

Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

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Cheshvan/Kislev 5785

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BETH
ABRAHAM
SYNAGOGUE

Eat, Play, Light!

Wednesday, Dec. 25, 5 p.m.

It'll be one crazy night filled with fun for all ages, Chinese food, latkes, lighting our Hanukkah menorahs, and a

HOT CHOCOLATE BAR!

Bring your own menorah & candles for the first night as we welcome Hanukkah together! Wear your favorite best (or worst) Hanukkah gear & bring your favorite board/card game

All are welcome!

RSVP by Dec. 18.

\$15 adults • \$10 ages 3-12 Family max \$50



Joey Weisenberg Opportunity



We have a special opportunity on **Thursday Dec 12 at 7:00 PM** to participate in a Q&A session with Joey Weisenberg, founder of Rising Song Institute. He will join the Beth Abraham Community online for an interactive Q&A on all aspects of prayer and has offered to be available to answer our musical/davening questions. Given our ongoing relationship with Rising Song, Joey would like to ask some questions of us to better understand the dynamics of how we are utilizing and integrating his vast program of resources into our community! Call or email the office to register.

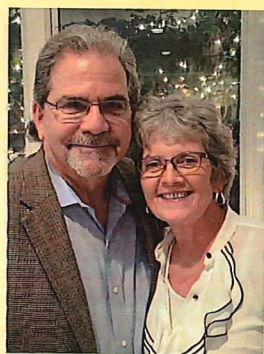
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: NORM & KAY LEWIS

Julie Liss-Katz



As a young, busy, interfaith couple in Dayton, getting actively involved in a synagogue wasn't a high priority for Norm and Kay Lewis. But when Rabbi Press' son Adam joined Coach Lewis's Northmont High School football team, their lives were changed forever.

After getting to know Norm, Rabbi Press invited them to High Holiday services after which they started sporadically attending Shabbat services. Now, it's hard to imagine Beth Abraham without Norm and Kay. They regularly join the daily Zoom minyan, Norm is chair of our Cemetery Committee and reads Torah and chants Haftorah on Shabbat mornings. He has also served on our Board of Trustees. Additionally, they can be seen sitting together at services, in the kitchen preparing Kiddush lunch, welcoming guests, and serving on committees for the welfare of our congregation.



Since his first encounter with Rabbi Press, several of the Beth Abraham clergy have had an influence on them. Knowing from the start of their marriage that they would have a Jewish home, Rabbi Press, Irv Hellman, and Cantor Kopmar, guided them through the conversion and brit mohelim of their sons Nathan and Aaron in the early 1980s. Cantor Raizen was Norm's inspiration to relearn trope so he could read Torah and chant Haftorah. "I feel so Jewish when I'm on the bimah," said Norm. "It's like I'm connecting with my grandfather, ancestors, and all the generations before me."

Over the years, Kay drifted more and more toward conversion, which was overseen by Rabbi Ginsberg, Rabbi Barsky, and Cantor Raizen. It was a beautiful Shabbat morning when Norm read Torah for Kay's first Aliyah.

"We have had some very inspirational leaders and teachers at Beth Abraham," said Norm. "We couldn't have done all of this without them."

The Rick Pinsky Brunch Speaker Series

Sponsored by Men's Club



Sunday, December 15, 10am

Dr. Judith Woll

*Ashkenazic Family Names:
What Our Names Mean About Our Families.*



\$9 Call or Email the office to RSVP

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 }

LARRY & CINDY BURICK

BRUCE & DEBBIE FELDMAN

MARC KATZ & JULIE LISS-KATZ

EDWARD & MARCIA KRESS

MICHAEL & ELLEN LEFFAK

DONALD & CAROLE MARGER

LEE & PATTI SCHEAR

ANDREW & PAMELA SCHWARTZ

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{ CANTOR'S CHOIR }

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RAV AUBREY GLAZER &

ELYSSA WORTZMAN

BEN & STEPHANIE GOODSTEIN

MICHAEL & MARCIA* JAFFE

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MIKE & JOANN CHAMBERS

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JOEL & ANGELA FRYDMAN

RENAME FRYDMAN

MICHAEL & ROCHELLE* GOLDSTEIN

STANLEY & SUSAN KATZ

NORM & KAY LEWIS

SCOTT & ANN LIBERMAN

DAVID & JOAN MARCUS

ALAN & MYRNIE MOSCOWITZ

ANDI SCHER RABINER

WALTER RICE & BONNIE BEAMAN RICE

JEFF & CONNIE ROBERTS

REX & LOUISE TINCHER

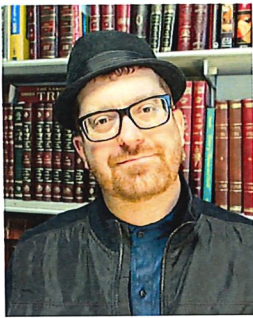
DOUG & THEDA WAGNER

FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

*OF BLESSED MEMORY

ASCENDING HIGHER TOGETHER

Rav Aubrey Glazer



Imagine perched at the ridge of *Hkakabo Razi* - the tallest peak in Southeast Asia. Like climber,

Emily Harrington, you are climbing that harrowing peak, reaching the ridge at 18,100 feet, and from there it drops off on both sides about 4,000 feet. You see the summit from the narrow ridge, but a more experienced climber warns you - the route to the top could lead to your demise. *Are you really up for the final push? Or is it time to climb down?* Like Emily, we often judge success and failure by whether we make it to the top. We may be so close, even seeing it, but stretched to the limits of our skill as climbers, we learn to be discerning, and that continuing higher means we might not make it down. *How have many of us proceeded in the face of insurmountable challenges this past year?* Look to Emily who was bravely discerning - she listened to the more experienced climber ahead of her and turned around. *Is turning around giving up?* Not necessarily. Sometimes, the most discerning decision is to begin that process of turning around - called *teshuvah*. Rather than falling to our death high up on that ridge, we come to discern that life is never so simple. Wrong

turns, bad weather and bad luck are beyond our control - but our attitude along the path is always in our control. In the end, even the more experienced climbers end up joining Emily to turn back - so they descend the mountain together with her. As a communal family, we are high up on that ridge of this valley. Emily's story is our story, because it exemplifies the courage to discern the split second of turning and returning that marks the *teshuvah* of the past as well as the challenging times ahead. Sometimes, we find ourselves upon that high ridge, other times, like Ruth we return to Judah, to the place we have never been - *it is all a returning home*. Beth Abraham is continuing our journey to not only return to base camp to shore up our ancestral roots of tradition, but to re-imagine our future flourishing - and all of our offerings are making a difference. Still we must ask: *how do we start to improve ourselves individually to be more effective in how we contribute to the collective?* In a selfish and cruel world, this process seems insurmountable. If we ascend a superficial mountain, then its peaks, even if averted, will remain superficial. Rather, we need to continue challenging ourselves, as we learn from the late, great creative communal leader and educator, Rabbi Kalonymus Kalman Shapira (b. 1889–d. 1943), otherwise known as the Piaseczner Rebbe, who taught that:

“...we need to be Jews

throughout the day... yearning to be close to the divine peak - sometimes with greater inspiration and sometimes with less, but always as Jews, always as children of the blessed Holy One. Everything we do should be with our spirit until even our thoughts are crystalline, strong and connected ever deeper to their divine source.”

Join us as we recharge to Eat. Play. Light! and celebrate in the darkest days of December during the winter solstice of Kislev. May we all continue in our struggle as Jews and fellow seekers to climb our mountains through the darkness, knowing that our *Kehillah Kedoshah*, our sacred community of Beth Abraham supports relationships that bind us to something greater than ourselves, and remembering that together we can continue returning and ascending higher together.

Lifelong Learning Opportunity with Rav Aubrey

**Making of a Mensch:
Jewish Virtue Ethics**
at 10 AM on Tuesdays 12/3, 12/10,
12/17.
Email the office to register

Eli Schneider Bar Mitzvah



Eli Benjamin Schneider, son of Jeremy and Lauren Schneider will be called to the Torah on **December 21** as a Bar Mitzvah at Beth Abraham Synagogue. Eli is an 11th grader at Southbank International School in London. Eli enjoys playing football, music, spending time with friends exploring London, and traveling with his family. Eli has lived in multiple cities growing up, including New York, Montclair, Amsterdam and now London. When Eli and his family discussed where he might find a meaningful place to celebrate this occasion, returning to Dayton and Beth Abraham seemed to be a wonderful choice. Not only did Eli's father become a bar mitzvah with this congregation, his great, great Aunt Eva Spiegler, for whom he is named, was a pillar of this community for decades.

RETURNING TO THE EARTH

Dr. Elyssa Wortzman

We climbed small mounds of "dirt," we got dirty.
We made wild flower balls, we got dirty.
We looked inside the composter machine, we got dirty.
We learned about food scarcity, we got worried.

The Religious School trip to the Dayton Foodbank and Compositing center was eye opening for our students. Yes, they know about collecting food for the hungry (we brought non-perishables to donate), but seeing the size of the Foodbank warehouse in person (it's so big one of the students, when asked "What do you think this is?" answered "Costco?"), filled to capacity with food from floor to ceiling made a huge impression. We learned that one in five people in Dayton go hungry on a regular basis. I split the group into fives to bring home the point: one of

each of the students in the group represented a hungry Daytonian. The students were taken aback at the pervasiveness of the need.

Learning about composting gave us the opportunity to explore how Judaism expresses ecological values and recognizes our interconnectivity.

Looking at a pile of composted soil, we recognized that we, the children of *adam*, are made of the earth: therefore, caring for the earth is an act of self-care, and destroying the earth, an act of self-harm. We discovered how *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) could include recycling our food waste and other waste. We were amazed at how Hebrew introduced a new word for recycling, *מִיחְזָר* (*michzur*) or *לְמַחְזֵר* (*I'machzer*), from the root *chazar* (to return). We discussed the maxim from Deuteronomy "waste not, want not," or *bal tashcit*. We considered whether

finding another use for something is a sacred deed.

Being outside and making compost was fun, yet we all left feeling a deeper connection to each other, to the earth that sustains us, and to our responsibilities to Jews and non-Jews to promote food justice.



MERCAZ USA – How Can You Help?

Jim Nathanson

Conservative congregations throughout the country are working hard to turn out the vote for the MERCAZ USA slate in the upcoming World Zionist Congress election. The vote will be online, with voting open from March 10th through May 4th. 160 congregations are already organized, with another 200 expected to join the effort by the time voting begins.

At their November meeting, the Board of Directors passed a resolution introduced by Ben Goodstein, the Chairman of the Board's Israeli Affairs Committee, urging congregants to support this effort. The resolution noted that:

Whereas we as Conservative Jews believe in a global religion that is pluralistic and equalitarian.

Whereas we as Conservative Jews believe that Israel should be a welcoming home for all Jews.

Whereas these elections give Conservative Jews worldwide an opportunity to protect the values of Conservative Judaism within the State of Israel.

Whereas the World Zionist Organization also influences the spending of hundreds of millions of dollars within the State of Israel, including serving as the official agency providing support to the families of Hamas hostages.

Whereas the World Zionist Organization also provides hundreds of thousands of dollars in financial support for our Men's Clubs, Sisterhoods and Youth Camps

Whereas this funding is at risk if Conservative Judaism doesn't have a strong voice within the World Zionist Organization

The Board then urged that every congregant show their support for this effort by pledging to vote. Taking the pledge costs nothing and takes but a minute or two. Simply go online to mercazusa.org/votemercaz2025 and follow the brief instructions, being sure to include our 'community code which is 347. This way, you will be reminded to vote when online voting begins.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at jnathanson@woh.rnx.com or call me at 937-545-7336. I look forward to hearing from you.

IN THE BETH ABRAHAM FAMILY

We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

Building Fund

In memory of

Charlotte Braverman, by Shelley Venick

Burick Book Fund

In memory of

Judith Raphael, by Cindy & Larry Burick

Cantor's Educational Fund

In memory of

Judith Raphael, by Beth Adelman

Cemetery Fund

In memory of

Doris & Jule Hulman, by Bruce Hulman, Sonia Hulman & Jan Goldman

General Fund

In memory of

Ethel Chesen, by BA Men's Club
Jack & Ruthe Dorfman, by Tim & Charlotte Dorfman Johnson
Charles B & Sadie Dorfman, by Tim & Charlotte Johnson
Henry Guggenheimer, by Andy & Pam Schwartz, Bob & Suzanne Thum
Mindy Metz, by BA Sisterhood
Judith Raphael, by BA Sisterhood, Alan & Judy Chesen, Helene Gordon, Susan & David Joffe, Stanley & Susan Katz, Marilyn & Larry Klaben, Scott & Ann Liberman, Steve & Liz Musin, Andy & Pam Schwartz, Caryl & Scott Segalewitz
Loretta Weber, by Dale & Sharon Schiff
In honor of
Steve & Penney Fraim, by Alan & Judy Chesen
Norm Lewis, by Alan & Judy Chesen

Judy Schwartzman & Mike Jaffe, by Alan & Judy Chesen

Joel Horenstein Fund

In memory of

Lawrence Briskin, by Dena Briskin
Michael Fishbein, by Mary Ann Oppenheimer
Henry Guggenheimer, by Bill & Melinda Doner, Donna Holt & Charles Fox, Linda & Steve Horenstein
Jerome Krochmal, by Linda & Steve Horenstein
Judith Raphael, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

Kiddush Kitty

In memory of

George Foreman, by Norm & Kay Lewis
Henry Guggenheimer, by Bruce & Sandy Sloane-Brenner
Judith Raphael, by Bruce & Sandy Sloane-Brenner

Rav Glazer's Discretionary Fund

In memory of

MJ Freeman, by Laura & Adam Weiser
Henry Guggenheimer, by Beth Adelman
Jerome Krochmal, by Lawrence Wagenfeld & family
Henrietta Lubow, by JoAnn & Mike Chambers
Judith Raphael, by JoAnn & Mike Chambers

Rick Pinsky Purim Memorial Fund

In memory of

Henry Guggenheimer, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky
Jerome Krochmal, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky

Mother of Sheryl Mattis, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky
Judith Raphael, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky

Ruth & Fred Scheuer Life Enrichment Series Fund

In honor of

Elaine Arnovitz, by Sarah Moore Leventhal

Ritual Fund

In memory of

Robert E. Bernstein, by Carol L. Bernstein
Rita Bloom, by Hindy Gruber
Bernice Brown, by Roberta Zawatsky
Rebecca Center, by Patty Wyke
Bertha Cunix, by Nadine & John Merker
Alissa Fein, by Rabbi Bernard Barsky
Charles Feldman, by Bari & Steve Blumhof
Hal Feldman, by Bari & Steve Blumhof
James Froug, by Joan Doppelt
Max & Lena Goffin, by Michael & Harriet Massimini
Jacabed Gruber, by Hindy Gruber
Max Gruber, by Hindy Gruber
Issac Hellreich, by Hindy Gruber
Marian L. Plotnick, by David Plotnick & family
Oscar Soifer, by Bruce & Sue Soifer, Robert Soifer

Social Action Fund

In memory of

Henry Guggenheimer, by Walter & Bonnie Beaman Rice
Jerome Krochmal, by Walter & Bonnie Beaman Rice
Toby Wilson, by Beverly A. Louis

In the Beth Abraham Family

Thanks to the following Kiddush Sponsors:

November 2- Linda & Allan Katz in honor of Allan's Retirement

November 9- David & Randi Fuchsman in honor of their 35th Wedding Anniversary & all their friends at Beth Abraham

November 16- Judy Schwartzman and Mike Jaffe in honor of their birthdays

November 23- The Goorskey family in honor of Benji's Bar Mitzvah

November 30- Janel Pequignot in honor of Edie Pequignot's 90th birthday

Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in December:

December Birthdays

1	Carol Nathanson
1	Edie Pequignot
3	Bob Thum
3	Joe Beringer
4	Meryl Hattenbach
4	Margaret Maimon
5	Larry Wagenfeld
5	Jordan Smith
6	Marla Merdinger
6	Claire Berks
7	Liz Musin
9	Steven Rothstein
12	Felix Weil
12	Douglas Deutsch
14	Dena Briskin
15	Shirley Fisher
16	Gary Pavlofsky
16	Mike Freed
20	Sylvia Blum
21	Bonnie Parish
22	Sara Shuster
23	Eddie Katz
24	Allan Spetter
25	George Barnett
25	Andi Scher Rabiner

26	Linda Shapiro
27	Mark Gordon
28	Rachel Fishbein
29	Ken Blum
30	Susan Schear
30	Marlene Pinsky
30	Brittany Sussman
31	Diane Rubin Williams

December Anniversaries

10	Marshall & Donna Weiss
17	George & Ruth Barnett
17	David & Lynn Goldenberg
22	David & Sara Shuster
26	Dale & Sharon Schiff

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

WE WELCOME THIS NEW MEMBER:

Steve Renas

WE RECORD WITH GREAT SORROW THE PASSING OF:

Henry Guggenheimer
Jerome "Jerry" Krochmal



- Beau and Megan Shaw welcomed their first child, Joseph, on June 27th in New York.



Save the Date:

Our next GWCTS is scheduled for **January 24th**.
Information to sign up as a guest or host will be coming out at the end of December.

YAHREZEITS

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 December (Cheshvan– Kislev) we remember:

Cheshvan

Chayim Isaac Brauer
David Chesen
Sadie Joffe
Orville Kuhr
Tessie Meyer
Aaron Rosenkrantz
Gerald Rubin
Miriam Schwartzman
Ruth Zwerner

Kislev

Jodi Lynn Abrahamson
Adrienne Lisa Abrams
Helen Abromowitz
Nathan Aides
Frieda Appel
Bernard Appel
Carmen Appel
Rubin Arnold
Jack Arnovitz
Julius Arnovitz
Tala Arnovitz
Rosetta Aronson
Meyer Aronson
Sadie Auster
Joseph Balshone
Max Beloff
Shirley Berman
William Bernie
Rose Bernstein
Mary Bessel
Mitchell Blazar
Blanche Block
Harold Bloom
Thomas Blum
Pauline Brill
Isadore Brown
Sarah Budnick
Si Burick
Charles Robert
Carlisle
Mason Center
Robert Chernick
Sarah Chudde
Clara Cohen
Mollie G. Cohen
David Cohen
Albert Cohen
Sylvia Cooper
Abe Coplan
Rose Dinkin
Paul Dorf
Charles R. Dorfman

Joseph Dreety
Danny Duberstein
Morris Dumtschin
Shirley Dunn
Ben Eckman
Karl Ehrlich
Joseph Ellison
Sety Farache
Selma Farnbacher
DeNeal Feldman
Ruth Fiddler
Leo Fox
Bessie Frank
Ruth Frankowitz
Molly Frankowitz
Mardelle Friedberg
Rebecca Friedman
Harry Friedman
Philip Froikin
Arlene Furst
Sarah Furst
Robert O. Furth
Harry Gaffin
Helen Gams
David Garber
Tillye Garlikov
Harry Gilfer
Lillian Glasman
Max Goffin
Lena Goffin
Michael Goldberg
Sophie Goldflies
Jean Goldstein
Annette Goodman
Dorothy Gordon
Herman Greenfield
Phillip Gressel
Mat Grinker
Dr. Morris Groban
Mary Gutmann
Rose Halberstein
Christopher Hayden
Ben Hochhauser
Michael Horenstein
Dora Horwitz
Morris Horwitz
Jake Hulman
Abraham Hyman
Frank Isack
Abe Jacobson
Gerald Jacobson
Gunther I. Jacobson
Herbert Jacobson
Jeanette Jaffe

Theda Jarvis
Morris Kahn
Bertha Kahn
Harry Kahn
Minnie Kaplan
Sarah Katz
Zelique Katz
Lilli Kirchheim
Blanche Kisch
Louis Klebanow
Leo Koenigsberg
Alan Konowitch
Ben Kopelove
Moses Kopelove
Ralph Kopelove
Isador Kowalsky
Murray Krueger
Teresa Krummel
Fanny Kizner Kuhr
Jesse Kuperman
Ethel Kutash
Leon Lapidus
Roy Lapidus
Myra Jean Lapinsky
Daniel Lee Lehrner
Joseph Leibovich
Naomi Leven
Loretta Leven
Carol Levitan
Sadie Levy
Sol Levy
George Lewis
Lillian Liberman
David Liberman
Florence Lichtman
Howard Liss
Rose Litt
Stanley Mandell
Rose Mann
Tzemach Mann
Sarah Riveh Mann
Isaac Mathews
Eerie Maybruck
David Michaels
Joseph Miller
Ida Milstein
Sandra Monblatt
William Nides
Ellin Oppenheimer
Bella Paster
Vernon Pavlofsky
Gizella Pavlovsky
Ida Petler
Leatrice Phillips

Lee Pollack
Aaron Moshe Pollak
Goldie Rabinowitz
Esther Reich
Nadine Robins
LaRae Roden
Ruben Rosen
Sam Rosenbaum
Rev. Simon Rosenblum
Irma Rosengarten
Fanny Rosengarten
Ellen Rosengarten
Ada Rosenthal
Elizabeth Rosichan
Ronald Ross
Shlomo Rossow
Erika Ana Roth Green
Helen Rothberg
Harry Rubin
Rhoda Ryan
Jennie Sachs
Irene Sachs
Shirley Sadow
Sarah Saeks
Hyman Saeks
Harold Samler
Morris Sassov
Chaye Rachel Scharff
Oscar Scheuer
Else Scheuer
Frances Schneider
Louis Schneiderman
Beatrice Schoenfeld
Dorothy Schottenstein
Maryan Schriber
Evelyn Schultz
Sarah Schwartz
Elaine Sebel
Esther Segall
Bertha Sender
Fannie Shalf
Dora Shane
William Sharp
Rebecca Shokler
Joseph Shutly
Benjamin Singer
Claire Soifer
Tatyana Soyfer
Kenneth Martin
Speert
Anna Stahl
Betty Starkman
Dr. Irving Stein
Ruthe Stein

Goldie Lea Stein
Anna Stoolman
Eva Summer
Louis Tannebaum
Mabel Tannen
Jordan Tilson
Jennie Tilson
Melvin David Verson
Fred Weber
Frances Weil
Hyman Weinhaus
Lillian Weinstein
Rose Weinstein
Jacob Weinstein
Edward Aaron
Weinstein
Frieda Cohen
Weisbrod
Margaet Elaine
Weller
Gladys Weltman
Louis Werner
Jane Wilks
Sam Wilks
Harriet Winner
Blanche Wyke
Edna Zakem
Raymond Zappin
Mary Zappin
Hannah Zappin
Nathan Zimmerman
Jacob Zukerman
Max Zwelling



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

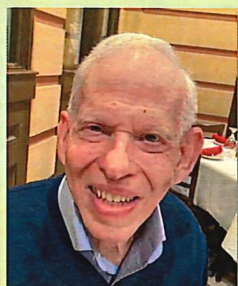
We'll be honoring all those who have joined Beth Abraham this year at our annual **New Member Shabbat** on **Saturday, December 14**. Please join us for this meaningful service as we welcome them to our Beth Abraham community. Kiddush lunch following.

N'Diris SAM Barry, originally from California, moved to Dayton from Columbus in September 2023. As a nurse, she currently oversees clinical trials. Recently widowed, Sam is the mother of three children. An OSU graduate, Sam also holds degrees from Ohio University and Kaplan University. She enjoys a close-knit community of friends in Northwest Dayton. Shortly after her move, she discovered a welcoming community at Beth Abraham, where she values the friendly members and the warm reception she has received.



Helene Gordon is a lifelong Dayton resident with 30 years at Montgomery County Board of Development Disabilities and 10 years at Resident Home Association. Active in the Jewish community, Helene serves on the boards of Jewish Family Services and Hadassah, and chairs the Women's Seder and Yom HaShoah. Inspired by her cousin Mark, she joined Beth Abraham and appreciates the community's warmth. Helene has a brother, sister, three nephews, three nieces, and two great-nieces, along with her spoiled Shih Tzu, Simon.

Megan Hart, originally from Pennsylvania, moved to Kettering 6 years ago. She's a full-time fiction writer and has recently begun a new role focusing on screenplay writing. Together with her husband Rob, they are proud parents of three children. In Pennsylvania, she was a member of a conservative synagogue and sought a similar community upon moving to the Dayton area. This past spring, she attended Beth Abraham and truly appreciated the sense of community. Beth Abraham has been a warm and inviting place for her, and she's looking forward to connecting more with the community. She has especially enjoyed spending time in the kitchen assisting with Kiddush prep.



Stephen Renas was born and raised in Atlanta Georgia and has one child. Steve came to the Dayton area to teach Economics at Wright State University in 1971. He retired from teaching in 2006. You can currently find Steve meeting up with fellow retirees at lunches, dinners, or studying varied Jewish subjects at Beth Abraham and Chabad. Steve also fills his time being a part time forensic economist. He is happy to be rejoining Beth Abraham.

Abraham Rubin was born in the United States and at the age of one moved with his parents to Israel. He currently splits his time between Jerusalem and Dayton. He was working in Jerusalem where he received a post-doctoral degree from Hebrew University in August of 2022. He currently is teaching Introduction to Religion at the University of Dayton. He finds Beth Abraham a welcoming place and he especially enjoys Rav Aubrey's guided reading of the Psalms.



Kim and Nick Schubert met in Atlanta, GA and lived there for a while. 8 years ago they moved back to Nick's hometown of Dayton. They have 2 kids, Levi 7 and Sophie 9 who go to school in Kettering. Nick is Chief Marketing Director for Lendly and Kim teaches yoga in her spare time. Nick's long family history with Beth Abraham drew them to join, along with enrolling their children in the religious schools so they can learn with their peers.

From the President's Desk...

Scott Liberman, Beth Abraham President



As we celebrate the season of Hanukkah, a time of light, hope, and gratitude, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the dedication and generosity of our Beth Abraham community. Your ongoing support ensures that our synagogue remains a vibrant spiritual home for all.

This year, I am especially inspired by the incredible response to our Yom Kippur appeal and our shared goal of 100% contributions. Each gift—large or small—helps sustain our programs, enhance our facilities, and strengthen the bonds of our community.

For those who have experienced a strong year in the financial markets, I'd like to share two meaningful opportunities to give back: donating appreciated securities and using Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) to make charitable contributions.

How a Gift of Securities Can Benefit You:

- **Capital Gains Tax Savings:** By transferring stocks, bonds, or mutual funds held for more than a year, you may reduce or avoid federal capital gains taxes.
- **Income Tax Deduction:** You may also qualify for a federal income tax charitable deduction based on the fair market value of the securities at the time of the gift.

Giving Through RMDs:

If you are at a certain age and subject to Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from your IRA, you can fulfill your RMD while supporting Beth Abraham by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). Here's why this is a great

option:

- **Reduces Your Taxable Income:** A QCD allows you to transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to Beth Abraham without it counting as taxable income.
- **Supports Beth Abraham:** Your gift fulfills your RMD requirement while ensuring the continued vibrancy of our synagogue.

Making these gifts is simple—just ask your financial advisor to transfer appreciated securities or initiate a Qualified Charitable Distribution to Beth Abraham.

Your generosity doesn't have to stop there. By including Beth Abraham in your Life & Legacy plans, you can ensure the long-term strength of our congregation for generations to come. Together, we can preserve the traditions, values, and sense of belonging that make Beth Abraham so special. If you'd like to participate in this giving opportunity, please let us know.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss giving options, don't hesitate to reach out to Elaine Arnovitz or me. We'd be delighted to help you explore how your contribution can have a lasting impact.

Thank you for your unwavering support. As we close this year and look forward to the next, may we continue to build on the foundation of community, compassion, and shared purpose that defines Beth Abraham.

Wishing you a happy Hanukkah and warm regards.



Theda and Doug Wagner have lived in Dayton for a year after relocating from Sonora, CA, due to wildfires that impacted Theda's health. They reside in Sugarcreek Township with a Xenia mailing address and have five children and eight grandchildren spread across Oregon, California, and Idaho. Doug, a CPA, sold his tax practice but continues to work part-time, while Theda is a retired Laboratory Scientist. They chose Dayton for its friendly community, particularly at Beth Abraham, after attending services led by Cantor Raizen.

Jay Wenig was born and raised in Baltimore Maryland. He was raised Modern Orthodox before coming to Dayton. He chose Beth Abraham because he has an easy drive to services on Shabbat from Beavercreek. He joined us after retiring from Andrews Air Force Base in Washington D.C. where he served this country for 23 years. Currently he is a Podiatrist at the VA hospital in Dayton. He is looking forward to joining other members of the Jewish Community for get togethers.



Additional New Members:

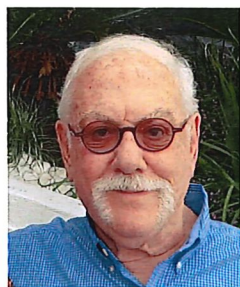
Jay & Randi Rothman

Dmitriy & Sabina Shtilman

*We regret photos/bios were not available for this bulletin issue.

Library News — Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter



In all of American history, 1927 just might be the most exciting year. The stock market reached record highs. Americans began to believe that prosperity

would be permanent. Charles Lindbergh flew from the United States to Europe. Americans began to believe they could do anything. As *Variety* magazine put it, the movies "learned to talk." Babe Ruth hit 60 home runs. America had never seen such a baseball player. He had been a great pitcher before he became the greatest hitter ever.

In the midst of it all, the Gershwins created yet another show called *Funny Face*. At this point, their shows became memorable. This show featured the Astaires once again and included the song *Wonderful*. The stock market peaked in 1928, although nobody would imagine that being the case at the time, and the Gershwins created another show called *Rosalie*.

After working without a break for about four years, the brothers sailed to Europe in early March, 1928 and remained there for about three months. They mingled with show business "royalty" in London and George had private meetings with the Prince of Wales and Lady Mountbatten. The brothers moved on to Paris, Berlin and Vienna, what upper class Americans called the Grand Tour.

Everywhere they went it seemed obvious that George had become an international celebrity. Ira, who kept a detailed diary of the trip, did not indicate the slightest resentment of being in George's shadow. In fact, he wrote at length about all of George's experiences. By the time they returned to New York, George had completed another masterpiece, *An American in Paris*.

Perhaps because they did not have enough time to prepare, the Gershwins experienced their first "flop" with the show *Treasure Girl* in 1928. That would quickly be forgotten, however, when the New York Philharmonic gave the first performance of *An American in Paris* at Carnegie Hall in December. This work by George Gershwin proved as brilliant as the *Rhapsody*.

Then, in 1929, yet another show by the Gershwins, *Show Girl*, turned into a "flop," almost certainly because the stock market crashed just a few months after the show opened. In 1930, after the initial shock of the market crash when the total impact of the Great Depression had not yet been felt, the Gershwins had two shows on Broadway, *Strike Up the Band* and *Girl Crazy*.

In 1931, as the stock market and the nation's economy plunged to the bottom, it would have been very difficult to have a success on Broadway. Movies now had sound and Hollywood could turn out spectacular musicals. The Gershwins moved to Hollywood, but stayed only about four months. They provided the words and music to the movie *Delicious*, but they had to return to their real love, Broadway.

**On behalf of your readers,
thank you for your book
reviews over the years.**

**As this is your last article, we
celebrate your dedication and
contributions. We appreciate
your invaluable work, Allan,
and hope your love for
literature continues to inspire
others.**

That year, the Gershwins made their attempt to lift the nation from the gloom and doom that existed everywhere. They created the show *Of Thee I Sing* which became their greatest hit ever. A sort of a sequel to *Strike Up the Band*, the show represented a satirical attack on every aspect of the American government, which under President Herbert Hoover seemed helpless to do anything about the worsening depression.

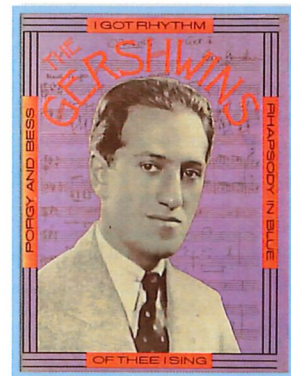
The stock market and the nation's economy at last hit bottom in 1932. The Gershwins did not create a show that year. The mood of the country might have improved at least a little bit in 1933, especially when Franklin Roosevelt became president, but the economy lingered at the bottom. The Gershwins created two shows that year, *Pardon My English* and *Let 'Em Eat Cake*, yet another sequel to *Strike Up the Band*, and both flopped.

The Gershwins did not create a show in 1934 perhaps because they spent all of

their time on the crown jewel of their careers, their first and only opera, the historic *Porgy and Bess*. George had learned everything he could from African American composers, musicians and singers. He brought jazz and the blues to white audiences all across a still almost completely segregated nation.

Porgy and Bess opened in Boston in September, 1935 and moved to Broadway in October. African Americans played every part, and white audiences did not know how to react. The opera would become one of the classics in the history of American music. Some of those closest to George Gershwin noticed that he seemed to be slipping by 1936 or even earlier. Some thought he might be suffering from mental illness, but they could not know of his life threatening medical condition.

The brothers went back to Hollywood in early August, 1936 to work on the great film with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers called *Shall We Dance*. They stayed in California for almost a year while George rested, but he turned seriously ill by June, 1937. Gershwin collapsed on July 9 and went into a coma. Emergency brain surgery for a large tumor would be performed in Los Angeles and Gershwin did not survive. Someone said they tell me Gershwin died, but I don't have to believe it if I don't want to. George Gershwin's music would live forever.



SISTERHOOD NEWS

Irene Fishbein

Thank you to everyone who donated winter accessories for Crayons to Classrooms. We collected over 120 items for kids in need that will be greatly appreciated. It will help alleviate some of the challenges faced during the winter months and enhance the educational experience for students in need.



Please join us for more great programming and volunteer opportunities. All members are welcome to attend our monthly Zoom meetings held the first Thursday of the month at 10:00AM.

The December dates for Mashuganahs are December 12 & 26. Please RSVP to Liz Musin.

Wishing everyone a very happy Hanukkah!

MEN'S CLUB NEWS

Irwin Dumtschin

Annual Men's Club Raffle Event: This annual major fundraising event takes place during our Deli-Dinner and Movie Night on Sunday evening, March 23rd. If you have any retail merchandise or professional services that you would like to donate as a raffle or door prize, please contact Irwin Dumtschin.

Men's Club Monthly Meeting: Our next meeting is Monday, December 16th at 7:30 PM via Zoom. As always, our meetings are open to all, and we encourage newcomers to attend and share programs/projects/events you would like us to consider.

Wishing everyone a happy and joyful Hanukkah!



Social Action

Beth Adelman

The Ronald McDonald House has been selected as our holiday project for this year. We will be gathering toys, games, Legos, puzzles, and video games for toddlers to teens who stay at the House while their siblings receive treatment at Children's Medical Center. The Ronald McDonald House is currently expanding to accommodate more families and expressed sincere gratitude for being chosen as our holiday project. You can purchase items locally and drop them off at the office, or order through Amazon for delivery to the office. If you're looking for ideas, even if you don't shop on Amazon, check out the list available through the QR code in this Bulletin. Many local stores are offering fantastic sales on toys!

Our battery recycling project is ongoing. Thanks to our congregants, we have diverted over 80 lbs of batteries from landfills. Special thanks to Annie and Mike Chambers for ensuring that these batteries reach the recycling centers.

Please remember to help fill our Foodbank barrels, as the need is still great.

Holiday **BETH ABRAHAM SYNAGOGUE**

TOY DRIVE

The Ronald McDonald House has been chosen for our Social Action holiday project this year. We will be collecting toys, games, Legos, puzzles, or video games for toddlers through teens. Shop and drop off at the office OR scan the QR code to shop online.

ALL OF DECEMBER

Rabbi	Aubrey L. Glazer, PhD.
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. (z"l)
Cantor Emeritus	Jerome B. Kopmar, D. Mus.
Cantor Emerita	Andrea Raizen

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Sharon Schiff
Allan Spetter
Elyssa Wortzman

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LIVESTREAM LINK

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

COMMUNITY



FOODBANK VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Jewish Community Relations Council invites you to be part of the "Miracle (Whip) Gang" at the Foodbank on **December 12**, from 8:45-11:00am. They are looking for volunteers aged 16 and up.

Please register at jewishdayton.org by **December 5**.

DIRECTORY TIME!



Please check your listing in last year's directory and let us know of any changes by **December 10th**. We want to ensure your information is accurate for the upcoming Beth Abraham Directory that will be mailed in January. Call or email the office with your updates.

Times for Shabbat Candle Lighting & Services

Online service links can be found at www.bethabrahamdayton.org, Facebook, or in your weekly News & Notes email

Friday, December 6
Candle Lighting 4:54 pm

Saturday, December 7
Morning Service 9:030 am
Havdalah 5:56 pm

Friday, December 13
Candle Lighting 4:55 pm

Saturday, December 14
Morning Service 9:30 am
Havdalah 5:58 pm

Friday, December 20
Candle Lighting 4:57pm

Saturday, December 21
Morning Service 9:30am
Havdalah 6:01 pm

Wednesday, December 25
Hanukkah 1st Night
Candle Lighting 5:18pm

Friday, December 27
Hanukkah 3rd Night
Candle Lighting 5:01 pm

Saturday, December 28
Hanukkah 4th Night
Morning Service 9:30 am
Havdalah 6:05 pm