

Shofar

b'nai israel



S O U T H B U R Y
S Y N A G O G U E

Adar II/Nisan 5784

April 2024

Make your reservations today!

B'nai Israel's Community Passover Seder

Who:

ALL are welcome!

What:

A traditional kosher-style,
family-friendly seder led by
Rabbi Polokoff and Dir. of Sacred Music Linda Goodman
with buffet dinner & dessert

When:

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 - 6PM

Where:

B'nai Israel
Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Community Function Hall
444 Main Street N., Southbury

How:

RSVP to Valerie no later than 4/12/24
203.267.3394

Please submit checks to the office.

Sorry, no walk-ins

Seder will be streamed on YouTube

Cost: \$36 pp,
children under 13 \$15
and under 4 free.



b'nai israel



S Y N A G O G U E

Leadership

Rabbi

Eric Polokoff, D.D.
rabbi@bnaisraelsouthbury.org

Director of Sacred Music

Linda Goodman
music@bnaisraelsouthbury.org

School Director

Jacqui Schulefand
educator@bnaisraelsouthbury.org

Officers

Patti Berkowitz, President
Sheri Kipperman, 1st VP
Alexis Zimmerman, 2nd VP
Eric Linnetz, Secretary
Paul Medina, Treasurer
Steven Reys, Past President

Trustees

Kathryn Albee (2024)
Melissa Fleischer (2024)
Douglas Fuchs (2024)
Peggy Klein (2024)
Allen Schwartz (2024)
Dawn Tendler (2024)
Marci Durnell (2025)
Lisa Segal (2025)
Iurie Schwartz (2026)

Tribute Cards

From: Nancy Brown & Rudy Zeidler

To: **Keith & Jane Mahler** *in memory of Keith's father, Kenneth

DONATIONS

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

in memory of
Elizabeth Ival Stratford
Francis Arthur Stratford
Ival & Ron Kovner
Frederick Stein
Natalie Bram
Doris Garber
Herbert Garber

Caring Fund

in memory of
Belle Rosmarin
Sharon Goldman
Roza Gelfand
Anna Gelfand
Rose Gianat
Bobbi Gianat

Music Fund

in memory of
Helen Gleiberman
Sheila Baum
Estelle Solomon
Rachel & Jonathan Albert
Clara Koweek
Barbara Phillips
Esther Rechtman
Lisa & Scott Segal
Tamara Loeffler
Nancy & Joel Becker

General Fund

LeTicia Lee

General Fund

in appreciation of
Rabbi officiating at the funeral
of Paul Frenkel
Rita Frenkel

General Fund

in memory of
Kenneth Mahler
Fred Stein
Sharon Goldman
Kenneth Mahler
Margie Ross
Frederick Stein
Kenneth Mahler
Lisa Miller & Joe Weisman
Marty Green
Nancy & Robert Green
Anne Kaplan
Nancy Brown & Rudy Zeidler
Joseph Komitor
Fanny Crystal
Kate Cooperman
Ellie Crystal
Malke Metz
Andrea Vartanian

Memorials & Dedications Fund

in memory of
Kenneth Mahler
Dawn Tendler
Sylvia Tendler
Dawn Tendler

Israel Advocacy Fund

in memory of
Naomi Leaf Halpern
Rachel Niv
Ruth N. Holt

Thank you



To send a tribute card contact Doris Landaeta at dorikam1958@gmail.com
\$5 per tribute card
(includes postage)

B'nai Israel Religious School



If you are interested in enrolling your child in religious the school please call Education Director Jacqui Schulefand at 203.267.3396 or e-mail educator@bnaiisraelsouthbury.org

www.bnaiisraelsouthbury.org



Today Raba to Sisterhood!

The B'nai Israel B'nai Mitzvah (or 7th Grade) class would like to thank the Sisterhood for their generous gift of a beautiful engraved Kiddush Cup for each Bar and Bat Mitzvah student. We are very grateful for their continued support. This gift is very meaningful and something we will cherish for years to come.

Today Raba to Heather Cieply!

BIRS would like to thank Heather Cieply for her delicious hamantashen fundraiser to benefit the B'nai Israel Religious School. We can't do what we do without the dedication and generosity of people like Heather. What a great way to celebrate Purim while supporting the B'nai Israel community. Heather's hamantashen are the absolute best!!



BIRS students who have attended 5 or more Shabbat services this year, were recognized with an ice cream party with Rabbi Eric. We had a lot of fun along with thoughtful and meaningful conversations. A great time was had by all and what's better than ice cream for breakfast!

CELEBRATING OUR 7TH GRADERS

(THE FIRST IN A SERIES)

HERE ARE THEIR MITZVAH PROJECTS FOR THEIR BAR AND BAT MITZVAHS



Eli Price

For my bar mitzvah project I wanted to do something to learn about how to help fight against antisemitism.

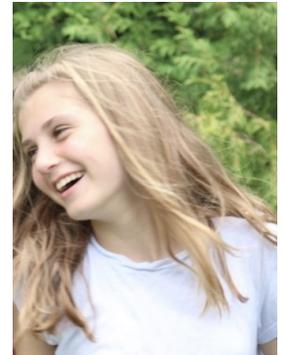
I did a lot of research including reaching out to the ADL and the Foundation to Combat Anti-Semitism (FCAS) which leads the [Blue Square Project](https://www.standuptojewishhate.org/). <https://www.standuptojewishhate.org/>

I plan to raise money for the Yemin Orde Youth Village. The village is on Mount Carmel in northern Israel and is a home and school to 450 at-risk immigrant youth from around the world. The Village provides a really special role in Israel as it is open 24/7 and every day of the year to provide a home for kids who have no other place to go in Israel. It has children from North Africa, Iran, India, Yemen, Eastern Europe, Ethiopia, France, the former Soviet Union, Brazil, Israel, and more. The village was founded in 1953, after the Holocaust, and provided a home for Holocaust orphans and immigrant children.

The school campus includes a high school which offers a high-quality academic curriculum, an art and music center, a large computer center, a carpentry shop, a dining room, a library, and sports facilities. They also offer lifelong support for graduates. Their mission is to help children understand their connection to Judaism and Israel.

I also plan to volunteer at The Little Guild, which is an animal shelter in Northwest Connecticut. Currently it accommodates 16 dogs and 25 cats. The goal of the organization is to provide playgroups, learning activities, temperament testing, socialization, exercise, and mental stimulation for both cats and dogs waiting to get adopted. To help out, I'm going to volunteer to walk dogs and socialize with cats to help them adjust to humans and hopefully get matched with a loving family.

I chose these projects because they are both meaningful to me personally. The Yemin Orde Youth Village is important to me because I want to help make a difference with what's happening in Israel and The Little Guild matters to me because I have a dog of my own who I really love and I want all animals to be able to live in a loving home.



Leah Obenshain



Celebrate a simcha, remember a friend, or share a milestone by sending a tribute card. Cards are hand calligraphed and still only \$5 including postage!

Contact Doris Landaeta:
dorikam1958@gmail.com



Jehsinia Weiss

For my Mitzvah project, I wanted to give back to the community by raising money for the Susan B. Anthony program, which supports and helps families that were in bad situations get out of them.

The Susan B. Anthony project is an organization that helps women and their kids escape bad situations to be safer and have a fresh start in life. They also provide emotional support, food, and a safe place to live. They have a 24-hour, 365 days a year-round hotline support where you can call and they will help you. To help this organization, I will be making art such as clay earrings, string wood art, and bead animals, and selling them at my school fair to raise money to buy food and supplies to give to the organization.

This project is important to me because when I used to live in East Hartford, I would see moms and their kids sitting on the sidewalks asking if we had any food or water for them. As a little kid, I was not able to help them as much as I wanted to, so now that I am older, I want to make a difference by giving as much as I can to the families that need it.



Interested in joining B'nai Israel's Sisterhood?

Contact: Sisterhood President, Michelle Rosen

bnaisisters@gmail.com



Sheri Kipperman-

Stigs12@gmail.com

Sherrie Bitterman-

sbitterman5@yahoo.com

Evan Cooper-

evanco1128@hotmail.com

Patti Berkowitz-

president@bnaisraelsouthbury.org

Book Discussion Lilac Girls By Martha Hall Kelly



NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER - One million copies sold! *Inspired by the life of a real World War II heroine, this remarkable debut novel reveals the power of unsung women to change history in their quest for love, freedom, and second chances.*

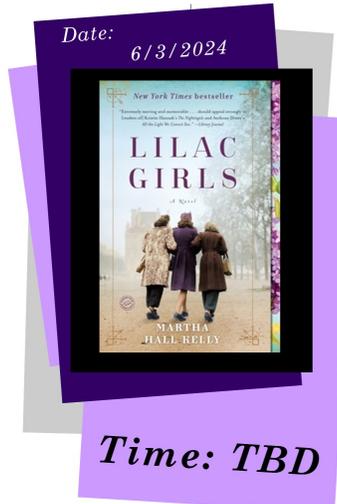
"Extremely moving and memorable... This impressive debut should appeal strongly to historical fiction readers and to book clubs that adored Kristin Hannah's The Nightingale and Anthony Doerr's All the Light We Cannot See." - Library Journal (starred review)

New York socialite Caroline Feriday has her hands full with her post at the French consulate and a new love on the horizon. But Caroline's world is forever changed when Hitler's army invades Poland in September 1939—and then sets its sights on France.

An ocean away from Caroline, Kasia Kuzmerick, a Polish teenager, senses her carefree youth disappearing as she is drawn deeper into her role as courier for the underground resistance movement. In a tense atmosphere of watchful eyes and suspecting neighbors, one false move can have dire consequences.

For the ambitious young German doctor, Herta Oberheuser, an ad for a government medical position seems her ticket out of a desolate life. Once hired, though, she finds herself trapped in a male-dominated realm of Nazi secrets and power.

The lives of these three women are set on a collision course when the unthinkable happens and Kasia is sent to Ravensbrück, the notorious Nazi concentration camp for women. Their stories cross continents—from New York to Paris, Germany, and Poland—as Caroline and Kasia strive to bring justice to those whom history has forgotten.



Date: 6/3/2024

Time: TBD

Phone: 203-267-3394
E-mail: bnaisisters@gmail.com



How does it work?

Each person brings 2 new items with them valued at approx. \$10 -20. All items will be displayed for all of the attendees to see. The person who brought the item will introduce herself and share why that particular item is her favorite thing. Numbers will be drawn and everyone will go home with someone else's favorite item. Prepare to laugh, learn about new items and perhaps make new friends.

B'NAI ISRAEL SISTERHOOD MEETING & MY FAVORITE THINGS PARTY



SOCIAL HALL
MAY 1
6:00 PM
PLEASE RSVP

IDEAS:

Hand Cream, Umbrella, Bottle of Wine, Kitchen Gadget, Coffee/Tea, Socks, Hair clip, Spices, Gift Card, Perfume, Hair Brush, etc.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MICHELLE AT BNAISISTERS@GMAIL.COM

Donor Opportunities



Yahrzeit Plaque

Purchase a plaque to memorialize your loved ones with a memorial plaque
Each plaque is \$380

Please contact
Sharon Goldman
sharon.goldman@hotmail.com

Contact Us

Phone: (203) 267-3394

office@bnaiisraelsouthbury.org

rabbi@bnaiisraelsouthbury.org

Visit our website for a full list
www.bnaiisraelsouthbury.org

Yahrzeits

May their memories be for blessing

04/05

Allan Crystal
Nathan Davidson
Michael Dorf
Seymour Drantch
David Elliot
Florence Erlanger
Joseph Goldberg
Harold G. Green
Morris Horn
Heather Rose Kornick
Ann Protter
Jacob N. Rearson
Benjamin Saunders
Linda Schiff
Charlotte Smotroff
Rae Spearo
Morris Stein
Marvin Yaffe
Rose Zetzer

04/12

Max Berland
Mollie Breslawsky
Franklyn Danen
Freda Erlanger
Bernard Feinman
Jennie Berman Finkelstein
Bertha Fleisher
Rita Friedman
Maye Gaber Halberstam
Murray Goldberg
Mollie Goldfarb
Judy Kipperman
Celia Kosersky
Albert Leopold
Pauline Levedu
Helen Friedman Perretz
Ranny Ranzer
C. Howard Shore
Edward Traurig

04/19

Mitchell Backon
Joseph David Dover
Edith Effren
Henry Fleischman
Joseph Halperin
Ben Hofstadter
Aaron Jarmak
Meyer Land
Rose Mahler
David L. Martin
Anne Paley
Benjamin Weiss
Lisa K. Weiss
Frances Winland
Henrietta Zackin
David Zeidler

04/26

Harry P. Horn
Adeline Isaac
Herman Lester
Frances Lieber
Judy Marangio
Rose Menaker
Anne Oblas
Tobie Perlman
Joanne Ranzer
David Rubin
Stephen Scharf
Patricia Schwartz
Philip Schwartz
Lillian C. Spier
Miriam Sukman
David R. Traurig
Ethel Weiss
Carlos Yelin
Samuel R. Zetzer

*each name in bold has a plaque in the B'nai Israel sanctuary

Donor Opportunities



“Tree of Life”

Purchase a leaf on our “Tree of Life” to honor a simcha. Each leaf is \$180

Please contact Sharon Goldman
sharon.goldman@hotmail.com



ORDERING
KIPPOT & TALLIT
FOR YOUR
CHILD'S SERVICE

B'NAI ISRAEL JUDAICA
SHOP





Centerpieces for Tzedakah

Make your simchas even more meaningful by renting our lovely centerpieces and helping those in your community.

Celebrate your next special occasion with centerpieces rented from B'nai Israel Sisterhood. Your donation is 100% tax deductible and will be used to purchase groceries and/or gifts for members of our community. These centerpieces are great alternatives for flower arrangements on the bima and on tables in the social hall. We can arrange to make custom ones as well.

For more information please contact Michelle Rosen
at (203) 405-6576 or mrs2511@yahoo.com



b'nai israel

SYNAGOGUE



The Three Amigos on 'Friendship and Transcendence'

April 18, 2024
from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

A Priest, Rabbi and Imam – Mons. Joseph Donnelly, Rabbi Eric Polokoff and Imam Gazmend Aga – are known in Connecticut as “The Three Amigos.”

The trio have been friends and interfaith partners for years, and first lectured together in 2010. In 2019 a nun dubbed them “The Three Amigos,” and the moniker stuck. Their public conversations modeling interreligious understanding have drawn unexpectedly large audiences and critical acclaim both online and at leading area institutions.

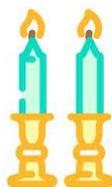


They have a weakness for selfies, and seem to be nearing consensus over who is the smart one, the good one and the handsome one.

This event will be livestreamed on Facebook for those who can't attend in person. There is no need to register if you will be watching the livestream. Simply go to this link: <https://www.facebook.com/hartfordinternational>

Candle lighting times April

4/05	7:03
4/12	7:10
4/19	7:18
4/26	7:26



HOW OCTOBER 7 CHANGED ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH WORLD

Thursday, May 9, 2024 AT 7PM

Join us for an evening with **#1 Israel speaker, Yossi Klein Halevi**. This program is sponsored by Temple Sholom of New Milford, B'nai Israel of Southbury, Jewish Federation of Western CT., Greater Washington Coalition for Jewish Life, United Jewish Center of Danbury and Temple Beth David of Cheshire.



Special appreciation to Rabbi Walk of Temple Beth El in Springfield, MA and Rabbi Cohn of Temple Sholom in New Milford, CT.

This event is held at the Jewish Federation of Western CT Walzer Family Jewish Community Campus 444 Main Street North Southbury, CT 06488.



Please RSVP to Cathy Cont cconti@jfed.net by May 3, 2024.

APRIL

04/06 Sherrie & Jeffrey Bitterman
 04/21 Leona & Allen Schwartz
 04/25 Ival & Ron Kovner
 Marina Zatman & Larry Smotroff



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 dorikam1958@gmail.com



04/01 Larry Smotroff	04/21 Alison Peck
04/04 Jay O'Brien	Rachel Rubel
04/05 Ellen Allen	04/22 Eli Price
Jeanette Brod	Deborah Siegel
04/06 Doria Linnetz	04/23 Matthew Wisnefsky
04/10 Sheila May	04/24 Kathryn Albee
04/12 Kimiye Liebman	04/25 Sheera DesJardin-Tangredi
04/14 Harvey Sukman	Joan Oshins
04/15 Amy Bernon	04/27 Herbert Isaac
Eric Silver	Susan Wise
04/16 Lindsey Noble	04/28 Benjamin Paley
04/18 June Gaston	Ethan Paley
Eric Schenfield	William Slepoy
04/20 Jeff Berkowitz	04/29 Ava Schwartz



“Please God, please heal them.”

Mindful of how our *Misheberach* prayers are to be timely, as we begin the New Year 5783 we seek to check on the status of those for whom we pray publicly. Beginning December 1st, to maintain, add or remove a name from the list, the office *must be notified on a monthly basis*. Call the office at 203.267.3394 or email: office@bnaisraelsouthbury.org to maintain, add, or remove a name.