

# Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 10

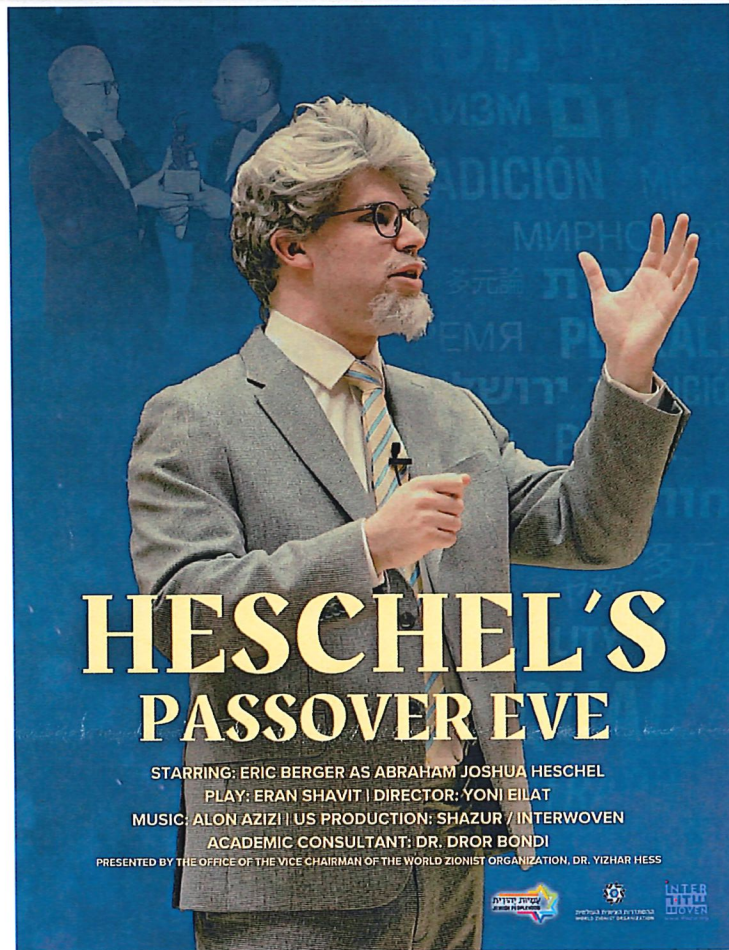
APRIL 2024

ADAR II - NISAN 5784

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BETH  
ABRAHAM  
SYNAGOGUE



## BETH ABRAHAM SANCTUARY TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 7:00 PM

In partnership with the World Zionist Organization, Shazur, an Israeli Theatre troupe, is thrilled to be bringing "Heschel's Passover Eve" to Beth Abraham Synagogue. This captivating 45 minute solo performance play is an intimate portrait of Heschel, portraying moments that span his life from his time in Germany before the Holocaust to his relationship with Dr. Martin Luther King. "Heschel's Passover Eve" is a call to action for civil discourse and human rights that is as relevant now as it was when Dr. Heschel was marching arm-in-arm with Dr. King.

Following the play there will be a talk-back with Rav Aubrey Glazer and Pastor Ken Moss.

This program is generously sponsored by Jim Nathanson in honor of his beloved Carol, of blessed memory. Co-sponsored with Pastor Ken Moss & The Potter's House.

There is no charge, but reservations are required – please go to Events on the Beth Abraham website, and click on the link for the play. You will be able to register via the form on that page.

## The Cantor's Corner Cantor Andrea Raizen



Who among us does not complain about our inability to remember things? I certainly have found myself more often lately in the

middle of a conversation unable to bring to mind a name, important fact or even the right word needed to complete my thought. For most of us this is part of the aging process. But to some extent, with the advancement of technology such as smart phones, we don't have to remember as much since everything we need to know is literally at our fingertips. The "art" of memorization has certainly declined, but there are ways to improve memory and there are established techniques - pioneered by the Greeks and Romans - to help train the brain. As I was looking online for information on this subject, I came across a book that was published in 2011. "Moonwalking with Einstein" by Joshua Foer is the author's account of his year spent in memory training that later led him into the finals of the U.S.A. Memory Championships.

Foer states that "in ancient times students were not only taught what to remember but also how to remember it" - they were instructed in the same techniques that he learned from his memory coach. Those techniques are based around the notion that the human brain (which developed at a time when our ancestors' survival depended on remembering where to find food and resources, and a route home) is better at remembering images and places than abstract concepts like numbers and words, and that the trick for remembering is, therefore "to change whatever boring thing is being imputed into your memory into something that is so colorful, so exciting, and so different from anything you've seen before that you can't possibly forget it."

We will soon celebrate Passover. In the *haggadah* we read, "In every generation, each of us should feel as if we personally went out of Egypt." Our ancient rabbis certainly must have been familiar with some memory techniques as they developed the rituals surrounding the Passover seder. It is full of sights, sounds, smells and tastes meant to evoke memories of the harshness and bitterness of slavery and the sweetness of freedom. Using a sweet mixture of apples, nuts, cinnamon and wine (charoset) seems an odd choice as a symbol of slavery. But perhaps it is meant to remind us of how our ancestors looked back to the "good old days" in Egypt shortly after leaving.

The seder itself is done in a very specific order with 15 distinct steps. Some of us have learned to chant the list of steps to remember the order. If you don't know a traditional chant, try singing them to Yankee Doodle! An even better way to truly memorize the steps or the order of the 10 plagues, for that matter, is to use a process that Foer describes of "elaborative encoding." This involves converting information, like the list of the plagues, into a series of "engrossing visual images." These can then be arranged within an imagined space known as a "memory palace." It can be a familiar building or route through a town, etc. To get you started, here is an example of a way to memorize the first steps of the seder that I began to think about.

Imagine your own home. As you drive up, there is a giant Kiddush cup on the lawn representing the first step of Kadesh. The cup becomes a fountain with water coming out the top where you can wash your hands: step 2, Urchatz. As you approach the front door parsley sprouts from the ground: step 3, Karpas (green vegetable). You open the door, but it breaks in half: step 4, Yachatz (breaking the middle matza). As you enter the house, children run to you with a huge book and demand that you

## 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  
MARC KATZ & JULIE LISS-KATZ  
EDWARD & MARCIA KRESS  
MICHAEL & ELLEN LEFFAK  
ALLEN LEVIN\*  
DONALD & CAROLE MARGER  
LEE & PATTI SCHEAR  
ANDREW & PAMELA SCHWARTZ  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

#### CANTOR'S CHOIR

ADAM & TARA FEINER  
BEN & STEPHANIE GOODSTEIN  
MICHAEL & MARCIA\* JAFFE  
IRVIN & GAYLE MOSCOWITZ  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

#### PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

BETH ADELMAN  
MATT & ELAINE ARNOVITZ  
MIKE & JOANN CHAMBERS  
BILL & MELINDA DONER  
DOUGLAS & BETHANY EINSTEIN  
DENEAL\* & ESTHER\* FELDMAN  
GARY & IRENE FISHBEIN  
LYNN FOSTER  
JOEL & ANGELA FRYDMAN  
RENA TE FRYDMAN  
MICHAEL & ROCHELLE\* GOLDSTEIN  
SAMMYE HARRISON\*  
STANLEY & SUSAN KATZ  
NORM & KAY LEWIS  
SCOTT & ANN LIBERMAN  
DAVID & JOAN MARCUS  
ALAN & MYRNI MOSCOWITZ  
WALTER RICE & BONNIE BEAMAN RICE  
REX & LOUISE TINCHER  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

\*OF BLESSED MEMORY

read them a story: step 5, Maggid (the telling of the Exodus). Hopefully, you get the idea.

Towards the end of his book, Foer writes, "Now more than ever, as the role of memory in our culture erodes at a faster pace than ever before, we need to cultivate our ability to remember. Our memories make us who we are." This is certainly true for us as Jews. I wish you all a *memorable* Passover.

## HOW "AND THEN THE TURTLE BUILT A HOUSE" HAS BECOME "A FAMILY WITHOUT A HOME"

Rav Aubrey Glazer



My love for Zion, in part, stems from a deep love for Hebrew.

From Jewish Day School to all the way to the rabbinat, I remain

committed in my love for Hebrew.

During my graduate work, aside from scouring all the latest Israeli poets writing inspiring spiritual poetry, I also needed to know an equally powerful form of Hebrew *belles lettres*— children's stories.

Aside from Hebrew poet laureate, Hayyim Nachman Bialik's nursery rhymes for children, another story still resonates, a tiny book by Avner Katz called, *And Then the Turtle Built a House*. It is a seemingly simple animal fable of these strange looking shell-less turtles of once upon a time who are unhappy. Why? They are looking for someone to build them a house - like a serious little turtle playing with building blocks - so they send him to school. When the turtle comes back as an ambitious architect, he starts building. Each house he builds is stranger than the next, and only after they are all rejected, he gets more pragmatic. The turtle decides to measure himself and then plans to build a tiny house, enters it and stays there. All the other turtles love the idea. They follow his example ... and all live happily ever after.

Katz's turtle parable is supposedly written for children, but adults generally read these stories to their children, so as Disney knows, it needs to reach adults as well. Katz's story went through many rewrites, retaining its satire, but the level of Hebrew

shifted so it could be used in Ulpanim to teach Hebrew language. But language is more than grammar. In Ulpan teaching for example, as teachers would present the daily turtle story passage for its retelling by the students, the conversation quickly moves on to applications of the language learned to students talking about their home, their belongings, their place in the world. This turtle story is also about Zionism— a nation of shell-less, homeless, Jews wandering in search of a safe home.

משפחה בלי בית



Nothing could be more powerful. Now in a post-10/7 world, that turtle story haunts me. And I wonder, what story will we tell our children and grandchildren?

I was inspired in discovering a new children's book, by Talya Tomer Schlesinger, called *A Family Without A Home*. Her story is told from a child's point of view, sharing the obstacles, challenges, anger and frustrations, faced by tens of thousands of children who have been evacuated from their homes since October 7. Think about being displaced, shell-less, without a home in the Holy Land, currently in the midst of a war zone, with families far from the comfort of their own homes. Talya is writing from her own personal outreach to families directly, listening to their stories of longing for home,

mourning what they've lost as their houses are destroyed before their eyes. The absence of a kitchen or living room, the lack of privacy - it's all taking a toll, disrupting the very fabric of family life, and she captures it with poise in the form of a children's book.

At this writing, families are still living in hotels or temporary apartments, the children are not in their schools or kindergartens. This war, which began on October 7th, has turned their world

upside down. While many of us continue with our daily lives, these families are grappling with a new normal, trying to get their children to sleep at night. Imagine first graders starting three times over amidst such chaos. Find a cause in Israel and support it. And consider: how might an Israel Affairs committee at Beth Abraham inspire us to galvanize our commitments and responsibilities to Zion? Amidst these horrors, even from a distance, may these children currently without a home return

once again to sleep through the night, and rebuild their homes with hopefulness to dream a new dream for our homeland in Zion.

### FAST OF THE FIRST BORN

Siyyum/Fast of the First Born services will be held the morning of **Monday, April 22, Erev Pesach, at 8:00 am**. Following the Siyyum there will be a hametz breakfast, and this will also be the last time to sell your hametz prior to Pesach.

- Finish Eating Hametz before 11:18 am
- Burn Hametz before 12:26 pm
- Candle lighting: 8:05 pm

### Beth Abraham Men's Club Invites You!



**ANNUAL DELI DINNER,  
MOVIE NIGHT & RAFFLE  
DRAWING**  
Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM

Enjoy a kosher deli buffet, featuring corned beef, pastrami, sliced turkey breast, and more!  
The dinner begins at 6:00 pm, followed by the raffle drawing, and then our featured movie, *Golda*, at about 7:00 pm.

The cost for the entire deli-dinner and movie is **\$20 per person**. Please **RSVP by April 1st** by contacting the synagogue office. Send your checks, payable to Beth Abraham Men's Club, to the synagogue office, or you can pay at the door.



**DON'T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS!**

### CELEBRATE SECOND NIGHT SEDER AT BA



On Tuesday evening, **April 23 at 6:00 pm**, our Beth Abraham family will gather to celebrate a second night Seder led by Rav Aubrey and Cantor Raizen.

The kitchen will be steam cleaned and kashered to make it truly *kosher l'Pesach*. Trish Clemons of Rosemary Garden will be catering the meal. The cost is **\$50 per person**.

Please **RSVP** to the office by **April 15th**. Bring your family to spend the second night of Pesach with your *other* family, your Beth Abraham family!

(No one should be without a seder. If you would like to attend a first seder, we will try to find you a seat at someone's table. Likewise, if you have space at your table, please let us know.)



The cast of our wonderful Purim shpiel!



Enjoying the Purim Carnival

## We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

### Burick/Kravitz Book Fund

In memory of

**Julius Sender**, by Sharon & Bob Burick

**Harold Johnson**, by Wayne & Pam Driscoll & family

**Rosalie Johnson**, by Wayne & Pam Driscoll & family

### Cantor Raizen's Discretionary Fund

In memory of

**Sara Topper**, by Judy Schwartzman

**Jean Lieberman**, by Diane & Ralph Williams, Judy Woll & Ron Bernard

### General Fund

In memory of

**Edward Zawatsky**, by Roberta Zawatsky

**Charlotte Handler**, by Sylvia Blum

**Lucie Furrow**, by Beverly Louis

In honor of

**Larry Glickler's kindness**, by Jeff & Connie Roberts

**Penney Fraim's kindness**, by Jeff & Connie Roberts

### Gerald Wilks Fund

In memory of

**Miriam Ducker**, by Howard & Sue Ducker

### Joel Horenstein Fund

In memory of

**Robert Bidwell**, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

**Jean Lieberman**, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

### JWV Coplin Fund

In memory of

**Davideen Swanger**, by Frieda Blum

### Ida Pinsky Fund

In memory of

**Martin Goodman**, by Carole & Donald Marger

**Lucie Furrow**, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky

**Joan Rosen**, by Carole & Don Marger, Bella Freeman

Speedy recovery

**Mary Ann Bernstein**, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky

**Diane Williams**, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky

### Kiddush Fund

In memory of

**Ray Furst**, by Felice Shane

### Rav Glazer's Discretionary Fund

In memory of

**Jack Burke**, by Aaron Burke

### Religious Fund

In memory of

**Marc Lynn**, by David & Eileen Lynn

### Ritual Fund

In memory of

**Nathan Eisenberg**, by Paul & Kristan Levy

**Edward Erkes**, by Michael Goldstein

**Sandy Lubin**, by Myron Stayman

**David Abromowitz**, by Myron Stayman

**Josephine Woll**, by Judy Woll

**Richard H. Hauser**, by Mollie E. Hauser

**Bernard Goldstein**, by Liz & Steve Musin

**Bea Burke**, by Aaron Burke

**Louis M. Rubin**, by Phyllis Rubin Hochman

**Charlotte Zusman**, by Shirley Wahrman

**Ivy Michaels**, by Howard Michaels

**Pauline Thum**, by Bob & Suzanne Thum

**Charles W. Miller**, by Mindy & Heather Metz

**Harriet Margolis**, by Cheryl & Franklin Lewis

**Robert Silverman**, by Dona Mowry Silverman

**Eugene Joffe**, by Susan & David Joffe

**Jean Lieberman**, by Susie & Eddie Katz

### Sam & Sadie Berman Candy Fund

In memory of

**Reva Hillelson**, by Clara Hochstein

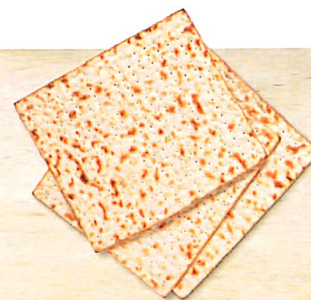
### Social Action Fund

In memory of

**Elda Spizzichino**, by Elena Rosner

## MECHIRAT HAMETZ - THE SELLING OF HAMETZ

You can authorize Rav Glazer to sell your stored hametz during Passover. Beginning **April 1st**, you can find a link to a form requesting this sale in your weekly News & Notes, by emailing the office, or you can pick up a form during normal office hours.



## In the Beth Abraham Family

### Thanks to the following Kiddush Sponsors:

- March 2** – Doug & Theda Wagner in memory of Doug's mother  
**March 9** – Jeff & Eden Lubow in honor of Henrietta Lubow's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday  
**March 16** – Men's Club & Sisterhood in honor of Men's Club/Sisterhood Shabbat  
**March 23** - Franklin Lewis in honor of Cheryl Lewis' 80th birthday  
**March 30** – Howard (z"l) and Debbie Rubenstein in honor of their 65th anniversary

### Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in April:

#### April Birthdays

3	Lisa Braverman
3	Bonnie Deutsch
4	Doris J. Jaffe
7	Hindy Gruber
8	Abe Merdinger
8	Rachel Kinard
10	Wendi Pavlofsky
13	Betty Alter
13	Martin Nizny
14	Robert Kohn
14	Joan Marcus
16	Marvin Roden
17	Eva Borbonus
19	Philip Sussman
19	Howard Ducker
20	Paul Levy
21	Douglas Einstein
21	Linda Katz
21	Theodora Finn
25	Gary Fishbein
25	Gary Roden
26	Donald Marger
28	Steven Carne

28	Bill Doner
29	Jay Kelman
29	Jackson Berry
30	Samuel Dorf

#### April Anniversaries

2	Louise & Rex Tincher
17	Lee & Patti Schear

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

#### **WE RECORD WITH GREAT SORROW THE PASSING OF:**

Robert R. "Bob" Bidwell, brother of Celia Diamond  
 Shirley Gottlieb Frankowitz  
 Jean Kolstein Lieberman, mother of Marilyn Klaben  
 Howard Rubenstein  
 William "Bill" Schoenfeld

MAZEL  
TOV  
&  
CONGRATULATIONS!

- Marilyn & Larry Klaben on the birth of their granddaughter Nessa on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Alex & Jane Briskin on the marriage of their daughter Emily on March 30th in Washington DC. Mazel Tov to grandmother Dena Briskin as well.
- Ellen & Michael Leffak on the bar mitzvah of their grandson Cobi on April 1<sup>st</sup> in Israel.

## NEW BULLETIN FEATURE - SHARING SIMCHAS!

Beth Abraham will now be sharing family simchas in our Bulletin! Do you have someone in your immediate family (including kids and grandchildren) getting married, having a Bar or Bat Mitzvah or having a baby? We will be listing those on our "In the Beth Abraham Family" page of our Bulletin (this page!) where we list birthday and anniversary dates. Please let Ann Rismiller in the office know about your celebrations, so we can share them with the rest of our Beth Abraham family.

# YAHREZITS

*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 April (Adar II - Nisan) we remember:***

### **ADAR II**

Bernard Antman	Irving Bain	Yaakov Galinkin	Clarence Lapedes	Pauline Schindler
Siegmund Baer	Dinah Barr	Ben Garlikov	Jacqueline Lapidus	Sandy Schoemann
Gertrude Bashman	Bessie Bassel	Joseph Gaskowitz	William Lapinsky	Ruth Schoenfeld
Eli Becker	Rose Bearse	Matatyahu Gehatya	May Resnick Lax	Isabel Sylvia Schriber
Claire Engelhardt	Eleanor Bergsman	Sarah Geisenfeld	Walter Leopold	Sol Schultz
Marvin Felman	Bertram Isaac Berman	Regina Goldberg	Alice Levine	Terry Sherman
Harry Felman	Louis Block	Morris Goldflies	William Levitt	Adele Shokler
Ludwig Jacob Feuchtwanger	August Blumhof	Scott Goldstein	Charles Levy	Jennifer Short
Fanny Fisher	Solon Briskin	Celia Goodman	David Litvak	Joseph Shuchat
Ida M. Fondiler	Louis Brodsky	Jerome Greenhouse	Frieda Magilvy	Rachel Siegle
Irwin Galinkin	Annie Bulasky	Sidney Gressel	Harvey Mann	Julius Sloboff
Rosalyn Garlikov	Wm. T. Burke	Philip Grossman	Cecelia Margolis	Sam Slonim
William Goldberg	Carol Callas	Michael Gruenebaum	Max May	Esther Smith
Scott Goldstein	Shelly Charles	Ben Guralnik	Ida Mendelson	Max Soifer
Bertha Jacobson	Donn Charme	Max Gutmann	Allan Michelson	Sarah Solomon
Harry Jacobson	Anna Cohen	Rev. Jacob Hammerman	Herman Miller	Katie Speert
Kleinfeld Lerner	Ada Cohen	Beatrice Harris	Jacqueline Joy Miller	Alex Jacob Sperber
Harvey Mann	Rose Cooper	Toba Strull Hirsch	Saul Nathanson	Yehuda Yitzchak Sperber
Victor Marks	Joan Cretella	Louis Hoffman	Mildred Nizny	Dina Stayman
Leon Maybruck	Tuvia Dinkin	Betty Shindell Hone	Max Oltusky	Larry Stein
Copal Moskowitz	Ruth Dorfman	Harold Isenberg	Harry I. Peck	Max Stern
Tillie Norman	Jacob Dulgass	Harold Jacobson	Joseph Perlberg	Mary Stone
Louis H. Radus	Ronnie Ehrenberg-Faulkner	Wilbur Jaffe	Ruth Polasky	Ethel Stoolman
Jack Reingold	Samuel Engelhardt	Sorelie Jaffey	Shirley Pollack	Milton Tomchin
Ludwig Schwab	Joseph Eslow	Judy Jarvis	Gilbert Popkave	Abraham H. Tracht
Florence Schwartz	Jacob Faust	Joseph Jarvis	Sara Slavin Ramm	Esther Vandersluis
Ann Kay Shore	Fred Feigelson	Mary Jenevsky	Betty Remick	Ernst Wagner
Minnie Simon	Harry Feldman	Abraham Kanter	Wendy Ritter	Gershon Wall
Aaron Sivitz	Eva B. Felman	Irving Kaplan	Sophia Robins	Leon Weinstein
Gertrude Ungerleider	Aaron Feuer	Roslyn Kaplan	Nathan Rosen	Hank Weinstein
Celia Weiner	Solomon Fishkind	Isaac Kaplan	Miriam Rosenthal	Esther Weisdorf
Leon Michael Williams	Abraham Fleischman	Marion Katz	Arthur Rosenthal	Abe Wilks
	Dorothy Levinson	Lottie Katz	Louis Roth	Harry Winter
	Friedman	David Kaufman	Rolf Rothschild	Isidore Wolfe
<b>NISSAN</b>	Sarah Ida Friedman	Lillian Kessler	Max Rothstein	Alice Woll
G. Frieda Abromowitz	Isaac Friedman	Herman Knoll	Lena Rubin	Alvin Worley
Sarah Adelman	Murray Friedman	Florine Kohn	Dora Kanter Rubin	Mollie Ziskin
Evelyn Adelman	Ira Fritz	Gerald Kotler	George Saiger	Rev. Louis Zusman
Bert Appel	Melanie Gaffin	Lew Kozen	Harry Salzberg	Joseph Zusman
		Estelle Kress	Sander Burton Schiff	

### **PART TIME RELIGIOUS SCHOOL EDUCATOR/ ADMINISTRATOR NEEDED**

As Cantor Raizen retires, we are currently looking for a creative, enthusiastic individual to lead our Religious School. For a full job description or to apply, please contact Elaine Arnovitz in the office.



**FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 5:30 - 6:15 PM**



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: SHARON & DALE SCHIFF

*Julie Liss-Katz*

Sharon and Dale Schiff moved to Dayton more than seven years ago after living in Sharon's hometown of Akron for 34 years, where they raised their two daughters Robyn and Samantha. "Robin went to law school at UD and never left the area," said Sharon. "The lure of being close to our grandchildren made the decision easy. And our business has been remote since 2009." With the birth of their newest grandson in Chicago, they're even closer for those special visits to spoil him.

Both Dale and Sharon talk about how special the Dayton Jewish community is to new people. "Everyone is so welcoming," said Dale, who had been involved with different synagogues and Chabad in Akron. Together, they made a conscious decision to seek out a Conservative synagogue, and felt right at home when they walked through the doors at Beth Abraham. "People were so friendly," said Sharon. "They invited us to join them for the holidays. They asked us to join them at synagogue functions. I never felt like I walked into a room alone."

In the short time they've lived in Dayton, Dale is convinced they are more involved in Dayton than they ever were in Akron. "We made a commitment to live in Dayton for our family, but still wanted to enjoy our own lives," he said.

Dale was genuinely touched by the outpouring of support from Beth Abraham congregants after the death of his beloved mother. Since then, he has been an active participant in our daily Zoom minyan, "so I can show up to make sure there's a minyan for someone else." His sister, Rabbi Chava Bahle, who lives near Traverse City, MI, joined Dale on Zoom so they could say Kaddish together. She also has continued to participate in our minyan, feeling equally welcomed as a part of our virtual community.

"It's certainly been an adventure," said Dale. "No one ever thought we'd leave Akron." "Our daughter Robyn was excited when we first moved here, but said not to expect them to be our only friends," added Sharon. "Now she's mad that she has to share us."



## SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

*Beth Adelman*

March has been a great month for Social Action, starting with the initiation of our battery recycling program. It's off to a good start with many congregants picking up their collection boxes which were decorated by students at Hillel Academy. If you haven't picked yours up we still have them available, just stop by the synagogue. Large containers are available on the 1st and 2nd floor for your recycled batteries. We are pleased that the Potter's House is joining us in this project!

Many boxes of macaroni and cheese were collected at our Purim celebration which will all be donated to the Foodbank. And talking about the Food Bank, our congregants joined the JCRC and other congregations to pack food boxes on March 26th. The need for accessible food is still great, so we thank everyone for participating with these projects. Please don't forget to bring a couple of cans of food and drop them in the barrels when you come to the synagogue.





## From the President's Desk...

Scott Liberman, Beth Abraham President



**IT'S YOUR CHANCE TO BE HEARD.... The Community Conversations!**

As I have mentioned before, Beth Abraham continues its strategic planning process. Many of you have already helped by answering the survey questions. In fact, we received more than a 40% return and I thank you for responding.

But that is just the start. We need your input during the Community Conversations that will take place in April and May. It is our goal to complete as many of the conversations by the time of our

Beth Abraham Annual Meeting, set for **Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>** at **6:00pm**. Please mark your calendar now.

While I will not preview the Annual Meeting agenda just yet, the results of the surveys and the Community Conversations will certainly be presented. Therefore, I strongly encourage you to respond to the email invitation you will soon receive in order to select a date to participate.

We strive for everyone in the congregation to be involved in helping Beth Abraham decide its future. It is truly your chance to be

### WATCH YOUR EMAIL!

During the week of **April 1**, you will receive an email invitation to select a date to participate in a Community Conversation. These Conversations will be held at Beth Abraham from mid-April through mid-May.

heard. I look forward to seeing and hearing from everyone during the months of April and May.

## HONORING DENNIS

*Renate Frydman*

On Sunday, March 10, we had a tremendous celebration for Dennis Day for his forty years of service. A huge crowd of over one-hundred and forty people came to honor Dennis upon his retirement.

Dennis was smiling as his life story was presented on screen. His family wore tee shirts denoting their relationship to Dennis - including daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren, and of course his wife, Patty.

After a catered lunch, the ceremony began, presented by Larry Burick, Bonnie Beaman Rice and Beverly Louis. A beautiful clock with numbers containing shards of glass from the synagogue's windows was presented to Dennis, as well as a scrapbook of messages from congregants.

This was a sendoff well deserved and ended with a standing ovation. His only words to the crowd were, "thank you and thank you." A reticent man who doesn't love the spotlight, he also said "I will be back to help when needed."

**Bravo, Dennis, and thank you!!**

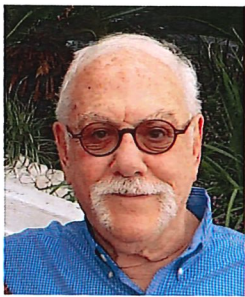
## THANK YOU FROM DENNIS

A big thank you to Rav Aubrey, Cantor, Elaine, Ann, Annie, Bonnie, Larry, Beverly and Scott, as well as the board and all the members of Beth Abraham – and to all members of my family – for honoring me for my 40 years at Beth Abraham. I cannot express in words what it meant to me to have everyone show up for the celebration and receive all the letters, notes in the scrapbook and the monetary donations. I really did love my job and I am going to miss it and all the friends I made in 40 years. Thank you!



# Library News — Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter



Peter Gay, one of the most prolific historians of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, produced classic studies on a variety of subjects, including Voltaire, the Enlightenment, the Weimar

Republic and the one that captured his imagination more than any other, Sigmund Freud. He also produced a fascinating memoir titled, *My German Question: Growing Up in Nazi Berlin*. Born in Berlin in June, 1923 as Peter Joachim Frohlich (Frohlich means happy or “gay” in German), Gay details only the six years he spent as a boy in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1939.

To begin with, Gay reveals that when he returned to Germany for an academic conference in June, 1961 he still felt incredibly uncomfortable. In what had to be a painful reminder, Gay mentions that about 150,000 Jews lived in Berlin in 1933, about 30 percent of all the Jews in Germany. As Gay puts it, when he crossed back into France, he breathed a sigh of relief.

Gay grew up in a perfectly normal middle class family though his mother suffered from tuberculosis, still a plague as late as the 1930s, and a variety of other illnesses. Borrowing from Karl Marx, who said “religion is the opiate of the masses,” Gay titles a chapter in his Memoir “The Opium of the Masses.” Gay explains that his parents believed in atheism and raised him in the same tradition.

According to Gay, neither his parents nor he “looked Jewish” so they felt relatively safe in the early 1930s. Furthermore, Gay’s father had fought for Germany in World War I. He had been wounded, and had even received a medal, which guaranteed the family a special status at least for a while. Then the Nuremberg Laws of September,

1935 said Jews could not be German citizens. According to Gay, his family did not experience any immediate impact. In fact, his father’s small business prospered and the family moved to a much larger apartment.

Even as late as 1936, while Germany began to challenge the Versailles Treaty and Great Britain and France did nothing about it, for Gay the spectacle of the Berlin Olympics overshadowed anything else at the time. Gay’s father managed to buy two tickets so Gay could watch in person the historic performance of track star Jesse Owens. Only 13 at the time, Gay eventually realized that the games had been used for propaganda purposes with strict orders to avoid any anti-Semitic incidents.

Gay says that in 1937, German Jews began to think that their condition might improve or at least not get any worse. He writes at length to try to explain why so many German Jews may have been naïve. In any case, Gay’s family began to make plans to try to leave Germany. As with most German Jews, they had no idea of any country that might welcome them in the midst of the Great Depression. Just in case, Gay began to study English.

Gay describes how the situation for German Jews worsened drastically in 1938. His family increasingly lived in isolation and in terror. Kristallnacht in November left no doubt about the pending fate of German Jews. If German Jews could manage to leave the country, they became desperate to find a place to go. Gay vividly describes the process in a chapter titled, “Buying Asylum.”

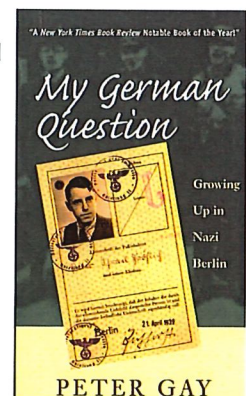
To begin with, German Jews who wanted to leave the country had to give up almost all their personal wealth. It remained almost impossible to get into the United States because of the existing quota system for immigration based on country of origin. It proved no easier to get into

Great Britain. At last, word began to circulate that Cuba would accept German Jewish refugees.

It remained possible to leave Germany before the beginning of World War II in September, 1939. Gay and his family managed to book passage to Cuba and landed on May 13. He says each individual could take with them only the equivalent of \$2.50 and any items of value they managed to carry on their person. He does not mention how much American relatives had to pay Cuban authorities. According to Gay, about 3,000 fortunate German Jews made it to Havana.

Gay says that he enjoyed the “free air” in Havana while he imagined the coast of the United States only 90 miles away. Gay worked on perfecting his English, and through an English language newspaper became a fan of the New York Yankees. The family could not know how long they might have to wait to get into the United States, especially because of his mother’s tuberculosis. A cooperating physician cleared Gay’s mother and they landed in the United States in January, 1941.

(Of about 500,000 Jews in Germany in 1933, it is estimated that about half managed to leave the country. Sadly, some went to neighboring countries such as France and the Netherlands which would come under German control in May and June, 1940. Aside from a handful of countries which remained neutral during the war, Jews would not be safe almost anywhere on the European continent. )



## MEN'S CLUB & SISTERHOOD THANK YOU!

Our Men's Club/Sisterhood Shabbat on March 16<sup>th</sup> was a great success. It was wonderful having so many service participants. Special thanks to Judy Woll and Linda Brotkin for their introductions of the Torah Portion and Haftarah, as well as Allan Spetter for his very educational D'Var Torah. Of course, this wouldn't have been possible without our dedicated chair people Alan Chesen and Cheryl Lewis who worked very hard to ensure we had all of the volunteers we needed and who kept us on track throughout the service. *Yasher Koach* to them.

We hope everyone locally enjoyed their Mishloach Manot bags. We have numerous people to thank for being a part of preparing them and delivering them to you: Beth Adelman, Elaine Arnovitz, Alan and Judy Chesen, Ted Cooper, Bonnie and Doug Deutsch, Irwin Dumtschin, Ruth Ellenbogen, Craig Fishbein (sticker design), Irene Fishbein, Shana Fishbein, Mike Goldstein, Mindy Greene, Hindy Gruber, Meryl Hattenbach, Franklin and Cheryl Lewis, Ann Liberman, Liz Musin, Marlene Pinsky, Jeff and Connie Roberts, Dale and Sharon Schiff, Allan Spetter and

Claudia Birch, Bob and Suzanne Thum, Louise Tincher, Ralph Williams, & Mindi Wynne.

THANK YOU!



## ECLIPSE SPECTACULAR!

Join Beth Abraham and Northern Hills Synagogues' Men's Clubs on **Monday, April 8th** to learn about and experience the eclipse together.

12:30 PM Deli Buffet & Eclipse presentation from Dr. Jack Bernstein; 2 to 4 PM Eclipse Viewing from the Beth Abraham parking lot

**Cost - \$13 per person - eclipse glasses included.**

**RSVP FOR LUNCH IS REQUIRED by APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>**  
BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR!

## MEN'S CLUB NEWS

*Irwin Dumtschin*

**Rick Pinsky Sunday Brunch Speaker Series:** We're in search of speakers for next year's Brunch Series. Please contact Allan Spetter if you are interested or have suggestions.

**Yom Hashoah Yellow Candle Distribution:** Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, will be on May 6th. Men's Club, in cooperation with the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, will once again deliver local congregants with materials for personal observance of Yom HaShoah including a special Yellow Candle™ made in Israel. Please join with members of Jewish communities all over America and light your candle on Sunday night, **May 5<sup>th</sup>** in memory of a victim of the Holocaust.

**Men's Club Board Meeting:** Our next meeting is scheduled for **April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM**. Our meetings are open to all, so come join us. We would love to get your input! You'll find the Zoom link in your weekly News & Notes.

We wish everyone a Happy Pesach!

## SISTERHOOD NEWS

*Irene Fishbein*

Sisterhood delivered a huge platter of Hamentashen to the Oakwood Public Safety Department for Purim to show our appreciation for their continued support in keeping a watchful eye on Beth Abraham.



The MAHJshuganahs will be playing on **Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00PM**. Please RSVP to Liz Musin.

The next Sisterhood Meeting is **Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM** on Zoom. See News & Notes on April 1<sup>st</sup> for the link and join us.

Please contact Connie Roberts for all your Passover and gift shop needs.

Rabbi	Aubrey L. Glazer, PhD.
Cantor	Andrea S. Raizen
President	Scott Liberman
Vice President	Matthew Arnovitz
Vice President	Tara Feiner
Vice President	Beverly Louis
Vice President	Julie Liss-Katz
Treasurer	Alan Chesen
Secretary	Irene Fishbein
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.

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Julie Liss-Katz  
Cantor Andrea Raizen  
Allan Spetter  
Renate Frydman

### LIVESTREAM LINK

The link for all livestreamed services through StreamSpot is:

<https://venue.streamspot.com/72a802ed>

The printing of this publication is funded by private donations

## Honoring Cantor Raizen Save the Date! Sunday, July 21, 2-4pm

### 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

<b>Friday, April 5</b> Candle Lighting	7:47 pm	<b>Monday, April 22</b> Erev Pesach Fast of the First Born/Siyum	<b>Saturday, April 27</b> Morning Service Havdalah	9:30 am 9:11 pm
<b>Saturday, April 6</b> Morning Service Candle Lighting	9:30 am 8:47 pm	Candle Lighting	<b>Sunday, April 28</b> Pesach VI Candle Lighting	8:10 pm
<b>Friday, April 12</b> Candle Lighting	7:54 pm	<b>Tuesday, April 23</b> Pesach I Morning Service Candle Lighting	<b>Monday, April 29</b> Pesach VII Morning Service Candle Lighting	9:30 am 9:13 pm
<b>Saturday, April 13</b> Morning Service Havdalah	9:30 am 8:55 pm	<b>Wednesday, April 24</b> Pesach II Morning Service Candle Lighting	<b>Tuesday, April 30</b> Pesach VIII Morning Service Havdalah	9:30 am 9:14 pm
<b>Friday, April 19</b> Candle Lighting	8:01 pm	<b>Friday, April 26</b> Candle Lighting		8:08 pm
<b>Saturday, April 20</b> Morning Service Havdalah	9:30 am 9:03 pm			