Providing Food and Gifts at Local Shelters during COVID-19

December 24, 2020

A Rewarding Community Effort

On December 27 TBE and United Baptist Church worked together to distribute 1,000 boxes of food.

(see more on page 11...)
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Monday - Thursday, 9am - 5:00 pm | Friday, 9am - 2:00pm  
Phone: 203-322-6901  Fax: 203-322-0532

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A VIRTUAL TEMPLE ROCK GATHERING

COME TOGETHER

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 2021
8 TO 10 PM

A Festive Dinner Party in a Magical Box of Tapas, Desserts and Cocktails!

Featuring the Temple Rock Auction

Musical Entertainment and

World Famous Illusionist Tom Pesce

Magical Attire

Reserve online:
www.tinyurl.com/templerock21
The Roaring Twenties

What will follow this horrific year? Some hints from Isaiah.

Like many of you, I’m chomping at the bit to say sayonara to 2020. And as 2020 ends, and the Roaring ’20s begin, chapter 61 of Isaiah puts our aspirations for a fresh start into poetry:

א רוחך אזעגי, יזיעי, כי נשפת נפשך את שכיחים אנשי.
ב קשת הרוח מנפשך-לך, כי ראית יהובך אוор, وكلharma
כנח-לתו.
גلف-אברים.
ד ולשים כלכל צאורי, קסма את אקור שמך ושם
תכלים-מסעה הנחלות, חמש רוח̀ה יעה; יקרת כלמה ארי,
נסיעים, מפש יherent לחה-אמר.

1 The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to bring good tidings unto the humble; He hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the eyes to them that are bound;

2 To proclaim the year of the LORD’S good pleasure, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the mantle of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called terebinths of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, wherein He might glory.

4 And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall renew the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.

The first verse speaks specifically to the rewards of humility alongside a comeuppance for the arrogant; and it envisions a liberation for those imprisoned by systemic injustice and moral blindness. Verses two and three speak directly to those grieving for the unbearable losses of the past year, in particular, the Covid catastrophe. Life-saving masks became our garland - the Hebrew word pe’er translates to “fancy headdress,” and in 2020 the masks kept getting fancier

Continued on page 21...

Once Upon A Zoom Mitzvah

“You’re muted,” was one of the classic phrases of 2020 and one so familiar it has become the slogan on several T-shirts and mugs sold to memorialize and provide entertainment during this new, strange world we are in. Technological jokes aside, at Temple Beth El we are anything but “muted.” We’ve leveraged the ZOOM technology to create a virtual sanctuary that is portable, versatile, and flexible, allowing us to hold services for hundreds of attendees without compromising their health and safety. Over the past several months, we celebrated as a community while eleven of our students became B’nai Mitzvah. Each of our unique and inspiring students fulfilled this rite of passage while rolling with the times, making lemonade out of lemons, and teaching us the value of embracing the blessings of the present moment.

Eli Schwartz was the first last spring, and he seized the moment and acknowledged the significance of these times. He was followed by Brandon Nadel as the first to kick-off our fall group and he educated us on the importance of taking the pandemic seriously. Sydney Kassel had a beautiful high-tech service from her home, showing us that we could have a creative and meaningful experience from a place other than the sanctuary. Camryn Laichtman held the bimah at TBE and blossomed with confidence and grace before our eyes. Richard Baer and his family hosted from home with the assistance of Cantor Moshe Bear in a unique and meaningful service. Maya Shapiro displayed comfort and poise on the bimah at TBE, conducting her service with ease. Austin Eisenstein’s family went off-site to a hotel, where he was able to be with family for both the services and celebratory meals. Owen Herz had a beautiful setting outside in his backyard, where he was able to lead family onsite as well as on 100 devices in our virtual sanctuary. Ilana Gilbert serenaded us during the Friday night service with ukulele, and her musical soul beamed as she chanted from her heart. Alex Cohen and his family illuminated the beauty of L’dor Vador with a home-based family service. Aaron Friedman truly lit up the 2nd day of Hanukkah with his passionate chanting and beaming smile.

Given the unique challenges of social distancing, these students rose to new heights and were responsible for creating and holding sacred space with their families - a task that they all fulfilled splendidly! By becoming B’nai Mitzvah in these times, they truly exemplified what it means to continue to fulfill the mitzvot of our people, no matter the challenges facing us. While we are looking forward to being back together in person, these ZOOM services were both unique and meaningful. I am so proud of the effort, determination, and resilience of our B’nai Mitzvah students and their families. The future is most certainly a bright one as we move into a new secular year of hope and optimism. I look forward to seeing where this talented and sensational group of students will choose to shine their light. May they always maintain their ability to find the silver lining in challenging times and inspire us to keep smiling when we hear the phrase, “You’re muted.”

Katie Kaplan
SHABBAT AND FESTIVAL SERVICES

JANUARY

Friday, January 1
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.
D'var Torah by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg

Shabbat, January 2
Shabbat Services 10:00 a.m.
D'var Torah by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg

Friday, January 8
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Shabbat, January 9
Shabbat-in-the-Round Service 10:00 a.m.
ShaBaBimBam 11:00 a.m.

Friday, January 15
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.
D'var Torah by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg

Shabbat, January 16
Shabbat Services 10:00 a.m.
D'var Torah by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg

Friday, January 22
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Shabbat, January 23
Shabbat Services 10:00 a.m.

Friday, January 29
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Shabbat, January 30
Shabbat Services 10:00 a.m.

FEBRUARY

Friday, February 5
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Shabbat, February 6
Shabbat-in-the-Round Service 10:00 a.m.

Friday, February 12
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Shabbat, February 13
Shabbat Services 10:00 a.m.

Friday, February 19
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Shabbat, February 20
Shabbat Services 10:00 a.m.
ShaBaBimBam 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, February 25 - Erev Purim
Purim Clown College 5:15 p.m.
Family Service, Megillah Reading & Mask Parade 6:00 p.m.
Adult Megillah Reading 8:00 p.m.

Friday, February 26
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Shabbat, February 27
Shabbat-in-the-Round Service 10:00 a.m.

All services will be held on Zoom.

NEW CARPETING IN THE ROSNER ROOM!
Thank you to Alberto and Rad for installing new carpeting in the Rosner Room. And thank you to the Frank and Rose Rosner Memorial Fund for its generous contribution.

THE BEGINNING OF OUR ELEVATOR PROJECT
The elevator is being installed and will be followed by the new lobby doors will be installed. Thank you to all who contributed to the Campaign for TBE.

CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH AND THE EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC
A special program for parents and grandparents with children of school age
Thursday, February 4, 7:30 pm
with Dr. Alvin Rosenfeld

Sponsored by the TBE Men’s Club

Leading the discussion will be Dr. Alvin Rosenfeld, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College. Alvin, as you know, is also a congregant.

Register here: http://tinyurl.com/tbe0204
You will receive Zoom information with your confirmation.

To help shape the discussion, we are asking attendees to register and submit questions/comments about this topic beforehand.
COFFEE WITH RABBI G.  
**PIRKEI AVOT - ETHICS OF OUR ANCESTORS**  
Join Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg  
Monday afternoons at 1:30pm on Zoom  
January 11, 18, 25 | February 1  
**BRING YOUR OWN COFFEE.**  
**WE’LL PROVIDE THE CONVERSATION.**  
(Zoom link available in the Shabbat Announcements)

SCOTCH AND TORAH  
Learn Torah with TBE Men’s Club  
Thursday evenings at 8:45pm on Zoom  
**Moderated by Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg**  
Relax and take a sip of your favorite beverage as we discuss the weekly Torah portion.  
You don’t have to be a member of the Men’s Club to participate, nor do you need to be male! Everyone is invited.  
(Zoom link available in the Shabbat Announcements)

SISTERHOOD BOOK GROUP  
Monday, January 11 at 7:30pm on Zoom  
Join Sisterhood member Dora Salm who will lead us in a discussion about Kim Michelle Richardson’s book, “The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek.” As a member of the Pack Horse Library Project, Cussy delivers books to the hill folk of Troublesome; however, she is not particularly welcomed. Discover her struggles and determination to succeed.  
(Zoom link available in the Shabbat Announcements)

MEDITATION AND GUIDED IMAGERY with  
Katie Kaplan, Cantorial Soloist  
Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00pm  
Join us as we use breath, chant, and visualization to carve out a moment of peace in our lives.  
(Zoom link available in the Shabbat Announcements)

INTERFAITH COUNCIL OF SOUTHWESTERN CT  
Midwinter Theological Program on Zoom  
**The Life Worth Living? An Exploration of Religious Responses**  
Thursday, January 28 at 7:00pm  
With Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

PRE-PASSOVER STUDY with RABBI GERRY GINSBURG  
Monday, February 8, 15 & 22 | March 1, 8 & 15  
1:30pm  
(Zoom link available in the Shabbat Announcements)
TBE Men’s Club Sponsors

BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, January 5, 2021
11:00am - 3:30pm
www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time

Tuesday, February 9, 2021
1:00pm - 6:00pm
Details to follow...

Special Occasion?

Sponsor The Shabbat E-nnouncements
(sent every week via e-mail)

The Shabbat Announcements
(distributed each Shabbat at the Temple)

and the Shabbat-O-Gram
(e-mailed every Thursday night)

All three publications for $72

All sponsors will be acknowledged at the beginning of each of these announcements and also listed in our bi-monthly Bulletin.

Call Mindy in the office at 322-6901 ext. 301.

Share your family’s simcha (engagement, marriage, birth, Bar or Bat Mitzvah of a child or grandchild) and other joyous event. Just contact the TBE office at office@tbe.org or 203-322-6901, ext. 301.

Thank you for sponsoring the Shabbat announcements

Sherry and Ken Cohen
Debbie Eisenstein and Jon Eisenstein
Rachel and Keith Friedman
Lori and Raph Gilbert
Nancy and Jeffrey Herz
Danille and Lael Shapiro

Honorable Menschen
Todah Rabah to our Torah Readers!

Alan Brier ✧ Jonathan Brier ✧ Michael Brier
Alex Cohen ✧ Austin Eisenstein
Aaron Friedman ✧ Joel Friedman
Keith Friedman ✧ Rachel Friedman
Ariella Fromowitz ✧ David Fromowitz
Mark Fromowitz ✧ Amanda Geffner
Ilana Gilbert ✧ Raph Gilbert
Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg ✧ Lisa Grove-Raider
Jacobs Herz ✧ Mollie Herz ✧ Owen Herz
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Julie Rosenberg ✧ Susan Schneiderman
Margaret Shameer ✧ Ethan Shapiro
Lael Shapiro ✧ Lois Shapiro ✧ Maya Shapiro
Michael Siegel ✧ Meryl Silverstein

Save the date!

TBE Family Tu B’Shevat Seder

Sunday, January 24, 2021 on Zoom!

Join us as we celebrate the birthday of the trees with music, blessings, tree fruit, grape juice, stories, and fun!

Students in our Religious School will help lead this event.

Watch for emails with detailed information coming soon!
SAVE THE DATE!
Sunday, February 21
for the
TBE AMAZING PURIM RACE!
Join us for a Purim themed photo scavenger hunt around Stamford!

- We’ll begin both in the TBE Parking lot and on Zoom
- Participants will each receive a megillah (scroll) with clues and trivia questions. The clues will lead you to a variety of locations in Stamford.
- Participants will take selfie photos at each location and look for answers to the questions on the Megillah.
- Participants have until Thursday, February 25 at 6:00pm to complete the scavenger hunt. Prizes will be awarded to winners at the Purim Service and Megillah Reading, Thursday, February 25.

WATCH FOR EMAILS WITH DETAILS AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION IN JANUARY!

TBE Clubs Open House
Wed January 13 at 7:30 pm

Learn about new Clubs forming!

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84242421832
Meeting ID: 842 4242 1832 | Passcode: 576636
Together & Apart: The Future of Jewish Peoplehood explores one of the most pressing issues facing the Jewish world today — how we move from being a people with no permanent home to one with two permanent homes.

This series addresses the complex features of Jewish peoplehood inherent in our tradition and in our history. Who are we? What does it mean to be a member of the Jewish people? And what are some of the fundamental values that this encompasses?

Over 6 online sessions we will examine the contemporary forces challenging peoplehood, including nationalism, antisemitism, dual-loyalty, and identity politics, and imagine new conceptual frameworks that can help sustain and grow the story of our people for a new millennium.

Hartman Online iEngage Course
Led by Rabbi Joshua Hammerman
Tuesday evenings: 7:00-8:30pm

January 5: From No Home to Two Homes
January 19: On Universalism and Particularism
February 2: Between Nationalism, Ultra-Nationalism, and Fascism
February 16: Antisemitism as a Divisive Force
February 23: What’s Good for the Jews? Identity Politics in North America
March 2: At-Homeness and Conclusions

Register to Attend: http://tinyurl.com/tbe-shta
You will receive ZOOM information when you register.

Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Rd., Stamford, CT 06902
203-322-6901 www.tbe.org office@tbe.org
Beth El Cares focuses on chesed and tzedakah by helping the poor and unfortunate through mitzvot, both in our synagogue and the greater Stamford community. We welcome volunteers! This is the work we are currently engaged in. If you are interested in volunteering in any of these endeavors, please contact the person listed.

Reyut (Friendship): Committed to serving the needs of those in our TBE community, including friendly visits, assistance with errands and transportation, Shabbat bag delivery to hospitalized patients. Contact Melanie Massell at reyut@tbe.org or 203-324-7190.

Project Ezra: Providing pre-shiva meals to the bereaved in the congregation. Contact Joy Katz at joyakatz@yahoo.com or 203-329-3359.

Serving the homeless: Helping prepare and serve food — you can do either or both — to the homeless at New Covenant Center in Stamford on the fifth Thursday of each month. Times are 2:30-4:15 pm and 4:15-5:30 pm. Contact Amy Temple at aetemple@optonline.net or 203-496-1309.

High Holiday Food Drive: Contact Sharon Turshen at 203-323-3872.

Christmas dinners at local homeless shelters: Contact Amy Temple at aetemple@optonline.net or 203-496-1309.

HOLIDAY GIFTS COLLECTED FOR LOCAL SHELTERS
Thank you to all of our members who donated holiday gifts that were delivered to our local shelters.

120 pairs of men’s socks
85 hats
53 pairs of gloves
11 pairs of women’s socks
8 scarves

Over 275 gifts were all lovingly gift wrapped by our volunteers. Special thanks to our volunteers at Edgehill for knitting hats.

PAY YOUR DUES ONLINE
Go to www.tbe.org/donate and click on member payments.

Questions? Contact Linda at 203-322-6901, ext. 302 or lindar@tbe.org.
Dear Fellow TBE Members,

As with everything else in 2020, providing holiday meals at the shelters was DIFFERENT than in past years!!

Looking at the positive side of things, though, here is what we as a team were able to accomplish:

- We provided festive meals to residents at three shelters.
- We provided gifts to residents at three shelters.
- We came together to help our community.
- We stayed safe and did not contribute to the spread of COVID in our community.

It is hard to put into words the gratitude I feel toward all of you for volunteering to help with the TBE Christmas Eve lunch/dinners, despite the trying times many of us have been experiencing ourselves. This has not been an easy year for any of us, yet we came together as a community to do what we could to brighten people’s day at the holidays. Leading up to this event I had some concern over whether we, as a community, could still provide support to three shelters given what our own members were going through this year. But I am happy to say my concerns were unfounded...We had no trouble getting all the donations for the food, gifts, paper goods, and money needed to pull off this event.

None of it would be possible without all of you and the many ways you contributed toward this massive event. Many of you have volunteered for 10+ years. This year we continued to get new people jumping in to volunteer and join the group. I can’t imagine at any other temple we would get such a huge response to a call for help especially during such a difficult year for everyone.

In total we had over 20 families contributing money. In total we had 40 families donating food, paper goods and gifts.

I want to say a special thanks to Karen Resnick and Joy Katz who were the site leaders at New Covenant and Pacific House and are amazing partners to work with. We had to change our process this year, but it worked very smoothly and we may adopt some aspects for next year too.

We did miss a few things this year due to COVID constraints:

- Santa and Mrs. Claus.
- The three amazingly inspiring choirs usually led by Caryl Poser, Sue Schneiderman and Leslie Heyison/Jodi Maxner.
- Rabbi Hammerman and Mara saying words of wisdom to the residents at the shelters.

We are really looking forward to December 24, 2021 when we can hear those awesome voices lifting our spirits, see Santa and Mrs. Claus who generate bright smiles on everyone’s faces, and hear Rabbi Hammerman’s words to the shelter residents.

I am including an apology in case I have left anyone out of the acknowledgements or the email distribution. Even if I missed your name, please know I appreciate what you do to make this day possible.

Wishing everyone a safe, healthy, COVID-free and happy 2021!

Amy Temple
Hey there. If you have ideas for Men’s Club or just want to vent about life, the pandemic, the Jets, etc., drop me an email at
joshlevine@tbe.org.

The theme of this article is “connect” because connecting is critical these days. Rumor has it we are in a global pandemic, but the Men’s Club has been active. Here are some of the ways we are staying connected...

• Sukkah – we built it, we used it and we took it down. Seems simple, but it provided three opportunities for a bunch of us to get together and connect. All part of Hashem’s plan.
• TBE Pickem Pool – a group of us picked football teams to win on a weekly basis. It has been fun following this year’s crazy NFL season along with this cohort. Who knew Fantasy Sports were an easy way to connect?
• Monthly Men’s Club Meetings – this is your chance to connect with some of the wisest leaders in the TBE community and have your voice heard. Meetings are held virtually on the last Wednesday of every month. Next meetings are January 27 and February 24.
• Scotch and Torah – learning Torah is a mitzvah and what else are you doing on Thursday’s at 8:45pm? Women are welcome and encouraged to join. It’s been fun connecting and learning from each other with Rabbi Gerry. Give it a try.

What’s next...

• Hearing Men’s Voices – this one’s just for Men, sorry ladies. These are a series of meaningful small group discussions led by a trained facilitator. The goal is to connect and learn from each other as well as explore our own feelings about the meaning of life. Stay tuned.
• TBE Clubs – not specific to Men’s Club, but a key part of our mission. If you have not heard of TBE Clubs, you may want to check your junk mail settings. The sky is the limit with ways to connect to the community (e.g. Ukulele Club). I encourage you to get involved.
• Yellow Candles – every year Men’s Club commemorates Holocaust Remembrance Day (April 7), by delivering yellow candles, modeled after the traditional Yahrtzeit candles. We are proud to continue this tradition to honor our ancestors.
• Poker Fundraiser – a virtual, fun way to connect and raise money for a good cause. Please reach out if you want to help organize.

With your help, we can do more. Men’s Club is what you make of it. Get involved.

Josh Levine
Although all or most of us are looking forward to leaving 2020 behind and starting a new and hopefully better year in 2021, I consider myself lucky! I spent more time with my kids and my mom, who at 94 still lives in the house I grew up in – and we really did have fun (most of the time). I didn’t have to wait in long lines for free food or worry about how my rent was going to be paid. I did regret that I did not keep a journal of my daily activities, such as working, lots of walking/hiking and taking car trips, mostly to the grocery store. In addition, thanks to Sisterhood, I also kept busy with my Sisterhood Board planning events which I hope provided enrichment to our community. Sisterhood continues to be financially in good shape. Thank you, Sisterhood members!

Your Sisterhood membership of $36 is hard at work. Besides the many Zoom programs, the Sisterhood purchased Hanukkah candles, gelt and dreidels for Beth El students, and gift cards and Hanukkah wishes were sent to our college freshman. Todah Rabah to Suzanne Fruithandler and Risa Pollack for sending the gift cards.

Thank you to everyone who donated to our very successful Sisterhood clothing drive! A special thank you to Steve Lander who suggested TBE store all the clothing from the October drive in TBE when the pickup was cancelled due to Covid. Thanks to Rad and Alberto who carried all the bags into the music room and to Judy Schneiderman and Donna Wolff who made sure everything ran smoothly. A very special thank you to Joe Heyison for helping schlep bags into the truck!

Our Candy Trivia was sweet! Thanks to everyone who attended!!

Thank you to Dora Salm, who, once again, led our book group with the book, “The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna” and a surprise visitor, the author, the author, Juliet Grames!

SISTERHOOD’S WONDERFULLY, SUCCESSFUL DECEMBER EVENTS

Thanks to Lisa Grove-Raider for introducing us to her Great-Uncle Kurt Kleinman, a Holocaust survivor, with his video and book, “The Boy Who Followed His Father into Auschwitz.” We were thrilled that the author, Jeremy Dronefield, was able to Zoom in from England. This event is saved on TBE’s iCloud recording, if you would like to view it.

Origami - We became virtuosos in the ancient art of paper-folding with the creation of a hugging person and a jumping frog with Rachelle Vagy of Brooklyn, NY. If anyone missed this event, I have a detailed video.

Award-Winning Holiday Advertisements - We joined Frank Izzo as he curated some of the most heart-warming, funny, iconic holiday TV commercials from around the world.

SISTERHOOD EVENTS FOR 2021

Sisterhood Book Group Discussions

Monday, January 11 at 7:30pm

Join Sisterhood member, Dora Salm, who will lead us in a discussion about Kim Michelle Richardson’s book, The Book

Continued on page 21...

NEW SISTERHOOD COOKBOOK

Sisterhood has created a beautiful cookbook full of delicious recipes from our members and friends. It includes cherished family heirloom recipes as well as modern variations and ingredients our great-grandmothers would never have heard of.

Although it took over a year to create, our fabulous team of volunteers led by Fran Ginsburg, “chef de cuisine,” tested every recipe cooking and baking throughout the pandemic!

Sisterhood is delighted to offer each member family one cookbook, free-of-charge, as our gift to you. If you would like additional copies, they are $6 each (sold at cost). Pre-order your copies at this link: www.tinyurl.com/cookbook100. We will only be ordering the number of copies that are placed through pre-orders. You have the entire month of January to place your order. If you have questions, please contact Beth Silver at beth@silverconsulting.net.

A sample of something delicious waits for you on page 21 of this Bulletin.

Happy Cooking!

With love from Sisterhood
CAN YOU MATCH THE PICTURES TO THE NAMES OF OUR MEN’S CLUB PRESIDENTS?

The answers are on page 21...

1. Abraham W. Golden 1949-1950
2. Irving Rosenbaum 1950-1952
3. Dr. Jason Salisbury 1952-1953
4. Harvey Peltz 1953-1955
5. Murray Goldenberg 1955-1957
8. Jacob Malin 1961-1963
12. Dr. Louis Kronholtz 1967-1969
15. Sidney Epstein 1971-1973

17. Edward Kaplin 1975-1977
22. Dr. Warren J. Brandt 1986-1988
27. Timothy Wright 1996-1998
29. Matt Miller 2019-2020
30. Joshua Levine 2020-
November 25, 2020

Ken Temple
Temple Beth El Stamford
350 Roxbury Road
Stamford, CT 06902

Dear Ken,

Schoke JFS is very proud of the fact that we do not turn anyone away who comes to us for assistance and it is your very generous contribution of masks for our Thanksgiving Comfort and Care drive which enables us to maintain and broaden the services we offer to those in their greatest moments of need. For many in our community, we are the agency of last resort.

Your investment in Schoke JFS offers compassionate hope and comfort to so many who turn to us when there seems to be nowhere else to go. I know those who turn to Schoke JFS for help would like to thank you personally if they could.

On behalf of the over 5,000 clients we serve and everyone here at Schoke Jewish Family Service, we thank you for your generous response to our expressed needs. From home furnishings, to feminine hygiene products to giving your precious time in board meetings and pantry service, we appreciate your valuable contributions to the JFS mission.

Thank you once again for being an important member of our Schoke JFS family. With your generous help, you offer hope and support to so many. We are truly grateful for your partnership.

Sincerely,

Matt Greenberg
CEO

For tax purposes, please note that no goods or services were received for this donation.
OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

- Adult Education Fund
- Beth El Cares
- Beth Elders
- Debra Wald Goldberg Kindergarten Scholarship Fund
- Frank & Rose Rosner Memorial Fund (maintenance)
- General Fund
- Kiddush Fund
- Matthew Klein Memorial Sanctuary Garden Fund
- Emmet Manheim Playground Fund
- Mitzvah Garden Fund
- Music Fund
- Prayer Book Fund
- Project Ezra Fund
- Religious School Fund
- Reyut Shabbat Bag Fund
- Security Fund
- Solar Fund in memory of Norma Mann, z’l
- Youth Fund

DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

- Rabbi Joshua Hammerman’s Mitzvah Fund
- Cantorial Soloist Katie Kaplan’s Mitzvah Fund
- Hazzan Sidney Rabinowitz’ Mitzvah Fund

ATTENTION PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS

Rabbi Hammerman would like to stay in touch with your child while he/she is away at college. Please send his/her e-mail address to Beth in the Temple office at adminassist@tbe.org. Thank you!

Get involved, please...

Help Wanted! In order to maintain our vibrant and dynamic community, the Fund-Raising Committee needs more members to support TBE and volunteer their skills and talents. Many of these opportunities ask for very small-time commitments. Please consider getting involved with the:

- Annual Appeal | Temple Rock | Cantor’s Concert

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us and we will give you more information.

Thank you!

Art Laichtman
Fund-Raising Chair
uelaichtman@optimum.net

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Go to: www.tbe.org/donate/

Every brick has a story to tell...

Paver Campaign
Celebrating Our First 100 Years
WATCH FOR DETAILS!

TREE OF LIFE

A beautiful way to commemorate a special occasion is to purchase a “leaf” on our beautiful “Tree of Life” sculpture adorning our Temple lobby. There are many more leaves available for your own personal inscriptions.

The following categories are still available:

| Triple Chai | $5,400 |
| Silver Leaves - Gold Border | $750 |
| Silver Leaves | $250 |

CONTRIBUTING SHARES OF STOCK TO TEMPLE BETH EL

One way to boost your charitable contributions to Temple Beth El is to give shares of appreciated stock instead of cash. You do not pay any tax on your capital gain, and your charitable deduction is the shares’ entire fair market value.

Beth El members may contribute shares of stock to satisfy their dues pledge, their annual fund pledge, and other contributions to the Temple.

After consulting your tax advisor, please contact the TBE office at 203-322-6901.
When making a donation an acknowledgement will be mailed to the designee for donations of $10 or more. Donations of less than $10 will be acknowledged only in the Bulletin. All donations will be published in the Bulletin unless you state that you wish to be anonymous.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

IN HONOR OF:

MAYA SHAPIRO BECOMING A BAT MITZVAH
Lois Shapiro

RABBI JOSHUA HAMMERMAN FOR INSPIRATIONAL AND THOUGHT PROVOKING SERMONS FOR TEMPLE BETH EL
Daniel Wolfson & Family

RABBI JOSHUA HAMMERMAN
Ellen & Art Laichtman

KATIE KAPLAN, CANTORIAL SOLOIST
Ellen & Art Laichtman

STEVEN LANDER
Ellen & Art Laichtman

STAN FRIEDMAN
Ellen & Art Laichtman

JUDY ARONIN
Ellen & Art Laichtman

LISA MANHEIM
Ellen & Art Laichtman

MINDY ROGOFF
Ellen & Art Laichtman

DAN YOUNG
Ellen & Art Laichtman

THE BIRTH OF JONAH ALEXANDER WISHINGRAD
Denise & David Greenman

THE MARRIAGE OF SAM GINSBURG AND RAE WYSE
Karen, Rich & Geoff Hainbach

THE BIRTH OF LUCY JUNE GINSBURG
Karen, Rich & Geoff Hainbach

SARA ROTHKOPF’S MARRIAGE TO ANDREW ELLINGTON
Lori & Bruce Tobin

SUZANNE & NORMAN STONE FOR THEIR KINDNESS
Marsha Colten & Robert Cohen

THE BIRTH OF RAFAEL SCHLEFFER GRANOWITZ
Marsha Colten & Robert Cohen, Beverly & David Stein

EILEEN H. ROSNER - IN APPRECIATION
Sheila Romanowitz

SUSAN SCHNEIDERMAN - IN APPRECIATION
Sheila Romanowitz

RABBI JOSHUA HAMMERMAN FOR ALL HE DOES FOR THE ADULT B’NAI MITZVAH CLASS
Melody Penner Bryant

RAVIVI JOSHUA HAMMERMAN MITZVAH FUND

In honor of...
In appreciation by Debra Adler-Klein
Alex Cohen becoming a Bar Mitzvah by Sherry and Ken Cohen

In memory of...
Lawrence Nussdorf, z’l, by Ellie Mirne
Jed Isaacs, z’l, by Susan & Richard Blomberg

KATIE KAPLAN, CANTORIAL SOLOIST MITZVAH FUND

In honor of...
Alex Cohen becoming a Bar Mitzvah by Sherry & Ken Cohen

In memory of...
Lawrence Nussdorf, z’l, by Ellie Mirne
Freda Novick, z’l, by Meryl & Hank Silverstein
Etta Rich, z’l, by Meryl & Hank Silverstein

EMMET MANHEIM PLAYGROUND FUND

In honor of...
Aaron Friedman becoming a Bar Mitzvah by Marcia & Alvan Kaunfer, Carol Ingall & Stephan Brumberg, Elizabeth Knight, Amy, Jon, Hannah & Abigail Brier, Amy, Aron, Jake & Ben Davidson, Michal Rubin, Ben-Zvi Family, Gisele Terry, Frances Oelbaum & Richard Serviss, Kahla & Gordon Cooper, Ferris Family, Lombardo Family, Klev Family, Dani, Lela, Maya & Jonah Shapiro, Kalinsky Family, Elliot Nerenberg, Sara Shapiro-Plevan & Bill Plevan, Anne Schulman, Rende Family, Lisa & Peter Raider, Wolly/Horowitz Family, Levine Family, Tronick Family

MATTHEW KLEIN MEMORIAL GARDEN

In memory of...
Matthew Klein, z’l, by Debra Adler-Klein

INFORMATION FOR YOU...

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YOUTH PROGRAMING FUND

In memory of...
Yale Kweskin, z’l, by Ilene & Jim Locker & Family

SHIVA NOTICES AVAILABLE ON-LINE

Congregants who are looking for shiva information can now quickly look online instead of searching their inbox for the announcement or calling the synagogue office. Just go to TBE’s website (www.tbe.org) and click “Shiva Notices” under the WHAT’S NEW menu.

YIZKOR

Passover 2020
In memory of...
Gerty and Curtis Hayworth, z’l, by Karen, Rich and Geoff Hainbach

Shavuot 2020
In memory of...
Gerty and Curtis Hayworth, z’l, by Karen, Rich and Geoff Hainbach
REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

Joanne & Marshall Goldberg.......................... RUTH ABRAMS
Marilyn & Rich Agatstein............................... CHARLOTTE ACKERMAN
Dayna, Dave, Aaron & Andrew Patashnik.......... ELAINE ALBERT
Binnie Ditesheim ......................................... RUTH ATKINS
Nancy Greene ............................................. D. DAVID BERMAN
Amy & Mel Bloomenthal ... SARAH & SAMUEL BLOOMENTHAL
Binnie Ditesheim ......................................... GERARD DITESHEIM
Mina Roth-Dornfeld ..................................... JACOB DORNFIELD
Barbara & Ed Drotman ................................... RUTH DROTMAN
Carolyn & Phil Farin ..................................... RAY & CHARLES FARIN
Joseph Field ............................................. DOLORESE FIELD
Beth & Jeff Goodman & Family ...................... BEVERLY FRANKEL
Joseph Field ............................................. CELIA & GEORGE FREED
Barbara & Stan Friedman ............................... MARTHA FREEMAN
Sally & Jim Rothkopf ..................................... MAY FREEMAN
Phyllis & Harvey Walzer ................................ FRANCIS GOLDBERG
Denise & David Greenman .............................. SANDRA GREENMAN
Steven Grushkin & Family ............................ JOSEPHINE GRUSHKIN
Leonor Lopez ............................................. CAROLINA HALPERN
Karen, Rich & Geoff Hainbach ......................... GERTY HAYWORTH
Gail Solomon Hecht & Harvey Hecht ............... SAMUEL HECHT
Steve Grushkin & Family .............................. BERNARD HELLMAN
Betsy & Kevan Herold .................................... SIDNEY HEROLD
Ginette Kellner ........................................... JACOB HOLLAND
Jerry Jacobs & Family ................................. BOBBI JACOBS
Sari & Alan Jaffe ......................................... DAVID JAFFE
Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz & Family ...................... DAVID JAFFE
Joseph Field ............................................. SAMUEL KANEK
Sharon & Steven Katz .................................... HERBY KATZ
Gail & Raymond Walter ................................ JULES KELLNER
Ilene & Michael Koester .............................. ROSALIE KOESTER
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Stephanie & Larry Sherman ........................... LILLIAN LEVINE
Sheila Romanowitz ...................................... CLARA & LOUIS LEVY
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Laura Markowitz ......................................... DAVID MARKOWITZ
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Stanley Novack .......................................... ABRAHAM NOVACK
Sandy & David Oberhand ............................... CELIA OBERHAND
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Debra & Stephen Pollack .............................. JASON POLLACK
Binnie Ditesheim ........................................ RONI PORDY
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Olga & Ron Goldstein ................................... CARRIE ROGOWSKY
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Fran & Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg ......................... JANE & WALTER WERTHEIM
Debra & Stephen Pollack .............................. MARTIN WINTHROP

IN MEMORY OF:

GEORGE ESSENFELD, z’l
Caryl & Peter Poser, Eileen & Fred Springer, Betsy & Peter
Kempen, Sari & Alan Jaffe, Miriam & Steven Sosnik, Lisa
Grove-Raider & Peter Raider
MARIORIE ROSENTHAL, z’l
Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz & Parry Berkowitz
RICHARD PIANIN, z’l
Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz & Parry Berkowitz
EMANUEL ROTHMAN, z’l
Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz & Parry Berkowitz
JULIUS SHENKER, z’l
Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz & Parry Berkowitz
CLAIRE STANGER, z’l
Pamela Tinkham, Fran & Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg
AMALIA HANIT, z’l
Beth & Pete Silver, Sari & Alan Jaffe, Margie & Barry Afergan
SHIRLEY DENNIS, z’l
Debra Davidson & Chris Ihm
HERB KAUFMAN, z’l
Barbara & Warren Brandt
IDA WALLACH, z’l
Beverly & David Stein, Florence Aronson, Denise & David
Greenman, Maxine & Jay Freilich, Marsha Colten & Robert
Cohen
LAWRENCE NUSSDORF, z’l
Carol & Allen Krim, Sue Frieden, Marsha Colten & Robert
Cohen
JANE SHELDRN, z’l
Marsha Colten & Robert Cohen
NAOMI FRIEDMAN, z’l
Sue & Carl Shapiro
PHYLLIS KAHN, z’l
Linda & Joe Rothman, Sheila Romanowitz
HERBERT SACKIN, z’l
Janet & Ivan Brown

WE MOURN THE PASSING OF...

IDA WALLACH, mother of Loralee Granowitz
LAWRENCE NUSSDORF, brother of Ellie Mirne
LEONARD KLEIN, father of Stacye Nekritz
JANE SHELDRN, mother of Stan Lee
PHYLLIS KAHN, sister of Bruce Kahn
HERBERT SACKIN, father of Jed Sackin
IRENE ROSENTHAL, mother of Allison Ostroff
ANDY POLAK, father of Hilary & Ilana Polak
MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Inscribe the names of your loved ones on a plaque for our Chapel wall along with a light to commemorate their yahrtzeit and yizkor observances throughout the year.

For details, contact Mindy at office@tbe.org or 203-322-6901, ext. 301.

THE TBE 100 MITZVAH PROJECT

The TBE 100 Mitzvah Project provides opportunities for congregants to honor TBE’s centennial through the performance of gemilut hasadim (acts of loving kindness) that help charitable organizations in need of volunteers and non-monetary contributions.

Mitzvah Opportunities at the Schoke Jewish Family Service of Fairfield County

• Work at the kosher food pantry at SJFS. Distribute food during walk-in hours: Monday - Wednesday, 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Organize and maintain the pantry: Monday - Friday, 9 am - 4 pm.
• Deliver meals and food items to homebound clients. Time is flexible.
• Participate in Mitzvah Monday with your kids on the third Monday of each month (from 3 pm-5 pm. Bring kosher food items to the pantry and help stock shelves. GREAT for teens!
• Visit a homebound client for a “friendly visit” to alleviate loneliness. Time is flexible.
• Donate food and non-food items. Items can be dropped off at the TBE office or at SJFS.

If you are interested in doing one or more of these mitzvahs, please contact Jill Knopoff at (203) 921-4161. Don’t forget to mention you’re from TBE.

After completing a mitzvah, please send a note to mitzvah100@tbe.org with the name or names of the family members who participated, the mitzvah, and a photo if possible.

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Proud to be the official TBE videographer

Tom was able to capture the spirit and joy of our B’nai Mitzvah service and party in a video we will always treasure. He was also a pleasure to work with from start to finish.

Jared Finkelstein

If you are looking for a videographer, look no further! Tom was a delight to work with and the finished product was incredible. He created separate videos of my daughter’s Bat Mitzvah service and celebration and captured all aspects of the joy of the day.

Jill Teich

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On One Foot continued from page 4...

fancier all the time.

The oil of joy (shemen sasson) in verse three? That’s nothing less than the life-saving elixir, the vaccine, which brought tears of joy to the faces of those first responders who first received it, and like the Hanukkah oil, miraculously, an extra dose could be found in each vial. And now, as verse four proclaims, NOW the rebuilding can at last begin. Infrastructure week at last!

It’s no coincidence that the Roaring 1920s followed the dismal, plague-infested end of the prior decade. There was so much pent up need for people to rip off the masks and come together, to celebrate and let loose.

But back in the 20th century’s ’20s, with that unleashing also came corruption, intolerance and the closing of America’s gates to immigrants fleeing the instability of postwar Europe. The excesses of the ’20s led to the crash of Wall Street and rise of fascism. Similarly, after the hopeful vision of Isaiah concludes, the next book in the Jewish biblical canon is Jeremiah, which brings us back to square one. It’s like following “It’s a Wonderful Life” with a screening of “Schindler’s List.”

Yes, the Bible tells us, it gets better. But then it gets much worse. And then it gets better again.

I truly hope 2021 will be a great, great year. I expect it to be just that. But the wild ride we’ve been on will not end.

For that reason, we need community more than ever. We need to continue to gain strength from one another, online and eventually back in our renewed temple building, with our new elevator, doors and restrooms. Isaiah doesn’t mention rest rooms and an elevator, but in verse four he does speak of the doors when commenting on the “desolations of many generations” (shomemot door - door). OK, one bad pun is allowed.

And through it all, we will build from the many growth experiences of the past year, in particular the new partnerships forged with the Black and immigrant communities, and among fellow congregants.

As we join together to welcome in the new year, let’s make one resolution above all - to bring to fulfillment the vision of Isaiah 61, to make this a year of divine pleasure, where sanctity governs all our actions - led by our new President. And let 2021 be a year that will, as Isaiah promises, bring comfort to the many who mourn.

Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

SISTERHOOD SPEAKS continued from page 13...

Woman of Troublesome Creek.

Monday, February 22 at 7:30pm

A congregation-wide read of Caste, by Isabel Wilkerson, will be led by Dora Salm in conjunction with the Tzedek Committee, Julie Rosenberg, Chair.

Sisterhood Shabbat on April 10, Leslie Heyison, Chair

Unfortunately, we have decided to put our Annual Sisterhood Brunch on hold this year, but we plan to have a very special brunch in the fall of 2021.

Please continue to contact me with your questions and ideas at sisterhood@tbe.org.

We are always looking for new members. We would love to have you join us!

Have a wonderful New Year! And, on behalf of Sisterhood, stay safe!

With appreciation and joy,
Karen Resnick

Enjoy this delicious recipe from Sari Jaffe that is included in Sisterhood’s new cookbook.

Easy Vegetable Soup

Put escarole, spinach, onion, garlic, vegetable broth, diced tomatoes, thyme, and oregano in a quart soup pot. Cover and bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 10 minutes partially covered. Stir in salt, black pepper, parsley, and basil. Add chick peas, if desired, and heat. Serve with sprinkle of Parmesan cheese on top.

Number of Servings: 6

Prep Time: 30 min.

This is my own version of a WW recipe. No points if you don’t add the chickpeas or Parmesan cheese! I make it all winter, when I don’t feel like eating a cold salad. Can be frozen.

Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

ANSWERS TO BE A MATCHMAKER from page 14-15

A. Harvey Peltz
B. Peter Weissman
C. Albert Golin
D. Irving Lebow
E. Aaron Weissman
F. Sidney Epstein
G. Noah Soloff
H. Charles Kaye
I. Stanley Levine
J. Norman Davidow
K. Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg
L. Dr. Alec Perlson
M. Jacob Malin
N. Alan Silberman
O. Abraham W. Golden
P. Sam Haims
Q. Matt Miller
R. Edward Kaplin
S. Harold Polis
T. Frank Rosner
U. Eugene Gordon
V. Joshua Levine
W. Paul L. Lehman

21
TBE Celebrates Hanukkah on Zoom

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