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Cantor Emeritus	Jerome B. Kopmar, D. Mus.

### LIVESTREAM LINK

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

### MORE EARTH DAY FUN AND LEARNING!



### Times for Shabbat Candle Lighting & Services

Online service links can be found at [www.bethabrahamdayton.org](http://www.bethabrahamdayton.org),  
 Facebook, or in your weekly News& Notes email

#### Friday, May 6

Kabba-Locked-In Shabbat 5:00 pm  
 Candle Lighting 8:17 pm

#### Saturday, May 7

Morning Service 9:30 am  
 Havdalah 9:22 pm  
 Communal Havdalah (Zoom)  
 9:25 pm

#### Friday, May 13

Kabba-Locked-In Shabbat 5:00 pm  
 Candle Lighting 8:24 pm

#### Saturday, May 14

Morning Service 9:30 am  
 Havdalah 9:29 pm

#### Friday, May 20

Kabba-Locked-In Shabbat 5:00 pm  
 Candle Lighting 8:31 pm

#### Saturday, May 21

Morning Service 9:30 am  
 Havdalah 9:37 pm

#### Friday, May 27

Kabba-Locked-In Shabbat 5:00 pm  
 Candle Lighting 8:36 pm

#### Saturday, May 28

Morning Service 9:30 am  
 Havdalah 9:44 pm

### Bulletin Staff

#### Layout

Ann Rismiller

#### Articles Coordinators

Elaine Arnovitz

Annie Potter

Ann Rismiller

#### Photography

Adam Feiner

Marcie Sherman

#### Staff Writers

Elaine Arnovitz

Rabbi Melissa Crespy

Irwin Dumtschin

Irene Fishbein

Scott Liberman

Cantor Andrea Raizen

Allan Spetter

Ralph Williams

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BETH  
ABRAHAM  
SYNAGOGUE

# Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

VOLUME 18, NUMBER 9

MAY 2022

NISAN - IYYAR - SIVAN 5782

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## SUNDAY SUNDÆ FUN DAY!



May 22, 2022

3:30 - 5:00 pm

at

Beth Abraham Synagogue

- \* Meet, Mingle and Schmooze
- \* Activities and Games for all Ages
- \* Bubbles, Balloons, Raffles and more!
- \* Celebrate the end of the school year
- \* **\*PLUS\*** Delicious Graeter's Ice Cream Sundaes!

FUN FOR ALL! BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

### CELEBRATING SHAVUOT IN JUNE

- Tikun Leyl Shavuot - Light meal and learning sessions on **Saturday, June 4 from 6:30 to 10:00 pm**
- Shavuot in the Park - Potluck dinner on **Sunday, June 5th, 5:00 - 7:00 pm**  
 Bring a dairy/parve dish to share!
  - Shavuot Services **Sunday and Monday at 9:30 am**

**MORE INFO TO COME IN NEWS & NOTES AND THE JUNE BULLETIN**



## The Cantor's Corner *Cantor Andrea Raizen*

The arrival of the month of May signals a season of culminations and new beginnings. Students look forward to the



end of the school year and many prepare for graduation. For Beth Abraham, the end of May concludes our fiscal year and we begin preparing for the excitement of welcoming a

new rabbi in the summer. And so many of us are hoping that we are finally reaching the end of COVID concerns and anticipating a sense of freedom to take long overdue vacations without so much worry in the months ahead. Of course, I know that most of us will still approach this with a bit more caution and preparedness to change those plans, if necessary. But regardless of all that has happened these past two plus years, it does appear that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

That being said, I am happy to report that our youngest members of the congregation have made it through a complete school year, in person. We will be wrapping up our classes in a few short weeks and celebrate the end of the year, together with all of you, at our second annual "Sunday Sundae Fun Day" on May 22. As I looked back at our calendar for the year, I realized that we tweaked some of our programming as needed, as policies changed regarding social gatherings and food oriented programs. But we were still able to gather on a regular basis.

This year we learned together as one group, from grades 1-7, in a type of one-room-schoolhouse. Our older and younger students teamed up and worked together for a variety of activities. We prayed as a community, learned about each holiday, studied the stories of the Book of Genesis, worked on our oral Hebrew skills and cooked

together in the kitchen. Students in grades 3 and up also studied Hebrew reading in one-on-one sessions during the week. Parents and other adults in the congregation joined us for several special intergenerational learning days that included the following:

- At the conclusion of the High Holy Day season, we came together to learn about the Shmitta year. Adults had the opportunity to meet and study texts with Rabbi Crespy as the children did the same with me. We were set to participate in the Dayton CROP Walk supporting the Foodbank and other global food programs that afternoon, but the weather did not cooperate. We did, however, still manage to raise funds for the effort.
- On a cold, wintry day in January, more than 25 people came out to Hills & Dales Park for a Tu Bishvat nature hike that incorporated Jewish prayers and activities along the path that included blowing the shofar to wish the trees a happy birthday!
- In March we took a field trip to Temple Beth Or to join with their families for a special program with Sofer (Torah scribe), Shel Bassel from Israel. We saw how a scribe writes a Torah scroll and had a chance to try our hands at forming some of the Hebrew letters like a scribe.
- In honor of Earth Day we teamed up with our programming and social action committees to learn how we can better act as "Shomrei Adamah," guardians of the land. Text study sessions for children and adults were followed by presentations on recycling, composting and container gardening.
- And throughout the year, many of our families joined us in person and virtually as we celebrated holidays including Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, Hanukkah and Purim.

I want to thank the parents for your patience and flexibility over these past couple of years as we have navigated our way through these crazy times. I look forward to seeing many of you on May 22 as we get ready to launch into summer.

## BETH ABRAHAM



### GIVING SOCIETIES

#### { CHAI SOCIETY }

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

#### { RABBI'S MINYAN }

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

#### { CANTOR'S CHOIR }

ADAM & TARA FEINER  
DAVID & JOAN MARCUS  
JIM & CAROL NATHANSON  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

#### { PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE }

MATT & ELAINE ARNOVITZ  
BILL & MELINDA DONER  
DOUGLAS & BETHANY EINSTEIN  
DENEAL & ESTHER FELDMAN  
GARY & IRENE FISHBEIN  
LYNN FOSTER  
JOEL & ANGELA FRYDMAN  
RENAE FRYDMAN  
MICHAEL & ROCHELLE GOLDSTEIN  
MARK & KATHY GORDON  
SAMMYE HARRISON  
MARC KATZ & JULIE LISS-KATZ  
STANLEY & SUSAN KATZ  
NORM & KAY LEWIS  
SCOTT & ANN LIBERMAN  
ALAN & MYRNIE MOSCOWITZ  
IRVIN & GAYLE MOSCOWITZ  
WALTER RICE & BONNIE BEAMAN RICE  
LEE & PATTI SCHEAR  
REX & LOUISE TINCHER  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

\*OF BLESSED MEMORY

## SISTERHOOD NEWS

*Irene Fishbein*

It's time once again to announce the Sisterhood Board for 2022-2023 and I am so pleased that everyone will be continuing in their current roles once again. I am extremely grateful for the support and dedication of these fabulous women who help us grow and accomplish better things every year. We are making a change to our meetings going forward. We would like to invite you to join us! That's right, our meetings will be open to all Sisterhood members. Watch the BA calendar and News & Notes for the ZOOM link. We look forward to seeing you there!

Need a wedding or B'nai Mitzvah gift? The Sisterhood Gift Shop has exactly what you need. Please contact Connie Roberts for assistance.



Mazel Tov to Mike Sherman on his promotion to Lt. Colonel in the Air Force!

## MEN'S CLUB NEWS

*Irwin Dumtschin*

**Deli Dinner/ Movie/ Raffle Drawing Winners:** Our annual deli dinner, movie, and fund raiser raffle drawing held at the synagogue for the first time in 2 years was a huge success, with everyone enjoying their made to order boxed deli dinners. The featured movie "The Forward: From Immigrants to Americans" was very informative on the history of The Forward and was well received and enjoyed by all. The evening's event also featured the raffle drawings for this year's prizes. Congratulations to the following winners:

- Vizio 32" HDTV (Gordons Jewelry & Loan donation) – Janel Pequignot
- Shark Cordless Vacuum (Gordons Jewelry & Loan donation) – David & Susan Joffe
- 4 Dayton Theater Guild Tickets for any show – Rabbi Crespy
- \$75 Dorothy Lane Market Gift Certificate – Ted Cooper
- \$50 Gift Card – Marlene Dori
- \$50 Gift Card – Judy Chesen

**Yom Hashoah Yellow Candle Distribution:** Men's Club thanks all our volunteers who delivered Yom HaShoah yellow candles to our local congregants. A special thank you to Adam Feiner, Alan Chesen, David Rothschild and Rick Pinsky for helping to put the bags together. We also appreciate the following volunteers who helped to deliver the candles: Beth Adelman, Elaine Arnovitz, Alan & Judy Chesen, Ted Cooper, Doug & Bonnie Deutsch, Beverly Farnbacher, Adam & Tara Feiner, Irene Fishbein, Shana Fishbein, Mike Goldstein, Franklin & Cheryl Lewis, Rick Pinsky, Jeff & Connie Roberts, David Rothschild, Allan Spetter & Claudia Birch, Bob & Suzanne Thum, and Ralph & Diane Williams. All those who have contributed to honor or memorialize loved ones during this Yom HaShoah yellow candle campaign will be recognized in next month's Bulletin.

**Special FJMC-KIO Regional Anti-Semitism Weekend May 13-15:** This is an exciting and informative weekend planned in Columbus with sessions on How to React to Anti-Semitism, with speakers from the Anti-Defamation League, American Jewish Committee, and Israel. There is no cost for meals or participation, but **registration is required by May 5th**. Please watch News & Notes for more information and a link for registration.

**Next Men's Club Board Meeting:** Our next monthly meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Monday, May 16 at 7:30 PM** via Zoom. Our meetings are open to all, so come join us and provide your input. Please look at your weekly News & Notes or the website for the confirmed date and Zoom link.



Attendees enjoyed delicious deli sandwiches and more at the Deli Dinner.



# Library News — Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter



Irving Adler, inspired by a trip to Vienna in August, 2010, collaborated with his wife, Frances Adler, to produce a short but very poignant book titled, *Then and Now: Discovering My Viennese Family*, about his family's connection to the Holocaust. The book can be

found in the synagogue library, donated by Peter Wells, whose family history mirrors the experience of Adler's family and of most of the once flourishing Jewish community of Vienna during the period of the Holocaust.

Born in 1943 in New York, Adler grew up on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, where many Jews from Germany and Austria settled. In fact, Adler describes the neighborhood as "Vienna transplanted." As did many other Jewish families in the 1950s and 1960s, Adler's family moved from the center of New York to the Far Rockaway neighborhood at the northern end of Queens, about as far as they could go and still remain in the city.

Typical of Jewish and other ethnic communities in New York, his father's parents lived in the same apartment building. So did his mother's father, and though the grandparents had been divorced, Adler always wondered what had happened to his mother's mother. His mother never wanted to talk about her experience, but when Adler became old enough to understand, he learned that his grandmother perished in the Holocaust.

Adler attended New York University, then did graduate work at the University of Michigan where he earned a Ph.D. in chemistry. His parents continued to follow the path of many other Jewish families from New York by moving to Florida in 1974. After his mother passed away in 2003, Adler discovered a treasure trove of 102 letters that had been written to her between September, 1938 and November, 1941.

Germany had already taken control of Austria in March, 1938 in what is known as Anschluss, or union, between the two countries. Adler's mother, an only child born in September, 1911, had left for Great Britain and made it to the United States in early 1940. The letters came from her mother and other family members still in Vienna. On his trip to Vienna, Adler learned from existing records that his grandmother had become a victim of the Holocaust in June, 1942.

Adler describes how the anti-Semitic laws that had been in effect in Germany beginning 1933 would be implemented in Austria within weeks. Of the 200,000 Jews who lived in Austria in 1938, some 90 per cent in Vienna, about 130,000 fled the country. Adler estimates that of the 70,000 Jews who remained for various reasons, only about 5,000 managed to survive.

Adler's mother, then 27 years old, left in September, 1938 to take advantage of a special program which allowed women 45 years old or younger to apply for domestic positions in Great Britain. Adler's grandmother always remained upbeat in her letters even as Kristallnacht in early November, 1938 proved as horrible in Vienna as it had been all across Germany and as it became increasingly impossible for Jews to survive. (Peter's parents left Vienna after Kristallnacht. Peter's father could find a place to go only in Trinidad in the Caribbean. He was told that if they waited there for a month they would be allowed into the United States under the quota system. They remained in Trinidad for 14 months and Peter was born there. His sister Nora was born in the United States. Peter's family followed the path of many German and Austrian Jews. First they lived on the Upper West Side with an aunt and uncle, and then they moved to Queens.)

According to Adler's grandmother, some individuals and sometimes whole families could still get out of Austria during 1939. They could go to Great Britain, Palestine, Italy, Australia, various countries in the Caribbean, Central America, South America, or the United States. In fact Adler's grandfather left for the United

States with his third wife in May. (Sigmund Freud left for Great Britain in June.) In August, Adler's grandmother began to tell his mother about Austria preparing for war.

Adler provides the explanation for why his grandmother could not get out of Austria. She had been born in Poland, remained a Polish citizen, and may not have been that well educated. She seems to have missed various deadlines to file papers required for permission to leave. At 57 years old, she could not qualify for the domestic workers program in Great Britain.

In 1939, the British sharply limited the number of Jews allowed to enter Palestine. American immigration policy involved quotas for various countries and favored immigrants from northern and western Europe. Germany and Austria had an annual quota of 27,370 while Poland had a quota of only 6,524. The doors continued to close for Austrian Jews. Adler's grandmother may have spared his mother from the bad news through 1940 and into 1941.

In February and March, 1941, however, after forcing Jews into specific locations in Vienna, the deportations of 5,000 Jews to central Poland began. Then the deportations stopped as Germany prepared for and carried out its invasion of the Soviet Union in late June. The deportations resumed in October, and Adler described that development as the beginning of the end for the Jews of Vienna.

After a long search, with the help of experts in Vienna and in Israel, Adler located the only member of his immediate family who survived the war in Austria. Shaul Spielmann, a cousin, had been liberated from a concentration camp at the end of the war in May, 1945 and had left for Palestine. Adler met with his cousin and the cousin's very large extended family, one example to prove that the Jewish people had survived and thrived.



## THE GIVING OF THE TORAH: UNIVERSALISM AND PARTICULARISM

Rabbi Melissa Crespy

With Shavuot coming up on June 4, 2022, I'd like to share with you two stories about the giving of the Torah. I bring them to you because they are famous stories from the Talmud and the Midrash, and I hope you will enjoy them as much as I did when I discovered



them for the first time. But I also bring them to you because I believe they illustrate a tension that we, as Jews in the modern world, live with all the time - the tension between universalism and particularism - the tension between being universal members of the human race, and at the same time being particular members of the Jewish people. Here is the first story:

When Moses ascended on high, the ministering angels said before God: Do You wish to give to one of flesh and blood, the precious treasure which has been hidden with You for nine hundred and seventy-four generations prior to the world's creation? Lord, our Master, (they said, quoting Psalm 8) how mighty is Your Name upon all the earth, and You extend Your Majesty over the Heavens; what is a human that you should remember him, and the son of man that you should visit him? God said to Moses: Give them an answer. Moses said: Lord of the Universe, I fear lest they burn me with the breath of their mouths. Said God to him: Hold on to the throne of My Glory and answer them. Moses said before God: Lord of the Universe, The Torah that You have given me, what is written in it? "I am Adonai your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt!" Said Moses to the angels: Have you gone down to Egypt? Have you been in bondage to Pharaoh? Why should the Torah be yours? Moses said to God: What is further written in it? "You shall have no other gods besides me." Moses asked the angels: Are you among the nations who worship idols? Moses asked God: What is further written in it? "You shall not bear the name of the Lord in

vain." Said Moses to the angels: Are there any dealings or oaths between you? Moses asked God: What is further written in the Torah? "Remember the Shabbat to keep it holy." Moses asked the angels: Do you then do work that you need rest? And then to God: What is further written in it? "Honor your father and your mother." To the angels: Do you have fathers and mothers? And to God: What is further written in it? "You shall not commit murder; you shall not steal; you shall not commit adultery." Moses to the angels: Is there jealousy in your midst? Is the evil inclination found in your midst? The angels agreed...Each of them became a loving friend of Moses', and gave him a gift... And even the angel-of-death conveyed a secret to him. (Babylonian Talmud, Tractate Shabbat 88b-89a)

There are a number of things one could discuss in this story. For instance - what does an angel look like and why are angels concerned with the Torah in any case? Or, what kind of chutzpah do these angels have that they question God's decision? Or, who gave Moses, who is supposedly "slow of speech," lessons in litigating - so that he argues so well?! But the one I would like to highlight is this: Moses' arguments against the angels apply to all human beings. All human beings are subject to the weaknesses he mentions; all human beings are tempted by other gods - whoever or whatever they might be. All human beings are tempted to use God's name to make untrue promises. Many people have a tendency to show disrespect or disregard for parents. All people are tempted by the "evil inclination," in whatever form it chooses to manifest itself. In that sense, all people have a need for a "Torah," for a guide to how to live their lives. The Ten Commandments that Moses lists are universal, and indeed in the story, the angels say to God: Do you really want to give this Torah to "one of flesh and blood," i.e., human beings? The emphasis in this story is not the Jewish people; it is the human race. This is a story that differentiates angels from human beings - not Jews from other peoples. But this is only one story about the giving of the

Torah. Let us take a look at the second one:

When God revealed Godself to give the Torah to Israel, God revealed Godself not only to Israel, but to all the nations. At first God went to the children of Esav and said to them: "Will you accept the Torah?" They answered: What is written in it? God said to them, "You shall not kill." Said they: "Lord of the Universe, the very essence of our father is that he is a murderer." As it is said (Bereshit 27), "And by your sword you shall live." "We cannot accept the Torah!" God went to the children of Ammon and Moab, who were descendants of Lot, and said to them, "Do you accept the Torah?" They answered: What is in it? "You shall not commit adultery." Said they to God: "Lord of the Universe, our very essence is that we come from adultery." As it is said (Bereshit 19), "And the two daughters of Lot conceived from their father." "We cannot accept the Torah!" God went to the children of Ishmael and said to them: "Do you accept the Torah?" Said they to God: What is written in it? "You shall not steal." They said to God: "Lord of the Universe, our very essence is that we live from thievery and robbery," As it says about our ancestor, Ishmael, "His hand was in all things and the hand of all was upon him." (Bereshit 16) "We cannot accept the Torah!" There was not a nation among the nations to whom God did not speak, and on whose door God did not knock - asking them whether they wished to accept the Torah. Afterwards, God came to Israel. They said to him (Exodus 24:7): "We shall do and we shall hear!" (Midrash Sifre Zot Ha-Berakhah)

This story is somewhat different. Although it tries to show that God was not initially partial to the Israelites - in that God offered the Torah to all the other nations before offering it to Israel - the story ultimately shows that somehow, Israel merited the Torah in a way that the other nations just couldn't. Israel accepted the Torah without even knowing what was in it. They had faith that whatever it said was correct, and that they would be able... (Continued on pg. 9)



## LIFE & LEGACY CONTINUES TO GROW IN ITS FIFTH YEAR AT BETH ABRAHAM

*Ralph Williams*

"What if you had one more child to nurture and protect—and that child was your community? How would you ensure the future of that child's needs in a way that supports your own values and vision for the future?" - Jewish Community Foundation Orange County (jcfoc.org/endowment-book-of-life)

Those questions posed by the Jewish Community Foundation of Orange County California are equally as thought provoking with respect to our Beth Abraham community. Our synagogue has flourished over its 128 years of existence due to the time, talent and financial support of the many who have nurtured and protected it. Many of our predecessors have "paid it forward" so that their values and vision could be reflected in the wonderful spiritual community that is such an important part of our lives today.

As the Beth Abraham Life & Legacy Team proceeds through its fifth year, we salute those who have committed to being a part of the future of the Beth Abraham community by becoming participants in the Life & Legacy program:

Beth Adelman	*Rochelle & Michael Goldstein	*Carole (z"l) & Bernie Rabinowitz
*Elaine & Matthew Arnovitz	Mark & Kathy Gordon	Cantor Andrea Raizen
*Maryann & Jack Bernstein	*Henry Guggenheimer	Judge Walter H. & Bonnie Beaman Rice
*Stanley & Connie Blum	Clara Hochstein	Barbara Sanderow
*Dena Briskin	*Steven & Linda Horenstein	*Lee & Patti Schear
*Larry & Cindy Burick	*Michael A. Jaffe	*Andrew & Pamela Schwartz
*Bea Burke (z"l)	*C. David and Susan Joffe	Felice & Mike (z"l) Shane
Alan S. & Dr. Judy A. Chesen	Marc Katz & Julie Liss-Katz	*Allan Spetter & Claudia Birch
Ted M. Cooper	Susie & Eddie Katz	*Lawrence & Sheila Wagenfeld
*Betty B. Crouse	*Ellen & Michael Leffak	*Norman M. & Mary Rita Weissman
*Irwin Dumtschin	*Scott & Ann Liberman	*Diane Rubin Williams &
*Dottie Engelhardt (z"l)	*Beverly A. Louis	Ralph B. Williams
*Beverly A. Farnbacher	*David & Joan Marcus	*Gerald & Edna Willis
*Adam & Tara Feiner	*Dr. & Mrs. Donald Marger	*Judith E. Woll MD
Emily Fogel	Irvin & Gayle Moscowitz	Friends of the Congregation (3)
*Michael I. Freed	*Marlene Pinsky	
*Cathy Gardner	*Terry Pinsky	(*Legacy gift has been formalized)

Please join us in helping to ensure the future of Beth Abraham for future generations by arranging for a legacy gift to the Beth Abraham Endowment Fund. Participation entails a commitment to a gift in the future and does not require a donation to Beth Abraham today. For more information on how you can become involved, please contact Elaine Arnovitz at the synagogue (937-293-9520).



### RAV TODOT (Many Thanks - from Cantor Raizen)

I cannot tell you how touched I was by the beautiful Shabbat service with which you surprised me on April 9. It was such a joy to see so many seats filled in the sanctuary for the first time in two years and to hear your voices join together in prayer. Thank you for the wonderful tributes, beautiful lunch, kind words and the donations to the newly established Cantor's Discretionary Fund. As the song says, "I love Dayton (and Beth Abraham!), 'cuz it's where I want to be!"

### From the President's Desk...

**Scott Liberman, Beth Abraham President**

This year our Annual Meeting, which is being held on Wednesday, May 25th, will look a little different. Our plans are to have a short business meeting, followed by Active Shooter Training. I know many of us were stunned by the incident that occurred at a Texas synagogue this past January. This quote from that synagogue's Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker about security education impacted many of us:

"Over the years, my congregation and I have participated in multiple security courses from the Colleyville Police Department, the FBI, the Anti-Defamation League, and the Secure Community Network," Cytron-Walker said in the statement provided to The Hill through a spokesperson. "We are alive today because of that education."



### BETH ABRAHAM ANNUAL MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 25  
6:00 PM  
MAIN SANCTUARY**

**-Short Business Meeting  
-Active Shooter Training  
-Light Dessert**

The evening will begin with a short review of the year, the election of the proposed slate of Directors and their induction. We will then spend an hour on active shooter training with Centerville police officers. We hope this is an opportunity for us to become more educated and allow for questions to be asked. A light dessert will follow.

Because we are holding this meeting in the sanctuary, we ask that you enter through the upper level chapel doors. We will have minyan in the chapel at 5:30 PM.

#### (Rabbi's article - continued from pg. 3)

to live up to it. They were willing to accept this enormous responsibility, and in that they were special. The other nations, though given the chance, couldn't live up to the demands of the Torah. In an ironic sort of way, this Midrash uses Biblical verses to prove how the other nations disqualified themselves from being able to receive the Torah!

In any case, we're left dealing with a rather particularistic story. There's something special about this Israelite people; they were able to receive the Torah - the other nations weren't. Of course, what we have to keep in mind is that they also had to accept the responsibilities involved in accepting and living by the Torah. They said, after all, "We will do and we will listen." They were honored with receiving the Torah, and being singled out by God, in exchange for fulfilling God's commandments, living by God's law. In essence, that's why they were singled out - to do the will of God.

But the issue is a thorny one, especially if we see this singling out, this being "chosen," as a form of superiority. The Bible, by the way, in the Book of Deuteronomy, warns us against seeing ourselves as in any way superior to other peoples. In that book, God says - don't think I chose you because you're better! You're actually a smaller people than the others in the world! But there is, often, a misconception about our particularism, our uniqueness, our "chosen"-ness that translates into a supposed superiority.

But I think the idea expressed in our midrash, that Israel was the only nation able to receive the Torah, is best understood as Israel being singled out for responsibility - a responsibility to live moral, ethical lives - to fulfill the commandments of God and to inspire others to do the same. I think the Jewish people have incorporated this idea into their psyche; I believe that's one of the reasons we cringe when we hear of Jews being involved in unethical behavior. We've internalized the notion that being chosen means being singled out for responsibility.

And so, when we struggle with the tensions of universalism and particularism in our tradition, which will be with us much of the time, I think we can take some comfort in this interpretation - that being a particular group - we are singled out by a sense of responsibility, a responsibility to live up to the highest expectations of God and to teach them to the rest of the world. On the festival of Shavuot (which we celebrate from June 4-6 this year), when we re-enact the acceptance of that responsibility - let's recommit ourselves to living up to those high expectations.



## BAT MITZVAH OF EVA BORBONUS

Myrna Gabbe and Dorian Borbonus look forward to celebrating the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Eva Borbonus on Shabbat Kedoshim **May 7th**, with the congregation at Beth Abraham synagogue.



Eva attends Oakwood Junior High school in 7th grade and her favorite subjects are Drawing and Painting, French and English. She also enjoys learning about math and science and aspires to be a neuroscientist one day. Eva thrives on being active: she has been in the Dayton Ballet School for ten years and recently joined the Lacrosse team at Oakwood Junior High. Her other passion is music: Eva plays piano and viola but most of all, she loves to sing – by herself, in the school choir and A Cappella group, and of course at Beth Abraham!

Eva is bilingual and she has family in far-away places: her grandfather David Gabbe grew up in New York, her grandmother Marie-Louise Gabbe in Vietnam, and her grandparents Monika Borbonus, Theodor Borbonus and Heide Buchsteiner-Borbonus in Germany.

During the service, Eva will be reading a Torah portion from Leviticus and her Haftarah is from the book of Amos. We wish to express our profound gratitude to Rabbi Crespy and Cantor Raizen for studying with Eva and for their tireless efforts to prepare her for this very special day!

## EARTH DAY CELEBRATION!



Mike Goldstein helps Religious School students with flowers to take home.



Jewish Earth Day Scavenger Hunt

## GUESS WHO'S COMING TO SHABBAS? YOU ARE!

Mark your calendars for our next Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas? (GWCTS) taking place **IN PERSON** on **Friday, June 17th**. We hope you will join us for this exciting, popular program!

How can you participate in the June 17th GWCTS?

Start by thinking about what role you want – that of guest or host. Remember, there are only two expectations for our hosts:

1. To provide a pareve or dairy dinner; and,
2. To recite the brachot for the candle lighting, the wine, and the challah.

That's it. In fact, we will have host brochures with the blessings, just in case hosts or guests would like to refer to these in print. In addition, we will provide the hosts with candles, a challah, and a really awesome Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas? reusable grocery bag.

As always, we need many more guests than hosts to make the program successful, so don't be shy...Be our guest!

Look for information to be emailed the week of May 9th with the links to sign up. The information will also be in the weekly News & Notes. We need you to **sign up by Sunday, May 23rd**. We will email everyone with their matches the week of May 30th. If you have any questions or need help signing up, please call the office and we will gladly help you. We look forward to once again sharing Shabbat with our Beth Abraham community!

Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas? We hope you are!



## We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

### Bert Appel Fund

#### In memory of

**Bea Burke**, by Renate Frydman

**Naomi Kleinfeld Lerner**, by Renate Frydman

#### In honor of

**Renate Frydman's being awarded as a YWCA Woman of Influence**, by Beth Adelman

### Cantor's Discretionary Fund

#### In memory of

**Evelyn Adelman**, by Beth Adelman

**Joseph Adelman**, by Beth Adelman

**Sarah Adelman**, by Beth Adelman

**Max Stern**, by Beth Adelman

**Bertha Stern**, by Beth Adelman

#### In honor of

**Cantor Andrea Raizen**, by Steve & Penney Fraim, Terry & Marlene Pinsky, Jody Pollack Blazar, Ralph Williams & Diane Rubin Williams, Louise & Rex Tincher, Donald & Carole Marger, Howard & Sue Ducker, Bella Freeman, Jack & Maryann Bernstein, Steve & Patty Wyke, Franklin & Cheryl Lewis, Clara Hochstein, Judy Schwartzman, Mike Jaffe, Frieda Blum, Debby Oppenheimer, Allan Spetter & Claudia Birch, Bob & Suzanne Thum, Mindy Metz & Heather Metz, Steve & Bari Blumhof, Scott & Ann Liberman, Minnette Weiss, Renate Frydman, Bruce Brenner & Sandy Sloane-Brenner, Harvey & Marilyn Liberman

#### Speedy Recovery

**Chaya Vidal**, by Ralph & Diane Williams

### General Fund

#### In memory of

**Dottie Engelhardt**, by Karen & Richard Reisin, Eddie & Susie Katz

**Irvin Zipperstein**, by Roberta Fisher, David & Karen Hoguet, Judith Roth, Larry & Marilyn Klaben, Bruce & Sue Soifer, Charles & Margie Kessel, Brenda Meadow, JoEllen Cohen, Lynn Foster, Esther & DeNeal Feldman

**Bea Burke**, by Eddie & Susie Katz, David Krueger

**Claire Lieberman**, by Irvin & Gayle Moscowitz

**Jerry Kotler**, by Bruce Brenner & Sandy Sloane-Brenner

#### In honor of

**Elaine Arnovitz**, by Sam Dorf & Masha Kisel

**Michael Sherman's promotion to Lt. Colonel in the Air Force**, by Steve & Liz Musin

### Gerald Wilks Fund

#### In memory of

**Bea Burke**, by Howard & Sue Ducker

**Irvin Zipperstein**, by Howard & Sue Ducker, Zerla Stayman

**Claire Lieberman**, by Zerla Stayman

### Kiddush Fund

#### In memory of

**Sadie Galpern**, by Ava, Edward, Jordan, Danielle, Riley, Brooklyn & Blake Mendelson

**Charles Galpern**, by Ava, Edward, Jordan, Danielle, Riley, Brooklyn & Blake Mendelson

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

#### In memory of

**Leon Williams**, by Ralph & Diane Williams

#### In honor of

**Cheryl's birthday aliyah**, by Cheryl & Franklin Lewis

### Ritual Fund

#### In memory of

**Abraham Fleischman**, by Abe & Marla Merdinger

**Leo Merdinger**, by Abe & Marla Merdinger

**Donn Charme**, by Alvin Charme

**Rolf Rothschild**, by David Rothschild

**Shelly Charles**, by Don Charles

**Eleanor Bergsman**, by Mark Bergsman

**Betty Remick**, by Susan Remick Topek

**Arthur Pollack**, by Jody Pollack Blazar & family

**Pamela Pollack**, by Jody Pollack Blazar & family

**Shirley Pollack**, by Jody Pollack Blazar & family

**Alice Woll**, by Judy Woll

**David Larman**, by Barbara Miller

**Shirley Larman**, by Barbara Miller

**Herbert Larman**, by Barbara Miller

**Joseph H. Miller**, by Barbara Miller

**Sarah Caplin**, by Barbara Miller

**Sidney Miller**, by Barbara Miller

**Ludwig Schwab**, by Helmut Schwab

**Saul Nathanson**, by Claire Nathanson, Carol Nathanson

**Carol Callas**, by Norm & Kay Lewis

**Marvin Metz**, by Mindy & Heather Metz

**Julius Chudde**, by Roger Chudde & Maureen Barasch

**Joseph Abromowitz**, by Robert Weinman

**August Blumhof**, by Bari & Steve Blumhof

**Harriet Hirsch Margolis**, by Cheryl Lewis

**Anna Fleischman**, by Abe Merdinger

**Lawrence Katz**, by Stanley & Susan Katz

**Jacqueline Green Lapidus**, by Stanley & Susan Katz

**Pauline Hillreich**, by Hindy Gruber

**Sol Green**, by Robert Weinman

**Milton Krochmal**, by Jerry Krochmal

**Betty Feldman**, by Bari & Steve Blumhof

**Dina Stayman**, by Myron Stayman

**Philip Kravitz**, by Myron Stayman

**Curt Goodman**, by Myron Stayman

**Irvin Zipperstein**, by Marcie Linder

### Sanderow-Tannebaum Fund

#### In memory of

**Delores Miller**, by Barbara Sanderow

### Social Action Fund

#### In memory of

**Irvin Zipperstein**, by Philip & Louisa Dreety

### USY Fund

#### In memory of

**Lottie R. Katz**, by Harriet Katz



**In the Beth Abraham Family**

**Thanks to the following Service Sponsors:**

**April 2** – Beth Abraham Sisterhood and Men’s Club  
**April 9** – Beth Abraham Synagogue in honor of Cantor Andrea Raizen  
**April 16** – No sponsor  
**April 23** – Felice Shane in memory of Mike Shane  
**April 30** - No Sponsor

**Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in May:**

**May Birthdays**

- 1 Ellen Leffak
- 2 Edward Sperber
- 4 Janel Pequignot
- 4 Irwin Dumtschin
- 5 Terry Pinsky
- 6 Marcia Kress
- 6 Judith Kelman
- 6 Joyce Burick Swartzman
- 7 Stanley Katz
- 9 Sarah Moore Leventhal
- 10 Myrnie Moscovitz
- 11 Ervin Pavlofsky
- 12 Norm Weissman
- 13 Bill Cohen
- 13 Lois Unger
- 15 Sheryl Zawatsky
- 15 Larry Burick
- 17 Myron Stayman
- 18 Oren Watson
- 18 Linda Roden
- 18 Gary Goodman
- 21 Jay Kaplan
- 22 Evelyn Fritz
- 23 Pamela Schwartz
- 23 Lisa Pavlofsky
- 23 Jeffrey Gordon
- 24 Elaine Rothstein
- 24 Debra Rosichan
- 25 Wincha Gelbart
- 26 Rex Tincer
- 27 Walter Rice
- 27 Ralph Williams
- 27 Julie Liss-Katz
- 27 Judy Chesen
- 27 Eva Goorskey
- 28 Cindy Smith
- 30 David Marcus
- 31 Zerla Stayman
- 31 Janine Thomas

**May Anniversaries:**

- 5 Jack & Maryann Bernstein
- 8 Bob & Janice Kohn
- 16 Jeff & Connie Roberts
- 21 Marc Katz & Julie Liss-Katz
- 21 Bruce & Rita Mendelson
- 26 Andrew & Pamela Schwartz
- 27 Samuel Dorf & Maria Kisel
- 27 Ken & Janice Krochmal
- 27 Philip & Janis Sussman

**\*\* If your birthday or anniversary is not listed above, please call the office so we can put it in the database**

**WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:**  
Philip and Julie Goldstein

**WE RECORD WITH DEEP SORROW THE PASSING OF:**  
Irving Kaplan  
Gerald “Jerry” Kotler

For three generations  
Dayton's Traditional  
Jewish Funeral Home

**Marker & Heller**  
Funeral Homes

1706 N. Main & 5844 Old Troy Pike  
275-7434

**SAVE THE DATES**

**Friday, June 17th, 7:30 pm**

**Friday, July 22, 7:30 pm**

**Friday, August 12, 7:30 pm**

*Shabbat Under the Stars*

**YAHRZEITS**

*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 (Nisan-Iyyar-Sivan) we remember:***

**NISAN**

Rosalie Abbott  
Sarah Droz  
Harry Gisser  
Mayer Naiman  
Thelma Sokol

**IYYAR**

Charles Abramovitz  
Lillian Abramovitz  
Marian Aftergood  
Rachel Aftergood  
Beatrice Aftergood  
Ruth Altman  
Moses L. Arnovitz  
Sol Arnovitz  
Sara L. Arnovitz  
Margarethe Baer  
Meyer Barnett  
Stanley Barnett  
Agusta Bearman  
Jennie Beckman  
Helena Benjamin  
William Bernstein  
Idah Bernstein  
Alan Bishow  
Morton Block  
Sara A.R. Brotkin  
Marvin Brown  
Emily Bruck  
Jacob Budnick  
Rabbi Samuel Burick  
Rae Byer  
Maryan Caplan  
Pamela Sue Chaet  
Leland Charles  
Evelyn Chudde  
Linwood Coates  
Nellie Cohen  
Max Cohen  
Sanford Cohen  
Irene Cooper  
Edith Duberstein  
David Duberstein  
Arthur H. Ehrenberg

Benjamin Eisenstein  
Cissy Ellison  
Herman (Curly) I Ellison  
William H. Ellison  
Ruth Erkes  
Sally Farnbacher  
Carl Fasano  
Barnett Feldman  
Margaret Feldman  
Thelma Feldman  
Max Feldman  
Claudia Feuer  
Sylvia Foreman  
Jack Fox  
Stanley Freedman  
Nathan Friedman  
Ann Friedman  
Ben Friedman  
Sophie Froikin  
Elaine Froikin  
Sadie Galpern  
Charles Galpern  
Joseph Garber  
Ida Gassman  
Sol N. Gault  
Marian Glatteman  
Eugene Goldflies  
Max Goodman  
Faye Goodman  
Lillian Grinker  
Charles Groban  
Samuil Grutman  
Julius Guggenheimer  
Margarethe Guggenheimer  
Baer  
Sophia Haber  
Annabelle Haegel  
Stanley Hillelson  
Rose Hochman  
Minnie Horwitz  
Harold B. Jacobson  
Aaron Jacobson  
Eli Ryan Jacobson  
Shiloh Reese Jacobson  
Eli Ryan Jacobson

David Jeneffsky  
Max Jeneffsky  
Herbert Jones  
Selma Joslin  
Adolf Kahn  
Melba Kahn  
Yehuda Kahn  
Harriett Kaplan  
Lawrence Katz  
Nathan Katz  
Molly Katz  
Mair David Katz  
Anna Kitain  
Beyla Komsky  
Esther Kotler  
Norman Kramer  
Rose Kravetz  
Marshall Kreitman  
Bertha Krumholz  
Louis Kutash  
Samuel Labovitch  
Jeanette Lapidus  
Bess C. Lapinsky  
Jack Leffak  
Harry Leventhal  
Hyman Levine  
Hazel Levine  
Seymour Levine  
Frances Light  
Ruth Lindenbaum  
Barnet Lubens  
Dorothy Magilvy  
Sam Mann  
Sylvia Marcus  
Wolfe Marcus  
Louis Mark  
Jake Matusoff  
Mary Merdinger  
Emma Miller  
David Miller  
Arthur David Mink  
Joseph Morozovsky  
Mollie Muchnick  
Berniece Ruth Musin  
Max Myers

Jennie Myers  
Jacob Naiman  
Sarah Naiman  
Fannie Neiman  
Anna Odell  
Meyer Paster  
David Perlmutter  
Mary Perlmutter  
Breindl Perlmutter  
Sarah Pitkowsky  
Arthur Pollack  
Pamela Marcia Pollack  
Esther Pollak  
Aaron Polster  
Abe J. Pretekin  
Craig Rabiner  
Sam Raizen  
Jacob Rauchman  
David Remick  
Samuel Resler  
Jennie Rich  
Leah Riff  
Elfrieda Ritter  
Kenneth Rittner  
Joseph Robbins  
Arthur Roberts  
Max Rockoff  
Joy Rosen  
Shirley Rosenberg  
Celina Rosenthal  
Aaron Harold Rosner  
Barbara Rothschild  
J. Kerry Rothstein  
Mary Rubinett  
Minnie Rudin  
Harlan Saeks  
Alvin Saper  
Lillian Scharoff  
Doris Schear  
Edith Esther Schneidman  
Paul Schriber  
Doris Schwartz  
Isaac Segall  
Allen Seymour  
Bette Sherman

William Shirer  
Sam Shuchat  
Dora Shutly  
Myra Sklaroff  
Naomi Slavin  
Dora Sloboff  
Marilyn Smith  
Rosalie Spatz  
Morris Speert  
Rubin Speigel  
Charles Tanis  
Sadie Tanis  
Sam Timmer  
Celia Tinianow  
Larry Tomchin  
Beatrice Tucker  
Eleanor Wallace  
Rose Weber  
Louis Weinhaus  
Arthur Lester Weinreich  
Hymie Weinstein  
Hyman L. Wilks  
Rachell Wolfe  
Homer Wyke  
Rose Yaross  
Harry Yolles  
Stanley Zakem  
Leonard Zakem  
Anna Zeifman  
Eva Zeifman  
Leah Zisenwine

**SIVAN**  
Samuel Abrahamson  
Ida Adelson  
Martha Berman  
Inge Blumhof  
Mona Briskin  
Aaron Froug  
Irven Goodman  
Sylvia Lyon  
Jacqueline Elyse Routman  
Henya Spialter  
Philip H. Stoolman  
Isidore Tannenbaum



- The JCC Film Fest is being held during the month of June with opening night on **June 2nd** at the Dayton Art Institute at **7:00 PM**.
- The Jewish Federation’s President’s Dinner is **Sunday, May 15th at 5:00 PM** at the Arcade.

For more information and tickets, visit [jewishdayton.org](http://jewishdayton.org)