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BETH  
ABRAHAM  
SYNAGOGUE

## The Rick Pinsky Brunch Speaker Series

Sponsored by Men's Club



Sunday, Nov. 10, 10 a.m. • \$9

### The Life & Legacy of Brig. Gen. Charles Young

Discover the remarkable life and legacy of Brig. Gen. Charles Young, the first African American National Park superintendent and U.S. Army colonel. Featuring Roger Osorio from the Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument at Wilberforce University, this event highlights Young's groundbreaking contributions in the U.S. and abroad.

Contact the office to RSVP.



### HANUKKAH CELEBRATION SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars now for **Wednesday evening, December 25** (the first night of Hanukkah) as we come together for our Beth Abraham Hanukkah family celebration!

More information to follow!

### NEW MEMBER SHABBAT SAVE THE DATE

We'll be honoring all those who have joined Beth Abraham this year at our annual New Member Shabbat on **Saturday, December 14**. Please join us for this meaningful service as we welcome them to our Beth Abraham community. Kiddush lunch following.



## Strategic Plan Update

Tara Feiner & Norm Weissman

So much has happened since we updated you in the September 2024 Bulletin!

### Where were we?

At the time that Beth Abraham published the September 2024 Bulletin, we shared with you that our Strategic Planning Steering Committee drafted a vision for Beth Abraham. In addition, based on our data analysis, we drafted a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) Analysis. The SWOT Analysis became the basis for the charges for our four task forces: Sustainability, Engagement, Governance & Leadership Development, and Worship.

### Where are we now?

Our task forces are populated. Each task force has two co-chairs and between four and six additional members. We are engaging thirty(!) Beth Abraham members in the work of the task forces. We have been mindful and strategic in populating our task forces, ensuring that each task force is representative of Beth Abraham's demographics. As we keep saying, our Beth Abraham Strategic Plan will truly be one that is not only for us, but by us.

### Where are we going?

Our task forces have their work set out for them! Based on a charge from the Beth Abraham Board, the strategic planning process has an accelerated, aggressive timeline. Each task force is striving to provide the Strategic Planning Steering Committee with its recommendations based on its review of the data that is

pertinent to its area by the of December 2024. The recommendations are to be specific and actionable. For each recommendation, the task force will indicate: the capacity required (including who is responsible), the complexity of the action, the cost to implement the recommendation, and the timeframe for implementation (short-term through long-term).

In early winter, the Board will review and prioritize recommendations. These steps will enable us to complete the Strategic Plan by early spring.

Here is a brief summary of our current timeline:

- Through the end of December 2024 - Task Force Meetings
- January & February 2025 - Priority Setting by the Board
- February & March 2025 - Writing the Strategic Plan
- March 2025 - Presenting the Strategic Plan to the Board, then to you!!

Are you looking for more details about the draft Vision, SWOT Analysis, and task forces?

- Review our informational posters outside the sanctuary.
- Watch the Beth Abraham website for updates.
- Watch for opportunities to attend in-person information sessions. These will be advertised in the weekly News & Notes.
- Contact one of us!

## BETH ABRAHAM



### GIVING SOCIETIES

#### CHAI SOCIETY

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

#### RABBI'S MINYAN

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BRUCE & DEBBIE FELDMAN  
MARC KATZ & JULIE LISS-KATZ  
EDWARD & MARCIA KRESS  
MICHAEL & ELLEN LEFFAK  
DONALD & CAROLE MARGER  
LEE & PATTI SCHEAR  
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ADAM & TARA FEINER  
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#### PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

BETH ADELMAN  
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REX & LOUISE TINCHER  
DOUG & THEDA WAGNER  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

\*OF BLESSED MEMORY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 5:30 - 6:15 PM



Rhythm 'N' Ruach is our upbeat music-filled Shabbat experience for families, held from 5:30-6:15 PM the second Friday of each month. Join Cantor Raizen to usher in Shabbat with songs, prayers, instruments, movement, dance, yoga and more. Everyone is welcome!



## What is the Real Business of a Synagogue Anyways?

Rav Aubrey Glazer



While attending the *Kellogg School for Jewish Leadership*, I recall being struck by the deep resonance of the four principles of value-based leadership then

being taught to my cohort by Harry J. Jansen Kraemer Jr., which are summed up as:

- (1) **Self-Reflection;** (2) **Balance and Perspective;** (3) **True Self-Confidence;** (4) **Genuine Humility.**

**Self-Reflection** is uniquely human and clarifies what we stand for. (This process of the Annual Report, for example, is a modicum of the self-reflection I am engaged in daily in leading BAS). It is no coincidence that we refer to prayer (*tefillah*) and meditation (*hitbonnenut*) as “spiritual practices” because each technique habituates the mind to “practice” navigating life’s complexities and to make choices most in line with our values, with an awareness of the full impact of our decisions. In partnership with our Strategic Planning Committee and its task forces, we are all engaged in collaborative efforts to enable our shared vision to emerge for the future of BAS. This challenging process has led us to greater clarity in what we do and how BAS can be doing it leaner and smarter while still being there for all your needs, from the “hatch, patch, match to the dispatch”. But, BAS is more than that, as we come together to celebrate, to soothe, to meditate, to learn, to live, to grow and to inspire greater service to each other, our families, our friends, our students, our neighborhood and the world;

**Balance and Perspective**, what I refer to as *hishtavuut*, emerges when we remain curious by listening and learning from others. BAS continues to thrive due to a remarkable team of staff and growing volunteers who tirelessly serve our communal family. My aspiration to remain balanced and retain perspective is what allows for a continued commitment to stay focused on the short term programming and management, with the long term emerging in our forthcoming strategic plan. As we navigate through this process of community visioning, there always remain the long term aspirations of envisioning and building authentic Jewish futures that matter at BAS;

**True Self-Confidence**, what I refer to as *ga’ava*, sounds strange and out of place here, but once we see that this value allows us to accept ourselves exactly as we are, what emerges is a deeper understanding of our strengths and weaknesses as well as remaining on the “look-out” for the lessons learnt in falling short. Counter-intuitively, what true self-confidence inculcates is a commitment to continual self-improvement (*heshbon ha-nefesh*), which is what we are all striving for here in our communal family, especially in galvanizing my rabbinic leadership and management with our board in governance, fiduciary duty and stewardship of BAS;

**Genuine Humility**, what I refer to as *’anavah*, remains the single most important value at the core of what we do at BAS. I could not have achieved much this year without the limitless dedication of our president Scott Liberman and the entire board and office staff, as well as the unflinching support of my wife, Elyssa and daughter, Tal. None of us is the “be-all” and “end-all” of this synagogue community. We celebrate our triumphs and lament our

downfalls - but together we are stronger. The glue of that strength, however, lies in an ability to see that our authenticity shines through when we make space for others in relation to ourselves. Inescapable is that leadership model of Moses - the epitome of humility that enables prophetic visioning - that always remains foremost in my heart and mind.

I continue to be touched on a daily basis by the responses from our communal family, with gifts of time, talent and treasure to our shared future. As stewards of BAS, your dedication is making a difference. Our greatest challenge remains before us - how to take what is *viable and inspiring* about BAS and make it *sustainable*. While we are facing challenges that are typical of the Conservative movement nationwide, we are learning that BAS is not alone in facing the intractable challenges of changing landscapes of needs, desires and visions for the future of our traditional-egalitarian Judaism serving such diverse micro-communities under one roof and online across the globe. There could be no greater need than now to support and sustain a centrist voice of Jewish learning and living unique to Dayton and that makes us who we are at BAS. Please continue sharing your inspiring stories and experiences of meaning making through your living Judaism at BAS with friends and family. Your increased commitments are making a difference and we are encouraged by the possibilities that lay ahead. Continually building upon our deep roots in Dayton, now is the time for us all to take stock of what BAS *has meant*, *what it means*, and *what it can mean* for Jewish futures that start here now. This is what I see is the real business of a synagogue – *Hineni!*

### THE RICK PINSKY SUNDAY BRUNCH SPEAKER SERIES

Beginning this month and sponsored by the Men’s Club, brunches start at 10:00 am and cost \$9. RSVP to the office.

**November 10:** Please see cover page of this Bulletin

**November 24:** Joint program with Temple Israel Brotherhood at Temple Israel. Gary Zola will be speaking on “Ballot Box Priorities - Do Jews Consider Themselves Jewish Americans or American Jews When They Vote?”





## High Holiday Thank You's

Beth Abraham is grateful for all our members who volunteer during the High Holidays to make our services meaningful and ensure all the preparations go smoothly. A big Todah Rabah to the following:

**Youth Services:** Tara Feiner and Marcie Sherman, along with Adam Feiner

**Lay Participants at Services:** Elaine Arnovitz, Ted Cooper, Irwin Dumtschin, Doug Einstein, Bruce Feldman, Penney Frain, Mike Freed, Steve Horenstein, Rachel Kinard, Norm Lewis, Jeff Roberts, Marshall Weiss and Ralph Williams

**Preparing Break the Fast Meal:** Linda Katz, Claudia Birch, Linda Brotkin, Hindy Gruber, Megan Hart and Debby Oppenheimer

**Musical Interlude on Kol Nidre:** Pam Schwartz

**Ushers/Greeters:** Allan Katz, chair; Beth Adelman, Steve & Bari Blumhof, Linda Brotkin, Irene Fishbein, Steve Frain, Gilda Gieske, Mike Goldstein, Garry Greene, Hindy Gruber, Linda Horenstein, Mike Jaffe, Linda Katz, Mike Kimmel, Jerry Kuhr, Beverly Louis, Abe Merdinger, Connie Roberts, Judy Schwartzman, Joel Shapiro, and Louise Tincher.

**Simchat Torah Celebration Meal:** Linda Brotkin, Beth Adelman, Hindy Gruber and Debby Oppenheimer

And, of course, Jason, Sandra, Annie, and Dennis for all their time and coordination!

Beth Abraham is a family – and we are a wonderful family of volunteers working together to meet the synagogue's needs and those of our community. THANK YOU!!

## SUKKOT



## Benji Goorskey Bar Mitzvah



Benjamin Keller Goorskey, son of Chao-ching Goorskey-Lin and David Goorskey, will be called to the Torah on November 23 as a Bar Mitzvah at Beth Abraham Synagogue. Benji is a 7th grade student at Watts Middle School in Centerville where he participates in Band, Jazz Band, Science Olympiad, and Cross Country. He enjoys listening to jazz music, running, drawing, reading, inventing and playing new board games with his older brother, playing Minecraft, hanging out with his cats, and taking care of his pet slugs.



# IN THE BETH ABRAHAM FAMILY

## We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

### Bert Appel Fund

#### In memory of

**Charles Frydman**, by Charlotte & Bret Golden

**Jean Lieberman**, by Gary Furst

**Loretta Weber**, by Charlotte & Bret Golden

### General Fund

#### In memory of

**Rochelle Goldstein**, by Cheryl & Franklin Lewis

**Ruby Pilder**, by Bert & Wanda Pilder

#### In honor of

**Lois Gross**, by Lauren Gross

**Diane Williams**, by David & Debbie Perlmutter

### Joel Horenstein Fund

#### In memory of

**Mindy Metz**, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

**Marjorie Schiller**, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

#### In honor of

**Bruce & Debbie Feldman**, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

#### Speedy Recovery

**Dena Briskin**, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

### JWV- Coplin Fund

#### In memory of

**Helen Vorkan**, by Frieda Blum

### Kiddush Kitty

#### In memory of

**Melvin Crouse**, by Betty Crouse

**Joseph Frankowitz**, by Adele Krug

**Gussie Jacobson**, by Adele Krug

**Rae Kurs**, by Betty Crouse

**Sarah Muchnick Lewis**, by Norm & Kay Lewis

### Rav Glazer's Discretionary Fund

#### In memory of

**Herman Brateman**, by Roseane Parks

**Florence Shapiro**, by Roseane Parks

### Rick Pinsky Purim Memorial Fund

#### In memory of

**Joseph Bettman**, by David & Randi Fuchsman

**Alvin Fuchsman**, by David & Randi Fuchsman

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

**Rifke Esther Pomeranz Krummel**, by Miriamne Ara Krummel

**Rick Pinsky**, by Kay & Bob Gersh

### Ritual Fund

#### In memory of

**Emil Barsky**, by Rabbi Bernard Barsky

**Malcolm Block**, by Janet & Barry Block & family

**Nathan Chudde**, by Carol & Susan Chudde

**Sally Wasserman Cruz**, by Carol Nathanson

**Mary Louise Dreety**, by Phil & Louisa Dreety

**Lori Etta Ellman**, by Marianne Ellman

**Cecile Fand**, by Chaya Vidal

**Barney Galas**, by Lawrence Wagenfeld

**Raymond Kahn**, by Beverly Saeks

**Albert Kravitz**, by Myron Stayman

**Bea Merdinger**, by Abe & Marla Merdinger

**Annette Rennemann**, by Ann & Scott Liberman

**Richard Schear**, by Paul Schear

**Greg Smith**, by Lee Smith & family

**Albert & Barbara Solkov**, by Lauren Maio, Janine Raye & Michelle Rose

**Jack Tilson**, by Myron Stayman

**Gilbert Unger**, by Susie & Eddie Katz

## DIRECTORY TIME!

Have you moved in the last year? Changed your phone number or added a cell number?

Please check your listing in last year's directory and make sure it is correct. Let us know if you have changes by **December 10th** - we'll be getting set to roll out the latest edition of the Beth Abraham Directory in January, and we want to make sure we have your correct information. Just give the office a call or send us an email!



## COMMUNITY



Opening night of the Cultural Arts & Book Series is scheduled for **November 3**, featuring an afternoon of jazz at **2 PM** at the University of Dayton's Roger Glass Center for the Arts.

CABS events run through April. To register and for additional information, please visit [JewishDayton.org](http://JewishDayton.org).



## In the Beth Abraham Family

**Thanks to the following Kiddush Sponsors:**

**October 19** - The Guggenheimer, McCloskey and Briskin families in honor of Henry Guggenheimer's birthday

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

### **November Birthdays**

3	Lynn Goldenberg
4	Maya Liner
4	Sandy Sloane-Brenner
5	Penney Fraim
7	Dahlia Levinson
8	Meredith Levinson
8	Stephen Levinson
9	Jody Pollack Blazar
10	Michael Jaffe
11	Alan Moscovitz
11	Francine Shuchat Shaw
12	Wanda-Lea Pilder
12	Kenneth Krochmal
14	Eric Sussman
14	Benjamin Goorskey
15	David Plotnick
18	Rabbi Bernard Barsky
18	Michael Goldstein
19	Howard Michaels
19	Diana Poole
20	Linda Brotkin
21	Anna Trakhter
21	Lois Gross
21	Judy Schwartzman
22	Abraham Rubin
23	Sanford Wolfe
23	Patti Schear
24	Renate Frydman
24	Laurie Braverman

25	Norman Lewis
25	Randi Jo Rothman
26	Bella Freeman
27	Philip Goldstein
27	Eden Lubow
28	Enrique Ellenbogen
29	Deborah Stayman
29	Brenda Rinzler
30	Roger Chudde

### **November Anniversaries**

7	Richard & Erika Zawatsky
10	Michael & Marcie Sherman
18	Steve & Taryn Wagenfeld
26	Todd & Jody Sobol
29	Howard & Sue Ducker
29	Timothy & Charlotte Johnson
30	Adam & Tara Feiner

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

### **WE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS:**

Helene Gordon  
Jay Wenig

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

Mindy Metz



- Steve & Liz Musin on the birth of their granddaughter, Eliza Kathleen Musin on Oct. 16th in Columbus.
- Bruce Feldman on being selected by The Dayton Business Journal as a 2024 Leader in Diversity.

### **YOM KIPPUR APPEAL REMINDER**

Did you enjoy the High Holidays at Beth Abraham, in person or streaming? Excited about the upcoming year? If you have forgotten or not yet sent in your Yom Kippur Appeal, it's not too late! As we hope for 100% participation, any amount is welcomed and appreciated.

Thank you.





# 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 November (Tishrei – Cheshvan) we remember:***

### **Tishrei**

Abraham Dubinsky  
Ida Goodman  
Linda S. Maslia  
Harry Moran  
Menucha Pesl Rubin  
Freda Smith  
Sally Wasserman

### **Cheshvan**

Helen Abramovitz  
Clara Y. Abramowitz  
David D. Abrams  
Lilyan Abramson  
Frank Adelman  
Marcia Alpert  
Hattie Anon  
Ida Appelblatt  
Max Arnovitz  
Gladys Atkins  
Samuel Barnett  
Bernard Beaman  
Robert E. Bernstein  
Elaine Bialer  
Louise Blake  
Lawrence Blumberg  
Murray Borkan  
Sarah Brateman  
Charlotte Braverman  
Lawrence Briskin  
Selma Brown  
Bernice Brown  
Herman C. Burke  
Esther Lefkowitz  
Burstein  
Rebecca Center  
Saul Layb Chodos  
Sarah Cohen  
William Cohen  
Jennie Cohen  
Terry Coit  
Beatrice Cowan  
Bertha Cunix  
Mary Deutsch  
Anna Deutsch  
Charles B. Dorfman  
Sadie Dorfman  
Jack Dorfman  
Ruthe Dorfman

Norma Dreety  
Louis Dubro  
Alan Michael Effron  
Silvia Ellenbogen  
Tili Faiga Ellison  
Abraham Ellman  
Lilian Epstein  
Alex Farkus  
Alissa Fein  
Sarah Feldman  
Charles Feldman  
Hal Feldman  
Belle Feldman  
Mollie Felman  
Louis Fink  
Chester Finn  
Howard Fischbach  
Michael Fishbein  
Bernard Fisher  
Anna Fishkind  
Hattie Fleat  
Sam Fleat  
George Foreman  
Louis Frankel  
Sarah B. Fred  
Manuel Freeman  
Jean L. Friedman  
James Froug  
Rebecca Frydman  
Lena Gaffin  
Jules Garlikov  
Fred Gertzman  
George Gilmore  
Lillian Goldberg  
David Goldberg  
David Goldsmith  
Louis Goldstein  
Hyman Gordon  
Poriss Gordon  
Abraham Gordon  
Bernard Gutmann  
William Handler  
Renate (Ronnie)  
Harlan  
Howard Hillelson  
Louis W. Hirsch  
Eva Hoffman  
Doris Hulman  
Eva Jaffe

Avraham Dov Joffe  
Vincent Johnson  
Manuel Kahn  
Bess Kanter  
Gertrude Kanter  
Bobbie Kantor  
Louis Kaplan  
Rachel Kaplan  
Esther Katz  
Sylvia Katz  
Leonard Katz  
Clara Klass  
Joseph Klausner  
Harry Klebanow  
Menachem Mendl  
Kohn  
M. Zlata Kramer  
Samuel Kramer  
Eli Kravitz  
David Kreiger  
Regina Krochmal  
Sadie Krueger  
Benjamin Kuperman  
Walter Kurland  
Louis Kurs  
George Layton  
Frieda Leet  
Nathaniel Leff  
Gertie Lefkowitz  
Gertrude Lefkowitz  
Isabel Lerner  
Irvin Lieberman  
Richard Liss  
Herman Liss  
Dorothy Liss  
George Lubin  
Leah Mann  
Frieda Mark  
Sarah Marks  
Yaakov Marmorstein  
Ilene Marshall  
Pearl Mason  
Louis Matusoff  
Chaya Bluma Maybruck  
Hyman Michaels  
Hannah G. Miller  
Katherine Miller  
Ida Miller

Samuel Miller  
Irving Miller  
Elsie Mintz  
Ann Moran  
Phyllis Morris  
Lester Myers  
Eve Naiman  
Lillian Newhouse  
David A. Nizny  
Sadelle Odell  
Abraham Parker  
Anna Pilder  
Donald Pinsky  
Marian Plotnick  
Leo Pollack  
Bernard Precker  
Philip Pretekin  
Nathan Prigozen  
Dorothy Rabinowitz  
Louis Rauchman  
Albert Razovsky  
Irwin Reingold  
Sholom Riback  
Joseph Riback  
Daniel Riback  
Jennie Rich  
Lee Robins  
Stanford Rosen  
Anne Rosensweet  
Abraham Rosenthal  
Albert Rosenthal  
Jack H. Ross  
Berthold Rothschild  
Hattie Ruttenberg  
Gloria Saeks  
Sherman L. Saeks  
Mary Saewitz  
Eugene Schear  
Freada Scheller  
Jacob Schneider  
Maurice Schoenfeld  
Kenneth Schriber  
Louis Schriber  
Eva Schultz  
Lillian Schurr  
Sidney M. Schwartz  
Ted Schwartz  
Paul Shapiro

Ben Sherman  
Ben Shirer  
Gershon Shokler  
Sadie Shokler  
Libbie Shottenstein  
Mary Ann Shuster  
Benhamin Siegel  
Alex Sinder  
Tillie Singer  
Dr. Herman Slutzky  
Alexander Jaco  
Smith  
Harry Solkov  
Max Solomon  
Michael Soyfer  
Louis Stahl  
Isabelle Stecker  
Helen Stein  
David Stern  
Melvin Sumner Temple  
Herbert Tomchin  
Edith Tracht  
Joseph Y.Y. Tuck  
Abe Unger  
Henry Wahrman  
David Weinstein  
Joseph Weisdorf  
Gittle Weiss  
Ethel Wilks  
Rose E. Wilks  
Abe Wilks  
Ada B Wolfe  
Louis Wool  
Jacob Worly  
Charles Zwelling  
Neil Zwelling





## Treasure Hunt Uncovers the Jewel of Our Community: BAS Religious School

Dr. Elyssa Wortzman

During our high-spirited kick off program, "I found my treasure at Beth Abraham Synagogue" on our first monthly Shabbat School, students and parents had to identify ritual items to win the prize - a *siddur* and a custom BAS bag. Based on a Hasidic tale, we learned the *mahsal* (lesson) that finding treasure takes a journey that leads right back home. Students discovered the treasure of BAS community as their Jewish home.

In preparation for the High Holidays we studied the *al chet* prayer and discussed Rav Aubrey's interpretive motions for beating the heart (he beats his heart and opens his hand in reference to an Israeli poem). Students then created and presented their own interpretative choreography. Marlene Pinsky helped us to change the Torah covers, as we explored the *hiddur mitzvah* or the beautification of the *mitzvah*.



As a means of understanding how all people were created in *betzelem elohim*, in the image of the Divine, for Indigenous Peoples Day, we welcomed

adults and children from two Native American nations, the Lakota and the Athabaskan Nations, to share in the transmission of wisdom through narrative. In our story-telling circle, we shared stories about the Flood. The Native American tradition for wisdom transmission is oral, whereas Jews, as a people of the book, rely more on the written word. We learned how Native oral

stories are adapted in each telling, so that the story itself is alive and the storytelling is a process of creation. Examining the Jewish tradition of *midrash*, a tradition going back to the Talmud where Jewish voices interpreted the meaning of Biblical narratives, we understood how Judaism also makes room for creation and meaning-making.

Students were surprised to see the places our stories met and diverged. Strikingly similar were the Jewish and Lakota stories of the Flood. Shelly Corbin/Takóni



Kókiyešni from the Lakota Nation/Itázipčó told of a time when people were bad and the Creator sent a flood. Instead of an ark, all the animals stood on a turtle's back, floating in the water. Animals volunteered to jump into the water (think of our Nachson from the Exodus story) to try to grab a handful of earth from the bottom to see if the flood was over. After many attempts, it was the beaver whose tail made it successful in signaling the end of the flood.

The Flood story I shared (from Genesis with midrash from Sandhedrin, the Zohar, Rabbis Samphson Rafael Hirsch Jonathan Sacks) began similarly, with a corrupted people whose actions thrust the *Shechinah*, the feminine presence of God, out of the world. God decided to put an end to the world, yet saved Noah, a righteous man. Noah made an ark and took two of each animal. Noah knew that

the flood abated when a dove came back with an olive leaf. God made a covenant- in the form of a rainbow - not to again destroy the world. But God could not

promise that people will never destroy the world, because God gave them free will. The white light of the rainbow is God's unity, and the colors the diversity down on earth. Each color of the light is equally Divine.

In between each story, to process the narratives, everyone was invited to make *midrash*, an interpretation or adaptation of the story, through art. Perhaps most importantly, we were able to hold space for our guests to share stories they are rediscovering, after the dormancy imposed by residential schools. Shelly and Guy "Wakawala" Jones, Lakota Nation community elder, also shared some of the history of the Native Americans in American to contextualize their experiences. Together, all the witness/participants did their part towards manifesting a small but necessary *tikkun* (healing) for our Native American brothers and sisters.





## From the President's Desk...

Scott Liberman, Beth Abraham President



(This is Scott's Yom Kippur Appeal delivered on Kol Nidre)

Welcome to Beth Abraham for the start of Yom Kippur, one of the

most sacred moments in our tradition. Tomorrow is a day of reflection, repentance, and renewal. It's a time to reflect on our personal journeys over the past year and seek growth, both spiritually and communally. This is the fourth year that I have had the honor of addressing you, and I know you all eagerly anticipate it! I want to begin by thanking Rav Aubrey for his spiritual leadership and inspiring words over the holidays. And a special thank you to Rabbi Aura for her beautiful melodies.

As I prepared for tonight, I realized that I have spoken to you the last three years about the "three Ts" - Time, Talent, and Treasure. So, I might as well do so this year, too. But first, a little something personal that happened to me today. This morning, I tried to fix a squeaky floorboard in my house... and now the whole house is complaining. And so do you know why my house had to go to therapy? It had too many cracks in its foundation and was putting up too many walls. I am sorry for the dad jokes, but after all these years, you know that's how I roll!

And, speaking of houses, I do want to talk about what makes a home. Whether it's our daily residence, a second home in Florida or out west, or even our favorite sports team's stadium like the Horseshoe in Columbus or the Rose Bowl in Pasadena; we call these places home because they offer belonging, security, stability, memories, and comfort. They are places where we build community and relationships.

But what about our spiritual home, Beth Abraham—our bet ha-tefilla, our house

of prayer? Just like the homes we live in, our Beth Abraham home offers belonging, security, stability, and comfort. I asked some congregants what inspired them about coming to Beth Abraham, and their responses moved me deeply. One congregant said, "Recalling my father listening to the words of Torah, I honor him by being fully present as I listen to those same words, creating a similar memory for my child in the future." Another said, "Beth Abraham helps my family answer life's questions through Judaism, giving my children a guide in their lives." And another said, "As I studied Judaism on my journey to becoming a Jew by Choice, I realized I have always been Jewish and feel at home at Beth Abraham."

These reflections, along with artwork from our religious school, are on the bookmarks in the machzors in front of you and remind us why we are here tonight. We all seek belonging, security, stability, memories, and comfort - just like in our own homes. As you think about these reflections, I invite you to consider your own relationship with Beth Abraham and our community. This synagogue - our spiritual home - provides a place to worship, learn, and connect, supporting us through moments of joy and challenge.

In the September Bulletin, I wrote about the history of the Yom Kippur Appeal and Parshat Shekalim, where all Jews were required to contribute a half-shekel annually for the upkeep of the Holy Temple. While we no longer contribute in the same way, we are still called to maintain our spiritual home. This upkeep is both emotional and physical. The emotional or spiritual work we do as a community happens because of this sacred space. While Rav Aubrey will lead us on our spiritual journey - teshuvah, turning inward - I

want to ask you to also reflect on the physical journey of our beloved Beth Abraham.

We must remember the everyday upkeep of our home. Just like any house, our house of prayer needs ongoing care and attention to remain strong and welcoming for future generations. And I am not talking just about a building, but talking about our community...the people.

Let me highlight a few things from this past year that have either required or will require our attention which leads towards offering our sense of belonging, security, and comfort. We regularly read from kosher Torahs, which do require ongoing repair and maintenance. We have identified a need to inspect these Torahs to determine what is needed in this upcoming year. Also, as you probably can guess, our weekly security needs keep increasing as we continue to provide a level of security that is needed to feel comfortable here. While we have been fortunate enough to obtain some grant funds, the reality is that security spending is here to stay. Our religious school, which has over 20 children this year, is growing! Thanks to many of you, though, we have secured funding to keep the school thriving for now. Finally, we have introduced new fresh programming ideas, events, and learning opportunities. Such programming adds to our sense of belonging and the creation of memories here at Beth Abraham.

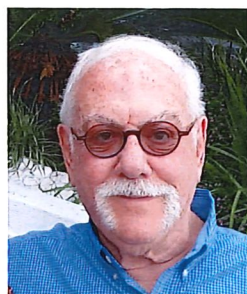
Fortunately, we have had these special or unique programs and events this past year, many of which have benefited from sponsors. Thus, while our congregants are wonderful in helping with targeted assistance, we must also remember the everyday upkeep of our spiritual and physical home.

(cont'd on pg. 11)



# Library News — Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter



(There is no better way to try to understand the 1920s and 1930s than through the music of George Gershwin,

almost certainly the greatest composer in American history. Gershwin had the luxury of his brother Ira who provided the lyrics for many of his songs. Their story is told in an absolutely fascinating book simply titled, *The Gershwins* by Robert Kimball and Alfred Simon. This book also requires a two-part review.

In a brief foreword, another great American composer, Richard Rogers, calls Gershwin's music "marvelous" and as perhaps only a fellow composer could do, he sums up Gershwin's very brief life's work with Ira's lyric: "swonderful." Gershwin died tragically at the age of 38 in 1937, but in that short lifetime he transformed American music. He had formed a unique relationship with his older brother, Ira, who lived until 1983.

In a long introduction, music critic John Wilson described the Gershwin brothers as two very different types of people who came together magically with their words and music. Ira, born in December, 1896 on the Lower East Side of Manhattan as Israel Gershovitz, and George, born in Brooklyn in September, 1898 as Jacob Gershwine, followed very different paths in their teens. George dropped out of school at 15 to work as a piano player. Ira went on to CCNY, the City College of New York.

George established a reputation as an extremely talented pianist while still a teenager. Then, while not yet 21, he

composed what became the biggest hit song of 1919 titled "Swanee." Al Jolson, the greatest entertainer of the era, heard the song, loved it, and agreed to perform it in person and on a record. *Variety* magazine, the "bible" of show business, featured on its front page this headline in bold type: "Al Jolson's greatest song, Swanee."

George Gershwin has been often described as a genius. Based on what he accomplished, he might be compared to Mozart who dies at the age of 34. Gershwin wrote that his masterpiece, "Rhapsody in Blue," came to him while riding on a train between New York and Boston. He wrote "I frequently hear music in the very heart of noise." Anyone who hears the "Rhapsody" knows what he meant and never forgets the experience.

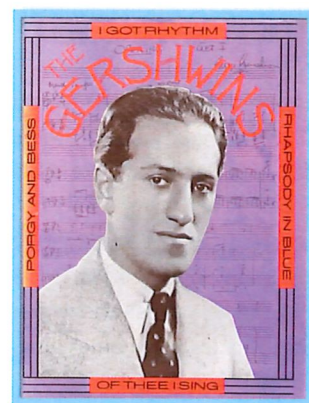
The "Rhapsody" would be performed for the first time by the Paul Whiteman orchestra, the most prominent orchestra in the country, in February, 1924 at Aeolian Hall in New York. Ira made his first important contribution by coming up with the title for the work. That same year, the brothers began to collaborate on Broadway shows, beginning with "Lady, Be Good" featuring Fred and Adele Astaire.

For about eight years, between 1924 and 1931, the brothers may have been the most prolific duo on Broadway. In 1925, they created the show titled *Tell Me More*, which in some cities somehow became *My Fair Lady!* George, whose music seemed to be perfect for the Jazz Age of the 1920s, appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine in July, 1925. Then George received an invitation to compose a work for the New York Philharmonic orchestra and another of

his classics, *Concerto in F*, would be performed at Carnegie Hall that December.

The brothers somehow managed to create two more shows in 1925, *Tip-Toes* and *Song of the Flame*. George, only 27 years old, had reached the pinnacle of success. His brother Ira had been given the opportunity to share in that success. Who could have imagined that George would live less than 12 more years. While he lived however, he would be the individual most identified with the Roaring '20s, except perhaps for Charles Lindbergh. His music may have helped people survive the terrible time of the Great Depression of the 1930s.

George Gershwin never married, but he had a very long relationship with a married woman, the composer Kay Swift. After her divorce in 1934, they remained together but did not marry. In fact, they "separated" for the last year of his life. Shortly after George met Kay, the Gershwin brothers created a show with a nod to her titled *Oh, Kay!* in 1926. They just kept creating Broadway show after Broadway show.





## SISTERHOOD NEWS

(Irene Fishbein)

It's November and that means Thanksgiving. Sisterhood certainly has a lot to be thankful for, namely our volunteers. Beginning with our mobile mensches and packers, without whom our holiday gift bag project would not be possible, we'd like to thank: Beth Adelman, Elaine Arnovitz, Alan & Judy Chesen, Ted Cooper, Bonnie & Doug Deutsch, Irwin Dumtschin, Ruth Ellenbogen, Irene & Shana Fishbein, Mike Goldstein, Hindy Gruber, Meryl Hattenbach, Marilyn Klaben, Kristan Levy, Cheryl & Franklin Lewis, Ann Liberman, Liz Musin, Connie & Jeff Roberts, Dale & Sharon Schiff, Claudia Birch & Allan Spetter, Bob & Suzanne Thum, Diane & Ralph Williams, and Mindi Wynne.

Sunset in the Sukkah was a success with wonderful food and programming along with a beautiful evening. About 50 Sisterhood members and guests were in attendance for a special program presented by Dr. Elyssa Wortzman and catered by Judy Chesen and her crew of spectacular volunteers. Many thanks to both of them as well as Bonnie Beaman Rice, Linda Brotkin, Alan Chesen, Ruth Ellenbogen, Hindy Gruber, Ann Liberman, Liz Musin, and Connie & Jeff Roberts.

You can still mail in your Sisterhood Membership and "Sisterhood Needs You" forms. Members are welcome to join us for our monthly Zoom meetings held the first Thursday of the month at 10:00AM.

The Mashuganahs will only play mahj on Nov. 14 this month due to the Thanksgiving holiday. RSVP to Liz Musin.

Have a very happy Thanksgiving!

## Men's Club News

(Irwin Dumtschin)

**High Holidays 5785:** Men's Club was busy during the High Holidays supporting the synagogue. Allan Katz coordinated all the ushers to welcome everyone to Beth Abraham and maintain the dignity of our services. We provided the break the fast meal and participated in the High Holiday gift bag deliveries. Each year we put up the sukkah (thank you Alan Chesen, Irwin Dumtschin, Mike Goldstein, Steve Musin, Andy Schwartz and Doug Wagner), as well as provide lunch for the religious school and their families after decorating the sukkah (thank you Jorma Schriber).

**Bourbon and Learnin' with Rav Aubrey:** The Men's Club had its first ever event in the sukkah and it was a huge success! Over 30 men attended to listen to Rav Aubrey, and then enjoy a bourbon tasting and cigars. We enjoyed learning from our guest bourbon aficionado, Tom Isaacs. Congratulations to Gary Fishbein, who won the raffle drawing for a 10-year-old bottle of bourbon whiskey. A big thank you to Mark Gordon who coordinated the event by bringing in Tom, providing the bottles of whiskey and bourbon for the bourbon tasting and raffle, as well as getting the case of cigars, lighters, and cutters donated by Giant Liquor in Kettering. Ron Wynne, one of our wood craftsmen, has been busily making bourbon flight boards that will be given to each of the attendees as a souvenir.

**Men's Club Monthly Meeting:** Our next monthly meeting is Monday, November 18th at 7:30 PM via Zoom.



(cont'd from pg. 9)

I had one congregant share that the daily minyan became a source of comfort and community after the loss of a loved one. Another spoke about how Beth Abraham has intertwined with their family for four generations, blending history and diversity while exploring the future of Conservative Judaism.

These additional reflections show how deeply Beth Abraham is woven into our lives, past and present. To continue these sentiments requires us to continue to have the means to join as a community dedicated to our mission. I want to thank each of you for everything you do - whether it's attending weekly Shabbat services, cooking for the Kiddush lunches, organizing events, or helping in our religious school, to name just a few. Your time and talent are the lifeblood of our synagogue.

But, just as important as your time and talent for our journey, is your treasure. The Life & Legacy campaign will secure our future, but today, I ask you to focus on the present. Our Giving Societies and dues are essential to keeping Beth Abraham running smoothly, ensuring we can meet both spiritual and practical needs. But as I mentioned before, dues alone are not enough.

That is why I also ask for 100% participation in our Yom Kippur Appeal - to help us in the day to day operations of our synagogue. We want to continue to provide these opportunities to ensure a place of belonging, security, stability and comfort for all. No amount is too small. Again, our goal is to achieve 100% participation to show support for our journey to strengthen our home and our community. Together, we can ensure that Beth Abraham remains a vibrant, thriving spiritual home for all of us, now and for generations to come. May you be inscribed in the Book of Life, and may this year bring us all peace, growth, and connection.



Rabbi	Aubrey L. Glazer, PhD.
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Vice President	Tara Feiner
Vice President	Beverly Louis
Vice President	Julie Liss-Katz
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Cantor Emeritus	Jerome B. Kopmar, D. Mus.
Cantor Emerita	Andrea Raizen

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	Scott Liberman
	Allan Spetter
	Elyssa Wortzman

### 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

### Religious School students changing the Torah covers for the High Holidays



### 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, November 1**  
Candle Lighting 6:16 pm

**Saturday, November 2**  
Morning Service 9:30 am  
Havdalah 7:14 pm

**Friday, November 8**  
Candle Lighting 5:09 pm

**Saturday, November 9**  
Morning Service 9:30 am  
Havdalah 6:08 pm

**Friday, November 15**  
Candle Lighting 5:02pm

**Saturday, November 16**  
Morning Service 9:30am  
Havdalah 6:02 pm

**Friday, November 22**  
Candle Lighting 4:58 pm

**Saturday, November 23**  
Morning Service 9:30 am  
Havdalah 5:59 pm

**Friday, November 29**  
Candle Lighting 4:55pm

**Saturday, November 30**  
Morning Service 9:30am  
Havdalah 5:57 pm



Volunteers packing holiday bags for our local congregants!