev Shabbat Service!

Friday, December 3, 2021 **Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15 pm**  Candles 4:10pm

YAHRZEITS: Seymour Absatz, Allan Axelrod, Greta Boden, Abraham Brand, Anna Davis, Rae Donner, Sherwin Feinstein, Esther Fleishman, Vivian Forman, Rita Friedman, Berek Frochcwajg, Minnie Ginsburg, Rhoda Goldberg, Adrienne Gordon, Emanuel Joseph, Shirley Kantor, Bernard Karasic, Lawrence Karasic, Beatrice Kraus, Elsie Mannes, Benjamin Mayerowitz, Elizabeth Medwin, Cecelia Ostroff, Yoseph Reuven, Sheldon Sacks, Reuben Samuel, Herbert Schimel, Nathan Schulman, Harry Schutzer, George Schwartzstein, Victor Shain, Rosalind Stern, Roz Weinstein, Herman Wilk, Bernard Yeamans

Saturday, December 4, 2021 Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am

> Parsha: Mikkets 43:16-44:17 Haftarah: Zechariah 2:14-4:7

Friday, December 10, 2021

**Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15 pm** 

Candles 4:10pm

YAHRZEITS: Fred Boone, M. Harvey Brown, Mae Castello, Ken Curtis, Robert Deitch, Martha Drossman, George Fink, Estera Frochcwajg, Betty Fromer, Norman Gayton, Joseph Gold, Adelaide Goldstein, Jerry Goldstein, Amelia Greenfield, Samuel Hipschman, Belle Horenstein, Barbara Jacob, Harry Kantor, Marilyn Kaplan, Eugene Kirsch, Robert Krantz, Pearl Krongelb, Lily Laster, Betty Parker, Zimel Resnick, Ronald Rosen, Ernest Rosset, Simon Samuel, Robert Schneider, Edith Schwaber, Phillip Schwartz, Milton Seidman, Alfred Silverstein, Roxie Skoler, Abraham Slovin, Bob Stone, Ruth Wilk

Saturday, December 11, 2021 Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am

Parsha: Vayiggash 46:28-47:27 Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:15-28

Candles 4:12pm

Friday, December 17, 2021 Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15 pm Candles 4:12pm YAHRZEITS: Avram Bercovicz, Milton Bernstein, Samuel Bloom, Shirley Borsch, Marda Brown, Morris Cohen, Julius Droisen, Nathan Feinstein, David Fields, Max Gonski, Frida Haber, Louis Kirsch, Gladys Kisner, Simon Klein, Mortimer Kobb, Rebecca Kramer, Lois Nelson, Ben Rassas, Mildred Richelson, Lee Rubenstein, Milton Sabin, Samuel Sarch, Sigmund Schreiber, Stephanie Silver, Mathilda Simha, Fannie Tauber, Harry Vineburg, Marilyn Weinstein, Shari Woda, Ćhiam Zev

Saturday, December 18, 2021 **Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am** 

Parsha: Vayhi 49:27-50:26 Haftarah: 1 Kings 2:1-12

Friday, December 24, 2021

**Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15 pm** 

Candles 4:15pm

YAHRZEITS: Shai Binns, Clara Blance, Louis Breslow, Zipporah Brodie, David Cooper, Nelson Farber, Jean Frank, Rose Frank, Rose Goldenberg, Kenneth Kobb, Annette Kurman, Shirley Levine, Bessie Lipson, Michael Maltzman, Gussie Michelson, Samuel Miller, Zelda Miller, Solomon Nanos, Stuart Nelson, Dora Osattin, William Potter, Herman Preiser, Sol Reinman, Stanley Rubenstein, Sarah Samuel, Esriel Schwebel, Saul Shapiro, Shirley Shapiro Fein, Jack Solden, John Stazyn, Sidney Zislin

Saturday, December 25, 2021 Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am

Parsha: Shemot 4:18-6:1 Haftarah: Isaiah 27:6-28:13, 29:22-23

### Join Services In-Person and Online

**Shabbat:** 

Friday, 6:15pm and Saturday, 9:00am

In-Person or Livestreamed at https://livestream.torat-el.org

**Morning Minyan:** 

Monday-Friday, 8:00am, Sunday, 8:30am

In-Person or Livestreamed at https://livestream.torat-el.org

**Evening Minyan:** Monday-Thursday, 7:00pm

Zoom Meeting ID 859-0261-9504 - Service held on Zoom only

### THE BLESSINGS, OPPORTUNITIES, & PRIVILEGE OF SYNAGOGUE LIFE



I was recently in a meeting when someone asked me when we would be "fully" open for the daily business of synagogue life. I was a bit puzzled by the question, as we are not only open, but we are doing such wonderful things as a congregation; yet I understood where the question was coming from. Yes, we are still requiring masks indoors, and yes, the burning issue of "food" at Kiddush and programs (we Jews love to nosh) is a work in progress. But putting all of that aside for a moment, the question was a good opportunity for me to reflect on just how many

meaningful and spiritually fulfilling things are happening on any given day in the life of our congregation. I am blessed that I have a unique vantage point from which to participate in and observe these happenings – and wanted to share with you what I have observed in recent months.

I imagine that some of the wonderful things you are aware of – thanks to your weekly e-blast and bulletin – Zoom tours around the globe, Meet the Author programs, Hanukkah coat and toy collections, Sisterhood and Men's Club socializing, and numerous programming opportunities that continue to happen at CTE. But let me share with you a few things of which you might not be aware.

We hosted a bar mitzvah a few weeks ago for a young man on the autism spectrum whose family has found both a home in our community and a space to celebrate their son as he became bar mitzvah. As with all of our *bnei mitzvah*, thanks to the incredible work of Ben Laskowitz, this young man flourished, lived up to his potential, felt wonderful about his experience. When he was finished, there was not a dry eye in the house.

Recently we celebrated a couple's nearly sixty years of marriage as we gathered together on a typical Shabbat morning.

The months of October and November, unfortunately, came with a number of losses in our community. The ways in which our synagogue family of families was there for the bereaved – during funerals, in-person shivas and in the re-doubling of the effort to make an in-person morning minyan was inspiring. Our in-person morning minyan is back and is strong. It has been work showing up each morning again after a year-and-a-half on Zoom, but we should all be so thankful for those who help ensure the existence of a minyan each morning.

Speaking of prayer, our evening virtual services via Zoom continue strong each night and is filled members who have recently suffered a loss. We take comfort in being able to support them as they grieve, and we take comfort in this new type of gathering that is accessible, meaningful in its own way, and here to stay in the near future.

In October and November we began a wonderful new Friday night experience for our younger synagogue families thanks to the creativity of our new Director of Youth Engagement and Outreach, Rachel Weitzenkorn. Families gathered to celebrate Shabbat, engage in tefilah, and take home some Shabbat activities to continue the celebration following the service.

# THE BLESSINGS, OPPORTUNITIES, & PRIVILEGE OF SYNAGOGUE LIFE CONTINUED



We recently began to re-start and re-imagine our USY program with a wonderful group of teens, both affiliated and unaffiliated, who are joining in the fun. They are already busy planning a year of engaging programs to socialize together with their Jewish friends.

Over the past three months, we have studied Rashi and Talmud each week, and have begun delving into the topic of Israel with our youth and our adults.

And then there are the individual moments of celebration and reflection, such as this moment last week when I was teaching a Zoom class and one person shared how meaningful one particular prayer in our *Siddur Lev Shalem* was to them. Indeed it was so significant that they cut it out, put it around their house, and carry copies of the prayer with them wherever they go in order to remember how important it is to lead from a place of gratitude each day.

*Ancient portable wisdom to nourish the soul* — this is part of what we provide.

I could go on and on – but I think you get the point. We are open; we are doing some wonderful things and continue to have an impact on people's emotional and spiritual lives.

As you read these words, we are in the midst of Hanukkah, a Festival celebrating life and centering on the theme of "re-dedication." Even as the days get darker, the light of your Torat El family continues to shine brightly. As we continue to open up, I invite you to consider what light you can bring to our synagogue community through your participation, and what light might we be able to share with you. As always, feel free to reach out to me directly if you are interested in learning more and/or having a conversation.

May we go from strength to strength, never forgetting the privilege of, and purpose behind, our existence as a *kehilah kedosha*, a sacred community.



### **Congregation Torat El**

# Rabbi Jacob S Friedman Religious School Youth Education & Engagement Updates

### December 2021

### Here is our schedule for December's programs:

\*\*Please see weekly emails for any adjustments in timing or location and additional KADIMA & USY Teen events.

12/1 Weekday Virtual Classes

(4<sup>th</sup> grade: 5pm, 5<sup>th</sup> grade: 4pm, 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 5pm)

- **12/4 Shabbat School** (9:00 am)
- 12/8 Weekday Virtual Classes

(4<sup>th</sup> grade: 5pm, 5<sup>th</sup> grade: 4pm, 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 5pm, Hebrew High: 6pm)

- **12/11 Shabbat School** (9:00 am)
- 12/15 Weekday Virtual Classes

(4<sup>th</sup> grade: 5pm, 5<sup>th</sup> grade: 4pm, 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 5pm)

**12/17** Family Friday Night Service (5:15pm)

Start Shabbat together with a special student and family Erev Shabbat opportunity. This is in place of Shabbat School for the week.

**12/19 Social Action Event** (10:00 am)

All students Grades Prek-12 and families are invited to our next program building upon the theme of "Tikkun Olam" (Repairing the World) through a series of hands-on activities related to "V'ahavta L'Reicha" (Love your Neighbor).

12/22 Weekday Virtual Classes

(4<sup>th</sup> grade: 5pm, 5<sup>th</sup> grade: 4pm, 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 5pm, Hebrew High: 6pm)

No programs due to Winter Break from December 23-January 4. Classes resume January 5, 2022.

**Questions?** 

WE ARE INSTAGRAM OFFICIAL: FOLLOW US.

(732) 531-4410 t-el org/learning/

https://www.torat-el.org/learning/ rachelw@torat-el.org





# WOMEN OF THE WALL BY CAMERON FIELDS

Last month, one of our congregants, Cameron Fields, who is spending a year in Israel on the NATIV program, found herself attending a morning service at the Western Wall. Experiencing first-hand the tension between her love of Israel, and the hatred that she faced from Ultra-Orthodox Jews during a morning of prayer, she shared her thoughts in a beautiful and painful poem on Facebook. I (Rabbi Schonbrun) thought that it was worth sharing here as well. May we see a day when Israel is not only at peace with her neighbors and when the Jewish people, in Israel, and around the world, make peace among ourselves. Below is Cameron's reflection.

This past October I was able to partake in the Women of the Wall Rosh Chodesh service at the Kotel (Western Wall) which is a service that I will never forget. Women of the Wall's mission is to "attain social and legal recognition of our right, as women, to wear prayer shawls, pray, and read from the Torah, collectively and aloud, at the Western Wall." Each month they have a prayer service at the Kotel, and I truly believe that each time one partakes in their services they gain a new perspective on the relations between different sects of Judaism in Israel (or Jerusalem in particular). While there were moments during the Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan service where I felt uncomfortable or upset, overall I learned so much and had an impactful and thoughtprovoking experience while wrapped in my tallit and tefillin under the shadows of the Kotel.

"Im eshkachech, Yerushalayim, tishkach yemini."

If I forget you, O Jerusalem, it is as if I forgot my right hand.

As I stand below the shadow of the Western Wall and unravel my Tefillin I see the fresh marks on my right hand, protrude and unapologetically apparent.

But along with the Tefillin indentations are my wounds and scars.

Will those be forgotten if I forget Jerusalem?

How could something so present in my mind be forgotten?

It will not. It can not. I will not allow that to happen.

Jerusalem is my home.

Jerusalem is the place of my people.

Jerusalem has allowed me to learn so much about the history of my people.

It is a place where I find myself filled with happiness and simultaneously boiling with anger and feelings of

It is a place where I find myself connected to the greater Jewish community... but it also is a place that causes a divide in my connection to Jerusalem itself.

It is where being myself has become a catalyst for protest.

Will I ever be able to forget Jerusalem...NO.

Jerusalem has given me so many life-changing experiences... both for better and for worse.

I have been

yelled at,

blocked,

stepped on,

and jumped through obstacles.

After each one, I feel that Jerusalem has forgotten me.

It has forgotten that I too am Jewish.

I too share the same history, love, and connection to Israel and its Holiest City.

Am I not allowed to show my love and devotion to God in the Holy City?

Is my prayer not valid, real, or worth being heard?

Jerusalem have you forgotten what diversity of prayer looks like?

Please, you cannot accept the prayers filled with screaming, hateful words, and violence towards fellow Jews.

That is not prayer... that is hatred towards one's own family.

Jerusalem hear my voice!

Hear me call out and say that Jerusalem is also my home!

Shouldn't I be comfortable in my home?

Jerusalem have you possibly forgotten that the way someone connects and practices their Judaism can vary.

Jerusalem is the word diversity not in your dictionary?

Jerusalem, remember that I too want to feel at home.

I too want to express my words of prayer freely. I too want to practice Judaism without fear.

I too want to sing with my fellow sisters and brothers.

I too want to be unapologetically Jewish.

Jerusalem don't forget me.

### Lunch N'Learn ~ What's Bothering Rashi?

Join Rabbi Schonbrun in exploring what Rashi had to say about the weekly Torah portion and how these lessons remain relevant to our lives today. We will be studying from The JPS Rashi Discussion Torah Commentary written by Steven and Sarah Levy. Register at upcomingevent.torat-el.org. You will receive the Zoom link in your confirmation email. Wednesdays, 12:00pm



# **ADULT B'NAI MITZVAH CLASS OFFERING**

Did you miss out on having a Bar or Bat Mitzvah as a child? It's never too late! Please let us know if you are interested in having us put together an Adult B'nai Mitzvah class. The intent of the class would be to help increase your own Jewish knowledge while deepening your connection to the Jewish faith. The program would culminate with a special group B'nai Mitzvah service.

If you are interested, please contact Ben at benlaskowitz@torat-el.org, or you can call or text Ben at 732-861-7450.



# RITUAL ENGAGEMENT CHAI LITES

Yasher Koach to Adam Scheer for achieving the honor of becoming Bar Mitzvah. Mazal Tov to Adam and the entire family!

Yasher Koach to Paul Mayerowitz for leyning Mafir and chanting the Haftarah so beautifully in honor of the anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah! Mazal Tov!

Yasher Kochech to Shira Meyer for chanting the Haftarah so beautifully in honor of the anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah! Mazal Tov!

During the month of October, the following individuals performed the Mitzvah of leyning Torah, chanting the Haftarah, and/or leading Shacharit and Musaf:

Mark Engel Sam Fields Marvin Goldin Mitch Grayson Jeff Klein Ben Laskowitz Paul Mayerowitz Shira Meyer Larry Ozarow Bonnie Reiss Andrew Robins Marcia Sacks Eric Scheer Jacob Scheer Rabbi Aaron Schonbrun Steven Schwaber Ariel Stein Samuel Weiner Neil Weitzenkorn

### Yasher Koach To All!!!

If you are interested in chanting your Bar/Bat Mitzvah Haftarah, or if you are interested in learning to become a CTE Leader/Reader, please contact Ben Laskowitz at benlaskowitz@torat-el.org or 732-861-7450.

# **ISRAEL CORNER**

These are not your Bubbe's cookbooks. A new wave of chefs has made way for innovative and delicious food with an Israeli flair. Below are some cookbook suggestions to help you "taste" Israel. Also, if you buy through AmazonSmile\* - Torat El receives a donation.

Shuk: From Market to Table, the Heart of Israeli Home Cooking - Einat Admony & Janna Gur (Artisan Books).

Sababa: Fresh, Sunny Flavors From My Israeli Kitchen: A Cookbook - Adeena Sussman

Jerusalem - Yotam Ottolenghi and Sami Tamimi

Israeli Soul: Easy, Essential, Delicious - Michael Solomonov

### \*How to use AmazonSmile on a web browser:

Visit smile.amazon.com

1. Sign in with the same account you use for Amazon.com

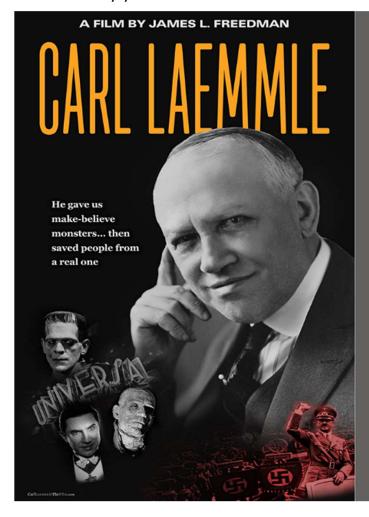
2. Select Congregation Torat El

Start shopping! Remember to checkout at smile.amazon.com to generate donations for your chosen charity. Tip: Add a bookmark to make it easier to shop at smile.amazon.com.

### \*How to use AmazonSmile using the Amazon app on your mobile phone:

- 1. Open the Amazon Shopping app
- 2. Navigate to the main menu (=)
- Tap on Settings and then select "AmazonSmile"
   Select Congregation Torat El and then follow the on-screen instructions to turn ON AmazonSmile in the mobile app

Once AmazonSmile has been activated in your app, future eligible app purchases will generate a donation for the charity you have selected.



**WATCH THE FILM CARL LAEMMLE** DECEMBER 7-12

THEN JOIN FILMMAKER **JAMES FREEDMAN** FOR A ZOOM Q&A SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12 3:00PM

Register at upcomingevents.torat-el.org

# **OUR SYNAGOGUE FAMILIES**

#### **Condolences to:**

Karen Starrett Belfer on the loss of her brother Kenneth Belfer Joel & Madeline Schulman on the loss of their son Neil Schulman Sylvia Cohen on the loss of her husband Ray Cohen Stephen Birn on the loss of his wife Debra Birn

### **Welcome Back to:**

Richard & Helen Stone



Please accept our heartfelt thanks for all of the donations and support we have received following the passing our dear daughter and sister, Phyllis Morris White. The outpouring of love from our family here at Congregation Torat El is a constant source of strength for our family as we move forward. We are forever grateful to all of you.

~ Sheila & Alan Morris

### **Home-delivered Kosher Meals & Snacks Available for Seniors**

Perhaps you or someone you know is recovering from a hospital stay or outpatient surgery. Preparing meals can be cumbersome even when you are feeling good. Then there is the food shopping -- not many people's favorite activity in the best of times, let alone during a pandemic.

Jewish Family & Children's Service of Monmouth County Kosher Meals on Wheels Program is expanding to be more responsive during these trying times. They also recognize the simple fact that as we age, we may have more health challenges that need to be attended to.

Kosher Meals on Wheels is a program for those who are over 60 years old and have either hit one of life's speedbumps, such as illness or injury, or have some economic challenges. Whatever the case, KMOW if here for you. There is no income verification to receive meals, and no onerous paperwork to complete. In fact, it's just one easy phone call. So do yourself, or someone you care about, a favor and call 732-774-6886 x40 to find out more. You can receive meals for a few weeks or as long as needed.

For years, seniors in our community have relied on the JFCS Kosher Meals on Wheels program to provide food to clients who are isolated, frail, and vulnerable. Devoted volunteers – many of whom are our congregants – deliver Kosher meals weekly to clients throughout Monmouth County.

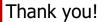
### **College Packages**

If you did not share your student's address, it's not too late for them to be included in the Purim or Passover delivery. Please email Dawn Barofsky at Dawnrachel926@aol.com.

Also, please tell Dawn if your student changes their address or is going abroad in the Spring.

### **ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS!!**

Before you leave us for warmer climates, please call the office and let us know so we can use your winter address for future mailings!





# SISTERHOOD CHAI LITES

Thank you to Robin Bauer for arranging the LIVE **Sisterhood Paint Party** held on November 11. A great time was had by all 16 participants as we created a winter scene tote bag.

Thank you to Melanie Engel and Rebecca Gerard for chairing the **Thanksgiving Food Collection** for Jewish Family and Children's Service. We collected apples and yams for help feed the 350 Jewish families in need this year.

Thank you to Dawn Barofsky and Mindy Wiser-Estin who are chairing the **College Package project**. Gift cards were sent to all the college students and service-people for Chanukah that registered for the program.

**Min Pincow Raffle** winner for October was Donna Ginsberg. Mazel Tov Donna! Please renew your number or choose a new number when contacted, as this has become a major fundraiser for our Sisterhood and, in turn, for our Temple. Thank you to Toby Sukinik and Rebecca Gerard for continuing to chair this fundraiser. Tickets are \$100 for 10 chances to win. Each winner receives approximately \$300.

**Mah Jongg Card Sales**: Please see the details below. Please support our Sisterhood by buying your card through CTE Sisterhood. This is another fundraiser helping our Sisterhood and, in turn, your Temple. Thank you to Jeryl Krupnick for chairing this project.

Save the date for an afternoon Sisterhood meeting on January 20.

### **2022 Mah Jongg Cards**

Standard \$9, Large \$10 (\*New Pricing)

Make check payable to *CTE Sisterhood* and please mail to: Jeryl Krupnick, 521 Bridlemere Ave., Interlaken, NJ 07712

Checks must be received by January 28



# Sisterhood Torah Fund Zoom Event

Thursday, December 16 ~ 7:30pm featuring comedienne Rhonda Cohn

## S18 DONATION TO BENEFIT TORAH FUND

REGISTER AT: UPCOMINGEVENTS.TORAT-EL.ORG

TORAH FUND

WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

A program to strengthen education by supporting scholarships and programming at:

The Jewish Theological Seminary, New York

Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Los Angeles

Schechter Institutes of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano, Buenos Aires Zacharias Frankel College, Germany



# **BLOOD DRIVE**

Sponsored by:
Congregation Torat El and JCC Jersey Shore
100 Grant Avenue, Deal
Wed., Dec. 22 12:30-6:30pm

Appointments recommended. Walk-ins accommodated if space allows. For an appointment go to nybc.org/newjerseydrive sponsor code 71234 or call 800-933-2566

Donors 76 and over need a doctor's note unless one is already on file. 16 year olds need signed NYBC parental consent form.

Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your donor ID card or ID with name and photo.

Masks are required for all donors regardless of vaccination status.

For full list of COVID-19 safety protocols, please visit nybc.org/coronavirus.

All donors will be entered into the NYBC sweepstakes for month of December!

1st Prize = \$2700 value - Refinery Hotel Manhattan Staycation: 2 nights' accommodation for 2, including breakfast & parking/\$400 food & beverage credit/\$200 broadway.com gift card

2nd prize = \$1000 value - Hotel Hendricks Manhattan Staycation: 1 night accommodation for 2, including breakfast/Valet parking /\$200 food and beverage credit

Gratuities not included for food and beverage

# YEAR-END TAX REMINDER

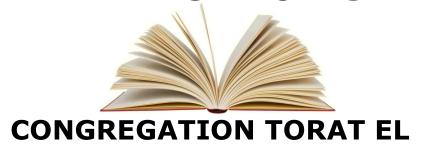
Pay Commitment, Capital Campaign donations or other obligations with Appreciated Securities You can contribute appreciated securities (stocks or mutual funds) held more than one year and obtain a Federal income tax deduction for the fair market value on the date of the donation. The advantage of doing this is that you avoid tax on the appreciation. For example, assume you purchased a stock several years ago for \$1,000 and the value today is \$2,500. By donating the stock you obtain a tax deduction for \$2,500 no different if you wrote a check to CTE for \$2,500. If you first sell the stock then you will realize a long-term capital gain of \$1,500, incurring Federal as well as New Jersey income tax on the gain, as high as 35% combined absent any capital losses that would offset the gain.

Pay Commitment, Capital Campaign donations or other obligations with transfer of funds from your IRA If you have attained the age of 70½, you have the ability to transfer up to \$100,000 annually out of an IRA to charitable organizations, so called Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD). This strategy works well for taxpayers who cannot itemize deductions for Federal income tax purposes due to the increases in the standard deduction along with the limit on deducting state income + real estate taxes. For 2021 the standard deduction for a single individual is \$12,550 and increases to \$14,250 if age 65 or older. For joint filers the standard deduction for 2020 is \$25,100 plus an additional \$1,350 for a spouse age 65 or older. If both spouses have attained age 65 the standard deduction is \$27,800. A QCD is not reportable as income nor is a charitable contribution claimed for Federal income tax purposes. If a donor is unable to itemize their deductions and is required to receive distributions from their IRA due to having attained the age of 70½, the IRA distributions will generally be taxable with no tax deduction obtained for making charitable contributions. Using a QCD results in the IRA distribution not being subject to Federal income tax.

If you are making a stock transfer before the end of the year, please email Pam and let her know what stocks you are transferring and how many shares of each.

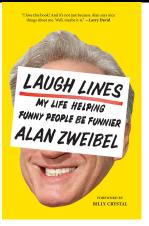
Please discuss with your personal tax adviser to see what works best for you! As always, we thank you for your ongoing support and generosity!

# MEET THE AUTHOR SERIES



Come laugh with the man who wrote comedy for Saturday Night Live and Billy Crystal

Thursday, December 9, 2021 ~ 7:30pm Meet Alan Zweibel, author of *Laugh Lines* 





Laugh Lines – My Life Helping Funny People Be Funnier, a memoir by Alan Zweibel, weaves together the stories of his influential career in television, feature films and on Broadway to trace the trajectory of American comedy from the Borscht Belt comedians to Saturday Night Live, to the rise of cable TV and beyond.

Alan Zweibel became one of the first writers at *Saturday Night Live*, where he penned classic material for Gilda Radner, John Belushi, and all of the original Not Ready for Prime Time Players. From *SNL*, Zweibel went on to have a hand in a series of landmark shows—from *It's Garry Shandling's Show* to *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. This is a warmhearted cultural memoir from a talented, award-winning writer.

Mr. Zweibel has won Emmys, Tonys, awards from the Writers Guild of America and from the Critics Association, as well as the Thurber Prize.

Buy your copy of his book from Bookshop.org (to support independent bookstores) or amazon.com (remember to use your Amazon Smile account if you have one that supports your local congregation.)

There is no charge for this event but registration is required.

Please register at torat-el.org

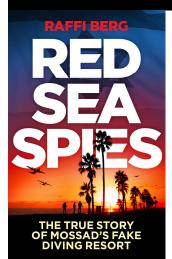
You will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link.

This ongoing series has been made possible by a grant from the B'nai Sholom/Beth El Foundation.

# **MEET THE AUTHOR SERIES**

# Learn about the secret evacuation of Ethiopian Jews from Africa to Israel

# Sunday, January 9, 2022 ~ 12:00pm Meet Raffi Berg, author of *Red Sea Spies*



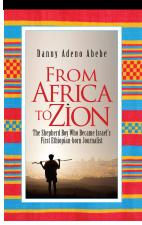
In the early 1980s on a remote part of the Sudanese coast, a new luxury holiday resort opened for business. Catering to divers, it attracted guests from around the world. Little did the holidaymakers know that the staff were undercover spies, working for the Mossad – the Israeli secret service.

Written in collaboration with operatives involved in the mission, endorsed as the definitive account and including an afterword from the then Mossad director, this is the complete, never-before-heard, gripping tale of a top-secret and often hazardous operation.

Raffi Berg is the Middle East editor of the BBC News website, and has extensive experience reporting on Israel and the wider region. He graduated in Modern and Medieval History from the London School of Economics and was a student of Jewish and Israel studies at Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

# Learn the story of Ethiopian Jews living in Israel today

# Sunday, January 23, 2022 ~ 12:00pm Meet Danny Abebe, author of *From Africa to Zion*



In 1984, in an unprecedented act of brotherhood, Israel airlifted thousands of persecuted and starving Ethiopian Jews from Africa to Israel. They had been waiting in Ethiopia for millennia, sustained by the hope to return home to the Holy Land.

Among the refugees was an 8-year-old boy, Danny Adeno Abebe. Now an Israeli journalist, Abebe tells the story of his family and his village, and the journey they traveled from Ethiopia through Sudan to Israel, and the even longer distance from a rural village life without indoor plumbing, electricity, or books, to a modern society. Many who left the villages did not survive the hardships of the journey, and many of those who did reach the Promised Land were emotionally wounded in the process.

From Africa To Zion is an extraordinary life story, but above all — it is a story about people, about love, and about the importance of family, regardless of skin color or ethnicity.

Buy your copies of these books from Bookshop.org (to support independent bookstores) or amazon.com (remember to use your Amazon Smile account if you have one that supports your local congregation.)

There is no charge for this event but registration is required. Please register at torat-el.org. You will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link.

This ongoing series has been made possible by a grant from the B'nai Sholom/Beth El Foundation.

### DONATIONS

#### Congregation Torat El General Fund

In Honor of:

Marcy Gottlieb Dodds's granddaughter Gabby becoming a Bat Mitzvah by **Susan Sferas** 

In Memory of:

Neil Schulman – son of Madeline & Joel Schulman by **Sherrie Robinson, Zeke Rose, Ellen & Gary Theodore, Lonnie, Lynn & Laura Zimmerman, Susan Sferas, Sandy Lehrer, Eva & Howard Wiener, Fran & Alan Stern, Neil & Marcia** Weitzenkorn & Family, Be Yeamans, Harriet Carchman, Alan & Judy Sherman, Ilene & Steven Schwaber, Michael Gordon, Pam & Zel Steinberg, Monica & Lester Weiss, Charlotte Ginsburg, Janyce Feuerstein & Family

Howard Richelson - husband of Beverle Richelson by Al & Irene Landis, Marty & Carol Weinstock, Lonnie, Laura & Lynn Zimmerman, Joan & Warren Goode, Mindy & David Estin, Terry & Irving Zimmerman, Zelda & Neil Becourtney, Jonathan & Dawn Barofsky, Fran Meyer, Sandy Lehrer, Roz Fineman, Estelle Gildenberg, Susan & Craig Sprung, Sherrie Robinson, Zeke Rose, Carol & Arthur Brawer, Susan Sferas, Joyce & Martin Luria, Bonnie & Joe Benincasa, Fran & Alan Stern, Larry & Laura Shapiro, Neil & Marcia Weitzenkorn & Family, Alan & Judy Sherman, Ilene & Steven Schwaber, Alissa & Gregg Taffet, Bill & Karen Belfer, Michael Gordon, Pam & Zel Steinberg, Sunny & Jon Adler, Pam Hirsh, Monica & Lester Weiss, Helene & Mel Woda, Linda & Jeff Pickelny & Family

Mark Shooman – brother of Harvey Shooman by Ellie & Michael Breslow, Shirley & Lewis Goldman, Lonnie, Laura & Lynn Zimmerman, Paula & Bob Cohen, Alan Blume, Linda & Paul Mayerowitz, Fran & Alan Stern, Neil & Marcia

Weitzenkorn & Family, Michael Gordon Kris Krengel – husband of Joan Krengel by Susan Sferas, Zeke Rose Kenneth Starrett – brother of Karen Starrett Belfer by **Estelle Gildenberg** 

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Henry Koperweis – father of Stuart Koperweis by Fran & Alan Stem, Neil & Marcia Weitzenkom & Family

Charles Cooper – brother of Gayle Ardakanian by Neil & Marcia Weitzenkom & Family

Ned Meyer – husband of Fran Meyer by **Regina Weiss** Phyllis Morris White – daughter of Sheila Morris, sister of Alan Morris by **Sherrie Robinson, Larry & Laura Shapiro, Michael** 

Gordon, Monica & Lester Weiss, Jeanine Nagrod Dena Green - mother of Lisa Neuwirth by Lisa Neuwirth

Mindy Silberstein by Barbara Arnold

Rabbi Schonbrun's Discretionary Fund Gail Kallens, Martin Grubman, Sheila Morris

In Honor of:

Cheryl & Al Lipp's new home by Margo & Austin Gelfman

In Memory of:

Neil Schulman – son of Madeline & Joel Schulman by *Honey Karasic, Michele & Andrew Robins, Harriet & Max Colby,* Regina Weiss

Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by *Honey Karasic, Tanis Deitch, Penny & Larry Turtel* 

Charles Cooper – brother of Gayle Ardakanian by *Diane Handerhan* 

Ned Meyer - husband of Fran Meyer by **Alan & Fran Stern** 

Gerald Frances by **Jill Pannone** 

Garden Fund In Memory of:

Neil Schulman – son of Joel & Madeline Schulman by Tanis Deitch

Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by Carri & Bruce Silverberg, Andrea & Jeff Fishbein

**Library Fund** In Memory of:

Neil Schulman – son of Joel & Madeline Schulman by Sandra & Carl Koreen, Beth & Harvey Jacob, Bobbie Newman Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by **Bobbie Newman** 

#### Programming/Adult Education Fund

In Memory of:

Neil Schulman – son of Joel & Madeline Schulman by *Michael Sanow* Henry Koperweis – father of Stuart Koperweis by *Michael Sanow* 

Ritual Fund

In Memory of:

Neil Schulman – son of Joel & Madeline Schulman by *Marian & Bill Warshauer* Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by Marian & Bill Warshauer

Rabbi Jacob Friedman Fund

In Memory of:

Jacob Friedman – husband of Ali Friedman by Ali Friedman & Family Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by *Ali Friedman* 

# **DONATIONS CONTINUED**

### **Paul Morris Liturgical Music Fund**

In Memory of:

Phyllis Morris White - daughter of Sheila Morris, sister of Alan Morris by Michael Sanow, Linda & Jeff Pickelny & Family, Kim Sherman & Rob Einhorn, Arlene Saltz, Barbara Berkowitz, Warren & Sandy Epstein, Karen Fox & Family,

Milton Gottlieb – brother of Sheila Morris by **Sheila Morris** 

#### **Helayne Berger Fund**

In Memory of:

Neil Schulman – son of Joel & Madeline Schulman by **Dorothy & Steve Secol** Phyllis Morris White - daughter of Sheila Morris, sister of Alan Morris by Dorothy & Steve Secol Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by Dorothy & Steve Secol Henry Koperweis – father of Stuart Koperweis by **Dorothy & Steve Secol** Kris Krengel – husband of Joan Krengel by Harriet Popok, Dorothy & Steve Secol

### **David & Tessie Krivins Memorial Fund**

In Memory of:

Robert Comer – brother of Marc Comer by Marc, Brad & Julia Comer Nathan Comer – father of Marc Comer by Marc, Brad & Julia Comer Thelma Krivins – mother-in-law of Marc Comer by Marc, Brad & Julia Comer

### **Susan Samuel Memorial Fund**

In Memory of:

Roz Fisher - sister of Myron Samuel by *Ellen & Myron Samuel* Neil Schulman – son of Joel & Madeline Schulman by *Ellen & Myron Samuel* Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by *Ellen & Myron Samuel* Mark Shooman – brother of Harvey Shooman by *Ellen & Myron Samuel* 

### Russell Gerechoff Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Jane Gerechoff – sister-in-law of Nancy Gerechoff by *Nancy Gerechoff* 

#### **Harry & Sadie Steinberg Memorial Fund**

In Memory of:

Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by *Diane & Steve Resnick* 

**Siddur Lev Shalem** 

A siddur has been donated in memory of Kris Krengel – husband of Joan Krengel by *Gloria Rachles* 

**JNF Trees** 

3 trees have been planted in memory of Gerald Frances by *Deborah Rubin, Susan Sferas, & Naomi Brodbar* 

2 trees have been planted in memory of Neil Schulman by **Deborah & Kenneth Rubin** 

2 trees have been planted in memory of Kenneth Starrett by *Margo Gelfman*2 trees have been planted in memory of Kenneth Starrett by *Margo Gelfman*2 trees have been planted in memory of Howard Richelson by *Phyllis Morris, Jeff & Stacey Sher, Leslie Glass & Family*2 trees have been planted in memory of Seymour Hoffer by *Marilyn Schneider*A tree has been planted in memory of Dr. Yaakov Harrison by *Irving & Diana Steinfeld*A tree has been planted in memory of Dr. Yaakov Harrison by *Eva & Howard Wiener* 

A tree has been planted in memory of Howard Richelson by *Marcia Ostroff Kane* 

### Adie Gordon Fund

In Memory of:

Fanny Osher- grandmother of Michael Gordon by Michael Gordon Samuel Osher – grandfather of Michael Gordon by *Michael Gordon* Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by *Moe & Jeanine Nagrod* 

#### **Contribution Cards**

To Gayle Ardakanian in memory of her brother Charles Cooper from *Jeanne Isaacson* 

To Fran Meyer in memory of her husband Ned Meyer from **Jeanne Isaacson** 

To Stuart Koperweis in memory of his father Henry Koperweis from *Diane & Steve Resnick* 

To Harvey Shooman in memory of his brother Mark Shooman from Beverle Richelson, Marvin & Sharon Talansky

To Beverle Richelson in memory of "our sister" Howard Richelson from Marvin & Sharon Talansky

To Joan Krengel in memory of her husband Kris Krengel from Marvin & Sharon Talansky

To Robin Bauer in honor of her daughter Emily's engagement to Dewey Shuhan from *Susan Sferas* 

To Elaine Schreiber in honor of her daughter Rachel's engagement to Justin from Susan Sferas

To Gidget & Mike Friedman in honor of the birth of their granddaughter Harper Juliette and in honor of the engagement of their daughter Jillian to Richie Catania from Susan Sferas

To Janet and Alan Cohen in honor of the birth of their granddaughter Hailey Sarah from Susan Sferas

To Alan Morris in memory of his sister Phyllis Morris White from Eva & Howard Wiener, Beverle & Howard Richelson, Marian & Bill Warshauer, Susan Sferas

## **DONATIONS CONTINUED**

#### **Temple Grams**

To Sheila Morris in memory of her daughter Phyllis Morris White from *Eva & Howard Wiener, Beverle & Howard Richelson, Marian & Bill Warshauer, Susan Sferas* 

To Fran Meyer in memory of her husband Ned Meyer from Eva & Howard Wiener, Beverle & Howard Richelson, Steve & Diane Resnick, Susan Sferas, Ellie & Michael Breslow, Sheryl Kaplan, Marjorie & Stanley Cotler

To Gayle Ardakanian in memory of her brother Charles Cooper from *Marian & Bill Warshauer, Diane & Steve Resnick, Susan Sferas, Robin & Bob Bauer, Beverle & Howard Richelson* 

To Grace Wolf in memory of her son Larry Wolf from Ellie & Michael Breslow

To Stuart & Elizabeth Koperweis in memory of his father Henry Koperweis from *Marjorie & Stanley Cotler* 

# **YAHRZEIT DONATIONS**

MAX ANDERMAN by Ellie & Michael Breslow MARCIA BAKER by Lois Barrett & Family RON BARRETT by Lois Barrett & Family HELAYNE BERGER by Harriet Popok MANNY BERKOWITZ by Steven, Susan, Ariel & Juliana Berkowitz

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			Lunch & Learn 12:00pm	Sisterhood Mtg 7:30pm	Candle Lighting 4:10pm	Shabbat Service 9:00am
					Shabbat Service 6:15pm	Shabbat School 9:00am
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Board of Trustees Mtg 7:30pm	No Lunch & Learn Virtual Hebrew High	Meet the Author 7:30pm	Candle Lighting 4:10pm	Shabbat Service 9:00am
			6:00pm		Shabbat Service 6:15pm	Shabbat School 9:00am
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Zoom Q&A w/ filmmaker James Freedman 3:00pm		Ritual Mtg 7:30pm Men's Club Mtg 7:30pm	Lunch & Learn 12:00pm	Sisterhood Zoom Torah Fund 7:30pm	Candle Lighting 4:12pm	Shabbat Service 9:00am
					Family Friday Night Shabbat Service 5:15pm	True Colors 8:00pm
					Shabbat Service 6:15pm	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Religious School Social Action Event 10:00am		Executive Board Mtg 7:30pm	Lunch & Learn 12:00pm		Temple Office Closed	Shabbat Service 9:00am
		1	Blood Drive at JCC 12:30-6:30 pm		Candle Lighting 4:15pm	
			Virtual Hebrew High 6:00pm		Shabbat Service 6:15pm	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Temple Office Closed	Temple Office Closed	Temple Office Closed	Temple Office Closed	Temple Office Closed	
			No Lunch & Learn		Candle Lighting 4:20pm	
					Shabbat Service 6:15pm	