

# Voice of the Shore

Congregation Torat El ~ Jersey Shore Jewish Center January 2022 - Tevet/Shevat 5782



May every day of the

new year be filled with peace,

love, and good health

for you and your families!

# 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 Direc	Pam Cardullo	Contribution Cards - Beverle Richelson	732-493-1595
		Education Chair - Sherrie Robinson	732-513-9688
Dir. of Ritual Engagement  Ben Laskowitz		Hazak - Marjorie & Stanley Cotler	732-922-6590
		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
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#### **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 Kaplan	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			
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		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



Friday, December 31, 2021 Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15 pm

Candles 4:20pm

YAHRZEITS: Max Adler, Burton Alexander, Ronald Arnold, Reuben Blaustein, Rubin Brenner, Louis Breslow, Belle Franks, Eugene Goldman, William Gross, Sam Kantrowitz, Barry Kollins, Sandra Lazarus, Sam Lewis, Marie Mercogliano, Rose Negnewitzky, Sylvia Nipon, Steven Scheer, Max Schletter, Sidney Solden, Bertha Steingart, Samuel Sulkin, Gary Taylor, Ron Weinberg, Edythe Wiser, Milton Ziment, Ruth Zimmerman

Saturday, January 1, 2022 Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am

Parsha: Vaera 8:16-9:35 Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

Friday, January 7, 2022 Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15 pm Candles 4:26pm YAHRZEITS: Ruth Adler, Harris Anderman, Warren Dennis, Ducie Epstein, Chester Friedman, Levi Goldenberg, Sanford Gottlieb, Diana Graber, Rose Horenstein, Bessie Kirschner, Maurice Marx, Milton Paperth, Bernard Resnick, Norman Scheer, Sidney Schwaber, Kenneth Singer, Toby Sobel, Harry Steinberg, Charles Wilk, Ellen Winters

Saturday, January 8, 2022 Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am

Parsha: Bo 12:29-13:16 Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28

Friday, January 14, 2022

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

Candles 4:34pm

YAHRŹEITS: Vivian Baime, Sylvia Berman, Alex Block, Shirley Brown, Jeanne Chernin, Jerome Dampf, Stanley Drossman, Bella Feinstein, Elaine Friedman, Michael Friedman, Anne Goldman, Milton Goodman, Abraham Horvitz, Annette Korn, David Negnewitzky, Boris Ozarow, Frances Pellmar, Morris Rauch, Anita Schonbrun, Joseph Semel, Samuel Starrett, Dorothy Stazyn

Saturday, January 15, 2022 Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am

Parsha: Beshallah 14:26-17:16 Haftarah: Judges 4:4-5:31

Friday, January 21, 2022

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

Candles 4:42pm

YAHRZEITS: Charles Anapol, Paul Dorfman, Samuel Ellton, Lloyd Estin, Rena Feinstein, Lena Gaber, Rosalie Goodman, Anna Hoffer, Anne Jupiter, Bernice Kempler, Henry Kirk, Harold Koyner, Harold Krivins, Nissan Krongelb, Arnold Levin, Emma Marshal, Edwin Marx, Henry Safian, Harry Schwartz, Ellis Taffet, Irving Vorchin, Charlotte Webman, Robert White, Betty Zolten

Saturday, January 22, 2022 Shabbat Morning Service ∼ 9:00 am

Parsha: Yitro 19:1-20:23 Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-9:6

Friday, January 28, 2022

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

Candles 4:50pm

YAHRZEITS: Leroy Bennett, Ida Block, Lawrence Breslow, Minnie Curtis, Rafal Edelsberg, Robert Fisher, Ursula Forem, Paula Gluck, Herman Gruber, Bert Kanarek, Doris Konner, Sydney Kramer, Max Landsman, Leonard Leibowitz, Shirley Marlieb, Saul Poretzky, Anne Posner, Anita Resnick, Murray Richelson, Howard Sprechman, Mary Suskin, Stanley Thomas, Blanche Wertlieb

Saturday, January 29, 2022 Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00 am

Parsha: Mishpatim 23:20-24:18 Haftarah: Jeremiah 34:8-22, 33:25-26

#### **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** 

# **SOME GOOD NEWS**



In May of 2020, just a few months into the global pandemic, there was a wonderful web series hosted by actor and filmmaker John Krasinski, who many of you may recognize as "Jim" from the TV series, "The Office." Krasinski put together a show called "Some Good News" that was all about sharing some national good news, some light, amidst the darkness that we were, and still are, going through. The series was short lived, and only produced nine episodes – but it was such a welcome reminder of all of the blessing, joy, and beauty that could be found even in the most challenging of times; a reminder that regardless of our circumstances, we must make time to both honor loss and celebrate joy at any given moment of our lives.

Our rabbis also understood the importance of living with this tension. In Mishnah Berkahot, 9:2 we are taught that:

For rain and good tidings, one recited a special blessing: Blessed are You Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe, Who is good and Who does good. Even for bad things, one recites a blessing: Blessed are You Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, the true Judge.

Both of these blessings should be familiar to many of you. The first is the one that we recite each week when we share good news that has happened in our Shabbat community as we gather together during the Torah reading. The second is the blessing that is recited, often privately with the family, at the beginning of every funeral during the *keriah*, the moment when we "tear" our garment, or a black ribbon.

Unfortunately, these days, I think that many in our community are more familiar with the latter blessing than the former one.

It has been a difficult few months in the life of our Congregation. We have had about 10 losses in our community in the past eight weeks or so. I know that for so many of you, receiving a "shiva notice" on a regular, or semi-regular basis is unnerving, upsetting, and sad. *Aren't there good things happening in our community*, we wonder? Thankfully, even as we hold up those who have suffered losses in our community, even as we work to fulfill our responsibilities to one another during times of sadness, I am well aware that there **are also many good things happening** in the lives of our members.

As Tom Hanks famously said in "Forest Gump," "Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you are going to get." We have been sharing a lot of the bad-tasting chocolate with you over the past few months. We have been uttering the blessing acknowledging life's fragility and our losses all too often as a community. I think it is long past time to **also** turn our attention to the blessing for all that is good, to the sweet-tasting chocolates that are in the box of our synagogue family!

It is true that we receive donations in honor of good news that get published in the synagogue bulletin, and it is true that I ask for good news on Shabbat morning – but I have a sense that there is much more good news to share with one another. I'm excited to announce the launching of simcha@torat-el.org, a way to share the love with one another a bit more! Let us know about births and bnei mitzvah of children and grandchildren, wedding anniversaries, milestone birthdays, retirements or larger honors that you or your loved ones have received. Pam will email a biweekly "simcha notice," as well as list it in the "Synagogue Families" section of the bulletin. Please note that all news shared must come directly from the family whose news it is.

A new year is upon us. As we celebrate the gift of seeing yet another year in 2022, let's start off on the right foot. So consider sending us "Some Good News." We would love to share it with the members of your extended Torat El family!

Wishing you and your loved ones a Happy and Healthy 2022!

## THINKING TOWARDS INCREASED ENGAGEMENT

Over the first 12 years of our Congregation Torat El, we have come together as a community. Each month, each year, we see increasing engagement amongst our congregation, be it in ritual programs, social programs, educational programs and serving our broader community.

Your Board of Trustees has initiated the process of preparing a revised Strategic Plan, setting concrete and verifiable goals for every aspect of our efforts together. We welcome your participation, input and insight in how we can continue to expand the vibrancy of our *Kehillia Kedosha*, our holy community of a family of families. More critically, we need your feedback as to what you are looking for as we continue to move forward. We are interested in your desires, needs and wants, and what you don't want.

We continue to work diligently to make Congregation Torat El a place where our congregants can find what they are looking for — what increases engagement. Your lay leadership will do its best to anticipate what you would like to do and see. Of course, your input and direction would allow for a better understanding of what you seek. Please reach out to any of Board members and provide your voice.

On behalf of your Board of Trustees, we look forward to hearing from you.

Andrew Robins, President

## **ISRAEL CORNER**

Since March 2020, travel to Israel has been restricted due to the COVID pandemic. As of this writing, Israel is closed for all tourists, but hopefully will reopen very soon.

Until the time we are all ready for international travel, 'Postcards from Israel' is a delightful way to virtually visit many locations in Israel by linking to this article www.israel21c.org/cant-visit-israel-comeon-a-gorgeous-virtual-tour-instead. By viewing these videos, we can imagine the sights and sounds as being there in-person.

Here are several of this writer's favorites:

#### **Old City of Acre**

Known as Akko in Hebrew, it lies along the Mediterranean Sea, at the north end of Bay of Haifa and is among the oldest continuously inhabited settlements on earth. Akko's Old City has been designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

**Levinsky Market, Tel Aviv** 

This market (shuk) is located in the Florentin neighborhood of southern Tel Aviv and was developed in the late 1920's by Jewish working class immigrants from Greece. It is a very popular spot for locals with a wide range of products, from dried fruit to soaps, spices and nuts. To absorb a feel for Tel Aviv as it used to be, the market is an excellent place to begin a visit.

**Jerusalem Light Rail** 

The Jerusalem Light Rail (*HaRakevet HaKala Birushalayim*) red line became fully operational in 2011 and stretches from Pisgat Ze'ev in the north to Mount Herzl in the west, with 23 stops along the way, and is the only Jerusalem line currently in operation. It's a must-do to ride the entire length when visiting Jerusalem for both people- and neighborhood-watching.

#### **Israel's Desert Kibbutzim**

Highlight of 3 kibbutzim (Neot Samdar, Lotan and Ketura) located in the Arava region. This desert valley extends from the Dead Sea in the north to Eilat, along Israel's border with Jordan.

Enjoy!

CTE Israel Committee

## **OUR SYNAGOGUE FAMILIES**

#### Mazel Tov to:

Steve Fineberg on being named CTE Men's Club's "Man of the Year"

#### **Condolences to:**

Jeff Pickelny on the loss of his mother, Sondra Pickelny Joan Goode on the loss of her husband, Warren Goode Rick Isaacson on the loss of his father, Dr. Robert Isaacson Jim Isaacson on the loss of his father, Dr. Robert Isaacson Judy Rosner on the loss of her father, Harvey Wilinsky Barbara Lucisano on the loss of her husband, Larry Lucisano



Thank you all for your donations in memory of our beloved son Neil, for your cards, phone calls, visits, gifts of food, and for just being there for us at this very difficult time.

~ Joel and Madeline Schulman

# Simcha@torat-el.org

Share your good news with your temple family! We will begin sending out a biweekly email sharing your happy news as well as including it in the "Synagogue Families" section of the bulletin. Email us at **simcha@torat-el.org**. Please note that all news shared must come directly from the family whose news it is.

Looking forward to seeing some happy news popping into our in-boxes!!!

#### **THANK YOU!**

Thanks to the generosity of our members, more than 200 new and gently worn coats, as well as dozens of brand-new toys were donated, and then distributed to local shelters. A special shout-out to Sue Gruskin and Joanne Bass, who delivered these donations to those who needed them most.

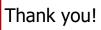
#### **College Packages**

If you did not share your student's address, it's not too late for them to be included in the Purim and Passover deliveries. 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!





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

Join Rabbi Schonbrun on Zoom 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. Call the office for Zoom info. *Wednesdays*, 12:00pm



#### **Together & Apart: The Future of the Jewish People**

Back by popular demand, come join us as we engage with another wonderful iEngage video series, put out by the Shalom Hartman Institute. Through video lectures, interviews with experts and text study, we will explore the concept of peoplehood and the "contemporary challenges to the Jewish people in an era in which we have moved from having no home to having two different, vibrant, homes in Israel and in North America. We will look closely at "the forces dividing the Jewish people today, including nationalism, antisemitism, dual-loyalty, and identity politics" and imagine new frameworks that might help us nurture the story of our people for generations to come. As always come with your questions and feel free to bring a friend. (We hope this course will take place in person, but it is possible that we will move to a Zoom platform depending on where things stand in terms of COVID. We thank you for your understanding!) \$20 materials fee. Register at upcomingevents.torat-el.org. Wednesday evenings, February 2 - May 25, 7:30pm

## **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 at 732-861-7450.



## RITUAL ENGAGEMENT CHAI LITES

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

Mark Engel Sam Fields Steve Fineberg Marvin Goldin Mitch Grayson Harvey Jacob Randi Kervick Ben Laskowitz Alan Morris Larry Ozarow Bonnie Reiss Rabbi Aaron Schonbrun Aviva Schonbrun Leora Schonbrun Toby Sukinik 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.

#### **Congregation Torat El**

# Rabbi Jacob S Friedman Religious School Youth Education & Engagement Updates January 2022

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

1/5 Weekday Virtual Classes

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

- 1/8 Shabbat School (9am)
- 1/9 Social Action Event (10am)

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).

1/12 Weekday Virtual Classes

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

USY/KADIMA in-person event (6pm)

1/19 Weekday Virtual Classes

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

1/21 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.

- 1/23 Virtual Regional Kadima Day (see weekly email for details)
- 1/26 Weekday Virtual Classes

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

1/29 Shabbat School (9am)

**Questions?** 

WE ARE INSTAGRAM OFFICIAL: FOLLOW US.

@cte\_youthed

(732) 531-4410 https://www.torat-el.org/learning/ rachelw@torat-el.org

#### A special interview project with our CTE Youth and Congregants

During April 2021, several of our Congregation Torat El Hebrew High Students interviewed congregants via Zoom to learn about their journeys from childhood to adulthood, including moments of significance in their Jewish learning and Judaic connections. Each month, we will highlight a member of the congregation and the interview to help share their stories and words of wisdom.

Interview with Estelle Gildenberg By: Hannah Morris, 12th grader





Mrs. Estelle Gildenberg was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, living in Irvington, New Jersey until 4<sup>th</sup> grade and then moved back to Elizabeth, New Jersey. Her mother was born in Russia, and her father was born in Brooklyn, New York. Mrs. Gildenberg grew up following Orthodox traditions, and she did not have a Bat Mitzvah because of Orthodox traditions. She admired her aunt, health care workers and scientists as she grew up. She attended Cleveland Junior High School, and she was the only Jewish person in her middle school of about 1600 students for a majority of her studies. When she went to high school, there were more Jewish students. Mrs. Gildenberg attended Monmouth University, studying Elementary Education with a minor in Art. Mrs. Gildenberg taught briefly in Elizabeth, New Jersey before moving to Tucson, Arizona with her husband when he was stationed in Arizona. Mrs. Gildenberg also taught on the base. Mrs. Gildenberg enjoys reading and art as her hobbies.

Judaism is important to Mrs. Gildenberg. She likes to practice Judaism in memory of lost relatives. Her favorite holiday is Purim, maybe because she was born on Erev Purim. Mrs. Gildenberg's advice for our students: Always try your best in everything and be kind.

# Ocean USY Board Election Results 2021-2022

#### President-Elect ~ Aviva

Executive Vice President/Programming & Israel Affairs Vice President-Elect ~ Katie Communications Vice President-Elect ~ Shoshana
Social Action/Tikkun Olam Vice President-Elect ~ Coby
Membership/Kadima Vice President-Elect ~ Ryan
Religion/Education Vice President-Elect ~ Rebecca

## SISTERHOOD CHAI LITES

Thank you to all who attended the virtual Torah Fund program with Rhonda Cohn, who kept us laughing. Your contributions ensure Jewish education through scholarships and programs at the five Conservative/Masoti schools of higher education. Please continue filling your Torah Fund canisters and sending the proceeds to me at 85 Tall Pines Drive, Neptune, NJ 07753. There are still a few Torah Fund pins available for anyone who contributes \$180, or \$300 if you wish a pearl added. Greeting cards are also still available. A special thanks to Jeanine Nagrod, my co-chair, for all her efforts in making this program successful.

~ B'Yachad, Eva Wiener, 732-918-1273

**Min Pincow Raffle**: Please renew your number or choose a new number when contacted, as this is 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:** Standard card-\$9, Large card-\$10. Please make check payable to CTE Sisterhood and mail to Jeryl Krupnick, 521 Bridlemere Ave. Interlaken, NJ 07712. Check must be received by January 28. Thank you to Jeryl Krupnick for chairing this project.

**January afternoon ZOOM meeting**: The speaker will be Peggy Dellinger, who is the Exhibit Director of the Ocean Township Historical Museum. Peggy's fascinating presentation is entitled: FASHION: THE HISTORY OF WHAT WE WEAR. The talk will be divided into decades connecting fashion from the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the 1960's. Please register at upcomingevents.torat-el.org to receive the Zoom link. **Thursday, January 20, 12:30pm** 



#### Sisterhood's Annual Hamantashen Bake-A-Thon Sunday, March 6 ~ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Wanted: Kneaders, pinchers, fillers, bakers, counters and your smiles! Please, no children under the age of 13 All volunteers, including children, must wear a mask and be fully vaccinated.

Our delicious cookies are provided to our college students, our Shalach Manot recipients, our staff and schools and at the Purim celebrations!

1 dozen \$7 - 2 dozen \$12

To place a hamanstashen order or to volunteer your time contact:
Carri Silverberg 732-245-8939 or carrib1023@gmail.com
Lynn Zimmerman 848-208-9130 or elzee4@hotmail.com
Orders must be placed by February 22

#### **Shalach Manot Purim Baskets**

Fulfill one of the mitzvot of Purim by ordering Purim baskets for Congregation Torat El members, staff, teachers, family and friends. Send a basket for only \$5.00! Recipients receive one basket with a card listing the names of all who sent it to that home. The basket of **homemade** hamantashen, candy and other goodies will be delivered by Purim, which begins on **Wednesday, March 16.** 

\$5.00 per BASKET or \$15.00 per BASKET for NON-Temple Members \*within delivery area only

ORDER FORMS WILL BE MAILED TO YOUR HOME.
PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 16.
NOTE THAT THIS DEADLINE CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

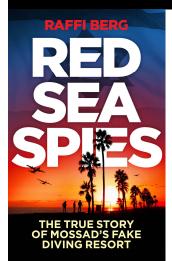
Drivers needed to help deliver Sisterhood Shalach Manot baskets!

For questions or to volunteer to drive, call/email:
Marian Warshauer at cookstools@comcast.net or 732-380-7800
Toby Sukinik at tasukinik43@gmail.com or 732-493-3719
Linda Gurman at 732-493-0668 or Elaine Schreiber at 732-922-4129

# **MEET THE AUTHOR SERIES**

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

# Sunday, January 9 ~ 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.

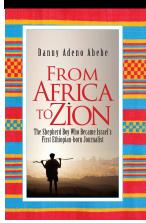
Written in collaboration with operatives involved in the mission, endorsed as the definitive account and including an afterword from the then Mossad director, this is the complete, never-before-heard, gripping tale of a top-secret and often hazardous operation.

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 ~ 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 these events, 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.



#### Congregation Torat El is pleased to present Lainie Kazan Up Close and Personal Sunday, January 30, 8:00pm

#### **Meet Lainie:**

Spend an hour with Lainie Kazan as she talks about her career on Broadway, in the movies, on TV, headlining at nightclubs and more!

Lainie Kazan is the embodiment of the word entertainer – an artist who has reached the pinnacle in virtually every area of performance. She has come a long way since she was Barbra Streisand's Broadway understudy in "Funny Girl."

She was nominated for an Emmy Award, Tony Award, Golden Globe Award and may be most recognized for her role as the mother (Maria Portokalos) in "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 1 and 2". A third MBFGW movie is in the works!

Kazan guested on Dean Martin's variety series 26 times. Her TV work includes a recurring role as Aunt Frieda on the Fran Drescher series, "The Nanny" and as Kirstie Alley's mother on "Veronica's Closet."

#### **Please Join Us:**

We will share a movie clip and a video of Lainie singing and she will talk about her life, her career and answer questions through our Zoom Chat.

#### Register at:

Upcomingevents.torat-el.org Zoom information will be emailed closer to the date of the program.

#### **DONATIONS**

#### **Congregation Torat El General Fund**

In Honor of:

Michael & Adie Gordon's never-ending love by Alan Gordon

Elynn Taylor's granddaughter Emme becoming a Bat Mitzvah by Susan Sferas

#### In Memory of:

Robert Isaacson – father of Richard & James Isaacson by *Ellie & Michael Breslow, Allyson & Gary Crystal, Breakwater Beach Club Board & Shareholders, Sheryl Kaplan, Michele & Andrew Robins, Fran Meyer, Nanci & Brad Levine, Estelle Gildenberg, Marsha & Fred Brustein, the Hollander Family, Mindy & David Estin, Sandy Lehrer, Alan & Fran Stern, Joan & Scott Schlachter, George Rooney III, DMD, Monmouth-Ocean County Dental Society, Alan & Gloria Zeitlin, Dr. Gerald & Joyce Hoch, Drs. Amy & Andrew Hoch, Judy Gold & Family, Lucille Berger* 

Warren Goode – husband of Joan Goode by *Estelle Gildenberg, Janet Brown, Jeanne Harary, Abby & Barry Silverman, Lonnie, Laura & Lynn Zimmerman, Madeline & Joel Schulman, Bonnie Komito, Gloria Gribin, Jeff & Linda Pickelny, Ellie & Michael Breslow, Fran Meyer, Sandy* 

Lehrer, Alan & Fran Stern

Debra Birn – wife of Stephen Birn by *Carol & Stephen Hunter, Susan Sferas, Lonnie, Laura & Lynn Zimmerman, Madeline & Joel Schulman, Alison & Arthur Katzenberg, Karen & Ron Tauber* Ray Cohen – husband of Sylvia Cohen by *Molly, Dean & Jason Lager, Ellie & Michael Breslow, Harriet Rosen, Margo Gelfman, Harriet Haddad & Morton Eidelberg, Rachel's college friends, <i>Chickie Smith & Betsy Brown, Terri & Jeffrey Glatzer* 

Neil Schulman – son of Madeline & Joel Schulman by *Linda Maltzman, Max Barabas* 

Ned Meyer - husband of Fran Meyer by Margo Gelfman

Howard Richelson – husband of Beverle Richelson by *Michael & Lisa Absatz* 

Kenneth Starrett – brother of Karen Starrett Belfer by **Susan Sferas** 

Sondra Pickelny – mother of Jeff Pickelny by *Harriet Haddad & Morton Eidelberg, Ellie & Michael Breslow, Bobbi & Stanley Meckler, Breakwater Beach Club Board & Shareholders, Don & Arlene Brodie* 

Harvey Wilinsky – father of Judy Rosner by *Alison Block & Barry Shapiro, Ellie & Michael Breslow, Jeff & Linda Pickelny, Mindy & David Estin* 

Mark Shooman – brother of Harvey Shooman by Sandy & Gary Kessler

Phyllis Morris White – daughter of Sheila Morris, sister of Alan Morris by **Alison Block & Barry Shapiro** 

# Rabbi Schonbrun's Discretionary Fund Joan Krengel

#### In Memory of:

Robert Isaacson – father of Richard & James Isaacson by *Larry & Penny Turtel, Jane Grabelle, Honey Karasic* 

Debra Birn – wife of Stephen Birn by **Scott**, **TJ & Lamb** 

Ray Cohen – husband of Sylvia Cohen by **Jane Grabelle, Carole & Stanley Shapiro, Jeffries & Rona Shein** 

Sondra Pickelny – mother of Jeff Pickelny by *Larry & Penny Turtel* 

Harvey Wilinsky – father of Judy Rosner by Larry & Penny Turtel, Karen & Howard Lang

Warren Goode – husband of Joan Goode by Larry & Penny Turtel, Honey Karasic

John C. Hordines, Jr. by *Karen & Howard Lang* 

#### **Garden Fund**

#### In Honor of:

Honey Karasic's special birthday by **Sheryl Kaplan, Barbara Berkowitz** 

#### In Memory of:

Robert Isaacson – father of Richard & James Isaacson by *Andrea & Jeff Fishbein* Warren Goode – husband of Joan Goode by *Sheryl Kaplan* 

#### <u>Library Fund</u> In Memory of

In Memory of:

Neil Schulman – son of Joel & Madeline Schulman by *Arlene Saltz* 

## **DONATIONS CONTINUED**

#### **Estin Fund for Young Family Programming**

In Memory of:

Robert Isaacson – father of Richard & James Isaacson by Dr. & Mrs. Matthew Schiff

#### **Helayne Berger Fund**

In Memory of:

Ray Cohen – husband of Sylvia Cohen by *Arlene Saltz* Mother of Shari Sokol by *Harriet Popok* 

#### Susan Samuel Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Sarah Samuel – mother of Myron Samuel by *Ellen & Myron Samuel*Reuben Samuel – father of Myron Samuel by *Ellen & Myron Samuel*Simon Samuel – grandfather of Myron Samuel by *Ellen & Myron Samuel*Fred Boone – husband of Ellen Samuel by *Ellen & Myron Samuel*Dora Osattin – mother-in-law of Myron Samuel by *Ellen & Myron Samuel*Robert Isaacson – father of Richard & James Isaacson by *Ellen & Myron Samuel*Ray Cohen – husband of Sylvia Cohen by *Ellen & Myron Samuel*Warren Goode – husband of Joan Goode by *Ellen & Myron Samuel* 

#### **Russell Gerechoff Memorial Fund**

In Memory of:

Ray Cohen – husband of Sylvia Cohen by *Nancy Gerechoff* 

**Siddur Lev Shalem** 

A siddur has been donated in memory of Warren Goode – husband of Joan Goode by **Neil & Marcia Weitzenkorn** 

A siddur has been donated in memory of Debra Lakoff Birn – wife of Stephen Birn by *her Lakoff* cousins

**Tree of Life** 

A large leaf has been added in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Adam Benjamin Scheer – son of Deborah Alpert & Russell Scheer by **Deborah Alpert & Russell Scheer** 

A small leaf has been added in memory of Neil Schulman – son of Madeline & Joel Schulman by **Jennifer Sanders** 

#### Adie Gordon Fund

In Memory of:

Adrienne Gordon – wife of Michael Gordon by *Michael Gordon* Samuel Sarch – friend of Michael Gordon by *Michael Gordon* 

**Temple Grams** 

To Steve Fineberg in honor of being named CTE Men's Club's "Man of the Year" from **Susan Sferas, Beverle Richelson** 

To Sherrie Robinson in honor of the birth of her grandson Cooper from **Susan Sferas** 

To Joan Goode in memory of her husband Warren Goode from *Joanne & Bob Benner, Eva & Howard Wiener, Susan Sferas* 

To Rick & Jeanne Isaacson in memory of their father and father-in-law Bob Isaacson from **Beverle Richelson, Susan Sferas** 

To the Isaacson Family in memory of their father Bob Isaacson from *Eva & Howard Wiener* To Judy Rosner in memory of her father Harvey Wilinsky from *Susan Sferas* 

**Contribution Cards** 

To Joan Goode in memory of her husband Warren Goode from **Beverle Richelson** 

To Jeff & Linda Pickelny in memory of their mother and mother-in-law Sondra Pickelny from **Beverle Richelson** 

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# January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Shabbat Service 9:00am
2	3	4 Board of Trustees Mtg 7:30pm	5 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Virtual Hebrew High 6:00pm	6	7 Candle Lighting 4:26pm Shabbat Service 6:15pm	8 Shabbat Service 9:00am Shabbat School 9:00am
9 Religious School Social Action Event 10:00am Meet the Author 12:00pm	10	11 Ritual Mtg 7:30pm Men's Club Mtg 7:30pm	12 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm USY/Kadima In-Person Event 6:00pm	13	14 Candle Lighting 4:34pm Shabbat Service 6:15pm	15 Shabbat Service 9:00am
16	17 Temple Office Closed	18 Executive Board Mtg 7:30pm	19 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm	20 Sisterhood Fashion Program 12:30pm	21 Candle Lighting 4:42pm Family Friday Night Shabbat Service 5:15pm Shabbat Service 6:15pm	22 Shabbat Service 9:00am
23 Meet the Author 12:00pm	24	25	26 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Virtual Hebrew High	27	28 Candle Lighting 4:50pm Shabbat Service	Shabbat Service 9:00am Shabbat School
30 An Evening with Lainie Kazan 8:00pm	31		6:00pm		6:15pm	9:00am