

SHOFAR



Av-Elul 5780

August 2020

Our High Holy Days 5781/2020 – Both Virtual and Actual

Renewal is critical to Jewish consciousness. That's the reason for the annual determination to mark the High Holy Days in synagogues. Hopes of renewal and connection induce us to gather in community, to link ourselves to other Jews and their dear-ones, to return a tradition grounded in our best selves.

While renewal is certainly needed this upcoming 5781, current circumstances demand we adapt the venue. Safety precludes our worshipping together in our Sanctuary as we did last year and previous ones. After extensive deliberation by our leadership and like many other congregations, we're planning to be on-line. We will nonetheless seek to maintain inclusive elements that have long characterized our worship. Indeed, many are working hard to ensure the upcoming Days of Awe offer their appropriate meaning, majesty and inspiration.

What to expect...

- On-line Services will run for about 1 ½ hours on *Erev Rosh HaShanah*, *Rosh HaShanah Morning Day 1*, *Rosh HaShanah Morning Day 2*, *Kol Nidre*, *Yom Kippur Morning* and late *Yom Kippur Afternoon*.
- Services will be broadcast live with Rabbi Eric in the Sanctuary and Director of Sacred Music Linda Goodman in the Chapel, while also featuring recorded elements with many of our talented B'nai Israelites participating.
- Free *Ebooks* of our prayerbook *Mishkan HaNefesh* will also be available.
- JuCon, our Junior Congregation, will meet on-line.
- *Rosh HaShanah Afternoon Day 1* will include a brief actual Shofar hearing experience for congregants in their cars *outside* the building in the parking lot of our campus.
- *Rosh HaShanah Afternoon Day 2* will feature a special outdoor *Tashlich* service at George Bennett Park.
- Our High Holy Day Food Drive will offer virtual and actual options for performing this important act of *Tzedakah*. As need increases exponentially, we are called to respond.
- *Yom Kippur* afternoon will include opportunities for discussion on Zoom.

Details will follow in a separate mailing.

In ancient times Rabbis Akiva taught that "whether there are many or few in the synagogue one says: Bless Adonai your God..." Carrying forward that message as we seek renewal in challenging times, in the Sanctuary, Chapel and at home on our screens, we will do just that.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Eric



Contact Us

During this unprecedented time we are not in the office and are working remotely.

Should you wish to be in touch please email :

office@bnaiisraelsouthbury.org

or visit our website for a full list of staff email addresses:
www.bnaiisraelsouthbury.org

thank you!

Your donations are greatly appreciated!

Donations

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

in memory of

Gertrude Barr

Fred Barr

Ruth Goldman

Barry Fingerhut

Suzanne Isaac

Ron, Marty, Lenny & Herb Isaac

Jacob Kovner

Ival & Ron Kovner

Caring Fund

in memory of

Lew Hozer

Stefanie, Jennifer, Rich & Mike Marino

Eli Mintz

Leona & Allen Schwartz

Ritual Fund

in memory of

Clarence Perretz, Sr.

Clarence Perretz, Jr.

Dawn Tendler

Meyer Kramer

Harriet Meisel

General Fund

The Brandt family

General Fund

in memory of

Tillie Kramer

Harriet Meisel

Lew Hozer

Janice & Edward Stango

Morton Engelman

Marilyn Engelman

Lillian Cieply

Morton Cieply

Maurice Grob

Heather & Burt Cieply

Ritual Fund

Jonathan Kapstein

Music Fund

in memory of

George S. Getnick

The Getnick family

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jill Hiatt & Mark Glickman

Celia & Lionel Schwartz

Sherri & Jeff Bitterman

Keren Beiti Fund

Judy & Gene Mirrer

Dear B'nai Israel family,

Please accept our belated but most genuine & heartfelt gratitude for the support we received during Jason's Bar Mitzvah preparations & ceremony. We have enclosed a donation to the Music Fund in honor of Makhela's thoughtful & generous sponsorship of the oneg Shabbat prior to Jason's Bar Mitzvah, in addition to Linda's beautiful music & loving guidance. We have also enclosed a donation to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund in honor of the time, thought & support that Rabbi Eric & Dr. Dan provided to Jason & our family. We are grateful to be part of the B'nai Israel community, & look forward to the time that we can all be together again.

With love,

Jason, Bonnie & Henry Voegeli



Artist, Michelle Pulver
Calligraphy, Doris Landaeta

Tribute Cards

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

From: Lionel and Celia Schwartz

To: *Matthew Schwartz **
Congratulations on your graduation
from college

To: *MaryAnn and Ed Neiger ** Wishing
an amazing couple a memorable 50th



Leadership

Rabbi

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

Director of Sacred Music

Linda Goodman
music@bnaiisraelsouthbury.org

School Director

Abby Peklo
educator@bnaiisraelsouthbury.org

Officers

Lisa Segal, President
emilysmomlisa@aol.com
Steven Reps, 1st Vice President
Patti Berkowitz, 2nd Vice President
David Augenbraun, Treasurer
Sheri Kipperman, Secretary

Trustees

Charlene Blatter (2023)
Phil Feinman (2022)
Rochelle Gershenow (2021)
Joyce Hozer (2021)
Eric Linnetz (2022)
Liz McConnon (2023)
Michelle Rosen (2022)
Kim Rubel (2021)
Jodi Wasserstein (2023)



As we are discussing how the High Holiday Services will be different this year the Memorials and Dedications Committee wishes to remind you that *Yizkor* will be the same and that you should be aware that your *Yizkor* form honoring the memories of your loved ones will arrive to you by email. Should you require us to send you a hard copy please email the office.



May their memory be for blessing

YAHARZEITS

8/7

Augusta Decker

Frank Dolcort

Samuel R. Elman

Rebecca Feinn

Max Garber

Laura Goldberger

Israel J. Kapstein

Jack N. Leonard

Morris N. Levy

Bertha Mirrer

Leo Purrinson

Jennie Sacks

Abraham D. Singer

Sadye Zackin

Lois Zeidler

8/14

David Aaron Feinman

Baruch Golda

Sarah Golda

Sue Strisik Grossman

Arthur Infeld

Bettina Gladstone Jackson

Bruce Robert Jensen

Jack Kaplan

Stella Cohen Kapstein

Benjamin Leopold

Charlotte Linton

Franklin G. Nathanson

Adolph Pollak

Stanley Saperstein

Jerome Schwarzbach

Mae Leopold Spearo

Joseph Stein

Leo Swerdlick

Leona Tendler

8/21

Eva Greenblatt Alderman

Philip Aronson

Ida Krakow Beninson

Anna Weisman Blick

Herman Borenzweig

Belle O. Brandvein

Corrine Cantor

Gertrude Fleischman

Samuel J. Frank

Mary Goldberg

Anne Jacobs Greene

Evelyn Krakow

Jennie Liebeskind

Joseph Paley

Arnold A. Pollack

Edward F. Sheinbaum

Esther Sochin

Gertrude Spearo

Julia Wright

Doris Zelin

8/28

Jerold Berkley

Donald M. Berkowitz

Bessie Cohen

Steven Charles Feinman

Conrad Fleisher

Bernard Garber

Halina Gorski

Rose Harnick

Murray Heller

Francis Kipperman

Herbert Liebeskind

Abe Muravnick

Jacob Perlman

Jacob Rutman

Jacob Strisik

Elise Summit

Robert 'Bob' Summit

Gertrude Traurig

Rose Wolk

Neal Zimmerman

*names in bold have a
yahrzeit plaque in the
B'nai Israel sanctuary



- | | | | |
|------|---|------|--------------------------------------|
| 8/1 | Linda Herrmann
Rebecca Hill | 8/19 | Bonnie Voegeli |
| 8/2 | Jeffrey Langsam | 8/20 | Melissa Fleischer
Adam Wisnefsky |
| 8/4 | Sophia Goudsmith
Lisa Wallace
Robert Weil | 8/22 | Sarah Manning |
| 8/5 | Paula Getnick
Kellen Herman
Catherine Hogan | 8/23 | Abby Peklo |
| 8/6 | Diane Wenick | 8/24 | Jennifer Burwin
Yvette Mickenberg |
| 8/7 | Doris Abramson
Herbert Slutsky | 8/26 | Ronald Kovner
Leah Linton |
| 8/8 | Sydney Langsam
Maria Weinstein | 8/27 | Chloe DaSilva
Leona Schwartz |
| 8/9 | Gerald Klein
Rick Williams | 8/28 | M. Ival Kovner
Randi Solomon |
| 8/11 | Rochelle Gershenow | 8/29 | Steven Reps
Jake Wasserstein |
| 8/12 | Marvin Shapiro | 8/30 | Doug Rose |
| 8/13 | Retta Fagin
Marvin Wurth | 8/31 | Burt Cieply |
| 8/15 | Julia Wise | | |
| 8/16 | Myles Wilson | | |
| 8/17 | Diane Fuchs | | |
| 8/18 | Lauren Bearz
Andrew Peklo | | |



- | | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 7/1 | Robin Gerber & Rick Williams |
| 8/2 | Dara & Joseph McKenzie |
| 8/8 | June Gaston & Stephen Rubenstein |
| 8/12 | Linda & Dan Goodman |
| 8/18 | Deyanira & Larry Engelman |
| 8/19 | Paula & Dick Getnick |
| 8/23 | Rachel & Jonathan Albert |
| 8/24 | Charlotte & Marvin Shapiro |
| 8/25 | Sharon Elias & Jay O'Brien |
| 8/28 | Dawn & Bob Tandler |
| 8/31 | Shari & Andrew Paley |




www.bnaiisraelsouthbury.org

HOST AN ONEG

Call Sandy Marcus

if you are interested in hosting an oneg or joining the committee

Sandy Marcus:
(203) 264-9136

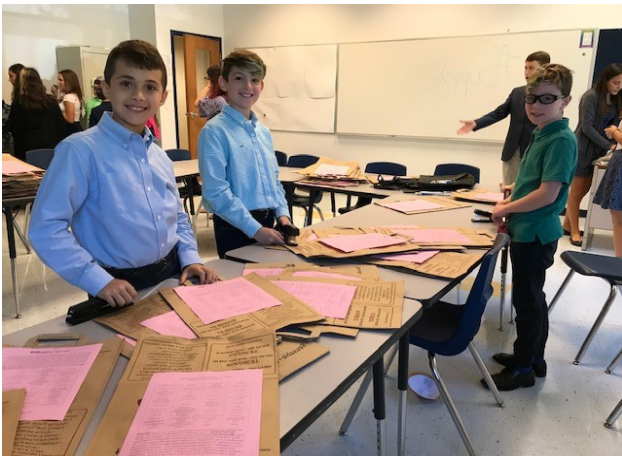


BIRS news

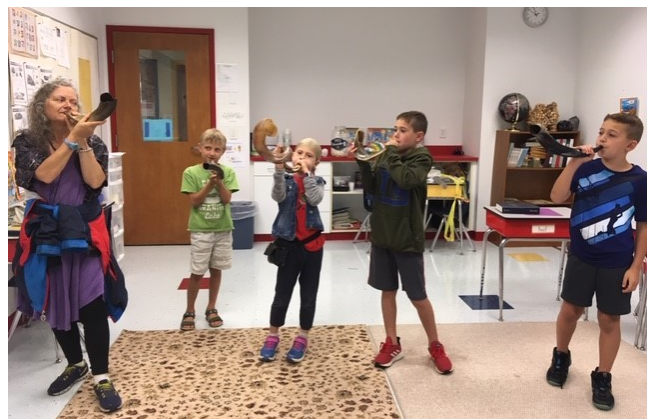
Last year's High Holiday **JuConn** (Junior Congregation) and BIRS-led **food drive** were a big hit! We had many kids and parents attend services. We were blessed by talented teenagers leading prayers and BIRS students blowing the Shofar. We hope our students and parents will join us again this year, albeit in a Covid-necessary virtual platform. I am looking for a few students to participate by chanting a prayer, doing an English reading, or blowing the Shofar. Our **high holiday food drive** is critically important for filling food bank shelves in Southbury, Woodbury, and Waterbury. This year, we will have a drive-up food donation drop-off as well as a virtual platform for monetary donations. I am looking for volunteers to help unload and reload from car trunks at the front entrance of the building following the TBD High Holiday service.

What you can do now:

1) Sign up for a JuConn English or Hebrew reading or Shofar blowing; 2) Sign up to help on the day of the Food Drive; 3) Send me a photo of your kids with their food donation pile! Sign up by emailing Abby at educator@bnaiisraelsouthbury.org.



BIRS students helped make last year's Food Drive a huge success.



Students in Grade 3 practice Shofar blowing with Morah Shari Lynn.

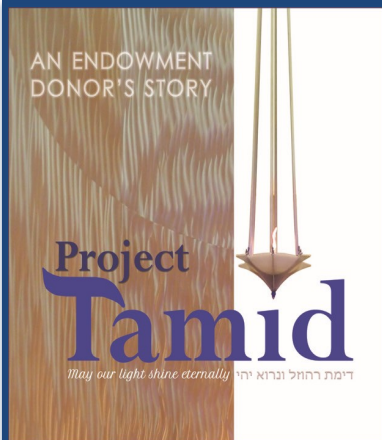
Donor Opportunities



“Tree of Life”

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

(203) 267-3394



Book Discussion The Yiddish Policemen’s Union by Michael Chabon Moderated by David Augenbraun ALL WELCOME



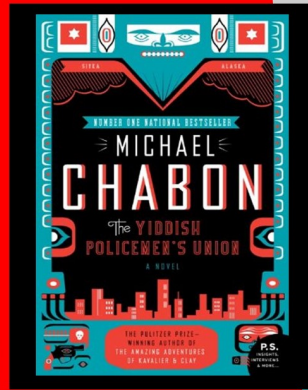
The *New York Times* bestseller, now available in paperback—“an excellent, hyperliterate, genre-pantsing detective novel that deserves every inch of its...blockbuster superfame” (*New York*).

For sixty years Jewish refugees and their descendants have prospered in the Federal District of Sitka, a “temporary” safe haven created in the wake of the Holocaust and the shocking 1948 collapse of the fledgling state of Israel. The Jews of the Sitka District have created their own little world in the Alaskan panhandle, a vibrant and complex frontier city that moves to the music of Yiddish. But now the District is set to revert to Alaskan control, and their dream is coming to an end.

Homicide detective Meyer Landsman of the District Police has enough problems without worrying about the upcoming Reversion. His life is a shambles, his marriage a wreck, his career a disaster. And in the cheap hotel where Landsman has washed up, someone has just committed a murder—right under his nose. When he begins to investigate the killing of his neighbor, a former chess prodigy, word comes down from on high that the case is to be dropped immediately, and Landsman finds himself contending with all the powerful forces of faith, obsession, evil, and salvation that are his heritage.

At once a gripping whodunit, a love story, and an exploration of the mysteries of exile and redemption, *The Yiddish Policemen’s Union* is a novel only Michael Chabon could have written.

Date: 10/4/2020



Time: 10:00 AM
Via ZOOM—email for link

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

Author Appearance Book Discussion The Girl From Berlin Moderated by Ronald H. Balson



An old friend calls Catherine Lockhart and Liam Taggart to his famous Italian restaurant to enlist their help. His aunt is being evicted from her home in the Tuscan hills by a powerful corporation claiming they own the deeds, even though she can produce her own set of deeds to her land. Catherine and Liam’s only clue is a bound handwritten manuscript, entirely in German, and hidden in its pages is a story long forgotten...

Ada Baumgarten was born in Berlin in 1918, at the end of the war. The daughter of an accomplished first-chair violinist in the prestigious Berlin Philharmonic, and herself a violin prodigy, Ada’s life was full of the rich culture of Berlin’s interwar society. She formed a deep attachment to her childhood friend Kurt, but they were torn apart by the growing unrest as her Jewish family came under suspicion. As the tides of history turned, it was her extraordinary talent that would carry her through an unraveling society turned to war, and make her a target even as it saved her, allowing her to move to Bologna—though Italy was not the haven her family had hoped, and further heartache awaited.

What became of Ada? How is she connected to the conflicting land deeds of a small Italian villa? As they dig through the layers of lies, corruption, and human evil, Catherine and Liam uncover an unfinished story of heart, redemption, and hope—the ending of which is yet to be written.

Don’t miss Liam and Catherine’s latest adventures in *The Girl from Berlin!*

Date: 9/2/2020



Time: TBA
Via ZOOM—email for link

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

Interested in joining Sisterhood?
Call Michelle Rosen,
President, at
msr2511@yahoo.com
for more information.