Rabbi	Joshua Ginsberg
Cantor	Andrea S. Raizen
President	Michael Freed
Vice President	Matthew Arnovitz
Vice President	Tara Feiner
Vice President	Beverly Louis
Vice President	Andrew Schwartz
Treasurer	Scott Liberman
Secretary	Marlene Pinsky
Men's Club President	Irwin Dumtschin
Sisterhood President	Irene Fishbein
Chevra Kadisha President	Ted Cooper
Rabbi Emeritus	Samuel B. Press, D.D.
Cantor Emeritus	Jerome B. Kopmar, D. Mus.
	•

#### Lavout Ann Rismiller **Articles Coordinator Elaine Arnovitz** Annie Potter Ann Rismiller Photography **Dennis Day** Staff Writers **Irwin Dumtschin** Irene Fishbein Mike Freed Rabbi Joshua Ginsberg Norm Lewis Julie Liss-Katz **Cantor Andrea Raizen** Allan Spetter

Ralph Williams

The printing of this publication is funded by private

9:30 am

9:31 pm

9:30 am

10:30 am

9:32 pm

5:00 pm

8:32 pm

9:36 pm

9:35 pm

9:30 - 11:30 am

**Bulletin Staff** 

# LIVESTREAM LINK

The link for all livestreamed services through StreamSpot is: https://venue.streamspot.com/72a802ed

> **Times for Shabbat Candle Lighting & Services** Online service links can be found at www.bethabrahamdayton.org, Facebook, or in your weekly News& Notes email

### Saturday, May 1

Saturday, May 8

Havdalah

9:30 – 11:30 am Morning Service (livestream) Havdalah 9:16 pm Communal Havdalah (Zoom) 9:15 pm

Friday, May 7 Kabba-Locked-In Shabbat (Zoom) Candle Lighting

5:00 pm 8:19 pm

> 9:30 - 11:30 am 9:23 pm 9:25 pm

> > 9:30 - 11:30 am

9:29 pm

9:30 pm

8:27 pm

Friday, May 14 Kabba-Locked-In Shabbat (Zoom) 5:00 pm 8:26 pm Candle Lighting

#### Saturday, May 15

Morning Service (livestream) Havdalah Communal Havdalah (Zoom)

Morning Service (livestream)

Communal Havdalah (Zoom)

#### Sunday, May 16 **Erev Shavuot** Candle Lighting

Monday, May 17 Shavuot I – Office Closed

# Morning Service Candle Lighting

Tuesday, May 18

Yizkor

Havdalah

Shavuot II – Office Closed **Morning Service** 

Friday, May 21 Kabba-Locked-In Shabbat (Zoom) **Candle Lighting** 

#### Saturday, May 22

Morning Service (livestream) Havdalah Communal Havdalah (Zoom)

Friday, May 28 Kabba-locked-In Shabbat (Zoom)

5:00 pm Candle Lighting 8:38 pm

Saturday, May 29

Morning Service (livestream) 9:30 - 11:30 am Havdalah 9:41 pm Communal Havdalah (Zoom) 9:40 pm

DAILY MINYAN (Zoom) Monday through Thursday – 5:30 pm

# Bulletin Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism VOLUME 17. NUMBER 8

# **AMERICANS AND THE HOLOCAUST RUTH & FRED SCHEUER** LIFE ENRICHMENT SERIES

Please join us on Sunday, May 16, from 10:30 a.m. to noon for the 2021 Ruth & Fred Scheuer Life Enrichment Series program. This year's thought-provoking program will be brought right into your own home via Zoom.

We will take a video walking tour through a remarkable exhibit at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum entitled, "Americans and the Holocaust." This exhibit creatively documents the motives, pressures and fears during the 30's and 40's that shaped the American response to Nazism, war and the persecution and murder of European Jews. Furthermore, this comprehensive exhibit illustrates what Americans knew and how they responded.

Following the video, there will be a live discussion with museum historian Rebecca Erbelding, Ph.D., moderated by Ruthie Fierberg, a New York City based journalist. Participants will be able to



BETH

ABRAHAN

SYNAGOGUE

ask questions.

Ruthie Fierberg

Additionally, the Ruth & Fred Scheuer Life Enrichment Series is offering a complimentary box brunch for program participants in the local area. Please indicate your interest on your registration form.

## RSVPs for the box brunch must be received by May 5 and can be picked up at the synagogue's lower*level entrance on May* 14<sup>th</sup> *from* 1-4 *p.m.*

We look forward to having you share this special educational opportunity.





305 SUGAR CAMP CIRCLE DAYTON, OHIO 45409 937-293-9520 www.bethabrahamdayton.org









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- **Congratulations Grads! page 8**
- Shavuot, page 9



IYYAR - SIVAN 5781

#### LIFE ENRICHMENT SERIES lighten, Elevate, Enterta

You must register on the Beth Abraham website to attend and receive the Zoom link. Simply go to www.bethabrahamdayton.org, look for Upcoming Events and complete the registration form. Or call the synagogue office at 937-293-9520 for assistance.



Rebecca Erbelding

# The Cantor's Corner Cantor Andrea Raizen

Spring is finally in the air, and along with that comes another Jewish festival. For many adults and children alike, it is that other "S" holiday. In other words,

Shavuot. Because there is no well-known home component associated with Shavuot like building a sukkah or preparing a seder, it is often less celebrated than Passover and Sukkot. Despite this, it is certainly no less important in our cycle of holidays.

Shavuot celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. We anxiously anticipate its arrival by counting the days from the second night of Pesach, seven weeks, each week seven days, for a total of 49 days. On the 50<sup>th</sup> day, we gather to pray, recite the psalms of Hallel and read from the Torah about the

giving of the ten commandments.

As many of you are aware, the Hebrew phrase for the ten commandments is aseret hadib'rot, meaning the ten sayings or statements. There is no mention of commandment. Nonetheless, these statements are certainly more than mere suggestions. We Jews live our lives with a sense of commanded-ness. We have a lifelong obligation and responsibility to keep our eyes open and be acutely aware of injustice that resides in this world and be prepared to speak up, take a stand and do our part to bring goodness into the world. Each of us should strive to be a doer of *mitzvot*. But, besides carrying out God's commandments, what are the other implications of *mitzvot*?

The Hebrew word *mitzvah* is based on the 3-letter Hebrew root, *tzadi, vav, hay*. It is similar to an Aramaic word, *tzavta*, meaning to join or connect. Many scholars have explained this to mean that doing *mitzvot* are a way for us to connect to God. From the creation story in Genesis, we learn that we are all made b'tzelem elohim, in the image of God. Our prayers are full of imagery of God providing for our every need. We are reminded that just as God cares for us, so much more so, we are to do the same for our fellow human beings, and by doing so we are truly a reflection of God. The idea of connection by performing mitzvot is not only to God, but to one another, as well. For the past year most of us have felt a deep loss of connectedness to each other. We have been unable to get close, reach out and give the much needed hug in both times of joy and sorrow. We know for a fact that human touch plays an important role in our physical well being. But during these times of social distancing we have had to rely on other ways to maintain that sense of connection. For me, that has meant more FaceTime calls with family and pretty much every work meeting taking place over Zoom. On the positive side, some of our inability to be physically close has challenged us to seek out ways to perform mitzvot. At Beth Abraham this has meant making more personal phone calls, checking in on congregants and getting involved in an ongoing project of preparing frozen casseroles for the guests at St. Vincent's. I do believe that the pandemic has, and hopefully will continue to inspire us to have more of a sense of compassion for those within and beyond our own community.

As we prepare to celebrate Shavuot, take some time to reflect on those many rules that God set out for us at Sinai and approach them not only as our sacred obligations, but as a way to bring us all closer to one another. Chag Sameach!

# **BETH ABRAHAM**

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# **GIVING SOCIETIES**

# CHAI SOCIETY

MIKE FREED **STEVEN & LINDA HORENSTEIN** TERRY & MARI ENE PINSKY **ALLAN\* & BRENDA RINZLER** NORM & MARY RITA WEISSMAN

## **RABBI'S MINYAN**

**BRUCE & DEBBIE FELDMAN** DAVID & SUSAN JOFFE **EDWARD & MARCIA KRESS MICHAEL & ELLEN LEFFAK** ALLEN LEVIN **DONALD & CAROLE MARGER ANDREW & PAMELA SCHWARTZ** 

# **CANTOR'S CHOIR**

LARRY & CINDY BURICK **JOEL & ANGELA FRYDMAN** DAVID & JOAN MARCUS **IIM & CAROL NATHANSON** FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

## PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

MATT & ELAINE ARNOVITZ **BILL & MELINDA DONER DOUGLAS & BETHANY EINSTEIN DENEAL & ESTHER FELDMAN GARY & IRENE EISHBEIN** LYNN FOSTER MICHAEL & ROCHELLE GOLDSTEIN MARK & KATHY GORDON SAMMYE HARRISON MARC KATZ & JULIE LISS-KATZ **STANLEY & SUSAN KATZ** NORM & KAY LEWIS **ALAN & MYRNIE MOSCOWITZ IRVIN & GAYLE MOSCOWITZ** WALTER RICE & BONNIE BEAMAN RICE **LEE & PATTI SCHEAR** FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

**\*OF BLESSED MEMORY** 

Man of the Year: Congratulations to Allan Spetter, Beth Abraham Men's Club's 2021 Man of the Year! Allan has been an essential member for many, many years. He has been and continues to be our treasurer, making sure Men's Club finances keep us in the black. Allan is also responsible for the success of the Sunday speaker brunch programs, scheduling the speakers each year. He also keeps tabs of our membership, keeps our roster list up to date, and helps with enlisting new members. Mazel Tov and "Yasher Koach" to Allan, for this long overdue and well-deserved recognition!

FJMC International Convention: June 6 - June 13, 2021: This year's bi-annual event is virtual this year. This is a GREAT opportunity for Beth Abraham men to get this "Taste of Convention." It is extremely easy to register and the cost is only \$36. The link to register for the convention is: https://www.fjmc.org

Yom Hashoah Yellow Candle Distribution: Men's Club thanks all our volunteers, both from Men's Club and Sisterhood. who delivered close to 180 Yom HaShoah yellow candles this year to our congregants living in the Dayton area, making sure all congregants received their candles in time to observe this important day. A special thank you to Ralph Williams and Alan Chesen for their help in putting the Yom HaShoah bags together. We thank and appreciate all those who participated.

Annual Deli Dinner and Movie Night: Because of COVID-19, we held this annual event virtually this year. Men's Club took orders, prepared, and delivered 68 box deli dinners in time for everyone to enjoy and watch the movie "Avalon" together virtually on Zoom. This event turned out to be highly successful.

Mother's Day Brunch: Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, our annual Mother's Day brunch celebration has been cancelled.

Men's Club Meetings: The Men's Club's next scheduled monthly meeting will be held virtually on Zoom on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30 pm, following the program "Americans and Holocaust" earlier that morning. We encourage all Men's Club members to attend to share your input, programming ideas and to plan for next year. Look for the Zoom link in the weekly News & Notes.

The Men's Club has completed their annual Yom HaShoah program with cooperation from the congregation. The proceeds will be used to support various synagogue projects and programs during the forthcoming months.

Jack & Maryann Bernstein, in memory of Moses Bernstein

Sylvia Blum Ken & Lisa Blum

Steve and Bari Blumhof, in memory of the

sister and brother of August Blumhof

Dena Briskin, in memory of Larry Briskin

Bea Burke, in memory of Jack Burke

Alan & Judy Chesen, in memory of all the victims of the Shoah

Betty Crouse, in memory of Melvin Crouse Celia Diamond, in memory of Diamond family members lost in the Holocaust

Marlene Dori

Irwin Dumtschin, in memory of all men. women and children murdered in the Shoah David Jacobs Dorothy Engelhardt, in memory of Simon Engelhardt

Beverly Farnbacher, in memory of Fritz and Freda Farnbacher and Jenny and Leopold Heilberg – all died at Auschwitz

### Mike Freed

Bella Freeman, in memory of all who lost lives in the Holocaust

Renate Frydman, in memory of my family

Franklin & Chery Scott and Ann Lib

### **MEN'S CLUB NEWS**

#### Irwin Dumtschin

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#### Yom HaShoah Candle Project 2021

and Charlie's family lost in the Holocaust Lynn & David Goldenberg, in memory of Ira Berger Mike & Rochelle Goldstein, in memory of all who perished in the Shoah	Beverly A. Louis Donald & Carole Marger, in memory of Molly Berman's family Carol Nathanson Jim & Carol Nathanson
Mark & Kathleen Gordon, in memory of Harry and Dorothy Gordon "Partisans"	Edie Pequignot, in memory of Holocaust victims
Russ Gottesman	Terry & Marlene Pinsky
Henry Guggenheimer, in memory of	Cantor Andrea Raizen
beloved relations, victims of the Shoah	Francine Roberts, in memory of victims of
Clara Hochstein, in memory of David	the Holocaust
Hochstein	Dale & Sharon Schiff, in memory of father,
Steven & Linda Horenstein, in memory of	Sander Schiff
the six million	William Schoenfeld, in memory of Beatrice
Martin & Martha Jacobs, in memory of	and Maurice Schoenfeld
David Jacobs	Judith Schwartzman
Allan & Linda Katz	Jules & Ava Sherman, in memory of
Jerome & Goldye Kopmar	Annabelle Hagel
Jerome Krochmal, in memory of Regina	Allan Spetter & Claudia Birch
Krochmal	Audrey Tuck, in memory of the six million
Matt & Miriamne Krummel, in memory of	Chaya Vidal, in honor of the great job the
Yetta Papish's and Aaron Pomeranz's	Men's Club is doing
families in Europe	Lawrence & Sheila Wagenfeld, in memory
Franklin & Cheryl Lewis	of the six million
Scott and Ann Liberman	

# Library News — Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter

It has been said that American Jews in the 1930s and early 1940s had "three worlds," Di



velt, yene velt, and Roosevelt. Almost certainly the most nportant book on he relationship between the Jewish ommunity and President Franklin oosevelt is titled, The Politics of Rescue: The Roosevelt

Administration and the Holocaust, 1938-1945 by Henry Feingold which can be found in the synagogue library collection.

His hands tied by the most discriminatory and restrictive immigration policy in the nation's history, one which established quotas for immigrants from each nation and favored immigrants from northern and western Europe, Roosevelt tried to get other nations to cooperate on a policy for refugees. Finally, in January 1944, Roosevelt created He called for an international conference that the War Refugee Board (WRB) with met in Evian, France in July 1938.

By that time Germany had already annexed Austria, adding another 200,000 Jews desperate to leave Europe. Thirty-eight nations sent delegates to the conference. Not a single nation made a firm commitment to accept more Jewish refugees. The situation for Europe's Jews deteriorated rapidly when Germany annexed western Czechoslovakia in September, Kristallnacht followed in November, and Germany annexed the rest of Czechoslovakia in March 1939, bringing another 400,000 Jews under German control.

The United States accepted a total of 90,000 immigrants in 1939, but it could have taken in many more. The best example of the American failure to do much for desperate European Jews took place in 1939. Legislation had been introduced in both Houses of Congress to admit 10,000 children under the age of 14 from Germany in 1939 and another 10,000 in 1940. In the face of hostile opposition in both Congress and public opinion, the legislation never came to a vote.

By 1941, with war raging in Europe, the State Department with the cooperation of Congress made it almost impossible for Jewish refugees to enter the United States. Feingold concludes that with a more open immigration policy, the United States could have taken in between 62,000 and 75,000

more Jewish refugees from 1938 to 1942. Finally in April 1943, the United States and Great Britain sent delegations to a conference in Bermuda to discuss the issue of Jewish refugees in Europe.

According to Feingold, neither the British nor the Americans intended to do anything meaningful about the Jewish refugees. The British proved unwilling to allow a significant number of refugees into Palestine and the Americans proved unwilling to change their restrictive immigration policy. The Jews in Europe would be on their own.

At last, elements in the American Jewish community became more willing to openly criticize the inaction of the United States on behalf of Jewish refugees. In November 1943, a resolution passed both the House and the Senate urging Roosevelt to form a top level commission to "formulate a plan to save the surviving Jews of Europe from extinction."

instructions to save as many Jews in Europe as possible. The most important figure involved in creating the WRB and carrying out its mission is Henry Morgenthau Jr., the Jewish Secretary of the Treasury and the son of immigrants from Germany. Roosevelt made a crucial decision when he turned control over refugee policy to the Treasury Department, replacing the State Department.

The creation of the WRB came much too late

for most European Jews. One large Jewish community, in Hungary, an ally of Germany, had not been threatened as late as 1944, until the Germans took control of the country, about a year before the end of the war in Europe. The WRB guickly went into action and recruited, almost certainly, the most heroic figure in the saga of the Holocaust, Raoul Wallenberg, a diplomat from neutral Sweden.

Wallenberg immediately used various methods of extending Swedish diplomatic protection to some 10,000 Hungarian Jews in Budapest. Feingold says that Wallenberg's initiative inspired both Spain and Switzerland to extend diplomatic protection to some Jews in Budapest. Then in June 1944, a few days after the Normandy invasion, Roosevelt announced a new policy of admitting a small number of refugees on a temporary basis to a facility in upstate New York.

The move involved about 1,000 refugees already held in territory liberated by the Allies in North Africa and Italy. Tragically, the Germans had deported more than 400,000 Jews from Hungarian territory. With the nation threatened by advancing forces from the Soviet Union, some Hungarian officials moved to protect the remaining 200,000 Jews in Budapest. They offered to let Jews leave if other nations would accept them.

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The Americans felt they could not accept the Hungarian offer or various German proposals to ransom Jews because it would involve making a deal with the enemy. The Americans continued to string out negotiations while the Germans released several small groups of Jews. Individual Jews and small groups of Jews could escape from Europe by various routes, for instance from Vichy France to neutral Spain or Portugal. The most important of these routes, however, involved getting through neutral Turkey on the way to Palestine.

Two American Jews played essential roles in dealing with Turkey - Laurence Steinhardt. ambassador to Turkey, and Ira Hirschmann, a very successful businessman working for the WRB. As early as April 1943, Steinhardt convinced Turkey to accept some 30,000 Jewish refugees, mostly from Romania, on their way to Palestine. Hirschmann's main job would be to publicize any and all rescue efforts at a time when most Americans did not even begin to comprehend the extent of the Holocaust.

Sadly, Feingold is forced to conclude that nothing could have been done by Roosevelt or anybody else to overcome German determination and efficiency in carrying out what has been described as a war against Europe's Jews. Feingold finishes with a profound statement. He says, the miracle required to save Europe's Jews had to come from a Higher Kingdom "whose strange indifference has become an overriding concern for theologians."

~To learn more about America during the Holocaust, you will want to participate in the 2021 program sponsored by the Ruth and Fred Scheuer Life Enrichment Series. See the front page of this Bulletin for more information.

As we approach the holiday of Shavuot, Esther 9:27, 'keemu v'keeblu



the celebration of God's revelation of the Torah to the people of Israel, the camped around Sinai captivates our imagination. We are taught that every Jewish soul stood at

Mount Sinai and we revel in the sensation that each generation received with their identity and practice would the Torah together once and for all time, feeling that we ourselves are the next link in the eternal chain of transmission. Yet, as experience has shown, that feeling of connection and commitment can wane over time; and continued engagement with one's Jewish identity can become passive and rote, and for some, easily dropped at the first signs of difficulty.

Aware of this possibility, the Talmud (Shabbat 88b) shares that "In the days of Achashverosh, the Jewish people renewed their commitment to Torah and Jewish life once more. That is why it beings through the experience. The is written in the Megillah, the Book of

# **ANNUAL MEETING MAY 26**

Please join us for our annual meeting on Wednesday, May 26th at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held virtually on Zoom immediately following minyan. We will be utilizing our minyan link which can be found in our weekly News & Notes or on our website.

We will be voting on the slate of Officers and Directors, as well as hearing a review of this past year, our plans for the upcoming year, and recognizing Rabbi Ginsberg. We hope to see you there!

image of the Israelites This second sacred moment, related in the book of Esther, functions as a restoration of Sinai. In this moment, exhilarated with the joy of Purim, the Jews re-affirmed the covenant of Sinai, and re-accepted upon themselves the Torah. Their continued engagement now come from a greater place of commitment and devotion, having found the inspiration to derive greater meaning from something that was always theirs.

> This wasn't a given. Remember, that while the story of Purim ends on a celebratory note of victory, it was victory in the face of uncertainty and profound challenges. This generation of Jews tapped into the power of resilience and hope - that power of our people to face the unknown and become stronger Jews and human Jews of that generation, like



Eight large boulders have been placed at the lower entrance of the Synagogue as a safety barrier. The stones fit in well with our natural setting.

# THE TORAH IS RECEIVED, NOT GIVEN

Rabbi Joshua Ginsberg

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ha'yehudim, the Jewish people affirmed and accepted,' they re-affirmed what they had long before accepted."

generations before and after, climbed the multitude of mountains, and renewed their dedication to life, Torah, and the Jewish people. That is what we must do again as we climb down the summit of this COVID-19 pandemic.

The Kotzker Rebbe was once asked: "Why is Shavuot called Z'man Matan Torah, 'The Time that the Torah was Given,' rather than 'The Time the Torah was Received?"" He answered: "The giving took place on one day, but the receiving takes place at all times." Our commitment to our values requires constant affirmation, a sustained receiving across time and space. As we move into the holiday of Shavuot, the time where we once again voluntarily accept upon ourselves our commitments to our values with renewed loyalty, my hope is that we give ourselves the space we need to think honestly about what is important to us and to the Beth Abraham community as it starts a new chapter in its 125-yearplus story. Like the Jews of Purim, may we all emerge stronger and ready again to stand at Sinai.



# LIFE AND LEGACY

"If the last year has taught us anything, it's that nothing in life is guaranteed. Not health. Not the ability to visit an elderly mother in a nursing home or even the ability to hold and spend time with grandchildren as they grow and change. This year has shaken both of us to the core even as we know that we have been more fortunate than most in how the pandemic has affected us. And so our intention to do what we can to try to shore up those pillars that support us and provide some stability, especially in trying times, is strengthened and our efforts must be what will do the most good. How fortunate that Beth Abraham has



chosen to participate in Life & Legacy. This initiative provides such an easy conduit and clear guidelines to do what we are compelled to do to ensure the future of the congregation that has been so important to both of us and to our families for four generations. Participation in Life & Legacy was an easy "yes" as we know this is the best way to ensure the stability of Beth Abraham for the generations to come." ~ Susie and Eddie Katz





# WOMEN OF VALOR Wednesday, May 5th @ Noon

We hope that you will be able to join us virtually to celebrate our honorees on Wednesday, May 5th at noon. Anyone who would like to view the event may do so at Beth Abraham's Streamspot page. The link for this will be posted in the weekly News and Notes email and on the Beth Abraham website (www.bethabrahamdayton.org) the day of the event.

> Our Honorees: Phyllis Pavlofsky Allen Tara L. Feiner Helen Ostreicher Halcomb Goldye Abby Kopmar Linda Novak **Bonnie Parish** Jody Glasser Sobol



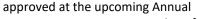
#### SISTERHOOD NEWS Irene Fishbein

Spring time is also Sisterhood Shabbat time! While we are unable to celebrate in our traditional fashion due to COVID restrictions, we do not want this special Sisterhood tradition to pass us by. Now that it is permitted for up to 20 congregants to be in attendance for Shabbat services, we would like to worship together on **May 22<sup>nd</sup>.** As you know, 10 congregants are needed to attend for the full service arriving by 9:30AM to be counted for minyan and staying until the conclusion around 11:30AM. An additional 10 congregants can arrive at 9:30 or later if they choose.

Physical distancing and mask wearing will be continuing. You will need to sign up ahead of time to attend by following the link in the News & Notes or calling the office for us to add you to the list. If you aren't comfortable joining us in person, please tune in via the live stream service. Hope to see you all soon!

# **A Message From Mike** Mike Freed, Beth Abraham President

By now everyone should have received As I think back over the past four of Officers and Directors to be





congregation. President for the past four years, I will be stepping aside this column marks my final

"Message from Mike." As I have mentioned to many of you over my years as President, writing these monthly columns has been one of the least enviable tasks of the job. It always seemed that no sooner had I completed one month's column, that next month's submittal was due. Not to mention the challenge of finding a topic and turning it into a column that would be interesting and informative. But now that the final entry is here, it is a bittersweet moment knowing this will be my last opportunity to brief the everyone who has volunteered, for congregation on the doings of Beth Abraham.

notice in the mail announcing the slate years, I am amazed at how much has occurred during my presidency, some things that I could have anticipated Meeting of the when I first agreed to fill the position, but much that I never would have After serving as imagined having to address. The one constant has been how all of our Beth Abraham family rose to the occasion, both in good times like we did for our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of celebration, and as a result, and in bad times like we have done over the past year in response to the COVID pandemic. No matter the circumstances, we continue to be a warm, welcoming and vibrant congregation and I am proud to have served as its president these last four years. I know that none of our successes

presidency. Whenever I asked

#### **Interim Rabbi Search** Norm Lewis

The work of the Interim Rabbi Search Committee continues to progress. Our position opening has been posted to the Rabbinical Assembly career website and applications for our position have begun to come in. The Committee has begun candidate interviews and plans to have interviews of all qualified applicants completed shortly. We are pleased with the response to our posting as each of the Rabbis who have applied to fill the Interim Rabbi position are well qualified and applied to Beth Abraham because of its size, history and vitality even in light of the pandemic. Once all the interviews are completed, the Committee will make its recommendation about our Interim Rabbi position with the expectation that a decision will be reached by the beginning of May.

would have been possible without the help and support of so many of our Beth Abraham family. My thanks to all of the Executive Officers and Board of Director members who have led the synagogue during this time, as well tasks large and small, during my

someone to volunteer, they unfailingly said yes and through every one of our volunteer's efforts we have continued to accomplish so much. I am deeply grateful for everyone's commitment to helping Beth Abraham over the years. I also want to give special thanks to our staff - to Rabbi Ginsberg, to Cantor Raizen, to Dennis, Ann and Annie and most of all to Elaine - for all of your assistance over the course of my presidency. I know that Elaine would prefer not to receive any special recognition, but there is absolutely no way that I would have been able to succeed as President without all of Elaine's help, support and good counsel. Thank you all.

It has been my great pleasure to serve as President and I am deeply humbled by the experience. I am confident that our new Officers and Directors, as well as all of our other volunteers and our staff. will continue to move Beth Abraham forward no matter the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Together we can all continue the 125+ year legacy of Beth Abraham Synagogue.

## **OBSERVING SHAVUOT**

Shavuot commemorates the giving of the Ten Commandments to Moses and the Israelites at Mount Sinai. Just as the Israelites stayed up late the night before receiving the Ten Commandments, there is an opportunity for us to do so with USCJ online for 24 hour study sessions. Look for information to register in our News & Notes.

You can sign up to attend Shavuot services in person at Beth Abraham on Monday, May 17 and Tuesday, May 18 beginning at 9:30 am, or view them by livestream on our StreamSpot link. Yizkor services are on Tuesday around 10:30 am. Sign up to attend through News & Notes or by calling the office.

# **Oren Andrew Watson Bar Mitzvah**

Meryl Hattenbach welcomes the congregation to celebrate the Bar Mitzvah of her son, Oren Watson, on Saturday, May 15 at 9:30AM. The service will be streaming live through StreamSpot (the link is the same as our Shabbat services). Oren will be reading from Parshat B'midbar.

Oren is in the 7th grade at Oakwood Junior High School where his favorite subjects are social studies and cooking. Oren loves listening to music and playing video games. He also plays tennis, basketball, and played on the Oakwood Junior High baseball team until he broke his ankle trying to tag first base. Oren loves dogs, particularly his shih-tzu, Maddy, and Norwegian elkhound, Emma. Oren is the grandson of Edward Hattenbach (of blessed memory), Shelley Hattenbach, Jimmie Watson, and Betty Watson (of blessed memory).

Oren is passionate about animals, particularly dogs. For his Bar Mitzvah project, he is supporting a local organization called People and Paws. This group provides pet food to pet owners in Dayton who are struggling to pay their bills. You are welcome to support his project by bringing donations of requested items to Beth Abraham during the month of May. The most needed items include dry cat food, dry dog food, kitten food, gallon sized zip bags, hand sanitizer and permanent markers. You may also make a monetary donation by writing a check to People and Paws and sending it to Oren Watson, 205 Wonderly Ave. Dayton, OH 45419. We will forward the checks to People and Paws.





# **CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!**

Dersu Goorskey, son of David and Chao Goorskey, graduated from Centerville High School. He will be attending Ohio State University where he plans to study computer science or computer engineering. This summer, he is interning with the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright Patterson Air Force Base as part of the Wright Scholars program.

Deborah Liberman, daughter of Scott and Ann Liberman, graduated from Indiana University – Bloomington with a B.S. Ed. in Early Childhood Education, with Highest Distinction. While at Indiana, Deborah participated in the Hutton Honors College, was a four year member and Corporate Relations Chair for Dance Marathon, and was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority. Deborah has worked four summers in the Early Childhood program at the CJCE and hopes to obtain a Pre-K- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teaching job.

Devorah Chava Schwartz, daughter of Andrew and Pamela Schwartz, graduated from The Miami Valley School. While at MVS, Devorah was Student Government President and Senior Class President. She also played varsity softball, tennis and basketball. Her most impactful high school experience was the MVS immersion program during which she lived and worked in the village of Okurase in Ghana, Africa. Devorah will attend George Washington University's Elliot School of International Affairs in Washington, D.C. where she will study international relations and pre-law.

Jordan Smith, son of Cindy and Sam Smith, graduated from Wright State University with a B.A. in Communications. He does not have definite plans for the future as yet.

# BETH ABRAHAM SYNAGOGUE

# IN THE BETH ABRAHAM FAMILY

# We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

Horenstein

### **Bert Appel Fund**

In memory of Ellen Elovitz, by Joel & Angela Frydman Shelly Charles, by Renate Frydman Rabbi Michael Cook, by Renate Frydman

In honor of All the Women of Valor, by Renate Frydman

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Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays	27	Judge Walter Rice		
and anniversaries in May:	27 28	Ralph Williams Cindy Smith		
May Birthdays	30	David Marcus		
1 Ellen Leffak	31	Zerla Stayman		
2 Edward Sperber	31	Janine Thomas		
4 Irwin Dumtschin	Mav	Anniversaries:		
<ol> <li>Terry Pinsky</li> <li>Joyce Burick Swarzman</li> </ol>	5	Jack and Maryann Bernstein		
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12 Norman Weissman	27	Ken and Janice Krochmal		
13 William Cohen	27	Philip and Janis Sussman		
13 Lois Unger	**  f \	our birthday or anniversary is not listed above,		
<ul><li>15 Lawrence Burick</li><li>15 Sheryl Zawatsky</li><li>17 Myron Stayman</li></ul>		se call the office so we can put it in the database		
18 Gary Goodman	WE F	RECORD WITH DEEP SORROW		
18 Harriett Kaplan		PASSING OF:		
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27 Judy Chesen 27 Julie Liss-Katz		1706 N. Main & 5844 Old Troy Pike 275-7434		

# **Sunday Brunch Speaker Series**

We invite you to attend our upcoming virtual Sunday speaker programs scheduled for this month. The sessions begin at 10:00 am on Sundays. Check News & Notes or www.bethabrahamdayton.org for the links.

May 2: Diana Nelson – "Intro to DNA Testing, Part Two" This is a special joint brunch program with Federation. You must register through the Federation website: jewishdayton.org

May 23: Jim Nathanson – "The Bar Kokhba Revolt: The Pivotal Event in the Development of Rabbinic Judaism." Look for the Zoom link in News & Notes.

IYYAR Lillian Abramovitz Esther Pollak **Beatrice Aftergood** Abe J. Pretekin Jacob Rauchman Sara L. Arnovitz Samuel Resler Margarethe Baer Stanley Barnett Kenneth Rittner Alan Bishow Arthur Roberts Morton Block Max Rockoff Sara A.R. Brotkin Joy Rosen Marvin Brown Shirley Rosenberg Rabbi Samuel Burick Barbara Rothschild Pamela Sue Chaet Minnie Rudin Max Cohen Harlan Saeks Sanford Cohen Lillian Scharoff Edith Schneidman Benyamin Eisenstein Herman (Curly) Ellison William Shirer William H. Ellison Myra Sklaroff David Engelhardt Dora Sloboff Ruth Erkes Marilyn Smith **Claudia Feuer** Edward I. Solkov Jack Fox **Rosalie Spatz** Lillian Freed **Morris Speert Rubin Speigel** Ben Friedman Joseph Garber Sadie Tanis Sol N. Gault Celia Tinianow Lillian Grinker **Beatrice Tucker** Julius Guggenheimer Rose Weber Stanley Hillelson Louis Weinhaus Melba Kahn Hyman L. Wilks Yehuda Kahn Homer Wyke Mair David Katz Leonard Zakem Norman Kramer Eva Zeifman Samuel Labovitch Yaakov Zipperstein Jeanette Lapidus Harry Leventhal SIVAN Hazel Levine Samuel Abrahamson Seymour Levine Ida Adelson Frances Light Rabbi Emanuel Adler Dorothy Magilvy Jennie G. Arnovitz Sam Mann Adele Behar Wolfe Marcus Bertha Beloff David Miller Emma Miller Martha Berman Mollie Muchnick Abraham Beyer Jennie Myers Sadie F. Bittker Fannie Neiman Jack Irvin Blaustein Avraham Block Anna Odell Meyer Paster Morris Blum Sarah Pitkowsky Inge Blumhof Arthur Pollack Abraham Bodenstein

This list represents yahrzeits for this month as listed in Beth Abraham's database. If we have missed a name, please call the Synagogue office at (937) 293-9520 and let us know so we can update our records.

# This May (IYYAR-SIVAN) we remember:

Joseph Briskin Mona Briskin Esther Brotkin Dora Cohen Jacob Cunix Minnie Cunix Ida Davis Else Eichel Ida Ellman Esther Eslow **Claire Feinhor** Nettie Felman Sam Fiddler **Philip Fisher Miriam Fraim** Hyman Frank **Myron Freed** Aaron Froug Sylvia Froug Max Gaffin Marcia Garber Helen Gordon Sheila Groban Herbert Gross Joseph Gross Albert Lizar Benjamin David Jacobs

# **YAHRZEITS**

Pamela Marcia Pollack Jennie Braustein Esther S. Chernick Eta Devora Chodos Minnie Chodos Pauline Pola Ellison Sally Farnbacher Morris Felman Norman Friedman **Rose Friedman** Lenore Ginsberg Louis Goldsmith Irven Goodman Randall Gossett Anne Greenberg Stanley Greenberg Ben Hammerman Norman Harlan Nettie Ingberg **Edith Jacobson** Irene H. Jacobson Joseph Jenefsky Gerhard Joseph Alice Kahn **Rubin Karlsberg** 

Harry Katz Rollana Kiseleva Ed Klaben Meyer Kling Anna Kovnat Gordon Kuhr Robert Leff Max Lehrner **Evelyn Leibovich** Hy Lev William Levin Louis Lieberman Mary Liebowitz Rose Liff Sally Litvak Esther Litwack Sumner Lyon Sylvia Lyon Benjamin Mandel Bernard Marger Joseph Henry Miller Ethel Ann Mink Nellie Moskowitz Joseph Muchnick Florence Nathanson Frieda Nemkovsky **Ben Newhouse** Abe Nisenholz Jacob Odell Anne Oscherwitz **Esther Oscherwitz** Carol Pavlofsky David Pope David Pritzker **Russell Remick** Ester Ribak Sadie B. Rich Sonia Richman Jacob Rinsky Albert Rosenbaum Sophie Rosenbaum Miriam Rosenblum Saul Rosenblum Jacqueline Routman Maurice Rubenstein Sarah Rubenstein Ann Rubin Bessie Sacolick Anna Sadow Dorothea Rebec Saeks

Morris E. Saeks Leo Salzberg **David Samuels** Morris Samuels **Mollie Sanderow** Irving Sanderson **Roslyn Schear** Sylvia Schear Philip Schneider Henry Schneiderman Paul Schreibman Hyman Schriber Debra Schwartz Ethel Schwartz Pauline Scott Harold Shane Elsie Sherman Paula Sherman Sam Silverman Eli Slobof Henry Slone Irving Spetter Henya Spialter Sidnev Stein Gertrude Stermer Peggy Stoler Philip H. Stoolman Isidore Tannenbaum Adele Tilson Michael Tobin Elias Vandersluis Kenneth Weinberger Benjamin Weinstein Anna Weisman Freida Williams Carl Wiseman Andrea N. Wolfe Misha Woll M. A. Zeff Louis Zeifman

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