



**Pine Brook Jewish Center**  
*Chevra Agudas Achim Anshy Pine Brook*  
*Established in 1896*

A monthly publication of the Pine Brook Jewish Center.  
Serving the needs of our diverse Jewish community for more than 120 years.

# CANDLESTICK

## **Clergy and Staff**

Mark David Finkel, Rabbi  
Menachem Toren, Cantor  
Dr. Asher Krief, Rabbi Emeritus  
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Mary Sheydwasser, Educational Director  
Lisa Lerman and Jill Buckler, Early Childhood Center Co-Directors  
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## **Religious Service Times**

**Friday Evenings** at 8:00 p.m.

The family service is held on the first Friday of each month  
at 7:00 p.m. instead of 8:00 p.m.

**Saturday Mornings** at 9:45 a.m. with preliminary prayers at 9:30 a.m.

## **Emergency Contact Information**

Please use the following protocol in the event of an emergency or if you lose a loved one:  
Call the synagogue office at 973-244-9800. If the office is closed, call Rabbi Finkel at  
(973) 287-7047 (home) or (973) 407-0065 (cell). If you are unable to reach the Rabbi,  
contact Cantor Toren at (973) 980-7777 or Michelle Zuckerman at (973) 886-5456

**January 2024 / Tevet – Shevat 5784**

# RABBI'S MESSAGE

RABBI MARK DAVID FINKEL

“Unpacking:” *Ahm Yisra’el Chai* !: The Peoplehood of Israel LIVE!

To Those Who Love Us, Those Who Hate Us,

and Those Who In Their Curiosity Will Never Stop Trying to Define Us:

**Ahm:** Who are we? Who knows? Perhaps, only G-d knows. Some of our detractors tell us that we are privileged white people, which should probably make us a race. Our history tells us that three+ millennia ago we were probably people of color who were enslaved by another people of color. In the 20th century a madman and his countrymen and countless others under his spell tried to annihilate us because we were the wrong race. Whoopi Goldberg got it half right: Her perspective cannot see that a great deal of anti-Semitism is racism, if for no other reason than those who sought our destruction saw us as a race apart. I believe she also accidentally got it right because there has been much anti-Semitism not because of race: it may have been about who we may or may not have been accused of killing 2,000 years ago, or whether we were accused of being capitalists who controlled the world's economy, or we were accused of being communists who sought to undermine the world's economy, or that we were accused of poisoning wells, or that we were accused of making *matzah* out of the blood of children, or that we were accused of spreading the bubonic plague or COVID-19. (Conspiracy theories are nothing new.)

On the other hand, we are still searching for our ten lost tribes, and we can often be rather tribal. Perhaps less so these days, but we still ask the question, “Does someone *look* Jewish ?”

Some say Jews have a unique culture. So, what ingredients go into making a culture ?

Some say Judaism is a **Religion**: Most world civilization books credit us with, if not discovering monotheism, then discovering, and maintaining the oldest sustained monotheism on the face of the earth. Ahhh, but what about Jewish atheists? We generally include them as Jews, **so we should not define ourselves as only a religion**; however, let it be said that much of our Bible impresses upon us that we have *no more than* one G-d, and we should not worship a *false* god, so Jewish atheists are in, as are Jew-Bu(ddhist)'s on the Upper West Side and other places, but Jews for Jesus are out.

**Language:** We have our own language, actually, languages. Let's start with Hebrew: a majority of the Jewish people speak Hebrew in their everyday lives (Do the math: World's population of Jews *minus* Jews living outside Israel, and that is a conservative estimate (Much of my family speaks Hebrew, but we are not Israeli citizens, and there are many more Hebrew speakers like us around the world)). For those who will point to Jews who cannot read, write, or understand Hebrew, I tell the story of a Jewish woman whom I met in a hospital while on her deathbed who had “given up” her Judaism to marry an Italian-Catholic man. Her son, a practicing Catholic and knowing that “she was once Jewish,” asked me to say a prayer for her. I asked her, even in her weakened condition, for her Hebrew name. Her son quickly apologized to me, saying that his mother left that long ago and hardly remembers anything anymore. He was dumbfounded when his mother in a forced whisper told me her Hebrew name and those of her parents. He said that he had never heard those names before; and when I said the *Shema* ... we saw a smile on her face. Perhaps not as dramatic as that, but I have lost count of the number of congregants, members of their families, and complete strangers who claim to know no Hebrew, but want to say the *Shema* with me before they die. I said “languages.” Yiddish, Aramaic, Ladino have all been Jewish vernacular, **so yes, we are not defined by a language**, but languages do define us. And when we speak of Jewish languages, in 1887 Ludwik Lejzer Zamenhof, a Polish Jew invented Esperanto in the 1870's and '80's as an international language in the hope of fostering world peace and understanding. Curiously, *HaTikvah* was

# RABBI'S MESSAGE (continued)

also created in the 1870's (lyrics) and 1880's (music). For a future trip to Israel: Zamenhof Street in Tel Aviv is one of the intersecting streets in Dizengoff Square/Circle.

No first grader today could say their ABC 's had the Jews not developed our *Aleph Bet*. The Greeks would not have had their *alpha or beta*, *alpha* males would be known as something else, Sony would not have had its Betamax, fraternities and sororities would be nameless (or letter-less), and 3.14159265359 (for more, read the sidewalk at the Liberty Science Center) would need to be called something else, had those people called Hebrews or Israelites, or Jews never invented the letter "Pay," ancestor of *Pi*.

I realize that we live in a digital age, but I am quite sure that the Bible (ours and 50% of the Christian version) is still the best-selling book of all time. It defined literature millennia before *The Canterbury Tales*. Moses and Miriam's song (Exodus 15:1-18), Deborah's song (Judges 5:2-31) and *Éshet Hayil* (A Women of Valor: Proverbs 31:10-31), not to mention the Book of *Psalms* (but I will mention it anyway), have more printed copies than any Taylor Swift song. Those Hebrew poems defined poetry before *Beowulf*. The book of *Psalms* was the first book printed in what is today the United States (1640 in Cambridge, Massachusetts; another "stop" on my "Massachusetts' Firsts" tour, if I become a tour guide upon my retirement ☺)

Neither are we defined by a cuisine. Hopefully, most of us realize that *Ashkenazic* cuisine is only a portion of what Jews have traditionally eaten, and that only goes back a few centuries (We could call it: Jewish nouvelle cuisine, so to speak).

A culture contains its distinctive arts, music, and dance. Jewish arts vary by time and place. Like the complex people that we are, the rules sometimes change and contradict each other (e.g., portraying a human image or listening to a woman sing), so Jewish art goes beyond a single culture.

So, what is the Hebrew word **Ahm**? A people? To quote Lina Lamont in *Singin' in the Rain*, "I ain't people." Alert: a personal bias: To borrow from my teacher Mordecai Kaplan, in the eyes of those who love us as well as in the eyes of our detractors (and worse), we are "those people," said in a complimentary or an insulting tone of voice. Four millennia of distinctiveness has, allowed us to raise the Hebrew **Ahm** from a people to a "peoplehood" (just as when neighbors as they become more established, become a neighborhood) who are connected beyond a culture, but by a "civilization", a constellation of cultures, containing the knowledge and wisdom of the ages, passed along from one generation to the next, by that distinctive people.

As Tevye would say, "Sounds crazy, no ?" But I believe that it is a key ingredient in the "secret sauce" that defines what has kept us and keeps us going whenever and wherever we have lived: together or scattered throughout the world, in good times and in bad.

**Yisra'el**: From the time our ancestor Jacob wrestled with the angel, until today, wrestling has been a Jewish sport, spiritual wrestling, if not physical wrestling. We wrestle with each other, we wrestle with the world, and G-d knows, each one of us wrestles with ourselves. I believe that G-d also knows that we wrestle with G-d. Observing not ten, but 613 commandments and *Tikkun Olam*: "repairing the world" are not easy jobs, so more often than not we are not afraid to wrestle above our weight class in our mission to get the tasks done; and how do we go about doing all that? It would be an understatement to say, "Whoever said, 'Two Jews, three opinions' was prone to understatement." We are a stiff-necked people. Jacob did not walk away from his victory over the angel unscathed: he walked away with a limp, defining how kosher butchers sell their wares to this day.

The Rabbis of the Talmud spoke of disputes and disagreement which are for the sake of heaven, and which are not for the sake of heaven. The challenge is that usually we do not know which disputes and disagreements are for the sake of heaven and which are not, except in 20/20 hindsight. We have caused schisms, dissention, and baseless hatreds, for which Jews are somewhat poorer and we have not walked away unscathed; but, I

## RABBI'S MESSAGE (continued)

believe, that those disputes and disagreements have also been part of the “secret sauce” that has forced Jews to make many difficult decisions over the millennia on how to survive, live, and thrive.

**Chai:** Many of us know of tales of climbing a mountain to ask a wise man for “the meaning of life.” Let me ask an easier question: what is the meaning of **Chai**, the Hebrew word for life? In the days of the Rabbis of the Talmud, Judaism was fascinated by the Greek concept of a separation between body and soul. The Rabbis felt that Judaism needed to compete with Greek philosophy, lest we be discarded on the garbage heap of time. So, the Rabbis took the notion of *nefesh*, which up until that time was the human cardio-pulmonary system (that which makes us tick) and transformed it into a *soul* that G-d gifts to each human to perceive the world, to think and to feel; and upon our passing, it returns to G-d in heaven under the shelter of G-d's protective wing. **Chaim**, “life” was tied to the soul; and if our bodies were mortal, our souls blessed us with immortality: we have finite years on earth and infinite time in heaven. I suspect, however, that when most of us say **!Chaim**, we are not thinking about immortality; we are in the moment celebrating with family and friends. To life means **this life**, at least for now; and the afterlife about which we can prove little, we will figure it out when we get there, with a little help from our friends and family. We do not deny immortality; it is just that we have more developed opinions about the life that we are working on right now on earth. So, when we say **Ahm Yisra'el Chai**: The Peoplehood of Israel Lives! we speak to the longevity of the people of Israel; and in spite of the challenges, our people has developed a civilization which has brought civilization to the world; and if immortality is in our future, we will humbly accept it as G-d's gift.

When we sing and scream **Ahm Yisra'el Chai** sometimes at the top of our lungs (our *nefesh*), sometimes sounding crazed, it is a call to the world. In the 1970's those three Hebrew words were graffitied on (and erased from) Rome's Arch of Titus, built in celebration of the destruction of Jerusalem. In 1964 *LOOK* magazine had an article “The Vanishing American Jew.” Three years later in the wake of the Six Days War, American Jews ventured out into what has thus far become the golden period of Jewish life in America. We are still here; and *LOOK* magazine is not. Abraham, our ancestor answered with the word **Hineni!** “I am here!” These words are a reminder to those who love us, to those who hate us, and to those who in their curiosity will never stop trying to define us.

See you in *schule*,

Reb M Finkel

# LOOK

NOW MORE THAN 7,400,000 CIRCULATION

25 CENTS MAY 5, 1964

**THE VANISHING  
AMERICAN JEW**

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BEHIND  
THE AFRICAN  
REVOLT  
IN RUSSIA



21 pages  
of  
**TRAVEL USA**  
Three  
American  
Journeys

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SETH FRIEDMAN

President

Hello PBJC Community-

As we bid farewell to the year behind us and embrace the promise of a new beginning, I extend my warmest wishes to each and every one of you. The dawning of a new year is a time of reflection, renewal, and hope, and I am honored to stand before you as we embark upon this journey together.

Looking back on the past year, our Pine Brook Jewish Center, and the Jewish community at-large has faced both challenges and triumphs. We have weathered storms, celebrated joys, and navigated uncertainties. Through it all, the strength of our community has shone brightly, reminding us of the resilience and unity that define us.

As we step into the new year, I am excited to be sharing all of the events and initiatives that will unfold within the walls of our beloved PBJC. Our commitment to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment remains unwavering, and the upcoming months promise a rich array of programs to engage, inspire, and connect us.

Religious observances lie at the heart of our community, and this year will be no exception. From meaningful Shabbat services to the joyous celebrations of festivals, we will continue to come together in prayer, reflection, and gratitude. Our dedicated clergy and volunteers will guide us through moments of solemnity and celebration, deepening our spiritual connection as we traverse the Jewish calendar.

Education is a cornerstone of PBJC, and we are thrilled to announce the expansion of our learning opportunities. Whether you are interested in delving into Jewish history, exploring sacred texts, or engaging in thought-provoking discussions, our educational programs aim to nourish both the mind and soul. From adult education courses to engaging activities for our youth, there is something for every member of our diverse community. All I ask of you is to communicate your desires so we may provide our congregation with what you are looking for.

In the spirit of inclusivity, we are also looking to launch a series of cultural events that celebrate the richness of Jewish heritage. From art exhibits to musical performances such as *HaZamir*, these gatherings will serve as a platform to display the talents within our community and foster a sense of shared cultural identity. Our hope is that these events will not only entertain but also deepen our understanding of the diverse tapestry that makes up our Pine Brook Jewish Center family.

Community service has always been a guiding principle for us, and this year, we are excited to introduce new initiatives aimed at making a positive impact beyond our center's walls. Volunteering opportunities, partnerships with local organizations, and charitable projects will provide avenues for us to extend our support to those in need, embodying the values of *Tikkun Olam*.

As we embrace the new year, I encourage each of you to actively participate in the life of our community. Your presence, your ideas, and your contributions shape the wants and desires of the Pine Brook Jewish Center. Let us stand united, cherishing our shared traditions and creating new memories that will resonate for generations to come.

I am filled with gratitude for the privilege of serving as your President. Together, let us seize the opportunities that the new year brings, strengthen the bonds that unite us, and continue to build a thriving Pine Brook Jewish Center that reflects the warmth, compassion, and resilience of our remarkable community.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous and fulfilling new year. Onward and upward!

Seth [President@pbjc.org](mailto:President@pbjc.org)

# THE PRESIDENT'S APPEAL

This month, I am focused on the Kol Nidre appeal and Security. As it relates to the Kol Nidre Appeal, the PBJC strives for 100% membership participation in this appeal to help strengthen the security, physical appearance, and overall wellbeing of Pine Brook Jewish Center. **As it relates to Security, the PBJC will be offering a security training session for our entire congregation (Date and Time TBD, but the rescheduled date will be sometime after the New Year).**

All donations to the following projects are fully tax-deductible as no goods or services were offered in exchange for your contribution to the projects mentioned below. As always, please consult your tax advisor/accountant with all donations to Pine Brook Jewish Center. Thank you in advance for your continued support of the PBJC!

If you are interested in donating to the President's Appeal, please click on the link below and in the "Type" dropdown, choose "23-24 Yom Kippur Appeal" or "Presidents Appeal – Security Training" and direct where you prefer your contribution to go towards.

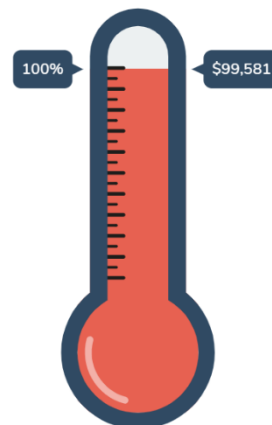
Link: [PBJC - The President's Kol Nidre Appeal](#)

**Appeal #1: Kol Nidre Appeal - \$100,000**

**100% Goal Target:** December 31, 2023

**Description:** The Kol Nidre Appeal is a fundraising campaign that raises money for PBJC. The appeal is included in a speech by the PBJC President during Yom Kippur. This year, the congregation heard about the needs and desires of the congregation and its leadership, and how the money from this appeal was critical to meeting those needs and desires to bring our community back together. **I am pleased to share that we exceeded our budget projection by roughly \$15,000. Thanks to those who contributed to this effort.**

GOAL: \$100,000



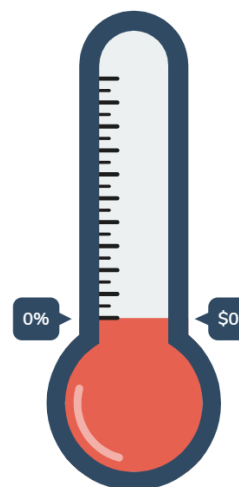
Link: [PBJC - The President's Appeal - Security Training](#)

**Appeal #2: PBJC Security Training - \$4,500**

**100% Goal Target:** January 31, 2024

**Description:** As it relates to Security, the PBJC will be offering two security training sessions, one for the PBJC staff, clergy, teachers, security committee, and Executive Board and then a separate one for our entire congregation (Rescheduling to early 2024). The cost for offering these two training sessions is \$4,500 and was not contemplated during our budgeting process in the Spring 2023. Any and all donations to this appeal will be used to help offset these unbudgeted costs. Anything in excess of \$4,500 will be applied to any armed security we require during these turbulent times.

GOAL: \$4,500



# EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

LISA LERMAN and JILL BUCKLER

Early Childhood Center Co-Directors

Happy New Year from PBJC Early Childhood Center! December was a whirlwind of activities as we celebrated Hanukkah. This year we had a very special holiday observance. We joined together in the Sanctuary with Rabbi Finkel and Cantor Toren to welcome Shabbat and Hanukkah at the same time. The children proudly sang a medley of Hanukkah and Shabbat favorites along with some very adoring fans (better known as beaming moms and dads.) We concluded our meaningful morning with the lighting of the menorah as well as sharing some homemade treats at our very own mini Kiddush!

In a few short weeks, registration for the 2024- 2025 school year will be open. We will continue to offer our core classes for our Intro, 2's, 3's and Pre-K as they currently exist. Additionally, parents who require longer hours can take advantage of the Giggle Zone to cover the hours that our core classes are not in session. The Giggle Zone is available from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for children ages 18 months to Pre - K. We continually strive to enhance our dynamic, highly regarded early childhood programs which are open to children of all faiths. Help us spread the word and share this information with your friends, neighbors and co-workers.

Planning for PBJC Day Camp is in full swing! We will soon be accepting applications for Summer 2024, for children ages 2 years to 5 years old. At PBJC Day Camp we offer an 8 week program highlighted by fabulous weekly themes and programming that includes water play, arts and crafts, music, games, sports, special events and much more!

Be sure to regularly check the PBJC website and like our Facebook page. We share all sorts of information, updates and photos.

As always, our door is open to anyone who would like more information about any of our early childhood programs.

Warm Regards,

Lisa Lerman and Jill Buckler

Early Childhood Center Co-Directors



# RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

MARY SHEYDWASSER

Educational Director

We had a wonderful December celebrating *Hanukkah* in many ways. Kitah Aleph learned all about how oil is made, all our students came together to make chocolate bark, and studied the blessings for kindling the candles on the *hanukiah*, and most importantly, they learned the importance of what this holiday signifies....**FREEDOM!**

Gracie's Army Foundation partnered with St. Pius X Church to make Cards of Peace during *Hanukkah* for the religious school students. We gathered to read cards delivered by Gracie, her family, and her friends. Please take a moment and read the cards that are hung in the Religious School wing.

Dina, Gracie's mom, explained why they wanted to visit us. "Part of the reason that I started this foundation was because of the effort the community made for my family when Gracie was sick, including your congregants who continued to pray for Gracie even when she was well... It truly touched us on a level that I believe was a part of her healing... So, I would love nothing more than to bring the Church that I go to, which is St. Pius, to PBJC." Her CCD students decided to join us in these efforts and said that we were in their hearts. We all recited prayers for peace, and as always, ended our presentation with "Am Israel Chai" and Hatikvah. **Many thanks to Morah Shari for bringing this special group to our school.**



**Our Challah Day program keeps growing with Morah Annika.** She brings her enthusiasm, passion, and the biggest smile that one can have to every session! Todah Rabah!



Kitah Gimel students are working tirelessly preparing for their Kabbalat Shabbat / Ma'Ariv service scheduled for Friday, February 9th, 2024. Please join us and "*shep nachus*" from these children. They are our future!

# RELIGIOUS SCHOOL (continued)

The month of January is filled with exciting programs and events. Rabbi Finkel will be teaching the importance of “*laying tefillin*” to our Dalet students and our Kitah Hey students will have the opportunity to learn more about the significance of the Torah at their workshop on Tuesday, January 9th. We will be continuing the tradition of creating a *Kehilla*, (community) with our Kitah Gimel Families as they come together to learn about Shabbat and the meaning of the Kiddush. Each family will be making a Kiddush cup, an heirloom that can be passed on to future generations.

I want to stress the importance of attending Shabbat services as a family. Your child will have the opportunity to follow along with the service, and of course, be more comfortable when they make the transition to their Bar / Bat Mitzvah. Please contact me if you would like to participate in your child’s special day with reading a torah portion.

Our Religious School strives to provide a nurturing and comfortable environment where the study of our Jewish identity and traditions are being passed on from one generation to the next. It is very exhilarating to see your children, our students, grow and develop into fine people that will continue our heritage for many more years to come.

Wishing you a very healthy, happy, and meaningful 2024!  
Mary Sheydwasser  
Educational Director

# B'NAI MITZVAH

**Rebecca Neadel**  
**January 20, 2024**



Rebecca Ellie was born on January 21, 2011, to parents Lesley and Evan Neadel. Since the very beginning, she has impressed us with her willpower, and her sharp wit, keen intelligence and impeccable memory have kept us on our toes ever since she could speak. Rebecca is a big sister to Lila and Babka, who both bring out her creative, playful and silly side.

She excels as a seventh grader at Lazar Middle School, especially in reading, writing, science and Spanish. In her free time, she enjoys singing, doing theater and playing basketball and lacrosse. Rebecca has always valued the time spent with her classmates at PBJC, and her bat mitzvah has helped her embrace learning about Judaism, elements of services, and studying Hebrew.

Her two true loves are the beach and her summers at Camp Canadensis. Putting these two things together, her mitzvah project is selling custom-designed Pura Vida bracelets, which benefit the planet and ocean, and donating the proceeds to SCOPE (Summer Camp Opportunities Promote Education), to provide scholarships for children from low-income families to experience overnight summer camp. Rebecca continually brings our family immense joy and pride, and we are delighted to share her special day with this community.

**Maxwell Musikant**  
**January 27, 2024**



Maxwell Liam Musikant was born on January 17, 2011, making Celia and Howard first-time parents. Max exhibits kindness, intelligence, and a caring nature, particularly as a big brother to his sisters, Eliana and Alexandra.

He embarked on his musical journey at the age of four, starting with the piano and later adding the clarinet to his repertoire. Currently enrolled at Lazar Middle School, Max finds equal joy in both Science and French classes. Beyond academics, he likes to play basketball, soccer, and the thrilling experience of flying airplane simulators. His fascination with astronomy has been a constant, and he aspires to either work as an engineer for NASA or pursue a career as a pilot.

As part of his Mitzvah project, Maxwell attends Shabbat services at the Victoria Mews in Boonton and dedicates a prayer every Shabbat for the IDF soldiers in Israel. Witnessing the remarkable young man Max has become fills us with immense pride, and we eagerly anticipate his promising future ahead. We look forward to celebrating Max's Bar Mitzvah with family and friends!

# HARVEY JAFFE B'YACHAD MEMORIAL FUND

Harvey Jaffe, *Hershey*, was the driving force behind *B'yachad*. He helped make our dream come alive by leading a vibrant community of learners who come together post their B'Nai Mitzvah! This is what Hershey had to say about it:

The success of our Hebrew High School, *B'yachad*, is dependent on the ability to not only learn about 'the ethics of our people,' but more importantly to build a community. When students trust and care about each other they feel safe to share their views and ideas in a classroom setting and a dialogue begins. The fear of being judged by one's peers dissipates, and discussions become lively and interactive. From the time of Hillel and Shammai, our tradition teaches that there was always room to examine, dissect and re-evaluate our laws. In fact, many believe that different perspectives are exactly the reason Judaism has survived for almost 6000 years. However, all our ancestors agreed on the importance of a holy community a '*kehilah kedusha*,' where everyone is respected, and every opinion is valued.

A few testimonials...

*The reason I come back to B'yachad cannot be put into words. I cannot describe how much fun it is; it is something that needs to be experienced to understand. Hershey is a magnificent teacher who does an incredible job engaging with all the students and I strongly recommend that everyone attend B'yachad.*

*The reason I keep coming back to B'yachad is because I want to keep learning deeply about Judaism and all its many different features. Also, I love Hershey's sense of humor and the way he handles things are funny. Finally, I like the things we talk about and hanging with friends. B'yachad is the best place to be on a Thursday night, Mrs. Sheydwasser, Hershey, and everyone in it are the best.*

*B'yachad has given me the opportunity to grow closer with my peers. I've learned beyond the basics of responsibility, right from wrong and a series of life lessons. The friendship, trust and creativity in the room allows me to connect individually with each person. I am proud to be a part of B'yachad and I am proud to speak freely there without hesitation.*

*I still come to B'yachad because of the environment and because I know I will learn something I may not anywhere else. Hershey is someone I know I can tell anything to and ask anything without worrying about it leaving the conversation. I love learning about my Jewish roots and about what my religion stands for in relation to the past, the present and what will happen in the future.*

Funds were collected initially after his untimely passing, however, his legacy still lives on. Hershey's family has decided to put this money and all future donations towards scholarships for students interested in enrolling in *B'Yachad*, along with funding off-site excursions that have always been highlights of our program. Donations are accepted in any amount. To make a donation, go to the [DONATE NOW](#) section of the PBJC website and make sure to select Harvey Jaffe B'yachad Memorial Fund as the Payment Type.

May this serve as a living tribute to his memory.

# ELIOT SAKOLSKY AARON MELZER SCHOLARSHIP

**BEVERLY BERKOWITZ and DAVID KRAUT**

Co-Chairpersons

Arlene and David Sakolsky, along with their three sons, Eliot, Harvey, and Bill, were pillars of the Jewish community. Eliot was the United Synagogue Youth (USY) leader at Congregation Beth Shalom in Pompton Lakes. He passed away at the age of thirty-one. A scholarship fund was established by Congregation Beth Shalom in Eliot's memory. The goal of the fund is to provide financial aid to youth participating in Jewish activities, such as Kadima, USY, Camp Ramah, Israel trips, and other Jewish educational activities. Congregation Beth Shalom transferred the fund to Pine Brook Jewish Center, where it will continue to perpetuate Eliot's memory. May his memory be a blessing to your youth.

Eliot's brothers, Harvey and Bill, are current members of Pine Brook Jewish Center. Upon learning of the sudden and tragic loss of Aaron Melzer, a Pine Brook Jewish Center Religious School student, Congregation Beth Shalom honored the Melzer family by rededicating the fund as the Eliot Sakolsky Aaron Melzer Scholarship Fund. Aaron was the son of Margo and Jason Melzer, and the older brother of triplets, Anna, Brielle, and Brian. Aaron was a Religious School Student at Pine Brook Jewish Center, beginning at the age of two in its Nursery School. Aaron was a kind, loving, thoughtful and empathetic young man who was looking forward to his Bar Mitzvah. It was Aaron's dream to travel to Israel, but he never did, as a result of his sudden passing at the age of eleven. The Melzer family shares the Sakolsky family's mission to offer financial assistance to Religious School students so that they can further their Jewish studies at home and abroad.

In memory of Eliot Sakolsky and Aaron Melzer, this fund will continue to financially assist Jewish youth to obtain a meaningful Jewish education and to fulfill their own individual dreams. Please note that recipients of this scholarship must be members of Pine Brook Jewish Center and students in high school or college. All decisions related to this fund will be governed by the Eliot Sakolsky Aaron Melzer Scholarship Fund Committee.

Please contact the Eliot Sakolsky Aaron Melzer Scholarship Fund Committee chairperson, Beverly Berkowitz, at [sakolsky-melzer-scholarship@pbjc.org](mailto:sakolsky-melzer-scholarship@pbjc.org) with any questions.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE SAKOLSKY/MELZER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION](#)

# SISTERHOOD

ILENE THAILER and STACI HANDLER

Co-Presidents

Hi everyone! We wish you a happy secular new year for 2024! It is hard to believe it is January already; it feels like we just had our kickoff dinner! We are so excited to bring you two events in January. Our first event will be Zoom Bingo on January 8<sup>th</sup>. As always, we will be playing five games starting at 8:00 pm. Our next event will be Book Club. We will have two meeting times to accommodate people. The first meeting will be on Wednesday, January 17 at 1:00 pm and the second book group discussion will be on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. The book selection is by Kristen Harmel and the title is *The Book of Lost Names*. [CLICK HERE TO RSVP FOR ONE OF THE BOOK CLUB DISCUSSIONS](#)

We will also be having a Zoom Board meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 pm. If you would like to attend, please contact us.

Our February is looking good with Cooking with Hadas!! We will be making challah bread to keep us warm during this cold month! Look in the announcements for the date and time. Also, in February we will be having two more sessions of pickleball lessons with Wendi Leicht. Come out for tips, tricks, and a refresh on the pickleball court. We will have one day class and one evening class. Again, please look for announcements for the dates and times.

We also want to announce our biggest fundraiser of the year is just a couple of months away - Purim Bags! Please be on the lookout for information in the February Candlestick, in the Weekly Announcements, and on the website. Purim bags will be packed and delivered on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

We would like to end our article with a huge thank you to Lauren Baumgarten and Paige Silverman for putting together a fun night of *Hanukkah* songs, fabulous food and dancing! The young children and their families had a wonderful time and enjoyed all the festivities!

Thank you to all our members and we hope to see you at our upcoming events! Please reach out to us with any questions, comments or concerns!

Staci Handler (973) 951-4231 [staciahandler@gmail.com](mailto:staciahandler@gmail.com)

Ilene Thailer (201) 658-4244 [ithailer@optonline.net](mailto:ithailer@optonline.net)

## **Sisterhood Tribute Cards**

Please use the new tribute card online ordering system for your convenience. The link is:  
<https://www.pbjc.org/form/sisterhood-tribute-card-form.html>

If you are having difficulties with the online ordering form, please contact a member of the tribute card team according to your last name. Email notification is preferred.

A-GO Nan Rothberg nanpbjc@gmail.com 973-879-3529 only if not sending email

GR-M Aileen Cabelly aileen.cabelly@cabelly.com 973-460-6536 only if not sending email

N-Z Estelle Stein EstelleBPStein@gmail.com 973-588-7332 only if not sending email

***No calls on the Sabbath, Jewish holidays, before 9:00 AM, or after 9:00 PM please.***

## **Did you know that Sisterhood sells Gift Cards to many of the stores where you shop?**

Please support the Sisterhood Scrip program and purchase gift cards for your family, friends, and teachers. Sisterhood earns a small percentage of the face value of the cards sold. Gift cards are available for sale in the PBJC office. Cash and checks (made out to PBJC Sisterhood) are accepted for payment.

The cards we keep in stock include:

Supermarkets: ShopRite, Kings, Foodtown and Acme

Coffee: Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks

Online: Amazon, LL Bean

Retailers: American Eagle, Barnes & Noble, Bloomingdale's, Dick's Sporting Goods, Gamestop, Limited, Macy's, Marshalls, Nordstrom, REI, Sephora, Ulta, Target, TJ MAXX

**And new to our collection we now sell American Express Gift Cards which have no activation fee. So, a \$100 gift card simply costs \$100.**

If there are any Gift Cards that we do not carry that you are interested in, contact Beth Fuchs about a special order at [bethgfuchs@gmail.com](mailto:bethgfuchs@gmail.com). Beth can check to see if our vendor can supply us with the cards of your choice.



# SISTERHOOD TORAH FUND

**HEDDY BELMAN**

Chair

Every woman has the opportunity to participate in preserving, promoting and perpetuating Conservative/Masorti Judaism by giving to the Torah Fund Campaign of WLCJ. Torah Fund Campaign of WLCJ helps support programs and student scholarships at Jewish Theological Seminary (New York, NY), Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies (Los Angeles, CA), Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies (Jerusalem), Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano (Buenos Aires, Argentina), and Zacharias Frankel College (Potsdam, Germany).

There are continuing opportunities for sisterhoods/affiliates and individual donors to help support all five Conservative/Masorti institutes of higher education through Torah Fund Campaign of WLCJ. Thousands of dedicated volunteers contribute to the spiritual, aesthetic and material well-being of these educational communities by supporting Torah Fund projects. More info about Torah Fund Campaign of WLCJ can be found here: <https://www.jtsa.edu/torah-fund/>. Please contact Hedy Belman at [hbelman@wlcj.org](mailto:hbelman@wlcj.org) if you would like to contribute to Torah Fund or for more information.

## TORAH FUND

## CAMPAIGN OF WLCJ

**PIN 5784 (2023-2024)**



Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh

*All of Israel is Responsible for  
One Another*

*This pin highlights the word  
'arevut,' responsibility. It  
corresponds to the theme from the  
Babylonian Talmud, Shevuot 39a,  
that all the people of Israel are  
responsible for one another, and we  
assume that responsibility through  
our support of the five  
Conservative/Masorti institutions  
of higher education.*



## שנה טובה ומתוקה Shanah Tovah u'Metukah

Blessings to you and your families for a sweet,  
healthy, and fulfilling New Year

### Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh

All of Israel Is Responsible for  
One Another

We continue to proudly support  
The Jewish Theological Seminary,  
Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies,  
Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies,  
Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano,  
and Zacharias Frankel College.



**Lori Snow**

*International Torah Fund Chair, Women's League for Conservative Judaism*

**Lisa Paule**

*Torah Fund Director*

**Julia Loeb**

*International President, Women's League for Conservative Judaism*

**Rabbi Ellen S. Wolintz-Fields**

*Executive Director, Women's League for Conservative Judaism*



Announcing  
Our 2023-2024  
Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh  
Campaign

*All the people of Israel are responsible for one another*

We strive to make a significant impact through scholarships and programs that benefit students at The Jewish Theological Seminary, Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Schechter Institutes, Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano and Zacharias Frankel College.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we help committed Jewish students become the rabbis, cantors, educators, synagogue administrators, social workers, scholars, researchers and lay leaders of tomorrow.

When you support Torah Fund, you help educate students in New York, Los Angeles, Israel, Latin America and Europe—and you align with those who value learning, knowledge and providing the future generation with relevant skills to fortify the Jewish people.

Visit [www.jtsa.edu/torah-fund](http://www.jtsa.edu/torah-fund)

*This pin highlights the word 'arevut,' responsibility. It corresponds to the theme from the Babylonian Talmud, Shevuot 39a, that all the people of Israel are responsible for one another, and we assume that responsibility through our support of the five Conservative/Masorti institutions of higher education.*



## MAKE IT A PRIORITY TO GIVE TO TORAH FUND!

### TORAH FUND GIVING LEVELS

Keter Kavod \$5,000  
Scholarship Patron \$2,500  
Patron \$1,200  
Associate Patron \$600  
Guardian \$300  
Benefactor \$180

**FOR OUR U.S. SUPPORTERS,** go to [inspired.jtsa.edu/torahfund](http://inspired.jtsa.edu/torahfund)  
Or send your check to the Torah Fund office.

**FOR OUR CANADIAN SUPPORTERS,** go to [torahfundecards.jtsa.edu/canadian](http://torahfundecards.jtsa.edu/canadian)  
Make a donation of any amount with the minimum purchase of one ecard.  
Or send a check to The Jewish Theological Society, 100 Elder Street, North York, Ontario, M3H 5G7.

The dedicated philanthropy of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Torah Fund supports scholarships and programs in the worldwide Conservative/Masorti institutes of higher Jewish learning.

### TORAH FUND

3080 Broadway, New York, NY 10027  
(212) 678-8876  
[www.jtsa.edu/torah-fund](http://www.jtsa.edu/torah-fund) • [torahfund@jtsa.edu](mailto:torahfund@jtsa.edu)

# MEN'S CLUB

JAY THAILER

President

Men's Club was thrilled to host a breakfast on December 17<sup>th</sup> with special guest speaker, Dr. Arnie Pallay. Arnie spoke to us about Revolutionizing Medical Genetics Testing with a focus on cardiac, neurology, and Jewish genomics. Not only did we enjoy a delicious breakfast, but a great time was had by all as we learned a lot through Arnie's very interesting and informative presentation.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE PRESENTATION](#)

Men's Club is thrilled to announce our Man of the Year and Youths of the Year! *Mazal Tov* to our Man of the Year **Jonathan Lewis** and our Youths of the Year **Jordan Bergman, Doron Finkel, Eliana Finkel, and Evan Schachman**. Join us as they are recognized at the Men's Club Man of the Year and Youth of the Year Celebration event on Sunday, January 21st. You can also place an ad to congratulate them in the tribute journal.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TO ATTEND THE CELEBRATION EVENT](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE AD JOURNAL INFORMATION AND FORM](#)

Be sure to mark your calendars for the following upcoming dates in 2024:

- Sunday, February 11 at 9 AM - World Wide Wrap followed by Breakfast sponsored by Men's Club
- Sunday, March 3 at 10 AM - Men's Club Ping Pong Tournament – look for more information soon!
- Sunday, May 10 from 10 AM to 2 PM – Men's Club Day of Giving
- Sunday, June 2 at 10 AM - Men's Club Breakfast with speaker TBD

As always, do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or suggestions.

Men's Club is looking forward to another great year.

Jay Thailer

[jthailer@pbjc.org](mailto:jthailer@pbjc.org)

# BETTY CRANE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

FRAN HOBERMAN-SCHENKEL AND BETH FUCHS

Club Coordinators

On December 11<sup>th</sup> the Friendship Club began its Winter Zoom Series. It is so nice to have our founder, Betty Crane, and other long distance members join us for these special Zoom programs. Janet Mandel of ArtTalks captivated us with her interesting and colorful remote presentation on the short-lived artist Amedeo Modigliani (1884-1920). Modigliani was a painter and sculptor who was raised in a Sephardic Jewish family in Italy, trained at several prestigious Italian art academics, but worked as an artist mainly in France where he was a member of the avant-garde movement. He is known for his portraits and nudes, often with elongated faces and necks.

We will continue our Winter Zoom Series with:

- **History of the Jersey Shore on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm**  
Author and photographer Kevin Woyce will take us on a visual tour of New Jersey's coastal history, from the long-ago days of lighthouses and shipwrecks to the founding of today's popular summer resorts.
- **George Washington, New Jersey and the Revolutionary War, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30pm**  
In honor of Presidents' Day and our home state, historian Joel Farkas will teach us about *The Man... The State...The War...A Revolutionary Trifecta*.

We will resume in-person programming in March. In the meantime, we wish everyone a happy, healthy 2024!

Beth Fuchs and Fran Hoberman-Schenkel

[PBJCfriendshipclub@gmail.com](mailto:PBJCfriendshipclub@gmail.com)

973-886-2397      973-632-7715

# PRAYER BOOK DONATIONS AND DEDICATIONS

Dedicating a *Siddur Lev Shalem* or *Etz Hayim* Bible that will be used in our congregational services is a wonderful way to celebrate family, remember loved ones, and honor our Pine Brook Jewish Center community.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support as we transition from the *Siddur Sim Shalom* to the *Siddur Lev Shalem*. We need many donations to help us purchase enough *Lev Shelem siddurim*.

What makes *Siddur Lev Shalem* so special:

**Transliteration** - User-friendly and provided for those parts of the service most often sung or chanted out loud by the congregation.

**Egalitarian Text** - Egalitarian options for prayers are provided.

**Symbols** - Icons are used to help readers participate in the service. For example, one symbol indicates when to bow.

**Commentary** - Provides context for each prayer. What are its origins? Why it is here? What meaning might it convey?

**Insights** - Prose and poetry, drawn from ancient to contemporary sources, that reflect and expand on the themes of that page.

Contact the PBJC office at [office@pbjc.org](mailto:office@pbjc.org) or (973) 244-9800 with any questions.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE A PRAYER BOOK OR BIBLE](#)

# CARING COMMITTEE

SANDY GONZALEZ and CAROL KOTCH

Committee Chairs

## PBJC and Victoria Mews Residents Celebrate *Shabbat*



Several congregants and students from PBJC joined with some residents at Victoria Mews Assisted Living facility in Boonton to celebrate *Shabbat* on Friday, December 15. We will be visiting with them on the third Friday of each month at 4:00 pm.

It is a wonderful *Mitzvah* to be able to volunteer time to our neighboring community and share in the blessings of *Shabbat*. In addition to our congregants volunteering, students in Dalet and Hey are engaging with residents and celebrating *Shabbat* as part of their Mitzvah projects, while B'Yachad students are able to get community service hours needed for Honor Society as well as for college applications.

The warmth and intimacy that is shared fuses our communities together. The *Hesed* (kindness) we strive to promote in our students and congregation is rooted in a sense of *Areyvut* (responsibility to serve each other, our community and all of humanity) – leading with kindness to improve the world!

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Sandy Gonzalez at [SGonzalez@pbjc.org](mailto:SGonzalez@pbjc.org) or Carol Kotch at [cjknj48@gmail.com](mailto:cjknj48@gmail.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

We hope all is going well with you and your family. The Caring Committee continues to provide assistance to our friends and fellow congregants in need and we need your help. Examples of the types of assistance we provide include:

- Delivering Shabbat meals occasionally on the second and fourth Friday of each month.
- Providing needed rides to doctors' appointments.
- Shopping for those who can't get out or picking up and delivering a prescription.
- Setting up a house for shiva.
- Keeping someone company or calling someone who would appreciate the companionship.

Please contact us to sign up to serve on the committee. We will add you to the list of people we reach out to when we need assistance. In addition, **remember to let the office or us know if someone could use our help.** We can't support them if we don't know about it! Thank you in advance for your help.

Carol Kotch  
Cell 201-400-5702  
Home 973-299-1343  
Email [cjknj48@gmail.com](mailto:cjknj48@gmail.com)

Sandy Gonzalez  
Cell 973-592-2831  
Email [sgonzalez@pbjc.org](mailto:sgonzalez@pbjc.org)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEES

**MARK ROFFMAN**  
Committee Founder

The Community Outreach Committee began almost 10 years ago with a simple mission: to provide living necessities to those with a defined psychiatric illness who are clients of the Mental Health Association of Essex and Morris Counties. This committee continues to thrive under the leadership of a Board of Directors comprised of dedicated young adults who receive guidance from Abby Edelman, Jamie Kideckel, and Ali Wise. The committee now provides resources for clothing of children living in shelters as well as supporting nourish.NJ.

Last year a second committee was formed - The Community Scholarship Committee of the Pine Brook Jewish Center. The mission of this committee is to provide scholarships to academically worthy students of Dover High School who have made a difference in their community. For the first year the committee, comprised of 21 members, provided one scholarship of \$2,400 and two scholarships each of \$400.

Joining either or both of the Community Outreach Committees is easy. You can do so by donating \$150 per year to participate in each committee. You can donate directly on the PBJC website ([www.pbjc.org](http://www.pbjc.org)). Alternatively, send a check payable to PBJC with the appropriate notation (indicating the committee's name) in the memo line. Again, the yearly donation to join is \$150 for each committee. Neither committee has any meetings. Please consider joining one or both of our committees. Thanks for taking the time to read this message Please contact Mark Roffman at [markroffmanphd@gmail.com](mailto:markroffmanphd@gmail.com) if you would like more information about either of the committees.



## **WHO WE ARE:**

**PBJC COMMUNITY OUTREACH IS AN ORGANIZATION TO HELP THOSE LESS FORTUNATE BY PROVIDING RESOURCES SUCH AS FOOD, CLOTHING, AND OTHER NECESSITIES.**

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## **WHY JOIN:**

- **REWARDING TO HELP THOSE IN NEED**
  - **FLEXIBLE TIME COMMITMENT**
  - **BUILDS LEADERSHIP SKILLS**
  - **PARTICIPATE WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS**
  - **EARN COMMUNITY SERVICE CREDITS**
- 

## **HOW TO GET INVOLVED:**

- ✓ **EMAIL: [PBJCOUTREACH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PBJCOUTREACH@GMAIL.COM) TO JOIN**
- ✓ **DONATE USING PBJC WEBSITE**
- ✓ **VOLUNTEER TO DO A PANTRY SHOP, DROP OFF ITEMS, PREPARE MEALS, HELP FUNDRAISE, AND MUCH MORE!**

**FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM  
@PBJCCOMMUNITYOUTREACH**



We are taking a different approach to helping nourish.NJ this month. In lieu of food donations, we have set up a wish list on Amazon. We are asking the members of PBJC to consider a nourish.NJ donation by purchasing any of the listed items. Please note that you can have the items shipped directly to nourish.NJ when you check out on Amazon. Thank you for your continued generosity. Please contact Lou Schwartz at [nourishNJ@pbjc.org](mailto:nourishNJ@pbjc.org) with any questions.

**[CLICK HERE FOR THE AMAZON DONATION WISH LIST](#)**

**nourish.NJ**  
**Deadline to Donate**  
**Amazon Wish List Items:**  
**Wednesday, January 31**



# UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

[CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL PBJC CALENDAR](#)

Monday, January 8 at 8 PM via Zoom - Sisterhood BINGO Night

Wednesday, January 10 at 8 PM - Chevra Board Meeting

Thursday, January 11 at 10 AM - Deadline to Order Shabbat Dinner for Pick-Up On Friday, January 12

Monday, January 15 at 2 PM - HaZamir, The International Jewish Teen Choir Open Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 17 at 1 PM - Sisterhood Book Club Discussion

Wednesday, January 17 at 7:30 PM via Zoom - Betty Crane Friendship Club presents Kevin Woyce on "History of the Jersey Shore"

Thursday, January 18 at 7 PM - Sisterhood Book Club Discussion

Sunday, January 21 at 1 PM - Men's Club Man of the Year and Youth of the Year Celebration

Thursday, January 25 at 10 AM - Deadline to Order Shabbat Dinner for Pick-Up On Friday, January 26

Sunday, January 28 at 11:15 AM - SAVE THE DATE! Family Tailgate Super Bowl Party with games, contests, and a tailgate-type lunch! Look for more information soon!

Wednesday, January 31 - Deadline to Donate Items to nourish.NJ from the Amazon Wish List

Thursday, February 22 at 7:30 PM via Zoom - Betty Crane Friendship Club presents Joel Farkas on "George Washington, New Jersey and the Revolutionary War"

**SAVE THE DATE!** - Thursday, May 16 - PBJC Golf & Tennis Classic at Green Brook Country Club

## PICKLEBALL AT PBJC

We are excited to bring pickleball to our PBJC community! We now have one pickleball court in our gym that will be available for reservation by PBJC members on weekday evenings and Sundays. The schedule may vary based on other events taking place at PBJC. A weekly schedule with online sign-ups will be sent out each Monday morning. The cost to rent the court is \$30/hour. Players should bring their own racquets and balls. Please note that court rental is open to PBJC members and at least one PBJC member must be present at all times. Look for the first week of sign-ups coming soon!

[CLICK HERE FOR THE PICKLEBALL FLYER](#)

# BABYSITTERS

Please see below for a list of available babysitters from our PBJC community.

*If you would like to be listed, please email Karen Herbst at [kherbst@pbjc.org](mailto:kherbst@pbjc.org) with your name, age, grade, phone number and email address. We will be happy to include you in our babysitting section in future issues of the Candlestick newsletter.*

Hayley Edelstein  
Grade 10  
Age: 15  
973-220-9496

Stella Edelstein  
Grade 8  
Age 13  
973-692-3087

Joshua Marchant  
Grade 11  
Age 16  
973-886-1029  
[joshmarchant714@gmail.com](mailto:joshmarchant714@gmail.com)

Emma Paris  
Grade 10  
Age 15  
973-518-2147

Eli Rosen  
Grade 11  
Age: 16  
973-840-9162  
[eliasrosen2@gmail.com](mailto:eliasrosen2@gmail.com)

Rebecca Rosen  
Grade 11  
Age: 16  
973-840-9163  
[rebeccarosen3@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccarosen3@gmail.com)

Evan Schachman  
Grade 12  
Age: 17  
973-917-9587  
[Evan.schachman@gmail.com](mailto:Evan.schachman@gmail.com)

Perri Schachman  
Grade 9  
Age: 15  
973-917-9777  
[Perri.schachman@gmail.com](mailto:Perri.schachman@gmail.com)

Elissa Schwartz  
Grade 9  
Age: 14  
973-519-2999  
[elissabries@gmail.com](mailto:elissabries@gmail.com)

Amanda Stiller  
(May be available when home during college breaks)  
Age: 18  
201-704-2976

# JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES and BIRTHDAYS

Happy Anniversary to...

- 1/13 – Carol and Stephen Berman
- 1/17 – Andrea Greene and Scott Fahrney, Nan and Alan Rothberg
- 1/23 – Trudy and Martin Sarver



Happy Birthday to...

- 1/1 – Nancy Cohen
- 1/2 – Ethan Fahrney, Robert Greenfield
- 1/3 – Spencer Carus, Myra Sumka, Gary Warech
- 1/4 – Marcia Grossman, Jenna Levitt, Joshua Marchant, Romi Michaels, Amy Miller
- 1/5 – Esterina Herman, Jodi Spitzberg
- 1/6 – Helena Bedell, Stacey Cozewith, Carole Eichenbaum, Alexander Krupp, Marty Lesh, Yarden Ben Rabinovich, Eileen Rolnick
- 1/7 – Frank Dalton
- 1/8 – Amanda Citron
- 1/9 – Doron Finkel, Eliana Finkel, Janet Reich, Drew Schneidkraut, Nate Schneidkraut
- 1/10 – Urmi Baines, Robert Berman, Addison Eagle, Thomas Kaufmann, Ethan Leibowitz, Steven Schneiderman, Samuel Steckelman
- 1/11 – Brooke Sandler
- 1/12 – Danielle Abramson, Sheila Ferguson, Hannah Friedman, Gail Levey, Robyn Zampaglione
- 1/13 – Bette Goldman, Robert Lieberman, Alexa Paris
- 1/14 – Samuel Stiller
- 1/15 – Keith Bobier, Alan Goldman, Frank Mirchin, David Weinstein
- 1/16 – Mitchell Goldsmith
- 1/17 – Jordan Basem, Heddy Belman, Maxwell Musikant
- 1/18 – Howard Harris, Meredith Persson
- 1/19 – Jason Abfier, Aaron Citron, Fred Crane, Stacey Garb, Alan Warren
- 1/20 – Ira Sukoneck
- 1/21 – Seth Friedman, Rebecca Neadel, Maryam Nili
- 1/22 – Marlene Scheinthal
- 1/23 – David Muriello, Asher Waldorf
- 1/24 – Anita Freimauer, Marsha Kaplan, Adriana Solotoff, Celina Steren
- 1/26 – Ellen Lieber, Robin Mark, Layla Muriello, Sarah Florence Rabinovich, Craig Stiller
- 1/29 – Terry Glass, Hannah Schneiderman
- 1/30 – Chuck Crane, Deborah Lees, Mitchell Mittler, Miriam Person
- 1/31 – Sophie Bressler, Abigail Willner



# DONORS/SPONSORS

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

By: Alice Gordon  
In appreciation for Rabbi Finkel's kindness  
and guidance during the unveiling for her  
beloved brother, Steven

By: Robert Gordon and Caryn and Matthew Weiss  
In appreciation of Rabbi Mark Finkel

## CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

By: Lisa and Marc Eidelberg  
In appreciation of Cantor Toren for his help

## PBJC CARING COMMITTEE

By: Jill and Alan Bernstein  
In honor of Michelle Zuckerman

By: Lisa and Marc Eidelberg  
In memory of Sidney Bernstein

By: Nancy Stanton-Tuckman and Steven Tuckman  
In memory of Sidney Bernstein

## ELIOT SAKOLSKY / AARON MELZER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

By: Beverly and Ilysa Berkowitz  
In memory of Beverly's beloved father-in-law  
and Ilysa's beloved grandfather, Irving Berkowitz

By: Beverly and Ilysa Berkowitz  
In memory of Beverly's beloved grandfather,  
and Ilysa's beloved great-grandfather, Hyman Rosen

By: Deborah and Louis Lees  
In memory of Bill Baig and in memory of  
Barbara Staum

## PBJC BEAUTIFICATION/HONOR MEMORIAL GARDEN

By: Nancy Friedman

## NOURISH.NJ

By: Susan Charnet  
In memory of her beloved husband,  
Dr. Richard Charnet

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

By: Diane and Frank Dalton  
In honor of Beverly and Ilysa Berkowitz.  
Happy *Hanukkah*, dear friends

## KIDDUSH FUND

By: Susan Charnet  
In memory of her beloved brother, David Rosenberg

By: Diane and Frank Dalton  
In honor of Sue Charnet and a  
Happy *Hanukkah* to our dear friend

## PRAYER BOOK FUND (LEV SHALEM)

By: Diane Dalton  
In honor of Kaitlin Somers  
Hearty *Mazal Tov D'vorah Tikvah*  
Love from your friend

By: Diane and Frank Dalton  
In honor of Sima Feder  
With gratitude for your loving support and concern  
and in honor of your birthday

## PRAYER BOOK FUND (ETZ HAYIM)

By: Diane Dalton  
In honor of Kaitlin Somers  
Hearty *Mazal Tov D'vorah Tikvah*  
Love from your friend

## **PBJC GENERAL DONATION**

By: Betty and Fred Crane  
In memory of Selma Handler

By: Lori and Matthew Kayne  
In memory of Sidney Bernstein

By: Isabel Margolin and Barry Marks  
In honor of the birth of Judy and Steve  
Gothelf's granddaughter

## **Yahrzeit Donation**

By: Elizabeth Adams  
In memory of her beloved mother, Ellen Leist

By: Cyndy Chase  
In memory of her beloved father, J. Leon Bohana  
and her beloved mother, Tillie Bohana

By: Ruth Citrin  
In memory of her beloved husband, Alan Jay Citrin,  
her beloved father, Albert Lieberman and her  
beloved mother, Vivian Lieberman Edlin

By: Deborah Colfin  
In memory of her beloved mother, Evelyn Kauf

By: Ronnie Drewke  
In memory of her beloved father, Charles Colfin

By: Sharon Fields and Family  
In memory her beloved mother, grandmother  
and great-grandmother, Gisella Herz

By: Stacey, Larry, Jake, Brady and Chase Garb  
In memory of Sidney Bernstein

By: Abe and Barbara Goll  
In memory of Abe's beloved brother, Gabriel Goldberg,  
Barbara's beloved brother, Dr. Paul Schofield and  
Barbara's beloved father, Leslie Schofield

By: Alice Gordon  
In memory of her beloved brother, Steven Belsky

By: Marcy Guilder  
In memory of her beloved father, Lester Leitman

By: Sharon Hogan  
In memory of her beloved mother, Doris Katz

## **Yahrzeit Donation (Continued)**

By: Seymour and Beatrice Katz  
In memory of Seymour's beloved father, Siegfried  
Katz and Beatrice's beloved father, Idel Mathias

By: Lisa King  
In memory of her beloved father, Robert King  
and her beloved mother, Suzane King

By: Deborah and Louis Lees  
In memory of Deborah's beloved parents,  
Samuel & Sylvia Leibowitz and of Louis' beloved  
parents, Abraham & Rose Lees

By: Lillian Lerman  
In memory of her beloved father, Jacob Kravetz  
and her beloved father-in-law, Benny Lerman

By: Barbara Lerner  
In memory of her beloved mother, Rose Cohen

By: Miriam Person  
In memory of her beloved father, Joseph Geisler

By: Rita Murray  
In memory of her beloved mother,  
Annabelle (Ann) Jacobs

By: Barbara Neelman  
In memory of her beloved husband,  
Herbert Neelman

By: Arlene Rosenbaum  
In memory of her beloved mother, Leah Saviet

By: Dorothy Rubin  
In memory of her beloved mother, Bertha Spodeck  
and her beloved sister, Florence Harr

By: Mel Sanders  
In memory of his beloved grandmother,  
Millie Sanders

By: Sandy Schancupp  
In memory of her beloved mother, Ida Lifshitz

By: Marlene Scheinthal  
In memory of her beloved mother-in-law,  
Nettie Scheinthal Bresler

By: Howard Schenkel  
In memory of his beloved mother, Joan Schenkel

## Yahrzeit Donation (Continued)

By: Joseph Schkolnick  
In memory of his beloved mother, Elaine Schkolnick

By: Mary Sheydwasser  
In memory of her beloved mother, Helen Rozprza

By: Jodi Spitzberg  
In memory of her beloved mother, Edie Silverstein

By: Debra and Lonny Tarowsky  
In memory of Debra's beloved father, Erwin Greenwald

By: Larry Wayne  
In memory of his beloved grandmother, Ethel Joseph

By: Toby Wolfman  
In memory of her beloved uncle, Herman L. Wolfman

By: Lester Wolfson  
In memory of his beloved cousin, Jerome Flax  
and his beloved aunt, Molly Siegel

By: Ralph Zemel  
In memory of his beloved father, Jacob Zemel

By: Sandra Zwickel  
In memory of her beloved father, Seymour Nachshen

By: Ann Zych  
In memory of her beloved mother, Ann Zych

## OUR CONDOLENCES TO:

Jeff Jackter on the loss of his mother,  
Lucy Ippolito

Ray Mariash on the loss of his wife,  
Ann Mariash

Lesley Neadel on the loss of her father,  
Neal Weiner

## THANK YOU

On behalf of myself and my family I want to thank the PBJC and its members for their donations and messages in memory of my wife, Ann. Your thoughts and prayers helped us get through our time of sorrow.

Ray Mariash

# SISTERHOOD TRIBUTES

To: Sheila Basem –  
Thank you for all you do for the PBJC community  
From: Alice Gordon

To: Alan Bernstein –  
In memory of your father, Sidney  
From: Tammy and Ben Buren, Marcy and Alan  
Guilder, Wendi and Len Leicht,  
Estelle Stein, Nancy and Jeffrey Weiss

To: Jonathan Cohen –  
Thank you for all you do for the PBJC community  
From: Roberta and Bob Kanarick

To: Diane Dalton –  
Thank you for all you do for the PBJC community  
From: Alice Gordon, Roberta and Bob Kanarick

To: Judy and Steve Gothelf –  
Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter,  
Rosie Bea Gothelf  
From: Sue Charnet, Sharon and Bob Fields,  
Ina and Mark Roffman

To: Sandy Gonzalez –  
Thank you for all you do for the PBJC community  
From: Alice Gordon, Roberta and Bob Kanarick

To: Carol Kotch -  
Thank you for all you do for the PBJC community  
From: Alice Gordon, Roberta and Bob Kanarick

To: Marlene Scheinthal –  
Mazel Tov on your granddaughter  
Shana's Bat Mitzvah  
From: Ilysa and Beverly Berkowitz, Sue Charnet,  
Sharon and Bob Fields, Sue and Gil Mandel

To: Lou Schwartz –  
Thank you for all you do for the PBJC community  
From: Alice Gordon

To: Jeffrey Weinflash –  
Thank you for all you do for the PBJC community  
From: Alice Gordon, Roberta and Bob Kanarick

*Tribute cards may be sent to synagogue members and non-members, but only members will be listed in the Candlestick.*

Please use the tribute card online ordering system for your convenience. The link is:  
<https://www.pbjc.org/form/sisterhood-tribute-card-form.html>

If you are having difficulties with the online ordering form, please contact a member of the tribute card team according to your last name. Email notification is preferred.

A-GO	Nan Rothberg <a href="mailto:nanpbjc@gmail.com">nanpbjc@gmail.com</a>	973-879-3529 only if not sending email
GR-M	Aileen Cabelly <a href="mailto:aileen.cabelly@cabelly.com">aileen.cabelly@cabelly.com</a>	973-460-6536 only if not sending email
N-Z	Estelle Stein <a href="mailto:EstelleBPStein@gmail.com">EstelleBPStein@gmail.com</a>	973-588-7332 only if not sending email

**\*No calls on the Sabbath, Jewish holidays, before 9:00 AM, or after 9:00 PM please.**

# YAHREZEITS

## READ ON FRI/SAT, 1/5 and 1/6

### **1/6/24 – 25 Tevet**

Arthur Fruchtman  
Joseph Geisler  
Gisella Gonsenhauser Herz  
David Kimmel  
Harvey Koslow  
Morris G. Levine  
Frieda Rosen  
Louis Rosen  
Doris Baum Silverman

### **1/7/24 – 26 Tevet**

Soloman Goldenberg  
Frank Harris  
Millie Sanders  
Isadore Stein  
Ralph Teitelbaum

### **1/8/24 – 27 Tevet**

Karen Krampf  
David Newman  
Jacob J. Olstein  
Rebeca Rapoport  
Benjamin Spitz  
Isaac Tell  
Sidney Warsaw  
Freda Zucker

### **1/9/24 – 28 Tevet**

Louis Grossman  
Abe Hofstein  
Robert King  
Saul Manheim  
Ben Michelson  
Alexander Monka  
Susan Pleener  
Rita Sheffrin  
Leon Sieradzky

### **1/10/24 – 29 Tevet**

William Berestetsky  
Annabelle (Ann) Jacobs  
Leon Lazarus  
Harry Lifschien  
Ethel Mintz  
Edward Paster  
David Rosenberg  
Maurice B. Zager

### **1/11/24 – 1 Shevat**

Vivian Lieberman Edlin  
Harry Goldhammer  
Harold Gottlieb  
Phyllis Kempner  
Pari Keola  
Bernard Nelson  
William Sirotkin  
Gertrude Weiss

### **1/12/24 – 2 Shevat**

Ethel Altman  
Dora Baron  
Alexander Fish  
Lester Leitman  
Abraham Rosmarin  
Alice Auguste Warech

## READ ON FRI/SAT, 1/12 and 1/13

### **1/13/24 – 3 Shevat**

Rose Cohen  
Ann Domash  
Anne Dorfman  
Teddy Goldhagen  
Sondra Goldsmith  
Frances Harac  
Benjamin Kleinman  
Marjorie Jane Reichek  
Julius Safier  
Ebrahim Shadsirat  
Manuel Unterman  
Bertha Weiss

### **1/14/24 – 4 Shevat**

Rita Abraham  
Bertram Brandler  
Nat Edwards  
Aben Goldstein  
Cecilia Halpern  
Charles Kalmus  
Milton Rosenberg  
Joseph Tankel

### **1/15/24 – 5 Shevat**

Samuel Altschuler  
Ernest Freeman  
Nathan Glick  
Max Harris  
Charlotte Lasko  
Marc Rosen  
Mina G. Smith

### **1/16/24 – 6 Shevat**

Yitchak Fluke  
Sarah Esther Goldberg  
Frieda Greenspan  
Harry Rothman  
Lillian Seigal  
Ilene Sussman



**READ ON FRI/SAT,  
1/12 and 1/13  
(CONTINUED)**

**1/17/24 – 7 Shevat**

Marion Newman  
Helen Rozprza  
Fay Schwartz  
Catherine Schwartz

**1/18/24 – 8 Shevat**

Irving Berkowitz  
Fannie G. Einhorn  
Miriam Jafferson  
Leo Raven  
Shirley Yormack

**1/19/24 – 9 Shevat**

Mildred Engel  
Steven Gyori  
Seymour Harris  
Charles Katz  
Ellen Leist  
Seymour Nachshen  
Abraham Paster  
Jennie Schragger  
Gladys Stein  
Leo Wolfe  
Bernard L. Zemsky

**READ ON FRI/SAT,  
1/19 and 1/20**

**1/20/24 – 10 Shevat**

Harold Fink  
Norton Friedman  
Harry Medwin  
Ann Monka  
Sylvia Shelsky

**1/21/24 – 11 Shevat**

Bella Beards  
Michael Cohen  
Herman Fins  
David Miller  
Rochelle Shulman  
Albert Srulowitz

**1/22/24 – 12 Shevat**

Melvin Bailynson  
Jerome Flax  
Ida Liboff  
Sylvia Scharlat  
Bernard Singer  
Herman Weissman  
Helen Zuckerman

**1/23/24 – 13 Shevat**

Gertrude Blank  
Julia Fechter  
Robert S. Gross  
Philip Medwin  
Morris Charles Papier  
Simon Reich

**1/24/24 – 14 Shevat**

Rhoda Gold  
Yetta Goldenberg  
Beatrice Gordon  
Suzanne King  
Leslie Schofield  
Lawrence Solotoff

**1/25/24 – 15 Shevat**

Jack (Jacob) Dubman  
Paul Gilden  
Jacob Konner  
Tully N. Kostner  
Abraham Lees  
Molly Siegel  
David Slutsky  
Ruth E. Warren  
Helene Wayne  
Rachel Weiser

**1/26/24 – 16 Shevat**

Rose Bloom Backhus  
Carlton Diskin  
Evalyn Goldstein  
Rita Gordon  
Seymour B. Markus  
Inge Stanton  
Maurice Tarasch

**READ ON FRI/SAT,  
1/26 and 1/27**

**1/27/24 – 17 Shevat**

Paul Fenton  
Paul Feuerstadt  
Bernard Goldsmith  
Albert Lerner  
Albert Lieberman  
Max Mandel  
Elisabeth Roth  
Shirley Schneider  
Rabbi Joseph Schreiber  
Imre Schwartz  
Charles Seigal  
Ida Taitel  
Sylvia Weiss  
Irving Wrozlowsky

**1/28/24 – 18 Shevat**

Sol Frosch  
Gertrude Geisler  
Sadie Korn  
Faye J. Koss  
Jennie Newman  
David Pedlosky  
Isaac Rosenblatt  
Matthew Roth  
Fritzie Segal  
David Seligman  
Chaim Weiser

**1/29/24 – 19 Shevat**

Louis Davis  
Molly Deutsch  
Irma Fleck  
Gussie Gitomer  
Donald Gold  
Louis Greifer  
Morris Kanarick  
Dora Prager  
Maurice M. Reich  
Hyman Rosen  
Dr. Bernard M.  
Scheinthal  
Larisa Suerdlova  
Joseph Yaroshefsky

**1/30/24 – 20 Shevat**

Louis Bloom  
Isadore Blum  
Esther Marine Kurtz  
Rose Strom  
Charles Suessel

**1/31/24 – 21 Shevat**

Abraham Epstein  
Tillie Fietelson  
Sam Fox  
Ruth Silver Fox  
Benjamin Gewirtzman  
Florence Harr  
Anna Kalmus  
Rose Kramer Lees  
Jeffrey Paster  
Joan S. Schenkel  
Betty Sokolow  
Arthur Stern

**2/1/24 – 22 Shevat**

Eleanor Lipson Abramson  
Betty Brooks  
Arthur Cohen  
William Halprin  
Gladys Lazerwitz  
Gladys Reinhorn  
Ben Setzer  
Iris Sunshine  
Herman Wechsler  
Mabel Weiner

**2/2/24 – 23 Shevat**

Alan Jay Citrin  
Bernard Levin  
Samuel Moretsky  
Norma Railles