MARCH-APRIL 2021 ADAR-NISSAN-IYAR 5781

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Spring Programming to Feature Music, Racial Justice, Travel Tales

BY SALLY KRAM, TIKVAT ISRAEL VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMMING

After an active winter, Tikvat Israel's spring programming will serve up a wide array of offerings, including a concert by international recording artist Neshama Carlebach, a series of lectures and classes focused on racial justice and additional cultural and religious programs to meet the many interests of TI congregants.

All programming will continue in a virtual mode to protect the health and safety of TI congregants.

Carlebach, an international recording artist, was supposed to perform live at Tikvat Israel's social hall last March, but her concert had to be scratched due to the outbreak of COVID-19. Instead, she will perform virtually via Zoom on March 13. There is no charge for this event, but voluntary donations are encouraged to support the concert and future cultural programming at the synagogue. All congregants are invited to hear this award-winning singer, songwriter and educator who has sold more than 1 million recordings worldwide.

The congregation also will spend the spring focused on racial justice as part of the continuation of the *La'Asot Tzedakah U'Mishpat* ("to do what is just and right") initiative. Among the events planned under this banner are:

- A lecture on racial justice and feminism on International Women's Day at 8 p.m. on March 8. The lecture will focus on the passage of the 19th Amendment and the role of African American women in pushing it forward, even as they were left behind in the voting rights movement for many decades.
- Another installment of the Tikvat Israel racial justice book discussion featuring a Zoom-facilitated talk about *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson. Rabbi Israel will lead the conversation.

Continued on page 3



Solo Show for Carlebach Rescheduled for March 13

Singer Neshama Carlebach's one-hour virtual concert at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 13, is a makeup performance for the pandemic-cancelled show first slated at Tikvat Israel last March that was to include her full band.

Carlebach will perform by herself via Zoom.

The shul is requesting voluntary contributions to support the program in the amounts of \$18, \$36, \$54, \$72 or higher multiples. You must register at *tikvatisrael.org/neshama* in order to receive the concert link.

More details about the concert, based on an interview with the performer, can be found on page 3.

WEEKLY RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Monday 8:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 8:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 8:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.

Kabbalat

Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Shabbat 10:00 a.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

Note: As long as the synagogue is closed during the public health crisis, digital davening will be via Zoom weekdays and Sundays with *Havdalah* on Saturday evening (see *B'kesher* for varying start times). Shabbat morning services will be livestreamed.

CANDLELIGHTING TIMES

March 5	5:48 p.m.
March 12	5:55 p.m.

March 12 5:55 p.m. March 19 7:02 p.m.

March 26 7:09 p.m.

March 28 8:09 p.m. (Pesach)

April 2 7:15 p.m.

April 3 8:15 p.m. (Pesach)

April 9 7:22 p.m.

April 16 7:29 p.m.

April 23 7:36 p.m.

April 30 7:43 p.m.

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Multiple Decisions Await Congregants at June Meeting

BY IAY P. GOLDMAN, TIKVAT ISRAEL BULLETIN EDITOR

Tikvat Israel members will have some major decisions to make at a June congregational meeting – the first in more than a decade to combine the election of new synagogue officers and board members and the approval of the annual operating budget.

The meeting is the first in some time to place both significant congregational issues on a single agenda under a set of revised synagogue bylaws adopted a year ago by congregants. Those revisions eliminated the separate schedule of officer/board elections that had been taking place every December.

The 2021 congregational meeting is tentatively set for 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 27.

Sometime in advance of that meeting, all congregants can expect to receive details about the proposed FY '22 budget from treasurer Stuart Lempert and information about the candidates who aspire to fill the officer positions and four board of director berths.

The terms of officers will end in June. All will have served an extra six months beyond the normal two-year period owing to the bylaws change. Current officers are Warren Berger and Jim Perlmutter, co-presidents; Alan Apter, vice president for administration; Ellen Kaminow, VP for lifelong learning; Sally Kram, VP for programming; Stuart Lempert, treasurer; Gene Sheskin, financial secretary; and Sherrie Krauser, recording secretary.

Several two-year seats on the board of directors also will be on the ballot. These posts are currently held by Fran Tropp, Felicia Black, Keith Brooks and Lois Sbar.

Melanie Grishman, immediate past president, is serving as chair of the nominations committee, and she is interested in hearing from members who would consider serving as an officer or board member as several vacancies are anticipated with officers leaving their posts. Contact her at mgrish1942@icloud.com.

Five members of the board are midway through their two-year terms: Kelcey Klass, Beth Smith, Judy Stern, Roberta Helzner and Jay P. Goldman. Their seats expire in 2022.

In addition to elections and budget approval, congregants will elect three board members to manage the Tikvat Israel Fund for the Future and receive a report on the fund's status from Betty Fishman, who chairs the body.

Shul Shorts

Paper Shredding in June

The Tikvat Israel parking lot will host a paper shredding event on Sunday, June 13. Hold all of your sensitive paper products for disposal.

Alan Apter, TI vice president for administration, is organizing the event. He can be reached at alaniapter@gmail.com.

Last June, congregants and friends of the synagogue contributed an estimated five tons of personal financial records and health records to be pulverized into tiny paper pieces, activity that grossed the shul \$2,700 before expenses.

Tracking TI Events

There's usually a lot of stuff happening at Tikvat Israel, during the pandemic or not, so it can be overwhelming to take it all in when reading *B'kesher*. Another way to stay informed is a calendar on the Tikvat Israel website where you can see at a glance what's happening day-by-day, month-by-month, including daily *minyan*, *Shabbat* and holiday schedules.

Access the up-to-date calender at *http://tikvatisrael.org/calendar*. The embedded links will take you to more information on our website.

Intimate Evening of Song at Neshama Carlebach Concert

BY BETTY J. FISHMAN, CONTRIBUTING EDITOR, TIKVAT ISRAEL BULLETIN

Tikvat Israel is about to discover the energy and sparkle of Neshama Carlebach, virtually.

In her hour-long show at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 13, billed by concert promoters as "an intimate evening of song," the New York-based singer/songwriter is expected to cover a few classic songs the audience will recognize combined with pieces from her latest album "Believe," which debuted last year. But whether the numbers are old or new, she says, "No matter what I am singing about, my song is a prayer."

Carlebach began singing and acting when

world feels broken."

she was only 5. In her career, she has sold more than one million albums and was a six-time entrant in the Grammy Awards. Much of her music is original. Asked how her songwriting is influenced by the news of the day, she responded that we live in a broken world, to which she is determined to bring light and hope. "There is power in believing in yourself, she says, "so don't give up, even when your

This concert will be a solo performance. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Carlebach has not been able to work with her backing band. Yet she says she is looking forward to the intimacy she has found in performing virtually. She has done nearly 300 events in the past year, all from home, and mostly by Zoom. The Tikvat Israel show will be presented via Zoom.



Neshama Carlebach will be featured at TI on March 13.

Unlike a live concert on a stage, where people in the back row can barely see her and the lights prevent her from seeing anyone at all, the virtual format makes her feel more connected. "It is strangely separate and yet so intimate at the same time. It's weird," she said, to be looking at herself as she performs. She feels she does her best work when she is not thinking about herself, but she has embraced it and learned from it.

Connection is very important to Carlebach. So even in this time of pandemic, she averages about six events and two podcasts per weekend and has been able to be present all over the world. She becomes emotional talking about singing at weddings and conver-

sion ceremonies, *shiva* homes and funerals, hospitals and hospices. What she misses most is working with her musical partners and the instant feedback she gets at a live event.

Carlebach lives in New York City with her husband Rabbi Menachem Creditor and their combined family of five children. In "normal" times, she often collaborates with musicians of different faiths and partners with secular organizations as well as synagogues. She has been featured in major Jewish music festivals across the U.S. and around the globe.

You can register for the show (which is required) and make voluntary contributions at *tikvatisrael/neshama*.

SPRING PROGRAMMING, continued from page 1

- A talk about the historical legacy of slavery and its echoes in modern life on March 31 designed to tie into the *Pesach* message of slavery to freedom for the Jewish people.
- A discussion of environmental justice and how sustainability policies may disparately impact racial minority communities, appropriately scheduled for Earth Day on April 22.
- A potential second series of the African American history course taught by Richard Montgomery High School teacher Jerome Price. Details about the second course are still under discussion and will be announced in B'Kesher.

Additional offerings in March and April include:

- A March 7 presentation by Tikvat Israel U's favorite lecturer, legal authority Clifford Fishman, at 8 p.m. He will discuss his multiple trips to lesser-known national parks across the American West including Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park and Capitol Reef National Park. Don't miss this compelling travel adventure without having to leave your couch!
- A presentation by Rabbi Israel on how best to host a Zoomenabled seder. This compelling presentation will take place

- on Wednesday, March 17. Stay tuned for additional details about this event.
- A virtual second seder organized by Tikvat Israel volunteers to enable congregants who want to participate in a second seder without the cooking to be given a Zoomenabled opportunity.
- A May 1 *Lag B'Omer* program in partnership with Kehillat Pardes at 8 p.m.
- Various Drive-thru Dining events in the shul parking lot on Thursdays. Roz Kram will continue her expert organization, bringing the best of regional kosher restaurants to congregants' stomachs. More details will follow.

Also under development is a planned celebration of Cantor Helzner's 36 years at Tikvat Israel. We hope all congregants can join in this joyous event on June 6. More details are to come.

As virtual programming continues, we welcome any TI member with ideas and energy. If you want to contribute, contact Sally Kram at sallykram939@gmail.com. We look forward to "seeing" you.

Winter Programs Attract Robust Attendance

BY SALLY KRAM, TIKVAT ISRAEL VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMMING

As the COVID-19 pandemic entered its 10th month, the pace of programming at Tikvat Israel remained brisk as congregants have taken advantage of virtual events to expand their horizons.

Racial Justice Series

Following a series of book discussions led by Rabbi Israel in November and December, Tikvat Israel officially kicked off its racial justice initiative titled *La'Asot Tzedakah U'Mishpat* ("to do what is just and right") on Jan. 18, Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The kickoff featured Montgomery County Councilmember Will Jawando and Richard Montgomery High School history teacher Jerome Price. (Read more on page 5.)

More than 100 congregants and guests from as far away as Vancouver, Canada, joined as Jawando congratulated Tikvat Israel congregants on their willingness to "do the work" to address systematic discrimination. Price followed with a lecture featuring his interpretation of the preamble to the Constitution and its intersection with King's "I Have a Dream" speech. Price then previewed the seven-part course on African American history that he would lead in January and February. His classes averaged about 100 log-on screens during Zoom sessions.

Israeli Film Festival 2021

January 2021 also brought one of Tikvat Israel's most beloved traditions—the showing of Israeli film and post-film discussion—to the congregation. While the delicious dessert reception was non-existent, TI offered virtual screenings of two recent films, *Crescendo* and *Mossad!*, congregant viewing at home followed by film discussions led by Israeli Embassy cultural attaché Lisa LeBourgeois.

The festival would have been impossible without the generosity of congregational sponsor Carol Chelemer, who paid the screening fees; Tikvat Israel's Sam Freedenberg, who negotiated screening fees with the film distributors; and commercial sponsor Mayorga Organics, which provided a 20 percent discount on coffee purchases through January and 60 four-pound bags of white quinoa. The quinoa was partially distributed in TI's parking lot. Twenty leftover bags were delivered to Small Things Matter, a program for food-insecure Montgomery County residents.

Over 50 screens joined in the post-film discussion as congregants gave their views of two vastly different films—a drama about Israeli-Palestinian relations viewed through the eyes of young musicians playing as part of a "peace" orchestra and a zany slapstick comedy about Israel's intelligence service, the Mossad. A post-film survey showed many members appreciated the convenience of viewing films from home, but all desired returning to an in-person experience in 2022.

Additional Programs

Other events offered in December and January included Drive thru Dining and Tikvat Israel's first open house. Drive thru Dining featured food from Moti's and Al Ha'esh (Dec. 31); Oh Mama Grill (Jan. 14); and the Kosher Pastry Oven (Jan.

28). Between 16 and 20 congregant families took advantage of the food deliveries. February offerings were tentative because of frigid winter temperatures. Tikvat Israel's first virtual Open House attracted about 10 congregants to share an informal conversation on one of the winter's shortest days.

Finally, Rachel Lipsy took over the annual *Purim* Puppet Show in a virtual format. Many of the usual performers from previous puppet shows reprised their roles of voicing the *Purim* characters as Rachel and sister Shaina designed sock puppets and brought the *Purim* story to life for TI's members on Feb. 25. A reading of the *Megillah* and hilarious *Purim spiel* were set to follow. Now, if only TI could transport *hamantaschen* through Zoom!

As virtual programming continues, we welcome any TI member with ideas and energy. If you want to contribute, contact Sally Kram at sallykram939@gmail.com.

ISRAELI FILMS ELICIT RANGE OF VIEWS



Lisa LeBourgeois, cultural affairs officer with the Israeli Embassy in Washington, shared background behind the making of both Israeli films. A pair of widely divergent Israeli films from 2019 and 2020 attracted dozens of Tikvat Israel members to post-viewing discussions as part of "Israel Presents: Two Nights of Israeli Film."

Lisa LeBourgeois, cultural affairs officer with the Israeli Embassy, shared her insights via lively Zoom-based forums on consecutive Saturday nights in January on the two films *Mossad!*, an action-comedy parodying the feared Israeli intelligence service, and *Crescendo*, an emotional drama about a world-famous conductor who tries to create an Israeli-Palestinian youth orchestra.

Carol Chelemer, a former TI board member, underwrote the viewing expenses for both films, allowing congregants to watch without charge from the comfort of their homes. Mayorga Organics, based in Rockville, served as the commercial sponsor.

Sally Kram, who chairs the Adult Education Committee, handled the arrangements for securing short-term viewing rights of the films.

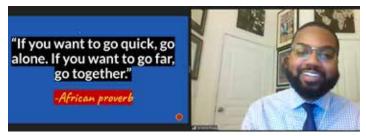
Sally Kram handled arrangements for showing the two Israeli films and moderated the Q&A during postviewing forums.



4

Congregants Gain New Insights During Weekly Black History Class

BY JAY P. GOLDMAN, TIKVAT ISRAEL BULLETIN EDITOR



Jerome Price's seven-week course for Tikvat Israel marked his first venture into teaching adults.

Richard Montgomery High School teacher Jerome Price led nearly a hundred Tikvat Israel members plus a few outsiders turning up consistently on a multi-week educational experience that he titled "Seven Chapters in African American History" from mid-January through February.

The 90-minute classes attracted eager participants, who provided feedback and raised questions on the chat function of the Zoom course site.

Price's seven lessons examined the history and culture of the African American experience.

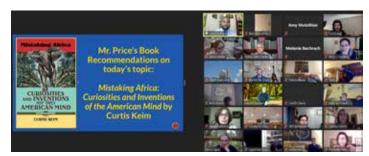
"Each session, I thoroughly appreciate the positive energy, participation and very thoughtful contributions from those in attendance," Price said at the midpoint of the course. "There is a great deal of life experience in this class. It means a lot to be able to tap into so many rich and personal stories and having meaningful

conversations about race. It lives with us. The connections we make as a class to what is happening in 2021 is moving and inspiring."

Price, a teacher of Advanced Placement U.S., Honors U.S. and African American history at Richard Montgomery, serves as faculty adviser of an award-winning organization that builds leadership capacity of African American and Latino students.

During the synagogue classes, he incorporated participatory opportunities for candid reflections by synagogue members. Price shared informative materials on screen from primary and secondary sources, including video clips. He hopes to return for a second round of classes later in the spring.

The course was arranged by Rabbi Marc Israel as part of a year-long initiative at Tikvat Israel on racial and social justice.



Class participants tossed plenty of questions about African American history and culture at course leader Jerome Price, who offered reading recommendations at each session.

Sampling Kosher Eateries Through Car Windows

Congregants have been treated to new dining experiences during the pandemic through periodic Drive thru Dining programs in the synagogue parking lot.

Since mid-2020, the dinner pickups have been arranged, typically twice a month, with an array of kosher eateries in the Washington and Baltimore region by Roz Kram.



A couple dozen TI members typically have availed themselves of the Thursday afternoon food pickups, which

Neil Sbar handed off a dinner order from Kosher Pastry Oven through an open car window at TI.



Volunteers at a drivethru food pickup in the TI lot in late January included, front row from left, Roz Kram, Lois Sbar and Sally Kram, and rear row from left, Neil Sbar and Neil Kram.

follow socially distanced distribution protocols and fully masked volunteers.

During one such event in late January, Sally Kram, chair of the synagogue's annual Israeli film festival, distributed 40 bags of quinoa provided by Rockville-based Mayorga Organics for distribution to synagogue members. Mayorga, principally a coffee operation, served as commercial sponsor of the film fest.

Another 20 of the 4-lb. bags of quinoa were donated to Small Things Matter, a local food distribution program for needy people. Marsha and Art Fabel handled the delivery.

Hybrid High Holidays Sought by TI Members

Whether or not pandemic restrictions for group gatherings are still in place this fall, members of Tikvat Israel clearly expect some of the changes introduced into the delivery of High Holiday services last fall to continue.

Responses to a congregational survey conducted several months ago by Rabbi Marc Israel suggest congregants seek a hybrid approach, offering components of in-person services and livestreamed services at Tikvat Israel.

The clergy already have announced that Tikvat Israel will continue to broadcast High Holidays services via livestreaming to homes of those unable to attend in person – even if all government-imposed restrictions on group sizes and social distancing are lifted.

The survey yielded 157 responses, which included multiple responses from some member households.

On the central question about conducting future *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* services in person or online, 55 percent of the respondents said they want to attend a mix of services, and 38 percent said they would prefer to attend solely services conducted at the synagogue.

Other survey findings include these:

- ➤ 56 percent of respondents said they watched services with one other person, and 24 percent said they were part of a trio of viewers. Another 12 percent participated alone, and 8 percent were in viewing parties of four or more.
- > 53 percent expressed a desire to maintain the length of last fall's services, which were significantly abbreviated with some prayers omitted. Another 28 percent seek some abbreviation and about 14 percent want a return to the full-length liturgy on the holidays.
- > 79 percent indicated the time allotted for private prayer during the services was adequate.
- ➤ 35 percent asked that *Yizkor* be returned to its normal morning time slot, while nearly 19 percent preferred the late afternoon timing of last fall. Some 38 percent said they didn't care what time was chosen.
- > 55 percent would like *shofar* blowing to be offered both inside and outside in the future, while 35 percent want it blown only indoors.

The congregation's preferences will be considered by the rabbi and cantor in developing plans for High Holidays this fall. That planning work has begun, the rabbi said.

Rabbi Israel briefed the synagogue's board of directors about his survey findings at their meeting in late January.

You can view the survey questions at http://bit.ly/3phurRW.

Red Cross Collects 40 Pints at TI Blood Donor Event

Tikvat Israel hosted a successful drive for blood donations in late January, collecting 40 pints of blood for the American Red Cross.



Stuart Turkewitz caught up on his newspaper reading while donating blood. (*Photo by Sam Freedenberg*)

David Hull, account representative for American Red Cross Blood Services' Greater Chesapeake and Potomac regions, provided TI with this tally of blood types collected: O+, 18 donors; A+, 10 donors; O-, 5 donors; B+, 5 donors; and A-, 2 donors.

Three were firsttime donors, Hull reported.

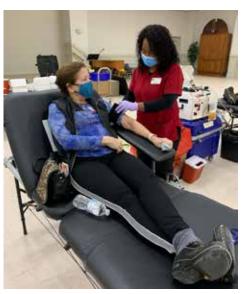
"The blood drive was the smoothest one I have ever observed," said Robbi

Cohen, one of the congregants involved in managing the event with strict pandemic-related protocols in the synagogue's social hall.

Other volunteers were Jeff Bernstein, Keith Brooks, Molly Turkewitz and Larry Cohen.

The Red Cross no longer schedules Sunday blood drives, which means all future blood drives that TI sponsors must take place on weekdays.

Edna Breit was among several dozen individuals at the Red Cross blood drive at TI in January. (*Photo by Sam Freedenberg*)



Kabbalat Shabbat with Guitar

A "KS with Guitar" service will be led by Cantor Rochelle Helzner on Friday, March 12, at 6 p.m. on the synagogue's Zoom channel. Join the cantor for an uplifting, melodic introduction to *Shabbat*.

The next service will be held on April 16 (in celebration of *Yom Haatsmaut*).

RABBI'S CORNER

The Long and Winding Road to Freedom: Pesach 5781

BY RABBI MARC D. ISRAEL



As I sit to write this column, I admit to having post-trauma feelings from last March. I can feel my heart beat faster each time I think about the preparations from last year's *Pesach* under the COVID restrictions that had just been put into place.

I can still hear the angst-ridden voices calling for advice on how to observe *seder*

if one will be alone. I remember the concern we all felt about the safety of Passover shopping and the adjustments we made to our *seder* menus, trying to avoid an extra trip to the store.

But I also recall the almost daily e-mails from the Rabbinical Assembly and United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism, sharing new ideas, providing new guidance and offering resources to help us plan for online *seders*. I also remember the creative energy that went into planning our first virtual *seders* and the joy of people celebrating for the first time with relatives who live far away. And I can still see the smiles and surprise that many of you shared afterwards, noting that it was a different *seder*, but it was still meaningful.

Now, as we approach *Pesach* 5781, we find ourselves in both a very similar and a very different place. It is similar in that I expect most of us will still celebrate together with family members virtually or in small groups. It is different because we are beginning to get our first glimpses of the promised land, as more and more people are vaccinated.

It is important to remember, at this point, that when the Israelites left Egypt, God purposefully did not take them on the direct route but a circuitous path. The Torah explains that this was to prevent the people from turning back too easily if they encountered hardships. I think we can learn another important lesson, that the road to freedom is almost never straight and direct. You get closer, slide back, sometimes march around in circles. This was true for the Israelites. This also has been true here in America. And yes, it is also true about the road to freedom from COVID-19.

I wish we could all get together in person this year at large gatherings of friends and family. With the increasing rates of vaccination and lower rates of infection (as of mid-February), we are optimistic that we soon will be able to do so. However, we are not quite there yet – we must still celebrate our freedom from across the Jordan, wistfully looking at our promised land that is close but still out of reach.

With this in mind, and based on the best information at the time of writing, I want to provide you with the following guidelines to prepare for *Pesach* this year:

- All of the emergency *halachic* decisions, including the various leniencies, that the Rabbinical Assembly provided last year are still in effect for this year. You can find them at *www.nabbinicalassembly.org/story/preparing-pesah-during-time-pandemic*.
- As more people are vaccinated, there may be a temptation to gather together with friends and family beyond your immediate bubble. Our COVID-19 Task Force experts strongly recommend you resist this urge even if everyone has had both dosages of the vaccine. It is not yet known whether people who have

- been vaccinated can be carriers of the virus nor do we know how effective the vaccine is against new variants of the virus. Therefore, we encourage everyone, regardless of vaccination, to maintain the existing restrictions.
- Please avoid traveling, and encourage others not to travel to you, even if everyone is vaccinated. (Remember that 5 percent of those vaccinated are still susceptible to the disease, and there may be new variants for which the vaccine is not as effective.)
- Take advantage of the myriad of creative resources that have been developed over the last year to plan two engaging *seders*. Think about what you might do differently each night. Last year, we planned everything with very little time. This year, you have time to think about what will work best for your family.

I know that we all wished everything would be "normal" by now, but let's not lose sight of the steps we have taken to stay healthy and arrive at this place. With perseverance and patience, we will cross that river into the promised land, and we pray that we will soon experience the freedom to celebrate together safely and in person.

SEDER ON A SATURDAY NIGHT

Keep in mind the first night of *Pesach* is a Saturday night. If your *seder* participants are able, it is best to wait until the time of *Havdalah* to begin (8:07 p.m.). If that is not reasonable for your circumstances, consider starting at 7 p.m.

If your *seder* begins before 7 p.m., follow the same instructions, but hold off on *kiddush*, *Havdalah* and *shehecheyanu* until the third or fourth cup of wine (the first one that comes after 8:07 p.m.).

At the first cup of wine, say only "borei pri hagafen" without the kiddush or shehecheyanu. Go through the rest of the Hagaddah as normal, aiming to get to the second cup and the meal at 8:07 p.m. At the second cup, recite "borei pri hagafen" and turn back to Kadesh to immediately recite the kiddush, the blessings of Havdalah included in your Haggadah, and shehecheyanu. Continue with the rest of the seder as normal.

A few extra considerations when Passover begins on a Saturday night:

- Bedikat chametz (the search for chametz) takes place Thursday, March 25, after dark. Either use challah or a flavored matzah for Shabbat meals. If you use challah or other leavened products on Shabbat, make sure to keep it in a carefully contained area and to sweep up any crumbs and dispose of any leftovers by Saturday at 11:09 a.m.
- The siyyum bikkurim will take place on Thursday morning, March 25. Once again, we will join the national siyyum online program sponsored by the Rabbinical Assembly. Watch your e-mail for more information.
- All forms and donations for *mechirat chametz* (selling *chametz*) and *meot chittim* (*tzedakah* to provide food for the poor) must be in by noon on Friday, March 26.
- Biyur chametz (burning chametz) takes place on Friday morning. If you have set aside challah or other chametz to eat on Shabbat, remember to exclude (in your mind) such chametz when the rest is nullified.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A TI Journey From Good to Great

BY JIM PERLMUTTER, TIKVAT ISRAEL CO-PRESIDENT



Despite the vexing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we all can take pride in what we have been able to accomplish over the past year. We were one of the first congregations in the metropolitan area to receive a PPP loan, thanks to the proactive efforts of treasurer Stuart Lempert. This enabled us to pay our ECC staff and keep

the center operating when other early childhood centers were shutting down. (Stuart is again taking proactive steps to position us for a second PPP loan).

In the fall, we also:

- revised sections of our bylaws, thanks to a stellar bylaws committee led by Sherrie Krauser;
- developed a comprehensive human resources manual for our staff under the overall guidance of Alan Apter, our VP for administration, and the work of a dedicated committee;
- formed a COVID-19 Advisory Committee that has closely followed CDC and state and local guidance, always putting the health and safety of our congregants as the highest priority (pikuach nefesh); and
- delivered virtual High Holiday services that far exceeded all expectations, thanks to the hard work of a High Holiday Task Force under the capable leadership of Sam Gilston, working closely with Rabbi Israel and Cantor Helzner.

In addition, we have offered numerous kosher drive-thru dining options headed by Roz Kram, and provided a variety of exciting Women's Network programming under the leadership of Janice Balin. Thanks to the vision and creativity of Sally Kram, congregants have enjoyed stimulating virtual educational programming that has consistently received rave reviews.

Washington Jewish Week recognized our innovative seven-week African American History program led by Richard Montgomery's award-winning teacher, Jerome Price, and highlighted the role Rabbi Israel played in bringing this groundbreaking initiative to our congregation.

And still to come: We can all look forward to a virtual intimate evening of song with Neshama Carlebach on March 13 at 8 p.m., and a celebration of Cantor Helzner's 36 years of devoted service to our congregation on June 6. Stay tuned for details.

While there is so much to be proud of, there is still a lot of work to be done to chart a sustainable course over the next 5-10 years. To this end, we have formed a strategic planning committee to help us develop measurable short- and long-term goals. The committee is comprised of nine congregants representing new and long-time members chosen with consideration to gender balance and age diversity.

There was consensus among committee participants that this effort should be led by a younger member. We are pleased that Rachel Lipsy, who possesses strong organizational skills and has been instrumental in initiating and growing our newly formed millennial group, has agreed to chair the committee. We anticipate a six-month process that will hopefully provide the synagogue with a pathway to a vibrant and sustainable future.

If we are to continue providing the full range of services we have been accustomed to, we strongly encourage those of you who are in arrears with your dues obligations to take active steps to become current. If there are special circumstances, please contact the office to work out a dues adjustment plan.

We also need your help filling vacant chairperson positions for our Ways and Means and Social Action committees and our Hazak program. These activities have been ably led in the past, but they are in need of new leadership. We also need a Membership and Engagement Committee chair who can help us devise an effective retention and growth strategy. Finally, we would like to relieve Sally Kram of the day-to-day running of the Adult Education Committee while she is also serving on the board as vice president of programming.

While we have so many congregants to thank for all our successes during this difficult time, we are in need of more volunteers to help us make the journey from good to great! If you have benefited from any of the many wonderful programs and activities that have been offered, please consider contributing your time and energy to help us accomplish our mission.

Please join us in our journey. I assure you that there will be reward in knowing you have participated on our path to greatness!

May we continue to go from strength to strength.

STRATEGIC PLANNING INITIATIVE LIFTS OFF WITH DIVERSE COMMITTEE MAKEUP

BY JIM PERLMUTTER, CO-PRESIDENT, TIKVAT ISRAEL

We are pleased to announce the formation of a Strategic Planning Committee that will help chart Tikvat Israel's future direction over the next 5-10 years.

The committee's makeup represents a cross-section of the congregation. Members who have agreed to serve are Rabbi Marc Israel, Ron Rabin, Judy Stern, Roni Silverstein, Rachel Lipsy, Paul Kutner, Melissa Apter, Micah Cowan, Bob Silverstein and Barry Lipsy. The latter two have prior strategic planning experience. Ron and Bob are past presidents of TI, and Judy is a member of our board of directors. Roni is a retired school principal and educator.

Rachel, Paul, Melissa and Micah represent our newer and younger members and they will help provide the committee with perspective on the interests and needs of new and young members and young non-members in the surrounding areas.

While we went through a similar effort nine years ago, what makes this different is we have a rabbi and a governing board strongly committed to taking follow-up action to implement the plan.

Rachel, who was instrumental in the formation of our synagogue's new millennial group and who has helped grow three different organizations, has volunteered to chair the strategic planning effort. It is expected that the work of the committee to produce short- and long-term measurable goals will take about six months.

WOMEN'S NETWORK

Staying Busy During the Pandemic

BY BRENDA BROOKS, WOMEN'S NETWORK TREASURER

Going into 2021 and moving forward, the Women's Network has offered and will continue to offer lots of stimulating and diverse activities in a virtual environment. We use our imaginations and creative energy to plan and conduct programs that appeal to a variety of interests.

Spring events include a book discussion on March 14 and a Rosh Chodesh program on March 21. In the first event, we will discuss Helena Rubinstein: The Woman Who Invented Beauty by Michele Fitoussi. It is an interesting account of a Polish woman brought up in a poor Orthodox family, whose scientific approach to beauty products led to her success. This extraordinary individual started with nothing but a belief in the strength of women, and created a cosmetic empire, giving it her name. The book discussion will be led expertly by Sara Harris.

(See story on page 10 about upcoming book discussion events.)

The March 21 Rosh Chodesh program will be conducted by Roberta Helzner. Its focus will be on exploring spirituality through women's eyes. Using stories written by different women in the book Four Centuries of Jewish Women's Spirituality, Helzner will guide us on personal journeys through reflections and conversations. We will search for opportunities to fill our heart and soul, while finding ways to replenish ourselves.

She will advise us on ways to find personal time for enhancing our creativity and better filling the "journals" of our lives. Helzner will encourage us to use our thoughts and emotions as a roadmap, to move forward and become the strong women that we all can be.



Judean Memorial Gardens

Traditional Jewish Burial Service Tikvat Israel owns a section of sites and perpetual care in the heart of at Judean, with special completion Montgomery County, MD. Come discounts available to members. and browse the hundreds of To reserve your sites please beautiful trees, gardens, call Sam Freedenberg at works of art, and award-Tikvat Israel: 301-762-7338. winning Memorial Chapel. Cemetery Tel. 301-384-1000



During its January program, Women's Network members Fortuna Scheige (top right) and Janice Balin joined others at a Rosh Chodesh program on meditation led by cantor Israel Maya, a certified hypnotherapist.

Information on April programs will be included in the weekly Women's Network e-newsletter and in B'kesher.

Looking backward, our first event in January was a lively book discussion on *The Yellow Bird Sings*, a special Holocaust story by author Jennifer Rosner, which reflected her personal thoughts and experiences, and elicited thoughtful comments among the program participants.

On Jan. 17, Women's Network hosted a Rosh Chodesh Shevat program on meditation led by Israel Maya, a Sephardic cantor and certified hypnotherapist based in Florida. In this virtual program, we learned techniques to shift our mindset from negative to positive, while putting aside worrisome thoughts and lifting our spirits. An engaging question and answer session focused on the physical and psychological benefits of meditation.

We opened our February events with a virtual program on food called "Raw, Roasted, Braised and Grilled - Eat Your Veggies," led by congregant Debbie Amster. She is a graduate of the Institute for Integrative Nutrition and is a certified holistic health coach. Amster demonstrated vegetable recipes and invited participants to cook with her at home if they desired or to just observe her cooking. Recipes were provided prior to the event.

The second scheduled activity in February involved congregant Avy Ashery, a Judaic artist and media graphic designer. His many accomplishments include the design for Tikvat Israel's ark doors. Ashery was to speak about cultural diversity though art and his interest in spreading broader awareness about Jewish cultural literacy.

We always welcome newcomers to our events. If our programs are of interest to you, please contact Brenda Brooks for membership information at bbrooksx@gmail.com.

Book Chats Draw Enthusiasm Among Women's Network



Bobbi Gorban moderated group discussion in January of *The Yellow Bird Sings* by Jennifer Rosner.

Works of fiction and non-fiction are attracting enthusiastic book discussants at a series staged by the Women's Network in 2020-21.

Bobbi Gorban took the lead at the most recent session in mid-January with more than a dozen participants discussing *The Yellow Bird Sings* by Jennifer Rosner.

Three books remain on the book club schedule, all on Sunday mornings:

- March 14, 10 a.m., Helena Rubinstein: The Woman Who Invented Beauty by Michele Fitoussi. Discussion leader is Sara Harris.
- May 2, 10 a.m., On Division by Goldie Goldbloom. Discussion leader is Paula Kasper.
- July 25, 10 a.m., *I Want You to Know We're Still Here* by Esther Safran Foer. Discussion leader is Anna Levy.

All discussions take place via Zoom videoconferencing on the shul's regular channel. Anyone who is a teenager or older is welcome to participate in the lively book chats.



Congregant Roni Silverstein was one of those who shared observations at the January book chat.

Mmmm, Mmmm Good!

There's an obvious downside to a virtual cooking demonstration.

Debbie Amster dished up some delectable-looking recipes in her home kitchen in front of about 30 members of the Women's Network on Feb. 7. Unfortunately, none of them had the chance to smell or taste the edibles.

During a network program titled "Raw, Roasted, Braised and Grilled (Eat Your Veggies!)," Amster cooked up a meal of grilled portobello mushrooms and grilled onions to eat in place of a hamburger. She mixed sautéed red peppers and balsamic vinegar plus roasted cabbage and celery salad as side dishes.

The program took place on the shul's Zoom channel.

Amster is a graduate of the Institute for Integrative Nutrition and a certified holistic health coach. In her professional practice, Nourishing Possibilities, she runs cooking classes and offers seminars virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Presumably, Amster and her husband Mike, who played video camera operator during the 90-minute cooking demo, got to enjoy the fruits of her culinary labors following the session.



Debbie Amster looks over the vegetable ingredients on her kitchen counter.



The final product: a fresh veggie burger ready for consumption.

Red peppers being sauteed on Debbie Amster's grill.



Finding Your Voice with Toastmasters

BY BRENDA BROOKS, HOPEFUL COMMUNICATORS TOASTMASTERS

Many readers of the *Tikvat Israel Bulletin* have noticed the calendar listings for Toastmasters over recent years. However, you might not know much about our club, the Hopeful Communicators.

We meet twice a month, normally on the second and fourth Thursdays at 8 p.m. Before the pandemic, meetings took place in the synagogue. We now meet virtually through Zoom. Contact me for the Zoom link at bbrooksx@gmail.com.

Members of the Hopeful Communicators Toastmasters club include individuals from the synagogue and the wider community. We welcome everyone and encourage visitors. During our meetings, you will have the opportunity to improve your speaking and listening skills in a relaxed and supportive environment. We tell interesting stories and inspire each other to become better communicators in an informal and supportive setting.

True Stories to Deliver Twice in '21

BY JOHN MELMED



John Melmed

True Stories started off the year with a bang on Feb. 21 with a show featuring outstanding professional storyteller Geraldine Buckley.

During her Zoom presentation organized by Tikvat Israel, she related her true story about her experience during the

COVID-19 pandemic while working in a virus-ravaged community hospital.

Mark your calendar for a huge event in Tikvat Israel's 8-year series of storytelling rapture. On Sunday, Nov. 21, Donald Davis, a professional storyteller, will demonstrate his famous storytelling skills live, either via Zoom or on the Tikvat Israel stage, depending on public health conditions this fall.

Davis is widely regarded as the most famous and acclaimed storyteller in America. Hailing from the mountains of North Carolina, he tells tales that reflect his experiences of life in Appalachia and small-town America, of people he interacted with and of things that shaped his life. His experiences taught him about what's important and he infuses these lessons in his stories, warming hearts. His ability to build characters leaves a picture in your mind so clear that you believe you have actually met these people. Each time he ends a story, you feel uplifted, often with a tear in your eye and wishing that his story had not come to an end.



Participants in Toastmasters have opportunities to improve public speaking skills in a supportive environment.

A membership in Toastmasters opens up new opportunities for building confidence and self-expression. You will be part of an international organization that has members in 145 countries and has been teaching communication and leadership skills since 1924.

If you're looking to try something new in 2021, visit one of the Hopeful Communicators Toastmasters club meetings. You will be enthusiastically welcomed by our friendly members. Further information is available on our club website at https://hopefulcommunicators.toastmastersclubs.org or by contacting me.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Spring Arrival Focuses Attention on Holidays

BY SHERI BROWN, DIRECTOR, EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

January and February were cold and, at times, snowy months, but the ECC is always filled with warmth and love.

Building on the success of our Thanksgiving food drive, we collected pajamas in conjunction with PJ *Havdalah* (and donated them to the Interfaith Works Clothing Center) and collected more food in conjunction with our *Purim* celebration. We celebrated *Tu B'Shevat* "separately together," the way we do things during this COVID-affected year. We tried a variety of foods that are grown in Israel (with the exception of any nuts as we are a nut-free school).

The annual PJ (as in pajama) *Havdalah* program on Saturday, Jan. 9 was led by Rabbi Israel, ECC music teacher Ellie Schuchman and Sheri Brown. Families sang, danced, listened to stories



ECC music teacher Ellie Schuchman brought along her guitar for the PJ *Havdalah* program for the ECC pupils.

and experienced *Havdalah* from their homes. Each child had brought home a *Havdalah* bag with a candle, grape juice and *besamim* bag so they could participate as a family. The program was co-sponsored by PJ Library of Greater Washington.

We are excited about spring's arrival soon and are busy planning our class *seders* and *Yom Ha'atzmaut* activities.

As my tenure draws to a close (see story, below), the synagogue is working hard to find a new director. The ECC is run



Shabbat Sing has been conducted on the synagogue's patio to keep appropriate distancing between ECC classes.

in a collaborative fashion, so educators will continue their fine work seamlessly. Marcie Nadler, who has been appointed assistant director, continues to work closely with me to ensure day-to-day operations continue without interruption.

We are excited to announce that registration for 2021-2022 is well underway, and we encourage you to let your friends know about the flexible scheduling options the ECC offers. All registration materials can be found on the ECC website.



Rabbi Israel shows off besamim during an ECC Havdalah program.

ECC Director Leaving Post in June

Sheri Brown will retire as director of the Early Childhood Center at the end of this school year in June.

Brown is relocating from the D.C. area to become a full-time grandmother with two young grandchildren, Elia and Ari, who live with their parents in San Diego, Calif.

During her tenure over the past three years, she helped the school grow both with respect to schedule offerings and professional standards, drawing praise from both licensing/accrediting bodies and ECC families.

Under extremely difficult and shifting conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, Brown ensured that TI's ECC was among the first to re-open last June as soon as the county granted permission. In the intervening months, her leadership helped TI to keep the school open nearly continuously.

"Much credit also goes to the extraordinary staff that she has

retained and hired, and it is our intention to do everything we can to retain them following Sheri's departure," said TI Co-Presidents Warren Berger and Jim Perlmutter in a prepared statement in January. "We are grateful to Sheri for her commitment to work with the synagogue leadership to ensure a smooth transition to a new director."

The co-presidents said that Marcie Nadler has been appointed assistant director of the ECC.

The ECC is a vital part of the Tikvat Israel community, and finding a new director will be a top priority of the synagogue board.

"We will solicit and welcome input from congregants as well as ECC parents to determine the most important criteria for our next director. We also commit to maintaining regular communication during this process to keep you informed of its progress," Berger and Perlmutter added, while expressing "our deep appreciation for all of [Sheri's] hard work and extraordinary commitment over the past three years."

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Synagogue Past President Named School Psychologist of the Year

BY JAY P. GOLDMAN, EDITOR, TIKVAT ISRAEL BULLETIN



Jonathan Solomon

Jonathan Solomon, longtime Tikvat Israel member and a recent co-president, has been accorded one of the top professional honors in his field. He has been named School Psychologist of the Year in Howard County, Md.

He was the 2021 choice of the Howard County School Psychologists Association, which received 16 nominations for the annual recognition.

The School Psychologist of the Year Award recognizes an outstanding school psychologist whose practices align with the National Association for School Psychology Practice Model. According to school district communication director Joan Fox, nominees must provide a full range of psychological services, support students' academic, social, physical and mental well-being, use data-based decision making, possess strong leadership qualities, embrace diversity, collaborate with home, school and community stake-holders and perform their job in an exemplary manner.

Solomon has been employed for 19 years by the Howard County Public School System, working with students in grades K-12. He is in his third year at Oakland Mills High School in Columbia, Md. Over more than four decades, he has worked for eight public school districts in five states as a school psychologist.

Now on the high school level, Solomon's principal duties have been amplified for the past 12 months, ever since school buildings had to close during the COVID-19 pandemic, sending teaching and learning into virtual mode. He has consulted remotely with students and staff members on adjusting to the new educational delivery system while providing psychological support from his home, 20 miles from the school's address.

Solomon is one of approximately 75 school psychologists in the Howard County system.

"I think we have an outstanding, talented staff," he told the *Tikvat Israel Bulletin* in an exclusive interview. "Probably 25 percent of my colleagues could have just as well been selected for this recognition."

One interesting coincidence: Cheree Price, the wife of Jerome Price, the Richard Montgomery HS teacher leading TI's African American history course in January and February, is the 2021 Montgomery County School Psychologist of the Year. She is the school psychologist at Rockville High School and Meadow Hall Elementary School, both located in Tikvat Israel's neighborhood.

The Howard County School Psychologists Association will nominate Solomon for the Maryland School Psychologist of the Year Award. State winners then are nominated for the National Association of School Psychologists Award.

BORROWED BOOKS

If you have a need for a *Siddur* or a *Chumash* for use with TI's virtual *Shabbat* and daily *minyanim*, please contact the shul office to make arrangements for a scheduled pickup.

If you still possess a copy of the High Holidays prayer book belonging to the synagogue, please make arrangements for its return immediately.

Mazel Tov to...

Lynne Stein Benzion and Ira Benzion, whose son Daniel married Sonia Laurie on Dec. 31 in Chapel Hill, N.C.

Roz and Ted Kram, who celebrated their 35th anniversary on Jan. 5.

Kate Jennes-Kahn and Steve Kahn on the birth of their first grandchild, Alfred (Alfie) Maurice Peskin, born in Australia to parents Dara and Ben Peskin.

Congregational Condolences

Condolences to those Tikvat Israel members who lost loved ones in recent months (mid-December to mid-February):

Larry Gorban on the loss of his brother, Jay Stefan Gorban.

Barbara Milenky on the loss of her brother, Stephen Feigin.

Joel Shulman on the loss of his longtime companion, Glenda Goodman.

Alma Steinberg on the loss of her sister, Rena Cora Block.

Tikvat Israel Congregation

2200 Baltimore Road Rockville, MD 20851 תקות ישראק מסוג 1317 (2017)

Marc D. Israel, Rabbi Howard D. Gorin, Rabbi Emeritus fax (301) 424-4399

Rochelle Helzner, Cantor

AUTHORIZATION TO SELL CHAMETZ – 5781 (2021)

KNOW ALL PEOPLE BY THESE PRESENTS: that I do hereby make and appoint Rabbi Marc D. Israel my true and lawful representative to act on my behalf, to sell all *chametz* owned and possessed, knowingly or unknowingly, as stated in the *Torah* and defined by the sages of Israel (e.g. *chametz*, *chashash chametz* – suspect *chametz* and all kinds of *ta'arovet chametz* – *chametz* mixtures; also, *chametz* that tends to harden and to adhere to the surface of pots, pans, or other cooking or eating utensils, of whatsoever nature, and to lease all places wherein the aforementioned owned or possessed by me may be found, especially in the premises located at the address(es) below. Rabbi Israel has the full authority and power to sell said *chametz* and to lease said places wherein said *chametz* may be found, upon terms and conditions as discretion dictates. Rabbi Israel has the full power and authority to assign or appoint a substitute or substitutes to act with all the same powers and authority invested in the rabbi, and I hereby ratify and confirm all that Rabbi Israel or a rabbinic substitute lawfully does or causes to be done by virtue of these presents. Excepting the hametz I have set aside for consumption on Shabbat (until March 27, 2021, at 11:07 am), this transaction will be in effect for the entirety of Pesach, beginning at sundown on the previous day, Friday, March 26, 2021, and continuing through Sunday, April 4, 2021, at 8:20 pm.

And to this I hereby affix my signature on this	day of	, 2021.
Name (print)		
Address		
Signature		
(Please put addresses for any additional homes and/or e	offices you own or leas	e on the back of this page,
NOTE: When selling <u>chametz</u> , it is customary to give a You may make your check out to Tikvat Israel and bring prefer, you may check the "Bill Me" option and bring y form to us:	g it or mail it with you	r form to the office. If you
Donation \$		
Check No <i>or</i> Bill Me		
Please return to the synagogue office no later than 12:00 n filled out and signed electronically and emailed back	•	· ·

A Friendly, Participatory, and Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue Affiliated With USCJ www.tikvatisrael.org

You can also fill out this form online at www.tikvatisrael.org/chametz

ISRAEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HASBARA: Focus on Israeli Innovation

(#24 in a Series)

BY HARVEY T. KAPLAN

In an exciting development in Israeli medical technology, vision was recently restored to a grandfather from Haifa through an artificial cornea implant. Jamal Furani became the first patient to receive the KPro artificial cornea, a new creation from CorNeat Vision in Ra'anana, Israel.

Furani, a 78-year-old Arab Israeli, had lost most of his vision over the past few decades, and four prior attempts at implants had failed. Just one day after the procedure, Furani was able to identify numbers on a vision chart and recognize family members. His doctor, Irit Bahar, chief of opthalmology at the Rabin Medical Center in Petah Tikva, was extremely pleased with the results.



Jamal Furani reads the vision chart, surrounded by Dr. Irit Bahar and KPro inventor Dr. Gilad Litvin

The inventor of the KPro, Dr. Gilad Litvin, noted: "[We have taken] something totally synthetic, that has no cells or tissue, and implant[ed] it in the wall of the eye so that it essentially becomes part of the body."

For more details, visit corneat.com or read the following article: https://bit.ly/3cWvcNN.

Did you know that the fruit juice industry had been experiencing sizeable losses due to spoilage of products caused by ACB (alicyclobacillus acidoterrestris bacterium)? The Israel Institute of Technology (Technion in Haifa) estimates the losses at about \$32 million annually—the result of bacteria both in the ground and in fruit trees. Because it cannot use pasteurization in fruit juices and also preserve nutritional value and taste, PepsiCo has been seeking a creative solution to the problem.

Working with the European food consortium EIT Food, Technion students and faculty participated in the MicroBiome-Push competition. The team they established, called the Microbes, worked with mentors at the Technion and with PepsiCo in studying ACB, and they were successful in identifying a bacteriophage—a devouring virus—that attacks and destroys ACB cells. Through the use of this inexpensive solution and without resorting to genetic engineering, it is possible to reduce the need for preservatives as well as reduce juice spoilage. This has been shown to be safe and not in violation of any Jewish or Islamic dietary laws (i.e., kashrut or halal). Professor Marcelle Machluf, dean of the Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Engineering at the Technion, shared her belief that "International projects such as this are the very essence of the Faculty and its way of teaching future generations to think outside the box, to be entrepreneurial and to broaden the knowledge we are able to provide in the classroom."



Shown are students on the Microbes Team, which nabbed first prize in a European contest, along with mentors and Dean Machluf (seated).

Technion is also pursuing avenues of research to arrest the spread of the COVID-19 virus. At the beginning of the current 2020-2021 academic year, the school instituted multi-layered protection on campus: [1] creating an "Open and Safe Campus" by requiring mask-wearing and social distancing; [2] monitoring sewage (i.e., evaluating campus wastewater to detect outbreaks of COVID-19); and [3] using a new test to diagnose and track campus cases of the virus.

The test was developed by Professor Naama Geva-Zatorsky (Faculty of Medicine) and is called NaorCov19. It rapidly diagnoses the virus from a heated saliva sample. If the sample changes from red to yellow, the test is positive. According to the American Technion Society in New York, the test "takes about 40 minutes to process, and dozens or even hundreds of samples can be processed simultaneously. Thanks to its simplicity and rapidity, the test will eventually be suitable for home use and for rapid testing in workplaces, airports, schools, and elsewhere."

Another Israeli innovation appears to have a great deal of promise in neutralizing the germs in a room or in a vehicle. Developed by the Israeli lighting company Juganu, J.Protect lighting fixtures are effective in inactivating many pathogens. In brief, ultraviolet rays (UVA, UVB and UVC) are effective in neutralizing bacteria and viruses. Juganu began with a new streetlight system that has a capability of doubling as a public Wi-Fi network. Then unexpectedly the effort took off in a new direction under COVID-19, when it was suggested to use Juganu's overhead lighting indoors to offer continuous protection against pathogens.

The safest part of ultraviolet light, UVA, is generally activated on a continuous basis in Juganu lights. UVC is more effective against pathogens but it is hazardous to people, so it is activated only when the space is vacant. Appropriate safety measures are used, and it is possible that the lighting might be employed in locations such as hospitals, schools, hotels, restaurants, malls, airports, etc., to

suppress both aerosol and surface-attached pathogens. Find additional explanatory material at: https://bit.ly/3a61Fzv.

J.Protect light fixtures in use at a skin care facility in Florida.



Tikvat Israel Remembers With Respect Those Whose Yahrzeits Occur From 17 Adar through 18 Nissan – March 2021

March 1 17 Adar

Carl Boden Friedrich Breit Sigmund Brown Erna Casper Murray Grand Abraham Kabot Freda Kagan Milton Moss Gerda Reich Isadore Schwartz Harry Weinstein

March 2 18 Adar

Stephen Edwards Frances First Helen Gross Rebecca Kauffman Rose Ludwin Colin Melmed Susan Meyers David Stuart Pearl Morris Polansky Jacob Sage Fannie Salzer Lena Sandler

March 3 19 Adar

Herman Hamburg Maurice Krause Gloria Levinrad Tillie Lieberman Joseph Salzer Dudley Schwartz

March 4 20 Adar

Marguerite Eldredge Renne Katz Abraham Isaac Levy William Raucher Benjamin Rosenthal Mae Shulman Marlene Shulman Rabbi Jerome Weistrop

March 5 21 Adar

Sarah Bass Tillie Beard Theresa Kabik Bernard Levine Phyllis Newman Mary Nussbaum Martin Robinson Melvin Salzman Daniel Howard Steiner Anna Zipin

March 6 22 Adar

Sylvia Abramson Sylvia Eiserike Edna Eisner Clem Fishman Benjamin Lederman Paul Margolies Howard Paul Morrison Pauline Rosenblatt Nyusya Sapozhnikova Pearl Simon Ben A. Williamowsky

March 7 23 Adar

Linda Beaumont Isadore Chait Anita S. Herman Albert Katz Charlotte Zeidman

March 8 24 Adar

Lillie Becker Robert Davidson Ruth Davis Morris Freedman Miriam Bobys Green Henry J. Land Minnie Parzow Max Steinberg

March 9 25 Adar

David Ray Cheslock
Pearl Gottesman
David Lefkowitz
Sarah Robinson
Sophie Schwartz

March 10 26 Adar

Helen Cohen Samuel Dicker Annie Edlowitz Burnell Goodman Samuel Halperin Mark Kabik Jesse Kaiser Betty Mae Kramer Esther Lerner Donald Linden William Myers

March 11 27 Adar

Albert Bressler Shirley M. Caplan Richard Cohen Alexander Diamond Emil Lentchner Bella Dinter Lieberman Edward Turkanis

March 12 28 Adar

Carl Fishman
Beatrice Friedman
Irving Garfinkle
Thomas Gorban
Samuel Kaplan
Belle Kobrinetz
Marion Laken
David Sills
Selma Winson

March 13 29 Adar

Louis Auerbach Bernard N. Flax Edward Krick Meyer Kushner Donald Lewis Sidney Migdal Louis Newman Henry Oppenheim Sylvia Panitz Freda Shevitz

March 14 1 Nissan

Leonard E. Cohen Judith Weinstein

March 15 2 Nissan

Lea Chernoff
Samuel Holland
Simon Katz
Lena Levine
Mortimer Ratnoff
Edna Simai
Harriette Solowey
Ethel Toney
Judith Weinstein
Ida Weisbord

March 16 3 Nissan

Maurice Gabes Ruth Gilston Lottie Greenwood Ernest Gruenfeld Emma Klein Mark Morrison Leroy Moses Rose Silverman

March 17 4 Nissan

Tillie Grossman Eugene Katz Edward J. Raine Minnie Sakoff Esther Salit

March 18 5 Nissan

Lillian Brecker Pearl Bredt Ronna Esther Butterworth Leah Feinsilber David Krauss Edward Rabin Harry Silverman Beatrice "Binnie" West

March 19

6 Nissan Sara Berman

Hyman Grand Alice Katz Abraham Moskowitz Isadore Romm Herman Schrier Pauline Seiler Rhoda Zuskin

March 20 7 Nissan

Hannah Barrack Saul Ehrlich Matthew Kessler Doris Lampert Anna Rom Bertha Seiler Reuven Shacham Helen Shulman Samuel Wagman

March 21 8 Nissan

Daisy C. Jones
Harriet Cohen
Sylvia Copaken
Elizabeth Grishman
Martin Kronenberg
Carolyn Wermiel
Sophie Zaccagni

March 22 9 Nissan

Ann Eisler Samuel Frank Salome Gardsbane Louis Goldstein Nathan Markovitz Isaac Silverman

March 23 10 Nissan

Jacqueline Cohen Jacqueline Cohen Feliciano Cruz Gerhard Gruenfeld Anne R. Kaiser Herman Markovitz Ruth Schimmel

March 24

11 Nissan Lina Hoffman Beatrice Klein Jacob Levi Molly Oppenheim

March 25 12 Nissan

Ida Baroff Louis Bernstein Gerald Lempert Patricia Teller Sandra Tolpin Sonia Trachtenberg

March 26 13 Nissan

Rachel Brown Ann Engel Marjorie Kaiz Offer Morris Pike Sam Prince Samuel Solsky

March 27 14 Nissan

Henry Goldberg Jacob Goldstein Dora Kishner Akhtar Saadian Michael Sanders Michael C. Shapiro

March 28 15 Nissan

Edward Lankin Tillie Pressman Harry Shooman Kalman Sokolow Sol Wachovsky

March 29 16 Nissan

Stanley Berger
Harry G. Blackstone
Joseph Burdoo
Samuel Grossman
Irving Kaplan
David Klein
Ida Licht
Irwin Lowenfeld

March 30 17 Nissan

Dayna Leslie Dubin Benjamin Fleitell Joseph Gordon Harriet Raine Dorothy M. Robinson Rose Stahler

March 31 18 Nissan

Edith Adler Irving Curchack Jennie Kornhauser Leonard Mitchel

Tikvat Israel Remembers With Respect Those Whose Yahrzeits Occur From 19 Nissan through 18 Iyar – April 2021

April 1 19 Nissan

Aaron Feinmark Samuel Nathan Leavitt Rita Shetzich

April 2 20 Nissan

Alfred Cowan Ray Kramer Gesumaria Dianna Hamburg Jeanne Krause Jacob (Jack) Matathias Fannie Saltzman Sol Schwartz Helen Sharlot Samuel Shull Bernice Singer Albert Stutz

April 3 21 Nissan

Benjamin Bogage Stephen Gary Mary Ruth Glucksman Aaron Polansky

APRIL 4 22 NISSAN

Lorraine Cohen Jenny Fierman Susana Nardea Gorelick Charles Haberman Helen Haberman Yaakov Havakuk Samuel Taylor

April 5 23 Nissan

Irv Apatoff Nathan Bloom Norman Goldman Isaac Kaplan Nadia Schuchman Jackie Tievy Daniel Wexler

April 6 24 Nissan

Samuel Appel Diane Finkelstein Ruthanne Osheroff

APRIL 7 25 NISSAN

Lenore Kline Bain Maurice Levy

April 8 26 Nissan

Dorothy Daffe Joseph Glucksman David Leise Faye Raff Nettie Waltzer Joseph Zalen

April 9 27 Nissan

Ellis Goldman Julius Lifshutz Meyer Puner Stuart Schaffman Cora Weil Oscar Zaccagni

APRIL 10 28 NISSAN

Allan Beck Sarah Cowan Tillie Grand Evelyn Spector Marcelle Tangy Anna Teitelbaum Gertrude S. Van Aalten

APRIL 11 29 NISSAN

Esther Duker Pollack Sidney Polster

APRIL 12 30 NISSAN

Esther Engelstein Evelyn B. Kaplan Ethel Melmed Irving Suskin Paul Waltzer Harry Yudkoff

APRIL 13 1 Iyar

David Fischer Herbert Horowitz Theodore Perlman Raula Stern Joseph Wagman Gary Yudkoff

APRIL 14 2 Iyar

Sarah Bachman Isidore Cohen Louis Fainberg Harold Gorschman Morris Sirmai Hilda Klein Vinokur

APRIL 15 3 Iyar

Linda Bressler Lily Rose Kerman Frances Penenburgh Stella Suskind Ethel White

APRIL 16 4 IYAR

Reva Bloch Hannah Edelman Esther May Feinsilber Dr. Herman Flax Celia Linden Carol Miller Sylvia Prosnit Jacob Sweet

APRIL 17 5 IYAR

Celia Bressler Allan Danoff Sylvia Weinstein Levine Mona M. Martin William Mensh Gisela Reich Hilde Scheraga Bernard Stern

APRIL 18 6 Iyar

Herba DelMonte Nathan Kerson Harry Lifshutz Toba Ohr Harry Sneiderman

April 19 7 Iyar

Max Bloom Marilyn Bloomberg Nachman Burdett Ilan Cohen Ethel Freedenberg Vincent Gesumaria Ruth Goldman Ruth Jacobs Samuel Katz Hyman Kram Gela Marmor Samuel Marmor Libby Deutsch Rosen Mrs. Renel Silver Philip Wilchins Josephine Wottitzky

April 20 8 Iyar

Dora Alper George Boroff Abraham Friedman Morris Gateman Louis Harrison Yaakov Lichter Nachama Williamowsky

APRIL 21 9 Iyar

Pauline Dunsmore Samuel Lebowitz Max Regensteiner

APRIL 22 10 IYAR

Sarah Benesch
Leonard Ehrlich
David Fein
Selma Goldstein
Robert Kopp
Benjamin Lerner
Lillian Miller Murphy
Arthur Abraham Peisner
Ridia Phillips
Louis Rothlin

APRIL 23 11 Iyar

Joe Cohen Frank Einbinder Joseph S. Engel Meshel Kirschbaum Sylvia Krauser Samuel Lipofsky Howard C. Penenburgh

APRIL 24 12 Iyar

David Fessler Lane Charles Godley-Davis Edna Gorfine Helyn Mulitz Celia Shetzich Isadore Zeidman

April 25 13 Iyar

Eva Fessler
George Fine
Esther Goldman
Simone Lempert
William Prince
Edward E. Rosner
Max Shetzich
Harry Shulman
Arnold E. Silverman
Paul Trachtenberg
Rose Weiss
Nathan Wermiel

APRIL 26 14 Iyar

Bertha Feinberg Abramson Bertha Apt Edith Pressman Liba Scheige Bernard Yudkoff

APRIL 27 15 IYAR

Joseph Axelrod Sandra Baruch Belle B. Cooper Irving Goldman Hugh Hochberg Myrna Matheson

April 28 16 Iyar

Sadie Bauman Philip Danoff Hannah Herscovitz Lillian Horowitz Joan Kaiser Robert Lerner Margaret Levine Louis Saltzman

April 29 17 Iyar

Rae Danoff Harry Eisler Paul Grayson Anna Knopp Rebecca Podgor Eli Rubinstein

April 30 18 Iyar

Louis Grossman Samuel Nathan Kaplan Reba Leavitt Alexander Levine Andrew A. Levinrad Irene Miller Martin Miller William Shapiro



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The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following donations to the various funds of Tikvat Israel. The donor lists that follow reflect gifts received at the synagogue in December and January. If your donation during this time does not appear in the list, please contact the synagogue office at 301-762-7338.

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Robert Agus, my father, on his first yahrzeit. Thank you for being a warm and comforting community during my year of mourning, by Jessica Agus

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Continued on next page TIKVAT ISRAEL MARCH-APRIL 2021

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In honor of Cantor Rochelle Helzner's birthday by Martie Adelman and Marc Schneider In memory of Nurit Bider by Marilyn and Michael Greenwood and Family

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by Leah Pedoeim

by Kenneth Shapiro

In appreciation of all the volunteers at Tikvat Israel by Hilda Springer

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In appreciation of Rabbi Marc Israel by Hilda Springer

In appreciation of Sam Freedenberg by Hilda Springer

In appreciation of the ECC Staff and the Religious School Staff by Hilda Springer

In appreciation of the Officers and Board Members by Hilda Springer

In appreciation of Tikvat Israel by Mary and Neal Meyerson

In appreciation of Tikvat Israel by Craig Yokum In appreciation of Michele Eisenberg by Jack Exler II

In appreciation of Amy Matathias by Hilda Springer

In celebration of the wedding of Colleen Robinson and Ben Raucher by Nancy and Jonathan Solomon

In fond remembrance of my religious school days by Daniel Belkin

In honor of Cliff Fishman's birthday by Martie Adelman and Marc Schneider

In honor of Cliff Fishman's birthday by Betty Fishman

GENERAL FUND continued

In honor of Jay Goldman for receiving the "Friend of Scholastic Journalism" Award from the Journalism Education Association by Nancy and Jonathan Solomon

In honor of Jim Perlmutter by Handler/Grant Family

In honor of our daughter, Molly Schneider, who got a COVID vaccination (because she is a 2nd year medical school student), by Martie Adelman and Marc Schneider

In honor of Rabbi Marc Israel and his efforts to promote the African American History/Racial Justice Course by Barbara and Gene Ridberg

In honor of Ted Kram's birthday by Roz and Ted Kram

In honor of the birth of Lea Esther Brainin by Dorothy Adelman, Martie Adelman and Marc Schneider

In honor of the birth of our grandson, Dolev Israel Levine, by Sandy and Larry Levine

In honor of the original poem drafted by Michele Eisenberg for Cliff Fishman's birthday by Betty and Cliff Fishman

In memory of George Baroff by Hilda Springer In memory of George Baroff by Amy and Dan Matathias

In memory of Dorothy Benowitz by Helen and Steve Raucher

In memory of Rena Cora Block by Helen and Steve Raucher

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by Nancy and Rod Matheson

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In honor of the marriage of Sonia Laurie and Daniel Benzion by Lynne Stein Benzion and Ira Benzion

RABBI'S FUND

In honor of Dorothy Adelman's getting the COVID vaccination by Martie Adelman and Marc Schneider

In honor of Roni and Bob Silverstein's 49th anniversary by Roni and Bob Silverstein

In honor of Ted Kram's birthday by Roz and Ted Kram

In memory of Jay Stefan Gorban by Emmy Lou and Michael Glassman

In memory of Jay Stefan Gorban by Annie and Joel Kahn

In memory of Jay Stefan Gorban by Paula and Marvin Kasper

In memory of Joseph and Adele Rein by Joel Shulman and Family

In memory of Harry and Mae Shulman by Joel Shulman and Family

Continued on next page

DONATIONS, continued

REFUGEE FUND

To support our refugee family by Amy Sanders

SHELLY GOLDIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Sylvia Goldin by Bruce Goldin In memory of Nancy Strong by Bruce Goldin

TZEDAKAH CHAVURAH

In memory of Jay Stefan Gorban by Robbi and Larry Cohen



Heartfelt Thanks

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the TI family for the overwhelming support that you have shown Bobbi and me on the death of my brother Jay. From participating in our Zoom shiva to sending beautiful notes with personal messages of sympathy to donating to a variety of organizations, including TI, you have been there.

This is even more meaningful at a time when we are unable to be together to comfort each other. Many times I have heard people question why they should become members of a synagogue. They obviously have not experienced the feeling of being part of a warm and caring community. Once again, I can only say from the bottom of our hearts that your support has truly been a source of comfort during this sad time. L'shalom.

Larry Gorban

Gift Cards Appreciated

I wanted to reach out to say thank you for all the support from all the members of Tikvat Israel. We deeply appreciate you making such a big difference for our community. Around \$800 were collected in gift cards! Thank you to everyone.

> Reina Guerrero Community School Coordinator, Harmony Hills Elementary School, Linkages to Learning Silver Spring, Md.

Blood Donor Support

I wanted to thank you for your continued support throughout the pandemic. We could not meet our mission without your full support. We are continuing to do as much as possible to keep everyone safe.

The community continues to come out and donate. This is such a positive sight to see. I know we are doing everything we can to meet hospital and patient needs. We continue to have an urgent need for blood types O+, O- and B-. Please encourage those donors to come out and support blood drives in the weeks ahead.

I would like to ask for your support to host another blood drive in May.

> David Hull Account Representative, American Red Cross Blood Services, Fairfax, Va.



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March 2021 17 Adar - 18 Nissan 5781

Saturday	6 22 Adar 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Ki Tisa/Shabbat Parah) 6:47p Havdalah	13 29 Adar 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Vayakhel/Pekude/ Shabbat Hachodesh) 6:54p Havdalah 8:00PM Neshama Carlebach Online Concert	20 7 Nissan 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Vayikra) 8:01p Havdalah	14 Nissan Erev Pesach 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Tzav/Shabbat Hagadol) 8:08p Candle lighting	All events subject to change. Please read <i>B'Kesher</i> for the latest status.
Friday	\$ 21 Adar 8:00a Minyan 5:48p Candle lighting 6:00PM Kabbalat Shabbat	12 28 Adar 8:00a Minyan 5:55p Candle lighting 6:00PM <u>Kabbalat with</u> Guitar	19 6 Nissan 8:00a Minyan 6:00PM <u>Kabbalat Shabbat</u> 7:02p Candle lighting	26 13 Nissan 8:00a Minyan 6:00PM Kabbalat Shabbat 7:09p Candle lighting	
Thursday	20 Adar :00a Minyan :30p Minyan	11 27 Adar 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM <u>Toastmasters</u>	18	12 Nissan 12 Nissan 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM Toastmasters	
Wednesday	3 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	10 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	17 4 Nissan 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM How to Host a Zoom Seder	24 11 Nissan 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8	Hol Hamoed Pesach (Omer 3) 8:00AM Minyan 7:30PM Minyan 8:00PM Historical Legacy of Slavery.
Tuesday	2 8:00AM <u>Minyan</u> 7:30p Minyan	9 8:00AM <u>Minyan</u> 7:30p Minyan	16 3 Nissan 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	10 Nissan 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:15PM Board Meeting	30 17 Nissan Hol Hamoed Pesach (Omer 2) 8:00AM Minyan 7:30PM Minyan
Monday	1 8:00AM <u>Minyan</u> 7:30p Minyan	8 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM The 19 Amendment and African American Women	15 2 Nissan 8:00AM <u>Minyan</u> 7:30p Minyan	22 8:00AM <u>Minyan</u> 7:30p Minyan	16 Nissan Pesach II (Omer 1) 8:00AM Minyan 7:30PM Minyan 8:10p Havdalah
Sunday		7 23 Adar 9:00a Minyan 10:30AMReligious School 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM National Parks with Cliff Fishman	14 Rosh Chodesh 9:00a Minyan 10:00AMWomen's Network Book Group 10:30AMReligious School 7:30p Minyan	21 8 Nissan 9:00a Minyan 10:30AMReligious School 10:30AMWomen's Network Rosh Chodesh 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM Racial Justice Book Discussion	28 15 Nissan Pesach I 9:00AM Minyan 8:09p Candle lighting

April 2021 19 Nissan - 18 Iyar 5781

Saturday	3 21 Nissan Yom Tov Pesach (Omer 6) 10:00AMhabbat Services (Yom Tov) 8:15p Candle lighting	10 28 Nissan (Omer 13) 10:00AMhabbat Services (Parashat Shemini) 8:22p Havdalah	17 S Iyar (Omer 20) 10:00AMhabbat Services (Parashat Tazria- Metzora) 8:30p Havdalah	24 12 Iyar (Omer 27) 10:00AMhabbat Services (Parashat Achrei Mot/Kedoshim) 8:38p Havdalah	All events subject to change. Please read <i>B'Kesher</i> for the latest status.
Friday	2 20 Nissan Hol Hamoed Pesach (Omer 5) 8:00AMMinyan 6:00PMKabbalat Shabbat 7:15p Candle lighting	9 27 Nissan (Omer 12) 8:00a Minyan 6:00PMKabbalat Shabbat 7:22p Candle lighting	16 (Omer 19) 8:00a Minyan 6:00PMKabbalat Shabbat with Guitar 7:29p Candle lighting	23 (Omer 26) 8:00a Minyan 6:00PM <u>Kabbalat</u> Shabbat 7:36p Candle lighting	30 (Omer 33) 8:00a Minyan 6:00PM <u>Kabbalat</u> Shabbat 7:43p Candle lighting
Thursday	Hol Hamoed Pesach (Omer 4) 8:00AMMinyan 7:30PMMinyan	8 Yom HaShoah (Omer 11) 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PMToastmasters	15 Shar Shar Shar Shar Yom HaAtzmaut (Omer 18) 8:00a Minyan 9:00AMYom Ha'atzmaut at the ECC the ECC 7:30p Minyan	10 Iyar (Omer 25) 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PMToastmasters 8:00PMEnvironmental Justice	29 17 Iyar (Omer 32) 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan
Wednesday		7 25 Nissan (Omer 10) 8:00AMMinyan 7:30p Minyan	14 2 Iyar YomHazikaron (Omer 17) 8:00AMMinyan 7:30p Minyan	21 9 Iyar (Omer 24) 8:00AMMinyan 7:30p Minyan	28 16 Iyar (Omer 31) 8:00AMMinyan 7:30p Minyan
Tuesday		6 24 Nissan (Omer 9) 8:00AM <u>Minyan</u> 7:30p Minyan	13 Rosh Chodesh (Omer 16) 8:00AMMinyan 7:30p Minyan	20 8 Iyar Lag B'Omer (Omer 23) 8:00AMMinyan 7:30p Minyan	15 Iyar (Omer 30) 8:00AMMinyan 7:30p Minyan 8:15PMBoard Meeting
Monday	Tan !	5 23 Nissan (Omer 8) 8:00AM <u>Minyan</u> 7:30p Minyan	12 30 Nissan Rosh Chodesh (Omer 15) 8:00 AMMinyan 7:30p Minyan	19 7 Iyar (Omer 22) 8:00AM <u>Minyan</u> 7:30p Minyan	26 14 Iyar (Omer 29) 8:00AMMinyan 7:30p Minyan
Sunday		4 22 Nissan Yom Tov Pesach (Omer 7) 9:00AMMinyan 7:30PMMinyan 8:16p Havdalah	11 29 Nissan (Omer 14) 9:00a Minyan 10:30AMeligious School 7:30p Minyan	18 (Omer 21) 9:00a Minyan 10:30AMeligious School 7:30p Minyan	25 13 Iyar (Omer 28) 9:00a Minyan 10:30AMeligious School 7:30p Minyan



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Sock Puppets Sustain a Purim Tradition

Thirteen sock puppets accompanied by the deft handling of sisters Rachel and Shaina Lipsy, along with Rachel's fiance AJ Lanphere, kept alive a *Purim* tradition Feb. 25 at Tikvat Israel that had been managed for years by their late mother Karen Lipsy.

After the coronavirus pandemic eliminated any possibility of reprising the usual *Purim* show involving four-foot-tall stick puppets and a human cast of more than a dozen puppeteers and voice actors, the Lipsy sisters came up with a creative solution for a Zoom-based performance.

They asked the puppeteers from previous years to create new sock puppets for familiar *Purim* characters. The volunteers jumped into the task with glue guns blazing.

The more complicated nature of the virtual staging required additional show support. Those who previously lent their voices supplied tech support instead. The sisters pulled their dad Barry into helping with impromptu puppet-only rehearsals, and Cantor Helzner, the show's musical talent, was asked to play an expanded role.



Above: Sisters Shaina (left) and Rachel Lipsy in rehearsal for the sock puppet show on *Purim*. Below: An array of the sock puppets created for Tikvat Israel's 2021 show.

The puppet show will be livestreamed at https://tikvatisrael.org/live-streaming-from-the-tikvat-israel-rockville/. A recording of the puppet show will be posted on the synagogue's website and Facebook page following *Purim*.











