



Annual Elections, Budget Vote Await Congregants on June 27

BY JAY P. GOLDMAN, *TIKVAT BULLETIN* EDITOR



Tikvat Israel members will be asked to weigh in on some key decisions at the congregational meeting, to be conducted virtually on the synagogue's Zoom channel starting at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 27.

The key agenda items call for the election of new synagogue officers and board members and the approval of the synagogue's annual operating budget.

Shortly in advance of the Zoom-based meeting, all congregants can expect to receive details about the proposed FY '22 budget from treasurer Stuart Lempert. The budget is expected to be close in size to this year's \$1.34 million spending document. Lempert also will share information about the federal government's financial support to the shul during the pandemic year.

Information about the candidates who expect to fill the officer positions and multiple board of directors berths appears on pages 6-7.

The terms of current officers will end in June. All will have served an extra six months beyond the normal two-year period owing to the bylaws change. Departing the board will be Jim Perlmutter, a co-president; Ellen Kaminow, vice president for lifelong learning; Sherrie Krauser, recording secretary; and Lois Sbar, board member.

Melanie Grishman, immediate past president, served as chair of the nominations committee. She will preside over the elections at the congregational meeting.

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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.
(May)
6:30 p.m.
(June)

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'keshet* for varying start times). Shabbat morning services will be livestreamed.

CANDLELIGHTING TIMES

May 7	7:50 p.m.
May 14	7:56 p.m.
May 16	7:58 p.m. <i>Erev Shavuot</i>
May 17	9:03 p.m. <i>Shavuot</i>
May 21	8:03 p.m.
May 28	8:08 p.m.
June 4	8:13 p.m.
June 11	8:17 p.m.
June 18	8:20 p.m.
June 25	8:21 p.m.

Our Cantor, Then and Now

A celebration of Cantor Rochelle Helzner's distinguished 36 years of service to our congregation will be staged in a virtual affair, including a dinner pickup, on June 6. At left, she is shown with daughter Jessica, about 30 years ago. At right, the cantor leads a service remotely. Read event details and see more images of the cantor on **pages 4-5**.



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Paper Shredding in TI Parking Lot

Are you taking some of this time at home to do spring cleaning, including gathering up old personal files you no longer need?



Bring them to the synagogue on Sunday, June 13, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., for secure, on-site shredding by a commercial recycling company. This is both a public service and a fundraiser. A modest fee will be charged, with proceeds supporting Tikvat Israel.

The shredder can accommodate hanging files with metal reinforcers, as well as paper clips, binder clips and staples, but not hardcover books or three-ring binders.

A \$5 fee will be charged for each copier paper-sized box or grocery store-sized paper bag. Boxes and bags with handles are preferred. Please come to the shul parking lot with your boxes/bags in the trunk of your car or the back of your van and let your friends and neighbors know of this opportunity.

This event will be COVID-19 guideline compliant.

Place your fee in an envelope and attach it on the outside of the materials to be shredded. Vehicles should pull into a marked space with trunk doors popped open. A volunteer will remove the payment and take your documents to the truck for shredding. This eliminates the need for contact. Please wear a mask.

Volunteers are needed from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Contact Alan Apter at alaniapter@gmail.com if you can help for an hour or more.

ANNUAL ELECTION, continued from page 1

In addition to elections and budget approval, congregants will elect three trustees to the Tikvat Israel Fund for the Future and receive a report on the fund's status from Betty Fishman, chair of the body. Read about those board members on page 8.

This is the lone congregational meeting scheduled in 2021 under revised synagogue bylaws adopted a year ago by congregants. Those revisions eliminated the separate scheduling of officer/board elections that had been taking place every December, while budget approval always has taken place in June.

In-Person Worship Resumes On a Gradual Schedule with Limits

The synagogue has begun a slow transition to in-person services.

The COVID-19 Task Force and Reopening Committee, in consultation with the clergy, appears ready to authorize in-person services, starting with *Shabbat* mornings in the sanctuary, then moving to Sunday morning *minyan* and perhaps *Kabbalat Shabbat*. Mask wearing will be mandated of all worshippers, social distancing guidelines will be promoted, and indoor attendance will be limited.

Shabbat morning services on TI's back patio for up to 50 participants will continue to be offered.

Livestreaming of all *Shabbat* services and Zoom-based *minyanim* and other services will continue indefinitely.

Congregants should follow the latest developments through *B'kesher* and the synagogue listserve.

Tikvat Israel Fund For The Future

Commits \$25K To Shul's Budget

BY BETTY J. FISHMAN, CHAIR, FUND FOR THE FUTURE

For the third year in a row, the Tikvat Israel Fund for the Future has made a distribution to the congregation's operational budget. In this year of even greater-than-usual need, FFF transferred \$25,000 into the synagogue's general fund in April.

The fund last year transferred \$18,800 to the synagogue's operating budget and gave \$8,200 in 2019.

The FFF, created by the TI Board of Directors in 2012, supports the congregation's long-term financial security. It is an endowment fund, created with preservation of capital as the main objective. Only income generated by the investments will be used for the charitable purposes of the fund.

The body's trustees meet at least twice each year, once to determine whether the investments have produced enough to allow for a distribution to the congregation and a second time at an annual meeting (conducted in June) to report to the congregation.

Elections to the fund's board also occur at the June congregational meeting. This year, three trustees are standing for re-election to second three-year terms. They are Ellen Eisner, Rebecca Salon and Fortuna Scheige. (See related story, page 8.)

The FFF welcomes donations at any time. It is also possible to create a fund within the FFF for a specific purpose, starting with a pledge of at least \$10,000. There are two such "restricted" funds within the FFF, and together they constitute approximately 10 percent of the total investment. One restricted fund is designated for educational programming, and the other funds volunteer recognition/appreciation events at TI.

Donations made to FFF are deposited into the United Jewish Endowment Fund, a multi-million-dollar investment that combines accounts from more than 30 D.C.-area non-profit groups (Jewish congregations and communal organizations), along with several private endowment accounts.

As of April 7, following the disbursement to the congregation, the Fund for the Future's portion of that endowment totaled \$589,568.44.

The UJEF portfolio is designed to withstand fluctuations. Therefore, it doesn't gain as much as the lead indices when the market is doing well, but it doesn't lose as much when the market declines. Our portfolio gained 12 percent over 2020. (By comparison, the Dow Industrials Average ended the year up 9.7 percent.)

Budget Committee Sets Finances in Motion for FY '22

Congregants will be voting on June 27 on a synagogue operating budget for the new fiscal year that was produced by a committee of volunteers during the three months leading up to the vote.

The budget's bottom line wasn't yet set at *Bulletin* press time, but treasurer Stuart Lempert expects it will come close to the current year's \$1.34 million budget.

In addition to Lempert, the Tikvat Israel Budget Committee for 2021-22 consists of Alan Apter (vice president for administration), Ira Benzion, Irv Cohen, Jenny Gendel, Sam Gilston, Steve Raucher and Linden Wolf.

The committee is tasked with determining the financial needs to run the operational side of the congregation, including staffing, programming and building expenses for the 12-month period beginning July 1. The proposed budget is then presented to the TI Board of Directors for review prior to its presentation for discussion and voting at the 2021 congregational meeting.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE FUND FOR THE FUTURE

A contribution to FFF supporting the future of Tikvat Israel can be made in these ways:

- In cash, by check or credit card;
- A designation in your will;
- Through a transfer from your IRA or other retirement account;
- Through an annuity; and
- By donating stock or real estate.

The first way is the easiest and the quickest, providing an immediate boost to the FFF bottom line. But perhaps you don't have extra cash at the moment, beyond what you want to give for TI's immediate needs. We understand! Tikvat Israel's immediate needs are very real and very urgent.

Can I add the TI Fund for the Future to my will?

It won't cost you a cent right now, and it can help secure our wonderful community for the next generation.

Can I minimize taxes while helping Tikvat Israel?

If you are over 72½, use the Qualified Required Minimum Distribution. The IRS allows you to send part of your Required Minimum Distribution directly to a recognized charity (think TI), while avoiding all tax liabilities on that amount.

Contact Betty Fishman at bjfcsf@gmail.com or call the synagogue office at 301-762-7338 for more information.



‘From the Heart’ A JUNE 6 TRIBUTE TO OUR CANTOR’S 36 SPECIAL YEARS

BY BETH SMITH, CHAIR, CANTOR GALA PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Tikvat Israel members have an amazing opportunity to celebrate Cantor Rochelle Helzner for bringing us 36 years of joy, devotion and love at a special tribute affair at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 6.

Each of us has been touched in different ways by our talented and dedicated cantor and holds special memories that are dear to our hearts — ever since she joined our congregation in fall 1984 as the first female cantor in a Conservative congregation in the Washington area.

The Tribute Program Committee has been working closely with Cantor Helzner and Rabbi Marc Israel to plan an evening of sharing and joy that we have titled “From the Heart.” The event also is serving as the major fund-raising activity of 2020-21 for our synagogue, and congregants will receive solicitation mailings.

The tribute will be online and feature performances by local cantors, singers, dancers and musicians, as well as expressions of thanks. Our guest performers will lead us in singing *niggunim*, uplifting melodies that move our hearts and lips.

In addition, participants can precede this unique program by enjoying a delicious catered dinner, just like one we would have enjoyed at a live gala. The full menu for the dinner, available as a pickup meal in the shul parking lot, will be provided, along with ordering details, closer to the event date.

To further enhance this wonderful event, we are encouraging everyone to wear festive clothes to immerse themselves in the spirit of this gala celebration. After all, it’s not every day that a congregation gets to celebrate 36 years with one truly exceptional cantor!





Sending Mazel Tov to Rochelle

You can express your appreciation for Cantor Helzner either by sharing your words or by submitting a photo or a video. A special website has been set up for this purpose. It includes other tribute information.

Visit www.tikvatisrael.org/kudoboard.



MANY FACES AND FACETS

These photos on pages 4-5 capture Cantor Rochelle Helzner in various engagements over the years at Beth Tikva and Tikvat Israel. Some of the photos were taken by Larry Levine and others by Felicia R. Black.

Not Exactly Viral, But His Photo Goes Global

BY JAY P. GOLDMAN, *TIKVAT ISRAEL BULLETIN* EDITOR

When Rabbi Marc Israel asked Larry Levine, a professional photographer, whether he might have any photographs that would match the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism's request for images for next year's printed calendar, Levine faced two unusual challenges in responding.

First, he realized, the past year's public activities that he might have captured on his cameras in an ordinary year were greatly impacted by COVID-19, with the majority cancelled and others converted into Zoom events.

Second, he wondered, a year from now, would anyone truly want a wall calendar full of images of people wearing facial masks?

Levine, who retired from a 36-year career as staff photographer for Washington's Metro system, decided to look for images in his personal photo collection that would highlight the creative nature of the Tikvat Israel community. "I wanted something that would show the importance we place on traditions, doing *mitzvot* and inspiring others," he said.

Levine says he was excited to learn recently that one of his photographs had been selected for the USCJ calendar that is sent out to 50,000 families, including dues-paying members of our synagogue. He has had many of his images published before in books and calendars over the years, but this was very personal.

The chosen photograph is a close-up of hands tying the *tzitzit* on a new *tallit*.

The activity Levine captured came about during a kind deed for his wife, Sandy, who had recently retired from more than four decades as a secular and religious educator, including service as director of Tikvat Israel's religious school.

"I wanted to do something special for her," he related. "She spent her career helping others and had a profound influence on the lives of many of her students. I decided that the perfect gift for her to mark this life cycle event would be a new *tallit* and the opportunity for Sandy to work with Shirley Waxman to create it."

Waxman routinely invites the recipient of her customized artistic works to play a significant part in the creative process. That meant Sandy was involved in choosing the fabrics. Waxman taught her how to tie the *tzitzit* and guided her through the process – all captured digitally by her loving husband.

The photo will appear on a page of the USCJ's widely circulated calendar for the year 5782, available later this summer. The



organization hasn't indicated to Levine what month will feature his image.

This is the photo by Larry Levine that will be included in USCJ's 5782 wall calendar.

Ready to Assume Officer and Board Berths

BY JAY P. GOLDMAN, *TIKVAT ISRAEL BULLETIN* EDITOR

What follows are biographical sketches of the officers and board members who have been nominated to begin new terms on the Tikvat Israel board of directors beginning July 1. This assumes they receive support from fellow members at a congregational election on Sunday, June 27.

All biographical information below was self-provided.



President: Warren Berger

Joined TI: 1994

Volunteer roles at TI: Currently co-president; previously vice president/administration and board member; served on Capital Improvement Task

Force, long-time member of religious practices committee, minyan subcommittee (co-chair), environment committee and security committee and regular *Gabbai Gadol*.

Motivation: I grew up at Beth Tikva and when I moved back into the area with my wife and children, Beth Tikva (which was soon to become Tikvat Israel) was naturally the best fit. I first joined the board to be an active participant in leading my shul into the future by contributing my ideas, energy and skills.

Formative years: Grew up in Wheaton and Rockville area, attended Randolph Junior High and Wheaton High School. Active member of Beth Tikva USY in my youth.

Occupational life: Information technology project manager overseeing software development for federal government agencies.



Vice President for Administration: Alan Apter

Joined TI: 2000

Volunteer roles at TI: Currently VP administration with duties overseeing operations of building and grounds and staff; served on Capital Improvement Committee and Kitchen Committee; chaired lobby remodeling committee; organized TI paper shredding events.

Motivation: I would like to give back to Tikvat Israel for all the warmth and friendship and spiritual opportunities that this community has given to me and my family. I would like to continue in helping improve the building and grounds of the *shul*.

Formative years: West Hartford, Conn.

Occupational life: Senior programmer/analyst, GEICO Insurance.



Vice President for Programming: Sally Kram

Joined TI: 2004

Volunteer roles at TI: Currently VP programming and chair, adult education committee and chair, TI Israeli Film Festival; previously served as board member, co-chair of Year of Science Initiative and chair of volunteer strategy committee.

Motivation: I was determined to become more active at TI to honor my father's memory after his death in 2010. I chose to use those talents that provide greatest benefit -- program design and implementation which is why I have been so active on the adult education committee.

Formative years: York, Pa.

Occupational life: Attorney



Vice President for Education: Judy Stern

Joined TI: 1982

Volunteer roles at TI: Currently, board member; and member, Strategic Planning Committee.

Motivation: As a long-term member of TI, I feel it is my turn to volunteer my time to the synagogue.

Formative years: Cleveland, Ohio and New York City

Occupational life: Private practice as an educational consultant in Rockville and national presenter to parents and educators on learning and attention issues. Co-author of four children's books on learning disabilities and a parent/educator guide to dyslexia.



Treasurer: Stuart Lempert

Joined TI: 1993

Volunteer roles at TI: Current treasurer; manager of TI men's softball team; previously, coach of USY youth basketball team.

Motivation: Now that our three children have grown, I like bringing my 30-plus years of financial and management experience to maintain and enhance the financial workings of the synagogue. I consider it my primary goal to navigate our synagogue through these very challenging financial times.

Formative years: New York metropolitan area

Occupational life: CPA for 35-plus years in public, non-profit and private-sector accounting, tax and audit.



Financial Secretary: Gene Sheskin

Joined TI: 1997

Volunteer roles at TI: Current financial secretary; previously, treasurer for two terms and assisted office personnel on administrative tasks and assisted former financial secretary in analyzing and correcting accounting records.

Motivation: To use my accounting and auditing experience to help TI function efficiently.

Formative years: Lived entire life in D.C. and suburban Maryland.

Occupational life: Worked for two CPA firms; served six years as an IRS revenue agent and 28 years as senior auditor with U.S. Customs Service. After retirement, I conducted more than 50 certified audits based on U.S. and international auditing standards. I once testified in court as an expert witness and was deposed for 32 hours by an attorney representing major U.S. manufacturing companies.



Recording Secretary: Beth Smith

Joined TI: 2000

Volunteer roles at TI: Current board member and program chair of June 6 Cantor Helzner tribute

event and Membership Directory committee; previously, chaired or co-chaired three Women's Network opening meetings and chaired two cantor's concerts. Member, Kitchen Committee.

Motivation: I enjoy taking an active role in the synagogue and was honored when I was asked to be the board's recording secretary.

Formative years: Washington, D.C., and Silver Spring

Occupational life: Spent 30 years as a professional volunteer executive, operated a home-based corporate gift basket business and worked as activities director at Aspenwood Senior Living.



Board Member (2 years): Felicia R. Black

Joined TI: 1996

Volunteer roles at TI: Current board member; previously, chaired *Kallah* 2018, TI's first *Shabbat* retreat; member of communications committee; photographer and proofreader for *Tikvat Israel Bulletin* and member of the youth and family programming committee.

Motivation: To ensure Torah study and innovative programming continue to be high priorities in the years to come and focus on membership retention.

Formative years: Chevy Chase, Md.

Occupational life: Own and operate an Amazon business, focusing on pet supplies and gourmet food. Medical copy editor for 40 years at International Medical News Group in Rockville. Retired in February 2018.



Board Member (2 years): Keith Brooks

Joined TI: 1994

Volunteer roles at TI: Current board member; previously, TI Employee Handbook Committee, Volunteer Coordinator, Rabbi's 5K Walk in Honor of Israel's 70th committee, annual *Purim* carnival, Tikvat Israel blood drives, religious school coffee and bagel committee member, and assisted with alternative high holiday services.

Motivation: I believe that the strength of the congregation lies with its members. In the next three years, I'd like to see the religious school become an important part of the congregation. My professional background was in planning and law. As an attorney, I facilitated a number of complex settlements between parties with different views. These skills can help address issues that will be before the synagogue.

Formative years: Suburban Philadelphia

Occupational life: Ten years as an environmental planner and 30 years as an environmental/energy attorney, now retired. Member of the Montgomery County Water Quality Advisory Group.



Board Member (2 years): Frances Tropp

Joined TI: 2015

Volunteer roles at TI: Current board member; participant at synagogue events during first year of membership.

Motivation: As a fairly new member, I would bring my years of experience as a Jewish community professional to TI and see it as a great opportunity to get to know our great community.

Formative years: Boston, Mass.

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Occupational life: Teacher, staff member of American Technion Society and associate director of Anti-Defamation League in Florida. Also, director of Golden Care Society with Greater Miami Jewish Federation and director of admissions at Menorah Manor in St. Petersburg, Fla.



Board Member (2 years): Mark Diamond

Joined TI: 2020

Volunteer roles at TI: Due to the pandemic, the opportunities have been limited. I served on the High Holiday reopening committee. I have also been willing to participate in reading Torah and leading services.

Motivation: My entire life I have been active in Jewish life. I have served on numerous committees and boards in the Pittsburgh Jewish community. I have taken cantorial lessons from a Master Cantor. In addition, I graduated from the Jewish Theological Seminary's 1st ever class training *Mohalim*. I just would like to contribute.

Formative years: My formative years were in Pittsburgh and prepared me to pursue my dreams.

Occupational life: Practiced pediatrics for 40 years. I moved to Kensington to be closer to my daughter and her family.



Board Member (1 year): Melissa Apter

Joined TI: 2000

Volunteer roles at TI: Current member of Early Childhood Center Marketing and Strategic Planning committees. Contributing editor to the *TI Bulletin*. Led *Tot Shabbat* on Saturday mornings (pre-pandemic). Formerly served on the Rabbi Search Committee, chaired past *Purim* carnivals, volunteered for the Rabbi's 5K Walk in Honor of Israel's 70th committee, frequent Torah and *Haftarah* leyners.

Motivation: TI leadership has made a commitment to attracting and retaining young families like my own. I believe that my perspective as both a longtime member and a millennial will be valuable as the board contemplates TI's future. Furthermore, I bring with me years of reporting on trends in communal Jewish life and I have served in leadership roles in secular community organizations.

Formative years: Rockville, Md.

Occupational life: Stay-at-home parent and *b'nai mitzvah* tutor. Former associate editor of *Washington Tariff & Trade Letter* and former senior reporter at Mid-Atlantic Media, parent company of *Washington Jewish Week*.



Board Member (1 year): David Gorman

Joined TI: 2009

Volunteer roles at TI: Assisting in the synagogue library.

Motivation: My interest stems from the fact I have been a congregant for over 12 years and believe it's my time to step up and contribute. Rabbi Israel's leadership and innovation through the pandemic and support by the board has been very inspiring. My professional experience of organization, data analysis and reasoning help with the evaluation of potentially complex matters facing the board. Also, my experience in gaining consensus among various viewpoints is a skill that can be valuable to the board.

Formative years: Silver Spring, Md.

Occupational life: Chief systems engineer with 35 years of experience in research, design and testing of communications and processing systems.

Still Remote, But Shul Programming Set for In-Person Interaction

BY SALLY KRAM, TIKVAT ISRAEL VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMMING



Amy Matathias (left) and Roz Kram give a drive-thru diner their food. (Photo by Lois Sbar)

As more and more Marylanders, including Tikvat Israel congregants, receive their vaccine shots, a long winter appears close to an end (figuratively and literally). But following federal, state and county guidelines and Tikvat Israel's COVID-19 Task Force and Reopening Committee, programming will continue in a virtual state heading into summer.

TI will continue its focus on racial justice but also expand its offerings to a rich array of virtual programs climaxing on June 6 with a celebration of Cantor Helzner's 36 years of service to the congregation.

Continuing with TI's racial justice theme, *La'Asot Tzedakah U'Mishpat* (To Do What Is Just and Right), a series of lectures on environmental justice and discrimination in access to housing as well as a special event to celebrate Juneteenth are being planned. Among the events scheduled for May and June are:

- A discussion of how race impacts access to housing and where people live on May 23; and
- A special celebration of Juneteenth on June 19 to celebrate the holiday commemorating the action taking place on June 19, 1865, when Union Army General Gordon Granger proclaimed freedom from slavery in Texas.

Additional program offerings will focus on a wide array of congregational interests including:

- Meaningful *Shavuot* services and attendant programs and events scheduled for May 16, 17 and 18;
- A congregation-wide paper shredding event on June 13, repeating a popular event from 2020 (see page 2 for details);
- A summer blood drive in partnership with the American Red Cross on June 16; and
- Drive-thru dining events on Thursdays throughout the spring and into summer. Roz Kram will continue her expert organization, bringing the best of regional kosher restaurants to the TI parking lot.

On June 6, a series of visual tributes, a virtual celebratory dinner and a magnificent performance with special guests will mark Cantor Rochelle Helzner's 36th year at Tikvat Israel. All congregants and friends of TI will be invited to join in the celebration and financially support TI's ongoing operations as part of this joyous event.

Planning for 2021-2022 will begin during the spring, and the programs committee invites all congregants to join. If you have an idea for a program or just want to help stage one already planned, contact me at sallykram939@gmail.com. We welcome anyone with a good idea and energy to invest in our programming efforts.



Neil Kram hands off a takeout dinner to Melissa Apter in the TI parking lot. (Photo by Amy Matathias)

THREE SEEK RE-ELECTION TO FUND FOR THE FUTURE BOARD

Three individuals are candidates for re-election as trustees of the Fund for the Future, Tikvat Israel's endowment fund. Congregants will be asked to give them a thumbs-up during voting at the June 27 congregational meeting.

Ellen Eisner: A congregant for 40 years, Ellen retired from a research position at the National Cancer Institute. She's a member of the Rabbi's Advisory Committee, a contributing editor to the *TI Bulletin*, and captain/caller for Thursday night *minyans*. Along with husband Sherman, she organizes TI's service projects at Shepherd's Table and Stepping Stones. She also served on the TI board and headed TI's participation in a tutoring program at nearby public elementary schools.

Rebecca Salom: A member for 33 years, Rebecca chaired the Women's Network for five years and has conducted monthly *Shabbat* and holiday services with her family at a Rockville nursing home for more than 30 years. She works at the National Disability Institute and the D.C. Department on Disability Services. She developed fiscal management skills during 20 years with the Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Institute, including service as its president.

Fortuna Scheige: A member for 37 years, Fortuna has served in many capacities in the Women's Network. She also served on the TI board and co-chairs the fundraising for Cantor Helzner's 36th anniversary celebration. She also chairs the Temple Israel Foundation. Fortuna has taught English to foreign students and was a Spanish tutor at a local elementary school. Now retired, she worked as a vocational rehabilitation counselor and life-care planner.

FRESH PRODUCE DELIVERED WEEKLY TO SHUL

Are you interested in farm-fresh produce on your dinner table at home?

Consider joining Tikvat Israel's Community-Supported Agriculture program (better known as a CSA), which delivers produce from a Calvert County farm every week through the spring and summer to the synagogue. Pickups take place in the building lobby from 1-2 p.m. on Thursdays. The CSA season runs for 20 weeks from May through September.

If interested, contact coordinator Dalit Baranoff at dalit.baranoff@gmail.com. She also can facilitate those who might prefer a half-share over the season.

More info about the CSA or the farm is accessible via www.calvertfarm.com.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Personal Connections and Volunteers

BY WARREN BERGER, TIKVAT ISRAEL CO-PRESIDENT



On the morning of the 8th Day of *Pesach*, I attended an in-person service on Tikvat Israel's back patio (where we set up the *sukkah* each fall). I stayed afterward to talk to friends I had not seen in a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and was able to resume personal connections as if there had not been a lengthy gap.

The experience reminded me of what we have all been missing – our connection to our TI community. Because the vaccination numbers are steadily rising and the Montgomery County government rules for religious facilities are slowly being relaxed, it is possible we will have partially reopened and started holding some services inside our building safely and cautiously around the time you read this article. I hope that is the case.

When the pandemic struck in March 2020, we were able to rely on the connections and well-developed relationships that existed among our rabbi, cantor, staff, board of directors and officers to keep operating. While the building was closed, with a lot of hard work by everyone, we were able to pivot to a mode of providing virtual services and events. This demonstrated and made me appreciate even more the value provided by our volunteers.

For example, I want to give a shout out to Sally Kram, who has provided an excellent year of programs and partnered with Rabbi Israel to tie them together with the theme of social justice. All of the guest speakers have been great. Jerome Price was an amazing teacher of African American history, and the book groups were informative discussions. I hope we all have achieved a baseline level of knowledge so we now can shift into a mode where we can take some actions to improve our society. I know I am now motivated to do so.

While Sally has done a great job, I am asking others to join the Adult Education Committee. Many of our volunteers like Sally put in a lot of effort in roles that they enjoy and in which they excel, but we must be careful that we don't burn them out.

At each annual congregational meeting, we have synagogue elections for officers and the board of directors to bring on some new faces with new ideas and energy. This year's meeting will be on June 27 (likely virtual only). See pages 6-7 in this issue for more information about the nominees (adjustments could happen before the meeting). I want to thank all of the officers and directors – this synagogue appreciates your dedication and hard work. I particularly want to thank my co-president, Jim Perlmutter. When we started this position two and a half years ago, I definitely could not have done the job without him. Although he is stepping down at the end of the term and (unless someone else decides at the last minute to run and is elected president) I am staying on in that role. I intend to rely on his complementary skills and sage advice when he shifts to the highly coveted role of immediate past president.

To those who are joining the board, thank you for volunteering. To those who are leaving (Ellen Kaminow, Sherrie Krauser, Lois Sbar and Jim), thank you for your many hours of hard work. I also want to thank those board members who are stepping up to

new challenges as officers (Judy Stern will become a vice president and Beth Smith will become recording secretary).

If you missed the deadline (accidentally) and didn't volunteer to be nominated this year, there are still many opportunities for you to help with synagogue operations and guide TI into the future. Many committees have only a small time commitment. Tell us what you are interested in, what you are good at, and we will put your talents to good use.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank Cantor Helzner for her 36-plus amazing years of service to our community. The anniversary celebration on June 6 will be a wonderful tribute to her beautiful voice, inspiring *davening*, creativity and guidance. Her leadership has helped us to make connections to Judaism and each other and has kept us together as a community during the pandemic. (And because this column is about volunteers, I also want to thank the members of the committee that planned this event, led by Beth Smith, Carol Chelemer and Fortuna Scheige.)

I am looking forward to safely seeing more folks in person and renewing our connections as soon as possible!

EXTEND YOUR HAND TO STEPPING STONES

Tikvat Israel has long been involved in helping the hungry and homeless in Montgomery County — serving dinners at Shepherd's Table, contributing food items and time to the Manna Food Center and delivering "food baskets" to needy Jews in our county for *Rosh Hashanah* and Passover.



STEPPING STONES SHELTER

In March, congregation members started volunteering at Stepping Stones, a shelter in Rockville that provides food, shelter and supportive services to families of women and children.

On March 5, seven synagogue members prepared a lunch for the six women and 16 children residing at the facility at the time. The congregant volunteers were Janice Balin, Anita Brenner, Ellen Eisner, Larry Gorman, Anna Levy, Roni Silverstein and Linden Wolf. Together, they contributed tuna casseroles, baby carrots, mandarin oranges and milk boxes.

Individual food items were prepared by the volunteers at home and then brought to the synagogue just prior to their scheduled delivery time at the shelter. Ellen and Sherman Eisner transported the food to Stepping Stones in accordance with the agency's coronavirus pandemic restrictions.

TI hopes to continue providing meals to Stepping Stones approximately every six weeks. The next scheduled dates for doing so are May 5 and June 22.

Contact Ellen Eisner at eeisner@comcast.net if you would be interested in participating and/or planning on an ongoing basis.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Reflections and Feelings of Gratitude

BY JIM PERLMUTTER, TIKVAT ISRAEL CO-PRESIDENT



My term as co-president is quickly drawing to a close with its expiration due to take place on June 30. I want to take this opportunity to publicly express my deep appreciation for the support I have received over the past 2½ years from our excellent clergy, our dedicated staff, our board and the many volunteers who worked so diligently to keep our community bonded during this most difficult period in our synagogue's history.

My journey was made extra satisfying by having the best partner anyone could ask for in this endeavor, my co-president, Warren Berger. His wisdom, steady hand, operational expertise, dedication and collaborative nature made this work very rewarding despite its many twists and turns. I am eternally grateful for the partnership and friendship Warren and I were able to forge as co-presidents.

No one could have foreseen the lengthy closure and the impact of the virtual world we would become accustomed to living through during the most devastating public health crisis in a century. The coronavirus pandemic required us to be adaptive to ever-changing health requirements, but thanks to our expert COVID-19 Task Force and Reopening Committee, we have made decisions that balance the need to always put the health and safety of our congregants as our No. 1 priority while planting the seeds for an incremental return to in-person services as health restrictions are eased.

There are so many accomplishments that we can all take pride in ... changes in our synagogue bylaws, a new membership directory, a human resources manual for staff, two federal PPP loans, drive-through dining, the walk to Sinai fundraiser, *Kaballat Shabbats* with guitar, spiritually fulfilling virtual High Holiday and other holiday experiences, daily *minyanim* with special memories shared by mourners or congregants observing a *yahrzeit*, a magnificent *Purim* puppet show and stellar *megillah* chanting, phenomenal programming including a course on African American history taught by an award-winning teacher from Richard Montgomery High School along with other programs highlighting racial justice, Women's Network book discussions and other innovative *Rosh Chodesh* programming, and so much more.

Besides these tangible accomplishments, we also have been the beneficiaries of so many unsung heroes in our community who have reached out to other congregants in need to offer rides to medical appointments, to offer support and comfort to those who have become ill or who have lost loved ones. I have been struck by the strong heart of our congregation during a time when we could have chosen a path of retreat from our community. Instead, we did the opposite, forming an unbreakable bond and a spirit that will pay great dividends when we return to in-person services and activities.

There are so many people to thank for keeping our community so vibrant in this challenging time. I have purposely not mentioned the names of leaders and influencers who led these efforts so I can thank everyone personally for all they have done to support me during my time in office and, more importantly, to support our community.

Tikvat Israel is a very special caring community where congregants are always there for one another in good times and bad. Let us continue to go from strength to strength. *Ken Yehi Ratzon!*

MILLENNIALS CONNECT DIGITALLY OVER GAMES, FOOD AND FUN

BY MELISSA APTER AND RACHEL FAYE LIPSY

Cold weather couldn't dampen the spirits of Tikvat Israel Millennials, a new *havurah*-like group for TI members and friends roughly in the 24 to 39 age range as they held events throughout the winter and early spring months.

Rachel Lipsy hosted a Jackbox Games night in mid-January as a second introductory event, this time conducted virtually. From the comfort of our own homes, 10 of us quipped and puzzled our way through cooperative party games to hilarious results. A couple of days later, Shaina Lipsy hosted a virtual Presidential Inauguration watch party where we commented on the serious and lighthearted moments of the historic day.

This winter, Jane Robinson gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Alice, just in time for Purim. Group members organized a meal train for support and assistance, a tradition we hope to continue as TI Millennials go through important lifecycle milestones.

Jenny Gendel organized a *Havdalah* and *Hamantaschen* event that attracted a dozen participants. Over Zoom, TI Millennials swapped family Purim stories, showed off our cookie cutting and pinching techniques, and compared favorite fillings. Who knew traditional flavors like cherry and poppyseed are still popular with the younger crowd?

TI Millennials held a meeting in mid-April to map out activities for the spring and summer.

We welcome all millennials at TI to join our private Facebook group (www.facebook.com/groups/tikvatmillennials) and/or contact Rachel Lipsy at rlipsy@gmail.com to join our e-mail list.

SHUL TO HOST JUNE 16 BLOOD DRIVE



Tikvat Israel will host a blood drive on June 16 in the social hall.

Signups are being accepted now at <https://tinyurl.com/y59mxcjdj>.

The American Red Cross said in most cases, there is no deferral time for donors who have recently received a vaccination for COVID-19. Donors are encouraged but not required to bring a card or printout indicating what COVID-19 vaccine was received.

Those with questions about donor eligibility can contact the Red Cross at 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767). This is the second blood drive hosted by the shul in 2021.

RABBI'S CORNER

Kadima: A Look Back or a March Forward?

BY RABBI MARC D. ISRAEL



As most of you are aware, I love words. It's not just that I like to talk or write, although I do love to do both (as you are sometimes painfully aware). I can spend hours playing word games, such as Jumble, Crosswords, Scrabble or *The New York Times'* spelling bee. I especially love when I can come up with the exact right word to convey the nuance of a particular situation.

Contronyms are some of my favorite words. These are words that can mean one thing and its opposite, depending on the context. For example, if you want to stay trim, it's best to avoid eating a turkey with all the trimmings. Or another: Once you've left, it's hard to know who is left.

Hebrew has such words also, with many examples. I want to focus on just one — the word קדם. *Kedem* can mean either to move forward or to look backward. Lamentations urges God to “*chadesh yameinu k'kedem*” — renew our days as they existed previously. But we also say “*Lech Kadima!*” — march forward!

With all contronyms, understanding the usage depends on the context and the perspective. With *kedem*, that is especially true, because its root meaning indicates “eastward.” Whether eastward is forward or looking back depends quite literally on where you stand and where you are going.

I believe the concept of *kedem* describes exactly where we stand as a society and as a community. We are at a precipice, where life that preceded COVID-19 stands on one side and a post-COVID life lies in front of us. One question we face is whether we go forward by looking to restore what existed previously or if we march ahead, leaving the past behind to create a new future.

I believe the answer lies in the true meaning of the words “*chadesh yameinu k'kedem*.” Yes, we need to *look* back – *kedem* – but we cannot nor should we try to *go* back. Rather, our look to the past is for the purpose of creating something that is “*chadash*,” something new. We take the best of what once was and use it to move forward, to build something new, with the understanding we have learned important lessons during this interim, and we bring these lessons forward as we go back to some of the ways we used to gather.

Throughout Jewish history, this has always been the case, and such moments have often been the agents of change and growth in the community.

Soon, or perhaps already, we will have services in our sanctuary again. In a sense, we will be returning. But it will not be nor should it be the same. We have learned much about our community and what we value most and, perhaps, what may no longer be as important as we once thought.

I can't tell you exactly what the “new normal” will be. I can say that it will not be exactly the same as what once was. With God's

help, and with yours, we will take the best of what was, with the best of what has been and discover the best of what can be.

One place where this will be evident is the celebration of Cantor Helzner's 36 years. This celebration on June 6 will look different than many of our past events, as we will still not be able to gather in large numbers in person. But I want to look beyond the form to the substance.

This event, appropriately, is a chance to look back, to recognize and to gratefully acknowledge all that Rochelle has done for this community since she began in 1984. But if that's all that it is, the cantor would not have agreed to be honored. Rather, it was essential for her that this event also be about looking forward, an opportunity to create the foundation for new beginnings and new programs, to take our community to places we have dreamed of going and places we have not yet imagined.

If you think about the musical selections for each service, you will see that the cantor constantly is demonstrating these ideals – honoring our tradition through the use of traditional *nusach*; providing comfort through melodies that are familiar to our community; breaking new ground by introducing new melodies to help evoke the meaning of the words of our prayer. Therefore, the best way you can show your appreciation for all that Rochelle has done is to give generously to ensure that Tikvat Israel has a future as a traditional, vibrant and visionary community that will continue to evolve to meet your needs.

This is the real meaning of “*Kadima*” — going forward in a way that honors our past, provides comfort for the present and inspires us to reach new heights as we look to the future. I hope you will join us.

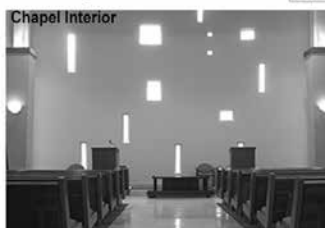


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Tikvat Israel owns a section of sites at Judean, with special completion discounts available to members.

To reserve your sites please call Sam Freedenberg at Tikvat Israel: 301-762-7338.



NO. ON GEORGIA AVE, CROSS RTE 28, GO .6 MI, RIGHT ON BATCHELLOWS TO 16225 ON R

The Tikvat Israel Women's Network Presents

ROBYN HELZNER

Kreplach & Dim Sum: Yes, There are Jews in China



Sunday, June 27 at 4:30 pm via Zoom

This event is free to Tikvat Israel Members

(Donations to the Women's Network are always welcome and appreciated)

Registration information coming soon, look for details in B'keshet and Women's Network Newsletter.



Celebrate the extraordinary presence of Jews In China LIVE via Zoom! Through lively stories, photos, video and music, Robyn Helzner shares her irresistible enthusiasm for both ancient and modern Jewish communities of Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Kaifeng. Robyn Helzner served as the Cantor for the United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong and officiated the first Bar Mitzvah ever held in Beijing. Enlightening and entertaining, **Kreplach & Dim Sum** has been wildly popular throughout the country.

Participating Organizations:

Tikvat Israel Congregation (Rockville, MD), Beth El Congregation (Pittsburgh, PA), Temple Beth Ami (North Potomac, MD), Congregation Beth Israel (Greenville, SC), Adat Chaim (Owings Mills, MD)

For more information, please email Janice Balin at balinfive@gmail.com



Artist: Molly Turkewitz

Title: Quilts

"Welcome to the month of April! Every month, a new project goes up on the front door. Quilting project to learn paper piecing and free motion quilting."



Artist: Sherman Eisner

Title: Birdhouse

"This crazy-looking birdhouse has two special features – a skylight and a chimney. The chimney hides a wireless closed-circuit TV camera that will allow us to peep in on the little chicks."



Artist: Janice Balin

Title: Blankets

"The blanket I recently knitted was donated to Montgomery County Association for Family & Community Education. It is part of their Blanket Making Program that provides handmade blankets to children in local hospitals."

CREATIVE FLOURISHES AMIDST A CORONAVIRUS

Several dozen individuals affiliated with Tikvat Israel have contributed to a digital art gallery titled "Creativity Flourishes in the Time of COVID."

Shirley Waxman and Edna Breit are managing the virtual show, which they started last spring "to inspire and entertain" during the grim days of self-isolation characterizing the coronavirus pandemic.

Creative works are still welcome. Contribute your project with a brief description and a photo to office@tikvatisrael.org.

A representative sampling of the submitted works appears on this page. The project descriptions have been edited for clarity and length.

Artist: Larry Gorban

Title: Untitled

"I created this during these challenging times. It is a Frank Lloyd Wright home, made of small LEGO-like bricks. It is designed as the Atom Brick Co."



Artist: Cindy Renteria

Title: Friends

"I paint landscapes mostly and create movement in the paintings with color and lines. During the lock-down, I spent the first month posting poetry and art on Instagram. It is a very different time with lots of changes."



Artist: Nancy Matheson

Title: Watercolors

"During COVID, I dusted off my art supplies and did some exploration in watercolors. This is one of my grand cat and grand dog. . . . My creativity comes in waves and I hope to get inspired again soon."



EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

A Welcome Hello to Spring... and a Goodbye

BY SHERI BROWN, DIRECTOR, EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



The ECC welcomes spring with open arms! During this year of COVID, we have gone to great lengths to have much of our programming outside. All “specials” (movement, *Shabbat* Sing, library and science) have taken place outside, and music has been via Zoom. At times, everyone was a bit cold, but we persevered to stay safe.

Now that the warm weather is arriving, we look forward to feeling more comfortable and perhaps to resuming some of our favorite activities. We may be able to resume in-person music classes and maybe have some visits from the Schuchman therapy dogs. Of course, we will take it slow and steady and keep safety as our prime priority.

Registration continues for the 2021-22 school year. We look forward to welcoming several new families to the ECC and we are even able to offer a bit of financial assistance due to a grant we received from the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington's Fund for Communal Vibrancy.

We also are grateful to the ECC Marketing Committee's Barry Lipsy and Melissa Apter, for their assistance in getting the word out about our great school. (See related story at right.)

On a personal level, I want to share my farewell here.

The Tikvat Israel community is warm and I will miss it very much. From the moment I was hired, I was treated with kindness and caring and helped to feel as if I'd been here forever. I will always be grateful for the support and encouragement I received from the professional staff and the lay leaders.



The ECC gathered one morning before Passover for the burning of the hametz led by Rabbi Marc Israel. (Photo by Menuhah Peters)

ECC's Digital Marketing Extended for Two Months



Barry Lipsy

Concerns about declining enrollment in the Tikvat Israel Early Childhood Center during the COVID-19 pandemic led the synagogue's board to take action to address the situation.

The board authorized the ECC to undertake a short-term digital marketing campaign by a professional consultant with expertise in digital promotions. Congregant Barry Lipsy was asked to manage the short-term initiative.

The new marketing plan included a pupil referral incentive for current ECC parents and paid digital ads to supplement the student-recruiting work by staff. The digital posts that promoted the merits of TI's early childhood program have appeared on free sites such as Facebook's Jewish Moms of MoCoMD.

The paid digital advertising campaign began in mid-February by targeting Rockville-area residents. Anyone who clicked on the ad was taken to a special web page specially created to prompt viewers to call the ECC director to arrange a tour or to fill out a brief online form for the director to contact them.

After just six weeks of ads, the ECC director reported in late March an increase in the number of phone calls received, an increase in requests for school tours and one enrollment directly attributed to the ad campaign. “This by itself represents a significant financial return on our limited advertising budget,” said Lipsy, ECC marketing committee chair.

Based on the initial results, which were shared with the synagogue's board in March, two additional months of ad support were approved. The extended effort will encourage respondents to ask about fall enrollment and the ECC Summer Camp session.

Lipsy said congregants had a role to play in supporting the ECC, which contributes to the synagogue's fiscal state. “As before, we ask that if you live on a high-traffic street and are willing to put an ECC yard sign at your home or if you have any other ways to assist, please get in touch with me,” he said.

Lipsy can be reached at BNLipsy@yahoo.com.

Mazel Tov to...

Maxine and Jim Perlmutter, whose grandson Avi Brian Strauss, will graduate from Towson University on May 21. Avi is the son of Pepe and Rena Strauss.

Shirley Waxman, whose son Dr. Aaron Waxman, head of Pulmonary and Vascular Unit, Women's and Brigham Hospital in Boston, recently published a book and had an article in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Penina and Sam Freedenberg on their 45th wedding anniversary.

Jane Robinson on birth of daughter Alice Mazur-Robinson Castillo on Feb. 4.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Veteran Jewish Educator Takes Helm of Early Childhood Center



Debbie Ungar

Deborah L. Ungar, an experienced Jewish educator, has been named the new director of the Tikvat Israel Early Childhood Center.

Ungar assumed her post a week after Passover.

Ungar comes to TI with 16 years of experience as a director of the Silver Spring Learning Center, a Jewish early childhood program, where she supervised more than 35 staff, and 25 years in the field of early childhood education. She taught kindergarten at the Park East Day School in New York City for six years.

She earned her undergraduate degree in early childhood education at Yeshiva University and her master's degree in education, with a specialization in teaching science, at Hunter College.

In making the announcement, co-presidents Warren Berger and Jim Perlmutter said: "Debbie is passionate about providing a warm, inviting and creative environment where all children can thrive. Debbie especially enjoys observing the many milestones and individual successes of children and their families."

The new director met with ECC staff prior to Passover and worked with her predecessor Sheri Brown on the transition. Brown is retiring from a long career in education this spring and relocating to San Diego, Calif., to be closer to her grandchildren.

Ungar and husband Michael have two adult children. She enjoys cooking and hiking and is an avid reader.

"We are confident that our ECC will continue to provide a high quality Jewish early childhood program with Debbie Ungar at the helm," the co-presidents said in a statement.

RAUCHER CLAN CLAIMS APRIL AS ITS OWN



Steve Raucher

When the calendar turns to April, think Raucher family. Four generations of the family now observe birthdays during that 30-day period.

The admirable tally looks like this:

- Steve Raucher turned 80 on April 27;
- His son Len Raucher celebrated on April 7;

- Len's daughter-in-law Linden Wolf Raucher marked her moment on April 2; and
- Steve's great-granddaughter Evelyn Michelle Raucher entered the world on April 7, measuring 8 lbs., 20 inches. (Her mom and dad, Joe and Christine Raucher, can't claim their own April linkages.)

Observed Steve: "My mom used to look at my dad and, with a tear in her eye, would proudly say, 'Look what we started.' Gives real meaning to *Dor v'dor*."

TIKVAT ISRAEL MAY-JUNE 2021

MESSAGE FROM NEW ECC DIRECTOR DEBBIE UNGAR

"I am excited to be the new director of ECC at Tikvat Israel. The excellent early childhood program and staff impressed me from my first visit to the school.

"With 16 years of experience as a preschool director and many years in the field of early childhood education, I look forward to contributing my unique perspective to this already vibrant program. I cannot thank Sheri enough for her guidance and support in my transition to the director position.

"Thank you to the staff and community members who have already provided me with a warm welcome. I look forward to meeting many more members of the Tikvat Israel community in the near future."

TI TO CELEBRATE A BAR MITZVAH IN JUNE



Jonathan Lantner becomes a *bar mitzvah* at Tikvat Israel on June 5.

Tikvat Israel's lone *bar mitzvah* in 2021 will involve Jonathan Maxwell Lantner on June 5. He will read Torah verses during a ceremony that will be conducted remotely.

Jonathan (Yonaton Melech) is the son of Shira and Dan Lantner of Rockville. He lives with sister Elanor, 11, and brother Reuben, 8, and attends Wood Middle School as a 7th grader.

Jonathan's personal interests and key activities, his parents said, are varied. "Jonathan likes to draw comics, read books and do puzzles and board games," said his mom. "Jonathan has played piano for seven years and enjoys riding his bike and exploring the neighborhood, looking for Little Libraries."

For his *bar mitzvah* project, Jonathan is planning to build a Little Library at Tikvat Israel for the community and intends to keep it supplied with books. "He believes in having books that appeal to middle-grade readers, not just 'kid books' and 'adult books,'" his mom reported.

(The Little Free Library, the official name of the public bookcase, is part of a neighborhood book exchange program that operates nationally and globally. The aim is to increase access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds. The Little Free Library nonprofit organization is based in Hudson, Wis.)

One benefit of having a hybrid service accessible via remote technology is that Jonathan's great-great Aunt Esther (Ice) Katz, who resides in Providence, R.I., will be able to join the family virtually for the service when otherwise she would not have been able to attend.

"While this might not have been what we originally imagined for Jonathan becoming a *bar mitzvah*, we are nonetheless excited," Shira Lantner said.



From the Heart

A Tribute to Cantor Rochelle Helzner

Join Us!

Celebrate Cantor Rochelle Helzner's 36 years of outstanding service to Tikvat Israel with niggunim, music and dance.



Sunday, June 6
7:30 pm

Please register to attend at tikvatisrael.org/36.

You may also make donations through this site.

To extend your personal greetings to Cantor Helzner, please go to the Greetings Board at tikvatisrael.org/kudoboard.

Featuring:

Rabbi David Shneyer • Hazzanim Henrique Ozur Bass
Elisheva Dienstfrey and Hinda Labovitz • Robyn Helzner
Manny Helzner • Dov Weitman and Debra Floyd

TIKVAT ISRAEL CONGREGATION

2200 Baltimore Road • Rockville, MD 20851
301.762.7338 • www.tikvatisrael.org • 36@tikvatisrael.org





Your Support During Our Loss

We wish to thank the entire Tikvat Israel community for the tremendous support and love following the loss of our beloved father, Alvin Bernstein. The many expressions of condolence and support, delivered in various ways, have been so meaningful and comforting to our whole family, including our mother Florence.

The compassionate assistance from both Rabbi Israel (including enabling “virtual” attendance at the funeral) and Cantor Helzner around the funeral and *shiva* was immensely important for all of us, enabling us to honor, mourn, recall and celebrate our “Dad.” The meals and acts of kindness provided by TI were much appreciated.

The pain and loss associated with the pandemic, as for too many families throughout the world, goes beyond the loss of our father, extending to the physical separation imposed upon us during our period of mourning. We cannot begin to express and explain how vital the virtual presence of the Tikvat Israel community through minyanim has been in comforting us. The previous communication from others in the congregation who experienced loss over this past year became suddenly relevant to our family. We hope they realize that they, in particular, gave us much courage and inspiration to imagine and accept the possibility of the intensely valuable virtual connection with our caring community at Tikvat Israel.

*Jeff and Elyse Bernstein
Ellen and Jeff Smith*

Torah Fund Support

Thank you to our TI Women’s Network benefactors and supporters of the Women’s League of Conservative Judaism Torah Fund’s 2020-21 campaign, which concludes on June 30. All of you reaped the benefits of an online donation inclusive of an immediate receipt and use of funds to support students at the Jewish Theological Seminaries and other seminary professional and graduate schools under the JTS umbrella organization.

In helping to meet our Women’s Network Torah Fund goal, please remember our Torah Fund e-cards site (<https://torahfundecards.jtsa.edu>) for all occasions for these attractive cards at a reasonable \$5 per recipient (with the option of adding a donation). All card purchases will be credited to our Women’s Network total funds raised. Your support is greatly appreciated.

*Susan Apter
TI Torah Fund Chair*

A Fond Farewell

A little over five years ago, you warmly welcomed me and my family to Tikvat Israel when my father, Irvin (Bud) Lavine, passed away. Although I grew up at Temple Israel, and Peter and I were married there by Rabbi Weintraub, we joined another synagogue closer to our home. Tikvat Israel was my parents’ shul, and they were very involved, especially with the Cantor’s Concert.

My dad loved attending *Shabbat* morning services and delighted in carrying the Torah as a past president on the High Holidays -- until he could no longer drive himself. Somehow, Sam Freedenberg, Jim Perlmutter and others noticed and stepped in, graciously becoming a rotating group of designated drivers to make sure that my father could continue participating every *Shabbat* that he was able.

Eventually, he could no longer attend at all. But when he was in the cardiac unit at Suburban Hospital on an August Friday, our wonderful cantor, Rochelle Helzner, came in to visit him. We were surprised and delighted to see her but absolutely thrilled when she began singing *Shabbat* songs. My father, who had been uncommunicative for several days, perked up, sang with her and began to truly improve! He returned to his home with my mother for several more months, passing away peacefully in the aftermath of the blizzard of January 2016.

My family and I knew he would want his funeral at Tikvat Israel, but none of us were then members. With some trepidation, I called Sam to inquire. His response brought tears to my eyes: “Of course; you are family here! We’d be honored to make your father’s funeral.” Rabbi Shull met my sister, brother and me to learn about our father and conducted a lovely service. Members I didn’t know greeted us with loving memories of my dad and joined our *shiva* nightly. And Cantor Helzner guided our unveiling service the following winter.

I began attending *Shabbat* morning services to say *kaddish* but stayed for the warmth of the TI family. I lost my father but gained a spiritual home.

For the past few years, it has been my honor to serve as a member of the synagogue board, as recording secretary and as chair of the bylaws committee. I always will be connected to Tikvat Israel and will fulfill all obligations I have undertaken — but from a continent away.

My words cannot fully express the comfort, friendship and goodness that I have enjoyed at TI — with members who have become friends, with Cantor Helzner and Rabbi Israel, Sam Freedenberg and Amy Matathias, and the loving community that is TI. May each of you and TI live long and prosper!

With much love from sunny California.

Sherrie Krauser

WOMEN'S NETWORK

'Pampered' Through Year End With Premier Programming

BY JANICE BALIN

The Women's Network exceeded its expectations of offering COVID-friendly programs to the women of our community over the past year. Our goal when the coronavirus pandemic started was to keep everyone connected, and I feel so fortunate to be a part of a group of hard-working women who planned so many exciting, varied programs over Zoom that included cooking, studying, spirituality, music, fund-raising, reading and gardening.

And we are not done yet!

I want to thank the following Tikvat Israel members who dedicated their time and talents to the network by offering programs that attracted women of all interests in our synagogue: Rabbah Arlene Berger and Roberta Helzner, who presented spiritual *Rosh Chodesh* programs; Avy Ashery and Fortuna Scheige, who presented "Cultural Diversity and Our Own Jewish Cultural Expressions, Beyond the Bagel;" and Debbie Amster, who taught us vegetarian cooking techniques that are easy enough for anyone to use and enjoy.



New kitchen gadgets were featured when the Women's Network hosted a Pampered Chef session on April 11. (Photo by Amy Matathias)

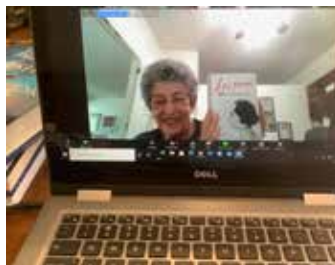
the Pampered Chef consultant, Lynn Grody.

Once the synagogue's kitchen resumes operations, Marsha Lyons and her team will be able to purchase new items for the kitchen from the profits generated from the sales of the event.

On April 25, the network and other congregation members were set to learn about herb gardening and other planting techniques. A volunteer from the Montgomery County Master Gardener Program presented the program via Zoom. Afterward, members of the Women's Network planned to talk about sharing cuttings from plants that they are growing in their gardens with others who might be interested in growing the same plant.



Roberta Helzner took the lead on a recent Rosh Chodesh program. (Photo by Amy Matathias)



Sara Harris conducted an online book discussion in mid-March. (Photo by Janice Balin)

May and June will continue to have active programming. On May 2, the network's Book Group will discuss *On Division* by Goldie Goldbloom. On May 16, the *Rosh Chodesh* Committee will present another spiritual program, known as a healing circle, which will be conducted by Janeane Marks.

Unfortunately, the annual Shelly Goldin WN *Shabbat*, originally scheduled for June 12, has been postponed again. Hopefully, we will all be able to share this special *Shabbat* together in the sanctuary in early November. Unless we can physically be together, it just isn't the same!

Mark your calendar for this year's culminating COVID-friendly, Zoom-based program. On Sunday, June 27, at 4:30 p.m., professional singer Robyn Helzner will present "Kreplach and Dim Sum. Yes, There Are Jews in China!" The Women's Network will partner with four other synagogues to offer this exciting program of lively stories, photos, videos and music to the entire TI community. Watch for details in *B'kesher*.

If you are interested in helping to plan programs for next year, please share your interest with me at balinfive@gmail.com.

SYNAGOGUE VOLUNTEERS DELIVER PASSOVER FOODSTUFFS TO SHUT-INS



TI members delivered bags of Passover food to shut-ins one week in advance of the holiday. (Photo by Leon Green)

Volunteers from Tikvat Israel delivered bags of Passover foods to appreciative recipients on the Sunday prior to the holiday.

The shopping bags were filled with non-perishable Passover foods — matzah meal, matzah ball soup, horseradish, wine, candy, etc. The food deliveries, an annual

rite, were organized by B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Social Service Agency. The two organizations raised sufficient funds to make deliveries this year to the homes and apartments of 500 shut-ins. Students from the Berman Hebrew Academy in Rockville assembled the bags for delivery.

The delivery volunteers from our shul were Brenda Brooks, Robbi Cohen, Roberta Cohen, Ellen and Sherman Eisner, Marsha and Art Fabel, Robin and Stan Hein, Julie Mazur, Dylan Presman and Rich Nisensohn. Their efforts were organized once again by Moira and Leon Green.

"We had an abundance of volunteers offering to participate in this *mitzvah*, and we thank them all," Moira Green said.

ISRAEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

HASBARA: Focus on Israeli Innovation

(#25 in a Series)

BY HARVEY T. KAPLAN

Medical professionals in Israel have been involved for decades in efforts to save vision and to help the blind and those with visual deficiencies. Several examples have appeared in earlier articles in this series. Here's another innovation that appears to be making great progress in the area of eye surgery.

ForSight Robotics of Haifa is working on a robotic surgical platform that, according to the company's cofounder, Dr. Joseph Nathan, is going to "enable the transformation of ophthalmic surgery from art to science." The objective is to provide an eye surgeon with both maneuverability and dexterity.

The *Israel21c* website says this innovation employs a combination of computer visualization, microsurgical robotics and machine learning. That is significant because ophthalmic surgeons certainly are not plentiful, especially in underdeveloped parts of the world, and eye surgery techniques take a long time to master.

Seth Winterroth, a partner at Eclipse Ventures (which has made a major investment in ForSight), says he is optimistic that ForSight's "world-class talent and experience will help millions of people around the world see and live better."

ForSight Robotics was cofounded by Professor Moshe Shoham of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. A brief company overview is available at <https://forsightrobotics.com>.



The Israeli company ForSight is bringing robotics to eye surgery.

Ygdal Ach, founder and CEO of Y.A. Maof Holdings and Management Ltd. in Shoham, Israel, became involved in a fascinating project with his Israeli company. While vacationing in the Dominican Republic with his family, he was troubled by large amounts of brown seaweed collecting along the shoreline, spoiling the beach experience for him and other vacationers. He decided to take a bag of the smelly seaweed, known as sargassum, back to Israel with him for evaluation.

Sargassum floats unattached to the sea floor, and it provides habitat for numerous fish species. However, it also can smother other sea grasses and coral, and when it collects on beaches, it smells like rotten eggs.

After conducting laboratory tests on the sargassum in Israel, Ach developed a plan, which will undoubtedly be of value to the tourism industry at affected beaches. In brief, he says, "it's a chain that begins with collecting seaweed ... and ends with three products: electricity, compost and fertilizer" (<https://yamaof-glb-energy.com>). Ach believes



Brown seaweed accumulating on beaches poses a serious concern for economies relying on tourism.

Israeli know-how is what provides his company with the edge that makes it successful worldwide.

You may have read about three nanosatellites (those much smaller than conventional satellites) that were launched by Israel recently. I learned more about the project from an article in *Israeli Innovation News* (nocamels.com). The purpose is to "perform high-accuracy geolocation of target signals on Earth for improved emergency response." In other words, these satellites receive signals from below that enable the precise calculation of the positions of people or objects on the ground.

The nanosatellites were developed and built by the Technion, which collaborated with Israel Aerospace Industries and other organizations. The satellites are amazingly small, weighing only about 17.5 lbs. and are not much larger than a shoe box, with solar panels attached.

The recent launch was part of the Adelis-SAMSON mission. SAMSON stands for "Space Autonomous Mission for Swarming and Geolocating Nanosatellite." The project is supported by the Adelis Foundation, the Goldstein Foundation and Israel's Space Agency.

The nanosatellites will travel about 340 miles above the Earth and will transmit signals to a mission control center at the Asher Space Research Institute at the Technion. Professor Pini Gurfil of ASRI, who is on the Technion's faculty of aerospace engineering, offered this explanation: "You could compare the innovation of nanosatellites to the [evolution of the] cellphone. ...The Adelis-SAMSON project demonstrates a new concept in nanosatellite design and will enable many operations to be carried out that have been reserved until now for large and expensive satellites."

Gurfil believes the ongoing work will help place the Technion in the role of "global pioneer" in a number of fields, including geolocation, satellite communication, remote sensing, search and rescue, and environmental monitoring. For more information, see <https://nocamels.com/2021/03/3-israeli-nanosatellites-space-mission/>.



A nanosatellite equipped with solar panels was developed for the Adelis-SAMSON mission.

Tikvat Israel Remembers With Respect Those Whose Yahrzeits Occur From 19 Iyar through 20 Sivan – May 2021

MAY 1

19 IYAR

Morris Gisser
Ethel Fox Gold
Bernard Grob
Bertha Luchs
Helen Zitter

MAY 2

20 IYAR

Sheldon David Abrams
William Fessler
Adolph Fullenbaum
Frank Gantz
Robert Goldberg
Harriett V. Goldstein
Ida Kirschbaum
Thelma Shapiro
Philip Solowey

MAY 3

21 IYAR

William Berk
David Bloom
Dorothy Krugman Engel
Richard Futrovsky
Melvin Goldstein
Mindl Mina Lustig
Faye Toporek
Sam Weiser

MAY 4

22 IYAR

Lee Buchbinder
Gladys Pearlstein
Frieda Sneiderman

MAY 5

23 IYAR

Jennie Fischer
Solomon Koricki
David Rubin
Anne Slonin

MAY 6

24 IYAR

Lillian Boker
Robin Freedman
Ruth Grayson
Elizabeth Levin
Bernice Elvin Meiselman
Rose Seligman

MAY 7

25 IYAR

Fannie Kerson
Abraham Plesset

MAY 8

26 IYAR

Frank Goldstein
William Hoffman
Herbert Saul Rubinstein
Abraham Schwartz
Alex Weiss

MAY 9

27 IYAR

Maier Auerhahn
William R. Horowitz
Bella Kensky
Betty Lewis
Hersch Herman Lustig
Ida Plesset
Helen VanAalten Rosenfeld

MAY 10

28 IYAR

Phillip Brenner
Sylvia Grob
Eva Gross
Madeline Goldstein Haft
Hilde Joseph
Fred Rosenberg
Elaine Beth Silverman

MAY 11

29 IYAR

Nissim Armoza
Esther Bernstein
Elaine "Elly" Feder Alford
Simon Gottesman
Bernard Horowitz
Morton Pearlman
Marcy Yanoff

MAY 12

1 SIVAN

Jean Becker
Esther Leah Bernstein
Celia Braunstein
Lillie Brodofsky
Ruth Einbinder
Stanley Katz
Isaac Krick
Otilia Levi
Paul Spector
Pearl Teitelbaum

MAY 13

2 SIVAN

Rose E. Diamond
Yvette Weiss
Dora Witt

MAY 14

3 SIVAN

Toby Gorschman
Bertha Koricki
Jack Lebowitz
Samuel Miller
Marian Sheskin

MAY 15

4 SIVAN

Anna Battino
Philip Katz
Laurence Lerner
Beatrice Sandler

MAY 16

5 SIVAN

Esther Goldberg
Samuel Negrine
Anne Dena Rosenberg
Goldie Simon
Claire Weiser

MAY 17

6 SIVAN

Leon Benham
Paulette Buchbinder
Anna Deckelbaum
Joseph Greenfield
Albert Sirmai

MAY 18

7 SIVAN

Celia Arcus
Irving Baroff
Selma Danovitz
Lillian Friedman
Minnie H. Goldberg
Albert Helzner
Benjamin Sidney Miller
Joseph L. Rein
Nathan Weiner

MAY 19

8 SIVAN

Jacob Isaac Bass
David Edward Haft
Jacob Kirschbaum
Dave Lieberman

MAY 20

9 SIVAN

Wolf Benzion
Miriam Caplan
Rose Sigel Hallen
Gertrude Iskow
Jennie Migdal

MAY 21

10 SIVAN

Mattatia Battino
Jerome Finster
Anna Goldman
Philip Hershenhorn
Elizabeth Kensky
Gertrude Molodow
Leon Rosenberg
Esther Steinberg
Bertha Sunshine
Minna Williamowsky

MAY 22

11 SIVAN

Dorothy Berar
Sophie Binder
Mary Jeweler
Isadore E. Kahn
Julius Oppenheim
Adele Rein
Steven Ritch
Sol Schwartz
Dorothy J. Stanshine
Michael Tuchler
Frank Weiser
Ada Young

MAY 23

12 SIVAN

Frances Fierman
Florence Landy
Maurice Schottenfeld
Phyllis Ann Stathopoulos

MAY 24

13 SIVAN

Edith Eisenberg
Jack Finder
Leslie Arthur Pike
Phyme Pitkin

MAY 25

14 SIVAN

Rivkah Faienstein
Sander Goldberg
Ruth Katz
Dora Lang
Sarah Oken
Fannie Schaechter
Morris Stolzenberg

MAY 26

15 SIVAN

Harry Fierman
Sadie Klein
Florence Askow Loeb

MAY 27

16 SIVAN

Joshua Laken
Eva B. Rochkind
David Joseph Williamowsky

MAY 28

17 SIVAN

Pearl P. Gantz
Ricki Jane Nachamkin
Morris Rosenblum

MAY 29

18 SIVAN

Sol E. Cohen
Isaac Engelstein
Lewis Greenwood
Louis Jacob
Joan Riegel
Esther Taubman

MAY 30

19 SIVAN

Jacob Caplon
Ellen Ehrlich
Linda Raye Ehrlich
Anna Friedman
Susan Grunewald
Diane Kammerman
Marion Sully
Masey Volk
Margaret Sirmai Weinstein

MAY 31

20 SIVAN

Deborah Ingel Comstock
Rachel Leah Mandelblatt
Ethel Rothman



Tikvat Israel Remembers With Respect Those Whose Yahrzeits Occur From 21 Sivan through 20 Tammuz – June 2021

JUNE 1

21 SIVAN

Evelyn Benham
Hyman Cohen
Shirley Rosen Drucker
Gertrude Krick
Edwin Rosenblatt
Jerome Joseph Simon
Irvin White
Michael Yanoff

JUNE 2

22 SIVAN

Terry Cooper
Aaron David Kott
Beatrice Krantz
Milton Krauser
Jacob Kristal
Audrey Lankin
Robert Lerner
Muriel Lillian Schaffman
Sylvia Schottenfeld
Marvin Sohn

JUNE 3

23 SIVAN

Gustave Jacob Benzion
Gelu S. Greenbaum
David Harris
Freda Prince
Feiga Smolar

JUNE 4

24 SIVAN

Mollie Karlin
S. Barbara Katz
Evelyn R. Marquis
Philip Salon
Molly Silverstein

JUNE 5

25 SIVAN

Pearl Ackerman
William Berger
Ben Finkelstein
Sylvia Freedman
Lena Hockstein
Louis Kahn
Esther Silbert

JUNE 6

26 SIVAN

Betty Hirshon
Deborah Ingle
Chava Krugman
Yitzhak Levy
Frederick J. Malkin
Ida Newman
Marian Schwartz
Rachel Sher

JUNE 7

27 SIVAN

Rose Abramson
Sophie Brenner
Milton Chorvinsky
Erta Krick
Samuel Pasternak
Selma Phillips
Joseph M. Rochkind
Charles D. Stoll

JUNE 8

28 SIVAN

Abraham Abramowitz
Nathan Adelman
Isadore Danovitz
Annette Hershenhorn
Jack Klass
Arnold Michael Kramer
Joseph Sandler
Maynard Ugal
Sarah Yudkoff

JUNE 9

29 SIVAN

Bert Gross
Ronald E. Kirschner
William A. Morrison
Rose Weinstein

JUNE 10

30 SIVAN

Henry Finder
Lottie Finkelstein
Kenneth Goldin
Celia Kaiser
Max Lacoretz
Renee Lustig
Solomon Shapiro
Charlotte R. Teller

JUNE 11

1 TAMMUZ

Esther Leise
Sadie Rosenthal
David Sturm
Samuel Tranen

JUNE 12

2 TAMMUZ

Clara Benzion
Deborah Ingel Comstock
Louis Fishman
Ben Friedman
Grace Goldberg
Rose Harad
Seymour Kaiz
Emmy F. Keusch
Reuben Kramer
Mollie Pelish
Frances Shapiro
Helene Sugarman
Stuart Volin

JUNE 13

3 TAMMUZ

Jeanette Benzion
Clayre Blavett
Irving Edelman
Ellis Hyman
Roselyn Licht
Marion L. Pike
Gussie Prince
Samuel Paul Puner
Ira L. Schiffman
Anne Burdett Shapiro
Barbara Shulman

JUNE 14

4 TAMMUZ

Maurice Mainen
Harry Plesset
Arnold J. Rosenberg

JUNE 15

5 TAMMUZ

Siegfried Ermann
Bernard Finstein
Shelly Goldin
Norris Halpern
Maurice Hockstein
Frieda Mendelson
Sarah Weiser

JUNE 16

6 TAMMUZ

Harry Belson
Ruth K. Davis
Marvin Hammerman

JUNE 17

7 TAMMUZ

Yetta Oppenheim
Murray Susswein
Minnie Waxman

JUNE 18

8 TAMMUZ

Esther Goldberg
Evelyn Lidoff
Ludwig Regensteiner
Sidney Starr

JUNE 19

9 TAMMUZ

Esther Danoff
Annie M. Ehrlich
Rubin Harris
Judith A. Kessler
Martha Sills
Sidney Wilchins

JUNE 20

10 TAMMUZ

Mark Chorvinsky
Ben Zion Cooper
Edith Kott
Zev Lidert
Michael Menzer
Marcus W. Rose

JUNE 21

11 TAMMUZ

Margot Casper
Philip Fabel
Benjamin Reinhardt
Matthew Soldano

JUNE 22

12 TAMMUZ

Lewis Altman
George H. Cohen
Rubin Cohen
Ann Fullenbaum
Jeanne Hanig
Norman Keleti
Sadie Perlman
Henry Schechter
Israel Schechter
Leonard Stein

JUNE 23

13 TAMMUZ

Irving Binder
Thelma Gorin
Israel Klig
Irwin Krick
Harold A. Saltzman
Harold Silverstein

JUNE 24

14 TAMMUZ

Sandra Becker
Harry Levin
Thelma Sbar
Rose Schwartz
Solomon Senzer
David Sommer
Solomon Stutz

JUNE 25

15 TAMMUZ

Barnett Bauman
Rebecca Bogage
Sarah Chernoff
Harold Gorin
Gaston Lellouche
Simon Mensh
Edward Milenky
Barbara Nena Rosenberg

JUNE 26

16 TAMMUZ

Devera Danovitz
Hyman Edlowitz
Anna E. Feinmark
Leo Friedman
Frank Knott
Sarah Tempchin
Richard Volin

JUNE 27

17 TAMMUZ

Sidney Davis
Rebecca Kramer
Ellis Leise
Rose Levy
George Ludwig
Solomon Nahum

JUNE 28

18 TAMMUZ

Sarah Bassin
Beatrice Chait
Philip Chelemer
Morris Gottlieb
Elizabeth Katz Jeremias
Freda Levin
Gladys Nederlander
Charlotte Podgor
Gerald Raine
Louis Rosen
Gloria Schwartz
Sandra Wagner
Louis Walizer
Alan P. Woinsky

JUNE 29

19 TAMMUZ

Tillie Cooper
Louis Deckelbaum
Leo Derene
Herbert Gold
William Hirsch
Bernard Kaplan
Beatrice Nathanson
Carol Peck
Susan E. Reich

JUNE 30

20 TAMMUZ

Harry Freedenberg
Esther Solomon

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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 February and March. 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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Charlotte Zeidman by Elisabeth Battino

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In appreciation for the Bereavement Committee and Tikvat Israel when my brother George Baroff died by Carol Krakaur
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In memory of Alvin Bernstein by Marilyn and Michael Greenwood

In memory of Esther Engelstein by Marilyn and Michael Greenwood
In memory of Lewis Greenwood by Marilyn and Michael Greenwood
In memory of Lottie Greenwood by Marilyn and Michael Greenwood

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 In appreciation of Amy Matathias by Maxine
 and Jim Perlmutter
 In appreciation of Eugene Sheskin for his help
 by Elisabeth Battino
 In appreciation of Rebecca Salon and Jay Goldman
 for all they do for me by Elisabeth Battino

In appreciation of Sam Freedenberg by Maxine
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 In appreciation of Tikvat Israel by Leah Lansing
 In celebration of the birth of Bernard Agus,
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 Fortuna and Steve Scheige

In honor of Avy Ashery's birthday by Fortuna
 and Steve Scheige
 In honor of our grandsons' Ben and Eric Clifton's
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 In honor of the *Bar Mitzvah*+57 of Harvey
 Freedenberg by Penina and Sam Freedenberg
 In honor of Bobbi Gorban's special birthday by
 Bobbi and Larry Gorban
 In honor of our grandson Levi Leibold's 11th
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 In honor of the marriage Daniel Benzion to
 Sonia Laurie by Nancy and Jonathan Solomon
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Continued on next page

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Congregational Condolences

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

Ellen Smith and **Jeff Bernstein** on the loss of their father
Alvin Bernstein.

Alyssa Drucker on the loss of her mother Nina Silverstein.

Judith Frank and **Abbey Frank** on the loss of Judy's sister
and Abbey's aunt Shulamith Elster.

Gerald (Jerry) Kaiz on the loss of his wife Geraldine (Gerri) Kaiz.

Amy Matathias on the loss of her stepmother Diane Shed-
roff.

Shelley Gudelsky Mulitz on the loss of her husband Thomas
C. Mulitz.

Roma Sohn and **Gigi Sohn** on the loss of son and brother
Glenn Sohn.

Lloyd, Kevin, and **Reyna** on the loss of their mother Natalie
Kirschbaum.

Julie, Kristi and **Wendy** on the loss of their father Jacob Silver.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY PICKUP

If you did not receive a copy of the latest Tikvat Israel
Membership Directory, contact the synagogue office
to make arrangements for a pickup. This is a valuable
resource for all synagogue members that was last pro-
duced six years ago.

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May 2021

19 Iyar - 20 Sivan 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All events subject to change. Please read B'Keshet for the latest status. 2 20 Iyar (Omer 35) 9:00a Minyan 10:00AM Women's Network Book Group 10:00AM Religious School 11:00AM Lag B'Omer Picnic - TBD 6:00p Minyan 6:30PM JTS Evening of Learning: Racial Justice and Jewish Values	3 21 Iyar (Omer 36) 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	4 22 Iyar (Omer 37) 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	5 23 Iyar (Omer 38) 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	6 24 Iyar (Omer 39) 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan	7 25 Iyar (Omer 40) 8:00a Minyan 6:00PM Kabbalat Shabbat 7:50p Candle lighting	8 26 Iyar (Omer 41) 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Emor) 8:53p Havdalah
9 27 Iyar (Omer 42) 9:00a Minyan 10:00AM Religious School 7:30p Minyan	10 28 Iyar Yom Yerushalayim (Omer 43) 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	11 29 Iyar (Omer 44) 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	12 1 Sivan Rosh Chodesh (Omer 45) 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	13 2 Sivan (Omer 46) 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM Toastmasters	14 3 Sivan (Omer 47) 8:00a Minyan 6:00PM Kabbalat Shabbat 7:50p Candle lighting	15 4 Sivan (Omer 48) 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Bamidbar) 9:01p Havdalah
16 5 Sivan Erev Shavuot (Omer 49) 9:00a Minyan 10:00AM Religious School 10:30AM Women's Network Healing Circle 7:58p Candle lighting 8:40PM Yomtov Ma'ariv followed by Tikun Leil Shavuot	17 6 Sivan Shavuot 10:00AM Yomtov Services 6:00PM Yomtov Mincha/Ma'ariv 9:03p Candle lighting	18 7 Sivan Shavuot 10:00AM Yomtov Services 9:04p Havdalah 9:05PM Ma'ariv / Havdalah	19 8 Sivan 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	20 9 Sivan 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan	21 10 Sivan 8:00a Minyan 6:00PM Kabbalat Shabbat 8:03p Candle lighting	22 11 Sivan 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Nasso) 9:08p Havdalah
23 12 Sivan 9:00a Minyan 10:00AM Religious School - Last Day 7:30p Minyan	24 13 Sivan 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	25 14 Sivan 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:15PM Board Meeting	26 15 Sivan 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	27 16 Sivan 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM Toastmasters	28 17 Sivan 8:00a Minyan 6:00PM Kabbalat Shabbat 8:08p Candle lighting	29 18 Sivan 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Beha'alotcha) 9:15p Havdalah
30 19 Sivan 9:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan	31 20 Sivan 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan					

June 2021

21 Sivan - 20 Tammuz 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	2 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	3 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan	4 8:00a Minyan 6:30PM Kabbalat Shabbat 8:13p Candle lighting	5 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Shelach) Bar Mitzvah : Jonathan Lantner 9:20p Havdalah
6 9:00a Minyan 6:30p Minyan 7:30PM From The Heart: A Tribute To Cantor Helzner	7 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	8 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	9 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	10 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM Toastmasters	11 8:00a Minyan 6:30PM Kabbalat Shabbat 8:17p Candle lighting	12 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Korach) 9:25p Havdalah
13 9:00a Minyan 10:30AM Shredding Event 7:30p Minyan	14 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	15 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	16 8:00AM Minyan 12:00PM Blood Drive 7:30p Minyan	17 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan	18 8:00a Minyan 6:30PM Kabbalat Shabbat 8:20p Candle lighting	19 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Chukat) 9:27p Havdalah
20 9:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan	21 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	22 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:15PM Board Meeting	23 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	24 8:00a Minyan 7:30p Minyan 8:00PM Toastmasters	25 8:00a Minyan 6:30PM Kabbalat Shabbat 8:21p Candle lighting	26 10:00AM Shabbat Services (Parashat Balak) 9:28p Havdalah
27 17 Tammuz Fast of Tammuz 9:00a Minyan 10:30AM Congregational Meeting 4:30PM Robyn Helzner program “ Kreplach and Dim Sum Yes There Are Jews In China ” 7:30p Minyan	28 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	29 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan	30 8:00AM Minyan 7:30p Minyan			
All events subject to change. Please read B'Keshet for the latest status.						



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A Vaccination Poke and a Prayer

BY CLIFF FISHMAN

Editor's note: *Congregant Cliff Fishman shared this story on the synagogue's listserve and as part of his d'var during Shabbat services on March 27. It has been edited for clarity and length.*



I had a very moving experience recently.

I had my second COVID shot on March 17, at Richard Montgomery High School. After the nurse who would administer the shot wiped my arm and prepared the needle, I asked her to pause for a moment so I could say a prayer.

She said, "Of course." (It was my sense that I was not the first to make such a request.) Then I read the following, which was drafted by Israel's Masorti movement and Rabbinic Assembly for those receiving the vaccine:

"God who answers in times of distress and saves,
Healer of broken hearts who binds their wounds,
Who shares divine wisdom with flesh and blood
to create this vaccine: May it be Your will

that through the power of this human effort
aided by God who graciously grants humans knowledge
and teaches mortals understanding, science and discernment,
that I merit health and resilience,
so that these verses may be fulfilled for us:
'And I will remove sickness from your midst,
For I, Adonai, am your healer.'
Let them praise Adonai for God's steadfast love
and wondrous deeds for humanity."

Then I recited, in Hebrew and then in English: *Praised are You, who brings healing to all flesh and does wonders.*

As I began to read the prayer, the woman began to read it too, in a whisper, and when I finished reading it, she crossed herself and said "Amen."

I did not ask her name. I would not recognize her again if I saw her. (She, like I, was masked.) But we shared a solemn and uplifting moment together that I will remember for a long time, and perhaps she will, too. It elevated a long-anticipated medical treatment into something even more meaningful.