

## APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Rabbi Schultz encourages us to consider how we might adapt our seders in light of the current situation in Israel.  
Page 3

Cantor Harris shares how anticipating the upcoming Passover holiday allows us the necessary time to make the Exodus's vision of freedom a reality.  
Page 5

Alexa Cohen shares moments of skillbuilding, fun, and *tikkun olam* with Bonim and Kehilah.  
Page 6

Learn how you can support and be part of the Kesher program.  
Page 15



### Also Inside

Bulletin Board.....Page 2  
Shabbat Service Schedule.....Page 4  
Donations.....Pages 8-9  
Events.....Page 10  
BIFTY.....Page 16



*Congregation B'nai Israel  
Women's Passover Seder*

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

**Check-in & Schmooze  
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**Seder  
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

Join with women from across the B'nai Israel community as we empower one another, tell stories, ask questions, and listen. Just as each Jewish community worldwide has a specific story, so do we have a different story to tell, a different life journey. During our seder, we will also explore how each of us celebrates our Festival of Freedom.

Bring your mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends as we welcome spring, celebrate our freedom, and share Passover ritual food and drink.

We are happy to have Abby Leviss speak about the work of the Jewish National Fund.

Please see Hashavua for the links to register and to see how you can help with this special community event.

Light refreshments will be served.

For questions please reach out to  
Judy Blumenthal at [judyblumenthal@gmail.com](mailto:judyblumenthal@gmail.com) and/or  
Liane May at [lianemay@gmail.com](mailto:lianemay@gmail.com)

## MENTAL HEALTH SHABBAT DINNER & SPEAKER

May 10, 2024

5:30 p.m. Oneg, 6:00 p.m. Service & 7:15 p.m. Dinner

8:15 p.m. Mindful Shift: Employing Behavioral Change to Manage Depression



The B'nai Israel Mental Health Awareness and Advocacy Team invites you to celebrate May Mental Health Awareness Month at our Mental Health Shabbat on May 10.

B'nai Israel congregant Dr. Tara Kerner will speak about using behavioral change to manage depression at Friday evening Shabbat services at 6:00 p.m. on May 10. At 7:15 p.m., there will be a congregational dinner. Following the dinner at 8:15 p.m., Dr. Kerner will lead a discussion on Mindful Shift: Employing Behavioral Change to Manage Depression. The Mi Shebeirach prayer for healing will be sung during the service by Mental Health Awareness and Advocacy Team members Sherry and George Glass. The service and after dinner talk will be broadcast on Zoom, but we encourage you to come in person. Being together in community is one way to improve everyone's mental health!

Please use ShulCloud, email Ilene at [ifeuerberg@cibipt.org](mailto:ifeuerberg@cibipt.org), or call the synagogue office (203) 336-1858 to RSVP for the dinner, which costs \$25 per person. There will be a table with literature about mental health in the temple lobby on the evening of May 10.

Dr. Tara Kerner is a board-certified adult psychiatrist. She is the chief medical officer at Bridges Healthcare in Milford, a private, non-profit mental health clinic. In addition to working at the clinic, Dr. Kerner provides both medication management and therapy to adults through her private practice.

Dr. Kerner graduated from the University of Michigan and earned her Doctor of Osteopathy degree at the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. She has been helping people with anxiety, depression, addiction, and various other serious mental illnesses for over 20 years.

Members of the Mental Health Awareness and Advocacy Team will exhibit their art in the Temple lobby during the month of May, which is National Mental Health Awareness Month.





FROM THE RABBI'S DESK/RABBI EVAN SCHULTZ

## SHOULD I MARK PASSOVER DIFFERENTLY THIS YEAR?

The horrific tragedies of October 7 and the subsequent war between Israel and Hamas (which as of the writing of this article in early March, is still going on) has impacted all of our lives as American Jews. Antisemitism is heavily on the rise across our country. Many Jews are proudly expressing their Judaism in ways they never had before October 7. The events of the past few months have prompted us to think about our relationship to Israel and our moral obligations to the citizens of Gaza, who are without adequate food, medicine, and shelter as this war rages on. And too, our holidays will never quite be the same as well.

Just as I will always associate the festival of Purim with the unofficial start of the COVID-19 pandemic four years ago, I will now always connect the traditionally festive holiday of Simchat Torah with the sadness and pain of October 7, 2023. I think about how Yom Haatzmaut will be celebrated this year — both in Israel and here in America — as war rages on and Israel engages in difficult conversations about its future and the future of its Palestinian neighbors. And as Passover emerges, I ask myself, “Should I mark Passover differently this year as well?”

Back in early March, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency (JTA) published an article written by Jacob Gurvis entitled, “Can Jews sing ‘Dayenu’ While There Are Hostages? The Passover Seder Gets a Post-Oct. 7 Rethink.” The article prompts us to examine all the aspects of the Passover seder and think about ways to connect them to the events of October 7.

In the article, Gurvis writes,

*As the American-Israeli poet Marty Herskovitz thought about the upcoming Passover holiday, the prospect of singing “Dayenu” at the first seder since his country was attacked didn’t sit right with him.*

*The classic Passover song, whose title means “It would have been enough,” expresses gratitude about how much God has done for the Jewish people. But Herskovitz, the son of a Holocaust survivor who has lived in Israel since 1986, thought the words would ring hollow at a time when so many Jews are at risk.*

*“We have to take the text and find a way to make it relevant and not just say the words that seem so impossible to say,” Herskovitz told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. ‘Dayenu, it’s enough.’ It’s clearly not enough. As long as people are trapped in Gaza, that’s not enough. As long as our soldiers are still risking their lives, it’s not enough. We can’t say ‘Dayenu.’ It can’t be, you know, ‘Praise God for this situation.’ So we have to find new texts.”*

As Gurvis notes in the article,

*Many seder tables will have empty seats representing Oct. 7 victims, hostages and soldiers who are unable to return home for the holiday. But the seminary sought to provide rabbis and their communities with other ways to adapt the ancient tradition to the current moment.*

*Among the supplement’s passages is an addition to the seminal “Four Questions” recited during the seder, which ask, “Why is this night different from all other nights?” The added text aims to reflect the feelings of seder attendees this year. “On all other nights, we think that we have answers. Tonight, we all just stay silent,” says the passage, which is in Hebrew. “On all other nights, we remember, sing and cry. ... On this night, we only cry.”*

*Rabbi Menachem Creditor, the scholar-in-residence at UJA-Federation of New York, is working on a haggadah supplement with the Academy of Jewish Religion, a pluralistic rabbinic school in Yonkers, New York. “To talk about liberation when our family is not yet whole again is very hard, and our own tears will mix with the maror,” Creditor told JTA, using the Hebrew word for the seder plate’s bitter herbs. “We won’t need the haggadah’s usual explanation of what bitterness feels like.”*

As you plan your Passover seders this year, think about how you might adapt it to fit the emotions and realities of this moment. You can read the full JTA article here: <https://www.jta.org/2024/03/05/religion/can-jews-sing-dayenu-while-there-are-hostages-the-passover-seder-gets-a-post-oct-7-rethink>. We will continue to share supplements, readings, and ideas in our weekly emails to help guide you. May we each find meaning and hope in this year’s seder.

## SHABBAT SERVICE SCHEDULE

In person on Fridays at 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. where indicated.  
All services at this time can also be viewed on Zoom. The link is sent out in our weekly email.

### Friday, April 5

6:00 p.m. Shabbat Service –  
in person and on Zoom  
Torah Portion –  
Leviticus 9:1-11:47  
Haftarah –  
Ezekiel 45:16-25

### Saturday, April 6

8:00 a.m. Shabbat Service –  
in person and on Zoom  
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Torah Study –  
in person and on Zoom

### Friday, April 12

6:00 p.m. Shabbat Service –  
in person and on Zoom  
Torah Portion –  
Leviticus 12:1-13:59  
Haftarah –  
II Kings 4:42-5:19

### Saturday, April 13

8:00 a.m. Shabbat Service –  
in person and on Zoom  
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Torah Study –  
in person and on Zoom

### Friday, April 19

6:00 p.m. Shabbat Service –  
in person and on Zoom  
Torah Portion –  
Leviticus 14:1-15:33  
Haftarah – Malachi 3:4-24

### Saturday, April 20

8:00 a.m. Shabbat Service –  
in person and on Zoom  
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Torah Study –  
in person and on Zoom  
11:00 a.m. Bet Mitzvah of Solomon  
Kahn, son of Bruce Kahn  
& Shari Greenblatt

### Friday, April 26 (Passover)

6:00 p.m. Shabbat Service –  
in person and on Zoom  
Torah Portion – Holidays  
Exodus 33:12-34:26  
Haftarah –  
Ezekiel 37:1-14

### Saturday, April 27 (Passover)

8:00 a.m. Shabbat Service –  
in person and on Zoom  
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Torah Study –  
in person and on Zoom

Our synagogue Caring Committee is able to help provide rides to and from services to congregants in need of assistance. If you are in need of a ride to temple for Shabbat or another synagogue event, please reach out to Chris Rocha at [crocha@cbibpt.org](mailto:crocha@cbibpt.org) or call the temple office.



# SAVE THE DATE

## June 14, 2024

# Annual Community Celebration



Join us as we honor our B'nai Israel

Tikkun Olam Trailblazers

Nina Silberman, Debbie Goodman,

Sherry Portnoy and Jeff Schwartz

Be on the Lookout...More information coming soon!



## CANTORIAL NOTES – PASSOVER, SEASON OF FREEDOM

BY CANTOR SCOTT HARRIS

I've learned that a fundamental religious theme is anticipation. Our children and our summer community experience and learn about being religious at our URJ camps: on the athletic fields and courts, through participation in theatre, and— at our Six Points Science Camp — in the lab. You need to anticipate being ready to know what to do when the ball comes to you, the emotions overwhelm you, and the revelation of a theory hits you like a lightning bolt. Having a religious mindset means always being ready, anticipating the spiritual nature of events in our lives. Abraham Joshua Heschel taught us to “be open to the many wonders that surround us constantly. We need to be ready for what’s coming.”

Passover is all about anticipation. As I've spoken about on past Shabbatot, ritually, we recite a series of special *haftarot* — from *Shabbat Shekalim* through *Shabbat HaGadol* — leading up to *Pesach*.

Like a bride and groom anticipating a wedding, we do a lot of planning, and hope that the anticipation helps us **experience** the wonder of the event.

We begin thinking about whom we'll invite or those who are in need of a place to share this year. Where did I put Nana Sarah's kugel recipe? Better scan online for new recipes, because there are always new *matza* recipes, thank God!

Thank you, Rabbi Schultz, for making your moving poems and readings that express our feelings this year available to us all. Where are the *Haggadot*?

Maybe we'll try a “new” melody... that's not gonna happen.

Oh yes, and ALL the cleaning we do, which probably represents the ultimate in religious anticipation.

When we read the story of the Exodus, culminating with *Shabbat Shira* as we study *Parshah B'shallach* from the Book of *Sh'mot*, it's usually around January. “Why don't we read this from the Torah closer to *Pesach*?” I'm often asked. The Torah describes the encounter with Pharaoh and the plagues, as if to set up a narrative of anticipation to give us time to think about what will finally enable the Hebrews to be free. Starting so many

weeks before enables us to consider — in many different ways and levels in our daily lives— what a momentous event the Exodus was for **us**.

After reading about the ancient Exodus from *Mitzrayim* in the Book of *Sh'mot*, we can start to work on the meaning of freedom in our own lives. We need to liberate our personal lives in many ways. In a world where personal and political freedom is a precious commodity, we need to be committed to making the vision a reality. The message of *Pesach* is that we who are free are responsible for making others free.

I hope that in this time of anticipation, we'll find opportunities to help each other and ourselves to be part of a joyous season of redemption and beauty.

The buds are opening, the flowers soon will appear. May the coming *Pesach* season be filled with joy in all our homes.

Sharon and I wish you and our entire B'nai Israel family a *Ziessen Pesach*.

---

**" In a world where personal and political freedom is a precious commodity, we need to be committed to making the vision a reality. The message of Pesach is that we who are free are responsible for making others free."**

---



ALEXA COHEN/DIRECTOR OF THE EDUCATION CENTER  
**KEHILAH KIDS AIM TO KNOCK OUT FOOD INSECURITY, ONE GROCERY BAG AT A TIME**



On Sunday, March 3, the JFS Mobile Food pantry visited B'nai Israel a bit earlier than usual. That morning 6th grade Kehilah students and their parents participated in a "Grocery Challenge." Each child and their parent was given \$20 to shop for nutritious food from all food groups; the challenge was to make sure they filled all categories and only spent their \$20. When they returned from the store with their items, the kids stocked the mobile food pantry to get ready for the food distribution later in the afternoon. The 7th graders worked on laundry bags, filling containers with detergent for JFS as well.



The Kehilah 7th graders load the laundry bags they created with Mitzvah Morning onto the JFS food truck



Teagan and her dad take a break from sorting groceries to peek out the window of the food truck on this sunny Sunday morning



Packing the laundry bags for JFS clients



Avery and her mom used their savvy shopping skills to get as many groceries as they could for \$20



6th Graders, Emma, Mia, and Dylan pose for a photo after loading up the food truck



Gwen and her mom get ready to unpack their groceries from the JFS Grocery Challenge onto the food truck

## SPRING HAS SPRUNG IN PRESCHOOL

As we get ready for Passover and the warmer weather, the Bonim kids have fun with matzah-themed arts and crafts, playground fun, and celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday.



Jules proudly shares his weekend with Uriah, the Shabbat dinosaur



Viah shows off her Cat in the Hat as her Pre-K class celebrates Dr. Seuss' birthday



Miriam gets silly on the playground with her bucket hat



Zoey uses her skills to balance the matzah paper and stacking cups



Room 201 gets ready for spring on the golf course by practicing their putting skills during JumpBunch

---

# APRIL DONATIONS

(We greatly appreciate all donations to our special purpose funds.)

## **Rabbi Schultz Discretionary Fund**

**Bonnie Alterman**, in loving memory of Sidney Alterman.

**Carol Barsky**, in loving memory of my brother, Gary Quint.

**Rose Dressler**, in memory of Robert Dressler, father of Alan Dressler.

**Bernie & Janice Jacobs**, in memory of Marian Waxner, sister of Ilene Kandler.

**Gloria Katz**, in memory of Gary Quint, brother of Carol Barsky.

**George & Alice Kelly**, in memory of Sally Blatter, mother of Marge Krubiner.

**Alice Madwed**, in loving memory of my husband, Albert.

**Gail Schriffert**, in loving memory of Ed Schriffert on his 3rd yahrzeit. Loved and missed by Gail, Dustin, & Tamara.

**Jody Smith**, in appreciation for your support & kindness during this terrible loss.

**Jonathan & Cleo Sonneborn**, in memory of Brenda Herschkovitz Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

**Richard & Susan Walden**, in appreciation to you for all that you do for B'nai Israel.

**Marilyn Weinstein**, in memory of Marge Krubiner's mother, Sally Blatter.

**Stephen & Grace Anne Weitzer**, with thanks.

## **Rabbi Marion Discretionary Fund**

**Bonnie Alterman**, in loving memory of Sidney Alterman.

**Carol Barsky**, in memory of my brother Gary Quint.

**Laurel Greenberg**, in loving memory of my husband, Hank N. Greenberg, devoted father of Susan & Andy Greenberg.

**Jack Kadden**, in loving memory of Brenda Herschkovitz Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

**Beth Lazar**, in memory of Brenda Herschkovitz Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

**Jody Smith**, in appreciation for all that you have done during this terrible loss.

**Jonathan & Cleo Sonneborn**, in memory of Sally Blatter, mother of Marge Krubiner.

**Richard & Susan Walden**, in appreciation for all that you do for B'nai Israel.

**Stephen & Grace Anne Weitzer**, with thanks.

## **Cantor Scott Harris Discretionary Fund**

**Carol Barsky**, in celebration of Cantor Harris' installation ceremony; in memory of my brother Gary Quint.

**The Judaica Boutique**, mazel tov and welcome home to Cantor Scott Harris.

**Alan & Sylvia Neigher**, mazel tov to Cantor Harris, we are delighted you are back at B'nai Israel.

**Jody Smith**, with thanks for your kindness & support during this terrible loss.

**Richard & Susan Walden**, with thanks for all that you do for B'nai Israel.

**Keith Wellner & Anna Lamie**, in appreciation to Cantor Scott Harris for performing our marriage ceremony.

## **Rabbi James Prosnit Discretionary Fund**

**Luise Mann**, in memory of Sally Blatter, mother of Marge Krubiner.

## **Music Fund**

**David Abbey & Deborah Goodman**, in loving memory of Ruth Goodman.

**Jeff Ackerman & Andrea Goodman**, in honor of the installation of Scott Harris as our cantor.

**Barry & Linda Diamond**, in memory of Brenda Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

**Randy Dorfman & Richard Post**, in memory of Brenda Herschkovitz Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

**Bari Dworken**, in memory of Edith Baum.

**Mark & Barbara Edinberg**, in memory of Edie Baum; in memory of Brenda Herschkovitz Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

**Sherry Fogel**, in memory of Naomi Schaffer's beloved mother, Brenda Herschkovitz Levenson.

**Dean & Laurie Gaugler**, in memory of Charles "Chuck" Wahrheit, Kristin Wahrheit-Bresler's dad.

**Beth Lazar**, in memory of the beautiful, musical & multi-talented Edith Baum, mother of Jamie Baum.

**Michael London & Allison Spitzer**, in memory of Brenda Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

## **Enhancement Fund**

**Jerry & Dale Demner**, in loving memory of Irving Jacob Demner, father of Jerry Demner.

**Luise Mann**, mazel tov to Lori & Ken Berger, on the birth of their grandchild; in memory of Arlene Bogner, mother of Jake Bogner; in memory of Brenda Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

**Judith Rankell**, in loving memory of the yahrzeit of my husband, Albert Rankell.

## **Bonim Preschool Scholarship Fund**

**Mark & Anne Kirsch**, in honor of Linda & Joel Bernstein's grandson, Luca Ber Warren.

**Arnold & Serena Sher**, in honor of the birth of Cecilia Marks Brandt, granddaughter of Ken & Lori Berger.

**Jonathan & Cleo Sonneborn**, in memory of Marian Waxner, sister of Ilene Kandler.

## **Rabbi Martin Library Fund**

**Samuel Miller & family**, in memory of Jenny Kot.

## **Religious School Scholarship Fund**

**David & Alexa Cohen**, in memory of Van Pearlberg.

**Jerry Saunders & Elaine Appellof**, in memory of Sally Blatter, mother of Marge Krubiner.

## **Rabbi Arnold Sher Social Action Fund**

**Susan Bauchner**, in loving memory of my husband, Burt Bauchner and my mother, Bobby Kaplan.

**Bari Dworken**, in memory of Marge Krubiner's mother, Sally Blatter; in memory of Ilene Kander's sister, Marian

# APRIL DONATIONS

(CONTINUED)

Waxner; in memory of Naomi Schaffer's mother, Brenda Levenson.

**Michael & Joni Greenspan**, in memory of my father, Sidney Greenspan.

**Robert & Paula Herzlinger**, in celebration of the engagement of Michael Rost to Stephanie Klein.

**Dennis & Janet Magid**, in memory of the yearzeit of my mother, Sophie Siegel.

**Samuel Miller**, in memory of Sally Blatter, mother of Marge Krubiner.

**Jon Orleans & Linda Liefland**, in loving memory of my father, Ned Orleans.

**Jerry Saunders & Elaine Appellof**, in memory of Arlene Bogner, mother of Jake Bogner.

**Arnold & Serena Sher**, in memory of Sally Blatter, mother, grandmother & great-grandmother; in memory of Stuart Schloss, husband of Geraldine Schloss.

**Francine (Frankie) Stein**, in loving memory of my very dear friend Edith Baum.

## **Vision Loan Reduction Fund**

**Ellen Sheiman**, in memory of Edith Baum; in memory of Naomi Schaffer's mom, Brenda Levenson. May her memory be a blessing.

## **Jim and Barbara Abraham Education Fund**

**Jeff Ackerman & Andrea Goodman**, in memory of Sally Blatter, mother of Marge Krubiner.

**Carol Barsky**, in memory of my mother-in-law, Jennie Barsky; in loving memory of my mother, Virginia Quint; in loving memory of my dear sister Nancy Owens.

## **Keshet Project**

**Mark & Barbara Edinberg**, in appreciation for the efforts of staff & families in putting together the recent Keshet Shabbat.

## **The George Markley Chesed Fund**

**David Abbey & Deborah Goodman**, in memory of Sally Blatter, mother of Marge Krubiner.

**Beth Lazar**, in memory of Gary Quint, brother of Carol Barsky; in memory of Marian Waxner, sister of Ilene Kandler.

**Jerry Saunders & Elaine Appellof**, in memory of Brenda Herschkovitz Levenson.

**William & Caren Schwartz**, in loving memory of Brenda Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

**Arnold & Serena Sher**, in memory of Marian Waxner, sister of Ilene Kandler.

**Howard Weisman & Nina Silverman**, in loving memory of Sally Blatter, mother of Marge Krubiner; in loving memory of Brenda Herschkovitz Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

## **Daniel Smith Cemetery Fund**

**Robert & Paula Herzlinger**, in memory of Sally Blatter, mother of Marge Krubiner.

## **Gillette Judaic Enrichment Fund**

**Michael London & Allison Spitzer**, in memory of Cheryl, Sam, Jon, Emily, Matt, Lindsay, Ethan & Felix Green's beloved parents, grandparents & great-grandparents.

## **Brian Mendell Memorial Fund**

**Michael London & Allison Spitzer**, for Marci & Richard Pearlberg, in loving memory for the recent losses of Marci's aunt Karen and Richard's father, Van Pearlberg.

## **Yakhani Caring Fund**

**Mark & Barbara Edinberg**, in memory of Belle Muntner, mother of Gail Unger.  
**Arnold & Serena Sher**, in memory of Brenda Herschkovitz Levenson, mother of Naomi Schaffer.

Do you own a local business? Or, have connections in the community?

Bonim Preschool is looking for raffle donations for the year's largest fundraiser

Please contact Lissa Johnson for more information:  
[LissaMJohnson@gmail.com](mailto:LissaMJohnson@gmail.com)

## APRIL EVENTS

### Mental Health Awareness Team Meeting, on April 1

Rabbi Sarah Marion will discuss Lessons from the Classroom: Rabbi Marion's Experiences and Learning as a Student in the Fairfield University Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program at our April 1 meeting on Zoom at 7:30 p.m. The link for these 7:30 p.m. Zoom meetings will be published in Hashavua. Everyone is welcome.

### Screening: *How Saba Kept Singing* April 6, 2024, 4:00–6:00 p.m. B'nai Israel Social Hall

Join us for a special screening of: *How Saba Kept Singing*, a film that tells the story of David Wisnia, a cantor who survived the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp for nearly three years, helped in part by his operatic singing voice, which entertained the Nazi guards. Q&A with David's grandson, Avi Wisnia, following the screening of the film.

### An Evening with Schoke JFS

Schoke Jewish Family Service invites you to its annual gala, An Evening with Schoke JFS, on Sunday, April 7, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., at Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT. Honorees include: Nan and Paul Gordon and Betsy and Michael Stone, The 44th Annual Mitzvah Award; Sally Kleinman, Volunteer of the Year Award; and Ronnie

Sichel, Community Service Award. The evening will begin with appetizers and cocktails, followed by dinner, presentation of awards to the honorees, a paddle raise, and dessert. There will also be an online auction. The event is chaired by Connie Freeman, Meryl Japha, Jillian Klaff, and Esther Rein, with Jeri Appel as auction chair. General tickets include dinner and dessert for \$250. Purchase your ticket at [www.ctjfs.org](http://www.ctjfs.org). Contact Janet Wainright at 203-921-4161 or [jwainright@ctjfs.org](mailto:jwainright@ctjfs.org) to place a journal ad.

### Genizah Book/Ritual Item Burial Sunday, April 7, 10:30 a.m. Congregation B'nai Israel Cemetery 472 Moose Hill Road, Monroe

A genizah is a special plot in a Jewish cemetery where sacred books and Jewish ritual items that can no longer be used can be properly buried. Anyone with old prayer books, copies of the Torah, tallit, tefillin, or other sacred Jewish texts or objects that contain God's Hebrew name is invited to bring those items and join with Rabbi Schultz for a short burial ceremony at 10:30 a.m. at our Monroe cemetery.

### Support Israel by Adopting a Tree!

Are you looking for a meaningful way to support Israel right now? Congregation B'nai Israel has partnered with My Tree in Israel, an Israeli organization that works to directly support Israeli farmers. When you adopt a tree with My Tree in Israel, you will

receive back a portion of their harvest. You can choose either private label olive oil, whiskey, or wine, which will be shipped directly to you from Israel. Additionally, a portion of your donation is donated back to B'nai Israel, as well as to lone soldiers. You can learn more about My Tree in Israel here: <https://www.mytree.org.il/partnership-1/congregation-b'nai-israel-ct>.

### Special Shabbat Guest Speaker: Ido Yaaran Friday, April 19, 6:00 p.m.

Ido Yaaran served as a young Israeli emissary in Fairfield County from 2019-2020. He will join us at Shabbat services on April 19 to share some of his reflections on living in Israel since October 7.

### CBI Banned and Challenged Book Group Meetings

Join us for as many sessions as you can! All meetings will take place at B'nai Israel. We will be discussing each book together; participants are encouraged to read each book in advance.

### *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson Thursday, May 16, 7:00 p.m.



Discussion led by Rabbi Marion and Cadence Pentheny from the Triangle Community Center.

*\*The 2nd most challenged book of 2022 according to the ALA\**

## PASSOVER MANDELNBREAD

Serve for dessert after your seder and eat the leftovers for breakfast the next day.

### Recipe by Alexa Cohen

#### Ingredients:

2 cups white sugar  
1 cup butter, softened  
6 eggs  
2 ¾ cups matzoh cake meal  
½ teaspoon salt  
¾ cup potato starch  
1 cup mini semi-sweet chocolate chips  
1 tablespoon cinnamon sugar

#### Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees
- Cover 2 baking sheets with parchment paper
- In a large bowl, beat sugar and butter until light and fluffy
- Mix in eggs one at a time
- Mix cake meal, salt, and potato starch and add butter/sugar/egg mixture
- Stir into batter just until blended (use a wooden spoon or rubber spatula for this step)
- Gently mix in chocolate chips

- Chill for 15 minutes
- Divide dough in half, and make 2 loaves (5 inches long) using wet hands (mixture will be a bit sticky)
- Sprinkle a little cinnamon sugar over the tops and bake for 45 minutes
- Cool briefly, and then cut into 1-inch slices
- Sprinkle cinnamon sugar on one side of the slices and lay them out
- Bake for 5 to 7 minutes on each side, sprinkling cinnamon sugar on the other side when turning over.

## KESHER CORNER

The next time you see a special needs person, say hi. You'll get a response that may not be verbal...and if you are courageous and can look into his/her eyes, you will feel heart to heart joy.

I've learned that, too often, when I'm rushing between activities, I don't pause to wait a minute for a response. So often special needs children and adults are not given that extra minute to express themselves, and so they will mumble something quickly or call out or interrupt to get attention.

Give that extra minute, and a new world will open up for you...a world that is deeper than our physical experiences. You will feel that special spark of joy that is in everyone.

I've learned this from working with The Keshet Project for 26 years. I've expanded that one-minute pause into one-on-one meetings that have allowed our relationships to thrive.

We are always looking for volunteers as our membership is growing. Volunteer in person for one night, and see if you like our program. You can also volunteer from home by writing letters or addressing envelopes. It's really easy and helps so much.

We've been working on our stage presence and had the gift of leading the February 23 Kabbalat Shabbat service in prayer and song. It was an inspiring evening for all that prepared us for our first public performance of *Our Beautiful World*. We will share the details very soon.

We are grateful for all donations, large and small.

Please contact us with any questions or suggestions:

rheasmusic@icloud.com  
sherrysmeow@optonline.net  
keshetdramaclub@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you soon.



(203) 336-1858 • www.cbibt.org

The Bulletin of Congregation B'nai Israel is published every month except July.

### Officers

Evan Schultz .....	Rabbi	Susan Walden .....	President
Sarah R. Marion .....	Rabbi	Richard Walden .....	1st Vice President
James Prosnit, D.D. ....	Rabbi Emeritus	Nina Silberman .....	Vice President
Arnold I. Sher, D.D. ....	Rabbi Emeritus	Rebecca Gordon Blondin .....	Vice President
Scott Harris .....	Cantor	Scott Smith .....	Vice President
Sheri E. Blum, D.M. ....	Cantor Emeritus	Jerry Saunders .....	Treasurer
Ramon Gilbert, D.M. ....	Cantor Emeritus	Jonathan Dizney.....	Assistant Treasurer
Alexa Cohen .....	Education Director	Lori Berger .....	Secretary
Ira J. Wise, D.J.R.E. ....	Educator Emeritus	Mark Nigrosh .....	Financial Secretary
Robert H. Gillette, R.J.E. ....	Educator Emeritus	Larry Levine .....	Immediate Past President

### Affiliates

Marisa Underberger .....	BIFTY Advisor/Youth Engagement Specialist
Lilah Weinstein and Lindsay Oberhand .....	BIFTY Co-Presidents
Amy Pressman and Lauren Tropp .....	Bulletin Co-Editors
Scott Smith .....	Deputy Bulletin Editor

Congregation B'nai Israel, founded in 1858, seeks to be a vibrant Reform synagogue dedicated to the perpetuation of Jewish life and values within the framework of contemporary American Judaism. We are a gateway to Judaism for all. The Congregation B'nai Israel Bulletin publishes monthly 11 times a year (except July). To submit an article, announcement or ad to the Bulletin, please contact Co-Editors, Amy Pressman at [apressman@cbibt.org](mailto:apressman@cbibt.org) or Lauren Tropp at [ltropp@cbibt.org](mailto:ltropp@cbibt.org). Submissions are due by the first day of the month preceding the publication month. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for length or style.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

**ORTHOPAEDIC SPECIALTY GROUP, PC**  
EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE. EXCEPTIONAL CARE.



75 Kings Highway Cutoff  
Fairfield, CT 06824

2909 Main Street  
Stratford, CT 06614

(203) 337-2600  
www.osgpc.com

2 Enterprise Drive  
Shelton, CT 06484

Murray A. Morrison, MD  
Herbert I. Hemele, MD  
Robert V. Dawe, MD  
Robert A. Stanton, MD  
David F. Bindelglass, MD  
Dante A. Brittis, MD  
Henry A. Backe, Jr., MD  
Rolf H. Langeland, MD  
Patrick W. Kwok, MD  
Michael F. Saffir, MD  
Lawrence P. Kirschenbaum, MD  
Joel W. Malin, MD  
Perry A. Shear, MD  
John A. Awad, MD  
Jerold M. Perlman, MD

*Your Bar/Bat Mitzvah  
Begins at the Courtyard Shelton*

- ✓ EVENTS UP TO 200 GUESTS
- ✓ CREATIVE CUISINE
- ✓ SPECIAL ROOM RATES

Contact Event Planner Nicole Knapik  
at [nknapi@waterfordhotelgroup.com](mailto:nknapi@waterfordhotelgroup.com)  
or by calling (203) 929-1500.



780 Bridgeport Ave., Shelton, CT 06484  
[sheltoncourtyard.com](http://sheltoncourtyard.com)

**Steven M. Soberman, M.D.**  
(203) 414-5564

**Daniel S. Gottschall, M.D.**  
(203) 374-0404

**Certified Mohalim**

Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Board Certified



5000 Main Street  
Trumbull, CT  
06611



**ECO EVOLUTION**  
MARKETPLACE MEETING SPACE

Shop Online or in Norwalk:  
135 Washington Street

[www.EcoEvolution.Co](http://www.EcoEvolution.Co)



Protecting the Planet with  
Every Purchase



If you had an extended need for care, how would it  
impact your loved ones and your financial plan?  
Make an educated decision. Talk with us.

**KEEP YOUR FAMILY'S FUTURE IN SIGHT.**

**LAURIE SAPPERN GAUGLER, CLTC**  
Independent Long-Term Care Insurance Specialist

CELL  
203.257.7921

OFFICE  
203.255.6530

EMAIL  
[LGAUGLER@insightLTC.com](mailto:LGAUGLER@insightLTC.com)

The following members of  
the legal community join  
together in their support of  
the B'nai Israel *Bulletin*:

- Eric Broder
- Douglas R. Brown
- Marcia Cohen
- Mark A. Kirsch
- Andrew R. Lubin
- Daniel Schopick

The following members of the medical community join  
together in their support of the B'nai Israel *Bulletin*:

- Dr. Andrea Hagani
- Dr. Robert D. Chessin
- Dr. David F. Bindelglass
- Dr. Alan M. Nelson
- Dr. Glenn M. Rich
- Dr. Kenneth Rabine
- Dr. George P. Kelly
- Dr. Howard B. Twersky
- Dr. Jeffrey Small
- Dr. Edward Portnay
- Dr. Michael Connolly
- Dr. Kenneth Kingsly
- Dr. Mark J. Hotchkiss
- Dr. Jared Selter
- Dr. Geoffrey Gladstein
- Dr. Rachel E. Sheiman
- Dr. Brian King
- Dr. Abraham Fridman
- Dr. Katherine J. Pesce
- Dr. Nicholas Blondin
- Dr. Aaron Dommu
- Dr. Perry A. Wasserlauf

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS


  
**A Higher Standard of Excellence**



**Laura Sydney-Pulton**  
*Realtor<sup>®</sup>, ABR<sup>®</sup>, ASP<sup>®</sup>*  
 Platinum Producer  
 (203) 610-3949  
 lsydney@williampitt.com  
 laurasydney.williamspitt.com

SOUTHWEST BROKERAGE  
 251 MAIN STREET, SOUTHPORT CT 06890  
 Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated. ©



Business 367-8711  
 Fax 255-7644

**DEITZ INC.**  
 110 Sigwin Drive  
 Fairfield, Conn. 06824  
 Landscaping - Excavating - Snowplowing

**Andrea Beiser Hagani, M.D., F.A.A.P.**  
 Pediatrics / Pediatric Hematology



**Pediatric Healthcare Associates**  
 www.pha4kids.com

99 Hawley Lane  
 Stratford, CT 06614  
 Phone: (203) 452-8322  
 Fax: (203) 375-9293



**CHEF JASON BELLABY**  
*private parties & dinners*

chefjasonbellaby@gmail.com  
 914-562-4824  
 Fairfield, CT



**Shari Nerreau**  
 REALTOR<sup>®</sup>  
 203.913.3149  
 Shari.Nerreau@CBRealty.com

**DANIEL F. SCHOPICK**  
 ATTORNEY AT LAW

572 WHITE PLAINS ROAD  
 TRUMBULL, CT 06611  
 (203) 261-6565  
 FAX (203) 261-8420  
 DANIEL@SCHOPICKLAW.COM

STEIBER & SCHOPICK


**Not Just a Law Firm.  
 Your Law Firm.**

- Appellate
- Bankruptcy
- Commercial Finance
- Common Interest Communities
- Corporate
- Elder Law & Long Term Care Planning
- Employment & Labor
- Land Use & Zoning
- Litigation
- Matrimonial & Family
- Municipal
- Personal Injury
- Physicians Practices
- Real Estate
- Securities
- Securities Arbitration
- Tax and Trusts & Estates
- Telecommunications & Utilities

BRIDGEPORT 203-368-0211    DANBURY 203-792-2771    WESTPORT 203-222-1034    ORANGE 203-298-4066  
 www.cohenandwolf.com



**Standard Security Systems**  
**Standard Insurance Agency**  
**Standard Oil of Connecticut**  
**Standard Petroleum (Gasoline)**

**Roy Friedman**  
 Standard Companies President  
**David Cohen** Executive Vice-President

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

**BRODER ORLAND MURRAY  
& DEMATTIE LLC**  
MATRIMONIAL & FAMILY LAW

55 Greens Farms Road  
Westport, CT 06880  
(203) 222-4949

[www.ctfamilylaw.com](http://www.ctfamilylaw.com)

Eric J. Broder: [ebroder@broderorland.com](mailto:ebroder@broderorland.com)  
Carole Topol Orland: [corland@broderorland.com](mailto:corland@broderorland.com)



**THREE GENERATIONS**  
of the Green family have honored the customs and traditions of our diverse Jewish and Interfaith community since 1948.

- Pre-Need Arrangements
- Pre-Paid Funeral Trusts
- Manage out-of-town loss & burial
- Directors with Connecticut, New York, and Florida licensure

Contact us today to learn more



203-255-8993  
88 Beach Rd  
Fairfield, CT 06824  
[www.greensfuneralhome.com](http://www.greensfuneralhome.com)

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED  
**Abraham L. Green & Son**  
Funeral Home  
SINCE 1948




**Garelick & Herbs**  
Southport | Greenwich  
[www.garelickandherbs.com](http://www.garelickandherbs.com)



**GOOD  
FOOD  
GOOD  
MOOD**

G&H offers full-service catering (Kosher Dairy certified) Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, Weddings, Kiddushes, and Showers.

Breakfast, lunch, dinner, celebrations- big or small, we do it all! Visit our website [www.garelickandherbs.com](http://www.garelickandherbs.com) for sample catering menus and work with one of our highly skilled Catering Specialists to plan your ideal event!

[corporate@garelickandherbs.com](mailto:corporate@garelickandherbs.com)



---

# APRIL MENTAL HEALTH ART EXHIBITION AND TRIP

BY MARJORIE FREEMAN

On Saturday, April 13, the Mental Health Awareness and Advocacy Team is sponsoring a trip to the Yale Art Gallery, 1111 Chapel St., New Haven, for a specially organized docent-led tour of the exhibit “Munch and Kirchner: Anxiety and Expression.” Featuring more than 60 works on paper, this exhibition is the first to examine the prints of Edvard Munch alongside those of Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, elucidating the fascinating overlaps in their creative output and personal biographies and demonstrating how these artists suffered from—and attempted to cope with—the anxieties of their age. Both Munch and Kirchner were experimental printmakers who exploited the perceptual and emotional power of color and abstraction for creative expression and portrayed what they perceived to be a fragmented, harrowing reality.”

To register for the April 13 tour, which is limited to a maximum of 30 people, please contact Marjorie Freeman at [marjorie.freeman.ms@gmail.com](mailto:marjorie.freeman.ms@gmail.com). Please also contact Marjorie if you find you cannot come after having registered in order to allow someone on the waitlist to take your place.

The Yale Medical Library, the Yale Medical Historical Library, and the Yale Medical School, all at 333 Cedar St., New Haven, are sponsoring four coordinating exhibits, free and open to the public, until August 16. Enter at 333 Cedar St. and leave an ID at the Guard’s Desk to obtain a temporary pass.

*Mindscales, in the Medical Library’s Rotunda, tells a story about mental health — its visibility, classification, and treatment — through the archival and visual art collections of the Medical Historical Library. Instead of a sweeping grand narrative of medical progress, Mindscales presents a constellation of short stories that illuminate shifting cultural attitudes and scientific approaches to mental health over time. At stake in these stories are challenging, contested topics around mental health that intersect with Yale School of Medicine’s own histories.*

*Two additional cases in the Medical Historical Library, Race and Mental Health in New Haven, discuss the Connecticut Mental*

*Health Center’s connections to community and care.*

*Mindful: Exploring Mental Health Through Art in the foyer of the Medical Library, showcases art by students of the Yale School of Medicine. In addition, there are prints relating to mental health from the library’s collection in the hallway of the Medical Library.*

We encourage everyone interested in art and/or mental health to make a trip to New Haven to view these exhibits on your own if you can’t join us on April 13. The Yale Art Gallery is free and open to the public, Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and stays open until 8 p.m. on Thursdays. The Medical Library opens every day of the week at 8 a.m. and stays open until midnight, except for Friday and Saturday, when it closes at 10 p.m.

It is well known that art therapy improves mental health. I believe making, looking at, and thinking about art improve mental health as well. I hope many B’nai Israel congregants will take advantage of these exciting exhibits related to mental health!

---

## MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TEAM MEETING ON APRIL 1

Rabbi Sarah Marion will discuss Lessons from the Classroom: Rabbi Marion’s Experiences and Learning as a Student in the Fairfield University

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program at our April 1 meeting on Zoom at 7:30 p.m.

The link for these 7:30 p.m. Zoom meetings will be published in Hashavua. Everyone is welcome.



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 171  
Fairfield, Conn.

Congregation B'nai Israel  
2710 Park Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06604  
(203) 336-1858  
[www.cbibpt.org](http://www.cbibpt.org)

## BIFTY



**BIFTY had a great time at the temple sleepover!**

BIFTY is looking forward to our April events! All CBI teens in grades 8–12 are invited to attend BIFTY. We meet on Thursdays in the BIFTY lounge. To stay up to date on events, follow us on Instagram @cbi.bifty and ask to join our text group. We look forward to seeing you at our next event!

Our April events will take place on:

April 11—Celebrate Earth Day!

April 25—Make a Passover treat with BIFTY!